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Stakeholder-Groups Willingness to Counterpart-Fund Agricultural Extension Service in Osun State, Nigeria,

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Abstract

Based on the concepts on social action, community development and group dynamics, review of related literature, findings of study conducted by Apantaku et al (2000) and the need to source for local people's fund to service extension due to World Bank's cessation of counterpart-funding of extension in Nigeria, the study sought to determine the willingness of farmers groups and organizations, community-based associations, non-governmental organizations and religious organizations to counterpart-fund extension, determine the average amount they will be willing to donate, investigate the relationship between their sizes and levels of income, and willingness to counterpart fund extension in Osun State. Using a combination of purposive and random sampling; questionnaire, focus group interview and structured interview schedule; and Pearson Product Moment Correlation, the study found that FOs, CBAs, NGOs and ROs are all willing to contribute substantially to counterpart-fund extension. No significant relationship existed between size of the organizations and their willingness. However, significant relationship existed between the level of income and willingness of the groups to fund extension. Recommendations made included that setting up of a committee or unit within Osun-State ADP to generate funds locally to sustain extension. Regular training for the organizations on effectiveness, efficiency, capacity building and membership drive were also recommended.

Keywords: