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A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE ROLE OF AGRICULTURAL POLICIES AS DRIVERS OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR IN NIGERIA, 1981-2014

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ABSTRACT

A comparative analysis of the role of agricultural policies and programmes in driving growth and development of the agricultural sector in Nigeria between 1981 and 2014 was done in this study. This paper divided the study period into four policy periods starting from 1981 and ending in 2014. The paper used the periods of implementation as the basis for grouping the policy or policies. Graphs, descriptive statistics, and ANOVA were adopted as the tools for data analysis. It was found that successive agricultural policies has impacted positively on a majority (i.e. four out of six) of the agricultural growth and development indicators. But when compared with other sectors and indicators like the industrial sector and food import, the study found that the agriculture sector despite the various agricultural policies performed poorly. The study concluded that, though the policies and programmes has had significant impact on the selected agricultural growth and development indicator, it has not been able to make the agricultural sector outperform the industrial sector and produce enough food to make the nation food sufficient. It was therefore recommended that that the appropriate authorities should dedicate more funds to the agricultural sector and also strategically improve on existing agricultural policies and programmes.

KEYWORDS
agricultural policy, agricultural growth, agricultural development.

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Q18.

1. INTRODUCTION

Mathew and Mordecai (2016) has highlighted the importance of the agricultural sector as the provider of food and capital good (e.g., raw materials) when the sector is performing optimally and efficiently. But the performance of the agricultural sector is predicated, among other factors, on the design and effective implementation of well-conceived agricultural policies and programmes. In the opinion of Mitchel (2005), the growth and development of the agricultural sector is often preceded by the implementation of policies/programmes that has the capacity of improving (in terms of growth and development) every segment or sub-sector of agricultural sector. Dating back to the 1960's, series of successive policies and programmes have been designed and implemented in Nigerian agricultural sector with the aim of addressing challenges and problems evident in the sector. Each of these policies/programmes have least one of increasing output, provision of raw materials for the industrial sector, and employment generation in the sector as their objective(s). Olayemi (1998) categorized the different agricultural policies and strategies peculiar to Nigeria as (i) exploitative; (ii) agricultural market; (iii) direct government production; and (iv) integrated rural development. These policies are aimed at establishing a system of sustainable agricultural financing schemes capable of providing macro and micro credit facilities. Despite numerous laudable agricultural programmes like National agricultural and development authority (NALDA), National Fadama Development Projects (NFDP), the Agro Youth Centre and others, productivity seems not to have improved significantly. But this paper therefore found it worthy to investigate the extent to which the growth and development of the agricultural sector has been influenced by successive policies. In specific terms, this paper examined the relative effect of successive policies in the sector on:

i. growth in agricultural activities as evident in the contribution of the sector to the aggregate output;
ii. increase in foreign exchange earnings from export of agricultural raw material and food; and
iii. development of agricultural sector as evident in the use of machinery, import of agricultural raw materials, and growth in value added by the agricultural sector.

Hypotheses will also be tested to examine the existence or non-existence in significant variation in the selected agricultural growth and development indicator during the different periods of some selected agricultural policies. It is worthy of mention that choice of agricultural policies examined in this paper was determined by the data constraint. This paper is further organized into literature review, method of study, results and analysis from data collected, and conclusion/recommendation.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Theoretical Review: Revolution in agriculture, according to Eicher and Witt (1964), predated productivity and economic development in most economies of the world. David Ricardo, in his principle of political economy and taxation, extensive discussed capital and the role agriculture plays in its formation. Ricardo maintained that slow or poor growth in agricultural productivity will eventually affect the output from the non-agricultural sector which will by extension affect the

process of capital formation. Citing Kuznets (1965), Wilson (2002) asserted that the emergence and growth of other sectors and expansion in international trade in an economy depends on agriculture.

Conceptualizing Agricultural Policies: Klein (1974) defined policy as a governmental course of action designed to influence the future behaviour of the economy. In a mixed economy like Nigeria, difference government agencies are saddled with the responsibility of formulating and implementing policies. These policies involve a host of separate decision that conflict with each other. Agricultural policies represent public action taken to improve the well-being and economic opportunities of farmers and well the economy. The Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARCN) also defined agricultural policy as a document borne out of the synthesising of various frameworks and government action plans intended to spur growth and development in the agricultural sector. In specific terms, the major aim of agricultural policies is to achieve self-sustaining growth that is capable of structurally transforming the agricultural sector as well as its sub-sectors and also improve general living condition in Nigeria. Pass, Lowes and Davies (1999) defined agricultural policy as a policy concerned both with protecting by subsidizing farm prices and incomes and with promoting greater efficiency by encouraging farm consolidation and mechanization.

A simple definition of policy serves a limited purpose, policy has a general common sense meaning and it is also used in a technical sense by scholars. It is utilized in at least four different ways. First, as a philosophical concepts or distance that justifies the action at a community, organization political agencies or the state in their respective efforts to set the framework for solution to common problem. This policy idea captures the public corporate or private spheres or domains of action. The second usage is rather pragmatic. Policy is viewed as an end product consisting of either document or conclusion drawn by responsible authorities which clearly expresses their views on problem demanding action and how they plan to deal with them with available resources. We have in recent years heard of number of pronouncement by government on many public issues; and also seen the publication on policy documents is wild range of fields including agriculture. A third usage is strategic. The policy idea keys emphasis on the fundamental process through which an organization provides stability and orderly change while planning to capture future desired goals. Finally, policy is used as the end result in the sense that, policy is a guide for the achievement of defined goal. In Nigeria context agricultural policy falls in the second stage although the intention of the government has always been in the fourth stage usage of the term policy (Uchendu 2000).

Sub-policies that acts as growth facilitator in the sector forms a support base of agricultural policies. Each of the factors of production are addressed by different sub-policies in every agricultural policy. For instance, just as a sub-policy covers issues related to farm mechanization another takes care of credit and insurance issues. Policy implementation in the agricultural sector are not done in isolation. Rather they are moderated by other macroeconomic policies which provides an enabling environment for simultaneous growth of the sector and other existing sectors. Institutions, according to Okezie et al. (2013), are also integral part of agricultural policies and programmes. The establishment of agricultural research institutes like the National Cereal Research Institute and the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria were integral part of plans as imbedded in an agricultural policy (Okezie et al., 2013). A summary of successive agricultural policies that has been implemented in Nigeria between 1980 and 2014 was done by Iwuchukwu and Igbokwe (2012). They are as follows:

(i) Green Revolution (GR): inaugurated in April 1980, this agricultural programme was designed to increase food and raw material production. Also, the programme was aimed at enhancing livestock and fish production to the extent of adequately attending to household needs and export of surplus for earning foreign exchange.

(ii) Directorate for Food Road and Rural Infrastructure (DFRI): Initiated in January 1986, the directorate was established as part of effort to domesticate the World Bank's implemented SAP programme in Nigeria. Improvement in standard of living and quality of life of Nigerian with special focus on rural dwellers was the major aim of the directorate.

(iii) National Agricultural Land Development Authority (NALDA): Established more lately than the Land Use Decree and Act (in 1978 and 1979 respectively) in 1992, the authority was established to promote better use of rural lands in Nigeria. With respect to agricultural growth and development, the authority has as use of land for food security and sufficiency as its aim. By this, the authority is aimed at achieving improvement in standard of living and increase in job opportunity for the larger population of Nigerian residing in rural areas.

(iv) Family Support Programme (FSP)/ Family Economic Advancement Programme (FEAP): While the FSP was established in 1996, the FEAP was earlier in 1994. Though it focuses on other sectors of the economy like health and education, the programmes paid special attention to agricultural development with focus on women as the vulnerable group.

(v) National FADAMA Development Project (NFDP): This agriculture intervention project was implemented in phases. The phase I (i.e. FADAMA I) of the projected was designed and implemented in 1993 and was concluded in the year 1999. Jointly financed by the Federal Government of Nigeria and the World Bank, FADAMA I, FADAMA II & III (which were implemented between 1999 and 2013) were aimed at increasing crop yield through well irrigated expanded farms, improving capacity of farmers, increase livestock production, and value addition to agricultural output through agro processing. Poverty reduction and income generation was the expected outcome of the projects.

(vi) National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS): Initiated in 1999, this strategy made provision for key sectors of the economy including the agricultural sector. The assistance rendered to these sectors under this strategy is with the intent of boosting aggregate output, generate employment, and improve standard of living of citizens of the nation. Hence some targets such as 6% growth rate in agricultural output through investment in irrigation infrastructure and machinery were set by the strategy to be realized in the year 2007. As complements to NEEDS, state governments and local governments also established state (SEEDS) and local (LEEDS) strategies to reduce the rate of rural-urban migration and enhance rural development.

(vii) National Special Programme on Food Security (NSPFS): Launched nationwide in 2002, this agricultural programme was also designed to boost food output and reduce the level of poverty in rural areas of the country. Providing assistance (through trainings, extension services, etc.) to rural farmers to help increase their crop production and income generation was the objectives of the programme.

(viii) Root and Tuber Expansion Programme (RTEP): The RTEP came into full implementation in the year 2003 but only in 26 states of the federation. Increase in food production, achieve food security and reduction in rural poverty was the target of the RTEP. Moreover, a stimulation of nationwide demand for cheaper staple food (e.g. cassava and yam) as against the rising demand for other expensive foods (e.g. rice) was also one of the key objectives. Hence, the planned introduction of different improved varieties of roots and tubers to approximately 350,000 farmers.

EMPIRICAL REVIEW

Jose et al (2013) used a supply-side approach to analyse the role of agricultural spending on vulnerability to food insecurity investigating food security in Bolivia. The study found that levels of public agricultural spending on infrastructure and research are positively associated with high vulnerability.

Monye-Emina (2009) examined various revival efforts over the years in the Nigeria agricultural sector. Using historical analysis the author found that, despite these efforts, the once dominant sector has since is still been dominated by oil and gas sector. The author identified socio-economic, institutional, structural, and political factors as the impediments to achievement of the goals of the different revival policies. Hence, the insignificant effect of these revival efforts in the agricultural sector.

Ugwu and Kanu (2012) examined how reform strategies (i.e. exploitative, agricultural market, direct government production, and integrated rural development) has affected key indicators like increase in food and raw material production, increase in receipts of foreign exchange due to export of crops and raw materials, and increased investment in the agriculture sector. The authors found that, despite the various reforms, the agriculture sector has performed poorly as against the set targets.

Ojeka et al (2016) used time series data to examine the constraints to agricultural sector growth in Nigeria between 1970 and 2010. From the estimated ECM model, rainfall, exchange rate and lag one of food export were the significant predictors of agricultural output in Nigeria. However, among other, food imports was one of the factors impeding the growth and development of the agricultural sector.

Muftaudeen and Abdullahi(2014) estimated a multivariate VECM to examine the effect of macroeconomic policies (both monetary and fiscal) on crop production between 1978 and 2011. The study found that crop production responded to a shock in government spending (fiscal policy), agricultural credit, interest rate and exchange rate (monetary policy). An expansionary fiscal policy mixed with a realistic exchange rate was recommended.

3. METHOD OF STUDY

Data used in this paper are collected from the CBN statistical bulletin of 2015 and the World Bank data repositories. This paper only considered agricultural policies and programmes that were implemented between 1981 and 2014. In effort to compare the effect of the different implemented policies and programmes, this paper divided the study period into four different periods based on the existence or simultaneous existence of policies and programmes during a particular period. Data collected were analysed using graphs and descriptive statistics (i.e. mean, maximum and minimum). Test of hypotheses is done using the statistical tool of analysis of variance (ANOVA). The four groups of agricultural policies and programmes are as follows:

i. Group A (GR) : 1981-1985;
ii. Group B (DFR1): 1986-1992;
iii. Group C (NALDA, FSP&FEAP, and FADAMA I): 1993-1999; and
iv. Group D (NEEDS, NSPFS, RTEP, and FADAMA II&III): 2000-2014.

Data on the following agricultural sector growth and development indicator were collected and used in this paper:

i. Percentage Contribution of the Agricultural Sector to GDP;
ii. Increase in Agricultural Activities;
iii. Mechanization of Agricultural Activities;
iv. Agriculture Value Added;
v. Agricultural Raw Material Export;
vi. Food Export;
vii. Percentage Contribution of the Industrial Sector to GDP;
viii. Industrial Value Added; and
ix. Food Import

4. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

4.1 AGRICULTURAL POLICIES AND THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR TO THE GDP

FIGURE 1: PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR TO NIGERIA'S GDP, 1981-2014

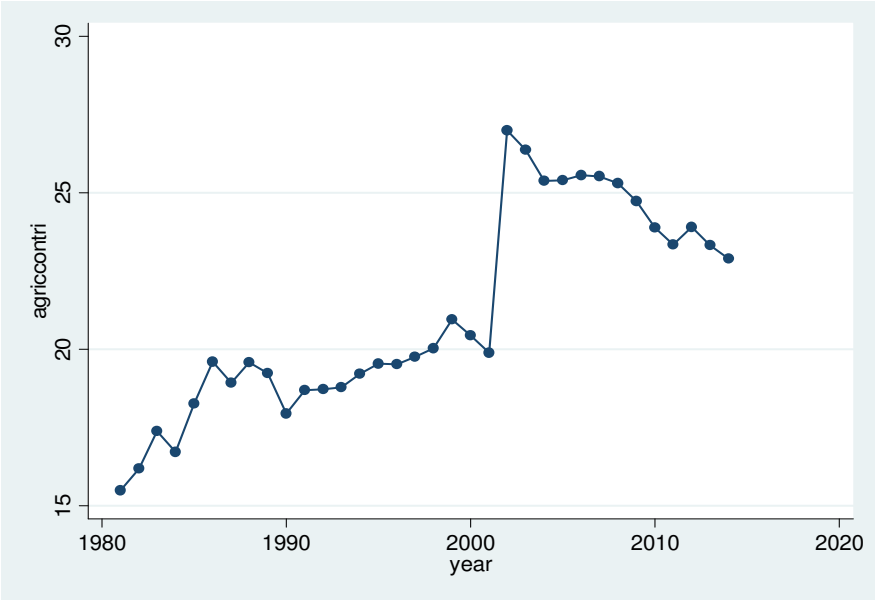


Figure 1 above shows that there was inconsistency in the percentage contribution of the agricultural sector to the GDP in Nigeria between 1981 and 2014. But the period covering 1993 to 1999 (i.e. period of simultaneous implementation of National Agricultural Land Development Authority, NALDA, FSP&FEAP, and FADAMA I) proved to be different as the graph showed that, though the great rate was slow, the percentage contribution of the agricultural sector increased consistently. The highest percentage contribution of the agricultural sector to the GDP was recorded in the period covering 2000-2014 (i.e. period of simultaneous implementation of NEEDS, NSPFS, RTEP, and FADAMA II&III).

TABLE 1: AGRICULTURAL POLICIES AND PERCENTAGE OF CONTRIBUTION OF AGRICULTURAL SECTOR TO GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT IN NIGERIA, 1981-2014

Agric. Policy/Policy Periods	**Mean**	**Min.**	**Max.**	Analysis of Variance (ANOVA): ***F-Stat.***
Green Revolution (GR) (1981-1985)	16.81	15.50	18.26	42.78*** [2.92] (0.00)
DFR1 (1986-1992)	18.96	17.95	19.60	
NALDA, FSP&FEAP, and FADAMA I (1993-1999)	19.69	18.79	20.95	
NEEDS, NSPFS, RTEP, and FADAMA II&III (2000-2014)	24.20	19.89	26.99	

Source: Authors' Computation

Values in […] and (…) are the F-critical and probability statistics. ***implies statistical significance of the F-statistics.

Tables 1 above shows that the mean percentage contribution of the agricultural sector to the GDP was highest and lowest during the periods 2000-2014 and 1981-1985 at 24.20% and 16.81% respectively. The minimum and maximum percentage contribution of the agricultural sector to the GDP were recorded during the periods 1981-1985 and 2000-2014 at 15.50% and 26.99% respectively.

The hypothesis of no significant variation in the percentage contribution of the agricultural sector to the GDP under the different agricultural policy periods can be rejected. The F-statistics (i.e. 42.78) from the analysis of variance (ANOVA) also result presented in Tables 1 is statistically significant. Hence, there is a significant variation in the percentage contribution of the agricultural sector to the GDP under the different agricultural policy periods.

4.2 AGRICULTURAL POLICIES AND INCREASE IN AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

FIGURE 2: AGRICULTURAL LAND AS PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL LAND IN NIGERIA, 1981-2014

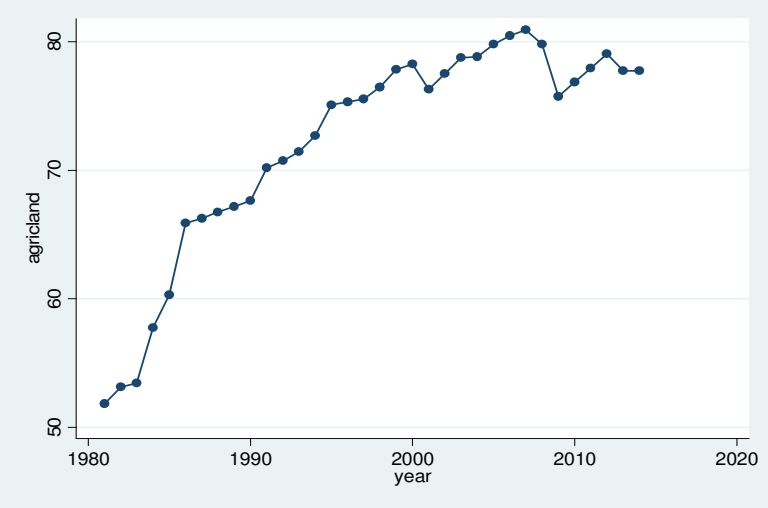


Figure 2 above shows that the percentage of the agricultural land increased consistently from 1981 to 1999. Though there were some instances of a reduction in the percentage of the agricultural land during the policy period covering 2000 to 2014 (i.e. period of simultaneous implementation of NEEDS, NSPFS, RTEP, and FADAMA II&III), a greater part of the period was characterized by increase in percentage of the agricultural land. The highest percentage of the agricultural land was also recorded in the period covering 2000-2014.

TABLE 2: AGRICULTURAL POLICIES AND SHARE OF AGRICULTURAL LAND IN NIGERIA, 1981-2014

Agric. Policy/Policy Periods	**Mean**	**Min.**	**Max.**	Analysis of Variance (ANOVA): ***F-Stat.***
Green Revolution (GR) (1981-1985)	55.30	51.85	60.31	164.81***
DFR1 (1986-1992)	67.80	65.88	70.76	[2.92]
NALDA, FSP&FEAP, and FADAMA I (1993-1999)	74.92	71.44	77.85	(0.00)
NEEDS, NSPFS, RTEP, and FADAMA II&III (2000-2014)	78.39	75.76	80.92	

Source: Authors' Computation

Values in […] and (…) are the F-critical and probability statistics. ***implies statistical significance of the F-statistics.

Tables 2 above shows that the mean percentage of the agricultural land was highest and lowest during the periods 2000-2014 and 1981-1985 at 55.30% and 78.39% respectively. The minimum and maximum percentage of the agricultural land were recorded during the periods 1981-1985 and 2000-2014 at 51.85% and 80.92% respectively.

The hypothesis of no significant variation in the percentage of the agricultural land under the different agricultural policy periods can be rejected. The F-statistics (i.e. 164.81) from the analysis of variance (ANOVA) result also presented in Tables 2 is statistically significant. Hence, there is a significant variation in the percentage of the agricultural land under the different agricultural policy periods. This shows that there is a significant increase in agricultural activities under the different agricultural policy periods.

4.3 AGRICULTURAL POLICIES AND MECHANIZATION OF AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

FIGURE 3: TOTAL NUMBER OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY IN NIGERIA, 1981-2014

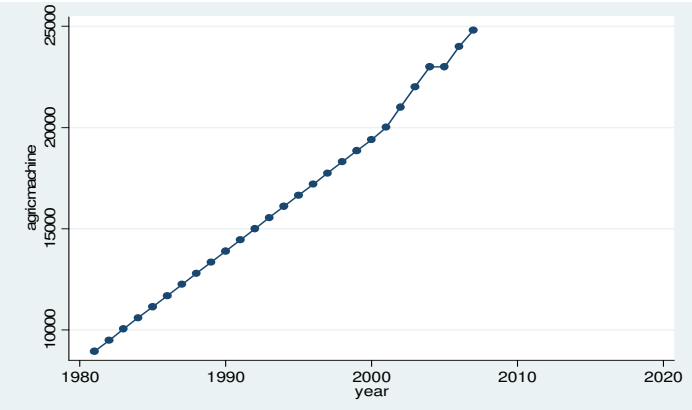


Figure 3 shows that the number of agricultural machinery, though remained unchanged between 2011 and 2012, increased consistently from 1981 to 2014. The highest number of agricultural machinery was recorded in the period covering 2000-2014.

TABLE 3: NUMBER OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY IN NIGERIA, 1981-2014

Agric. Policy/Policy Periods	**Mean**	**Min.**	**Max.**	Analysis of Variance (ANOVA): ***F-Stat.***
Green Revolution (GR) (1981-1985)	10050	8950	11150	90.55***
DFR1 (1986-1992)	13350	11700	15000	[3.03]
NALDA, FSP&FEAP, and FADAMA I (1993-1999)	17200	15550	18850	(0.00)
NEEDS, NSPFS, RTEP, and FADAMA II&III (2000-2014)	22151	19400	24800	

Source: Authors' Computation

Values in […] and (…) are the F-critical and probability statistics. ***implies statistical significance of the F-statistics.

Tables 3 above shows that the mean number of agricultural machinery was highest and lowest during the periods 2000-2014 and 1981-1985 at 22,151 and 10,050 respectively. The minimum and maximum number of agricultural machinery were recorded during the periods 1981-1985 and 2000-2014 at 8,950 and 24,800 respectively.

The hypothesis of no significant variation in the number of agricultural machinery under the different agricultural policy periods can be rejected. The F-statistics (i.e. 90.55) from the analysis of variance (ANOVA) result also presented in Tables 3 is statistically significant. Hence, there is a significant variation in the number of agricultural machinery under the different agricultural policy periods. This shows that there is a significant increase in the mechanization of agricultural activities under the different agricultural policy periods.

4.4 AGRICULTURAL POLICIES AND AGRICULTURAL SECTOR VALUE ADDED

FIGURE 4: AGRICULTURE VALUE ADDED GROWTH RATE IN NIGERIA, 1981-2014

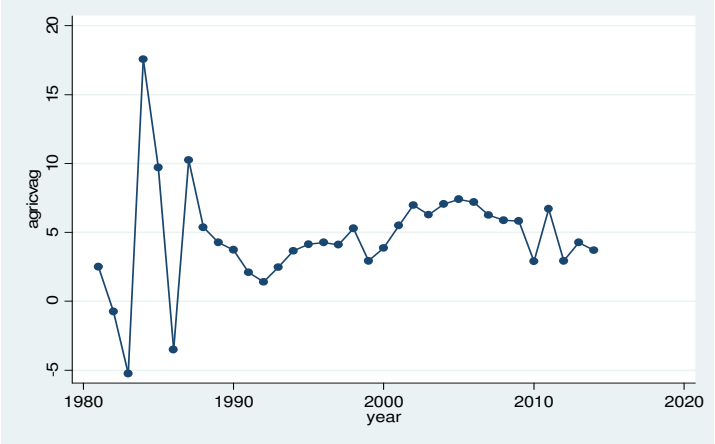


Figure 4 shows that there was inconsistency in the agricultural sector value added growth in Nigeria between 1981 and 2014. The growth rate majorly low and concentrated around a particular growth rate as shown in the graph. But the policy period covering 1981 to 1985 proved to record the highest agricultural sector value added growth rate as also shown by the graph.

TABLE 4: AGRICULTURAL VALUE ADDED GROWTH RATE IN NIGERIA, 1981-2014

Agric. Policy/Policy Periods	**Mean**	**Min.**	**Max.**	Analysis of Variance (ANOVA): ***F-Stat.***
Green Revolution (GR) (1981-1985)	4.77	-5.24	17.58	0.58
DFR1 (1986-1992)	3.38	-3.50	10.27	[2.92]
NALDA, FSP&FEAP, and FADAMA I (1993-1999)	3.84	2.47	5.29	(0.63)
NEEDS, NSPFS, RTEP, and FADAMA II&III (2000-2014)	5.52	2.92	5.52	

Source: Authors' Computation

Values in […] and (…) are the F-critical and probability statistics. ***implies statistical significance of the F-statistics.

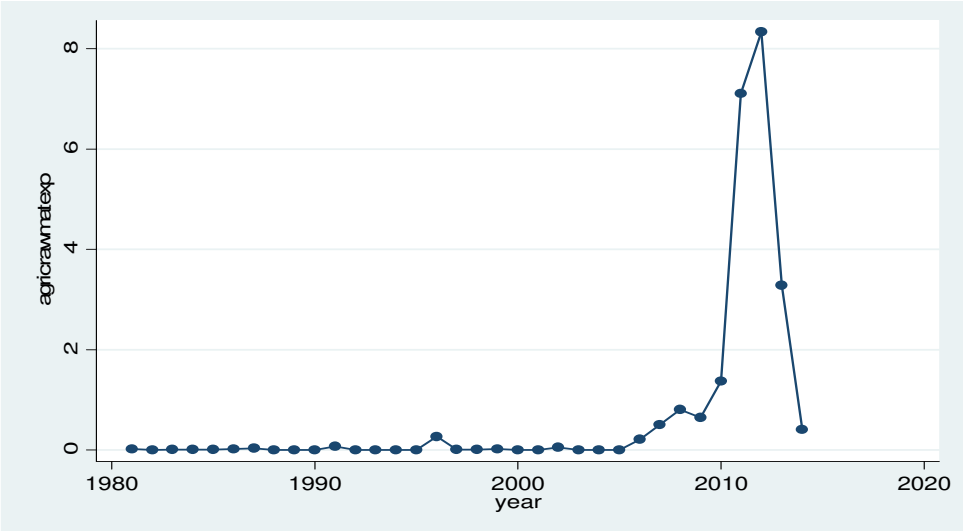
Tables 4 above shows that the mean agricultural sector value added growth rate was highest and lowest during the periods 2000-2014 and 1981-1985 at 22,151 and 10,050 respectively. The minimum and maximum number of agricultural sector value added growth rate were recorded during the period 1981-1985 at -5.24% and 17.58% respectively.

The hypothesis of no significant variation in the agricultural sector value added growth rate under the different agricultural policy periods cannot be rejected. The F-statistics (i.e. 0.58) from the analysis of variance (ANOVA) result also presented in Tables 4 is statistically significant. Hence, there is no significant variation in the agricultural sector value added growth under the different agricultural policy periods. This shows that there is a significant increase in the agricultural sector value added growth rate under the different agricultural policy periods.

4.5 AGRICULTURAL POLICIES AND AGRICULTURAL RAW MATERIAL EXPORT

Figure 5 shows that agricultural raw material export was consistently low for most part of the period 1981-2014. Agricultural raw material export only increased for some part of the period covering 2000-2014. Also, the policy period covering 2000 to 2014 proved to record the highest agricultural raw material export as also shown in the graph.

FIGURE 5: AGRICULTURAL RAW MATERIAL EXPORT IN NIGERIA ($US BILLION), 1981-20



Tables 5 shows that the mean agricultural raw material export value was highest and lowest during the periods 2000-2014 and 1981-1985 at N1.51 billion and N0.01 billion respectively. The minimum agricultural raw material export value was recorded during all the periods; as and maximum agricultural raw material export value was recorded during the period 2000-2014 at N8.34 billion.

The hypothesis of no significant variation in agricultural raw material export under the different agricultural policy periods cannot be rejected. The F-statistics (i.e. 1.87) from the analysis of variance (ANOVA) result also presented in Tables 5 is statistically significant. Hence, there is no significant variation in agricultural raw material export under the different agricultural policy periods. This shows that there is a significant increase in agricultural raw material export under the different agricultural policy periods.

TABLE 5: AGRICULTURAL RAW MATERIAL EXPORT IN NIGERIA, 1981-2014

Agric. Policy/Policy Periods	**Mean**	**Min.**	**Max.**	Analysis of Variance (ANOVA): ***F-Stat.***
Green Revolution (GR) (1981-1985)	0.01	0.00	0.02	1.87
DFR1 (1986-1992)	0.02	0.00	0.07	[2.92]
NALDA, FSP&FEAP, and FADAMA I (1993-1999)	0.04	0.00	0.26	(0.17)
NEEDS, NSPFS, RTEP, and FADAMA II&III (2000-2014)	1.52	0.00	8.34	

Source: Authors' Computation

Values in […] and (…) are the F-critical and probability statistics. ***implies statistical significance of the F-statistics.

4.6 AGRICULTURAL POLICIES AND FOOD EXPORT

FIGURE 6: FOOD EXPORT IN NIGERIA ($US BILLION), 1981-2014

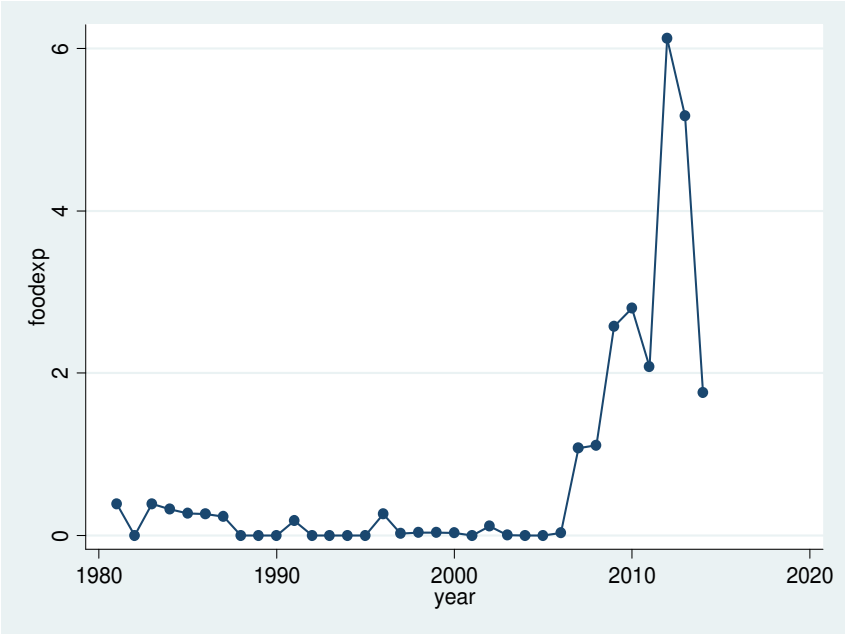


Figure 6 shows that food export was consistently low for most part of the period 1981-2014. Food export only increased for some part of the period covering 2000-2014. Also, the policy period covering 2000 to 2014 proved to record the highest food export as also shown in the graph.

TABLE 6: FOOD EXPORT IN NIGERIA, 1981-2014

Agric. Policy/Policy Periods	**Mean**	**Min.**	**Max.**	Analysis of Variance (ANOVA): ***F-Stat.***
Green Revolution (GR) (1981-1985)	0.28	0.00	0.39	3.07***
DFR1 (1986-1992)	0.10	0.00	0.26	[2.92]
NALDA, FSP&FEAP, and FADAMA I (1993-1999)	0.05	0.00	0.27	(0.04)
NEEDS, NSPFS, RTEP, and FADAMA II&III (2000-2014)	1.53	0.00	6.12	

Source: Authors' Computation

Values in […] and (…) are the F-critical and probability statistics. ***implies statistical significance of the F-statistics.

Tables 6 shows that the mean food value was highest and lowest during the periods 2000-2014 and 1993-1999 at N1.53 billion and N0.05 billion respectively. The minimum food export value was recorded during all the periods; as and maximum food export value was recorded during the period 2000-2014 at N6.12 billion.

The hypothesis of no significant variation in agricultural raw material export under the different agricultural policy periods can be rejected. The F-statistics (i.e. 3.07) from the analysis of variance (ANOVA) result also presented in Tables 6 is statistically significant. Hence, there is a significant variation in food export under the different agricultural policy periods. This shows that there is a significant increase in food export under the different agricultural policy periods.

4.7 EXAMINING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

4.7.1 Comparing the Contribution of Agricultural and Industrial to GDP

FIG. 7: AGRICULTURAL SECTOR VS INDUSTRY SECTOR CONTRIBUTION TO GDP, 1981-2014

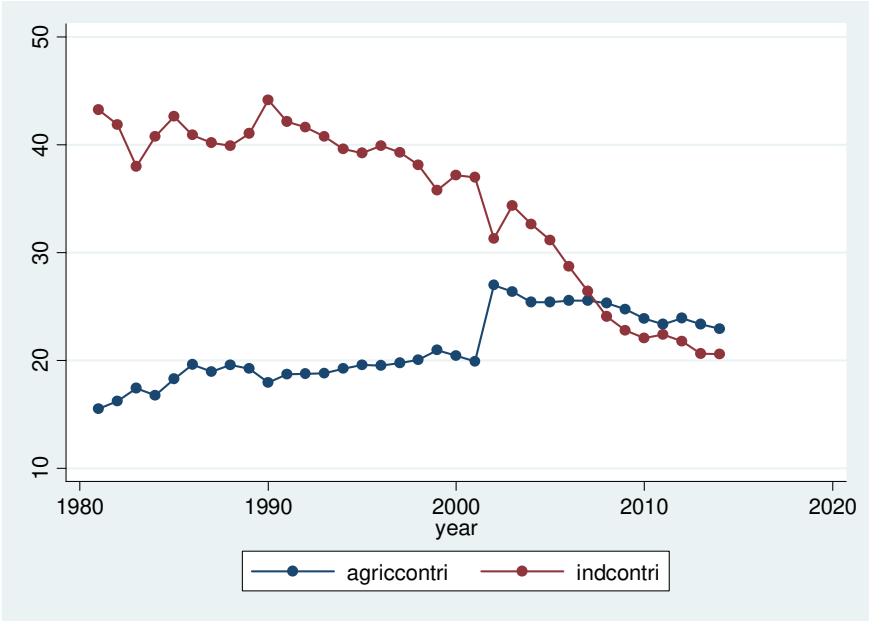


Figure 7 above shows that the percentage contribution of the agricultural and industrial sectors to the GDP of Nigeria during the period 1981-2014. The blue and brown connected line graph represents the percentage contribution of the agricultural and industrial to the GDP. Figure 7 shows that, for most part of the period, the percentage contribution of the agricultural sector to the GDP was way below percentage contribution of the industrial sector to the GDP. But the percentage contribution of the agricultural sector to the GDP rose above the percentage contribution of the industrial sector to the GDP between 2008 and 2014. This implies that the effect of agricultural policies/programmes implementation only started making agricultural sector outperform the industrial sector from 2008 to 2014.
Moreover, Tables 7 shows that the mean percentage contribution of the agricultural and industrial sectors are 21.11% and 34.77% respectively. While the least minimum percentage contribution to the GDP was made by the agricultural sector at 15.50%, the maximum percentage contribution to the GDP was made by the industrial sector at 44.19%. Thus, we can say that the industrial sector, during the period under consideration, has dominated the agricultural sector as far as percentage contribution to the GDP is concerned.

TABLE 7: AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL SECTOR CONTRIBUTION TO GDP, 1981-2014

Real Sectors	Mean	Min.	Max.
Agricultural Sector	21.11	15.50	26.99
Industrial Sector	34.77	20.54	44.19

Source: Authors' Computation

4.7.2 Comparing the Agriculture and Industry Value Added Growth Rate

FIG. 8: AGRICULTURE VALUE ADDED GROWTH VS INDUSTRY VALUE ADDED GROWTH, 1981-2014

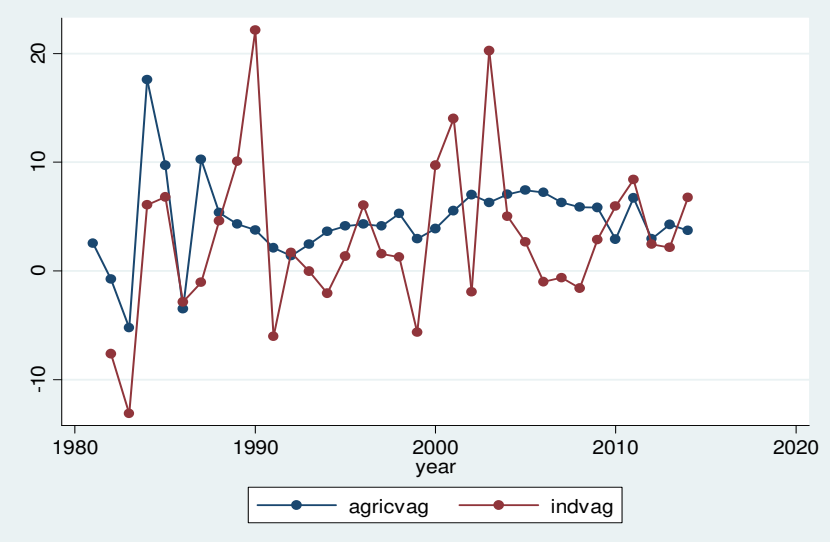


Figure 8 above shows the agriculture and industry value added growth rate during the period 1981-2014. The blue and brown connected line graph represents the agriculture and industry value added growth rate respectively. Figure 8 shows that, for most part of the period, the agriculture value added growth rate was above the agriculture value added growth rate. But the graph also shows that the industry value added growth rate recorded the highest when compared with the agriculture value added growth rate. This implies that industry value added growth rate was still highest despite the various agricultural policies/programmes implemented over the years.
Moreover, Tables 8 shows the mean agriculture and industry value added growth rate. The least minimum value added growth rate was evident in the industrial sector at -13.09%; as the highest maximum value added growth rate was also evident the industrial sector at 22.12%. We can therefore say that though the

agriculture value added growth rate dominated the industry value added growth rate for most part of the period, the highest value added growth rate was recorded in the industrial sector.

TABLE 8: AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL SECTOR VALUE ADDED GROWTH RATE, 1981-2014

Real Sectors	Mean	Min.	Max.
Agricultural Sector	4.63	-5.24	17.58
Industrial Sector	2.97	-13.09	22.12

Source: Authors' Computation

4.7.3 Comparing Food Export and Food Import

FIG. 9: FOOD EXPORT VS FOOD IMPORT, 1981-2014

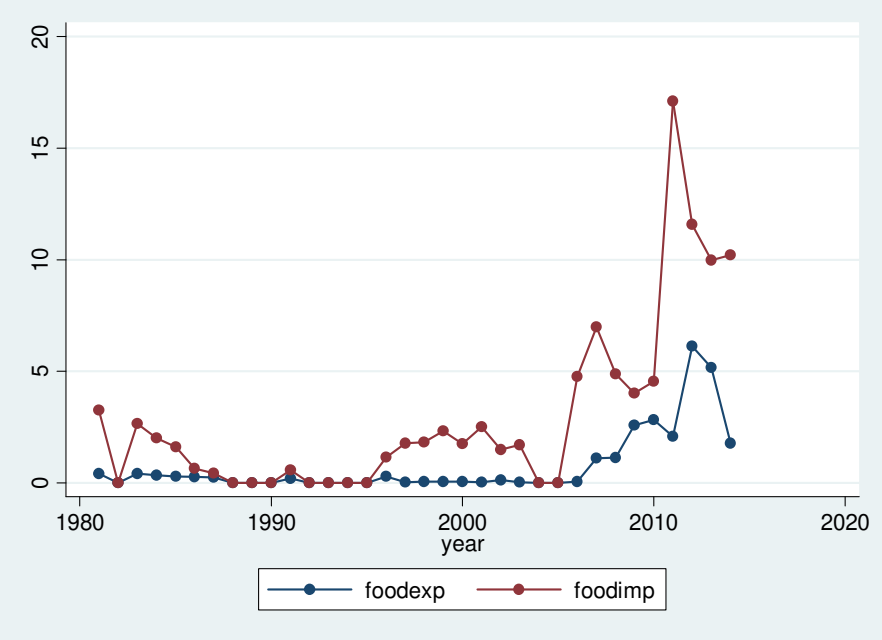


Figure 9 above shows food export and import during the period 1981-2014. The blue and brown connected line graph represents the food export and import respectively. Figure 8 shows that, for most part of the period, food import was above food export. But the graph also shows food export only equalled food import in some years. This implies that the monetary value of food import is still higher than the monetary value of food export despite the various agricultural policies/programmes implemented over the years.

Moreover, Tables 9 shows the mean food export and import. While the mean of food export was N2.97 billion, the mean of food import was N0.75 billion. Both food export and import recorded the minimum value of N0.00 billion. The value of food import rose to as high as N17.11 as the highest monetary value of food export recorded during this period is N6.12 billion. We can therefore say that foreign exchange earned from export of food falls way below what was spent in importing food. Despite the various agricultural policies implemented, food import still outweighs food export implying that Nigeria is yet to attain food sufficiency.

TABLE 9: FOOD EXPORT AND IMPORT IN NIGERIA, 1981-2014

International Trade (Food)	Mean	Min.	Max.
Food Export	0.75	0.00	6.12
Food Import	2.97	0.00	17.11

Source: Authors' Computation

CONCLUSION

A review of the different agricultural policies and programmes implemented over the years shows a variation in objectives. These varying objectives are not unconnected with efforts to revitalize the agricultural sector based on findings from appraisal of previous policies and programmes. The preceding conclusion is evident in the result and analysis presented in this work. From our analysis, we can conclude that the successive implementation of policies and programmes has had great impact on the growth and development of the agricultural sector. While the some various successive policies or policies mix did not significantly impacted on agriculture growth and development indicators like agricultural raw material export and agriculture value added growth rate respectively; these policies had obvious impact on the contribution of the agricultural Sector to the GDP, engagement in agricultural activities, mechanization of agricultural activities, and food export. Successive policies or policies mix increased contribution of the agricultural Sector to the GDP, engagement in agricultural activities, mechanization of agricultural activities, and food export. Lastly, this study concludes that, though the policies and programmes has had significant impact on the selected agricultural growth and development indicator, it has not been able to make the agricultural sector outperform the industrial sector and produce enough food to make the nation food sufficient. It is therefore pertinent that the appropriate authorities should dedicate more funds and also strategically improve on existing agricultural policies and programmes

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