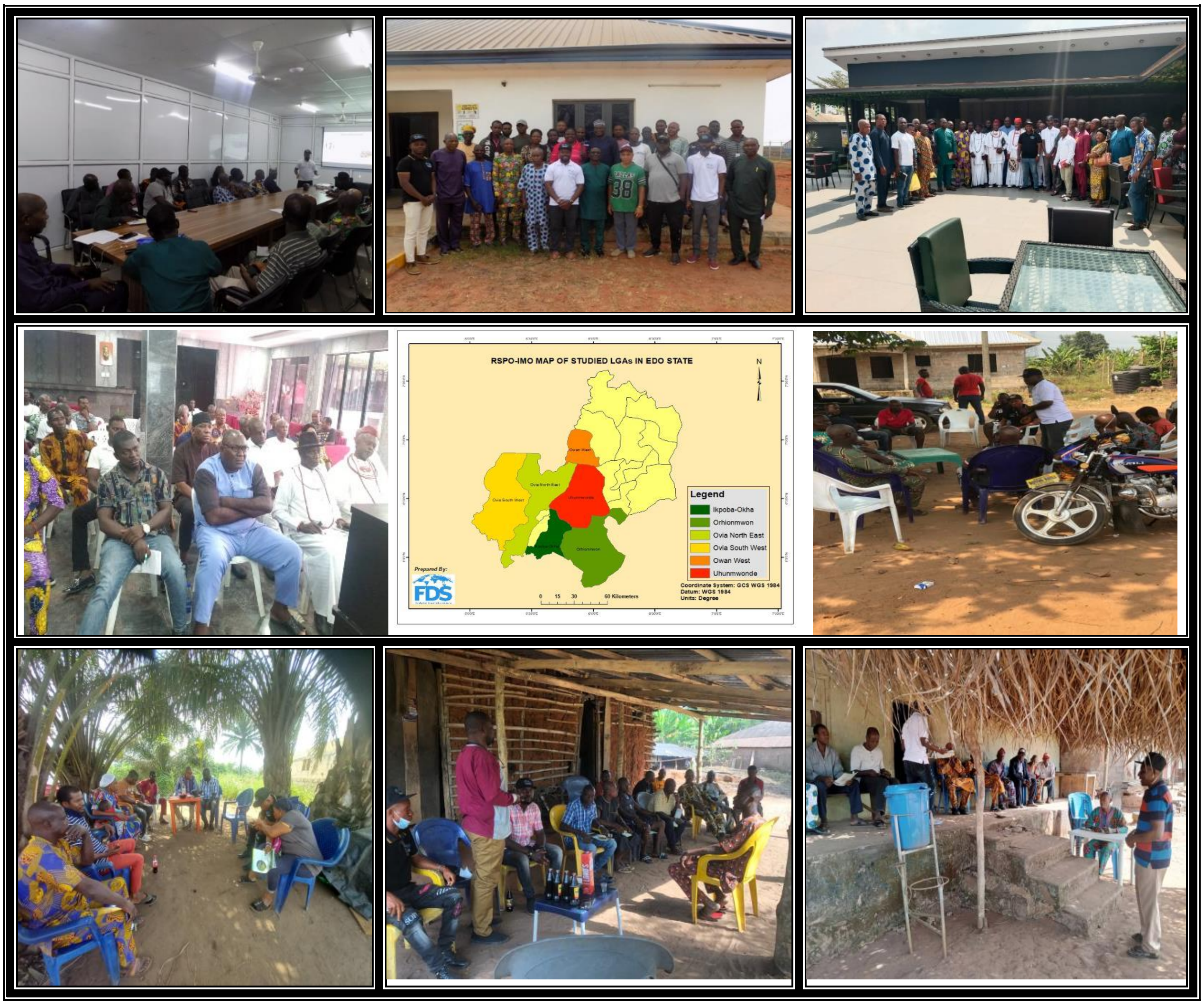
ROUNDTABLE ON SUSTAINABLE PALM OIL

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME IN EDO STATE, NIGERIA

THROUGH THE INTERMEDIARY ORGANISATION

FOREMOST DEVELOPMENT SERVICES LIMITED



COMMUNITY BASELINE STUDY REPORT

JANUARY 2023

Community Outreach and Engagement Programme (COEP) in Edo state, Nigeria

Community Baseline Study Report

Prepared by

The Intermediary Organization

FOREMOST DEVELOPMENT SERVICES LIMITED
FDS
(Development & Sustainability Consultants)
...a world class service delivery.

Office Address: 21 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere, Lagos State, Nigeria

Tel: +234803 331 4800; +234803 398 5435; +234 (1) 145 3197

Email: for4most@yahoo.com; Website: www.fdsng.com;

Submitted to

The Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)

January 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | **Liaison:** 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | **Email:** info@fdsng.com **website:** www.fdsng.com

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | **Liaison:** 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | **Email:** info@fdsng.com **website:** www.fdsng.com

LIST OF TABLES

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | **Liaison:** 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | **Email:** info@fdsng.com **website:** www.fdsng.com

LIST OF FIGURES

APPENDICES

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AT&P	African Timber and Plywood
COEP	Community Outreach and Engagement Programme
ESOPP	Edo State Oil Palm Programme
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FFB	Fresh Fruit Bunches
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
GPS	Global Positioning System
Ha	Hectare
IMO	Intermediary Organisation
LGA	Local Government Area
MT	Metric Tons
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OOPC	Okomu Oil Palm Company
OPC	Oil Palm Company
P&C	Principles and Criteria
RSPO	Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil
SHs	Smallholders
SHFs	Smallholder Farmers

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

RESEARCH TEAM

S/N	Name of Researcher	Qualification/ Rank	Area of Expertise	Position Assigned
1.	Fatai AFOLABI	M. Sc/ Management Consultant	Development Planning	COEP Coordinator
2	Joseph AHMADU	PhD/ Associate Professor	Agricultural Economics (Production Economics)	Lead Study Expert (Baseline Study)
3	Dimeji JOLASUN	M.Sc Horticulture	Agronomy and Extension	Study Expert (Baseline Study)
4	Paul HAMEED	B. Agric-Tech, Advance Dip in Social Forestry	Rural Sociology/ Environmental Sustainability	Study Expert (Baseline Study)
5	Olanigan Ahmeed	M.Phil. Environmental Management & Protection	Environmental Management & Protection	Team B - Lead Study Expert (Reconnaissance Survey)
6	Makinde Abiodun	B.Agric. RSS	Soil Science and Land Management/Env. Studies	Team A - Lead Study Expert (Reconnaissance Survey)
7	Muhammed Kabir Bukoye	B.Sc Food Engineering	Socioeconomic/Logistic consultant	Team B Study Expert (Reconnaissance Survey)
8	Akinniyi Akinyemi	B.FWM.	Forestry & Wildlife Management	Team A Study Expert (Reconnaissance Survey)
9	Engr. Rafiat Badmos	B.Eng.	Mechanical Engineering	Administration/ Operations

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Foremost Development Services Limited is grateful to;

1. The Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)
2. The Executive Governor of Edo State (HE, Mr Godwin Nogheghase Obaseki) and Edo State Government.
3. Management and Staff of RSPO member companies in Edo State (Presco Plc & Okomu Oil Palm Company Plc), and their host communities.
4. Edo State Oil Palm Programme (ESOPP) Team, local communities, cooperative societies, oil palm smallholder farmers. and government agencies.
5. Study Experts and Enumerators

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | Liaison: 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | Email: info@fdsng.com website: www.fdsng.com

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The study is the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)–Intermediary Organisation (IMO) Community Outreach and Engagement Programme reconnaissance survey and baseline study designed to obtain relevant basic information on smallholder oil palm production and stakeholders in Edo State, Nigeria. The specific objectives of the study were to:

1. Describe the demographic characteristics of Oil Palm Smallholder Farmers (SHFs) in the study area.
2. Examine the oil palm production systems of the smallholders (SHs), including farm size, type of oil palm cultivated, agronomic practices employed and sources of production inputs.
3. Determine the income mix and livelihood/income levels of the smallholder farmers.
4. Estimate the FFB yield and examine the marketing of the oil palm produce by the smallholders.
5. Identify the challenges faced by the oil palm smallholders in their production.
6. Examine the financing of oil palm production and institutional support available to the oil palm SHFs.
7. Examine the oil palm smallholders' awareness of RSPO and their willingness to key into RSPO programme.
8. Examine the social mobility in the communities impacted by RSPO members' operations.

The study was carried out in Edo State, covering 37 communities spread across seven Local Government Areas (LGAs) and Edo State Oil Palm Programme (ESOPP) areas around the operational vicinities of the seven major oil palm companies in the State. A multi-stage sampling procedure which combined purposive and simple random sampling techniques was employed to select a total of 348 respondents for the study. However, due to some limitations encountered during the survey, a total of 304 copies of questionnaire from 34 communities were completed and used for data analysis. The instrument for the collection of primary data is a structured questionnaire and Focused Group Discussion (FGD). The questionnaire used were designed using kobocollect for electronic data collection. Data analysis was achieved using the appropriate computer software.

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

The results of the study showed that the smallholder oil palm production in Edo State was dominated by males (90.46%). Majority (75%) of the oil palm SHFs were aged between 31 - 60 years with the average age of 53 years. Most of them were married (95.39%), literate (92.43%) and farming was their major occupation (98.36%). Their mean household size and oil palm production experience were 8 persons and 11 years respectively. About 99% of the farmers were independent smallholders with the average farm size of 7.88 hectares of oil palm.

On sources of production inputs, it was found that a larger proportion (96.71%) of the SHFs were the owners of their farmlands, with inherited and purchased farmlands accounting for 54.28% and 42.43% of the respondents respectively. Hired labour was the dominant source of labour used by the farmers (98.36%). About 81% of the smallholders purchased their oil palm seedlings, 49.34% of them sourced the seedlings from NIFOR and tenera was the most cultivated variety of the oil palm (89.14%). Major agronomic practices employed and the proportions of the SHFs that utilized them were monocropping (73.03%), use of both manual and herbicides for weed control (54.93%) and mulching (41.78%). Fertilizer utilization was low (39.47%) with organic fertilizer mostly used.

The SHFs derived their livelihood mainly from oil palm (80.92%) and arable crop (51.64%) production. Evidently, the average annual income from oil palm production was ₦1,120,000.00 while that of the other sources combined was ₦911,348.68. Most (78.29%) of the SHFs owned their houses with the housing quality rated to be moderate (57.4%), food security was on the average (80.26%) while their health status was adjudged to be healthy (70.72%).

The results of the study further showed that one hectare of oil palm plantation in the study area yielded an average FFB of 12.81MT per year. Numerous constraints were identified to militate against profitable and sustainable oil palm production. The most serious constraints were lack of credit facility (88.16%), no support from the government (69.74%), high cost of fertilizer (57.89%), high cost of improved seedlings (53.29%), high cost of labour (45.39%) and lack of knowledge on sustainable oil palm production (40.46%). Up to 73.68 % of the respondents whose oil palm plantations were in production stage, processed their FFB into palm oil. Some of the reasons for processing the FFB were to add value and earn higher income (98.27%) and low price of FFB which was estimated at ₦87,623.17 per tonne, on the average. Those who did not process their FFB sold the fruits either to Okomu OPC, wholesalers (off-takers) or other oil palm processing company. The demand for the FFB was, however, rated to be high (44.74%).

The SHFs started their oil palm production business with average initial capital investment of about ₦685,787.85. About 93.09% of them financed the business with personal savings. The 64 farmers (21.05%) who obtained credit accessed it mainly from friends, relatives (10.20%) and money lenders (4.28%). Access to extension services was low (11.18%). Membership of cooperative society was also low (18.42%) and the cooperatives societies were of different types. Only 9.87% of the respondents had received training on iimproved oil palm production technology, mainly harvesting technique (8.88%) and 8.22% of them adopted the technology. Road maintenance/grading was the most common support from the RSPO member companies (e.g Okomu OPC) to their various host communities (65.46%), followed by sales of improved seedlings (36.84%). Of all the infrastructural facilities, accessible roads impacted most on improvement in the oil palm production business (80.59%).

More than half (59.54%) of the respondents were aware of RSPO and all (100%) of them were willing to produce sustainable palm oil and interested to be trained by RSPO on sustainable palm oil. Many of the respondents attested that the oil palm business had impacted their lives positively over the years, some of which included helping them to train their children in school (72.70%). improvement in their social status (66.45%) and improved financial security (55.92%). A larger proportion (56.58%) of them rated the improvement in their income impacted by oil palm production as average. Similarly, the contributions made by RSPO members in their host communities over the years were rated to be moderate (65.46%) and reported to have enhanced better communication between the company and their host communities (52.3%), improved community social status (44.08%) and better access roads (31.58%).

Having known the enormous benefits of the oil palm production business, about 84% of the oil palm SHFs reported that they were training their children on the business for continuity while others (64.47%) said they were developing it for their children. It was concluded that if the oil palm SHFs are giving the necessary support which RSPO is posed to offer, sustainable palm oil production would be achieved.

SECTION ONE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) is a not-for-profit, international organization that unites stakeholders in the oil palm industry while developing standards, accreditation, and process requirements to ensure sustainable practices that are transparent and effective across the supply chain for sustainable palm oil. Compliance with the RSPO Principles and Criteria (P&C) enables the palm oil produced to be certified as Sustainable Palm Oil.

Oil palm is of enormous importance to man. It is a source of food for humans, raw materials for industries, and source of employment and income for the numerous actors in the oil palm industry. It is also a source of foreign exchange earnings to the palm oil producing countries of the world, including Nigeria (Alabi et al., 2020; 2Scale-OOPC, 2021). Virtually, all parts of the oil palm plant have economic value - the leaves, trunk, fronds, and roots provide a wide range of products that are beneficial to man. But the most important product of the oil palm is the palm fruit, which when processed gives palm oil, palm kernel oil and palm kernel cake. The palm oil is of high economic value in both local and international markets (2Scale-OOPC, 2021). In fact, the oil palm has been described as a wonder crop, yielding up to 10 times more oil per hectare than other sources of vegetable oil such as soybeans and coconut palms.

Nigeria is the fifth largest palm oil producer in the world and the largest consumer of palm oil in Africa. About 54% of the country's production comes from the Niger Delta Region, including Edo State. In 2021, the nation produced about 1.4 million MT of palm oil, but consumption stood at 2 million MT, resulting in a supply gap of 0.6 million MT which was filled with importation. Nigeria that was the leading producer of palm oil in the 1960s is now a net importer of the product, importing an average crude palm oil (CPO) of about 400,000 MT annually (United State Department of Agriculture, USDA cited in Business Day, 2022 and IndexMundi, 2023). In view of this, coupled with the relative importance of the oil palm, various policies, initiatives, and programmes have been developed and implemented to boost palm oil production in Nigeria.

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | **Liaison:** 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | **Email:** info@fdsng.com **website:** www.fdsng.com

While the development of new plantation and expansion of palm oil production in many developing countries has led to increased revenue and improved livelihoods for farmers, it also risks serious potential negative environmental and social impacts including:

i. lack of effective legal protection of the rights of workers, communities and indigenous people,
ii. land ownership conflicts and accusations of land grabbing,
iii. displacement of communities,
iv. disputes and community divisions caused by improper implementation of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC),
v. deforestation leading to global warming, soil loss or erosion and biodiversity
vi. insufficient incentives for small-scale producers to apply environmental standards, and
vii. significant market obstacles that exclude smallholders.

With the buy-in of major Oil Palm Stakeholders in Nigeria, and to further achieve its main objective of making sustainable palm oil production the norm, the RSPO recognized the urgent need to extend some level of awareness to other stakeholders in the supply chain by initiating the Community Outreach and Engagement Programme (COEP) in Edo State, Nigeria.

Foremost Development Services Limited (FDS) with vast knowledge, experience and understanding of the Local context and providing world class consultancy services for major players in the oil palm sector was engaged as the Intermediary Organization (IMO) to partner with RSPO to implement COEP through engagement, awareness and building the capacity of communities, oil palm smallholder farmers and other relevant stakeholders to produce sustainable palm oil in Edo State, Nigeria.

The COEP involved an initial baseline study involving the oil palm smallholder farmers, communities' members and other stakeholders or organizations in the areas of operation of the existing RSPO member companies and ESOPP concessionaires, spread over seven (7) Local

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

Government Areas in Edo State and by extension one Local Government Area (Ethiope West) in Delta State for Presco Plc.

1.2 Objectives of the Baseline Study

The main objective of the baseline study was to map the relevant oil palm production stakeholders in Edo State, Nigeria.

The specific objectives of the study were to:

1. Describe the demographic characteristics of oil palm smallholders in the study area.
2. Examine the oil palm production systems of the smallholders, including farm size, type of oil palm cultivated, agronomic practices employed and sources of production inputs.
3. Determine the income mix, and livelihood/income levels of the smallholder farmers.
4. Estimate the FFB yield and examine the marketing of the oil palm produce by the smallholders.
5. Identify the challenges faced by the oil palm smallholders in their production.
6. Examine the financing of oil palm production and institutional support available to the oil palm SHFs.
7. Examine the oil palm smallholders' awareness of RSPO and their willingness to key into RSPO programme; and
8. Examine the social mobility in the communities impacted by RSPO members' operations.

1.3 Study Duration

The baseline study was conducted between December 2022 and January 2023 commencing with reconnaissance survey which took place from 12th to 17th December 2022. The fieldwork, which was divided into two phases stretched from 20th to 24th December 2022 for the first phase and 27th to 30th December 2022 for the second phase. The break between the two phases was to allow for two (2) day public holidays. Data handling process, analysis and report writing were carried out between 31st December 2022 and 22nd January, 2023.

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

SECTION TWO

2.0 STUDY BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

2.1 Nigeria: Country Profile

Nigeria lies on the west coast of Africa between Latitude 41° 6´ and 13° 53´ North of the Equator and Longitude 2° 40´ and 14° 41´ East of Greenwich Meridian. It occupies approximately 923,768 square kilometres of land stretching from the Gulf of Guinea on the Atlantic coast in the south to the fringes of the Sahara Desert in the north. The territorial boundaries are defined by the republics of Niger and Chad in the north, the Republic of Cameroon in the East, and the Republic of Benin in the west. Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa and the 14th largest in land mass. The 2006 Population and Housing Census of Nigeria estimated the population of the country to be 140,431,790 consisting of 71,345,488 Males and 69,086,302 Females. The estimated average growth rate of the population is put at 2.8%. This place the estimated population of Nigeria to be about 168 million in 2010 (National Bureau of Statistics, 2010). The current population of Nigeria in 2023 is estimated to be 223,804,632, a 2.41% increase from the 2022 estimation according to the United Nations world population prospects (Macrotrends, 2023)).

The country has diverse vegetation types ranging from the mangrove and high forests in the south, followed by savannah and the Sahel in the middle belt and the north respectively. The high forests in the south have all the desirable characteristics for several cash and food crops including oil palm.

Agriculture is one of the major parts of Nigeria's economy before the discovery of oil in 1956, until that point, the country had depended almost entirely on agricultural production for food and agro-industrial raw materials for foreign exchange earnings through the commodity trade. Despite the attraction that the petroleum industry has generated in the last six decades, agriculture remains the mainstay of the Nigerian economy; contributing almost 30% of GDP in comparison with other industries including petroleum and gas which contributed about 18.37 % of the GDP (National Bureau of Statistics, 2022)

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

Agriculture is the main source of livelihood for most Nigerians, as it provides food for the populace. It is a very important and invaluable sector in the nation Nigeria whose contributions can certainly not be ignored because every year this sector manages to make provisions for millions of jobs for the people, tonnes of food products and important raw materials which are generated into economic increase and change for the nation.

Nigeria is the world's 20th largest economy as of 2015, worth more than $500 billion and $1 trillion in terms of nominal GDP and purchasing power parity respectively. It overtook South Africa to become Africa's largest economy in 2014. The 2013 debt-to-GDP ratio was 11 per cent. Nigeria is considered to be an emerging market by the World Bank; it has been identified as a regional power on the African continent, a middle power in international affairs, and has also been identified as an emerging global power. However, it currently has a "low" Human Development Index, ranking 152nd in the world. Nigeria is a member of the MINT group of countries, which are widely seen as the globe's next "BRIC-like" economies. It is also listed among the "Next Eleven" economies set to become among the biggest in the world. Nigeria is a founding member of the African Union and a member of many other international organizations, including the United Nations, the Commonwealth of Nations and OPEC (Wikipedia,2023). Figure 2.1 shows the map of Nigeria indicating Edo State, the study area.

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

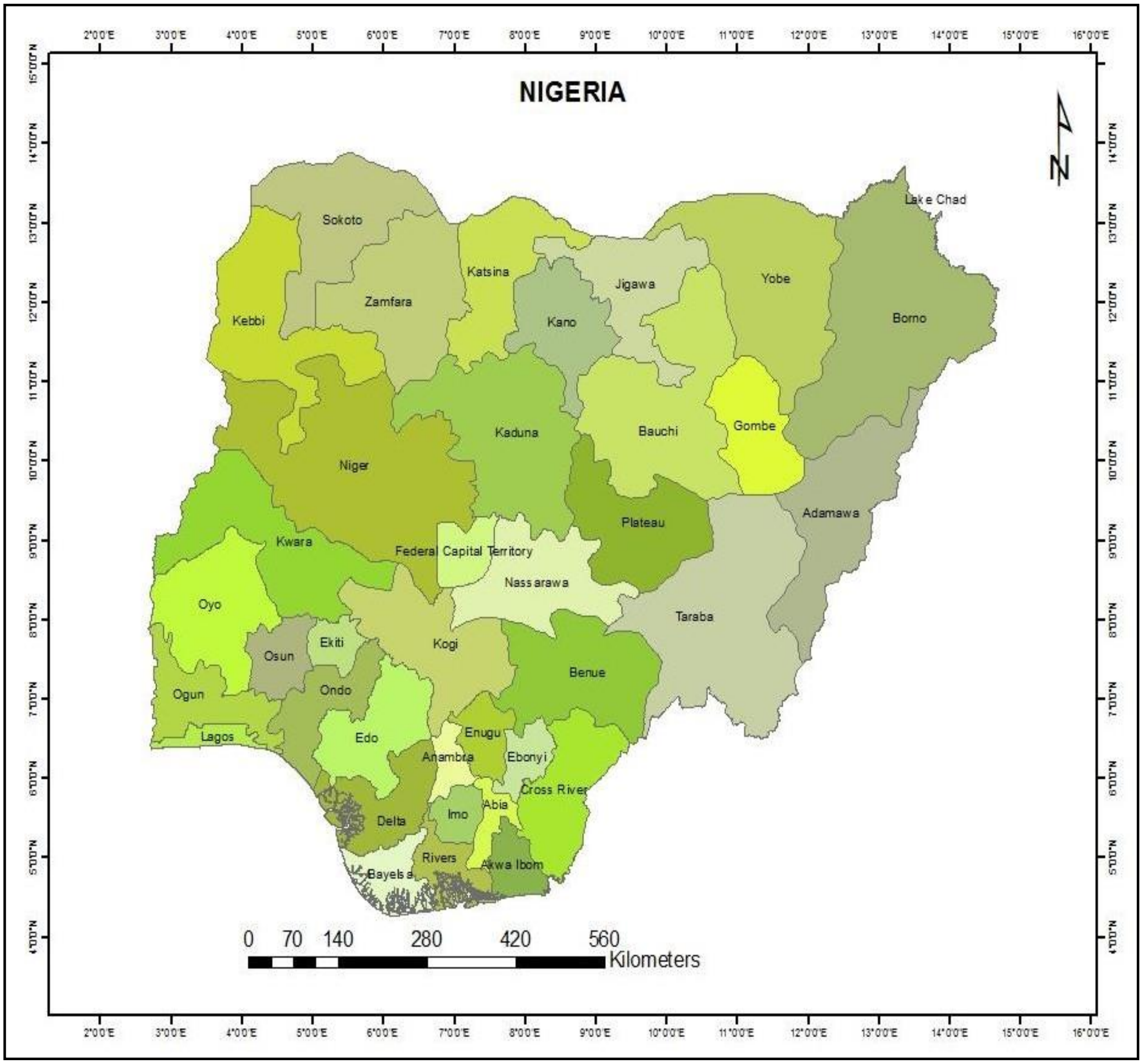


Figure 2.1: Map of Nigeria

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

2.1.1 Edo State

Edo State is located between latitude 5^o 04' and 7^o 34' North of the Equator and longitude 5^o 04' and 6^o 44' East of Greenwich Meridian (Edo State Government, 2012). It has a total population of 4,116,863 people according to the projected population in 2015 and occupies a total land area of 19,187km^2 (National Bureau of Statistics, NBS, 2016).

Administratively, the State is divided into three senatorial districts, namely: Edo North, Edo Central, and Edo South with five, six, and seven Local Government Areas (LGAs) respectively. The LGAs in Edo South include: Egor, Ikpoba-okha, Oredo, Orionmwon, Ovia North-East, Ovia South-West, and Uhumwonde LGAs. In Edo Central, the LGAs are: Esan Central, Esan North-East, Esan South-East, Esan West and Igueben. Those of Edo North include: Akoko-Edo, Etsako Central, Etsako East, Etsako West, Owan East and Owan West. Each LGA comprises many communities.

The state has a tropical climate with thick rainforest vegetation in its southern region and derived savanna in its northern part. Average rainfall ranges from 2500mm in the south to 1500mm in the north with high relative humidity. Temperature averages about 25^{0}C in the rainy season and 28^{0}C in the dry season (Edo State Government, 2012). Agriculture is the major occupation of the inhabitants of Edo State. Major tree/perennial crops grown by farmers in the State are oil palm, cocoa, rubber, cashew, plantain, and pineapple. Some of the arable crops cultivated are maize, cassava, yam, cocoyam, rice, and vegetables. Poultry, aquaculture, snailry, fishing, and other livestock rearing such as cattle, sheep, goat, among others are also practiced in the area.

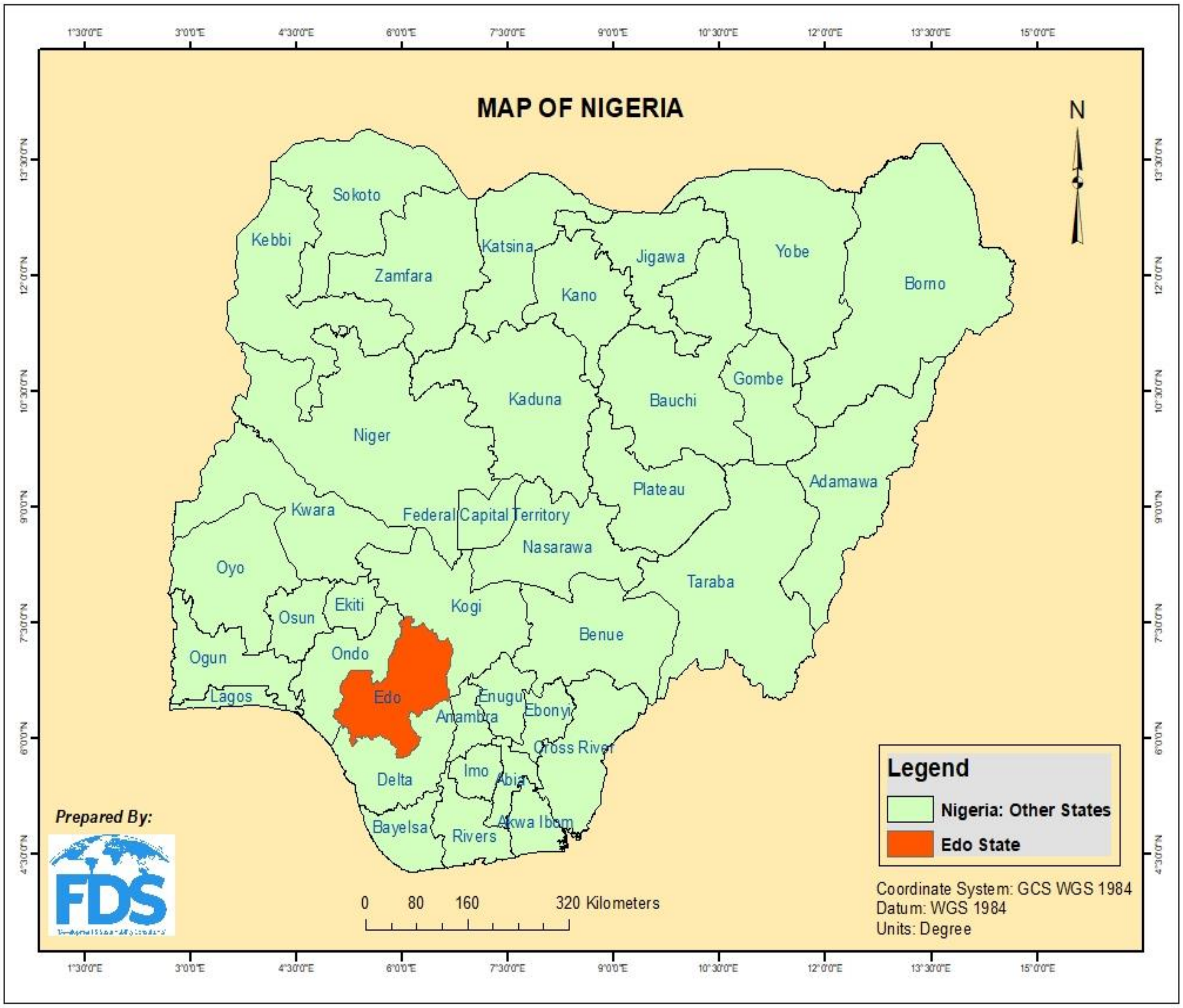


Figure 2.2: Map of Nigeria Showing Edo State

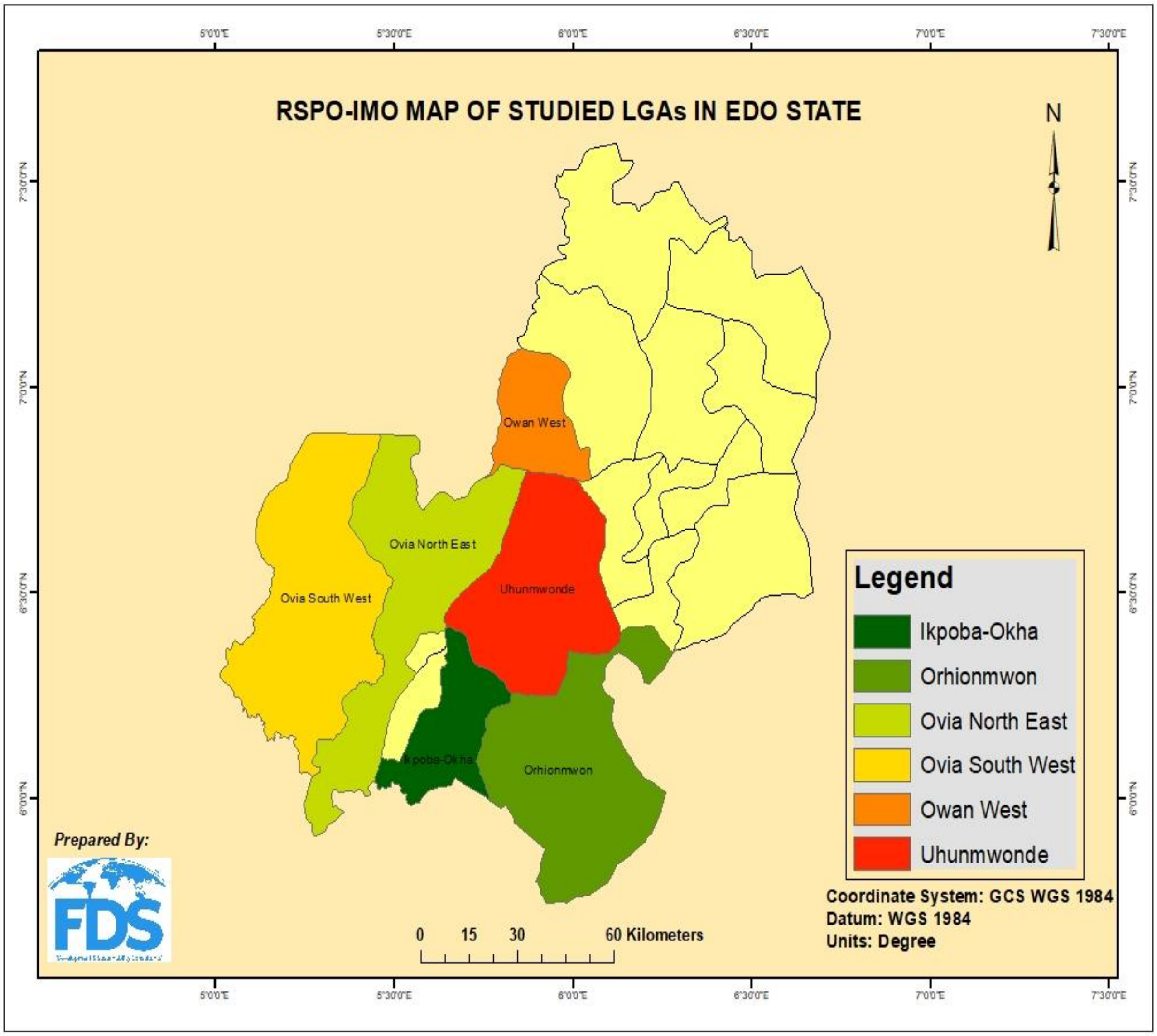


Figure 2.3: Map of Edo State Showing Studied Local Government Areas

2.1.2 Edo State Oil Palm Programme (ESOPP)

The Edo State Oil Palm program (ESSOP) is one of the initiatives of the Edo State Government under the leadership of His Excellency Godwin Obaseki, Governor, Edo State following the State`s partnership with The Tropical Forest Alliance (TFA) in May 2018 to be part of the Africa Palm Oil Initiative (APOI). The APOI facilitated by Proforest is the signature TFA initiative in Africa to develop a framework that takes account of the ambitious development plans of countries in Africa while addressing environmental targets for deforestation, land use and greenhouse gases, and social indicators on issues such as land tenure and the rights of indigenous peoples (Edo State Newsletter (2020).

The ESSOP program is a home-based implementing strategy which aims to promote agricultural production with a particular focus on Oil palm development. The program is committed to building positive relationships between local communities and the State Government to encourage sustainable community development through investments that will help to tackle the myriad of challenges facing local communities in the State. The program is designed to ensure that oil palm and other Agro-commodities are produced sustainably and in accordance with international best practices including Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO). The program has launched several programs and policies like Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) guidelines, the document is designed as a guide for all parties (State, Local Government, Private entities, indigenous peoples and local communities) and ensure their rights are respected prior and during any investment that will guarantee a seamless process by helping each party understand their roles, Participatory Boundary Establishment (PBE) framework which allows the communities to select representatives to work alongside the surveyors in the process of mapping and surveying of areas allocated to investors for oil palm development project (Macrotrends, 2023).

Some of the participating companies under the ESSOP program include Saro Oil Palm Limited, Fayus Nigeria Limited, and Barnsley International Limited. Communities under the ESSOP program are Odiguetue, Uhiere, Owan, Idu, Ona, Aideyanba, Evbuehia, Owe Ukpekele, Okogbo and Avbiugo, Evbonogbon. Ogba, Ugo, Avbiosi, Ologbo N`ugu and Orogho.

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | Liaison: 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | Email: info@fdsng.com website: www.fdsng.com

2.1.3 Ovia South-West Local Government Area

Ovia South-West Local Government Area is one of the eighteen LGA council areas in Edo State, situated in the Edo, South-South geopolitical zone of Nigeria. The headquarters of the LGA is in the town of Iguoba-Zuwa and the LGA comprises several towns and villages which include Siluko, Udo, Umaza, Ofunama, Ora, Usen, Umaza, Ugbogue, and Iguobazuwa. The LGA headquarters is about 45 minutes' drive from the capital city, Benin City. The estimated population of Ovia South-West LGA is put at 312,608 inhabitants with the area mostly inhabited by members of the Bini and Ijaw ethnic groups. The Bini language is commonly spoken in the area while the religions of Christianity and Islam are practised in the LGA. Prominent traditional rulers in Ovia South-West LGA include the Iyasere of Ofunama.

Ovia South-West LGA covers a total area of 2863 square kilometres and has an average temperature of 28 degrees centigrade. The LGA witnesses two distinct seasons which are the dry and the rainy seasons with the average humidity level in the LGA put at 52 per cent. The LGA has a vibrant trade sector with the area hosting several markets such as the Ugbogui market where a plethora of commodities are bought and sold. There are also several industries (e.g Okomu Oil Palm Company), hotels, and government establishments in Ovia South-West LGA. Other important economic enterprises in the LGA include food processing, farming, and lumbering.

2.1.4 Ovia North-East Local Government Area

Ovia North-East Local Government Area has its LGA headquarter in Okada town. The LGA is made up of several towns and villages which include Uhen, Okada, Ofunmwengbe, Uhiere, Isiuwa, Addor, Oluku, Iguoshodin and Utoka. The LGA has an estimated population of 369,042 inhabitants with the area primarily populated by members of different tribal affiliations such as the Ijaw and Bini ethnic groups. Ovia North-East LGA occupies a total area of 2,301 square kilometres and has an average temperature of 28 degrees centigrade. The LGA witnesses two distinct seasons which are the dry and the rainy seasons with the average humidity level in the LGA put at 52 percent.

Agriculture is an important economic activity in Ovia North-East LGA with crops such as oil palm, banana, plantain, sugarcane, cassava, and maize. The LGA also hosts industries, hotels, banks, privately owned institutions as well as government-owned establishments. Other important economic activities in the LGA include trade, lumbering, and crafts making.

2.1.5 Ikpoba-Okha Local Government Area

Ikpoba-Okha LGA is in Edo state, Southern Nigeria and has its headquarters in the town of Idogbo. The LGA is made up of several towns and villages such as Okha, Uroho, Obazagbon, Obagie-Nekbosa, Obayator I &II, Ologbo, Ogheghe, Obagie-nokenporo and many more developing communities. The estimated population of Ikpoba-Okha is about 301,447 inhabitants with the majority of the area's dwellers being members of the Bini ethnic division. Ikpoba-Okha is one of the fast-developing LGA in Edo State which host several new and emerging companies such as Ossiomo power plant, Network Oil and Gas, Presco Plc, and New-Watson Door's Industry Co., Ltd. The Bini language is predominantly spoken in the area while Christianity and Traditional religion are commonly practised in the area.

Farming is a prominent feature of the economic life of Ikpoba-Okha with crops such as Oil Palm, Cassava, yam, plantain, and vegetables grown in the area. The Local Government also host the new Modular refinery in Edo State. Trade also flourishes in Ikpoba-Okha LGA with the area hosting several markets such as the Oka and the Oregbeni markets which provide platforms for the exchange of a variety of goods and services for the area's inhabitants. Other important economic activities in Ikpoba Okha include hunting, lumbering, and blacksmithing. Ikpoba-Okha LGA covers a total area of 862 square kilometres and has an average temperature of 28 degrees centigrade.

2.1.6 Orhionmwon Local Government Area

Orhionmwon LGA is situated in Edo South Senatorial District. The headquarters of the LGA is in the town of Abudu and the LGA is made up of several towns and villages such as Orogho, Evboesi, Umogun, Ologbo-N`ugu, Urhomehe, Urhobuoma, Evbodamwen, Ugo, Igbanke, and Urhonigbe and many more. The headquarters of Orhionmwon Local Government Area is about 51 kilometres

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

from Benin City. The current estimated population of Orhionmwon LGA is put at 317,889 inhabitants with the area predominantly inhabited by members of the Bini, Ika and Igbanke ethnic groups. Because of the proximity of the Local Government to the neighbouring Delta State, there were several influxes of other ethnic like Urobo, Ika, and Ukuani dominancy in some major villages.

The LGA hosts many colourful festivals such as the New Yam and the Igue festivals. It is blessed with rubber plantations, agricultural produces, crude oil as well as mineral resources. Furthermore, the local government is surrounded by neighbouring Delta State.

2.1.7 Owan West Local Government Area

Owan West LGA functions as one of the eighteen Local Government councils in Edo State. Its administrative headquarter is located in the town of Sabongida Ora, and other towns and villages include Atoruru, Ugbubezi, Ugbeturu, Etiose, Ovbiokhuarin-Ora, Eme-Ora, Uhonmora-Ora, Evbiobe, Umoghan-Uzuagbo, Uzebba and Ubozogbe-Nugu. The Owan West LGA has an estimated population of 179,081 inhabitants with the area predominantly occupied by members of the Owan and Afemai ethnic affiliations. The people are of the Owans/Oras clan (Children of Oba Ozolua). Owan language is commonly spoken in the LGA while the religions of Christianity and Islam are widely practised in the LGA. Prominent traditional rulers in Owan West LGA include the Oje of Ora and the Onotare of Ozalla while notable festivals held in the LGA include the Ivamen Festiva.

The West LGA has a rich agricultural heritage with crops such as yam, maize, cassava, and plantain grown in the area. Trade also flourishes in the area with several markets which provide the platforms for the exchange of a variety of goods and services. Other important economic activities undertaken by the people of Owan west include wood carving, blacksmithing, and hunting.

2.1.8 Uhunmwonde Local Government Area

Uhunmwonde LGA is also in Edo South Senatorial District. The headquarters of the LGA is in the town of Ehor with the LGA constituted of several towns and villages such as Eyean, Iguomori, Ikhoribo, Egbede, Uhi, Irhue, Ehor, Igieduma, and Isi. The current estimated population of Uhnunmwonde LGA is put at 269,080 inhabitants with the area predominantly occupied by members of the Esan and Igbanke ethnic affiliations. The Esan language is commonly spoken in the LGA while the religions of Christianity and Islam are practised in the area.

Uhunmwonde LGA sits on a total area of 2,033 square kilometres and has an average temperature of 27 degrees centigrade. The LGA is well-forested and hosts the Ehor Forest Reserve. Trade is an important economic activity in the LGA with the area hosting some markets where a variety of goods and services are exchanged. The LGA also has a vibrant agricultural sector and is known for the cultivation of many crops such as pineapples and plantains. Other important economic features in Uhunmwonde LGA include lumbering, food processing, and animal rearing.

2.2 Overview of the Nigeria's Oil Palm Industry

As early as the 1900s to the 1960s, Nigeria was the World's largest producer and exporter of Oil Palm accounting for about 82% of its export earnings and more than 40% of global output up till when crude oil was discovered in a commercial quantity and the civil war drastically led to a drop in global output to about 7%. Over-reliance on traditional production methods, inefficient oil extraction practices, excessive tapping of Palm Trees for palm wine, kidnapping, banditry and insurgency, were factors that contributed to Nigeria's inability to meet up with the global rise in demand for Palm Oil (Aina *et al* 2021; Ayodele, 2019 and Onwumwere, Onwusiribe, and Iheanatu, 2014). Despite being the largest producer of Oil Palm in West Africa currently, Nigeria still imports Palm Oil to meet its growing demand.

The Nigerian Oil Palm belt covers twenty-four states, including: Abia, Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Rivers, Bayelsa, Imo, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu, Delta, Edo, Ondo, Ogun, Osun, Oyo, Ekiti, Benue, Kwara, Kogi, Nasarawa, Plateau, Taraba, Adamawa and Kaduna (especially in the

Southern Part) (Ekenta *et al*. (2017). Delta, Edo, Akwa-Ibom, Cross River, Bayelsa, Rivers, Anambra, Enugu, Imo, Abia, Ogun, Ondo, Oyo and Ekiti are leading producers within the Oil Palm Belt in Nigeria. Eighty percent (80%) of Palm Oil production emerges from dispersed and organized Smallholders who employ manual processing techniques. "Several thousand Smallholders are spread over an estimated land area ranging from 1.65 million hectares to 2.4 million hectares and a maximum of 3 million hectares" (PIND, 2011; Akpan Okon, Udo, and Akpakaden 2020). The USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) (2022) reported that Global Palm Oil production stood at 77.22 million tons, with Nigeria contributing only 2% to global Palm Oil production. In Nigeria, the Oil Palm plantations estimate ranges from 169,000 to 360,000 hectares, out of which 97,000 hectares are Smallholder plantations and 72,000 hectares are estate plantations. In 2022, the production of Palm Oil in Nigeria reached 1.4 million metric tons.

From being one of the leading exporters of crude Palm Oil in the 1960s, today, Nigeria is now the fifth largest Palm Oil producing Country and a net importer. In a bid to close the supply gap and encourage local investment, the Federal Government included Refined Palm Oil (RPO) as one of the items that importers are restricted from accessing foreign exchange at the interbank market. Also, an increased duty charge of 35% on Crude Palm Oil (CPO) was introduced. In addition to the above policy measures, the CBN launched a series of intervention schemes which included the Anchor Borrowers Programme. The programme is designed to provide single-digit interest rate loans to farmers through the Deposit Money Banks and other participating Financial Institutions. For the Palm Oil sector, the interest on the intervention loan is at 9% per annum. In 2019, the Federal Government of Nigeria also mandated CBN to support corporate bodies and individuals that are engaged in production of ten (10) specified agricultural commodities. Palm oil was listed among the ten (10) commodities (PWC, 2019).

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

2.3 Production Systems

Nigeria has two main Oil Palm production systems namely the Semi/Wild Grove and the Organized Plantings.

2.3.1 The Semi Wild/Wild Groves

The Semi Wild/Wild Groves comprise mainly of dura type, tall and low density. The Wild Grove accounts for about 80% of total FFB harvested for processing. The Wild Grove is spread over the Oil Palm Producing States in the Country. The eight major Oil Palm Producing States account for about 50% of the total Wild Grove population and exploitation in the Country. The Wild Grove is exploited by individual farmers and smallholders, who process the fruits by traditional methods and small motorized engines. The contribution of this production system to the total Palm Oil supply would appear to be on the decline. This is attributed to urbanization, the difficult terrain of some Wild Groves and the declining population of climbers, which have left a considerable quantity of FFB (about 50%) not harvested. The low density and low productivity of the Wild Grove are also major factors. The average yield is estimated at 1.5 FFB tons/ha/year.

Most of the Owners of Wild Grove lease out the trees to individuals to harvest the fruits. There is no investment by the Owners hence they are being encouraged to cut down and re-plant with improved Tenera (PIND, 2011; Solidaridad/SWAPP, 2013; and MADE -OOPC, 2020).

2.3.2 Organized Plantings

Nigeria is thought to have less than 600,000ha of cultivated plantations distributed among the Small-Medium Holders and Industrial Estates. Organized Plantings at both the small-medium and corporate estates levels are on the rise. The Governments of the Major Producing States (Imo, Abia, Edo, Cross River) have established different programmes aimed at regaining the lost glory of Oil Palm in their respective States. In addition, under the Oil Palm Transformation Plan of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, NIFOR is mandated to supply 2 million Oil Palm Seedlings for planting in 2013. NIFOR has claimed to have delivered about 1.3 million seedlings to Small-Medium Farms and some estates across the Producing States.

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

The following types of Organized Plantings exist within the production system:

a. **Smallholder Farms**: Oil Palm is planted by individual farmers at 1- 4 hectares. It also includes Oil Palms planted in some Government Agricultural Schemes at individual land holdings of 5-10 hectares. Contemporary Smallholders maintain commercial size farms of up to 100 hectares. Mostly Tenera variety is cultivated in this production system, the use of manual labour and proper spacing of plants are common practice while, inappropriate fertilizer or chemicals are also common. The average yield is 3 FFB tons/ha/year.
b. **Medium Farms**: Oil Palm is planted mostly by Small-Medium Business Enterprises at 100 -500 hectares holdings with adoption of small mechanization and herbicides application. The average yield is 5 tons FFB/ha/year.
c. **Estates**: With the Oil Palm development undertaken by Government and Corporate Private sector being at 500-12,000 hectares, private sector investment is increasing by the day too. New Investors have initiated greenfield developments while a number of moribund and derelict government Plantations have been privatized and acquired by Private Investors. Suffice it to say that private sector investments in Oil Palm development are increasing.

   The estates can be in three (3) forms:

   - Small Estates: The area under cultivation per holding in this form is between 100 and 1000 ha and owned by individuals and Co-operative Societies. There is a reasonable level of mechanization with certain level of management.
   - Medium Estates: The area under production in this form is between 1,000 and 5,000 ha per holding. These are owned by Corporations or State Governments. Most of the corporations are linked to a Medium-Sized Mill.
   - Large Estates: The area under cultivation per holding is greater than 5,000 ha and some are integrated into large scale processing Mills (Solidaridad/SWAPP, 2013; MADE-OOPC, 2020 and PIND, 2011)

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | **Liaison:** 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | **Email:** info@fdsng.com **website:** www.fdsng.com

2.4 Overview and Characteristics of Nigeria's Oil Palm Smallholder Farmers

Various studies have revealed diverse demographic and social features of the Nigeria's oil palm SHFs. According to MADE-OOPC (2020), most of the Nigeria's oil palm SHFs are men (93%), married (94.7%), literate (95.4%) and about 48 years old making them fall within the United Nation's middle age category which is considered to be active and so expected to make substantial contributions to enhance family livelihoods. Their average household size and experience in oil palm production are 14 persons and 12 years respectively. They further reported that majority (71.3%) of the farmers engage in oil palm production mainly for income generation and only few (23.5%) of them are members of cooperatives or other associations.

The findings of 2Scale-OOPC (2021) corroborate these results but with some slight variations. According to their findings, the oil palm SHFs were predominantly males (about 90%), aged 55 years with majority (97%) of them married and having an average family size of 15 persons. About 65% of the farmers have at most secondary education with literacy rate of 99.5%, and they have 14 years of experience in oil palm production. Their major source of finance for their business is their personal savings (96.5%). While MADE-OOPC (2020) reported an average farm size of 8.6 ha for the SHFs, 2Scale-OOPC (2021) estimated their farm size ranging from 0.4 to 50 ha with the average of about 10.5 ha.

2.5 Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)

The Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) is a multi-stakeholder initiative that aims to promote the production and uptake of Certified Sustainable Palm Oil (CSPO). Sustainable palm oil production comprises legal, economically viable, environmentally appropriate and socially beneficial management and operations. This is delivered through the application of a set of Principles and Criteria (P&C), and the accompanying Indicators and Guidance. The RSPO Principles and Criteria (P&C) was introduced in 2007 and was revised in 2013, most recently in 2018. It is the basis for certification and serves as the global guidelines for sustainable palm oil production. The RSPO certification platform seeks to transform markets to make sustainable palm

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

oil the norm. Among the aims of the P&C is to ensure that the fundamental rights of landowners, local communities, plantation workers, small farmers as well as their families are respected and fully taken into account (RSPO, 2020).

There are three impact goals of the RSPO with seven principles. The impact goals are Prosperity, People and Planet. The principles for Prosperity are: (1) Behave ethically and transparently, (2) Operate legally and respect rights, and (3) Optimize productivity, efficiency, positive impacts and resilience. Those of People are: (4) Respect community and human rights and deliver benefits, (5) Support smallholder inclusion, and (6) Respect workers' rights and conditions. Principle 7 which is to protect, conserve and enhance ecosystems and the environment is for the Planet impact goal (RSPO, 2020).

2.6 RSPO-IMO Community Outreach and Engagement Programme

The RSPO recognizes the need for more comprehensive outreach efforts through a network of intermediaries identified from the related or affected communities within oil palm producing countries to support and assist RSPO, thus paving the way for a more effective engagement process that will then play a key role in RSPO achieving its mission. The rationale for this is that RSPO is a multi-stakeholder process which relies on the active engagement of all concerned parties to function effectively and credibly. By engaging intermediaries for outreach, RSPO's capacity is enhanced to reach workers, women, local communities, and indigenous peoples at national, regional and local levels. RSPO feels that communities, local groups/ associations, and other intermediary organizations which are important stakeholders in the oil palm producing areas lack knowledge of the RSPO and how it functions and thus seeks avenues to inform and capacitate them in order that their expertise, concerns and needs are fully taken into account. The engagement also entails enhancing the capacity of these intermediary groups to engage with the RSPO.

Consequently, Community Outreach and Engagement Programme was initiated for Edo State, Nigeria and Foremost Development Services Limited (FDS) with vast knowledge, experience and understanding of the Local context and providing world class consultancy services for major players in the Oil Palm Sector was engaged as the Intermediary Organization (IMO) for the outreach programme. The IMO is expected to conduct baseline study of the relevant stakeholder groups in the oil palm producing Local communities and build their capacities to enable them key into the RSPO P&C which will enable the production of sustainable palm oil.

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

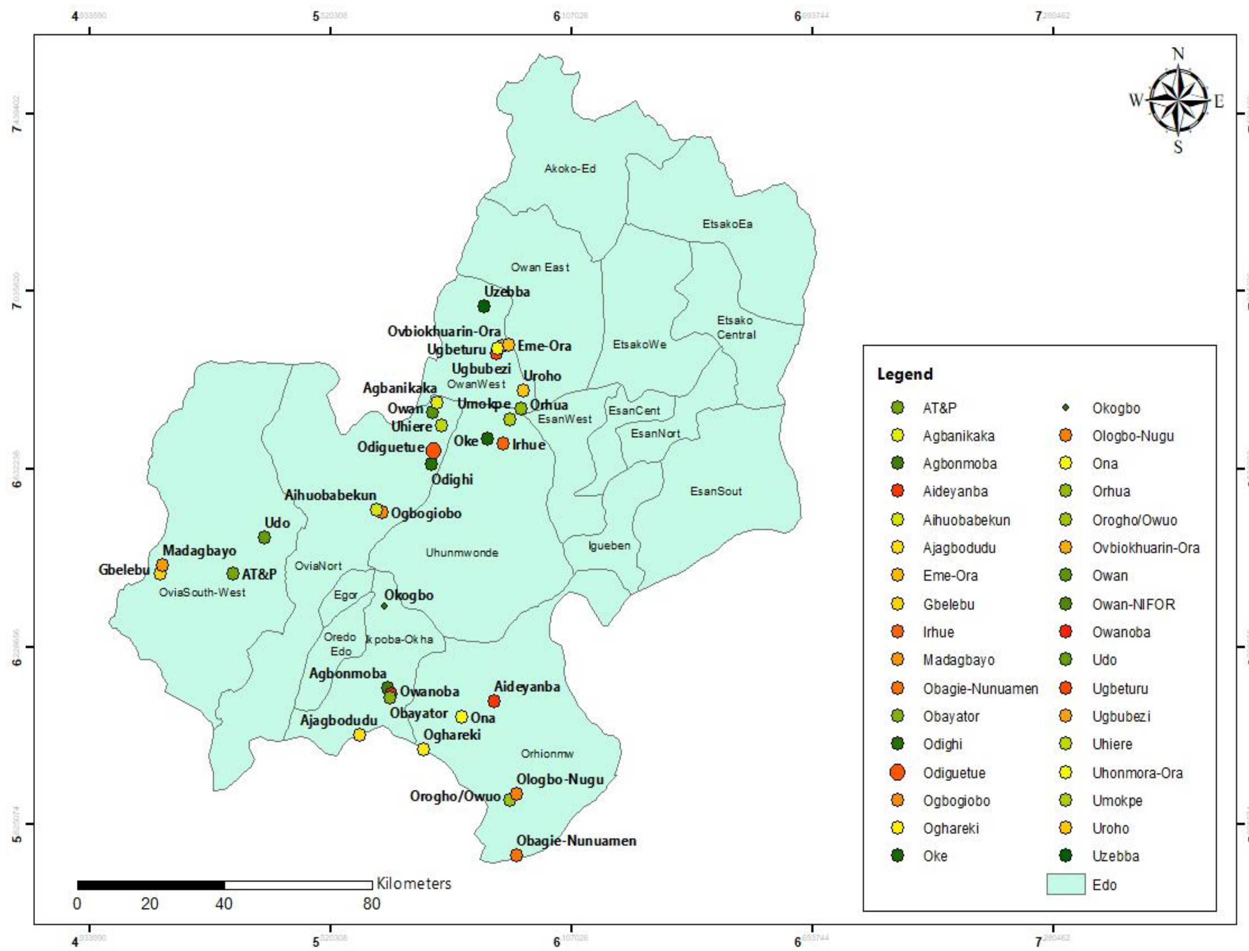
Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

SECTION THREE

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Study Areas

The baseline study was conducted in thirty-four (34) communities, across seven (7) LGAs. The coordinates of the locations/communities covered in the survey in the various LGAs are presented in Table 3.1, while the Map of Edo State showing the LGAs, and Communities covered is shown in Figure 3.1.



Source: Field survey (2022)

Figure 3.1: Map of Edo State showing the LGAs, and Communities covered

Table 3.1: GPS of Locations/Communities covered in the Survey

LGA	Community	Coordinates	
		Latitude (N)	Longitude (E)
Ovia North-East	Owan	6.760758	5.768613
	Odighi	6.6435958	5.7635936
	Agbanikaka	6.782515	5.777490
	Owan-NIFOR	6.5376762	5.6299636
	Ogbogiobo	6.5320403	5.6434992
	Aihuobabekun	6.5392763	5.6308505
ESOPP (1), Ovia North-East	Odiguetue	6.671479	5.769098
	Uhiere	6.731189	5.788327
Ovia South-West	Gbelebu	6.394506	5.104033
	Madagbayo	6.412377	5.110726
	AT&P	6.393454	5.282707
	Udo	6.477152	5.359154
Uhunmwode	Oke	6.699436	5.902416
	Orhua	6.769028	5.982769
	Umokpe	6.743487	5.957119
	Irhue	6.689103	5.938433
Ikpoba-Okha	Agbonmoba	6.135662	5.6595067
	Owanoba	6.1198867	5.6654483
	Obayator	6.1125568	5.6646233
Orhionmwon	Orogho/Owuo	5.8795543	5.9556157
	Obagie-Nunuamen	5.7545231	5.9726858
	Ologbo-Nugu	5.8954976	5.9737458
	Uroho	6.8086483	5.9883803
ESOPP (1), Orhionmwon	Ona	6.069015	5.8382283
	Aideyanba	6.1056233	5.9169983
	Okogbo	6.3200994	5.6492456
ESOPP (2), Owan West	Ugbubezi	6.8938326	5.922975
	Ugbeturu	6.8938326	5.922975
	Ovbiokhuarin-Ora	6.9106093	5.9361397
	Eme-Ora	6.911805	5.9540172
	Uzebba	6.9990783	5.8935988
	Uhonmora-Ora	6.9046113	5.9253755
Ethiope West LGA (Delta State)*	Oghareki	5.9465273	5.6640363
	Ajagbodudu	5.9550222	5.5791454

* These are border communities outside of Edo State, but proximal to the Sakponba Estate of Presco Plc

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

3.2 Population of the Study

The population of the study comprises all the smallholder oil palm farmers across the communities in Edo State, Nigeria.

3.3 Sampling Procedure

3.3.1 Reconnaissance Survey

The reconnaissance survey started from 12 to 17 December 2022 across seven (7) major oil palm companies including communities around their operations/concessions and smallholders oil palm farmers' groups in seven (7) Local Government Areas of Edo State. The major oil palm companies include: Okomu Oil Palm Company Plc with operational area covering Ovia Southwest, Ovia Northeast and Uhunmwonde LGAs-,Agro Allied Resources Processing Nigeria (ARPN) located in Ovia North-East, Agri Palm Limited in Ovia South-West LGA, Presco Plc with operational areas covering Orhionmwon, Ikpoba-Okha and Ethiope West LGAs, while Saro Oil Palm Limited, Fayus Nigeria Limited and Barnsley International Limited, which are ESOPP projects covered Ovia North-East, Orhionmwon and Owan West LGAs.

3.3.1.1 Reconnaissance Survey Presentation and Interview

Several minutes were dedicated to playing video episodes on RSPO to prepare stakeholder representatives for the meeting. The presentation gave a background information on the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil, rationale behind COEP. It also provided information on the COEP launch, RSPO first public consultation and trainings held including the objectives and expectations of the programme at different stages. Also, the RSPO-IMO (FDS) briefly introduced the aspects of COEP that will commence immediately after the reconnaissance survey, namely baseline study and capacity building. Comments obtained from the stakeholders were addressed accordingly.

Interviews were also conducted to identify the oil palm communities in the study areas and the estimated number of oil palm smallholder farmers in each community. Sixty-nine (69) oil palm communities were identified in the seven LGAs and the ESOPP areas under consideration and a sampling frame of 696 oil palm smallholders was obtained from which the sample size for the baseline study was drawn (see Table 3.1).

3.3.2 Sampling Technique and Sample Size

A multi-stage sampling procedure was employed for the selection of respondents for the study (Table 3.1). The first stage of this procedure involved the use of a purposive sampling technique to select seven LGAs and ESOPP areas from the study area known for oil palm production based on the reports of MADE and OOPC (2019), 2-Scale and Okomu OPC (2021) and reconnaissance survey conducted. The LGAs are: Ovia North-East, Ovia South-West, Uhunmwonde, Ikpoba-Okha, Orhionmwon and Ethiope West (Delta State. The ESOPP areas are ESOPP 1-Ovia North-East, ESOPP 1-Orhionmwon, and ESOPP 2-Owan West. It is important to note that Ethiope West is a LGA in Delta State and not Edo State. It was sampled because its oil palm production operations are around Presco, the RSPO member in Edo State.

The second stage was the application of a simple random sampling technique to sample 50% of the oil palm communities identified in the study area during the reconnaissance survey to give a total of 37 communities.

In the third and last stage, a simple random sampling technique was also used to select 50% of the oil palm smallholder farmers from the sampling frame of each community in each LGA, giving a total sample size of 348 respondents for the study. However, due to some limitations encountered during the survey, a total of 304 copies of questionnaire from 34 communities were completed and used for data analysis representing about 84% respondents of the sample size.

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

Table 3.2: Sampling Frame and Sample Size

LGAs/ESOPP Areas	Oil palm Communities identified	Number of communities sampled (50% of total identified)	Total number of SHFs identified in sampled communities	Sample size (50% of total SHFs)	Response rate (number of completed questionnaire)
Ovia North-East	Owan	Owan	74	37	37
	Odighi	Odighi	18	9	9
	Agbanikaka	Agbanikaka	6	3	3
	Owan-NIFOR	Owan-NIFOR	40	20	20
	Ogbogiobo	Ogbogiobo	4	2	2
	Aihuobabekun	Aihuobabekun	16	8	8
	Uhiere				
	Odiguetue				
	Ozoguo				
	Utekon				
	Ekabesi				
	Iyowa				
Sub-total	**12**	**6**	**158**	**79**	**79**
Ovia South-West	Gbelebu	Gbelebu	12	6	6
	Udo	Udo	6	3	3
	AT&P	AT&P	8	4	4
	Madagbayo	Madagbayo	32	16	16
	Urhezen				
	Iguelaho				
	Iguoriakhi				
	Iguobazuwa				
Sub-total	**8**	**4**	**58**	**29**	**29**
Uhunmwode LGA	Oke	Oke	34	17	17
	Orhua	Orhua	4	2	2
	Umokpe	Umokpe	12	6	6
	Irhue	Irhue	4	2	2
	Ekpan				
	Obagie				
	Ehor				
Sub-total	**7**	**4**	**54**	**27**	**27**

IC - Inaccessible Community

AT&P - African Timber and Plywood

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | **Liaison:** 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | **Email:** info@fdsng.com **website:** www.fdsng.com

Table 3.2: Sampling Frame and Sample Size (cont'd)

LGAs/ESOPP Areas	Oil palm Communities identified	Number of communities sampled (50% of total identified)	Total number of SHFs identified in sampled communities	Sample size (50% of total SHFs)	Response rate (number of completed questionnaire)
Ikpoba-Okha LGA	Agbonmoba	Agbonmoba	22	11	11
	Owanoba	Owanoba	16	8	8
	Obayator	Obayator	24	12	12
	Iyanomor	Ologbo	50	25	UC
	Evbuekpen				
	Ikara				
	Ologbo				
Sub-total	**7**	**4**	**112**	**56**	**31**
Orhionmwon	Orogho/Owuo	Orogho/Owuo	8	4	4
	Obagie-Nunuamen	Obagie-Nunuamen	22	11	11
	Ologbo Nugu	Ologbo Nugu	10	5	5
	Uroho	Uroho	4	2	2
	Iwevbo				
	Ugbigun/Ekigbe				
	Orogho Dukedom				
	Omolua, Igbanke				
Sub-total	**8**	**4**	**44**	**22**	**22**
ESOPP (1), Orhionmwon	Ona	Ona	18	9	9
	Aideyanba	Aideyanba	22	11	11
	Okogbo	Okogbo	2	1	1
	Evbuehia	Evbuehia	10	5	UC
	Owe Ukpekele	Owe Ukpekele	4	2	UC
	Idu				
	Evbonogbon				
	Ogba				
	Ugo				
	Avbiosi				
Sub-total	**10**	**5**	**56**	**28**	**21**
ESOPP (1), Ovia North-East	Odiguetue	Odiguetue	64	32	20
	Uhiere	Uhiere	40	20	20
	Owan				
Sub-total	**3**	**2**	**104**	**52**	**40**

IC – Inaccessible Community

AT&P - African Timber and Plywood

Table 3.2: Sampling Frame and Sample Size (cont'd)

LGAs/ESOPP Areas	Oil palm Communities identified	Number of communities sampled (50% of total identified)	Total number of SHFs identified in sampled communities	Sample size (50% of total SHFs)	Response rate (number of completed questionnaire)
ESOPP (2), Owan West	Ugbubezi	Ugbubezi	8	4	4
	Ugbeturu	Ugbeturu	4	2	2
	Ovbiokhuarin-Ora	Ovbiokhuarin-Ora	18	9	9
	Eme-Ora	Eme-Ora	6	3	3
	Uzebba	Uzebba	22	11	11
	Uhonmora-Ora	Uhonmora-Ora	2	1	1
	Atoruru				
	Evbiobe				
	Etiose				
	Ubozogbe-Nugu				
	Umoghan-Uzuagbo				
Sub-total	**11**	**6**	**60**	**30**	**30**
Ethiope West (Delta State)	Oghareki	Oghareki	48	24	24
	Ajabodudu	Ajabodudu	2	1	1
	Egbeku				
Sub-total	**3**	**2**	**50**	**25**	**25**
Total	**69**	**37**	**696**	**348**	**304**

IC – Inaccessible Community

AT&P - African Timber and Plywood

3.4 Source of Data and Method of Data Collection

Data for the study were collected from primary sources. The fieldwork for the collection of the primary data included administration of structured questionnaire and focus group discussion (FGD). The questionnaire was designed and uploaded on kobocollect v2022.1.2 for electronic data collection. The structured questionnaire was divided into 8 sections, covering the following aspects:

- Section A included the questions related to the demographics of the oil palm smallholders such as age, education, gender, household size etc.
- Section B covered the questions concerning oil palm production systems.
- Section C was about income and livelihood of the oil palm smallholders.
- Section D related to production challenges facing the smallholders
- Section E covered the smallholder's marketing of palm produce.
- Section F related to the aspects of finances of the smallholders.
- Section G was concerned with institutional support received by the smallholders.
- Section H related to social mobility of the smallholders.

Six enumerators were trained for the administration of the questionnaire. The study experts monitored the administration of the questionnaire in the areas covered electronically to ensure that proper work was done (See Appendix 1 for survey instrument).

Interaction with the oil palm smallholders during FGD centered on RSPO, and the impacts of oil palm production and some RSPO members' contributions on their welfare. Appendix 2 shows the picture gallery of meetings with some oil palm smallholders during FGD and interview.

3.5 Data Handling Process and Analysis

The data collected were cleaned through proper inspection to correct erroneous ones and standardized by converting some of the physical quantities of inputs and output which were in their local measures to standard scales before final submission of the questionnaire in the kobocollect for analysis.

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

3.6 Picture gallery of Meetings with some Oil Palm Smallholders during FGD and interview

Appendix 2 shows the picture gallery of meetings with some Oil Palm Smallholders during FGD, interview and during reconnaissance survey.

3.7 Limitations and Concerns of the Study

The major limitations experienced during the study included the following:

1. The respondents depended solely on memory recall and estimates to complete the questionnaire for the study due to lack of formal records keeping. Thus, the farmers need to be educated on the need to keep records.

2. Lack of standard measure made the measurement of some variables difficult, hence they were taken in their local forms and later standardized.

3. Inability to access or have adequate coverage of some communities due to insecurity problem. Thus, the proposed sample size was not 100% covered during the fieldwork.

4. Some of the oil palm smallholders complained that many researchers kept coming to stress them with interview/data collection with no favourable outcome of assistance to them. The question they kept asking is, "what is the benefit of RSPO to them, especially, finance to enable them develop their farms?" In view of this, some of the farmers refused to attend to us, while others attended to us reluctantly.

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

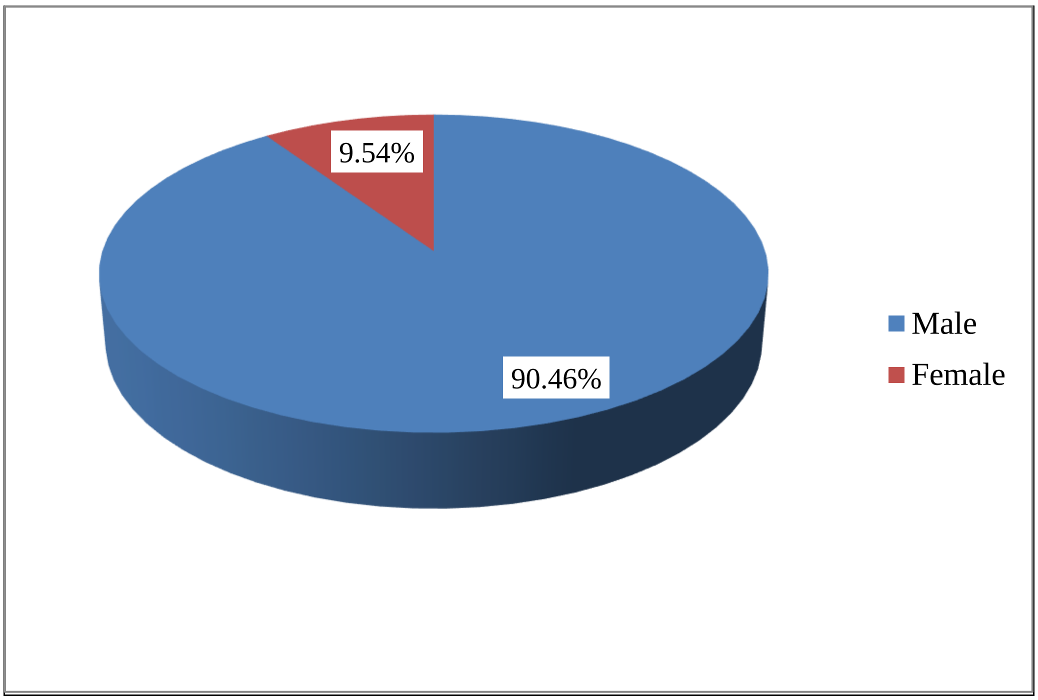
Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

SECTION FOUR

4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Socio-economic Characteristics of Oil Palm Smallholder Farmers

The socio-economic characteristics of the Oil Palm Smallholder Farmers (SHFs) in the study area are presented in Figures 4.1 - 4.2, and Table 4.1. The distribution of the respondents according to gender (Figure 4.1) showed that majority (90.46%) of the SHFs were males while females were few (9.54%), indicating the dominance of male in the oil palm production industry in the study area. This was expected due to the rigorous nature of oil palm production operations which requires physical strength and men are known to be more physically endowed with strength than their women counterparts. About 75% of the farmers were within the age bracket of 31 - 60 years with the mean age of 53 years (Figure 4.2). This indicates that the oil palm SHFs were within the active and productive age category and therefore can effectively carry out their production operations.



(n = 304)

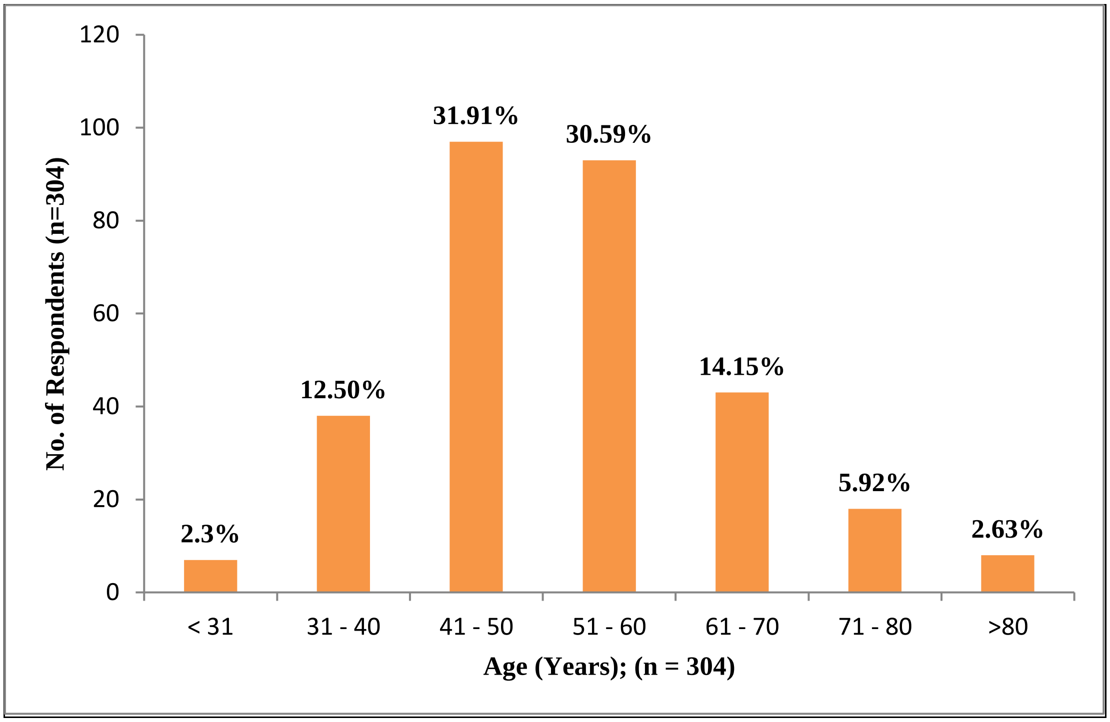
Figure 4.1: Gender of the Oil Palm Smallholders

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com



Mean age: 53 years; Min. age: 25 years; Max. age: 90 years

Figure 4.2: Age of the Oil Palm Smallholders

Table 4.1 shows that majority (95.39%) of the farmers were married with average household size of 8 persons. Marriage confers on people a sense of responsibility and maturity due to the need to cater for their families. Thus, it is expected that the SHFs would be mature and responsible enough to take rational decisions that would improve their farm productivity. The availability of appreciable number of persons in the households of the respondents implies that they would contribute positively to the oil palm production business through their labour, ceteris paribus.

A larger percentage (92.43%) of the farmers were literate and their average oil palm production experience was about 11 years. Education and production experience are important variables that enhance the managerial ability of farmers in production, thereby increasing their farm productivity. While education is instrumental to enabling farmers access and utilize relevant information on improved production technologies; experience, it is said, is the best teacher.

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

Farming was the major occupation of the SHFs (98.36%). This implies that they would have ample time to pay full attention to their production business which would result in increased productivity, all things being equal. Majority (99.34%) of the oil palm farmers were independent smallholders and independent smallholders often have limited resources for efficient business operations. They require various interventions to assist them make significant progress in their production.

Table 4.1: Socioeconomic Characteristics of the Oil Palm Smallholders (cont'd)

Item		No of Respondents (no = 304)	%
Marital Status			
Single		10	3.29
Married		290	95.39
Widow/Widower		4	1.32
Household Size			
1 - 5		81	26.64
6 – 10		173	56.91
11 – 15		31	10.20
16 – 20		10	3.29
21 - 25		5	1.64
26 -30		3	0.99
> 30		1	0.33
Minimum	1		
Maximum	50		
Mean	8		
Highest Educational Level			
No formal education		23	7.57
Primary education		56	18.42
Secondary education		147	48.35
OND/NCE		35	11.51
HND/Bsc		40	13.16
Others (M.Sc, Ph.D)		3	0.99
Oil Palm Production Experience			
< 6		107	35.20
6 – 10		69	22.69
11 – 15		47	15.46
16 – 20		31	10.20
21 - 25		35	11.51
26 -30		11	3.62
> 30		4	1.32
Minimum	1		

Maximum	41		
Mean	11.22		
Major Occupation*			
Farming		299	98.36
Fishing		3	0.99
Trading		22	7.24
Civil service		13	4.28
Art and craft		4	1.32
Others (Nursing, fashion designer, hair dresser, clergy)		30	9.87
Ownership Structure of Oil Palm business			
Independent/sole-proprietorship		302	99.34
Partnership		2	0.66

*Multiple Responses

4.2 Production Systems of Oil Palm Smallholder Farmers

4.2.1 Farm Size of Oil Palm Smallholders

The study revealed that the oil palm smallholders owned an average farm size of about 7.88 hectares with a minimum and maximum of 0.5 and 50.0 hectares respectively. Most (79.60%) of them owned between 1 and 10 hectares of oil palm farms and 12.83% owned between 11 and 20 hectares while 0.99% of them had between 41 and 50 hectares (Figure 4.3). This shows that all the oil palm farmers were smallholders as none of them had plantation of more than 50 hectares, the maximum farm size for oil palm smallholders in Nigeria (2-Scale and OOPC, 2021).

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

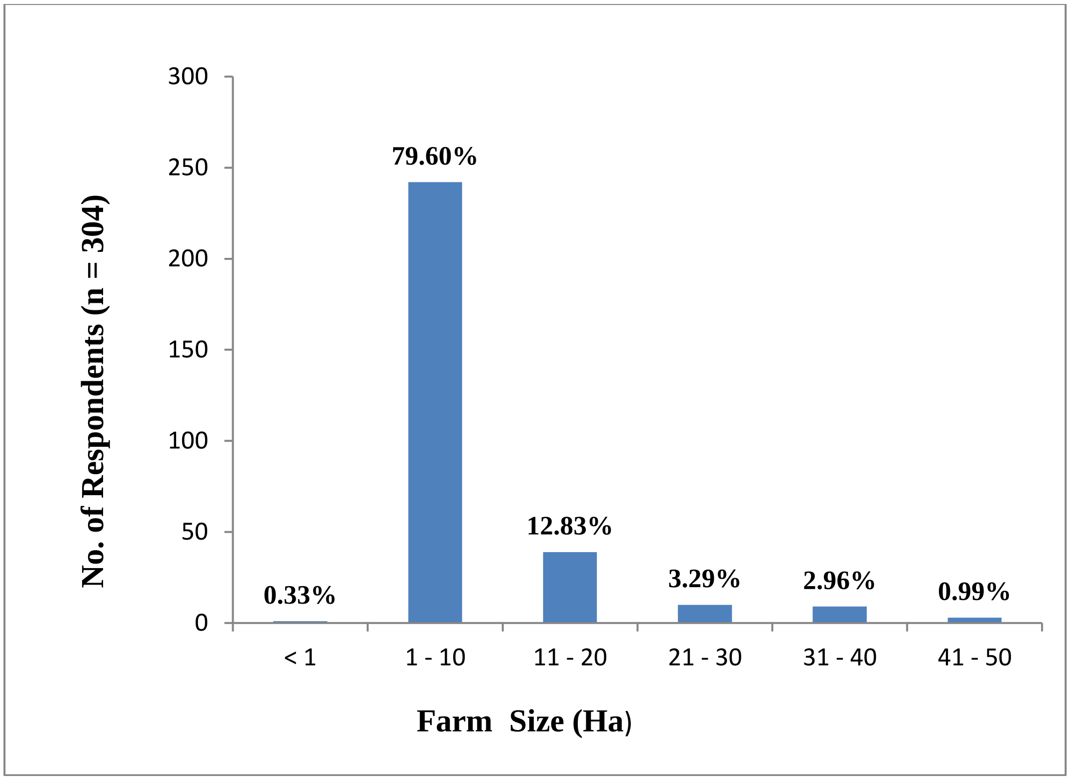


Figure 4.3: Farm Size of Oil Palm Smallholders

4.2.2 Sources of Inputs of Oil Palm Smallholders

Table 4.2 shows the sources of inputs available to the oil palm smallholders. It can be seen that land acquisition for oil palm production in the study area was mainly by inheritance. This accounted for about 54% of the respondents. Although over time, the problem of fragmentation associated with inherited land may set in, this method of land acquisition grants the SHFs free access to land for oil palm production business. Following closely to the inherited land was acquisition by purchase (42.43%) which has cost implication but gives the farmers assurance of security of their business.

The majority (80.59%) of the SHFs purchased their seedlings, only few (26.97%) of them raised theirs. Purchases of the planting materials were made mainly from NIFOR (49.34%) and Presco (27.63%) which are among the reliable sources of improved oil palm planting materials. On sources of labour, hired labour took the highest proportion (98.36%) of the respondents, indicating that it was the dominant source of labour available to the SHFs in the study area.

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

Table 4.2: Sources of Inputs of Oil Palm Smallholders

Item	No of Respondents (no = 304)*	%
Source of Farmland		
Inherited	165	54.28
Purchased	129	42.43
Family land	43	14.14
Rented	20	6.58
Communal	14	4.61
Government land	9	2.96
Lease	1	0.33
How Seedlings are Obtained		
Raised	82	26.97
Purchased	245	80.59
Source of Planting Materials		
NIFOR	150	49.34
Presco	84	27.63
Fellow farmer	60	19.74
Okomu	34	11.18
Ministry of Agriculture	1	0.33
From existing plantation	27	8.88
Source of Labour		
Family	204	67.11
Hired	299	98.36
Communal	2	0.66

*Multiple responses

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

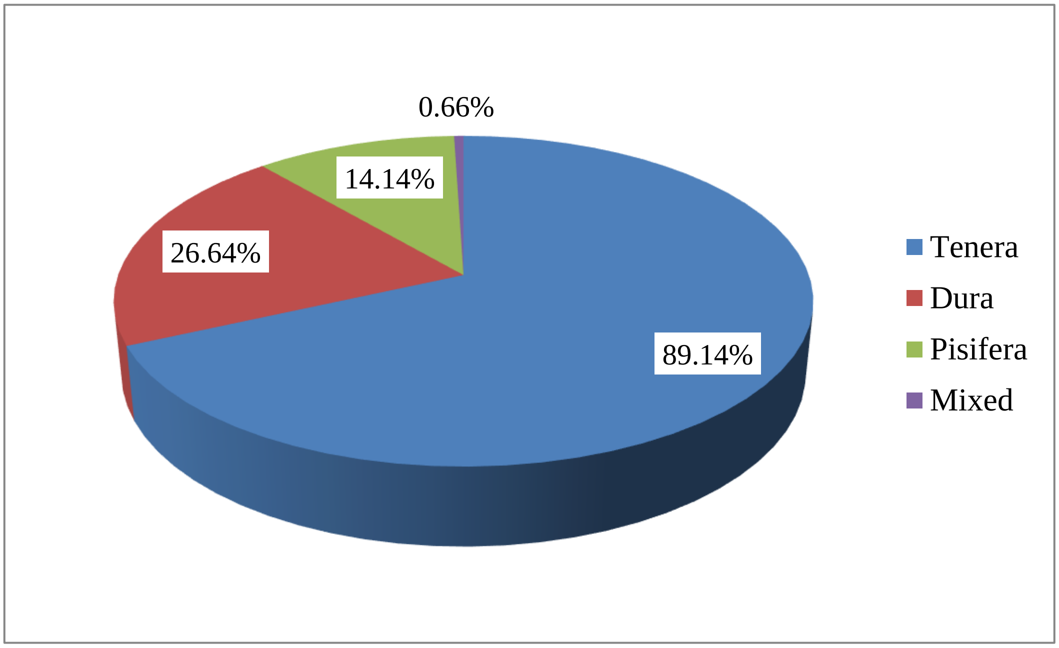
Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

4.2.3 Types of Oil Palm Cultivated by the Smallholders

The survey showed that majority (89.14%) of the oil palm smallholders cultivated tenera oil palm type because palm fruits of tenera have high oil content. Some of them (26.64%) also grew dura while others (14.14%) cultivated pisifera. Very few (0.66%) had mixed varieties on their plantations (Figure 4.4). By growing dura variety, it is definite that they would have low palm oil yield. In addition, most of those with dura and pisifera inherited the oil palm plantations.



Remark: Multiple responses

Figure 4.4: Types of Oil Palm Cultivated by the Smallholders

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | Liaison: 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | Email: info@fdsng.com website: www.fdsng.com

4.2.4 Agronomic Practices Employed

The oil palm SHFs employed different agronomic practices in their farms (Table 4.3). On cropping system, a high proportion (73.03%) of the farmers practiced monocropping. Mixed cropping was also practiced but at a low level (32.89%) and it was practiced mostly when the palms were still at the establishment stage or few years after the establishment stage. The farmers used both manual and herbicides for weed control in their farms. Those who used both methods were higher (54.93%), followed by those who used manual weeding only (42.76%), indicating the dominance of manual weeding over herbicide usage in the study area. Fertilizer utilization by the oil palm SHFs was also low as evidenced by about 61% of them who did not use it. This is not unconnected with the high cost of fertilizer which most of the farmers could not afford. The farmers who applied fertilizer used more of organic fertilizer (25%) which is cheaper and more environmentally friendly.

Other agronomic practices employed by the farmers include mulching (41.78%), green manuring (27.96%) and cover cropping (10.53%). Biological pest control and terracing were also practiced but by very few farmers (4.28% and 2.96% respectively).

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

Table 4.3: Agronomic Practices Adopted by the Smallholder Farmers

Item	No of Respondents	%
	(no = 304)	
Cropping System*		
Monocropping	222	73.03
Mixed cropping	100	32.89
Method of Weed Control*		
Manual	130	42.76
Herbicides	28	9.21
Both manual and herbicide	167	54.93
Fertilizer Utilization		
Yes	120	39.47
No	184	60.53
Type of Fertilizer Used	**(no = 120)**	
Organic fertilizer	76	25.00
Inorganic fertilizer	44	14.47
Other Agronomic Practices Adopted*		
Mulching	127	41.78
Green manuring	85	27.96
Cover cropping	32	10.53
Biological pest control	13	4.28
Terracing	9	2.96

*Multiple responses

4.3 Livelihood and Income Status of Smallholder Farmers

4.3.1 Sources of Livelihood of Oil Palm Smallholders

The results of the study on sources of livelihood and income status of the oil palm SHFs are presented in Table 4.4. About 81% of the respondents reported that oil palm production was their major source of livelihood, over half (51.64%) derived their living from arable crop production and very few (7.57%) of them engaged in marketing activities to cater for their needs. Having oil palm production as the major source of livelihood suggests that the farmers would manage it with all commitment and dedication. This is because, where a person's treasure is, there his mind shall be. Consequently, resources committed to the oil palm production enterprise are expected to be efficiently managed. Borehole (64.8%) and rain harvest into the well (46.71%) were the main sources of water available to the SHFs. These water sources attract costs to the users and hence would have indirect negative effect on the farmers' production.

Table 4.4: Sources of Livelihood of Oil Palm Smallholders

Item	No of Respondents	%
	(no = 304)*	
Major Source of Livelihood		
Oil palm production	246	80.92
Arable crop production	157	51.64
Marketing	23	7.57
Source of Water		
Borehole	197	64.80
Rain harvest into well	142	46.71
River	71	23.36
Stream	44	14.47

*Multiple responses

4.3.2 Income Status of Oil Palm Smallholders

About 64.15% of the Oil Palm Smallholders had an annual income of between ₦600,000.00 and ₦1,500,000.00. Similarly, about 26.97% earned between ₦100,000.00 and ₦500,000.00 while a few (8.88%) of them made income of above ₦1,500,000.00 with an annual average of ₦1,120,000.00 per Smallholder (Figure 4.5).

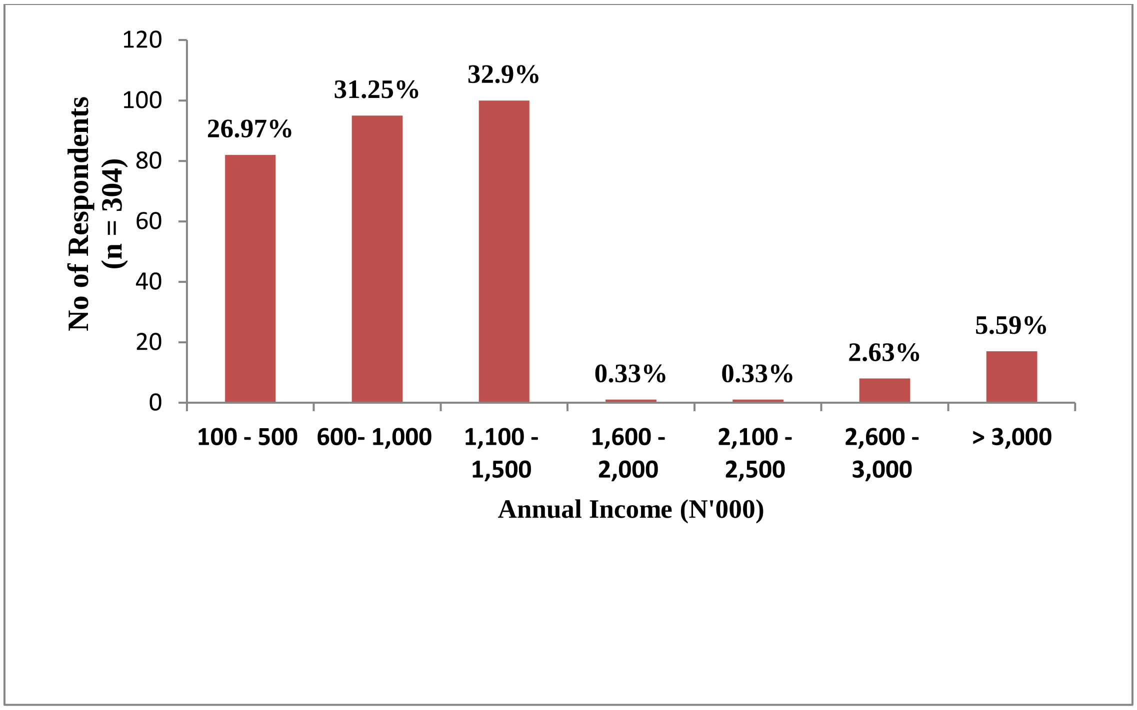
On annual income from other sources (Figure 3.6), the survey showed that majority (90.46%) of the Smallholders earned between ₦100,000.00 and ₦1,500,000.00 while about 9.54% earned above ₦1,500,000.00. On the average, they earned around ₦911,348.68. Also, comparing both average incomes indicated that they earned more from oil palm production than other sources, indicating that oil palm production is a vital enterprise that can lift the SHFs out of poverty.

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

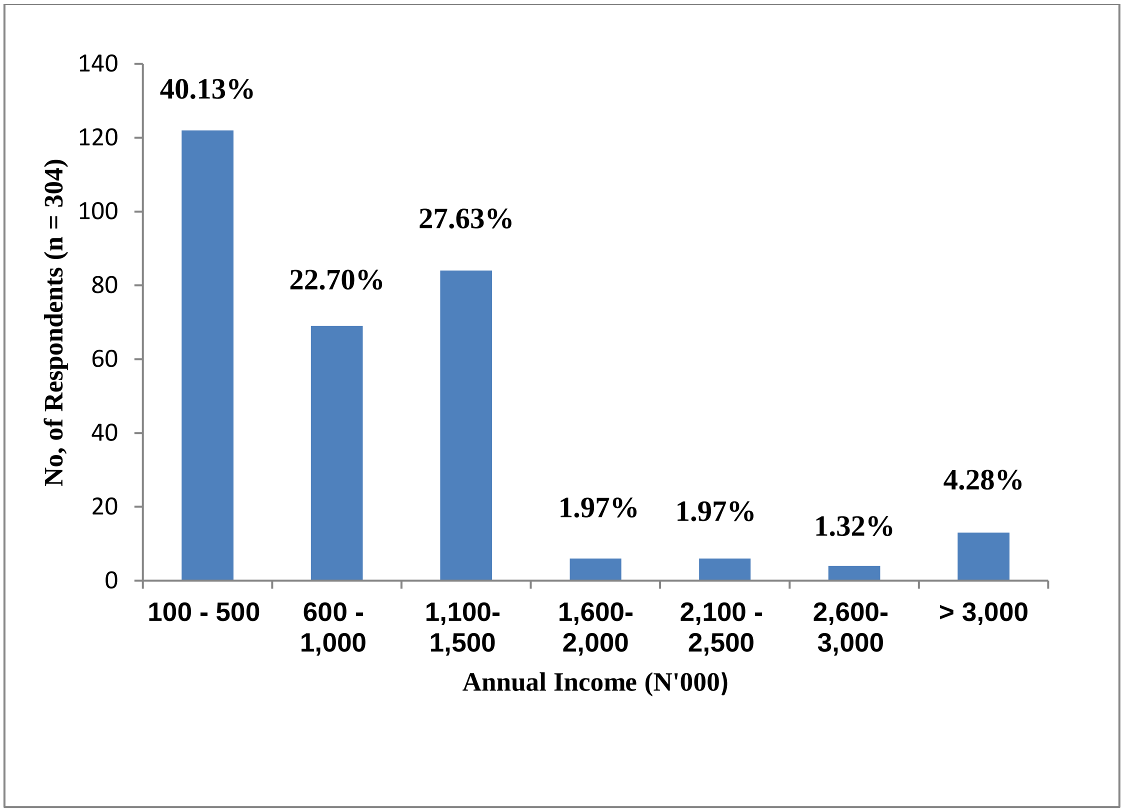
+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com



Average annual income: ₦1,120,000.00

Figure 4.5: Annual Income of Oil Palm Smallholders from Oil Palm Production



Average annual income: ₦911,348.68

Figure 4.6: Annual Income of Oil Palm Smallholders from Other Sources

4.3.2 Housing, Food Security and Health Status

From Table 4.5, it can be seen that 78.29% of the SHFs owned their houses with the housing quality rated to be moderate (57.4%), food security was on the average (80.26%) while their health status was adjudged to be healthy (70.72%). Improvement in the oil palm production enterprise of the SHFs is required to improve the quality of their housing, food security and health status.

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria
Liaison: 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria
+234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228
Email: info@fdsng.com website: www.fdsng.com

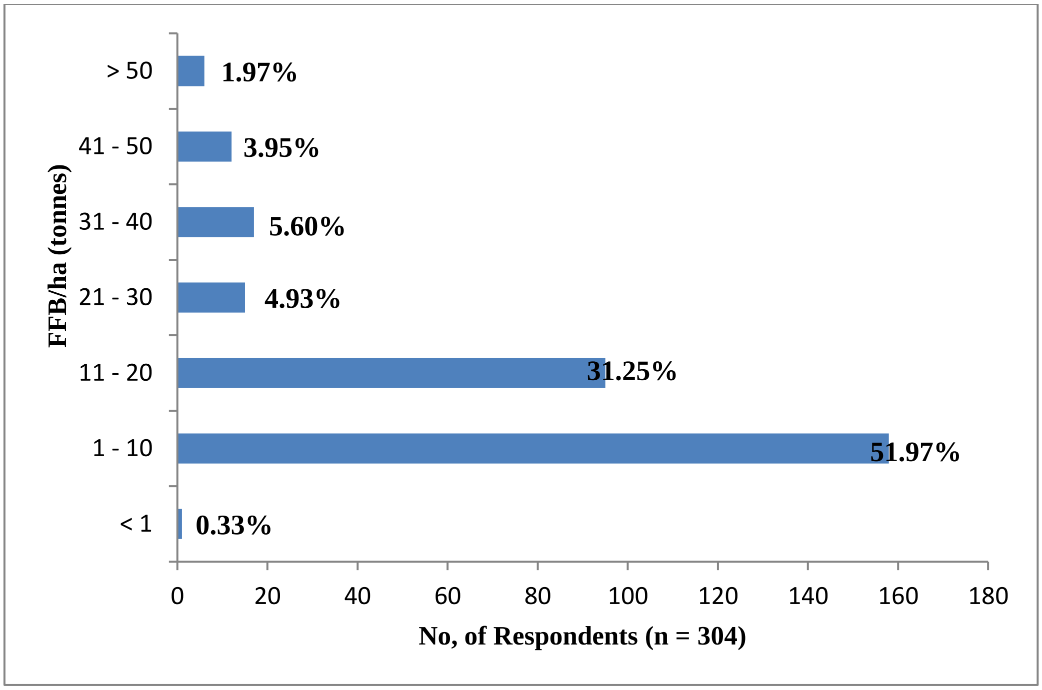
Table 4.5: Housing, Food Security and Health Status of Oil Palm Smallholders

Item	No of Respondents (no = 304)	%
Housing Status		
Own the house	238	78.29
Rented apartment	58	19.08
Scouting	1	0.33
Family house	7	2.30
Housing Quality		
Low	54	17.76
Moderate	223	73.36
High	27	8.88
Food Security Level		
Low	25	8.22
Average	244	80.26
High	35	11.51
Health Status		
Unhealthy	8	2.63
Healthy	215	70.72
Very healthy	81	26.64

4.4 Output of Oil Palm Production

As regards FFB yield, the study showed that the average production per year was 12.81tonnes /ha. It also revealed that the yield varied substantially among Oil Palm Smallholders in the study area. A total of 158 respondents reported between 1 and 10 tonnes /ha, 95 of them reported about 11 to 20 tonnes /ha, 32 of them had yield of 21 - 40 tonnes/ha while only 18 respondents harvested more than 40 MT/ha/year (Figure 4.7). Though the average FFB yield reported here is slightly higher than the average yield of about 10.34 MT/ha/year reported by 2-Scale and OOPC (2021), it is still low when compared with Malaysia whose average yield is 30 MT/ha/year (Adeyeye and Adeyeye, 2000). Poor management practices, inadequate and inefficient use of production inputs might be reasons for the low output. The application of the RSPO sustainable practices will increase the oil palm productivity of the SHFs, *ceteris paribus.*

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria
Liaison: 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria
+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228
Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com



Average FFB yield/ha: 12.81tonnes

Figure 4.7: FFB Harvest of Oil Palm Smallholders

4.5 Production Challenges of Oil Palm Smallholders

Challenges faced by the Oil Palm Smallholders are summarized in Table 4.6. The smallholders operated their oil palm business under certain major constraints affecting the sustainability of their production. The major constraints were:

- ✓ Lack of credit facility;
- ✓ No support from the Government;
- ✓ High cost of fertilizer;
- ✓ High cost of improved seedlings and
- ✓ High cost of labour in this order as shown in Figure 4.8.

Although, the constraints vary among the respondents in the study area, the first three were quite common in all the areas. Others are lack of access to improved inputs, lack of knowledge of sustainable oil palm production and poor road accessibility (Table 4.6). The other production

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria
Liaison: 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria
+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228
Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

challenges mentioned during FGD include fire outbreak through bush burning, and herdsmen crises. It is obvious that most of the constraints faced by the Smallholders could be solved by specific interventions to achieve sustainable palm oil production.

Table 4.6: Production Challenges for Oil Palm Smallholders

Item	No of Respondents	%
	(no = 304)*	
Lack of credit facility	268	88.16
No support from government	212	69.74
High cost of fertilizer	176	57.89
High cost of improved seedlings	162	53.29
High cost of labour	138	45.39
Lack of access to improved inputs	133	43.75
Lack of knowledge of sustainable Oil Palm production	123	40.46
Lack of access to land	107	35.2
Poor access road to farm	102	33.55
Lack of processing inputs	66	21.71
Inadequate labour for farm work	65	21.38
Low price of FFB	24	7.89
Inadequate market for FFB	15	4.93

* Multiple Responses

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

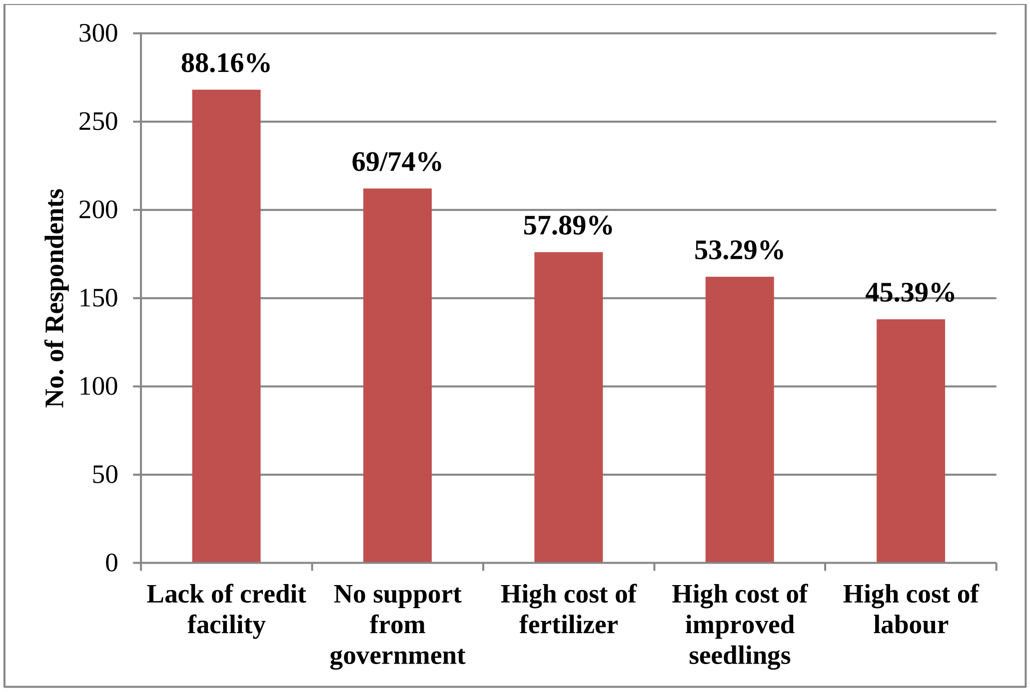


Figure 4.8: Major Production Constraints Facing the Respondents

4.6 Marketing of Oil Palm Produce

4.6.1 Processing of Oil Palm FFB into Palm Oil and Buyers of FFB

Figure 4.9 indicates that majority (73.68 %) of the respondents whose oil palm plantations were in production stage, processed their fresh fruit bunches (FFBs) into palm oil while the remaining (26.32 %) of them did not; they either sold their FFBs or their plantations had not reached production stage.

The survey also indicated that 220 Smallholders (72.37%) processed their FFB into palm oil to add value and earn higher income, 27 of them processed to palm oil due to low selling price of FFB while 7 respondents process because there were no FFB buyers (Table 4.7). Those who did not process their FFB sold their them to other Oil Palm Processing Firms, Wholesalers (Off-takers) and Okomu Oil Palm Company (OOPC) while some Smallholders' plantations had not attained fruiting stage/age (Table 4.7).

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

4.6.2 Rating of the demand for FFB

The demand for FFB in the study area was high (44.74 %), although the quest to add value and earn higher income and low price of FFB per tonne offered by buyers militated against the availability of the FFB for sale (Figure 4.10).

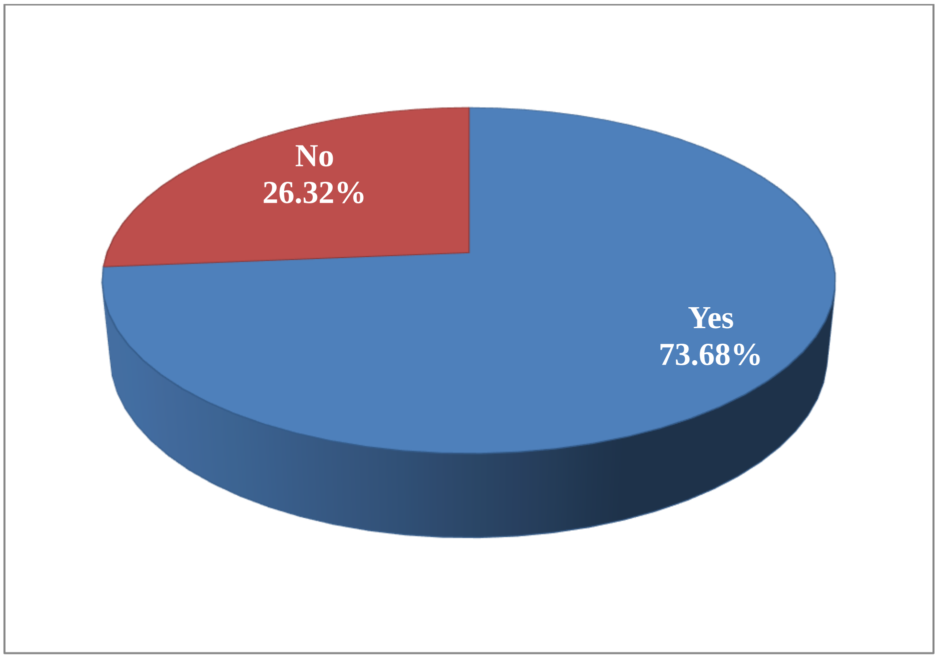


Figure 4.9: Processing of FFB to Palm Oil

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

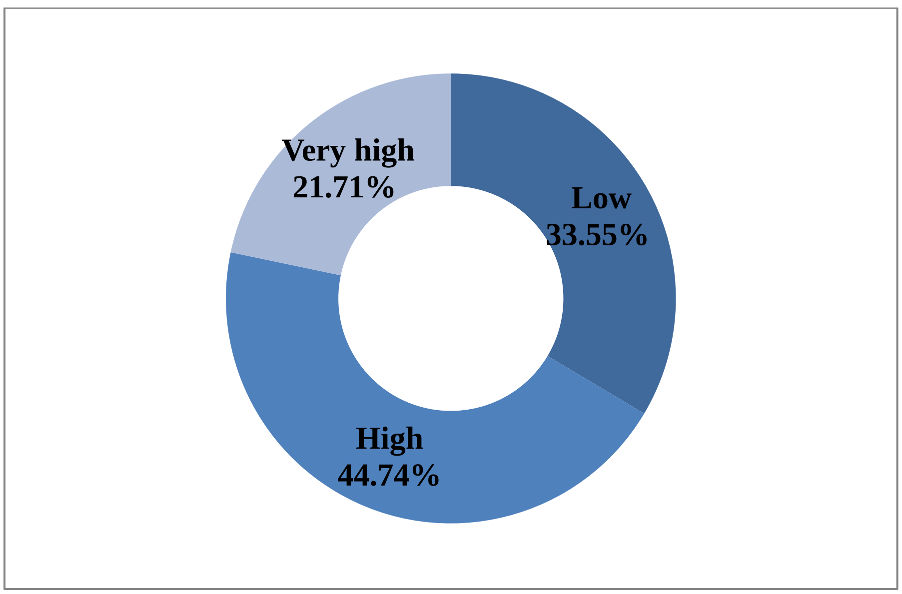
+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

Table 4.7: Processing of Oil Palm FFB into Palm Oil and Buyers of FFB

Item	No of Respondents	%
Process FFB	**(no = 304)**	
Yes	224	73.68
No	80	26,32
Reason for Processing*	**(no = 224)**	
To add value and earn higher income	220	72.37
Price for FFB too low	27	8.88
No buyer of FFB	7	2.30
Who do you sell FFB to?	**(no = 80)**	
Other oil palm processing firms	31	10.20
Wholesalers	25	8.22
OOPC	10	3.29
Oil Palm Plantation not yet Fruiting	14	4.61

* Multiple Responses



(n = 304)

Figure 4.10: Rating the Demand for FFB in the Study Areas

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

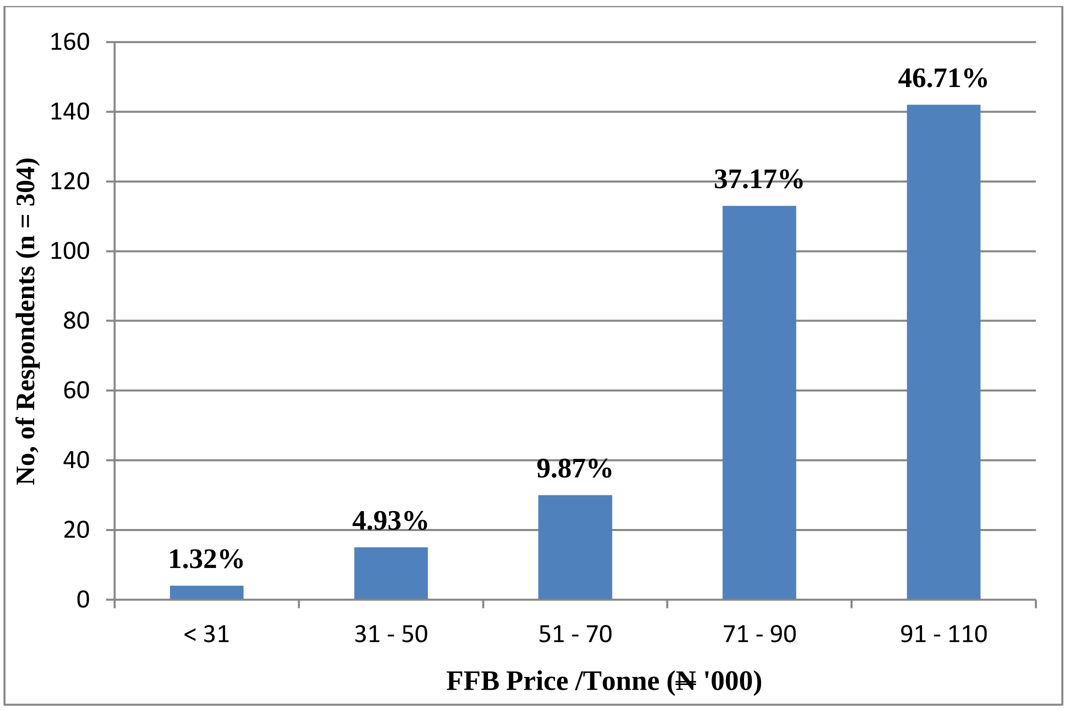
Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

4.7 Selling Price of FFB in the Study Area

The average selling price of FFB in the study area was ₦87,623.17 per tonne. About 46.71% of the SHFs mentioned selling price between ₦91,000.00 and ₦110,000.00; 37.17% respondents said between ₦71,000.00 and ₦90,000.00 while 1.32% said less than ₦31,000.00 (Figure 4.11). Although, all the Smallholders had the idea of the selling price of FFB in their communities, many of them preferred to process their FFB to add value and make higher income. Some considered the FFB prices as too low for them while the others' plantations were not in fruiting stage.



Average selling price of FFB: ₦87,623.17

Figure 4.11: Selling Price of FFB in the Study Area

4.8 Financing of Oil Palm Production

4.8.1 Initial Capital Investment in the Oil Palm Business

With regards to the initial capital investment in the Oil Palm production business, the study showed that the average initial capital investment was ₦685,787.85 and majority (83.22%) of the Oil Palm Smallholders in the covered communities invested amount ranged from less than ₦500,000.00 to ₦1,000,000.00. About 8.22% of them invested between ₦1,000,000.00 and ₦2,000,000.00. Similarly, 3.77% of the respondents spent between ₦2,000,000.00 and ₦3,000,000.00 while less than 5% invested more than ₦3,000,000.00 (Table 4.8). High initial capital is required for investment in oil palm production, but the average initial capital investment of the SHFs was low. This is not unconnected with the poor capital base of the farmers to kick-start the business with substantial amount. Potential investors in the oil palm production industry need to be supported to start the business.

4.8.2 Sources of Finance Available to the Smallholders

About 93.09% of the sampled Smallholders financed their Oil Palm production business with personal savings, 21.05% with credits/loans while 0.99% financed it with other means such as family assistance and inheritance (Table 4.8). Financing business with personal savings is usually inadequate. This could be reason for the low initial capital investment of the farmers. There is, therefore, an urgent need for intervention here to link the SHFs with accessible low interest source of credit to enable them adequately finance their production.

On financing Oil Palm production business with credit, about 10.20% of the respondents obtained credit from friends and relatives, 4.28% got funds from money lenders and 3.29% got funds from Co-operative Societies while 2.96% and 2.63% sourced funds from Microfinance and Commercial Banks respectively (Table 4.8). Friends and relatives cannot give any substantial amount to finance oil palm production business and money lenders charge exorbitant interest rate. Banks need to do more on credit delivery to the farmers by lending through the cooperatives.

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | Liaison: 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | Email: info@fdsng.com website: www.fdsng.com

Table 4.8: Financing of Oil Palm Production

Item	No of Respondents	%
Initial Capital Investment (₦)	**(no = 304)**	
≤ 500,000	175	59.93
500,001 - 1,000,000	68	23.29
1000,001 - 2,000,000	24	8.22
2000,001 - 3,000,000	11	3.77
> 3,000,000	14	4.79
Mean = ₦ 685,787.85		
Source of Finance*	**(no = 304)**	
Personal Savings	283	93.09
Credits /loans	64	21.05
Others (family assistance and inheritance)	3	0.99
Source of Credits*	**(no = 64)**	
Friends and relations	31	10.2
Money lenders	13	4.28
Cooperatives	10	3.29
Microfinance banks	9	2.96
Commercial banks	8	2.63

*Multiple Responses

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

4.9 Institutional Support

4.9.1 Extension Services and Cooperative Society

The outcome of the study revealed that fewer farmers had access to extension services. Evidently, 88.82% of the total respondents did not have any access to any form of extension services while only 11.18% of them had access (Table 4.9). Of the 304 respondents in the study area, 248 (81.58%) did not belong to any cooperative society. This shows that almost all the farmers that did not access extension services were not members of any cooperative, implying that being a cooperative member may also influence access to extension services. Evbo-Omigie Cooperative Society and Oil Palm Growers Association of Nigeria (OPGAN) appear to be the most common cooperative societies among the respondents, followed by Ahunwmengie Multipurpose Cooperative Society (MPCS) and Do Well Cooperative.

4.9.2 Training and Adoption of Improved Oil Palm Production Technology

From the results of the study (Table 4.9), 30 (9.87%) out of 304 respondents indicated that they had received some form of training on the sustainable production of oil palm while 90.13% had not received any training. This indication shows that about 90% of the respondents lack basic training in sustainable oil palm production. For those that had access to training, harvesting techniques was the common training received which accounted for about 9% of the SHFs, followed by training on fertilizer application (7.89%). Major improved production technologies adopted from the training were harvesting techniques (8.22%), correct planting spacing (7.89%) and use of improved seeds/seedlings (7.57%).

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

Table 4.9: Extension Services, Cooperatives and Training of Oil Palm Smallholders

Item	No. of Respondents	%
Access to Extension Services	**(n = 304)**	
No	270	88.82
Yes	34	11.18
Membership of Cooperative, Association or Oil Palm Scheme	**(n = 304)**	
No	248	81.58
Yes	56	18.42
Type of Cooperative, Association or Oil Palm Scheme	**(n = 56)**	
Evbo-Omigie Cooperative	11	3.63
Oil Palm Growers Ass. of Nig (OPGAN)	7	2.31
Do well cooperative	3	0.99
Ahunwmengie Multipurpose Cooperative Society	6	1.98
Others (e.g. Fadama, DESPO SMPCS,Osatobenwon, etc)	29	9.57
Training on Improved Oil Palm Production	**(n = 304)**	
Yes	30	9.87
No	274	90.13
Types of Training Received	**(n=30)***	
Harvesting technique	27	8.88
Fertilizer application	24	7.89
Weeding	19	6.25
Spraying of other Agrochemicals	17	5.59
Others (planting and planting spacing techniques, mulching, etc)	11	3.62
Improved Oil Palm Production Technology Adopted from the Training	**(n=30)***	
Harvesting techniques	25	8.22
Correct planting spacing	24	7.89
Use of improved seeds/ seedlings	23	7.57
Fertilizer application	18	5.92
Spraying of other agrochemicals	13	4.28

*Multiple Responses

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria
Liaison: 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria
+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228
Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

4.9.3 Contributions of RSPO Members and Availability of Infrastructural Facilities

Assistance in road maintenance appears as the most common support from the RSPO member companies to their various host communities within the study area. Road maintenance/grading accounted for about 65.46% of the total respondents indicating that it is the major infrastructural development in their communities. Other support according to their frequency level includes Sales of improved seedlings (36.84%), training on oil palm production (24.34%), and Provision of education facilities (23.68%) among others. Road accessibility had impacted positively on the development of oil palm production in the study area (Table 4.10). This is not unconnected with the bulky nature of FFB which requires accessible road for transportation to various mills for processing.

Table 4.10: Contributions of RSPO Members and Availability of Infrastructural Facilities in Communities

Item	No. of Respondents (n = 304)*	%
Contributions of RSPO Members		
Grading of road	199	65.46
Sales of improved seedlings	112	36.84
Provision of credit facility	29	9.54
Training on oil palm production	74	24.34
General skill acquisition training	39	12.82
Provision of health facility	42	13.82
Provision of education facility	72	23.68
Buying of SHFs’ FFB	29	9.54
Others 1 (sinking of borehole, bursary to students, building of town halls, corpers’ lodge and market stalls, etc.)	99	32.57
Others 2 (No contributions, company not within our vicinity, not aware of any contribution, no activities of company around us, etc)	62	20.39
Infrastructural Facilities in the Community Impacting Positively on the Oil Palm Business		
Accessible roads	245	80.59
Palm oil processing mill	110	36.18
Availability of light	80	26.32

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria
Liaison: 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria
+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228
Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

Health care centre	77	25.33
Skill acquisition centre	42	13.82
POS facility	18	5.92
Others (boreholes, education facilities, market stalls, etc.)	31	10.2

4.10 RSPO Awareness and Willingness to Key into RSPO Programme

Table 4.11 shows that 59.54% of the respondents already had the awareness of RSPO, while 40.46% did not know about RSPO. The respondents that were aware of RSPO were those within where RSPO members operate. All (100%) of the respondents in the study area were willing to produce sustainable palm oil and they all showed interest to be trained by RSPO on sustainable palm oil. Findings from the FGD confirmed this result as the respondents unanimously agreed to produce sustainable palm oil and be trained by RSPO on same. It is expected that the SHFs will attend the RSPO training when it commences with enthusiasm.

Table 4.11: RSPO Awareness and Willingness to Key into RSPO Programme

Item	No. of Respondents (n =304)	%
RSPO Awareness		
Yes	181	59.54
No	123	40.46
Willingness to Produce Sustainable Palm Oil		
Yes	304	100
No	0	0
Willingness to be Irained by RSPO on Sustainable Palm Oil		
Yes	304	100
No	0	0

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

4.11 Social Mobility Impacted by Oil Palm Production and RSPO Members' Operations

4.11.1 Impacts Experienced due to Oil Palm Production and Contributions of RSPO Members

Table 4.12 presents the results of the impact made by the oil palm production business among the respondents and contributions of RSPO members that impacted their business. Many of the respondents attested that the oil palm business had, over the years, impacted their lives positively, some of which include helping them to train their children in school (72.70%). improvement in their social status (66.45%) and improved financial security (55.92%). Only 13.49% of the respondents claimed they did not experience any changes while about 5% reported that their plantations had not started fruiting. Majority (78.29%) of the farmers were satisfied with the impact of the oil palm production with a larger proportion (56.58%) of them rating the improvement in their income due to the oil palm production as average. Average increase in income is not a maximum level of satisfaction. Thus, training for sustainable palm oil production is necessary to attain high increase in income.

The contributions made by RSPO members in the study area on social mobility had further enhanced better communication between the company and their host communities (52.3%), improved community social status (44.08%) and better access roads (31.58%), among others. Similarly, a larger proportion (53.95%) of the farmers were satisfied with the contributions made by RSPO members and rated it to be moderate (65.46%). However, the companies need to make more contributions to lift the rating level above moderate.

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | **Liaison:** 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | **Email:** info@fdsng.com **website:** www.fdsng.com

Table 4.12: Impacts Experienced due to Oil Palm Production and Contributions of RSPO Members

Item	No. of Respondents	%
Impacts of oil palm production business on the life of SHFs over the years	**(n = 304)***	
I have been able to pay my children's school fees with ease	221	72.70
Improved social status	202	66.45
Improved financial security	170	55.92
I can now employ workers in my other farms	156	51.32
Our health has improved	147	48.36
Nothing has changed	41	13.49
Plantation not yet producing	14	4.61
Satisfied with the impacts of oil palm production on your life over the years	**(n = 304)**	
Yes	238	78.29
No	66	21.71
Level of change in income due to the impact of oil palm production over the years	**(n = 304)**	
Average	172	56.58
Low	119	39.14
High	13	4.28
Changes experienced due to the contributions of RSPO members (Okomu OPC, Presco, etc.) over the years	**(n = 304)***	
Better community-company relationship	159	52.3
Improved community social status	134	44.08
Better roads	96	31.58
Our children now have access to education facility	82	26.97
Access to improved oil palm seedlings	78	25.66
Acquired knowledge on improved oil palm production	64	21.05
Better health facility	22	7.24
Buying off our FFB	22	7.24
Satisfied with the contributions of RSPO members (Okomu OPC, PRESCO, etc.) to your community that impacted your oil palm business	**(n = 304)**	

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | **Liaison:** 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | **Email:** info@fdsng.com **website:** www.fdsng.com

Yes	164	53.95
No	140	46.05
Level of changes experienced over the years due to the contributions of RSPO members	**(n = 304)**	
Moderate	199	65.46
Low	74	24.34
High	31	10.2

*Multiple Responses

4.11.2 Efforts for Continuity of the Oil Palm Production Business

The Oil Palm SHFs were conscious about the future of their generations, the enormous benefits and potentials in the oil palm production business, and the need for its sustainability. Thus, about 84% of them reported that they were training their children on the business for continuity while others (64.47%) said they were developing it for their children (Table 4.13). This implies that there is a good prospect for sustainable palm oil production in the study area.

Table 4.13: Efforts for Continuity of the Oil Palm Production Business for Future Generations

Item	No. of Respondents (n= 304)*	%
Efforts put in to ensure continuity of the oil palm business for your future generations		
Training of children on the business for continuity	255	83.88
Developing the business for the children	196	64.47
I do not want my children to engage in the business	7	2.3
Children are not interested	1	0.33

*Multiple Responses

SECTION FIVE

5.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Conclusion

The baseline study of the RSPO Community Outreach and Engagement Programme was designed to obtain relevant basic information on smallholder oil palm production and stakeholders in Edo State, Nigeria. The study revealed that the smallholder oil palm production in Edo State was dominated by males that were within the active and productive age category. Majority of the farmers were literate with an average oil palm production experience of about 11 years, suggesting that training and dissemination of Best Agricultural Practices and improved technologies would be easy. The oil palm SHFs who derived their livelihood mainly from oil palm production were independent smallholders who owned their farmlands with average farm size of about 7.88 hectares. Nearly all of them claimed to grow tenera oil palm variety but the average yield was low (12.81MT/ha/year). Although the demand for FFB was high in the study area, most of the smallholders preferred to process their FFB to add some value and earn higher income.

It was further established that the SHFs financed their oil palm production business with personal savings and different constraints militated against their production of which the major ones were lack of credit facility, no support from government, high cost of inputs and lack of knowledge on sustainable palm oil production. Majority of the respondents had no access to any form of extension services and training as well as adoption of improved oil palm production technology.

Some of the RSPO members in the study area contributed significantly to the development of both the communities and the farmers' production. Contributions of RSPO members that positively influenced the farmers' business included grading of roads, sales of improved seedlings and trainings on oil palm production. Although, only about half of the oil palm smallholders were aware of the RSPO, all of them were willing to key into the RSPO programme. Thus, if they are given the necessary support, sustainable palm oil production would be achieved.

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria
Liaison: 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria
+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228
Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

5.2 Recommendations

Sequel to the findings of the study, the following recommendations are made:

1. The oil palm smallholder farmers should be trained to improve their knowledge about overall oil palm production management, especially Best Agricultural Practices.
2. The Smallholder farmers should also be trained on the application of the RSPO principles and criteria, the sustainable practices that will increase their oil palm productivity and enable them produce sustainable palm oil.
3. The training programme for the oil palm smallholder farmers should also include a plan to monitor and evaluate the impact of the programme viz-a-viz their production output.
4. They should form co-operative societies or join the existing ones to boost their financial strength, and enjoy the economy of scale and other services, including trainings.
5. Link the oil palm farmers with accessible low interest sources of credit to enable them adequately finance their production since lack of credit facility was the most serious constraint the farmers faced.
6. Commercial Banks need to do more on credit delivery to the farmers by lending through the co-operative societies.
7. Since high cost of improved seedlings was a challenge to most of the farmers, the RSPO programme should design a strategy to make improved seedling available to farmers at affordable cost, this will enhance their productivity to produce sustainable oil palm.
8. Government policies to promote palm oil production should emphasize on sustainability besides the expansion of production area.

REFERENCES

Adeyeye, A.J. and Adeyeye, A.O. (2000). Technical and economic information in agriculture (the Oil Palm *Elaesis guineensis* in Nigeria). *Agricultural Development Studies*, ***1*** (2), 140 – 155.

Aina O.S, Odegbade O.O, Yakubu S.A, Dada O.A and Sangodare A.O (2021). Analysis of palm oil value chain in Ondo state, Nigeria. International Journal of Agricultural Economics, Extension and Rural Development ISSN: 2716-7969 Vol. 7(1), pp. 173-178, Available online at www.advancedscholarsjournals.org © Advanced Scholars Journals.

Ayodele T (2019). African Case Study; Palm oil and Economic Development in Nigeria and Ghana; Recommendations for the World Bank's 2019 Palm Oil Strategy. Initiative for Public Analysis, Lagos, Nigeria. Retrieved on October 25th, 2020 from http://www.ippanigeria.org. 1 – 15.

Business Day (2022). Palm Oil Producers Drawn to Dollars Amid Unmet Local Demand. Acessed from: https://businessday.ng/amp/agriculture/article/palm-oil-producers-drawn-to-dollars-amid-unmet-local-demand/

Akpan, S. B., Okon, U. E., Udo, U. J., and Akpakaden, I. S. (2020). Analysis of income inequality and poverty incidence among oil palm farmers in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. Ife Journal of Agriculture, Vol. 32(2), 102 – 117.

Edo State Government (2022). Edo Oil Palm Program engages Stakeholders on Sustainability in Agribusiness. Accessed from: https://www.edostate.gov.ng/edo-oil-palm-program-engages-stakeholders-on-sustainability-in-agribusiness/

Edo State Newsletter (2020). Africa Palm Oil Initiative (APOI). Accessed from: APOI_EdoState_Newsletter-July_2020.pdf (proforest.net.cn)

Ekenta, C.M., Ajala, M.K., Akinola, M.O. and Oseni, Y. (2017). Abandoned Nigerian economic resources: The case of oil palm. Int. J. Agric. Ext. Rural Dev. Studies, 4 (2), 1-16.

Edo State Government (2012). Geography of Edo State. www.edostate.gov.ng/geography, accessed 12th March, 2013.

IndexMundi (2023).Nigeria Palm Oil Production by Year. Acessed from: https://www. indexmundi.com/agriculture/?country=ng&commodity-palm-oil&graph=production

Macrotrends (2023). Nigeria Population Growth Rate 1950-2023. Accessed from:https://www. macrotrends.net/countries/NGA/nigeria/population-growth-rate#:~:text=The%20population%20of%20Nigeria%20in,a%202.47%25%20increase%20from%202019

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | Liaison: 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | Email: info@fdsng.com website: www.fdsng.com

Manpower Nigeria (2023). States in Nigeria. Accessed from: www.manpower.com.ng

Market Development in the Niger Delta (MADE)-Okomu Oil Palm Company Plc (2020). Mapping of Smallholder Oil Palm Clusters Within 30-50km of the Estates of Okomu OilPalm Company Plc, Final Report. Foremost Development Services, Ogun State, Nigeria. 141pp.

Onwumwere, J., Onwusiribe, N. and Iheanatu, C. (2014). Value chain analysis of palm fruit production and processing in Abia State, Nigeria. Asian Journal of Agricultural Extension, Economics & Sociology, 3(3), 243-256.

National Bureau of Statistics, NBS (2016). Annual Abstract of Statistics Vol. 1. Retrieved from www.nigeriastat.gov.ng/pdf.uploads/ANNUAL ABSTRACT STATISTICS VOLUME - 1.P

2Scale and OOPC (2021). Competitiveness and Cost-Benefit Analysis for the Value Chain Agents that Supply Oil Palm Fruits to Okomu OPC Plc in Edo State, Nigeria. Foremost Development Services Limited.

PricewaterhouseCoopers Limited, 2019. X-raying the Nigerian palm oil sector. 8pp. *www.pwc.com/ng*

Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND) (2011). A report on palm oil value chain analysis in the Niger Delta, Foundation for PIND in collaboration with Credo, Aquarian and Peace and Development Project, Abuja, Nigeria.

Solidaridad/ Sustainable West Africa Palm Oil Programme (SWAPP) (2013) *Sustainable West Africa Palm Oil Programme (SWAPP)*, Solidaridad. 154pp..

2SCALE-Okomu Oil Palm Company Plc (2021). Competitiveness And Cost-Benefit Analysis for The Value Chain Agents That Supply Oil Palm Fruits to Okomu Opc Plc in Edo State, Nigeria. 161pp.

RSPO (2020). Principles and Criteria (P&C) for Production of Sustainable Palm Oil 2018. Endorsed by the RSPO Board of Governors and Adopted at the 15th Annual General Assembly by RSPO Members on 15 November, 2018, Revised Edition.

RSPO (2022). RSPO launches community outreach programme in Nigeria. https://rspo.org/

Wikipedia (2023). Nigeria. Accessed from: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nigeria.

USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) (2022).

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | **Liaison:** 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | **Email:** info@fdsng.com **website:** www.fdsng.com

APPENDICES

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

APPENDIX 1: Study Questionnaire

RSPO-IMO RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE
ON
BASELINE STUDY FOR RSPO-IMO COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME IN EDO STATE, NIGERIA

Dear Respondent,

This questionnaire is designed to elicit information on the Baseline Study for RSPO-IMO Community Outreach and Engagement Programme in Edo State, Nigeria. The information obtained from this study will be used solely for the purposes of this study and your responses will be treated with utmost confidentiality. Your cooperation is, therefore, highly solicited for the success of the study.

Kindly complete the questionnaire by ticking (√) the right options and filling in the blank spaces where applicable.
Thank you.
Yours faithfully,
Researcher

Serial No……………………………   Date ....…

A. Demographics

S/N	Question	Response
1	Name of respondent (optional):	
2	Phone No (optional):	
3	Local Govt. Area	
4	Name of community	
5	Location (GPS)	
6	Age :	………. years
7	Gender	Male ( ), Female( )
8	Marital Status	Single ( ), Married ( ). Widow/widower ( ) Separated ( ), Divorced ( )
9	Highest educational level	No formal education ( ), Primary education ( ), Secondary education ( ), OND/ NCE ( ), HND/BSc ( ), other, specify ________
10	How many people are in your household?	……………………
11	What is your major occupation?	Farming ( ), Fishing ( ), Trading ( ), Civil service ( ), Art and craft ( ), Other, specify..........................

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

12	How long have you been in oil palm production business?	_________years
13	What is the ownership structure of your business?	Independent/sole-proprietorship ( ), Partnership ( ), Limited liability company ( ), Others specify___________

B. Production systems

S/N	Question	Response
1	What is the land size of your oil palm plantation?	______________________ hectares
2	What is the source of your land?	Purchased ( ), Inherited ( ), Rented ( ), Lease ( ), Communal ( ), Family land ( ), Government land ( ), Gift ( ), Bought plantation ( ), Others, specify_________________
3	How did you obtain your seedlings?	Raise the seedlings ( ), Purchased the seedlings ( )
4	What was the source of the planting material used?	Okomu ( ), Ministry of Agriculture ( ), NIFOR ( ), Presco ( ), Fellow farmer ( ), Others, specify ________
5	What type of oil palm do you cultivate?	Tenera ( ), Pisifera ( ), Dura ( ), Others, specify ____________
7	What is your cropping system?	Monocropping ( ), Mixed Cropping ( ), Others, specify ……
8	What method of weeding do you adopt?	Manual ( ), Herbicides ( ), Both manual and herbicide ( )
9	What other practices do you adopt on your farmland?	Mulching ( ), Cover cropping ( ), Green manuring ( ), Terracing ( ), Biological pest control ( ), Use of pesticides ( ), Use of organic fertilizer ( ), Use of inorganic fertilizer ( ), Others, specify ______________________
10	What is the source of your labour?	Family ( ), Hired ( ), Both Family & Hired ( ), Community labour ( ), Others, specify_________________
13	How many tonnes of Fresh Fruit Bunches do you harvest from your farm per hectare per year?	………………….. tons

C. Income and livelihood

S/N	Question	Response
1	What is your annual income from oil palm production (₦)	100,000 - 500,000 ( ), 600,000 - 1,000,000 ( ), 1,100,000 - 1,500,000 ( ), Other, specify……………….
2	Annual income from other crops and livestock produced, and non-farm activities (₦)	100,000 - 500,000 ( ), 600,000 - 1,000,000 ( ), 1,100,000 - 1,500,000 ( ), Other, specify……………….
3	What are your major sources of livelihood?	Oil palm production ( ), Arable crop production (Marketing ( ), Other, specify……………..
4	Source of water	Borehole ( ), River ( ), Stream ( ), Rain harvest ( ), Othe specify……………
5	Rate your level of food security	Low ( ), Average ( ), High ( )
6	Rate your health level	Unhealthy ( ), Healthy ( ), Very healthy ( )
7	Housing status	Own the house ( ), Rented apartment ( ), Scouting ( ), Other specify................
8	Rate your housing quality	Low ( ), Moderate ( ), High ( )

D. Production challenges

Please, list the constraints you face in oil palm production.

S/N	Constraints	Please, tick (√)
1	Lack of credit facility	
2	Lack of access to improved inputs	
3	High cost of improved seedlings	
4	High cost of fertilizer	
5	Lack of access to land	
6	Lack of knowledge of sustainable oil palm production	
7	Poor access road to farm	
8	Inadequate labour for farm work	
9	High cost of labour	
10	Inadequate market for FFB	
11	Low price of FFB	
12	Lack of processing inputs	
13	No support from government	
14	Others (specify) …….	

E. Marketing

1	Do you process your oil palm fruits into palm oil?	Yes ( ) No ( )
2	If yes, why?	To add value and earn higher income ( ), No buyer of FFB (Price for FFB too low ( ), Others, specify ……………
3	If no, who do you sell the FFB to:	Wholesalers ( ), Okomu ( ), Presco Plc ( ), Other oil palr processing firms ( ), Others, specify______________________
4	What is the selling price of your FFB per ton?	₦ ………………… per ton
	Rate the demand for your FFB	Very low ( ), Low ( ), High ( ), Very high ( ),

F. Finances

1	How much was your initial capital investment in the oil palm business?	₦_______________
2	What is your source of finance?	Personal savings ( ), Credit/loan ( ), Grant ( ), Others specify____________
3	If credit, what is the source?	Commercial bank ( ), Microfinance bank ( ), Cooperative ( ), Money lenders ( ), Friends and relatives ( ), Others, specify …………….
4	How much did you borrow for your oil palm production business?	₦_______________
5	What is the interest charged on the credit?	₦_______________

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria
Liaison: 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria
+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228
Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

G. Institutional support

1	Do you have access to extension services?	Yes ( ), No ( )
2	Do you belong to any form of cooperative, association or oil palm scheme?	Yes ( ), No ( )
3	If yes, what type (s) of cooperative, association or oil palm scheme?	
4	Did you receive any training on improved oil palm production from the organization?	Yes ( ), No ( )
5	If yes, how many times have you been trained?	…………….. times
6	Indicate the type(s) of skill you have received from the training	Fertilizer application ( ), Weeding ( ), Spraying of other agrochemicals ( ), Harvesting techniques ( ), others, specify __________
7	What other assistance do you get from the the organization for your oil palm farming?	Credit ( ), Bulk purchase of inputs ( ), Marketing of FFB ( ), Others, specify …………
8	What improved production technologies have you adopted from the training?	Use of improved seeds/ seedlings ( ), Correct planting spacing ( ), Fertilizer application ( ), Spraying of other agrochemicals ( ), Harvesting techniques ( ), Others, specify __________
9	Are you aware of Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)	Yes ( ), No ( )
10	Do you want to produce sustainable palm oil?	Yes ( ), No ( )
11	Are you willingly to be trained by RSPO on sustainable palm oil?	Yes ( ), No ( )
12	What contributions have RSPO members (e.g Okomu OPC, PRESCO, etc.) made in your community that have helped your oil palm business?	Grading of roads ( ), Sales of improved seedlings ( ), Provision of credit facility ( ), Training on oil palm production ( ), General skill acquisition training ( ), Provision of health facility ( ), Provision of education facility ( ), Buying of our FFB ( ), Others, specify ……………..
13	What infrastructural facilities do you have in your community that are impacting positively on your oil palm business?	Accessible roads ( ), Health care centre ( ), Availability of light ( ), Skill acquisition centre ( ), Banking facility ( ), Palm oil processing mills ( ), Others, specify ……………

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

H. Social mobility

1	What impacts has oil palm production business made in your life over the years?	Nothing has changed ( ), Increase in my social status ( ), Improved financial security ( ), Our health has improved ( ), I have been able to pay my children's school fees with ease ( ), I can now employ workers in my other farms ( ), Others, specify ……………
2	What changes have you experienced due to the contributions of RSPO members (e.g Okomu OPC, PRESCO, etc.) over the years?	Improved community social status ( ), Better community-company relationship ( ), Better roads ( ), Access to improved oil palm seedlings ( ), Acquired knowledge on improved oil palm production ( ), Better health facility ( ), Our children now have access to education facility ( ), Buying off our FFB ( ), Others, specify ……………..
3	Are you satisfied with the impacts made by oil palm business in your life?	Yes ( ), No ( )
4	Rate the change in your income level due to the impacts of oil palm production in your life over the years.	Low ( ), Average ( ), Very high ( )
5	Are you satisfied with the contributions made by RSPO members (e.g Okomu OPC, PRESCO, etc.) to your community that impacted your oil palm business?	Yes ( ), No ( )
6	Rate the level of changes experienced over the years due to the contributions made by RSPO members.	Low ( ), Moderate ( ), High ( )
7	What are you doing to ensure the continuity of the oil palm business for your future generations?	Training my children on the business for continuity ( ), Developing the business for my children ( ), Ido not want my children to engage in the business ( ), Others, specify …….

APPENDIX 2: Picture gallery of Meetings with some Smallholder Farmers during FGD and interview

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com




Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

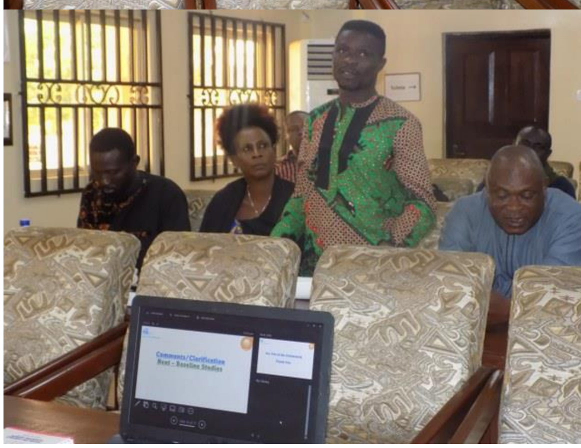
Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

Picture Gallery of Reconnaissance Survey

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | **Liaison:** 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 1 453 7197 +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | **Email:** info@fdsng.com **website:** www.fdsng.com



Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

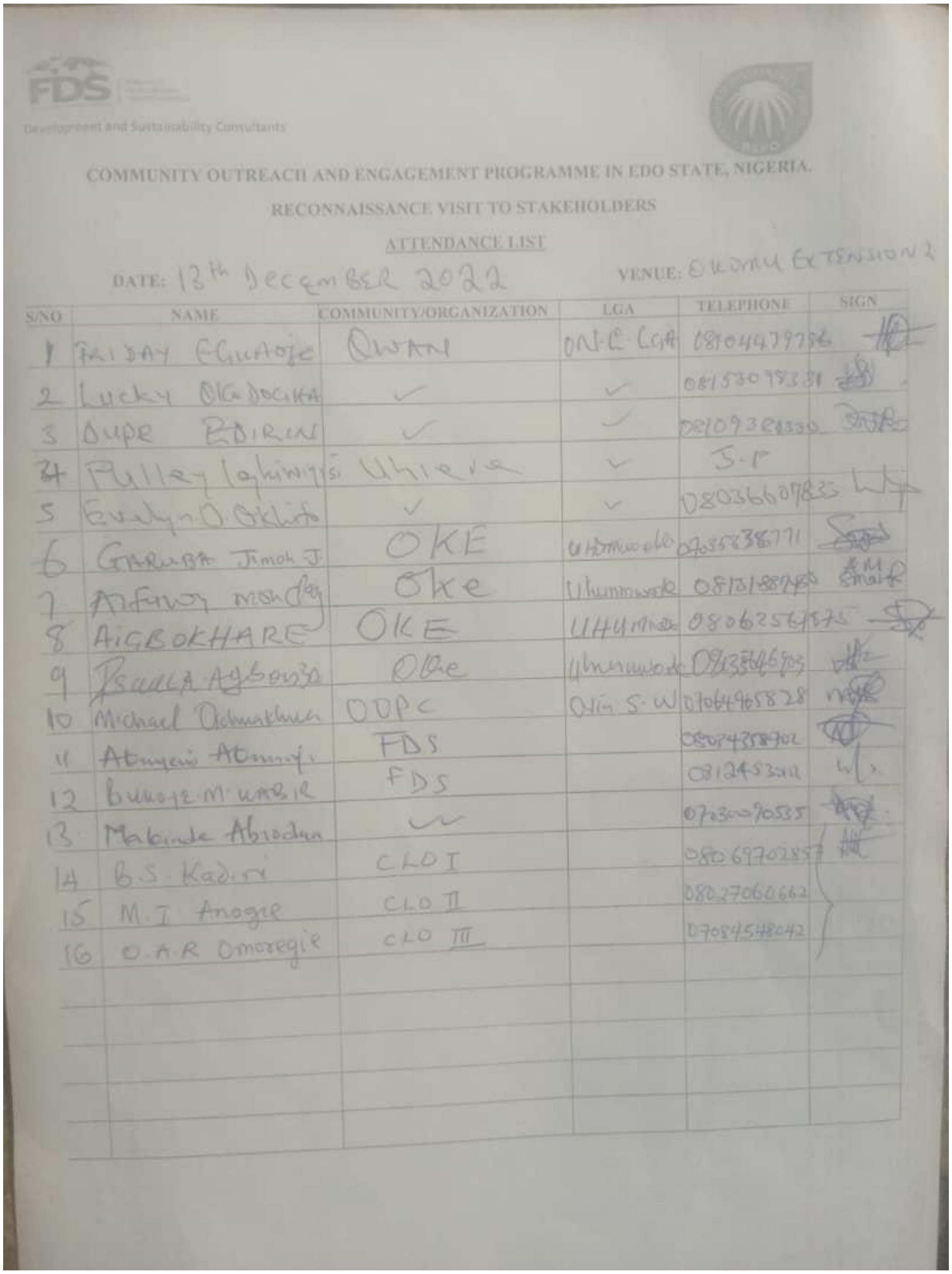
Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com


FDS

Appendix 3: Attendance



Development and Sustainability Consultants

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME IN EDO STATE, NIGERIA.

RECONNAISSANCE VISIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: 13th DECEMBER 2022 VENUE: OKOMU EXTENSION 2

S/NO	NAME	COMMUNITY/ORGANIZATION	LGA	TELEPHONE	SIGN
1	FRIDAY EGUAOJE	OWAN	ONLE LGA	08104479786	
2	Lucky OKADOGHA	✓	✓	08153098331	
3	OUPE EDIRIN	✓	✓	08109328330	
4	Pulley Iyahiwiyisi	Uhiere	✓	J.P	
5	Evelyn O. Oklifo	✓	✓	08036607833	
6	GARUBA Jimoh J.	OKE	Uhunmwode	07035838771	
7	Afuvon Monday	Oke	Uhunmwode	08131887480	
8	AIGBOKHARE	OKE	Uhunmwode	08062564875	
9	Psalla Agbonzo	Oke	Uhunmwode	08135846903	
10	Michael Ochuakhua	ODPC	Ovia S. W	07064965828	
11	Atuyeni Atunnyi	FDS		08034358702	
12	Bukoye M. Wabir	FDS		08124533112	
13	Makinde Abiodun	~		07030070535	
14	B.S. Kadiri	CLO I		08069702857	
15	M.I. Anogie	CLO II		08027060662	
16	O.A.R Omoregie	CLO III		07084548042	

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

FDS

Development and Sustainability Consultants

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME IN EDO STATE, NIGERIA

RECONNAISSANCE VISIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: 13th December 2022 VENUE: Okomu Extension 2

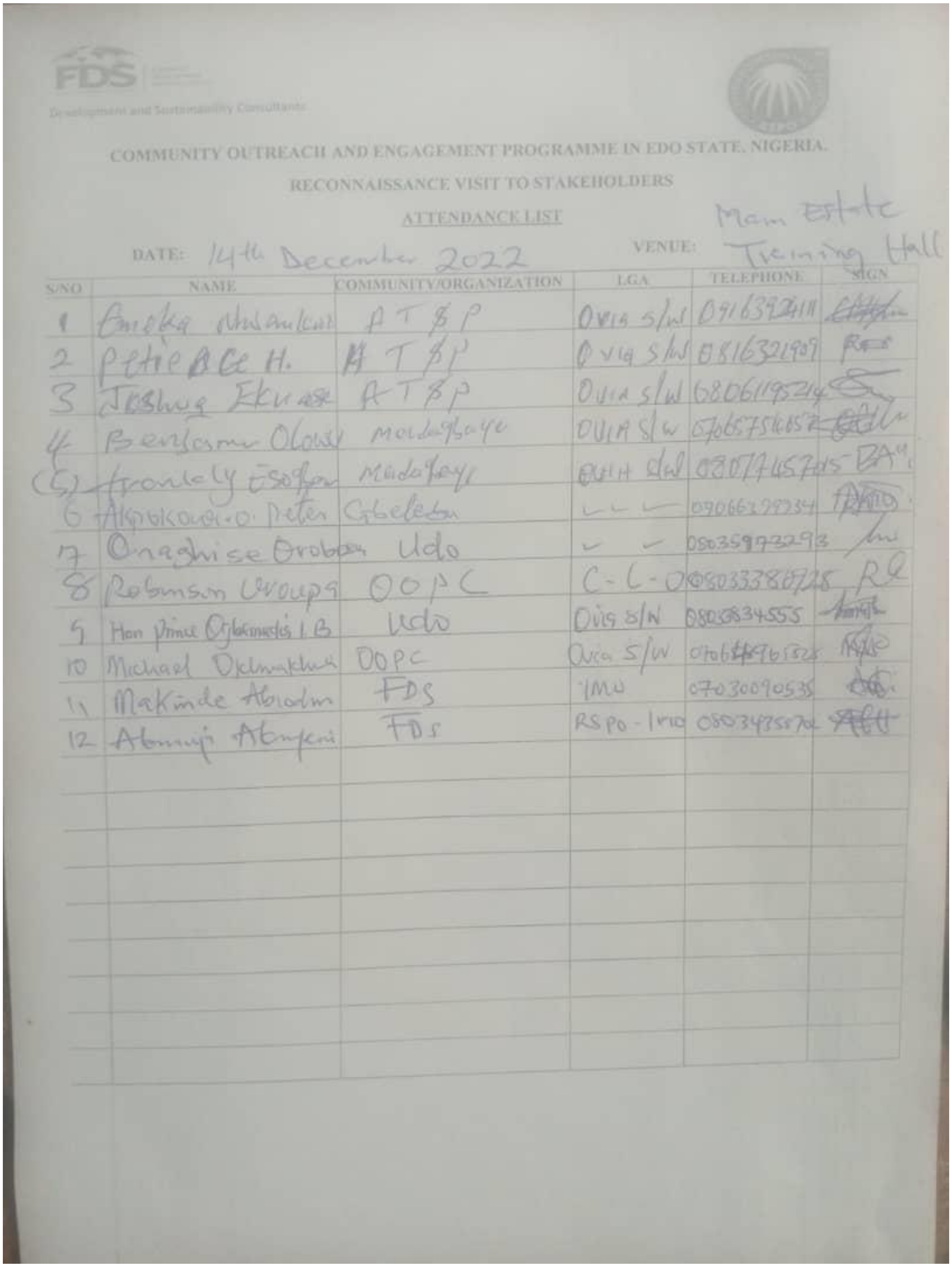
S/NO	NAME	COMMUNITY/ORGANIZATION	LGA	TELEPHONE	SIGN
17	Mrs faith Akioya	UMOKPE	U.L.G.A	08157937923	
18	OKpia charles	UMOKPE	ULA "	0810039040	
19	Sylvans Orgian	Ekpan	ULAG	08062920246	
20	Samuel Unwengbe	Ekpan	Uhunmwode	0803[illegible]	
21	Dennis Ogife	Ekpan	–	0815544630[illegible]	
22	OBANOR GODWIN	UHICRC	–	08073239618	
23	Omozusi P.O	ODIGHI	Ovia N E	08037094466	
24	Emmanuel Iwafidor	Odighi	Ovia N E	0813113[illegible]	
25	Grace O.O	Odighi	Ovia N E	0816669[illegible]	
26	Peter Ozemwenyi	Orhua	Uhunmwode	07034535779	
27	Eghaverba Echionser	Orhua	Uhunmwode	08030470779	
28	Joseph [illegible]	Orhua	"	0806[illegible]	
29	EFOSA EHIGIE	OKE	Uhunmwode	09161442393	
30	Bello - Celestine	OKE - Irhue	Uhunmwode	0[illegible]556[illegible]	
31	Aziegbe John	Umokpe	Uhunmwode	0[illegible]4559[illegible]	

Office Address:
21 Johnson Street, Akute
Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison:
21/23 Mercy Eneli Street,
Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com



Development and Sustainability Consultants

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME IN EDO STATE, NIGERIA.

RECONNAISSANCE VISIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: 14th December 2022 VENUE: Mam Estate Training Hall

S/NO	NAME	COMMUNITY/ORGANIZATION	LGA	TELEPHONE	SIGN
1	Emeka Nwankwo	ATSP	Ovia S/W	09163924111	[illegible]
2	Petieace H.	ATSP	Ovia S/W	0816321909	[illegible]
3	Joshua Ekuase	ATSP	Ovia S/W	08061195214	[illegible]
4	Benjamin Olowu	Madagbaye	Ovia S/W	07065756057	[illegible]
(5)	Frankly Esofon	Madagbayi	Ovia S/W	08077457015	BA
6	Akpokovwi.O. Peter	Gbelebu	— —	09066299734	[illegible]
7	Onaghise Orobosa	Udo	— —	08035973293	[illegible]
8	Robinson Uwoups	OOPC	C-L-O	08033388728	R
9	Hon Prince Ogbomadis I.B	Udo	Ovia S/W	08038834555	[illegible]
10	Michael Okhuakhua	OOPC	Ovia S/W	0706[illegible]96528	[illegible]
11	Makinde Abiodun	FDS	IMU	07030090535	[illegible]
12	Abimbola Abayomi	FDS	RSPO-IMU	0803435870[illegible]	[illegible]

Community Outreach and Engagement Programme (Baseline Study Report) - January 2023

FDS

Development and Sustainability Consultants

RSPO

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME IN EDO STATE, NIGERIA.

RECONNAISSANCE VISIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: BELLISIMA MOTEL, BENIN VENUE: 14 Dec. 2022

S/NO	NAME	COMMUNITY/ORGANIZATION	LGA	TELEPHONE	SIGN
1	paul omorgui	Ekosa Comm.	Ikpoba-okha	0905309729-40	[illegible]
2	Monday Osazuwa	✓	✓	08025151404	[illegible]
3	Osaretin Aimumwosa	✓	✓	09059891561	[illegible]
4	Onabor Charles	Urokoo	✓	08111421185	[illegible]
5.	EGHAREUBA AUSTINE	UROHO	✓	08039847764	[illegible]
6	Edward Oniovo	Ogharefe	Ethiope W LGA	08033435377	[illegible]
7	Dick Okporua	✓	✓	08037241802	[illegible]
8	Martins Orovwigho	✓	✓	08056902804	[illegible]
9	BEECROFT ULIYEM	AJAGBODUDU	WARRI NORTH	08054158879	Ogemi
10	Godwin Omoregie	Evbuekpen	Ikpoba-okha	09156480523	[illegible]
11	Alex Odigie	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	08078264434	[illegible]
12	Samson Amadasa	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	09052331300	[illegible]
13	Oliver Omoregbe	Iyanomo		08056513214	[illegible]
14	HENRY ESIMAJE	PRES. OMATOYE FAMILY AJAGBODUDU	WARRI NORTH	08072727052	[illegible]
15	AKRA SYLVESTER	AJAGBODUDU	WARRI NORTH	08033914667	[illegible]
16	Aigbogun Omoruyi	Orogho	Orionmwon	08066878927	[illegible]
17	Ekhator Lucky	Orogho	Orionmwon	08073987476	[illegible]
18	Friday Aghato	Orogho	Orionmwon	08143493344	[illegible]
19	Fredrick Odigie	Iyanomo		09065625489	[illegible]
20	Lugard Adeghenuwe	Iyanomo	Ikpoba Okha	08051810943	
21	ABEL IMASUGIE	Iyanomo	IKPOBA OKHA	08051534037	

Community Outreach and Engagement Programme (Baseline Study Report) - January 2023

FDS

Development and Sustainability Consultants

RSPO

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME IN EDO STATE, NIGERIA.

RECONNAISSANCE VISIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: 14 DEC 2022 VENUE: BELLISIMA MOTEL BENIN CITY

S/NO	NAME	COMMUNITY/ORGANIZATION	LGA	TELEPHONE	SIGN
1	KENNETH EDEGBIRI	OBAGIE. N-	ORHIONMWON	08033653285	[signature]
2	VINCENT ISIBOR	OBAYANTOR II	IKPOBA OKHA	08062372670	[signature]
3	MOSES AIGOOGBO	" "	" "	07012864025	[signature]
4	OTUNAIYE USARETIN	" "	" "	09050664485	[signature]
5	Timothy Ogbemudia	OLOGBO - N'UGU	ORHIONMWON	09066243988	[signature]
6	Gaius Ehenedan	✓ ✓		08155206632	[signature]
7	Godwin Esoval	✓ ✓		09039431593	[signature]
8	ELIZABETH Airhs	UROHO com		08078090218	[signature]
9	Lesa f. Osazuwa	Ologbo ✓		08076176253	[signature]
10	Hon. felix Ohen	✓ ✓		08058015877	[signature]
11	Patrick Odomiyu	✓ ✓		09052572814	[signature]
12	Oghunkeuwa Joseph	IWEBO youn		08102866845	[signature]
13	UDI Tina	Ikebo	ORHIONMWON	08108252877	[signature]
14	SUNDAY IKAN	OBAGIE - Num.	ORHIONMWON	09050982131	[signature]
15	Comr. Charles Eghaghe	Enogie - Representative Oroghu Community	Orhionmwon	08034610058	[signature]
16	Mr. Ikponmwosa Osayomwre	Secretary - General, Oroghu Dukedom	orhionmwon	08052000724	[signature]
17	Mr. Napoleon Enogiomwan	Enogie Representative Obagie - Nunuamen	Orhionmwon	08023404435	[signature]
18	Mr. Moses Onaiwu	Owanoba	IKPOBA-OKHA	09056795134	[signature]
19	Lucky Igbinewekq	✓	✓	08079674883	[signature]
20	Efemwenkieka Osamuyi	Agbanmobe	✓	08056583275	[signature]
21	Austine Elibor	✓	✓	08058724130	[signature]
22	Monday Otabor	✓	✓	07037461743	[signature]

FDS

Development and Sustainability Consultants

REPO

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME IN EDO STATE, NIGERIA.

RECONNAISSANCE VISIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: 15 DEC. 2022 **VENUE:** ~~BEST WESTERN~~ VIEW HOTEL, GRA BENIN

S/NO	NAME	COMMUNITY/ORGANIZATION	LGA	TELEPHONE	SIGN
C	CHIEF SEGUN IMONAH	OVBIOKHUARIN-ORA	OWAN WEST	08037265181	
C	CHIEF IMOHIMI OBOIKA	EME-ORA	OWAN WEST	08166474178	
C	OKHUOYA AKHADE	EVBIOBE EOR ORA	✓	08067046776	
	CHF Idowu Osewemen	UHONMORA-ORA	✓	09163211384	
C	Chf Jangbadi Aboin	UHONMORA-ORA	✓	08060294555	
	ELDER ALEX OJEAWERE	Evbiobe Comm.	✓	0806613793	
	OAIHON LONGE	AVBIOSI	✓	081033257086	
	Chief omogbe	Uzebba	✓	07037452868	
	Irene imomoh	"	"	07088868099	
	Odion omogbe	Ukhomhotie	"	09080372483	
	Andrew	Obi comp	✓	07037002862	
C	FIDON OKE	AVBIOSI	✓	09167163 6643	
	~~Chief OKELE~~	~~AVBIOSI~~	✓	~~080~~	
	Monday Osakwe	Ugbeti-u-ora		08159162158	
	Comrade Chris Esh	Uogho COMMUNITY		08034610055	
	Aghado :	John	✓	08052397466	
C	Eguavoen	Victor	✓	09050819604	
	Churchill Oboh	ESOPD	Govt	07032936311	
	Emmanuel Omon	ESOPP	Govt.	08060809793	
	Ogbebor Tony	MEDIA officer ESOPP		08071347838	
	OKUONGBAE N. OKORO			08063774523	

21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria | 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria | +234 803 331 4800 +234 802 223 6228 | website: www.fdsng.com

FDS

Development and Sustainability Consultants

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME IN EDO STATE, NIGERIA.

RECONNAISSANCE VISIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: 16 DEC. 2022 **VENUE:** BEST WESTERN NEW HOTEL, GRA BENIN

S/NO	NAME	COMMUNITY/ORGANIZATION	LGA	TELEPHONE	SIGN
1	Samson Ojeawere	Ugbubezi	Owan-west	08033010595	
2	Jatto Edwin	Ugbubezi	Owan-west	08130814499	
3	Kani OJO	ATORUKU	08057455151	Kalim OJO	
c 4	Chester Amy	ATORUKY	Owan West	08059782761	
5	Ogbor Sylvester	Ugbeturu	09051798 212	08159162 58	
c 6	Alaba Adeshi	Etiose	~~0807~~ 089 7212	08146920	
7	H		08077089 56		
~~8~~	HRH K.I Iyeyomwegbe	Umoghun-Ugiebo	Orhionmwon local govt	07033928526	
9	Festus Oizagha	Etiose	Owan-west	08035442927	
10	Benjamin Ijiekoso	Evbonogbon (camp 34)	Orhionmwon	081323706	
c 11	Lucky Osemwegie	Evbonogbon (camp 34)	Orhionmw	0905358716	
12	Lucky Osagie	Evbonogbo (camp 34)	Orhionmwon	09058977511	
13	FRIDAY EGHAREVBA	OGBA	ORHIONMWON	09038590747	
14	WILSON EHIGIAMUSOE	✓	✓	08132341378	
c 15	AIYEVBOMWAN ABIEMWENSE	OGBA	✓	08158722597	
c 16	Emmanuel Edoghe	UGO	✓	07064195972	
17	Chief Okele	AVBIOSI		08034287738	
c	High Chief Omoegbe		Uhunmwode	07035002862	
c	Francis Osabarodin	Odo Ogbe Nugu Nugu	Orhionmwon	08077877160	

Office Address: 21 Johnson Street, Akute Ogun State, Nigeria

Liaison: 21/23 Mercy Eneli Street, Surulere Lagos, Nigeria

+234 1 453 7197
+234 803 331 4800
+234 802 223 6228

Email: info@fdsng.com
website: www.fdsng.com

FDS FOREMOST DEVELOPMENT SERVICES LIMITED

Development and Sustainability Consultants

RSPO

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME IN EDO STATE, NIGERIA.

RECONNAISSANCE VISIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: 15th Dec, 2022 **VENUE:** Westview Hotel B/C

S/NO	NAME	COMMUNITY/ORGANIZATION	LGA	TELEPHONE	SIGN
✓ 1	John Oronyikpon	ONA	Orhionmwon	08057206888	[illegible]
2	Unity Omorosegh	ONA	Orhionmwon	09050427847	Omos
✓ 3	FAMOUS IGHISI	AIDEYANBA	ORHIONMWON	08034740303	[illegible]
✓ 4	GODFREY OGBONMWAN	Sokponba Dindom	✓	08078826151	[illegible]
5	Stephen	OZIA	✓	08072863636	[illegible]
6	ERIBO Godspower	Aideyanoba	✓	08055966145	[illegible]
7	Lucky OGbebor	Aideyanoba	✓	08158439453	Ogb
✓ 8	SMITH OSUNDE	AVBIUGO	✓	07050622379	[illegible]
9	Ukuejubola Daniel	Owe Ukpekele	✓	08023463276	[illegible]
10	Ukuejubola August	Owe Ukpekele	✓	08131155940	[illegible]
✓ 11	Enukpiaye J. Eboh	Owe Ukpekele	✓	08160967788	[illegible]
12	Odiase Julius	Evbuehia	✓	08060032119	[illegible]
13	Churchill Oboh	ESOPP	Govt	07032936311	[illegible]
14	Emmanuel Omonedegbon	ESOPP	Govt.	08060808793	[illegible]
15	Ogbebor Tony Igiomwosa	Media office	Govt	08071347538	[illegible]
16	Eghosa Odeh	Okogbo	Orh	08148315342	O.E
17	Samuel Asiriuwa	Okogbo	Orh	08035023558	[illegible]

FDS | FOREMOST DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS LIMITED

Development and Sustainability Consultants

RSPO

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME IN EDO STATE, NIGERIA.

RECONNAISSANCE VISIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: 15th Dec, 2022 VENUE: Westview Hotel B/C.

S/NO	NAME	COMMUNITY/ORGANIZATION	LGA	TELEPHONE	SIGN
1	ANTHONY IGHRO	ODIGUETUE	ONE LG	09060735927	
2	LUCKY IGHUE	ODIGUETUE	ONE-LG.	07033762695	
3	AMIOGIE OSAGIE	ODIGUETUE	ON-LG	08108103911	
4	JOSEPH OBUELE	ODIGUETUE	O.N.E LGA	08052854372	
5	AIGBOGUN OSASERE	UHIERE	✓	08039595091	
6	OKAKHINA Lucky	UHIERE	✓	08122897072	Lucky
7	Sunday Obefheppen	Idu	ORHIONMWON	08039113362	
8	Osayande Luke	✓	✓	07054835674	
9	Benson Igbinewekа	✓	✓	08164987362	
10	Sunday Neta	✓	✓	07015527587	
11	Osagie Lucky	Okogbo	✓	07034303151	
12	Isuku Augustine Ohis	OVIAN	O.N.E. LGA	07057399350	
13	Okodughe Lucky	OVIAN	✓	08153098831	
14	Dupe Edirin	OVIAN	✓	08113477355 08133497855	