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## AN ANALYSIS OF INTEREST RATE DEREGULATION AS A POLICY INSTRUMENT FOR STIMULATING AGRICULTURAL FINANCE AND GROWTH IN NIGERIA

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### Abstract

The study examined interest rate deregulation as a policy instrument for stimulating agricultural finance and growth in Nigeria. The study specifically ascertained the factors that determine the aggregate credit volume to agriculture within the periods of regulation and deregulation in the Nigerian economy, determined the effects of government finance interventions on agricultural sector performance in the Nigerian economy, determined the periodic effects of macroeconomic financial indicators on Agriculture's gross domestic product (GDP) contribution to Nigerian economy and estimated the level of real credit growth of agricultural finance in Nigeria. Descriptive statistics, Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression technique and chow test were used for data analysis. The chow test showed that there was a significant differential effect on the aggregate credit volume to agricultural sector between the regulated and deregulated regimes. Interest rate was an important determinant of aggregate credit volume to the agricultural sector in Nigeria, especially during the deregulated period but monetary authorities should ensure appropriate determination of interest rate level that will break the double-edge effect of interest rates on savers and investors.

Keywords: Interest rate deregulation;; agricultural finance and growth, Nigeria

### Introduction

One of the most topical issues in Nigeria today is that of agricultural development and its sustainability. Agriculture is important because it provides food and employment for the populace, raw materials for industries, and market for industrial goods. The significance of agriculture resource in bringing about economic growth and sustainable development of a nation cannot be underestimated. Oji-Okoro (2011) is of the opinion that agriculture resource has been an important sector in the Nigerian economy in the past decades, and is still a major sector despite the oil boom. This, in other words, means that the growth rate of the overall economy is to a large extent dependent on the growth rate in agricultural GDP.

The advent of oil in the early 1970s made Nigeria highly dependent on oil revenue, with the performance of the agricultural sector adversely affected over the years. Although agricultural growth rate in the country increased from an average of about 3% in the 1990s to about 7% in mid-2000, certain performance indicators such as food security/sufficiency status of Nigerians continued to decline. Anyanwu, et al (2013) observed that agriculture was among the key significant determinants of Nigeria's GDP with clear dominance from 1960 to 1969. The abrupt decline from 1970 to 1979 resulted in the advent of commercial exploitation of oil resources, which turned the trend against agriculture and its downstream industries. Government's pretence towards agriculture was obvious since real budgetary spending on the sector was a mere 7.7% against the 23.1% expenditure on transportation sector alone (Shimada, 1999). The trend was reversed from 1975 to 1985 with a sharp increment from 23.8% to 38.12% (Fig. 1).

This sharp increment could be attributed to the involvement of government in direct food production, provision of subsidies to small-holder farmers and creation of more commodity boards for various agricultural and food products. Credit flow to agricultural sector, measured by the amount of guaranteed loan that flowed to the sector under the Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme Fund (ACGSF) and the total bank credit to

the sector could be attributed to this trend (Azih, 2011). Within the intervals of 1990 to 1999, the trend of the sector's contribution to the nation's GDP hovered around 32.55% to 34.32% with a growth rate of 4.1%. The relative stable trend could be attributed to the advent of numerous programs of the then administration ranging from the Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure (DIFRRI) that spilled over to the 1990s to the National Agricultural Land Development Authority (NALDA) that spanned the period of 1991 to 1999. The advent of democracy in 1999 to 2009 created a renewed commitment to the agricultural sector with initiatives like the presidential initiatives on selected commodities,

the 7-point agenda, and the transformation agenda of the present administration. However, the trend, on the average, remained at about 34.96%. This could be explained on the basis of inadequate funding and lack of institutional arrangements for the implementation of the initiatives. However, the initiatives generated interest and production increased but there were no concurrent provisions for storage and processing resulting in large postharvest losses and apathy on the side of the farmers (FGN Vision 20:20, 2009).

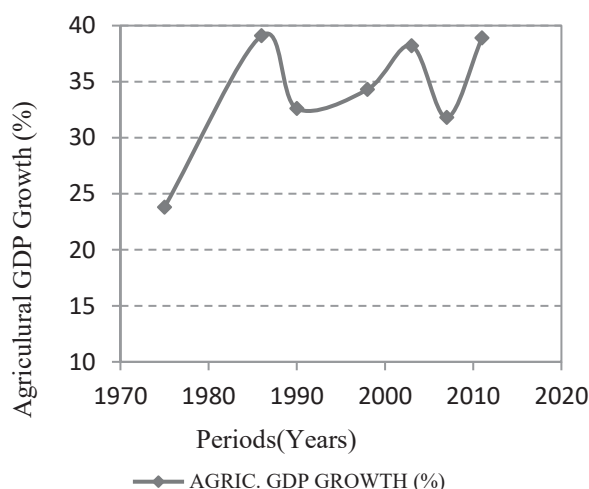


Figure 1: Percentage contribution of agriculture to GDP (1970-2012)

The relationship between financial development and economic growth has been the subject of a growing literature in both developed and developing countries recently (World Bank, 2008). Interest rate reform, a policy under financial sector liberalisation, was to achieve efficiency in the financial sector and engendering financial deepening. The expectation of interest rate reform was that it would encourage domestic savings and make loanable funds available in the banking institutions. This was to enhance the development of financial system in the economy. Obute, Adyorough and Itodo (2012) defined interest rate deregulation as an economic term used to refer to a situation whereby forces of demand and supply are allowed to determine the value of interest rates rather than its value being administered directly by monetary authorities.

The Agricultural sector, one of the sources of economic growth, has been looked unto to pave the way for economic development because of its potentials. The realization of this fact led the Nigerian government to embark on several agricultural development programmes, many of which, unfortunately failed (Manyong, Ikpi, Olayemi, Yusuf, Omonona, Okoruwa and Idachaba, 2005; and Ogungbile, 2008). Among these agricultural programmes is the establishment of the Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme Fund (ACGSF) in 1977 aimed at mobilizing funds from the banking sector for rural development by guaranteeing loans through the commercial banks for investment in agriculture, thereby minimizing the risks involved in financing the sector. The fluctuations in the financial sector appeared inseparable from the performance of the ACGSF in meeting up with its goals of mobilizing adequate credit for the agricultural sector (Onoja et al, 2012). Thus, the importance of agricultural finance cannot be overemphasized.

This study is targeted at the commercial banks that their activities have direct effect on Nigerian economy. Recently the sector underwent significant changes in terms of the policy environment, number of institutions, ownership structure, depth and breadth of markets, as well as in the regulatory framework. These changes resulted in the mergers and acquisitions in the banking system, which encouraged improvement in the capital base and capacity building of the banks as well as increases in the number of branch network. Although these reforms have been acclaimed to be necessary, it is however debatable if they yielded the anticipated results especially on agricultural lending growth in Nigeria that manifests itself in lending growth rate indicators. These indicators include, increase in the number of farmers that access bank loans, volume of credit to agriculture by banks, equal opportunity of credit accessibility by all classes of farm holders, increase in food security and sustainability, and change of paradigm from land mass based output increase to productivity based output increase. Therefore, the question to be addressed in this research is whether financial adjustment

policies that include among others, the interest rate deregulation are promoting the required resource inflow to enable agriculture to make its expected contributions.

The purpose of the study sought to:

- i. estimate the factors that determine the aggregate credit volume to agriculture within the interest regulated and deregulated periods in the Nigerian economy;
- ii. determine the effects of government finance interventions on agricultural sector performance in Nigerian economy;
- iii. determine the periodic effects of macroeconomic financial indicators on agriculture's GDP contribution to Nigerian economy; and
- iv. estimate the level of real growth rate of agricultural finance in Nigeria.

### Research Hypothesis

Based on the first specific objective, this null hypothesis was tested such that:

Ho: factors influencing aggregate credit volume to agriculture sector have no differential effect on both regulated and deregulated regimes.

### **Methodology**

Nigeria is the study area. Nigeria has a total geographical area of 923,768 square kilometres and a population estimate of about 167 million (NBS, 2011). Nigeria is located  $4^{\circ}16'$  and  $13^{\circ}53'$  North latitudes and  $2^{\circ}40'$  and  $14^{\circ}41'$  east longitudes (NBS, 2008). The study employed exploratory survey design which covered a period of 42 years made up of 25 years (1970-1986) before the deregulation and 17 years (1987-2011) after the deregulation.

Secondary data used for the study were computed from CBN Statistical bulletin 2011, CBN annual report 2011, federal budget allocation report, NBS annual reports 2011 and the like. Data collected were annual volume of credit to agricultural sector, average lending rates, volume of savings, inflation rate, and annual government budget allocation to agriculture and so on.

Data were analysed using both inferential and descriptive statistics. Multiple regression model and percentages were the analytical tools used. Further, in order to avoid spurious results emanating from non-stationarity of data series, they will be tested using the Augmented Dickey-Fuller unit root test, Co-integration test and Error Correction Model.

The Augmented Dickey-Fuller unit root test was carried out under the null hypothesis  $\mu = 0$  against the alternative hypothesis of  $\mu \neq 0$ . Once a value for the test statistic was computed, it was compared with the relevant critical value for the Dickey Fuller Test (Eq. 1).  $ADF_t = \frac{\hat{\alpha}}{SE(\hat{\alpha})} \dots\dots\dots (1)$

If the test statistics is greater (in absolute value) than the critical value at 5% or 1% level of significance, then the null hypothesis of  $\mu = 0$  is rejected and no unit root is present. Once this was established, we proceed to test for co-integration.

Co-integration test formula is stated by Eq. 2.

$$(nm \log Y_{At}, \log AGSGDP_t) = \alpha_i + \sum_{i=2}^p \alpha_i nmZ_t - [nm \log Y_{At}, AGSGDP_t - \sum_{i=1} \beta X_{t-1}] + V_{2t} \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

Where:

$[nm \log Y_{At}, \log AGSGDP_t - \sum_{i=1} \beta X_{t-1}]$  is the linear combination of the co-integration vectors and X is a vector of the co-integrated variables.

Because Eq. (1) is true, the individual influence of the co-integrated variables cannot be separated unless with a correction mechanism through an error correction model (ECM).

The Error Correction Model is stated by Eq. 3.

$$(nm \log Y_{At}, \log AGSGDP_t) = \alpha_1 + \sum_{i=2}^p \alpha_i nmZ_t - (\lambda ECM_{t-i}) + V_{2t} \dots\dots\dots (3)$$

Where: ECM is the Error Correction Model,  $\lambda$  is the magnitude of error corrected; each period specified in it's a priori form so as to restore  $\eta m \log Y_{At}$ ,  $\log AGSGDP_t$  to equilibrium.

Multiple regression model was used to ascertain the factors that determine the aggregate credit volume to agriculture within the interest regulated and deregulated periods in the Nigerian economy (Eq. 4).

$$ACVAS_t = b_0 + b_1AIL_t + b_2AIS_t + b_3SFI_t + b_4AIR_t + b_5RBB_t + b_6GBA_t + b_7CPS_t + b_8FDI_t + b_9AER_t + e_t \dots (4)$$

Where:

ACVAS = Aggregate credit volume to agricultural sector in time t (₦);

AIL = Average interest lending rate in time t (ratio/%);

AIS = Average interest savings rate in time t (ratio/%);

SFI = Savings mobilized by financial institutions in time t (₦);

AIR = Average Inflation rate in time t (ratio/%);

RBB = Number of rural bank branches in time t;

GBA = Government budget allocation to agriculture in time t (₦);

CPS = Credit to private sector (agric. & non agric) in time t (₦);

FDI = Direct investment into Nigeria's economy in time t (₦);

AER = Average Exchange rate in time (ratio/%);

$b_0$  = Interception point;

$b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4 \dots b_9$  = Coefficients of the variables;

t = time in year (1, 2, 3, 4... t);

$e_t$  = error term in time t.

Chow test of significance (F-test) is used to test for the difference in the coefficients between two estimated equations (Chow, 1960). The two estimated equations are shown below (Eq.5, Eq. 6):

$$CV_r = \Phi_0 + \Phi_1AIL_t + \Phi_2AIS_t + \Phi_3SFI_t + \Phi_4AIR_t + \Phi_5RBB_t + \Phi_6GBA_t + \Phi_7CPS_t + \Phi_8FDI_t + \Phi_9AER_t + e_t \dots (5)$$

$$CV_{dr} = \beta_0 + \beta_1AIL_t + \beta_2AIS_t + \beta_3SFI_t + \beta_4AIR_t + \beta_5RBB_t + \beta_6GBA_t + \beta_7CPS_t + \beta_8FDI_t + \beta_9AER_t + e_t \dots (6)$$

Where:

$CV_r$  and  $CV_{dr}$  = credit volume to agriculture during the period of regulation and deregulation.

In this study, the formula below (Eq.7) was used to calculate the F-test.:

$$F^* = \frac{RSS_p - RSS1 - RSS2/K}{RSS1 + RSS2/(n1 + n2 - 2K)} \dots (7)$$

Where:

$RSS_p$  = the residual sum of square for the pooled data;

$RSS1$  = the residual sum of square for the regression model for credit agriculture in the period of regulation;

$RSS2$  = the residual sum of square for the regression model for credit agriculture in the period of deregulation;

$n_1$  &  $n_2$  are number of observations in each model;

K = total number of parameters (b's).

To determine the effects of government finance interventions on agricultural sector performance in Nigerian economy, the study used the multiple regression model shown as Eq. 8.

$$AGSGDP_t = Z_0 + (Z_1VAC_t + Z_2VAS_t + Z_3VSS_t + Z_4VLS_t) + e_t \dots (8)$$

Where:

$AGSGDP_t$  = Agricultural sector contribution to gross domestic product in time t;

VAC = Volume of credit to agriculture from Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme Fund in time t;

VAS = Volume of credit to agriculture from Commercial Agricultural Credit Scheme in time t;  
VSS = Volume of credit to agriculture from Agricultural Credit Support Scheme in time t;  
VLS = Volume of credit to agriculture from Large Scale Agricultural Credit Scheme in time t;  
 $Z_0$  = Interception point;  
 $Z_1, Z_2, Z_3, Z_4$  = Coefficients of the variables;  
e = Error term.

The multiple regression model suggested for this study (Eq.9) was used to determine the periodic effects of macroeconomic financial indicators on agriculture's GDP contribution to Nigerian economy:

$$AGSGDP_t = \alpha + \beta_0 LI_t + \beta_1 IR_{t-1} + \beta_2 ER_{t-2} + \dots + \beta_k SI_{t-k} + U_t \dots\dots\dots(9)$$

Where:

AGSGDP<sub>t</sub> = Agriculture's GDP contribution to Nigerian economy;  
 $\alpha$  = Constant or point of intercept;  
 $\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_k$  = the lags (that is multipliers at short/medium/long run);  
 $LI_t, IR_{t-1}, ER_{t-2}, SI_{t-k}$  = the variables (loan interest rate, inflation rate, exchange rate, and savings interest rate);  
t, t-1, t-2, t-k = the respective periods between 1970 and 2011;  
 $U_t$  = Error term.

A real credit growth rate model (Eq.10) modified from the study of Sa (2007) was used to estimate the level of real growth rate of agricultural finance in Nigeria.

$$p_t = 100 \left[ \frac{\frac{C_t}{C_{t-1}}}{1 + \pi_t} - 1 \right] \dots\dots\dots(10)$$

Where,

$\pi_t$  denotes the inflation rate of a country in time t  
 $C_{t-1}$  is the volume of loan in time t-1.

## Results and Discussion

### Results of Stationarity (Unit Root Test):

To confirm the stationarity status of the data series that entered the models, an Augmented Dickey-Fuller (ADF) unit root test was carried out. If the dependent variable associated to the model is found to be integrated of the same order with the explanatory variables, then linear combination is suspected among the variables (Ucak, Ozturk and Sarac, 2012).

The results of Augmented Dickey-Fuller test statistics for the first differences of the annual time series data for the period under study is presented in Table 1 below.

The unit root test was carried out under the null hypothesis  $Y = 0$  against the alternative of  $Y < 0$ . The variables were stationary at first differencing (Table 1). This was deduced from the fact that ADF test statistic of each variable is greater than the critical value of ADF statistic in absolute values at 10% and 5% levels. Therefore, the null hypothesis of  $Y = 0$  is rejected and no unit root is present. This then permitted for further analysis of the time series data.

### Determinants of Aggregate Credit Volume to Agricultural Sector during the Regulated and Deregulated Regimes in Nigeria:

The factors that determine the aggregate credit volume to agricultural sector during the regulated and deregulated periods in Nigeria were ascertained using a multiple regression model. By estimated multiple regression analysis, about 61% and 71 % of the total variance on the aggregate credit volume to agriculture before and during deregulation in Nigeria was explained by joint action of some explanatory variables that were included in the model (Table 2, Table 3). The remaining 39% and 29% unexplained during the period of regulated and deregulated regimes respectively were due to the random variable (u).



Average lending interest rate was positively signed in both regimes (regulated and deregulated), but statistically significant at 5% during the period of deregulation. This means that the removal of subsidies on interest rate has impacted positively on GDP. Also, the average exchange rate was positive and statistically significant during the deregulated regime showing that the higher the exchange rate, the higher the GDP.

#### Effects of Government Finance Interventions on Agricultural Sector Performance in Nigerian Economy:

To determine the effects of government finance interventions on agricultural sector performance in Nigerian economy, variables obtained from four government programmes were analysed using multiple regression model and the results are discussed below.

Results showed that about 51% of the total variation in agricultural sector performance was explained by variations in the explanatory variables used in the model. Volume of credit to agriculture from Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme Fund and volume of credit to agriculture from Commercial Agricultural Credit Scheme were in line with the a priori expectation (Table 4). This indicated that volume of credit to agriculture from Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme Fund (ACGSF) is a major determinant of the government finance interventions on agricultural sector and its contribution to GDP of Nigerian economy. It also implied that the larger the volume of credit by Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme Fund, the higher the level of agriculture sector contribution to Nigeria's GDP. This therefore means that the financial intervention from these agencies has impacted positively on farmers' welfare, especially the small-holder farmer majority as revealed by the increased per capita agriculture GDP.

The coefficient of volume of credit to agriculture from Commercial Agricultural Credit Scheme (CACS) was positive while those of volume of credit to agriculture from Agricultural Credit Support Scheme (ACSS) and volume of credit to agriculture from Large Scale Agricultural Credit Scheme (LSACS) were negative though none of the variables were statistically significant. The a priori expectations were also not met. This implied that volume of credit to agriculture from Commercial Agricultural Credit Scheme, volume of credit to agriculture from Agricultural Credit Support Scheme and volume of credit to agriculture from Large Scale Agricultural Credit Scheme though relevant in the Nigerian government finance interventions on agricultural sector, might not have been funded reasonably enough to make any impact on agricultural financing.

#### The Periodic Effects of Macroeconomic Financial Indicators on Agricultural GDP Contribution to the Nigerian Economy:

In determining the periodic effects of macroeconomic financial indicators on agricultural GDP contribution to the Nigeria economy, the short, medium and long run periods were analysed and the results obtained are presented below.

The multiplier effects (lags) of the macroeconomic financial indicators implied that annual average loan interest rate, and exchange rate affected the agriculture's GDP contribution at short, medium and long run periods, while annual average savings interest rate had short and long run multiplier effects on the agriculture's GDP contributions to Nigerian economy (Table 5). The inflation rate had no multiplier effect on the agriculture's GDP contribution within the period under study

The annual average loan interest rate showed negative coefficient in the short run and positive coefficients in the medium and long run periods but all coefficients were statistically significant.

The coefficient of annual average savings interest rate was positive at the short run and was statistically significant of 1% level, negative coefficient at the long run and was statistically significant at 5% level. This indicated that current savings interest rate affected the agricultural output production and agricultural GDP contribution within the short run and long run periods but negatively due to some changes in macroeconomic financial policies overtime. At short and long run, the exchange rate showed positive coefficient and statistical significance at 5% and 1% level respectively, while at medium run, it showed negative coefficient. This indicated that there existed relationship between exchange rate and agricultural GDP contribution to Nigerian economy at short and long run periods indicating that the exchange rate policy would encourage high activities in agricultural sector with particular reference to agro-exports. This result conformed to the findings of Abiodun and Salau (2010) who revealed that real exchange rate jointly explained the variation in the Nigeria aggregate agricultural output in the short and long run.

#### The level of real growth rate of agricultural finance in Nigeria:

The real growth rate takes into account the inflation rate at a given time and this study has taken this into account to estimate the level of real growth rate of agricultural finance in Nigeria. Results obtained are discussed below.

By estimates, agricultural credit growth rate increased in real terms at 0.01% under the period of study (Table 6).

Also, agricultural credit boom in Nigeria was found to be negative (-24.57%) within the period under review. This indicated that financial institutions (Banks) were not much concerned with the financing of economic production sectors like agriculture.

#### Analysis of F-test result

According to Gujarati (2006), the chow test is a statistical and econometric test of whether the co-efficient in two linear regressions on different data set are equal. If F-calculated value is greater than F-tabulated value, the effect was due to factors influencing aggregate credit volume to agricultural sector on both regimes or otherwise. The F-calculated value (18.518) was greater than the F-tabulated value (7.012) at 5% level of probability. Therefore, following the decision rule, the factors influencing aggregate credit volume to agricultural sector have significant differential effect on both the regulated and deregulated regimes.

#### **Conclusion and Recommendations**

The study examined interest rate deregulation as a policy instrument for stimulating agricultural finance and growth in Nigeria. Theory explaining interest rate deregulation suggests that this phenomenon will promote required resource inflow into agriculture and enable it achieve its expected contributions to national development. By testing the hypothesis, the result showed that interest rate deregulation had significant and positive impact on agricultural finance in Nigeria within the period under review. Also, deregulation of interest rates in Nigeria may not optimally achieve its goals, if those factors, which do not meet the a priori expectations on aggregate credit volume to agriculture, are not tackled. Interest rate plays a significant role in enhancing economic activities and high interest rate attracts domestic savings but at the same time it discourages local investors and as such:

- i. monetary authorities should ensure appropriate determination of interest rate level that will break the double-edge effect of interest rate on savers and investors;
- ii. government should improve macroeconomic indicators such as income level, level of investment, and so on;
- iii. government should lend to agriculture especially to small-scale farmers; and
- iv. government should use necessary incentives to attract more foreign direct investment to agricultural sector.

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Table 1: Augmented Dickey-Fuller Unit root test results

Variables	Level of Variable			First Difference		
	ADF	5%	10%	ADF	5%	10%
AVCAS <sub>t</sub>	-2.86	-1.49	-1.22	-4.47	-3.52	-2.92
AIL <sub>t</sub>	-2.91	-1.49	-1.22	-4.98	-3.52	-2.92
AIS <sub>t</sub>	-1.10	-1.49	-1.22	-4.87	-3.52	-2.92
SFI <sub>t</sub>	-1.74	-1.49	-1.22	-4.50	-3.52	-2.92
AIR <sub>t</sub>	-2.98	-1.49	-1.22	-7.12	-3.52	-2.92
RBB <sub>t</sub>	-1.73	-1.49	-1.22	-4.28	-3.52	-2.92
GBA <sub>t</sub>	-1.49	-1.49	-1.22	-4.55	-3.52	-2.92
CPS <sub>t</sub>	-2.18	-1.49	-1.22	-4.15	-3.52	-2.92
FDI <sub>t</sub>	-4.15	-1.49	-1.22	-6.13	-3.52	-2.92
AER <sub>t</sub>	-4.02	-1.49	-1.22	-7.17	-3.52	-2.92

*Source:* Computed from CBN statistical bulletin 2011, CBN annual report 2011, NBS annual report 2011 and Federal budget allocation report for various years (1970 – 2011)

Table 2: Determinants of aggregate credit volume to agricultural sector during regulation regime

Variables	Coefficients	Standard Error	t-values	Sig. level
Constant	2207.64	2185.56	1.01	0.00***
AIL	17.50	1381.13	0.01	0.73
AIS	1318.90	3412.84	0.38	0.08*
SFI	28.90	2124.22	0.01	0.97
AIR	-75.42	382.82	-0.19	0.00***
RBB	1283.92	2657.52	0.48	0.63
GBA	128.20	388.27	0.33	0.02**
CPS	2482.18	1693.95	1.46	0.88
FDI	402.77	698.28	0.57	0.74
AER	162.74	941.34	0.17	0.85

$R^2 = 0.61$

Adjusted  $R^2 = 0.43$

F-statistics = 18.51

*Note:* \* and \*\* represent significant at 5% and 10%

*Source:* Computed from CBN statistical bulletin 2011, CBN annual report 2011, NBS annual report 2011 and Federal budget allocation report for various years (1970 – 2011)

Table 3: Determinants of aggregate credit volume to agricultural sector during the deregulation period

Variables	Coefficients	Standard Error	t-values	Sig. level
Constant	6774.34	18208344	0.00	0.02
AIL	810.17	420.16	1.92	0.04**
AIS	435.54	359.81	1.21	0.05**
SFI	101.97	624.44	0.16	0.04**
AIR	-82.00	-154.38	0.53	0.08*
RBB	1868.67	6576.08	0.25	0.08*
GBA	101.51	96.40	1.08	0.53
CPS	234.96	650.40	0.36	0.04**
FDI	70.03	307.85	0.22	0.34
AER	810.17	420.16	1.92	0.72

$R^2 = 0.71$

Adjusted  $R^2 = 0.63$

F-statistics = 13.83

Note: \*\*\*, \*\* and \* represent significance at 1%, 5% and 10%

Source: Computed from CBN statistical bulletin 2011, CBN annual report 2011, NBS annual report 2011 and Federal budget allocation report for various years (1970 – 2011)

Table 4: Effects of government finance intervention on agricultural sector performance in Nigerian economy

Variables	Coefficients	Standard Errors	t-values	Sig. level
VAC	2.11	1.08	1.95	0.00***
VAS	0.05	0.09	0.5	0.02**
VSS	-0.07	0.13	-0.53	0.73
VLS	-0.15	0.14	-1.07	0.91

$R^2 = 0.51$

Adjusted  $R^2 = 0.44$

F-statistics = 7.58

Note: \*\*\*, \*\* and \* represent significance at 1%, 5% and 10%

Source: Computed from CBN statistical bulletin 2011, CBN annual report 2011, NBS annual report 2011 and Federal budget allocation report for various years (1970 – 2011)

Table 5: Periodic effects of macroeconomic financial indicators on agricultural contribution to Nigerian economy

<i>Variable</i>	<i>Coefficient</i>	<i>Std. Error</i>	<i>t-ratio</i>	<i>p-value</i>	
Constant	-226544	77961	-2.90	0.01	***
Annual_Average_Loan_Interest_1	-32891.8	7315.44	-4.49	0.00	***
Annual_Average_Loan_Interest_2	29802.9	6597.39	4.51	0.00	***
Annual_Average_Loan_Interest_3	37676.9	9377.59	4.01	0.00	***
Annual_Average_Savings_Interest_1	60004.8	14908.7	4.02	0.00	***
Annual_Average_Savings_Interest_2	-26928.3	15618.3	-1.72	0.10	
Annual_Average_Savings_Interest_3	-53763.7	20955.9	-2.56	0.01	**
Annual_Average_Exchange_Rate_1	6222.29	2829.53	2.19	0.03	**
Annual_Average_Exchange_Rate_2	-19396.8	2767.72	-7.00	0.00	***
Annual_Average_Exchange_Rate_3	27860.3	2075.6	13.42	0.00	***
Annual_Average_Inflation_Rate_1	-7.72654	2186.35	-0.00	0.99	
Annual_Average_Inflation_Rate_2	-816.349	1902.13	-0.42	0.67	
Annual_Average_Inflation_Rate_3	-3426.65	2550.48	-1.34	0.19	
Agricultural_s_GDP_contribution_1	1.02031	0.069	14.73	0.00	***
Agricultural_s_GDP_contribution_2	0.00326591	0.087	0.03	0.97	
Agricultural_s_GDP_contribution_3	0.0593839	0.086	0.68	0.49	
u(-3)	-3.60104	0.169	-21.21	0.00	***

**Statistics based on the rho-differenced data:**

Mean dependent variance	19453412	S.D. dependent var	<b>33113221</b>
Sum squared residual	2.89e+12	S.E. of regression	<b>380275.7</b>
R-squared	0.999207	Adjusted R-squared	<b>0.998612</b>
F(15, 20)	17690.90	P-value(F)	<b>7.45e-38</b>
Rho	-0.021780	Durbin-Watson	<b>2.002167</b>

Note: \*\*\* and \*\* represent significance at 1% and 5%

Source: Computed from CBN statistical bulletin 2011, CBN annual report 2011, NBS annual report 2011 and Federal budget allocation report for various years (1970 – 2011)