



## Reducing Poverty and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Taraba State, Nigeria: A Review

BY

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### Article History

Received: 24/08/2022

Accepted: 29/08/2022

Published: 01/09/2022

### Vol – 1 Issue – 6

PP: - 1-7

### Abstract

*The beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was heralded by a renewed global call to end poverty around the world. This was also orchestrated by the unprecedented level of progress that was recorded in almost every continent of the world, especially in structural and technological advancement. Poverty was primarily and fundamentally seen as a contemporary social problem that has moral and humanitarian implications. Those who live in poverty are not only deprived of the necessities of life like food, shelter, healthcare, education, etc. but are also exposed to so many debasing values of self-esteem, respect, social risks, vulnerability, and death. The UN choice of “No Poverty” as the first SDG is heart-warming and this choice comes with a mission statement, “No Poverty by 2030”.*

*Taraba state since its creation in 1992, have been bedevilled by a series of socio-political and ethno-religious crises that has eclipsed the state's potentials and have left its citizens in abject poverty and grave needs. Though the state is described as Nature's gift to the nation, her human and natural resources have not been harnessed properly to better the socio-economic circumstances of the state. This study through content analysis examines the various strategies and ways through which the SDG mission of no poverty by 2030 could be achieved in Taraba state. The study recommends the government to procure modern farming machines and techniques for agricultural purposes, provide fertilizers and agrochemicals for farmers and proper supervision, provide soft agricultural loans, and a host of others.*

**Keywords:** Agriculture, Empowerment, Poverty, Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), Taraba State.

### Introduction

The prevalence of poverty, sometimes in its extreme form, is evident in many parts of the world. It is estimated that more than a billion people across the globe live in extreme poverty (Castañeda, Doan, Newhouse, Nguyen, Uematsu, & Azevedo, 2018). It is also common knowledge that global poverty has powerful levers like, most of the world's poor are subsistence farmers, humanity knows the tools and services with which it can end poverty, and that the delivery of these tools and services to farmers can substantially combat or end poverty (Smith, 2015).

Taraba State which is in the Northeast of Nigeria covers a total of 54,473 Km<sup>2</sup> of land area. The major occupation of the people in the state is farming and other primary activities like fishing, cattle, and goat rearing, pottery, cloth weaving, dyeing, mat making, wood carving, embroidery, and blacksmithing (Simon, Ndaghu, & Yohanna, 2013). The land

is naturally good for agriculture with good weather for maximum yields. It is, therefore, no surprise that the state is nicknamed, “Nature's Gift to the Nation” (Riki, Maiguru, Zaku, & Auta, 2021). Despite these enormous potentials of the state, Taraba and Sokoto states scandalously had the largest percentage of people living below the poverty line in a statistic conducted in 2019 among the 36 States of Nigeria (Sasu, 2022).

There is no doubt that such a situation in Taraba state will reinforce the cycle of poverty to be passed on from parents to their children and future generations too. It is, therefore, necessary to take concrete steps or measures to break this cycle of poverty. A potent tool to fight this social menace is education (Duarte, Ferrando-Latorre, & Molina, 2018) and this could be formal or informal education provided it offers life skills for development (Oruonye, 2014). Farmers should therefore be given some basic education on various modern methods and skills of farming for better yields and economic

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empowerment. The children of these farmers and those on the margins of society could also be given equal access to free or affordable and qualitative education for better job opportunities. These steps will be crucial in breaking the cycle of poverty in families and even in the communities at large.

### **Conceptual Clarification**

#### **Poverty**

Though revolving around the same focal points, poverty has been described variously by different persons or groups (Allen, & Thomas, 2000). Poverty is a situation in which a person or community is bereft of the financial resources and essentials for a minimum living standard. Though this understanding kept evolving as society advances (Gupta, 1984). A popular Nigerian comedian nicknamed Destalker (2021) defines poverty as one's inability to afford one's needs. Poverty has also been described as a deprivation due to lack of resources, both material and non-material e.g., income, housing, health, education, knowledge, and culture (Protection, n.d.).

It requires a threshold to measure poverty and each nation or state may have its own threshold that determines how many of its citizens are living in poverty. It is, however, generally agreed that people or families living on \$1 or less per day are deemed to be living in extreme poverty; majority of whom are domiciled among peasant or subsistence farmers (Dollar, 2005). Even though so much has been done in the recent past to reduce global poverty, so much effort is still needed to achieve the UN's SDG Number 1, No Poverty by 2030 (World Health Organization, 2016). This can be an achievable target with the will and commitment and the application of the right strategies to targeted persons and communities (Clark, 2017).

#### **The Cycle of Poverty**

In 2020, Concern Worldwide US observed that more than 588 million people, approximately 7.7% of the global population lives in extreme poverty, that is, living on \$1.90 per day which is below the international poverty benchmark (Tabutin, Schoumaker, Coleman, Dutreuilh, Reeve, Tovey, & van Hoorn Alkema, 2020). This means that these people lack basic assets and/or do not see a return on the assets they have. For most people, this forms a cycle of poverty that keeps them in perpetual struggle.

A child born into a family that is poor is likely to end up poor because of his parent's and grandparents' inability to create new economic opportunities for him or her. Where such opportunities are lacking, poverty in such a family or community becomes endemic or a cycle. Such a family or community have few or no resources or opportunities to improve their economic status, leaving them entirely at the mercy or firm grip of poverty.

The World Vision California defines the cycle of poverty as "...A phenomenon where poor families become impoverished for at least three generations" (Foundation, n.d.). Such families will have problems or issues such as malnutrition, high rate of illness, inability to get access to schools or good schools, inadequate or lack of healthcare, increasing the risks

of mortality rates, etc. Sometimes it takes just one member of a family or community to get the necessary education and opportunity that would enable that person to break the cycle of poverty in that family or community; the journey of a thousand miles, it is said, begins with a step.

#### **Extensiveness of Poverty in the World**

The global estimate of people living in extreme poverty stands at about 1 billion; the majority of these people are subsistence farmers. This is a significant number, but it is not an entirely hopeless scenario. Despite this staggering figure or estimate, it is heart-warming to know that tremendous progress has been achieved in the fight against global poverty. On a positive note, it is worth knowing that about 1.2 billion people have been lifted from extreme poverty since 1990. We now have about 9.2% of the world living on \$1.90 a day compared to the nearly 36% in 1990 (Vision, 2022). Most African states have gone from a pre-medieval situation to a very decent situation with stable functional governments in the last 50 years in most parts (Obeng-Odoom, 2015).

In the last two years, however, this tremendous progress has witnessed a major obstacle – the COVID-19 pandemic. This pandemic has since impacted negatively on the economies of countries across the globe. The many restrictions by countries to contain the spread of the virus led to huge job losses, especially among low-income earners (Crayne, 2020). The World Bank estimates that a further increase of about 88 million to 115 million people will fall into extreme poverty in 2020 and that could rise to as many as 150 million in 2021 (Eckstein, Künzel, & Schäfer, 2021). Containing the spread of the virus has been a herculean task for most governments in the world. The emergence of many variants of the virus (the latest being the omicron), the unequal distribution of vaccines among nations, the vaccine hesitancy among a significant group (especially in Africa), the conspiracy theories among 'pro-vaccers' and 'anti-vaccers', etc makes the fight against this global pandemic even more complex (Pontianus, 2020).

Ending poverty is not a mission impossible as humanity certainly knows the tools with which to end poverty, as long as there is a will and sincere commitment towards this noble cause. With a combined effort from one and all, setting aside a good capital for the delivery of the necessary tools to target persons or communities, and adequate training and re-training of grassroots facilitators, the fight against poverty is winnable.

#### **Poverty Eradication as the First Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs)**

It is much easier to deal with the theoretical concept of poverty than its practical reality. Those who formulate policies about the fight against poverty need to have some personal encounter with those who are really living in poverty for a better understanding and action. Besides some of the not-too-needed luxuries of life, basic human needs center around: decent meals or food, good healthcare, quality education, shelter, decent clothes, etc. Where there is poverty, there is hunger, and all manners of deprivations or lack. Many persons or families in the world wake up each day unsure of where and how to get their next meal. Children especially

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need food to grow physically and mentally; there is even a connection between a good meal and a healthy body and mind. A quote attributed generally to Hippocrates says, “Eat food as your medicines or you will eat medicines as your food” (Food, 2021)

There are so many malnourished children all over the world that are not only denied great opportunities or have their potentials thwarted, but some of them may die before reaching the age of five. No one really deserves to die of hunger as the world has more than enough to go round. There is certainly no need to waste food when so many others are in need of food. Even Jesus was opposed to the culture of food wastage; after the miraculous feeding of the five thousand people recorded in the Bible, he ordered that the leftovers be collected. The leftovers collected filled twelve baskets (John 6:13).

Where there is poverty, many children cannot have access to education or quality education. This is because their parents will not be able to pay their fees or tuition for the tertiary students. This situation is worsened by the failure of many governments in developing nations to provide free or at least affordable and quality education for their citizens. In such situations, quality education is only guaranteed for the children of parents who are able to afford the exorbitant school fees or tuition of their children in private schools or universities.

Where there is poverty, many children do not have access to decent shelter and clothes; there are no good rooms to sleep in, no toilets (often relying on open defecation), and no decent mattresses to sleep on (many sleeping on mats or literally on the bare floor), no mosquito nets to help curtail the spread of malaria, etc. These situations definitely expose these children to a lot of health risks; and with no adequate healthcare systems, some of them may even die. If these deprivations or lack of basic necessities of life are necessarily linked to poverty, it is obvious to see why the UN had to choose “No Poverty” as its first sustainable development goal. People, especially children need to first survive, be healthy, and be educated if there is to be any meaningful future for them and the society at large. It is certainly more hopeful and gratifying that this first UN’s sustainable development goal came with a mission statement, “Ending extreme poverty by 2030”. All that is left is a committed and prompt implementation of the necessary policies and programs with the right strategies to the target or affected persons or communities.

#### **Taraba State and Poverty Level in Nigeria**

Nigeria has a total of 36 states and a Federal Capital, Abuja. In a national statistic carried out by Sasu (2022) in “*Statista*”, Taraba and Sokoto states ranked as the two states which house the largest percentage of people living below the poverty line. The lowest poverty rates were recorded in the South and Southwestern states; in Lagos for instance, the figure rated to 4.5% which was the lowest rate in the country. A person or even a family in Nigeria is considered poor if that person or the family lives below \$361 per annum. It is estimated that in 2019 when this statistic was carried out, about 40.1% of Nigeria’s population lived in poverty (Varrella, 2021).

It is no accident that Taraba state is nicknamed “Nature’s Gift to the Nation”; the vast arable land mass with a good weather, the huge untapped mineral deposits in the state, the huge tourism potentials in the state, etc. account for some reasons why Taraba state ought not to have such a negative outlook economically. This poor rating in this statistic is among the major motivations of this study. Taraba state ought to be among the major economic hubs in Nigeria. If the government of Taraba state with some collaboration from wealthy individuals or groups could harness these huge potentials in the state, things will certainly turn around for the better not only for the citizens but for the nation. There abound many precious stones that locals in the state have been traditionally mining in places like Monkin, and Yakoko in Zing Local Government Area (Ahmed, 2018). There is also no doubt that at the heart of the state’s driving force towards harnessing the huge agricultural potentials of the state, the solid mineral deposits sector, and the tourism potentials of the state is also delivering an affordable, accessible, and quality education to the citizens at all levels.

#### **Reducing Poverty in Taraba State Via Agricultural Revolution**

##### **i. Make Existing Farmland More Productive**

Statistics estimates that most of those who live in extreme poverty are subsistence farmers. This means that the first focus on the fight against extreme poverty will be to fight against hunger. People must have food to eat to survive and children especially need food to grow physically and mentally in order to reach their full potential in life. Existing farmlands must thus be made more productive. As identified by Andrew Youn, one of the reasons why we can win the fight against poverty is to make farmers more productive in order to feed themselves, help others and reduce environmental land pressures (Youn, 2016). Most of these farmers still rely on outdated or old-fashioned implements and tools to cultivate the land. This method is not only less productive but also makes these farmers expend so much physical energy whereas they could use more technologically advanced tools with little physical energy and greater yields. Humanity has theoretically solved the problem of agriculture a century ago when hybrid seeds, fertilizers, and farm-spacing were achieved. And as Bono would say, we ought to ensure that at least some of the wealth under the ground ends up in the hands of those who live above it...we cannot get it done until we accept we can get it done (Hewson, 2013).

##### **ii. Make the Forests More Farmable**

Taraba state is blessed with weather that is agriculture friendly. It has a wet climate usually between April to October and a dry climate usually between November to March. This is a clear testimony that Taraba has vast areas of uncultivated forest that could be turned into farmlands to boost agriculture in the state. The vegetation in the southern part is of low forest while the northern part has undulating grassland. The Mambilla Plateau with an altitude of 1,800 meters (6000 ft) above sea level has a temperate climate throughout the year (Adisa, 2011). The challenge has always been how to make such a vast land and forest a rich land for food production.

This could be done through the creation of a good state road network that would connect rural communities to urban towns. Once people living within these agricultural lands are sure of an easy means of transporting and selling their farm produce, they would be more than willing to go into more food production thereby enhancing the economy of the state.

*iii. Re-Introduction of Agricultural Shows/Exhibition*

The annual 'Agricultural Show' known in Hausa language as "Wasan Gona" was a widely celebrated farming festival in which farmers across the country came together to showcase their crop yield and livestock. This event was characterized by knowledge sharing, government empowerment of local farmers, and special breed sharing. This was also a competitive event among farmers across Local Government Area where an array of various kinds of food crops and livestock grown or reared in the area were displayed (Lawrence-Hart, 2014). A group of inspectors would choose the best crops and livestock and prices were given to the owners as a way of motivating them to do better. It was also an avenue to assess ways and methods for the preservation of certain crops or livestock that were in danger of going extinct. Speaking about Agricultural show and the need to increase funding for the event in Ireland, a Fianna Fáil TD or Member of Parliament, Eugene Murphy said, Agricultural shows are a vital part of the fabric of rural life. As part of the cultural identity of rural life in Ireland, they form a focal point in the annual social calendar of a rural area (O'Donnell, 2019). Murphy maintained that such agricultural shows also attract visitors and help in boosting the local rural economies; hence such shows should be safeguarded by restoring funding levels.

It is disheartening to see that such agricultural shows have since disappeared in Taraba state; neither the Local Governments nor the State Government is organizing such agricultural shows again. Some local communities may organize small-scale events like 'New Yam' festival. The only event of such nature that has of recent gained the attention and little support of the State Government is the 'Nwonyo Fishing Festival' of the Nwonyo people of Ibi Local Government Area in Taraba State. This is a cultural festival celebrated in commemoration of the river goddess for a bountiful fishing harvest in Nwonyo Lake, and it dates back 96 years ago (Events, 2016). Besides the fishing festival/competition, which is the main event, other competitions to entertain the guests with include: swimming, boat racing, boat regatta, music, and dancing, etc. The person who catches the biggest fish weighed in kilograms is usually commended and a price given. This event has recently attracted so many persons from outside Taraba state and can be improved to become an economic opportunity for the town and the State at large. There is a great need for the revival or re-introduction of agricultural shows at both the Local Government and State Government levels to encourage both quality and quantity of agricultural products. Since the discovery of oil, the Nigerian Government did less in the development of other sectors of the economy such as agriculture, industrialization, solid minerals and tourism. Instability in the prices of oil in the international market and the incessant destruction of oil pipelines and facilities in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria led

to dwindling revenues, inflation, inability to pay salaries promptly to workers, increase in hunger, rising cost of foodstuff, reduced value for the nation's currency, and general rise in poverty and unemployment (Ahmed, 2019)

*Procurement of Modern Farming Machines, Tools, and Techniques*

There is certainly no doubt that farming or agriculture has been as old as humanity. The indigenes of Taraba state are no strangers to agriculture or farming. With vast arable lands, agriculture-friendly weather, and hardworking people, various kinds of food and cash crops, and livestock are produced across the state in large quantities. The farming methods are, however, not done through the use of modern mechanized methods and techniques; people often rely on simple, outdated hand-held tools or implements and free grazing methods for the animals. If agriculture is to be boosted in the state for food and animal production that will not only guarantee food security and sustainability but also for the economic growth of the state through sells and even export to the international markets, then farming innovations and the procurement of modern farming tools and techniques is the answer. In this process then, the individual farmers are better placed to be economically empowered through increased productivity and more income generation.

It is estimated globally that there has seen a steady growth in the investment in agriculture technology in the last 10 years; with about \$6.7 billion invested over 5 years and \$1.9 billion (Ku, 2021). Major technology innovations in farming have prioritized key areas such as: indoor vertical farming, automation and robotics, livestock technology, modern greenhouse practices, precision agriculture, and artificial intelligence, etc. Farm automation for instance, makes farming more efficient and automates the crop or livestock production cycle. Many companies with such innovative farming goals are working on robotics innovation in order to develop drones, autonomous tractors, robotic harvesters, automatic watering and seeding robots, etc. The overall advantages of modern-day innovations in farming range from: increased productivity, saving labour, decreasing injuries and other hazards associated with using simple hand-held farming tools or implements, space management, changing customers' preferences, etc. This technology however has not been properly harnessed in Nigeria and in Taraba state. This could be a great opportunity for local farmers to improve their yield, technology transfer, and economic growth in the state.

*Provision of Hybrid Seeds and Fertilizers*

Agriculture has certainly moved away from the traditional or primitive ways of doing the same things with the same results year in and year out. Part of the new ways of improving agricultural yields is the production of hybrid seeds and the use of fertilizers on lands that have been pressured through constant farming. In Nigeria, a coalition of groups and foundations did unveil a private for-profit foundation seed entity called "ECOBASIC Seed Company Limited, which is to be producing foundation seed for the Nigerian and West African markets. These groups and foundations are the African Agriculture Technology Foundation (AATF), Bill and

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Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), and the Seed Entrepreneurs Association of Nigeria (SEEDAN) (Falaju and Nzor, 2021).

At the unveiling of the ECOBasic Seed Company Limited, its Managing Director, Mr. Brighton Karume said that Nigeria was on the verge of closing her maize production versus demand gap from the current 10% to 50-100% and that Nigeria could see her maize production doubled from the current 2 metric tonnes per hectare to 4 metric tonnes per hectare, thereby increasing annual production to about 20 million metric tonnes (Falaju et al, 2021). And the Executive Director of AATF also said that West African nations must prioritize self-sufficiency in agricultural food production and the journey to food security which begins with high-quality foundation seed with undiluted purity (Falaju and Nzor, 2021)

In the bid to improve agricultural production in terms of both quantity and quality, the National Varieties Release Committee (NVRC) released 49-high-yielding crops in Nigeria. The Chairman of the NVRC, Oladosu Awoyemi said that the decree that set up the committee mandated that anybody seeking to introduce new varieties of crop into the Nigerian farming community should first send the sample or samples of the crop or crops for vetting and approval

#### ***Provision of Agricultural Loans to Farmers***

In 2015 the Federal Government of Nigeria launched the Anchor Borrowers Programme (ABP) with three key aims: to enhance agricultural yields, improve foreign exchange and reverse Nigeria's negative balance of trade on food production. The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) disbursed the loans to farmers through Deposit Money Banks (DMBs), Development Finance Institutions (DFIs), and Microfinance Banks (MFBs). The Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria, Godwin Emefiele said that the bank will develop a repayment framework that will allow farmers to use their farm produce as repayment (Mojeed, 2021). It is such repayment that has led to the recent unveiling of the rice pyramids in Abuja, Nigeria. Despite the teething problems of this initiative and the usual criticisms due to the sudden increase in the prices of some food products especially rice (a huge percentage of which was imported), six years later, the ABP has yielded immense result. At the recent launch of the stacked paddy rice pyramids considered the largest in the world, President Muhammadu Buhari said,

The Anchor Borrowers Programme has since its inception supported 4.8 million smallholder farmers in the country for the production of 23 agricultural commodities, including maize, rice, oil palm, cocoa, cotton, cassava, tomato, and livestock. Today Nigeria's rice production has increased to over 7.5 million metric tonnes annually (Mojeed, 2021).

The United States Department of Agriculture's data estimates Nigeria's yearly milled rice production averaged 2.4 million metric tonnes between 1999 and 2015. Production after the ABP initiative, rose from 3.9 metric tonnes in 2015 to 4.5 metric tonnes in 2016 (15% increase). In 2017 and 2018, Nigeria's milled rice production averaged 4.5 metric tonnes and rose to 5.0 metric tonnes (11% increase) in 2019. Amidst

the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the adverse effects of climate change, and insecurity, production decreased to 4.8 metric tonnes but later rose to 5.0 metric tonnes in 2021 (Mojeed, 2021). This effort had some physical, environmental, and climate-related challenges in Taraba state making it hard for the state to harness her rice production potentials (Ezra, Adebayo, & Umar, 2020, Lenshie, & Jacob, 2020).

#### **Vocational Enterprise Institutions**

In order to ensure adequate manpower for the various sectors of the Nigerian economy, reduce unemployment, and provide alternative routes to university education, the federal government of Nigeria established the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) in 1977. This board is saddled with the task of accrediting and supervising Vocational Enterprise Institutions and all technical institutions in Nigeria; Colleges of Education, Polytechnics, and Monotechnics also fall under the jurisdiction of NBTE (Naijschools, 2021). It is fact that not all secondary school leavers are able to continue their education in the tertiary institutions as a result of some issues like lack of resources or funds, inability to make the educational requirements of the tertiary institutions, and the desire of some to pursue the development of their skills and talents in order to pay their bills. The widening gap of the rate of unemployment among graduates with each passing year is a key indicator that developing a skill is a useful alternative. Vocational education equips students with practical experience and technical skills in a specified field; it prepares learners for jobs in manual and practical activities (Golden, 2019). A learner develops expertise in specific trades, crafts, and careers such as block laying and cementing, fashion designing, electrical installation, carpentry, welding, etc. In fact, there are instances where some employers prefer to hire people who have had vocational training who possess the necessary skills and practical experiences which could save the company or firm the cost of training staff in those areas or skills.

Despite the many advantages of the Vocation Enterprise Institutions, especially in the provision of manpower to the economic sectors of either the state or the country at large, there are currently no accredited Vocation Enterprise Institutions in Taraba State (Naijschools, 2021) There are only a few technical schools in the state which are grossly inadequate for the provision of the needed manpower for the state. Another huge advantage of the presence of Vocation Enterprise Institutions is that students from these institutions easily become self-employed and could even become providers of employment to others, and this is helpful in addressing the huge unemployment deficit in the state. The Taraba State government should make urgent steps to have such institutions present and accredited in the best interest of the citizens and the state also.

The Catholic Diocese of Jalingo for instance has two Vocational Training Centres: The Women Vocational Training Centre, Mayo Dassa in Jalingo Local Government Area, and the Youth Training Centre, Jauro Yinu in Ardo Kola Local Government Area. Disadvantaged girls who could

not go to school or who are school dropouts go to the Women Vocational Training Centre for two years to learn sewing, knitting, baking, and soap making; they are also given some basic education skills that could reignite the desire to return to school after the economic empowerment program. The Youth Centre on the other hand, admits disadvantaged young men who have not gone to school or are school dropouts and they learn carpentry, block making and cementing, electrification, and basic computer skills for those who might have had secondary school education. The Taraba State Government could identify such private owned centres and support them in the economic empowerment of the citizens of the state; this is hard to come by as some governments see such private bodies as competitors rather than partners-in-progress.

## Conclusion

In order to make meaningful progress in the battle against poverty in Taraba state there has to be a belief that the state is endowed with the resources and the capabilities to win that battle. Changing old negative mind sets and learning new positive mind sets are primary steps in the race to win the battle against poverty. The next steps will be to identify the root causes of poverty, those things or conditions which reinforce poverty, and deploying the right steps to address them adequately.

**Recommendations:** Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations are made;

1. Government should procure modern farming machines and techniques for agricultural purposes. One huge deficit in the state is the lack of modern technology for livestock production. The government could even establish large cattle ranches in major cattle-breeding areas with well-equipped veterinary clinics. This will boost the internally generated revenue for the state.
2. There should be provision of fertilizers to farmers and the government must ensure a strong monitoring scheme to supervise such distributions and demand accountability on those charged with the responsibility of distributing such farm inputs.
3. There should be provision of agricultural loans and assistance to farmers. This will enhance the economic growth of the farmers and that of the state at large.
4. The private sector is very important to the economic well-being of the state; and better still when there is collaboration between the government and the private sector. Taraba state must muster the political will to partner with wealthy individuals and groups/organizations especially in the areas of agriculture and education in order to change the economic fortunes of the state for the better.
5. There is a great need for the revival or re-introduction of agricultural shows at both the Local Government and State Government levels to encourage both quality and quantity of agricultural products.

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