

SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT OF AFFORESTATION EFFORTS IN SOKOTO STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

A survey of participation in tree planting was carried out in some Local Government Areas (LGA) of Sokoto State namely: Gudu, Bodinga, Yabo and Danqe/Shuni. This was with the aim of assessing the acceptance of tree planting as one of the strategies to stem the tide of desert encroachment in the arid north of Sokoto State. Results of the study showed that both the male and female gender participated in tree planting with males having highest level of participation (69%), The youths between the ages of 20-39years showed the highest percentage participation while the lowest was among the 20 years age group. More than half of the respondents were civil servants and 34% had post secondary education. Bondinga LGA had the highest women involved in tree planting with the least number recorded in Dange/Shuni LGA. Communal tree planting was highest in Bodinga LGA than the other LGAs. The reasons for participation and adoption were centred around food/fruits, medicines, fuel wood and shade produslion. The preferred species in order of preference are *Parkia biglobosa*, *Acacia albida*, *Acacia nilotica*, *Tamarindus indica*, *Mangifera indica*, *Anacardium occidentale*. *Adansonia digitata*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Tennina/ia catapa* and *Zizyphus spinachristii*,

Keyword

Afforestation, Sokoto state, participation, socio-economic, desertification