

# **IMPACT OF FADAMA-II PROJECT ON POVERTY REDUCTION OF RURAL HOUSEHOLDS IN NIGERIA**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This study assessed the impact of *Fadama-II* project on poverty of rural households in Nigeria. The data for this study were obtained from secondary source through a survey conducted in twelve World Bank supported *Fadama* states by International Food Policy Research Institute in 2006/2007 farming year. Only 1738 matched observations from the 3750 respondents were used in this study. The data were analysed using descriptive statistics, propensity score matching, double difference estimator, and Foster-Greer-Thorbecke weighted poverty indices. The result shows that at a poverty line of ₦35,299.0 per annum, 52.2% of FB were poor before the project. Poverty incidence (PI) reduced by 34.0% for female *Fadama* beneficiaries compared with 7.8% for male. Also, PI of FB that engaged in up-stream farming activities reduced by 14.2% compared with 7.1% for those in non-farm activities. Across the agroecological zones, PI reduced by 31.8%, 7.9% and 5.6% for Humid Forest, Moist Savannah and Dry Savannah zones respectively. The study recommended that there is need to promote this type of Economic Community Driven Development project in the nation and priority should be given to down-stream farming activities in the subsequent project. Also need to encourage more female participation.

**KEYWORDS:** Fadama-II project, Poverty Reduction, Impact Assessment and Rural Nigeria