

OVERVIEW OF IMPUNITY, OPPRESSIVE ECONOMY IN RECESSION AND FEAR FACTORS IN FARM MECHANIZATION FAILURES IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

Agricultural engineering cannot promote economic recovery in Nigeria through food and agro-raw materials production in the midst of rampant and colossal failures of Arable crops farm mechanization projects. Good leadership virtues (which include integrity, statesmanship, productivity, respects, love, etc) have been eroded in Nigeria so much so that the success of an individual is now being weighed on the wrong scale of senseless materialism. The extent of material accumulation, level of damages notwithstanding, influences stake in award of honorary, chieftaincy and academic titles amongst other types of reward from the ruling class, either in government or traditional institutions in our society today. These looters act with impunity while the common working class people watch helplessly and hopelessly afraid of losing the little income earning jobs they have at hand should they attempt to either behave rightly or ask for same from the ruling class. In so many instances they feel safer to aid and abet for survival on their jobs. This ugly and destructive scenario pervade all spheres of activities in Nigeria. The results are hunger, starvation and abject poverty of great majority of citizens in the midst of the plenty nature has endowed the country with. Farm mechanization projects and programmes have not been spared of this mismanagement acts with impunity and recklessness. This paper is considered apt in view of the 2017 Umudike Conference of the Nigeria Institution of Agricultural Engineers (NIAE), which theme was “Dynamics of Agricultural Engineering for food and Agro Industrial Raw Materials Production for Economic Recovering in Nigeria”. It ends with some recommendations that can lead the way to agricultural revolution for rural development and socio-economic development of Nigeria.

Key words: *impunity, fear, oppressive economy, recession, failure, mechanization*

INTRODUCTION

According to [5] “Agriculture in recent time has become known and appreciated as “green economy” and remains the hope of the Nigeria economy. Mechanization remains the key to unlocking this green economy for the wellbeing of Nigerians. It is estimated that **inappropriate mechanization of Agriculture** has over the years caused the collapse of small family farms particularly in developed countries. Also, the failure of agricultural mechanization in developing countries has left some 1.4 billion people under-nourished and poor, 70-80% living in rural areas, who can no longer afford to buy enough food, even when food is available”. And many reasons have been adduced for the failures, but not from the angle from which this paper is prepared. It is considered a

neglected critical angle that affects all other factors.

This paper is an overview of the trends in crop farm mechanization activities in Nigeria, especially now that the economy is frequently in and out of recession with increasing deregulation leading to continuous soaring of the cost of goods and services, in job loss, failing businesses, increasing general poverty, hunger and starvation. In this regard, the theme for the 2007 Conference is very apt, that is, “Dynamics of Agricultural Engineering for Food and Agro-Industrial Raw Materials Production for Economic Recovery in Nigeria”. According to [8] “past governments have made efforts to promote and possibly privatise mechanized farming. Thousands of tractors and implement were procured and sold at subsidized prices. State and Local Governments also established

tractor-hiring units (THU) which have not been profit oriented and most of them folded up as of today [5]” He Stated further that “it is also observed that the high tractors and implement breakdown are due to various reasons such as wrong selection and matching of tractors with implements, lack of spare parts, and insufficient knowledge on how to operate and maintain tractors, inadequate experienced mechanics, especially in the rural areas, lack of planned and preventive maintenance culture, etc.” [5] added high cost of imported machinery and inappropriate government policy to the list of reasons for failures in farm machinery and equipment application.

For ease of presentation the introduction is broken into sub-heads.

Oppressive Economy and Fear of Job Lost

In the opinion of the author, an economy becomes oppressive when law abiding common class citizens are subjected, in great majority, to the least of harsh living conditions gladdened with unpredictable and largely unsure tomorrow and today that cannot offer immediate equivalent to what individuals have as income earning activities and in which situation individuals are always afraid to lose their jobs, businesses, charity benefits, etc taking into consideration their socio-economic dependants and families hope and expectations. And as a result, there is continuous erosion of self-dignity and capacity to stand for what is right, fair, equitable or judicious, thus, leading to the creation of a beggarly slavery condition of work and living. The creators of these conditions are nothing but **economic oppressors as well as looters and losers in all sense of natural justice and humanity.**

The heartless lootings have caused the collapsed of the Nigerian economy to the detriment of law abiding great majority.

Deregulated Economy and Economy in Recession

An economy is deregulated when goods and services are allowed to flow freely outside of Rules and Regulations and therefore not being controlled by public authority (the government), but subject to the dictates of market forces of **demand and supply.** Fall in

the value of the local currency and inflation is two of the main features.

An economy can be declared to be in recession after three (3) consecutive negative growth in the Gross Domestic Products (GDP). Two (2) of the main features of economy in recession are business collapse and job loss by workers.

Farming as a Business and Farm as an Industry for Economic Recovery

It is significant that agriculture is being referred to “green economy” in recent time and it cannot just be separated from deregulation of economy and economy in recession because it is not just the oldest but one of the major branches of the economy of most nations worldwide. **Farm is the place of practice of agriculture, which is the raising of crops and livestock as well as management of all the incidentals for the benefits of man and his domestic animals. To apply appropriate mechanization for food and agro-industrial raw materials production for economic recovery in Nigeria, the agricultural production units (farms) must take their places as industries and the activities managed as business operations.** Engineering (in the form of input of farm machinery and equipment) alone is not sufficient, other inputs such as hybrid varieties, chemicals (fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, liming materials, etc), good knowledge of soil and other economic factors must be available and accessible. To be able, in modern time, to contribute to economic recovery and/or development, farms must be managed as industries and farming seriously taken as big business with appropriate application of the benefits of science and technology.

According to [13] and [2] the features that make farms industries and farming as business are the following:

Farming as Business

Business, in economic term, represents a particular money-earning activity or place and it is therefore one’s work or employment. Farming is the practice of working in a farm and results in the production of food materials (crop produce and animal products) and raw materials for industries. These materials are

produced for personal consumption and sale for income earning. Thus:

(a) Farm provides employment opportunities and

(b) Farm is a source of income or revenue.

Farm like every other business organization is operated/managed on the basis of plan of production and budget. This plan can be of any duration and reflects types, quantity and quality of produce as well as expenditure, income and the projected profit together with the balance sheet showing assets and liability after due taxation.

Since man came into existence many peoples' livelihood is based on material and/or money earned from farming whether directly (for producers) or indirectly (traders of farm produce and agro-allied industrialists). In the provision of employment, farm gives opportunities to the proprietor, hired farm workers, workers in agro-allied industries as well as traders/merchants in farm produce and agro-allied products. Out of the physical and/or mental services put into farm and its related activities, people earn money to take care of their social needs. It is clear from the above that farming is a business and it can be very lucrative if well managed.

Farm as an Industry

Is farm really an industry? Literally, the word "industry" refers to a large group of employed people and building (s) set up with the purpose of producing particular sort of goods, especially in quantities, using machines and/or modern methods. The general characteristics of industry include:-

(a) Organization and operation on the principles of economic returns on investments;

(b) Production on the basis of plan and budget, which can be monthly, quarterly, seasonally, annually, etc;

(c) Capital investments which are both fixed and circulating (recurrent). The fixed capital is gradually amortized through depreciation deduction;

(d) Provision of skilled and unskilled employments opportunities;

(e) Mechanization of the process of production;

(f) Continuous application of science and technology as well as new production methods for the purpose of both efficient utilization of materials, energy and power resources and for the obtainment of improved quantity and quality produce and products;

(g) Revenue generation which can be for government in the form of taxes and rents and for the proprietors in the form of profits;

(h) Organization of activities which is composed of:

-Management structure: Directors and Managers

-Productive structure: commercial section, accounts section, personnel section, research and laboratory section, real production section, maintenance section, etc.

Commercial or large scale farms in the past one hundred (100) years significantly possess the afforested characteristics of an industry and **they cannot therefore be referred to otherwise but as industries**. In fact, farms belong to the group of industries called **primary extractive industries**.

However, there are some features which distinguish farming industries or enterprise and other types of industries and these include the influence of climate, seasonality and natural phenomena; open field operations of majority of the machinery; working on living things and predominantly during the day; occupying larger surface area than industries of the same economic size, etc.

Acting with Impunity

In the [10] the word "**impunity**" refers to a situation in which a person willingly does bad things, exhibits morally wrong behaviour or break the laws knowing that he/she has the superior authority that will condone the activities. That is, knowing he/she would not be punished for wrong things done. To **condone** something means doing something to accept behaviour that is morally wrong, while to **punish** means to make someone suffer because he/she has broken the law or done something wrong. Thus, impunity is the opposite of punish.

Good leadership virtues (which include integrity, statesmanship, productivity, respects, love, etc have been eroded in Nigeria so much so that the success of an individual is

now being weighed on the **wrong scale of senseless materialism**. The extent of material accumulation, notwithstanding the damages, influences the stake in award of honorary, chieftaincy and academic titles amongst other types of reward from the ruling class, either in government or traditional institutions. These looters act with impunity while the common working class people watch helplessly and hopelessly afraid of losing the little income earning jobs they have at hand should they attempt to either behave rightly or ask for same. In so many instances they feel safer to aid and abet for survival on their jobs. This ugly and destructive scenario pervade all spheres of activities in Nigeria. The psychology of the common people and the economy are worst for it. The results are hunger, starvation and abject poverty of great majority of citizens in the midst of the plenty nature has endowed the country with. Farm mechanization projects and programmes as well as the various agencies and organs of government handling them have not been spared of this mismanagement acts with impunity and recklessness. Not even the managements in Nigerian universities and various religious bodies can be looked up to with full assurances for succour.

There are gross mismanagement acts with impunity everywhere in the Nigeria socio-economic and governance institutions. The Nigerian Institution of Agricultural Engineers (NIAE) need to jealously guard its integrity for the positive growth, development and quick advancement in sophistication of the noble profession which has been the key to the greatness of the world's most advanced nations. There are records in Human Geography books, Economic Development Literatures and Science Literatures everywhere. The rampant and colossal failures of farm mechanization projects and programmes, mechanized crop production farms, mechanization agencies, etc in Nigeria, is very worrisome and already casting doubts on the collective integrity of professional agricultural engineers and we cannot therefore afford to remain the way we have been. There is urgent need for change and change we must despite political powers intimidations.

Basic Role of Engineering in Agriculture and Rural Development Cum National Socio-Economic Growth and Advancement.

There is nothing like economic development let alone sustainable development with the rampant and colossal failure of mechanization project and programmes, mechanized crop farms and agencies and organs of government in Nigeria. The 2017 conference of NIAE is an apt forum for members and friends of the institution to re-echo and further examine the ugly trend from the new dimension presented in this paper, with courage and honesty for the attainment of the purpose of the conference. There are uncountable literatures on the basic role of agricultural engineering and agricultural mechanization in socio-economic development of rural communities and nations.

According to [4], United States of America is economically the strongest country in the world and there is no doubt that it is a model of modern great civilization. Its total agricultural output surpasses that of any other country in the world. It has nearly three (3) million farms, averaging about 160 hectares each, with most of the holdings highly mechanized and electrified, and fertilizers freely used. [6] wrote "agriculture is not only Britain's oldest industry, it is also one of the biggest. Before the 1939 -45 war Britain farms provided a third of the food needed by a population of about 48 million. Nowadays, they produce half the food for a better fed population that has grown by some 7 million. Although output has increased tremendously in recent years, the number of farm workers has dropped steadily. The proportion of the working population engaged in farming fell from 90 percent in 1790 to 30 percent in 1915, and it is only 7 percent today. How has this increased productivity come about? Many factors helped but some of the most important have been the development of **specialized machinery, the use of fertilizers and pesticides and the introduction of new plant varieties**.

Therefore, the theme of the Nigeria Institution of Agriculture Engineers (NIAE) "Umudike

2017” 38th conference was very apt at this moment of cross-road in Nigeria. **The Engineering in agriculture goes beyond tractor and few soil tillage and produce processing equipment.** In Europe and United States of American (USA), the development of agriculture paved the way for the development of the manufacturing industries, which in turn paved the way for the construction industries that generated massive employment and created great population drifts and urbanization of the rural or farming settlements lifting them to the status of towns, cities and mega-cities of today. Agriculture is an extractive primary industry and have been associated with village or rural settings, thus, its development connotes the emergence of certain social structures and features which themselves are the indicators of community development.

They include [3]:

- (i) Increase in the quantity and quality of food supply, hence the emergence of healthier populace capable of good intellectual and physical labour output.
- (ii) Increase in raw materials for secondary industries;
- (iii) Generation of finance for the development of the other extractive as well as secondary and tertiary industries;
- (iv) Enhancement of income for the farmers and agro-allied workers;
- (v) Opportunity for the development of market, transport and communication infrastructures required for effective distribution of the produce and supply of inputs;
- (vi) Opportunity for the development of modern storage and processing facilities and these attract higher level of electrification and automation;
- (vii) The creation of conditions for the increase in local population and hence the need for more housing, healthcare and educational facilities, more and stable sources of water supply, increased environmental management consciousness;
- (viii) Opportunity for interactions of the local people with goods, services and people of other places with similar or varying cultural

and technical background, thus, promoting tourism and education through trade etc.

[4] stated further that some of the reasons for the greatness of the United State of America in economic development included the following:

- (i) Its varied climates and soils which are almost everywhere favourable for some form of agriculture;
- (ii) Its oceanic setting and long coastline, which have not only encouraged the development of important fisheries but also the establishment of ports and shipping routes;
- (iii) Its wealth of timber (both soft and hard wood);
- (iv) Its rich mineral resources, notably coal, petroleum, iron, sulphur, phosphate and copper.
- (v) Erection of small dams across rain carved gullies which boosted the extension of irrigation and improved soil erosion control and hydroelectricity generation at the same time;
- (vi) Its large healthy and varied population that is hardworking, well-educated and enterprising;
- (vii) Its readiness to take advantage of Europe’s example ;
- (viii) The use of a proportion of its capital for the development of irrigation facilities and hydro-electric power plant and for setting up industrial undertakings;
- (ix) The large amount of internal capital it has been able to build up to enable it to establish large scale production techniques typified by the conveyor – belt and the extension of automations;
- (x) The stability of its governments whether Democratic or Republican in their political affiliation.

The question is whether Nigeria has been able to borrow from either Europe or United States of America despite having so many of her citizens educated in these places? The answer is no, hence the agriculture has remained under peasant technology in ill-illuminated nuts lacking in almost everything developmental, most especially electricity, potable water and cottage industries. The objective of this paper is to draw more

attention to avoidable failures in developmental pursuit starting with agricultural development.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Area

This paper is the outcome of scholarly inquiry base on secondary data and it is an overview of the trends in farm mechanization activities in Nigeria, especially now that the economy is frequently in and out of recession with increasing deregulation leading to continuous soaring in the cost of goods and services, in jobs loss, failing businesses, increasing general poverty, hunger and starvation. The questions is, can agricultural engineering play meaningful role in food and agro-industrial raw materials production for economic recovery in Nigeria in view of its prevailing Physical and Human Geography and Political/Governance Conditions? This is the question this work tried to find answer.

Geographical position. The country lies within Longitudes 4⁰ and 14⁰ East of the Greenwich Meridian and Latitudes 3⁰ and 15⁰ North of the Equator.

Surface. The country occupies about ninety eight (98) million hectares of land out of which about seventy four (74) million hectares, that is, 75 % are arable agricultural land.

Population. With a population of over one hundred and sixty (160) millions out of which about forty percent (40%) are in the standard working age group of 21-45 years.

Nigeria has varied population of over 200 tribal groupings and over 700 dialects spoken with many faces of religion.

Territorial organization. Nigeria is a federation of thirty six (36) states (Constitution of Nigeria, 1999) even though it is practically operating like a unitary state with a single economy instead of multiple semi-dependent economies loosely united at the centre, but one strong external front as practiced in the United States of America (USA), Republic of Germany, etc.

Relief. The landscape is predominantly lowland with high rise plateaux in the central (Jos) and northern eastern (Gembu) parts. It

has undulating surfaces ravaged in some parts (especially in the south-east and mid-west regions) by severe gully erosions.

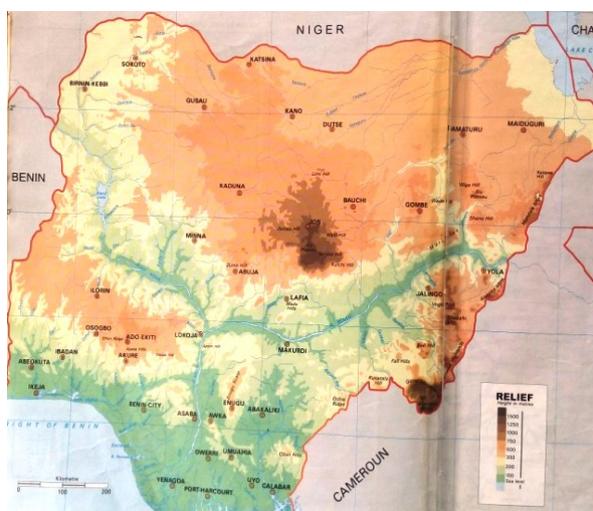


Fig. 1. Map of Nigeria showing its Physical Features
Source: [9]

Climate. The climate is tropical and the vegetation extends from the southern marshing coastal areas to mangrove swamp through the high rainforest, Guinea and Sudan savannah to Sahel savannah with much increased and still increasing sand dune (desert condition) in the northern fringes.

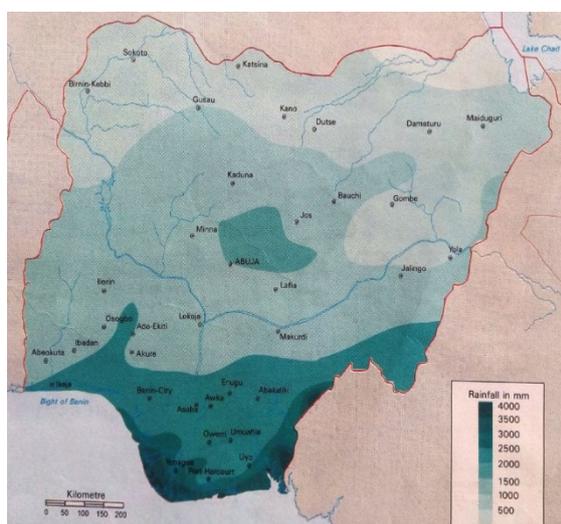


Fig. 2. Rainfall Map of Nigeria
Source: [9]

The effects of climate change is glaring with increase in coastal flooding plus ocean surge and increasing dryness in the northern part. The difference in the quantity of rainfall creates two (2) distinct seasons, namely, the wet/rainy season and dry season in the period

May-October and November-April respectively. In the dry season, the annual rainfall range is 1,100-1,250 mm and mean temperature is 29°C and can reach 40 °C in March. In the rainy season, the mean rainfall is 2,500 mm and mean annual temperature of 22°C which can reach 34°C in the north. Rainfall distribution is bi-modal having July and September as peaks. The early part of the dry season has cool weather called Harmanttan (November – February) in far north and December in the south. Irrigated tomato, carrot and other vegetables do well under irrigation in this period.

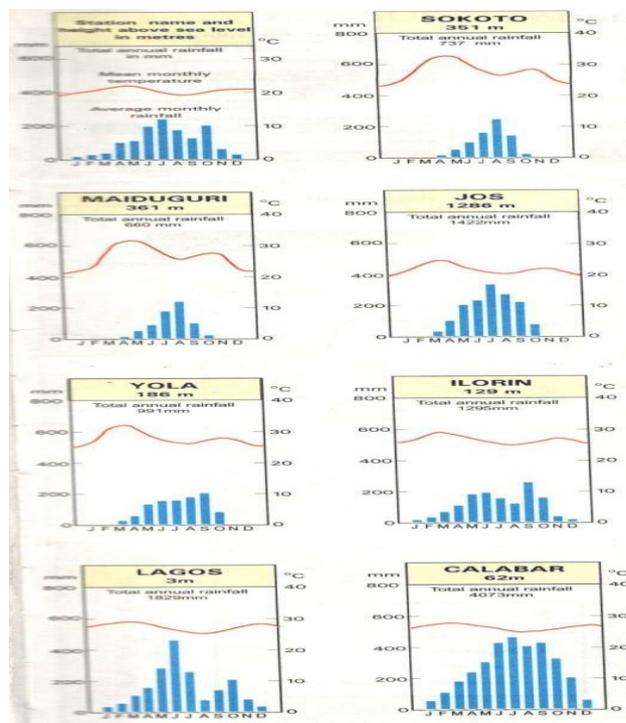


Fig.3 .Rainfall distribution graphs
 Source: [9]

Rivers. The country is well drained by many rivers, the biggest/longest of which are the Benue and Niger that jointly cut the country into three (3) parts with both intersecting and joining at Lokoja (in the central part of the country) to form one river, called Niger, that emptied into the Atlantic Ocean forming delta in the south, known as Niger Delta.

Vegetation is determined by the environmental conditions and especially by climate features.

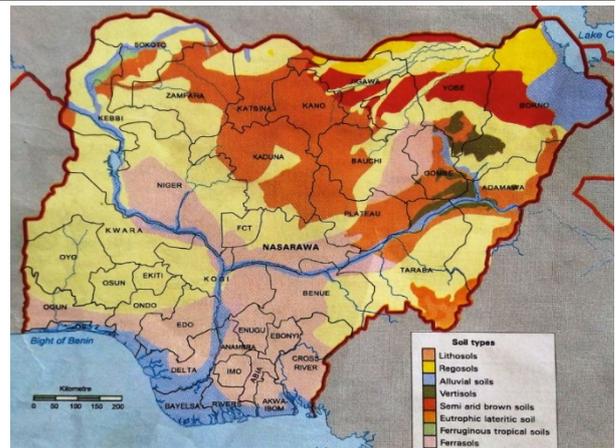


Fig. 4. Vegetation Map of Nigeria
 Source: [9]

Soil. The soil include the Latertic south–east soil, the highly leached deep soil of the Midwest and south-west, black cotton soil in the lower north / middle belt to shallow loose stony soil in the mid-north and sand dune affected Sahel savannah in part of the northern fringe. There is highland stretch along the eastern boundary line from north to south known as the Cameroon mountains/highlands.

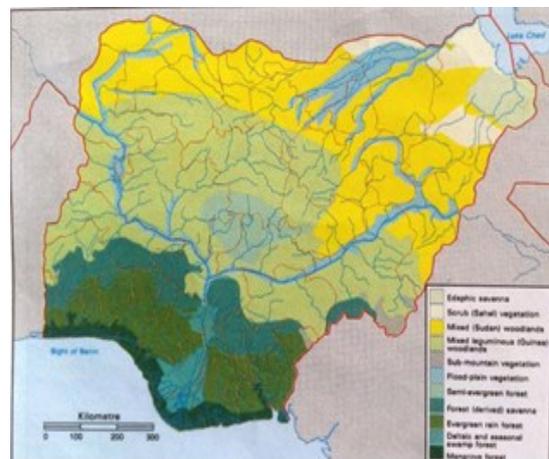


Fig. 5. Soil Map of Nigeria
 Source: [9]

The exposure of the delicate tropical soils can create management challenges [1]. They support agriculture. According to [7], “even with its diverse climate and soils, the country has a huge agricultural potential if its soils and other natural endowments are well managed [13]”.



Fig. 6. Food Crops Map of Nigeria
 Source: [9]

Resources. Reference to Atlas and textbooks of geography and [12], [5], [7], Nigeria is rich in human, agricultural and mineral resources. The country is a huge exporter of crude oil and gas, palm oil, cassava, gum arabic, rubber latex, etc. It has rich reserve of bitumen, coal, iron ore, tin and some deposits of gold, uranium, etc.



Fig. 7. Fuel and Power Resources of Nigeria
 Source: [9]

Possibility for Successful Farm Mechanization for Socio-economic Development

With the conditions forested as seen in Figures 1-7, appropriate mechanization with satisfactory economic efficiency and returns is very feasible to varying degree from one part of the country to another. Nigeria has a great agricultural potential which if fully developed with the aid of **appropriate mechanization** (that is farm machinery and equipment plus the requisite accessories) is capable of

producing enough food, fibres and other raw materials for the populace and the industries (local consumption) notwithstanding the challenges of soil conservation which meticulous study, understanding and approach can handle successfully and economically too for sustained production.

[11] defined Appropriate Mechanization of any particular work/operation and the process of production of any given crop as the employment of the correct equipment or mechanical aggregates/installations having the technical adjustments as dictated by the work/operation in the correct conditions of the work/operation/process of production in the particular environment and substantially enjoying other necessary back-up or complementary factors so that the objectives of the work/operation/entire process of production are satisfactorily realized with time, energy and economic efficiency.

Thus, mechanization of crop production is not appropriate without employment of the requisite complementary factors/inputs.

Our constrain is the impossibility of elimination of the unproductive and unprogressive vices of corruption of all forms and acts with impunity founded on weak minded crave for excessive accumulation of material wealth for self without production (that is, massive erosion of capital fund).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

After carefully studying failed crop farm mechanization efforts projects littering all over the Nigeria State, the result presented and which was also front burners were fear of job lost and acts with impunity.

Historians, political scientists, lawyers, etc import agricultural machinery and equipment; lawyers/Barristers are appointed heads of economic planning and budgeting units; mechanical engineers are farm managers/director; political scientists are managing directors of tomato farming and canning industries; agricultural engineers are appointed heads of museum and art gallery; etc. **These are all dysfunctional misplacements.** These types of appointment are **not usually** devoid of the **Nigerian factor**

and desperation to be present where the looting of money/public fund is to be taking place in the immediate.

After these wrong political appointees avail themselves to using non-conventional part that circumvent the merit based laws/regulations/rules to acquire positions where they preside over the affairs of people and materials put together for growth and development of the society, they become dis-focused and dysfunctional. They (100 % of them) begin to behave like **victorious emperors ruling over serfdom**. They participate in receiving supply of incomplete parts of assembled and yet to be assembled machinery and equipment from higher emperors. Also, they at their own levels make purchases and order subordinates to receive incomplete, malfunctioning, refurbished, wrong types, inappropriate, etc machinery and equipment that are branded as new ones. Evidence abound everywhere that significant majority of these machinery and equipment are condemned to workshops, laboratory stores, storage platforms or open field (under rain and sun), etc **mainly to serve the eyes and not to do any work**. In these situations, the invested capital is lost and the intended benefits are lost. Also lost is the passive energy embedded in such machinery and equipment [12]. The emperors blame everyone else except themselves and yet do not take actions to return the bad supply or remedy the ugly situations.

In our large scale crop farms (majority, of about 90 % now completely abandoned) and office compounds of mechanization agencies/organs/units,, machinery and equipment of all kinds that have never been used for once are littering and rusting away. It is a massive waste of passive energy, financial and material resources and developmental opportunities. After several lootings and wastages, the peoples/workers' **rights and dues become personalized by the emperors such that the rights become privileges** that can only be doled out according to the emperors' whims and caprices to recognized sycophants', eye-service persons and compromising fellows pleading on their knees, bending, lying down,

etc for favour to be accorded them. These are the desperate, weak minded and not qualified ones who can neither ask nor wait for the right things to be done. They are usually few in number (less than 2 %) but are allocated sensitive positions that enable them to join the emperors to control the rest majority of over 98 %. We can not blame all these types of person because hunger and/or burden of reasonable duration can weaken and compromise people, especially when there are added pressures due to needs of loved ones within the extended family culture synonymous with us in Nigeria.

The dictators/emperors act with impunity and recklessness and are only interested in self-preservation and endless materialism. To this end, the need to appoint compromisers leads to wrong decisions placing wrong persons in very sensitive, technical and high skill requiring production duties. The appointees like the emperor-master are unable to perform such duties and therefore no production because incompetence ruling over competence can neither stand nor succeed. Things and the system begin to crumble and since there is no production, let alone profit to be carted, the capital fund comes in line for senseless and heartless looting, and later the entitlements or dues of the subordinate colleagues/staff are added thereto. While the children and wives of the emperors are allocated official vehicles with drivers separately for domestic movements, the emperor himself/herself move about in convey of cars (including escorts) whereas the immediate next in rank to the emperors do not have any official vehicle for official duties, especially if he/she does not belong to the same club, corruption class, fraternity, religion, etc as the immediate emperor-boss and/or the higher emperors. Other heads of units suffer the same faith as stated even though the financial records of the establishment will show otherwise, because the vehicles and facilities fraudulently attached to the emperors' domestic members are put on records to be allocated to officers who ought to actually have them. Furthermore, the pittance left for staff as salaries and other welfare packages are not

paid (salaries being owed up to 6-10 months) and where paid it is not the correct amount despite the numerous frivolous deductions earlier made therein. Frivolous reasons are given even in the clear visibility of **personal extravagancy and misappropriation of the hatchet emperors**. While hunger and economic pressure mount on dependants of the system, the wrongful weak minded conspirators begin to get salary advances and receive all kinds of payments. **And to maintain this status, they join the emperors—masters to threaten and terrorize the good law abiding citizens who become so afraid that they standby and watch helplessly and hopelessly not wishing to lose what they have at hand because there is no immediate equivalent alternative.**

With economic pressure in the home front, the hungry workers become angry people and their primary duties begin to be handled lackadaisically or performed with levity, while sneaking out to find quick income earning supportive jobs/services. Eventually, there is system collapse, the production has completely failed and it is shot down. The looters, now with affluence and flamboyancy to blow their trumpets loud, **quickly work their ways to new thriving units taking along with them the best of the sycophant's and yes persons**. In all these, the emperors keep paying homages to the powers that be behind them. As long as the homage payments continue to flow, the surrogates emperors are good and loyal children of their emperor-fathers notwithstanding public outcry regarding the enormous damages to the welfare of the common people, the public economy and the society at large.

The evil unproductive and unprogressive scenario are created, re-enacted or repeated wherever the production failed emperors are moved to and with each new higher move, they behave more intolerant, autocratic and reckless and with greater acts with impunity that bring about more damages in order to meet the need of an increasing ego, societal recognition and the desire to sustain the ostentatious life style after leaving office

(whether through due retirement or forced retirement, termination), etc.

With these vices in rampant occurrence, no system survives, let alone growing to become developed and benefits yielding for the masses and the society. There can be no recovery without production and until farm mechanization is yielding good results it cannot contribute to economic upgrade or growth.

CONCLUSIONS

The role of acts with impunity and fear of loss of job in compromising the professional integrity of many civil/public service agricultural engineers, just like others, has been given considerable treatment, and thus the topic of this paper is apt within the theme “Dynamics of Agricultural Engineering for Food and Agro-Industrial Raw Materials Production for Economic Recovery in Nigeria”. It is an obvious fact that many members of the Nigerian Institution of Agricultural Engineers were the managers of the failed mechanization projects, agencies and farms, etc. They were carried away by societal vices at the detriment of their professional integrity, growth and development. **This is now to the extent that the membership of the professional body in Nigeria is more for fulfilling the requirement of promotion rather than as a vehicle for growth in professional competence and integrity and as a path to contributing to the advancement of the profession.**

The following are the recommendations:

(i) Nigerian Institution of Agricultural Engineers (NIAE) must create a properly functioning unit to be known as Ethics and Value Commission and to be vested with enough power and material mobility to evaluate, receive, report, investigate, etc on conducts of members charge with management of engineering facilities in agricultural production nationwide. The commission should be able to render professional advices and assistance to members in positions promptly as the needs arise and at no pre-conditions or cost. The

working fund of the commission shall be certain percentage of the annual dues of members and sponsorship grants. In this way, the Institution shall be having a machinery to closely monitor the field performance of its members.

(ii) Establishment and management of a model of mechanized crop production farm in any part of the Guinea and Sudan Savannah Vegetation belts of Nigeria with rain fed and irrigation technologies supported by good crop rotation to make it an all year round production industry with practice of appropriate mechanization of all the processes in crop raising, (from pre-planting chemical treatment of materials, loading, off-loading, transportation, actual field works, post-harvest primary processing of produce, storage and post-harvest field management). This farm should be managed by NIAE Ethics and Values Commission and its success shall promote the professional integrity of agricultural engineers in Nigeria, thus, creating excuse for its members to exonerate themselves from the mismanagement acts with impunity that have contributed to the failures of all mechanized crop farms and mechanization projects/programmes/agency/organs under the civil/public services.

(iii) The Institution (NIAE) must start to rally around its members who wish and are ready to do the right things as dictated by the noble profession, and to protect such members **(under the doctrine of all for one and one for all)** from the claws, harassments and intimidations of the greedy looting emperor-oppressors of the society, economy and masses.

(iv) The government should allow the right persons only to manage or handle specialized services/operations/activities for proper management and development

The above recommendations are to grow the profession for growth of appropriate mechanization for economic upgrade (whether growth or recovery).

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