



# Library and Information Services in Advancing Food Security and Agricultural Transformation for Sustainable Economic Growth in Ilaro, Ogun State

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## Introduction

The study focused on investigating the library and information services that can advance food security and agricultural transformation for sustainable economic growth in Ilaro, Ogun State. The study specifically seeks to determine the types of library and information services available to support agricultural development and food security; determine the contributions of library and information services to sustainable economic growth in the agricultural sector; and to identify the challenges to library and information services in supporting agricultural development and food security in Ilaro.

## Methodology

The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, and had the questionnaire as the research instrument for data collection. Using total enumeration, the study collected data from 66 farmers and analysed the data using tables, frequency and mean.

## Results and discussion

Findings showed that the library and information services available to the farmers include data analysis and visualisation services (Mean = 4.38), partnering with agricultural extension workers (Mean = 3.95), expert reference services to farmers (Mean = 3.82), and training and workshop for farmers (Mean = 3.82); the contributions of these services to sustainable economic growth in the agricultural sector are access to up-to-date agricultural information (Mean = 4.27), research and development resources (Mean = 4.27), and mentorship and coaching (Mean = 4.09) further contribute to sustainable agricultural transformation; while the challenges that beset successful implementation of these services are limited funding (Mean = 3.94), out-dated information resources (Mean = 3.91), inadequate infrastructure (Mean = 3.73), geographical barriers between farmers and library (Mean = 3.73), and language barrier for farmers that makes it difficult for farmers to understand and apply the information provided (Mean = 3.73).

## Conclusions

The study concluded that there is a significant and positive relationship between library and information services and agricultural development, particularly in promoting food security and economic stability; and recommended the partnership with ministries of Education and Agriculture to ensure a smooth relationship between libraries and rural farmers.

**Keywords:** Agricultural transformation, Food security, Library and information services, Sustainable economic growth