

ROLES OF GOVERNMENT IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Government plays an important role in agricultural production in Nigeria and this roles are:

1. Provides financial assistance: federal government sets up agencies that provides financial assistance to farmers in forms of loans, credit and subsidies. Such agencies includes
 - Nigeria Agricultural and Cooperative bank (NACB)
 - Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme (ACGS). These agencies where established to give loans to farmers.

AGRICULTURAL CREDITS: it is a refundable loan given to the farmer with the aim that the farmer repays the loan after a specific period of time.

AGRICULTURAL SUBSIDIES: It is a non refundable aid or help granted to the farmer e.g reduction in the price of inputs like fertilizer, improved seeds and chemicals.

2. Establishment of agricultural programmes are to boost greater production of crops and livestock such programmes are;
 - Operation feed the nation(OFN): It was set up by General olusegun obasanjo during the military regime between 1976 -1979. It was set up to increase food production, to provide food for all Nigerians and popularize agriculture.
 - Green revolution: it was set up in 1979 -1983 by the federal government to encourage large scale farming and abundant food for local consumption.
 - River Basin Development Authority was set up 1979 -1983 to provide water for irrigation purpose.
 - Directorate of food , road and rural infrastructure(DFRRI) was set up in 1986 to provide rural infrastructure, good roads electricity and facilitate food production.