CHRISTIAN SERVICE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

PERCEPTION OF PRIMARY STAKEHOLDERS ON PRO-POOR AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMMES IN GHANA: A CASE STUDY OF THE ADANSI SOUTH DISTRICT OF ASHANTI REGION.

BY

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DECLARATION

Candidates' Declaration

I hereby declare that this dissertation is the direct result of my own original research and that no part of it has been presented for another degree in this University or elsewhere.

Candidate's Signature……………………………. Date………………………..

Name: Edward Kusi Asafo-Agyei

Supervisor's Declaration

I hereby declare that the preparation and presentation of the dissertation were supervised in accordance with the guidelines on supervision of dissertation laid down by the University of Cape Coast.

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ABSTRACT

Agriculture is an important tool for achieving the Sustainable Development Goal One by the year 2030, which is to help reduce extreme poverty and hunger. Ghana's developmental progress hangs on an improved and well developed agricultural sector. The Government of Ghana (GOG) has introduced variety of policies to improve agricultural productivity in Ghana and address the loopholes and inefficiencies in the agricultural sector.

Therefore, the purpose of the study was to examine the perception of primary stakeholders on pro-poor agricultural programmes in Ghana. This study sampled the views of 160 famer beneficiaries from the Adansi South District in the Ashanti Region of Ghana were randomly sampled and descriptive statistics used in analyzing them.

On awareness and utilisation of pro-poor agricultural programmes, the study showed that 88%, 78%, 100% of farmers were aware of the fertilizer subsidy programme, agricultural mechanization centers and the planting for food and jobs programme respectively. However, only 39%, 19% and 51% for fertilizer subsidy, agricultural mechanization centers and planting for food and jobs respectively utilized the policies.

Moreover, respondents interviewed in the district strongly agreed to the perception statements under agricultural mechanisation and fertiliser subsidy programme. However, respondents only agreed to the perception statements on planting for food and jobs programme. High cost of inputs, inadequate technical knowledge and inadequate extension staff were identified as the three main challenges facing the formulation and implementation of pro–poor agricultural programmes.

KEY WORDS

agricultural programmes

Awareness and utilization

Challenges

Perception

Primary stakeholders

Pro-poor

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

DEDICATION

To my wife and daughter: Sandra Obiri Asafo-Agyei and

Elisa Nana Adutwumwaa Akosua Asafo-Agyei.

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AAGDS	Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Development Strategy
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FASDEP	Food and Agriculture Sector Development Policy
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GOG	Government of Ghana
GPRS	Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy
GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
ISD	Information Service Department
METASIP	Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan
MMDAs	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies
MoFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
NDC	National Democratic Congress
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NLC	National Liberation Council
NRC	National Redemption Council
PMA	Plan for Modernization of Agriculture
PNDC	Provisional National Defense Council
PNP	People's National Party
PP	Progress Party
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal One

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Agriculture plays an important role in economic growth, enhancing food security, rural development and poverty reduction. It is the main source of income for around 2.5 billion people in the developing world (Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), 2003). According to the World Bank (2008) Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from the agriculture sector is at least twice as effective at reducing poverty as that from non-agricultural sectors. Agriculture is an important tool for achieving the Sustainable Development Goal One (SDG 1) by the year 2030, which is to help reduce extreme poverty and hunger. Ghana's developmental progress hangs on an improved and well developed agricultural sector. Over the past decade, the sector has seen a steady growth after witnessing a major slump in 2007 (Hussein, 2017). The Ghana Statistical Service, GSS (2016) estimated that the agriculture sector will grow at an average of 3.3% yearly until 2018 while contributing about 25% to the nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). This sector does not only contribute to Ghana's GDP, but also absorb 50% of the labour force. Furthermore, the agriculture sector provides raw materials for industrial growth and development. Coelli *et al.,* (2002) found that there is evidence that agriculture has both positive and negative effects on economic growth. With Ghana's population expected to reach 30.5 million by 2020, at an annual growth rate of 2.36%, the agriculture sector is expected to play a leading role in feeding the population, while at the same time providing income and employment along its value chains. Developmental evidences from green revolution in Asia suggest that increase in farm productivity could usher in food security and social transformation by creating opportunities in the economy (Ministry of Food and Agriculture, 2017). Despite the enormous benefits derived from

the agriculture sector in Ghana, majority of the farmers still rely on traditional methods of farming and this has lowered the level of productivity. For example, over 70% of the maize production in the majority of developing countries is from smallholders who use traditional methods of production (Muzari *et al.,* 2012). These farmers generally obtain very low crop yields because the local varieties used by the farmers have low potential yield. Also, most of the maize farms are grown under rain-fed conditions and irrigation is used only in limited areas whilst little or no fertilizers are used and pest control is not adequate (Muzari *et al.,* 2012). This has triggered academic and public discourse on the need to increase productivity and sustainability in agriculture globally. However, much less information is available on specific means to achieve this aim.

Due to the constrained growth in productivity levels, the increase in local production could not keep up with the pace of growth in consumption demand for crops such as rice, onion and tomatoes, prompting the local markets to import from other countries (Ministry of Food and Agriculture, 2017). Also, the increase in cumulative low production of other commodities such as maize, sorghum, and chilli pepper has increased the need for imports; the rapid growth in population and consumption of food crops (both as human food and as animal feed) in Ghana means that there is a gap between local supply and demand (Ministry of Food and Agriculture, 2017). More importantly, the low agricultural productivity levels have adversely affected the export potentials of Ghana. Experts in the field of agriculture hint that, the agriculture sector can contribute more to Ghana's GDP if innovative policies are put in place. This development requires the promotion of agricultural programmes that improve the incomes of the poor farmers and the sources from which they draw their sustenance, namely the agricultural sector and employment in non-agricultural rural activities.

The Government of Ghana (GOG) has introduced variety of measures to improve agricultural productivity in Ghana and address the loopholes and inefficiencies in the agricultural sector. Various policies and programs have been suggested and implemented to drive this growth process since Ghana's independence. The situation has made governments to consider the fight against poverty and the development of agriculture in its programs and policies. Supporting food production with programmes implemented by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) at national level include the Fertilizer Subsidy Programme, the Block Farming Programme, Agricultural Mechanization Centres Programme, the Irrigation Development Programme and currently the Planting for Food and Jobs Programme. Historically, the objectives of these agricultural programmes have evolved with society's attitude towards agriculture(van Tongeren, 2008), which shows the importance of awareness and perception of agricultural programmes. These policies in the agricultural sector stress on agricultural modernization and ensuring minimum prices for rural farmers. This study will therefore assess the awareness and perception of primary stakeholders such as farmers on these pro-poor agricultural programmes in Ghana.

1.2 Problem Statement

Ghana has experienced steady economic growth since the late 1980s, and the growth is accompanied by rapid urbanization and rising nonfarm opportunities in the rural areas (Diao *et al.,* 2014). The contribution of agriculture to the country's (GDP) dropped by 11.5% in the past seven years (GSS, 2016) from 31.8% in 2009 to 20.30% as of the end of the fiscal year 2015. The sector experienced further drop in the its contribution in 2016 and this could be as a result of government's expenditure cut on the sector in 2016 by GHC40 million (GSS, 2017). During this period (2009–2015), the Government of

Ghana (GoG) adopted a market-driven agenda in which policies and investments in the agricultural sector were remarkably neutral with respect to the production sectors (Diao *et al.,* 2014). Consequently, there is a huge outcry for policies to save the agricultural sector. In response to this, various pro poor agricultural programmes have been formulated to help improve upon the productivity of the agricultural sector in order to enhance economic growth and development in Ghana. The Government of Ghana through the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) and its supporting donor agencies have implemented several pro poor agricultural developmental policies such as the fertiliser subsidy programme, mechanisation centres and the Planting for Food and Jobs Programme to address the declining trend and reverse this anomaly in the agricultural sector. However, for the implementation of these policies to be efficient, there is need to determine key primary stakeholders' awareness, utilisation in farm operations, perception and challenges facing implementation of these pro – poor policies.

According to Anand (2016), the first step for success of any policy, programme or technology implementation depends on the level of awareness and perception about the policy. Critics of agricultural programmes focus on potential distortions, such as the overuse of inputs (Böber *et al.,* 2009; Dorward, 2009) and the undermining of such policies by the private sector (Claassen *et al.,* 2014; Namangan 2005, and Hall *et al.,* 2001) when governments supply free fertiliser or give cheap loans and grants to the farmers.

Also, without awareness and perception, implemented policy fails to dominate among the key primary stakeholders who are the main target for policy. (Tongeren, 2008). For this instance, it is imperative to know the awareness and perception of different primary stakeholders who are the ultimate beneficiaries regarding different aspects of

implemented pro-poor agricultural programmes that are implemented by the Government of Ghana through the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. Again there is limited literature on the level of awareness and perception of primary key stakeholders such as farmers with regards to the various aspects of pro-poor agricultural programmes. This study will therefore examine the awareness, perception of primary stakeholders and challenges facing the implementation these pro-poor policies from the perspective of key primary stakeholders in the agricultural sector.

1.3 Research Questions

This study will be guided by the following research questions:

1. What is the level of the primary stakeholders' awareness of pro-poor agricultural programmes?

2. What is the perception of the stakeholders about these programmes?

3. What are the challenges facing the implementation these programmes from the perspective of the primary stakeholders?

1.4 Objective of the study

The main objective of the study is to examine the perception of primary stakeholders on pro-poor agricultural programmes in Ghana. The following specific objectives will help in achieving the overall goal of the study.

1. To examine the level of the primary stakeholders' awareness of pro-poor agricultural programmes.

2. To assess the perception of the stakeholders about these programmes.

3. To assess the challenges facing the implementation these programmes from the perspective of the primary stakeholders.

1.5 Justification of the study

Agriculture dominates Ghana's economy as the single largest contributor to Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The sector also serves as a major source of livelihood for most Ghanaians. It is a source of employment for more than half the population and accounting for almost half of GDP and export earnings; thus, making the sector a major foreign exchange earner for the country (Osabutey, 2009).

Ghana's agricultural potential has not been actualized fully due to the over reliance on traditional methods of farming. This has led to the formulation of various policies and programmes that will help modernize the sector to help maximize agricultural output in the country. agricultural programmes such as the agricultural subsidy programme play a vital role in the development of the agriculture sector. Most countries implement some of these policies to protect their agriculture sector, domestic markets and small farmers.

However, with time, the issue of polices in the agricultural sector has become quite problematic. Many industry players such as researchers, economists, farmers, extension officers and agribusiness owners have argued that policies formulated in the agricultural sector over the years are centralised without involvement of key stakeholders and not well thought through. Also, these policies are not continued when there is a change in government. Hence, there is the need to examine primary stakeholders such as farmers, extension officers and agribusiness owners' awareness and perception on these poor agricultural programmes. The result of this research will be of interest to stakeholders such as policy makers, researchers, extension officers, farmer based organisation and other NGOs in agriculture. This will serve as the basis for sustainable policy formulation and knowledge sharing.

1.6 Scope of the Study

The geographic scope defines the physical boundaries within which the study was conducted. Geographically, the study was limited to the Adansi South District of the Ashanti Region of Ghana. The Adansi South District is one of the 254 Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) in Ghana, and forms part of the 43 of MMDAs in the Asanti Region, New Edubiase is the Administrative capital of the District. The Adansi South District was selected because it is an important farming district in the Ashanti region of Ghana. Contextually, this study assessed the perception of primary stakeholders (farmers) on Government implemented pro-poor agricultural programmes such as the mechanisation centres, fertilizer subsidy programme, planting for food and jobs in the Adansi South District of the Ashanti Region of Ghana.

1.7 Organisation of the study

The dissertation is classified into five chapters. Chapter one covers the background of the study, problem statement, research questions, research objectives, scope and justification of the study as well as the organisation of the study. Chapter two presents a review of the literature relevant to this study. Chapter three highlights the research methodology which describes the sampling technique, the type of data collected and a brief description of the study area as well as data analysis techniques employed in the study. Chapter four focuses on the results and discussion of the study while chapter five looks at summary of findings, conclusions and recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter discusses the review of literature that is relevant to this study. The section consists of literature review on overview of the Government of Ghana's pro-poor agricultural programmes, the role of primary stakeholders in agriculture policy formulation and implementation process, stakeholders perception of agricultural programmes and conceptual framework of the study.

2.1 Overview of the Government of Ghana's pro-poor agricultural programmes

The agricultural sector is an important tool for sustainable development and poverty reduction (Kibaara, Ariga, Olwande and Jayne, 2008; World Bank, 2007). Many economies in Africa depend on agriculture. More importantly, the majority of the world's poor live in rural areas and depend upon agriculture for their livelihood (Cervantes-Godoy and Dewbre, 2010).

The agricultural sector employs about 70% of the workforce in Africa and contributes an average of 30% to the continent's Gross Domestic Product (FAO, 2013 and Kariuki, 2011). Agriculture has the most direct impact on development because of its effect on, rural development, poverty reduction, food security and nutrition security. Historically, agriculture was the dominant sector of the real economy accounting for more than 30% of GDP during the post-independence era. Currently, the sector has declined sharply and is the smallest sector of the economy as at 2016 (Ministry of Finance, 2017).

Agriculture is therefore critical both for economic development and poverty reduction. Policy makers in developing countries therefore use investment in agriculture as an instrument for promoting economic growth and alleviating poverty in rural areas (Fan and Saurkar, 2006). Studies on the relationship between government expenditure and economic growth show positive growth and poverty reduction effects from public spending in the agricultural sector (Fan, Zhang & Zhang 2000). Recently, investments in the agricultural sector in most developing countries continue to decline.

The formulation and implementation of agricultural programmes in Ghana have been an on-going process since Ghana's independence days. Ghana's first president Dr Kwame Nkrumah's agriculture policy started with the establishment of Co-operative and State Farms that were supposed to be run on commercial basis. By 1962, twenty-six (26) state farms were established. Officers were assigned the responsibility of establishing state farms in every constituency in the country. Crops targeted for these farms included rubber, oil palm, cotton, coconuts and fibre plant. Special attention was given to cocoa by improving its production methods. For instance, a number of fermenters designed to improve quality of cocoa were to be established and run by the farmers on co-operative lines.

Also, attention was equally given to livestock, especially the control of diseases and the provision of feeds to increase local meat supply to reduce imports. District and regional tractor stations were set up to enable farmers rent tractors to plough their farms; thus, helping to reduce farmers' overreliance on cutlasses and hoes. To help and facilitate the marketing of food produce, government established a Food Marketing Board that provided markets and guaranteed prices for products from the farms (Jotie, 2017). Plans

were also put in place to establish central seed processing centres for major food crops such as maize, rice, and groundnuts.

After the overthrow of the Convention Peoples Party government of Dr. Nkrumah, subsequent governments also pursued agricultural programmes that were aimed at alleviating the plight of the rural farmer and Ghanaians at large. For example, the National Liberation Council (NLC) that overthrew the Nkrumah regime in 1966 came out with agricultural programmes such as support for farmers by way of marketing, construction of feeder roads, provision of water conservation and irrigation services, extension advice and agricultural credit (Jotie, 2017). These policies were described as necessary for the rapid increase in the production of food and other crops. The National Redemption Council (NRC) also reactivated the state farms and the Workers' Brigade concept to increase food production and dairy products when it took power from the Progress Party government in 1972 (Jotie, 2017). The government established a special agricultural committee to prepare the country's agricultural development plan, which the government launched as "Big Agriculture Plan" known as 'Operation Feed Yourself' (Jotie, 2017). The policy which was formulated in 1972 was expected to increase food production in selected areas of the country.

In year 1982, the last Military Government (Provisional National Defense Council (PNDC) formulated and implemented the "It is time to go to the farm" agricultural policy to whip up support and encourage citizens into farming. The government in the policy implementation asked all Ghanaians to farm and stop wanting for imported commodities. The PNDC government's policies were to achieve a green revolution in the country; emphases were placed on the production of maize, rice and fish farming (Jotie, 2017). The policies implemented encouraged mobilization of members in the

communities to establish community farms and government gave technical and inputs support such as extension services fertilizer, farm tools and maize seeds to boost food production in the country. However, the policies implemented by the government failed due to the fact that policies relied on rain fed agriculture and did take into account the possibility of no-rain. This affected the intended benefit of the programme as within that implemented period Ghana witnessed the harshest draught in her history and the need for food was more urgent than any other need.

Two civilian governments which lasted for 2years, 3 months respectively also formulated pro poor agricultural programmes that were expected to increase food and cash crop production in the country. For instance, the Progress Party (PP) Government increased staff and financial resources for agencies set up to promote the production of raw materials for local industries, improve the quality and quantity of extension services to cocoa farms and research into problems facing the production and marketing of cocoa (Information Service Department (ISD), 2017). The People's National Party (PNP) on the other hand, focused on providing incentives to individual farmers, organizations and business enterprises who would join the government to produce food and raw materials to feed raw industries and for export (ISD, 2017).

agricultural programmes in Ghana was given a further boost by the New Patriotic Party (NPP) Government in 2002 with the introduction and implementation of FASDEP I and FASDEP II. The Government of Ghana through the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) developed the Food and Agriculture Sector Development Policy (FASDEP) as a policy of Government of Ghana to guide the development and interventions in the agriculture sector (Adzah, 2014). Food and Agricultural Sector Development Policy (FASDEP I) was formulated in 2002 as a holistic policy, building on the key elements of

Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Development Strategy (AAGDS) of Government, and with a focus on strengthening the private sector as the engine of growth in the agricultural sector (Adzah, 2014). This policy provided a framework for modernising the agricultural sector and making it a catalyst for rural transformation, in line with the goal set for the sector in the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy (GPRS I) (MoFA, 2007). The Government through MoFA in sustaining the gains made in the agricultural sector with the implementation of FASDEP I and ensuring policy continuity after almost four years of implementation. A policy review was done and then came the introduction of FASDEP II. FASDEP II was formulated and implemented to enhance the environment for all categories of farmers, while targeting poor and risk prone and risk-averse producers.

According to MoFA (2011), FASDEP I and FASDEP II introduced programmes such as the fertilizer subsidy programme to ensure that farmers were able to buy fertilizers in the open market for their farms. It also implemented the free cocoa spraying exercise in cocoa growing areas in Ghana. Other programmes included the Agricultural Mechanization Centres, Block Farming Initiatives, Youth in Agriculture etc. (MoFA, 2011).

The National Democratic Congress (NDC) government which took over in the year 2009 focused on the construction of roads in cocoa growing areas to help transport cocoa to the ports. Tractors were also sold to farmers on subsidized basis to help increase agricultural mechanisation which was very low in Ghana (Jotie, 2017). Despite the implementation of these policies, the agricultural sector in Ghana continued to decline and this can be attributed to weaknesses in the implementation process

In the year 2017, the newly elected New Patriotic Party (NPP) which took over the mantle of government from the National Democratic Congress (NDC) introduced the planting for Food and Jobs Programme aiming to boost and promote growth in food production and create jobs across the country. This programme seeks to modernize agriculture, improve output efficiency, food security and profitability for our farmers, with the aim significantly increasing agriculture productivity (New Patriotic Party Manifesto, 2016). The programme is based on five (5) key pillars namely provision of improved seeds; supply of fertilisers; provision of dedicated extension services; marketing and e-agriculture and monitoring (Ministry of Finance, 2017).

Under the programme, Government of Ghana (GOG) intends to construct a 1, 000 metric tonne capacity warehouse in each district to provide handling and storage space for the surpluses agricultural produce. In order for the surpluses not to stay in the warehouses for long and to encourage the consumption of local food, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture will enter into agreements with the Ministries of Gender, Education and Health to purchase foodstuffs for the School Feeding Programme, for colleges, hospitals and other state institutions.

Despite the formulation and implementation of agricultural programmes by various governments in Ghana since colonial independence, the agricultural sector continues to be underdeveloped. The sector is confronted with enormous challenges. Overall, the national policies have not been able to address the problems confronting the agricultural sector because of the over centralisation of these policies. Pro-poor policies implemented by various governments over the years have failed to evaluate some of the factors that have contributed to the failure of the previous policies and fail to ensure continuity.

2.2 The role of primary stakeholders in agriculture policy formulation and implementation

Swanepoel and De Beer (2006) defined a stakeholder as an individual or organisation that has an interest in an activity or a project. According to Olander (2007), stakeholders have a vested interest in a policy, project or program that is being promoted and are considered to be stakeholders in the process. A report by Department for International Development, (2003), suggested that primary stakeholders are individuals and groups who are ultimately affected by an activity, either as beneficiaries (positively impacted) or dis beneficiaries (adversely impacted). Grimble and Wellard (1997) also defined primary stakeholders as the intended beneficiaries of a project. Brugha and Varvasovszky (2000) stated that primary stakeholders are such individuals or groups with conferred interest that can likely influence the policies of an organization.

For this reason, Singh (2006) pointed out that primary stakeholders in agriculture are those groups or individuals who are affected by a plan of action with the aim of development in the sector. Stakeholders can be at any level or position in the society, from international to the national, regional, household or intra-household level. They can be farmers, workers, agri-business firms, traders, input suppliers and consumers of agricultural commodities.

In this study however, primary stakeholders are the immediate and forefront participants of a project whom the project impacts benefits directly or adversely affected directly. These include the farmers of the projects, the implementing body (i.e. the department of agriculture), agro-input dealers (such as fertilizer, agrochemicals and farm implements and machinery dealers).

The policy making process refers to the series of stages through which the formulation of a policy goes from its conception to the point at which its impact can be evaluated (Singh, 2006). The process of policy formulation comprises a set of processes, activities and actions initiated by different actors and stakeholders with a view to collectively arrive at some consented decisions for achieving the pre-determined goals (Singh, 2006). The initiative for policy making may come from politicians (to accomplish their election promises), or from bureaucrats in response to the redundancy of present policies in the new economic order (Singh, 2006). Primary stakeholders in policy formulation and implementation are those with a direct interest in the outcome of the process, either because they depend on it for their livelihoods or they are directly involved in its exploitation in some way (Brugha and Varvasovszky, 2000). Stakeholders' participation in policy formulation is associated with benefits for the substantive quality of the policy, its legitimacy, implementation, and for the development of social capital for involved parties (Beierle and Cayford, 2002).

The implementation of policies includes all the techniques and efforts of realizing the policies decided upon by the government and other key stakeholders in order to accomplish the desired outcome as stipulated in the policy guidelines, that government collaboration with primary stakeholders has been promoted as way to improve agricultural production (Hutahaean, 2017). For this reason, Geurtz and van (2010) indicated that most governments in different parts of the world are in constant engagement with key stakeholders in the formulation and implementation of government policies as their role contribute, coordinate, facilitate and improve the workings of government in policy making.

In the educational sector for example, studies such as Ayeni (2014), Kufi (2013), Takyi, *et al.,* (2013), established that the education provision is a collective task which required contribution from relevant key primary stakeholders in the field. Furthermore, studies such as Clase and Van (2007), Mualuko *et al.,* (2009), James *et al.,* (2010), Lin (2010), Charles and Sunday (2014) and Yaro *et al.,* (2015) indicated that primary stakeholders' participation in the policy formulation and implementation process has great impact its sustainability. This is because, they help promote accountability. Mandina and Chiheve (2013), further argued that the effective involvement of primary stakeholders helps in identifying efficient alternatives for agricultural financing. Oseni (2012) reported that they play significant roles in ensuring agricultural extension education services. Additionally, Singh (2006) indicated that primary stakeholders play an important role in the policy formulation and implementation process in agricultural programmes. Primary stakeholders also participate in the policy making process and provide sources of information for influencing policy formulation process. Overall, the involvement of primary stakeholders helps enrich the decision making process by providing inputs at the various stages of data collection; analysis and interpretation.

Singh (2006) notes that, the exclusion of primary stakeholders from the policy formulation process leads to implementation failure. A study by Brussels (2011) on the role of primary stakeholders in the policy formulation and implementation process showed that primary stakeholders contributed in the form of data provision that advanced the quality of decision making in the policy formulation process. Mualuko *et al.,* (2009), also pointed out in his study that primary stakeholders gave accurate information in the policy formulation process that improved the quality of participation in the agricultural sector policy development plan. Kamba, (2010) argues that primary stakeholders

facilitated in the design, policy feedback and execution of strategies in the formulation and implementation of government agricultural programmes.

For this reason, the sustainability of agriculture policy formulation and implementation by the Government of Ghana depends on primary stakeholders' participation in the form of contribution, coordination and facilitation with policy makers (government) in the policy formulation process. The extent of involvement of the primary stakeholders also helps in shaping their perception and level of awareness about the project. This study will therefore examine the level of awareness, perception and challenges facing the formulation and implementation of agricultural programmes in Ghana.

2.3 Stakeholders perception of agricultural programmes

According to Steward *et al.,* (2010) perception is an active process as one selectively perceives, organizes and interprets what one experiences. Interpretations are based on the perceivers past experiences, assumptions about human behaviour, knowledge of the others circumstances, present moods and expectations. Mukadasi and Lusiba (2006) explained by stating that every perception involves a person who interprets through the senses something, event, or relation which may be designated as the percept. Perception occurs when sensory receptors receive stimuli via the brain, code and categorise them and assign certain meanings to them, depending on the person's frame of reference (Steward *et al.,* 2010). A person's frame of reference consists of his previous held experiences, beliefs, likes, dislikes, prejudices, feelings and other psychological reactions of unknown origin (Mukadasi and Lusiba, 2006). Perception is the first impression which may be true or not but if allowed to settle it becomes a conviction or belief leading to formation of opinion.

Researchers in various studies have used different variables in measuring perception. For instance, Boateng and Nyaaba, (2014) assessed perceptions relating to the impact of Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan (METASIP) on food security in Ghana. Seven perception indicators were identified. They were improved productivity, agriculture mechanization, irrigation and water management, food storage and distribution, improved nutrition, off-farm activities and early warning systems. Jayakumar and Sulthan, (2014) used status, effectiveness and value to measure perception of employee on training and development that is given in the industry. Also, policy management, policy review, policy consultation, and policy performance were assessed Kalashe (2016) assessed employee perception on the implementation of the performance management system in the Amatola water board – Eastern Cape.

For the purpose of this study, perception is stakeholders' recognition and interpretation of policy information in the development process of agriculture in Ghana. This includes how stakeholders respond to the information from the environment and uses that information in order to interact and produce something meaningful in as a form of contribution to the sector. The behaviour of stakeholders towards an intervention or policy largely depends upon their perception. In general, primary stakeholders' perceptions of the characteristics or importance of new agricultural technologies or policies are divided into three main categories: yield performance, cost requirements and risks with adoption of implemented policies.

Consequentially, their perception about the formulation and implementation of a policy further influence their participation in the process and final implementation. For this study, the importance or reasons for the formulation of pro-poor policies in the agricultural sector were used as perception variables to assess perception of stakeholders

on pro-poor agricultural programmes (agricultural mechanisation centre, fertiliser subsidy programme and the planting for food and jobs programme).

Some studies have been conducted on perception of primary stakeholders on agricultural programmes both in Ghana and other countries. Mukadasi and Lusiba, (2006) investigated farmers' awareness and perception of the relevance of agricultural technologies under the Plan for Modernization of Agriculture (PMA) in Uganda. The study covered farmers' perception on the relevance of agroforestry technologies, soil and water conservation, improved crop varieties and livestock technologies. Mukadasi and Lusiba, (2006) established that agricultural programmes should enhance existing agricultural technologies since farmers' awareness of the technology significant affect their perception to the relevance of the agricultural technology.

A study by Amadi and Ekezie, (2016) examined rural farmers' perception on the use of agricultural mechanization in agricultural production in Rivers State in Nigeria. The study considered ensuring high level of productivity, reduced cost of farm labour and planting time, ensuring steady supply of farm produce, ensuring food security, ensuring economic growth, improving farmers' livelihood, eliminating drudgery, reducing spoilage and wastage of farm produce, increasing income generation opportunities and increasing stable development of food system as variables which were used by the researchers in this study for the measurement of rural farmers' perception on agricultural mechanisation.

The study employed a descriptive survey design to seek the perceptions of the respondents. The study revealed that scarcity of machinery, shortage of spare parts, illiteracy of the farmers, lack of capital are some challenges perceived to limit the use of agricultural mechanization in the rural areas. However, the study recommended that

government should make Agricultural Mechanization available and accessible to farmers as to boost and motivate farmers in using them to maximize production; large area of land should be made available to willing farmers who want to go into large scale production.

Also, Bautista *et al.,* (2017) assessed farmers' perception on farm mechanization in the Philippines. In this study variables such as working faster than manual, less cost of production, less manpower in the field, favourable to farmers, less harvest loss and no constraint to weather were used to measure the perception of famers on government implemented agricultural mechanisation program in the Philippines. 65% of Farmers in the study considered machines as working faster than manual whiles 45% and 29% of farmers said provision of alternative sources of income and government subsidy respectively could ease local farm mechanization.

Otitoju and Ochimana (2016) determined farmers' perception on access to fertilizer under the fertilizer task force distribution system in Kogi State, Nigeria. This study found that the distribution of fertilizer, promotion of subsidies and subsidies for the poor farmers, development of private agro-dealers network, government supported voucher scheme to help resource-poor farmers, and joint procurement and distribution by the state government and Federal Ministry of Agriculture are strategies perceived as being more effective in accessing fertilizers.

Idku *et al.,* (2015) further researched on extension agents' perception on constraints to fertilizer use by rural farmers in Cross River state Nigeria. The study was conducted to determine extension agent's perception on constraint to fertilizer use by farmers in Cross River State. A total of 31 respondents participated in the study. Simple random sampling technique was used to select the sample size while a structured questionnaire was used to

elicit information from respondents for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics such as simple frequency and percentages. Also a 4-Points Likert scale was used in the data collection and analyse of respondents' perception with regards to factors affecting fertilizer use among farmers and their perception on constraints to fertilizer use among the farmers in the study area.

In addition, Kiratu *et al.,* (2006) studied determinants of smallholder farmers' perception towards smart subsidies in Nakuru North district of Kenya. The study used data collected from four hundred (400) smallholder farmers using a structured questionnaire to examine their perception and the determinants of perception towards a smart subsidy program. A five point Likert-type scale (poor, fair, average, good and excellent) and other statistical analysis tools such frequency and percentages were used to measure the perception of farmers on the Kilimo Plus program. The five point likert scale comprised of thirteen questions that related to how smallholder farmers perceived the Kilimo Plus subsidy program.

Wasihun *et al.,* (2014) examined farmers' perception of their level of participation in Public Agricultural Extension Service (PAES) in Soddo-zuria Woreda in Southern Ethiopia. Farmers' characteristics namely, sex, age, educational status, wealth status, farming experience, experience with extension and frequency of contact with extension agents were selected for this study. 225 farmers were randomly selected and interviewed with a semi-structured questionnaire. The semi-structured questionnaire was in two parts. The first part was on farmers' characteristics listed above and the second part was on farmers' level of participation in the different stages of the Public Agricultural Extension Service (PAES). The second part of the questionnaire, on farmers' level of participation, was measured on a four point Likert scale.

Isife and Okorie (2014) examined extension agents' and farmers' perception of government's commercial agricultural programme and identified challenges limiting effective implementation of the programme in Rivers State using Obio/Akpor Local Government Area as case study. Two communities were purposively selected from each of the four districts, and ten farmers from each community were randomly selected, making a sample size of eighty (80) farmers. Fifteen (15) extension agents purposively participated in the study. In all, ninety-five (95) respondents were engaged in the study. Primary data were collected by the use of questionnaire and interview schedule from the extension agents and farmers, respectively. The data were analysed using percentage and mean scores derived from likert type scales. A 3-point likert type scale of highly aware (3), aware (2) and less aware (1) was developed to analyse farmers' levels of awareness of commercial agricultural activities in the study area. Also, a 4-point likert type scale of highly satisfied (4), satisfied (3), less satisfied (2) and not satisfied (1) was developed to analyse the respondents' levels of satisfaction with the various commercial agricultural projects. In addition, a 3-point likert type scale of very great extent (3), great extent (2) and less extent (1) was developed to analyse constraints affecting the implementation of commercial agricultural programme in the study area.

Moreover, Chikaire *et al.,* (2016) carried out a study to analyse rural farmers' perception, awareness and use of agricultural insurance as a hedge against climate change. The multi-stage sampling technique was used in selecting respondents for the study. The first stage involved the selection of 4 local government areas from owerri Agricultural zone. The second was the purposive selection of 3 agricultural communities from each local government, making a total of 12 communities. The third stage involved the random selection of 25 respondents from each community to give a total of 300 respondents. The primary data were collected with the aid of questionnaire and analysed using descriptive

statistics such as mean, frequency, percentages and the mean/perception index for determining the rural farmers' perception on the use of agricultural insurance.

Moabo, (2016) conducted a study on farmers' perception of extension service delivery in Germiston Region, Gauteng Province, South Africa. Both purposive and simple random sampling methods were used to interview only smallholder farmers who participate in agricultural extension activities. A questionnaire was designed to elicit information on farmers' perception of extension service delivery. This questionnaire was administered to 78 smallholder farmers (respondents) during focus group sessions to obtain primary data for the study. A 4 and 3 point Likert-type scale method and mean score were used to determine farmers' perception of effectiveness of extension methods and impact of extension activities on their livelihood, respectively. For a given extension method, the mean was computed by taking the sum of the products between the number of responses and grade point and then divided by the total number of responses. Extension methods with mean value less than 2.5 were regarded to be either slightly or not effective while those with mean value equal to or more than 2.5 were considered to be effective or very effective. In order to determine the impact of extension activities the mean value less than 2 were regarded to be having no impact while those with mean value equal or more than 2 were considered to be having an impact. Data were sorted, coded then analysed using descriptive statistics such as of means, frequency counts, percentages and standard deviation.

Nevertheless, Agbarevo, (2013) investigated farmers' perception on effectiveness of Agricultural extension delivery in Cross-River State, Nigeria. The population of the study consisted of all the resource-poor farmers who participated in the agricultural extension programme in Cross-River State. 180 resource-poor men and women farmers

were selected from the three agricultural extension programme zones in the cross-River state. 60 farmers were selected from each zone, giving a total of 180 farmers with 10 farmers from each of the cells in the blocks selected.

Cross river state was divided into three ADP zones or strata. The ADP zones were further stratified into extension blocks and finally cells. Three extension blocks were randomly selected from each of the three ADP zones using the balloting with replacement method. Hence, a total of 9 extension blocks were selected. The extension blocks were further stratified into cells, and two cells were randomly selected from each of the nine blocks giving a total of eighteen cells. Ten farmers were selected from each cell. This gave a sample size of 180 farmers. The instrument used for data collection was a structured interview schedule/questionnaire for farmers. The interview/schedule/ questionnaire was designed to elicit information on farmers' perception of extension effectiveness. The method of validating the instrument used to ensure its reliability was the test-retest technique. The questionnaire was a Likert-type rating scale designed to measure extension effectiveness with regard to each of the effectiveness indicators to which numerical scores were assigned thus: not effective = 1, effective = 2, and very effective = 3. The data obtained were analysed using descriptive and inferential statistics, that is, the mean and the t-test respectively. The use of mean as a descriptive statistic was obtained using a 3-point Likert-type rating scale, which was modified thus: >2.50 = high (very effective), 2.0 – 2.5 = average (effective), <2.00 = low (ineffective). A mean of 2.00 was used as cut-off point to determine effectiveness or ineffectiveness of extension personnel with respect to each of the effectiveness indicators. Thus, a 3-point Likert-type rating scale of 1, 2 and 3 add up to 6, which gives 2 as mean, when divided by 3.

Despite extensive literature review on the perception of primary stakeholders on pro-poor agriculture policies by researchers. There is limited literature on primary stakeholders (farmers) perception and level of awareness on pro-poor agricultural programmes in the Ghanaian context. Also, there is limited literature on the perception of primary stakeholders (farmers) on agricultural mechanisation, fertiliser subsidy programme and the planting for food and jobs programme implemented by the Government in Ghana. This study will therefore help add to the body of knowledge on the perception and level of awareness of pro-poor agricultural programmes.

2.4 Conceptual Framework of the Study

A conceptual framework is used in research to outline possible courses of action or to present a preferred approach to the study (Mugenda and Mugenda, 2003).

Agricultural productivity has been hampered by declining soil fertility, the incidence of pest and diseases, use of obsolete equipment in farming, inadequate technical knowledge and land tenure issues. This has led to food insecurity, rising poverty levels among and declining living standards among the rural populace who are mostly farmers. Government has introduced a number of interventions including the fertilizer subsidy program, agricultural mechanization centers program and the planting for food and jobs program; all aimed at addressing the challenges militating against agricultural growth and development.

The farmer who is the direct object of these programs and policies are not broadly consulted in the strategic design but are supposed to be the beneficiaries these programs. Agro-input dealers who are the conduit of the programs and the agricultural extension officer who oversees the implementation and not broadly engaged and their views

collated and included in the formulation process. The concept of this study is to establish the perception of these primary stakeholders on the pro-poor policy interventions introduced by the government.

A general conceptualization diagram for this study is shown in figure 2.1 below
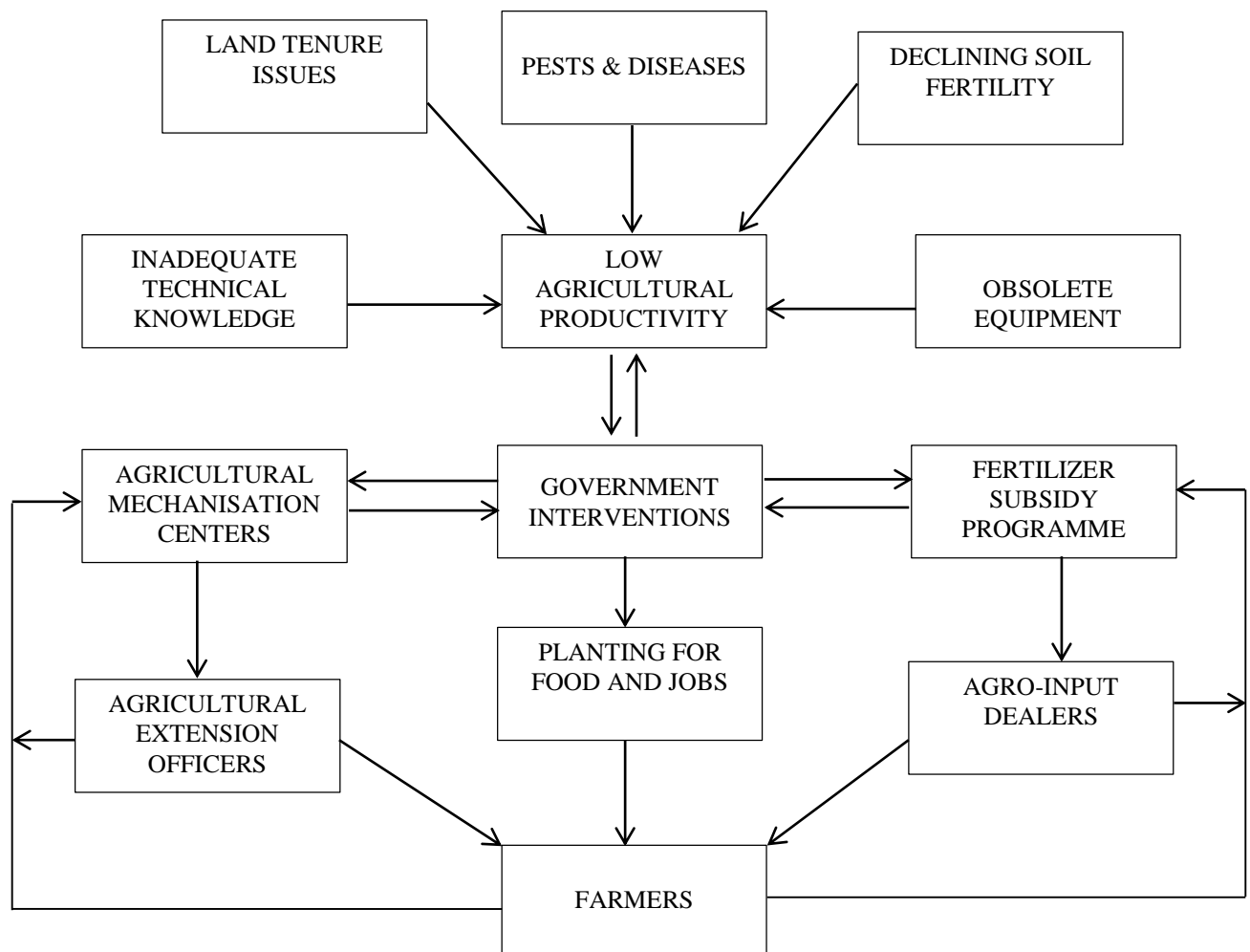
Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework

Source: Author's Construct, 2019

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter describes the study area, target population, sampling technique and sample size in line with the objectives of this study. This chapter also presents data collection instruments and techniques, empirical model used for measuring perception and constraints.

3.2 Description of the Study Area

Adansi South District with its capital as New Edubiase was carved out of the erstwhile Adansi West and Adansi East with Legislative Instrument, LI (1752) in 2004 (MoFA, 2010). It is situated at the South western part of the Ashanti Region. The District shares borders with Central and Eastern Regions; to the south and west respectively, and with Adansi North, Obuasi Municipal, Bosome Freho in the Ashanti Region to the north-east, North-West, and South-west respectively.

The total agricultural land area covers an area of 899 square kilometers with a farmer population estimated at 78.5% of the total population of 115,378 (Ghana Statistical Service, 2010). The main occupation of the people in the District is agriculture involving the production of crops, rearing of animals, trading in agricultural produce and products and carpentry (Ghana Statistical Service, 2010). The major food crops produced in the district are rice, cassava, plantain, maize and vegetables. The major tree crops include cocoa, oil palm and citrus. Sheep, goat, cattle, poultry and grass cutter constitute the livestock produced in the District.

The district falls within the semi-deciduous forest belt with thick forest cover. The district has a mean annual rainfall value of between 1800mm and 2100mm. The district has a mean temperature of 25.39℃. The district experiences double maximum rainfall regime and the soil type is forest ochrosols which are suitable for the crops which are grown in this district. Figure 3.1 shows a map of the Adansi South District showing the major communities.
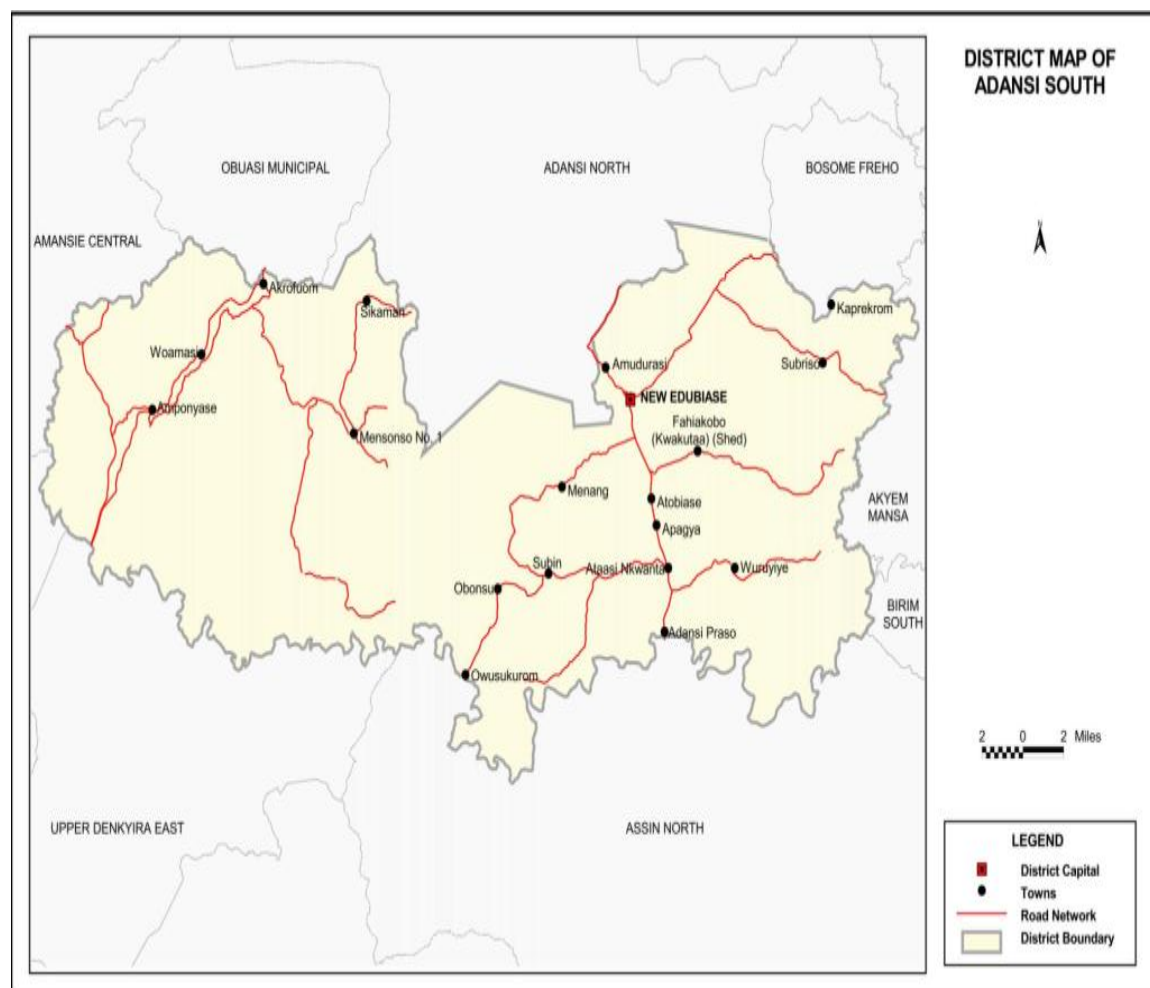
Figure 3.1: Map of Adansi South District

3.3 Target Population

Population in research refers to the aggregate or totality of objects or individuals regarding which inferences are to be made in a sampling study (Creswell, 2003). The

main population is the total group a researcher is interested in; the group about which the researcher wishes to draw conclusions. Population as used in this study refers to all the farmers in Adansi South District which is estimated to be 90,572.

3.4 Sampling technique and determination of sample size

Sampling for a research study is the process of selecting units (e.g., people, organizations) from a population of interest so that by studying the sample we may fairly generalize our results back to the population from which they were chosen (Trochim, 2006). The sampling frame for this study was obtained from the Department of Agriculture as well as the Cocobod District offices of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture in the study area. Sample size determination was done by considering the population of farmers in the study area. The desired sample size was determined by using Kothari (2004) formula below;

$$n = \frac{Z^2 . p.q.N}{(e)^2 (N-1) + (Z)^2 . p.q} \tag{1}$$

Where n = sample size, z = confidence level, p = proportion of the population, q= 1-p, e is the allowable error and N is the population size

The proportion of population that participate in pro-poor agricultural programmes was not known. In that case, Kothari (2004) recommends 'p' to take the value of 0.5 in which case 'n' will be the maximum and the sample will yield at least the desired precision. Therefore, p = 0.5, q =1− 0.5 = 0.5, N =950 and N −1= 949, z =1.96 at 95% confidence level e = 5%.

Therefore,

$$n = \frac{(1.96)^2 (0.5)(0.5)(949)}{\left(\dfrac{5}{100}\right)^2 (949) + (1.96)^2 (0.5)(0.5)}$$

$$n = 159.7$$
$$n = 160$$

<div style="text-align: right;">(2)</div>

Therefore, a sample of 160 respondents interviewed for this study.

A multistage sampling technique was used in the selection of the respondents for the study. The first stage involved purposively selecting the Adansi South District which is an important farming district in the Ashanti region of Ghana. The second stage involves purposive selection of farming communities from the district. The selection was based on preponderance of farming in those communities. In all, ten (10) farming communities were sampled from the thirty (30) communities in the Adansi south district of the Ashanti region, which constitute the study area. These ten (10) farming communities were Aburaso, Petenyinase, Old Asaman, Amudurase, Menang, Tonkoase, Akutreso, Subriso, Somoroso and Nsata Subriso. In the third stage, 16 respondents (farmers) were randomly selected from each of the 10 selected farming communities. This gave a total sample size of 160 respondents (farmers).

3.5 Data Collection Instruments and Techniques

Data colleted for this study were from both primary and secondary sources. The primary sources of data were collected from cereals and cocoa farmers in the Adansi South District. Agricultural officers as well as agroinput dealers were also interviewed and their responses gathered qualitatively. Also, secondary data were obtained from governmental and non-governmental departments, articles, books, other scholarly works as well as from the internet. However, the primary data served as the main source of information

for this study. The combination of primary and secondary sources of information was to complement each other to help make a better analyses.

3.5.1 Sources of Primary Data

Primary data was used to assess the demographics of the respondents, their level of awareness and perception of pro-poor agriculturaal policies and identify the challenges they are faced with. Data collection was done by means of a semi-structured to solicit both quantitative and qualittive views. The quantitative data included perception of pro-poor policies and the level of awareness. However, the qualitative data focused on the challenges militating against the success of pro-poor policies in agriculture.

The questionnaire was used to solicit information directly from farmers in the study area. The questionnaires were pretested in Fahiakobo, a farming community with same characteristics as the sampled farming comunities in Adansi south district and finally refined. The questionnaire for the study was comprised of various sections. The initial section of the questionnaire was designed to elicite responses on the demographic characteristics of respondents such as age, gender, , education, religion, occupation, and total farm size. Also, questions on the level of awareness, utilisation and perception of pro-poor agricultural programmes were also asked. Another section was devoted to challenges facing the implementation of pro-poor agricultural programmes by Government of Ghana in the district.

3.5.2 Sources of Secondary Data

Secondary data was also instrumental to the success of this study. The Ministry of Food and Agriculture in Accra gave a concept note of the governments flagship programme, 'Planting for Food and Jobs' whiles its two subsidiary departments; the Cocobod District

Office and the District Agric Development Unit gave us the list of registered farmers from which the sample was taken.

The internet was also helpful as the sites of the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS), Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) had some useful information which shaped the course of this study. A vast array of articles and related scholarly write-ups were also used in the course of this study.

3.6 Data Analysis

Data collected were processed by cleaning, coding and tabulation for analysis. Cleaning was carried out to detect and eliminate errors in the field data. Interviews recorded were also transcribed. The analysis of the data employed both qualitative and quantitative techniques. A qualitative technique which involves descriptive analysis was adopted to analyse information derived and perceptions from the key informant interviews. Quantitatively, statistical application techniques were used to analyse and compare data. Descriptive analysis was also employed to present observations made in the study area. The data collected from the field were analysed using the Microsoft Excel 2010 and the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS), software version 16.

3.6.1 Analysis of Demographics and Awareness level

Demographics are the statistics of a given population which are used to identify the study of quantifiable subsets within a given population which characterize that population at a specific point in time (Gjonca and Calderwood (2004). Demographic profiling is essentially an exercise in making generalizations about groups of people. As with all such generalizations many individuals within these groups will not conform to the profile

- demographic information is aggregate and probabilistic information about groups, not about specific individuals (Wikipedia).

In an employee study for example, Edgar & Geare (2004) argued that if employees are to be given a voice in research, then employee demographics should also be considered, rather than it be implicitly assumed that employees are a homogenous group with similar attributes and beliefs. Similarly, Davis & Shannon (2011) have recommended that to truly know the employee audience, an analysis can be done on the employee demographics and then qualitative research—such as focus groups— conducted to explore communication needs and preferences.

Characteristics of respondents such as age, gender, major occupation, experience in farming, years of formal education were analyzed using descriptive statistics such as frequency tables, percentages, mean, median and mode, standard deviation and mean deviations.

3.6.2 Analysis of the Perception and constraints

Since its inception, the Likert-type scale has been widely used in economics to gather information about attitudes, feeling and perception (Boone and Boone, 2012; Agbarevo, 2013; Moabo, 2016; Isife and Okorie, 2014). The Likert-type scale used to measure the perception of primary stakeholders (farmers) on the perception of pro-poor agricultural programmes had a five-point scale (Strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree, strongly agree) and comprised of thirteen questions that related to how they perceived the pro-poor agricultural programmes implemented by Government of Ghana through the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

Perception indices were estimated by asking respondents to agree or disagree with the perception statements which were given weights by coding them into five classes; ranging from strongly disagree strongly agree (1 = strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=undecided, 4=agree and 5=strongly agree) to determine their perception on pro-poor agricultural programmes. These responses were then averaged to form an index called the perception index. The perception indices were computed based on three categories (perception on mechanization centres, fertilizer subsidy programme and planting for food and jobs). The empirical estimate index for a particular statement was computed as:

$$Total\,Score = \sum Fi \times Wi \tag{3}$$

Where $\sum Fi$ = frequency of the ith statement W= weight of response such 1=strongly disagree, -2=disagree, 3= neutral, 4= agree and 5=strongly agree

The mean score was estimated as: $\dfrac{\sum Fi \times Wi}{\sum Fi}$ $\qquad(4)$

Where means scores represent an index for a statement.

Table 4.3.1 below presents a summary of data analysis tools or instruments that were adopted to address all the objectives of the study.

Table 4.1: Analysis of objectives of the study

Specific Objectives	Data analysis tool/Instrument
Socioeconomic Characteristics of respondents	Frequencies, percentages, mean and mean deviation were used to answer the socioeconomic characteristics of respondents.
Awareness and utilization of pro-poor policies.	Frequencies and percentages were used to solve farmers' awareness of pro-poor agricultural programmes
Perception of the stakeholders	Perception index was used to answer the perception of primary stakeholders (farmers)
Challenges facing the implementation of pro-poor policies	Frequencies and percentages were used to answer the challenges facing implementation of pro-poor agricultural programmes

Source: Author's construct, 2019

CHAPTER FOUR

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the discussions of the results on the objectives of the study. The chapter begins with a description of the socioeconomic characteristics of the respondents. It also presents the level of the primary stakeholders' (farmers) awareness and utilisation of pro-poor agricultural programmes. Additionally, the results on the perception of primary stakeholders (farmers) on pro-poor agricultural programmes have been presented. The challenges facing the implementation of pro–poor agricultural programmes from the perspective of the primary stakeholders (farmers) are also discussed.

4.2 Socioeconomic characteristics of respondent

This section presents the results on the socioeconomic characteristics of the respondents interviewed. The socioeconomic characteristics of the respondents have been analysed and presented in table 4.1 below. The analysis was based on gender, level of education, land ownership and distance to the farm. The age of respondents, household size, farming experience and total farm size were also analysed.

The results in table 4.1 show that majority 59% of the farmers interviewed in the study are males whilst 41% are females. This conform to Chikezie (2012) research who observed that it is generally believed that males are often more energetic and could readily be available for energy demanding jobs such as farming. Also, Ogunremi *et al.,* (2012) in his study on the relevance and benefits of agricultural youth empowerment programmes revealed that most of the respondents were males and that practical farming requires physical fitness that males can withstand more rigorous works than females.

Table 4.2: Socioeconomic characteristics of respondents

Variables	Categories	Frequency	Percentage	
Gender	Male	94	58.8	
	Female	66	41.3	
Level of Education	No formal Education	37	23.1	
	Primary	1	0.6	
	JHS	87	54.4	
	SSS/WASSCE	4	2.5	
	Polytechnic level	16	10.0	
	University (bachelor) level	15	9.4	
Land own	Owner (eg. family, purchase)	114	71.3	
	Otherwise (eg. lease, rent, contract)	46	28.8	
Distance to the farm	< 5km	31	19.4	
	5 - 10km	129	80.6	
Continuous variable	**Minimum**	**Maximum**	**Mean**	**Mean Deviation**
Age of respondent	22	68	44.3250	10.2230
Household Size	3	12	5.7563	1.8145
Farming experience	6	50	25.0688	13.0061
Total farm size (acres)	1	25	8.3875	7.2849

Source: Field survey, 2019.

In terms of the level of education of the farmers, the results showed that 54% of the respondents had Junior high school level of education, 23% with no formal education, 10% with Polytechnic level, 9% with University (bachelor) level and 1% had primary level of education. This results also conforms to Muhammad Lawal *et al.,* (2009) research which showed that a greater percentage of the participants (93.64%) in an agriculture programme implemented the federal government in Nigeria had some form of formal education. Primary stakeholders with some form of education are not likely to have much difficulty in understanding and participating in pro-poor agricultural programmes implemented by the Government.

The research further showed that 71% of the respondents had their own land for farming or were farming on family lands whilst 29% of the respondents farm on land that have been leased, rented or contracted. This result is in line Baah, (2014) who reported (75%) of the respondents in his study on the assessment of youth in agriculture programme in Ejura-Sekyedumase district were farming on their own land. Ownership of farm land is major boost for farmers to participate in Government agricultural programmes.

Additionally, the results of the study indicated that majority (81%) of the respondents travelled between 5 and 10km whilst 19% travelled less than 5km to their farms from their house. This finding indicates that respondents' farmlands are not closer to their houses. The results from table 4.1 above further shows that the minimum age of the respondents (farmers) was 22 years whilst 68 years was the maximum age, with a mean of 44 and a standard deviation of 10.2230. This finding validates a research conducted by Olaniyi and Adewale (2012) whose study on maize production among rural youths in Nigeria revealed that 59% of the farmers are within the age of 35 to 45 years. This implies that the participation of the youthful population in agricultural activities is minimal.

The minimum household size of the respondents (farmers) was 3 and the maximum was 12. Overall, the average household size was 6. This implies that the farmers have a high household size compared to 4.4 average household size in the District (Population and Housing Census, 2010). This result is supported by the findings of Kumi and Daymond *et al.,* (2015) who observed 55% of the respondents interviewed had household size of 6 in their research on farmers' perceptions of the effectiveness of the cocoa disease and pest control programme in Ghana.

On respondents' experience in farming, the minimum number of years in farming was 6 years whilst the maximum was 50 years. The mean experience in farming was 25 years. This implies that most of the farmers interviewed in the district have the experience in farming needed to make sound decisions in the utilisation of pro-poor agricultural programmes implemented by the Government. In terms of farm size, the minimum farm size of the respondents (farmers) in the study area was 1acre and the maximum was 25 acres. The average farm size of the respondents interviewed in the study area was 8 acres.

4.3 Level of the primary stakeholders' (farmers) awareness and utilisation of pro-poor agricultural programmes

Respondents in the study area were interviewed on awareness and use of pro-poor agricultural programmes implemented by the Government. These pro-poor agricultural programmes were fertilizer subsidy programme, agricultural mechanization centres programme and the planting for foods and jobs programme.

The results on awareness of fertilizer subsidy programme from table 4.2 below showed that majority (88%) of the respondents (farmers) were aware of the programme whilst 12% indicated that they do not have any idea about the programme. This result confirmed the finding of Otitoju *et al.,* (2016) who reported in their study on farmers' perception on access to fertilizer under the fertilizer task force distribution system in Kogi State that majority of farmers were aware of the fertiliser task force distribution system. Also, the study showed that 78% of the respondents (farmers) are aware of Agricultural mechanisation centres programme whilst 22% do not know anything about the existence of the programme. This implies that some farmers in the district are still not aware of the programme. This finding is consistent with a study by Mukadasi and

Lusiba, (2006) on farmers' awareness and perception of the relevance of agricultural technologies under the Plan for Modernization of Agriculture (PMA). Bautista *et al.,* (2017) and Amadi and Ekezie, (2016) also reported in their study that majority of the farmers interviewed were aware of the agricultural mechanisation programme. The results of the study further showed that all the respondents were aware of the planting for food and jobs programme. This implies that the planting for food and jobs programme have very high level of awareness among the farmers in the district.

In terms of the utilisation of Government implemented pro–poor agricultural programmes, the results showed that majority (61%) of the respondents take part in the Fertilizer subsidy programme. This result shows that farmers' participation in the fertiliser subsidy programme in the district is high. Also, the results indicated that 81% of the respondents have not benefited from the Agricultural Mechanisation centres programme. This result indicates that the district has very high farmers' utilisation of the Agricultural Mechanisation centres programme. The results of the study further showed that majority (51%) of the respondents benefit from the planting for food and jobs programme both on their farm and in their farm operations. This implies that there is a fair participation of farmers in the planting for food and jobs programme in the district.

Table 4.3: Primary stakeholders' awareness and utilisation of pro – poor

agricultural programmes

Awareness	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
Fertilizer subsidy programme	Yes	141	88.1
	No	19	11.9
Agricultural Mechanization centres programme	Yes	125	78.1
	No	35	21.9
Planting for food and jobs	Yes	160	100
Utilizing on farm	**Categories**	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Fertilizer subsidy programme	Yes	62	38.8
	No	98	61.3
Agricultural Mechanization centres programme	Yes	30	18.8
	No	130	81.3
Planting for food and jobs	Yes	81	50.6
	No	79	49.4

Source: Field survey, 2019.

In summary, the results of the study indicate that higher awareness level in pro-poor agricultural policy does not necessarily translate into farmers benefiting from the program. For example, with regards to the fertiliser subsidy programme 88% of the respondents interviewed were aware of the programme but 39% of them interviewed utilise the fertiliser subsidy programme in their farm operations. Also, 79% of the respondents were aware of the Agricultural Mechanisation centres programme but only 19% utilise in their farm operations. Again, the planting for food and jobs programme had 100% awareness from the respondents compared to 51% utilisation in their off and on farm operations.

4.4 Perception of primary stake holders' (farmers) on pro-poor agricultural programmes

In order to assess the perception of respondents (farmers) on pro-poor agricultural programmes, a five point likert scale was used to assess the perception. The five-point scale constituted a scale of strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree and strongly agree. The responses provided have been analysed and presented in table 4.8 below.

The results from the study showed that majority (93%) of the respondents interviewed strongly agreed with the fact that the creation of mechanization centers have led to the timely field cultivation whilst, 6% agreed and 1% had a neutral response. The results further indicated that, majority (94%) strongly agreed that the creation of mechanization centers have decreased the planting time whilst 3% disagreed, 2% agreed and 1% gave a neutral response to the statements. The research further indicated that 83% of the respondents strongly agreed that the mechanization centers have helped decrease the harvesting time whilst 13% agreed, 2% strongly disagreed, both disagreed and neutral had 1% respectively. Also, 58% of the respondents interviewed strongly agreed to the creation of the mechanization centers have helped reduce labour cost whilst 41% agreed and 2% had neutral responses. In terms of increase in the yield of land per unit of area the mean score was 4.3188 with majority (60%) of the farmers strongly agreeing that the mechanization centers have helped increase yield with 28% agreeing, 6% strongly disagreeing, 4% disagreeing and 2% having neutral response. These findings affirm the study of Amadi and Ekezie (2016) who observed that respondents strongly agreed to the perception statements on the use of agricultural mechanization in agricultural production in Rivers state. Also, Boateng and Nyaaba, (2014) confirmed in their study that there was a strong positive attitude towards agricultural mechanization policies implemented by the

Governments in Ghana under the Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan (METASIP) on food security.

The results on perception of farmers on the fertilizer subsidy programme showed that majority (97%) of the respondents strongly agreed that the programme has contributed to increase in yield per acre with area. This implies that farmers interviewed in the district strongly agrees and support the implementation of the fertilizer subsidy programme. On the other hand, 85% of the respondents strongly agreed that the Fertilizer subsidy program has contributed to an increase in the use of fertilizers in the farming area. The results further showed that the programme has contributed to a reduction in price of fertilizer according to majority (62%) of the respondents. Interms of how the fertilizer subsidy programme has contributed to increase in the quantity of fertilizers available to farmers the mean score was 4.3438 with 54% strongly agreeing, 36% agreeing, and both neutral and disagreeing having 4% respectively and 3% strongly disagreeing. Additionally, the results indicated that 45% of the respondents strongly agreed that there is increase in farm income under the fertilizer subsidy programme. This result is consistent with the findings of Otitoju *et al.,* (2016) and Anand, (2016) who reported in their study that respondents interviewed perceived fertilizer pro-poor policies as effective strategy for agricultural modernization.

The results from table 4.3 further shows that 79% of the respondents interviewed strongly agreed that under the pro-poor agriculture policy (planting for food and jobs) there is supply of improved seeds at subsidized prices to farmers and 21% agreed. Provision of subsidized quality fertilizers had 40% of the respondents strongly agreed and 60% agreed.

Table 4.4: Primary Stakeholders (farmers) perception on pro – poor agricultural

programmes

Perception Statement	Strongly Disagree (1)	Disagree (2)	Neutral (3)	Agree (4)	Strongly Agree (5)	Mean Score
1. Mechanisation centres						
a. Timely field cultivation,	0	0	2 (1.3)	9 (5.6)	149 (93.1)	4.9188
b. Decrease planting time	0	5 (3.1)	2 (1.3)	3 (1.9)	150 (93.8)	4.8625
c. Decrease harvesting time	3 (1.9)	2 (1.3)	1 (0.6)	21 (13.1)	133 (83.1)	4.7438
d. Reduce cost of farm labour	0	0	3 (1.9)	65 (40.6)	92 (57.5)	4.5563
e. Increase the yield of land per unit of area	10 (6.3)	6 (3.8)	3 (1.9)	45 (28.1)	96 (60.0)	4.3188
Perception Index						**4.68004**
2. Fertilizer subsidy programme						
a. Increase yield per acre		0	3 (1.9)	2 (1.3)	155 (96.9)	4.9500
b. Increase the use of fertilizer in the farming area			4 (2.5)	20 (12.5)	136 (85.0)	4.8250
c. Reduction in price of fertilizer	0	7 (4.4)	8 (5.0)	46 (28.8)	99 (61.9)	4.4813
d. Increase in quantity of fertilizer available to farmers	4 (2.5)	6 (3.8)	7 (4.4)	57 (35.6)	86 (53.8)	4.3438
e. Increase farm income	0	0	41 (25.6)	47 (29.4)	72 (45.0)	4.1938
Perception Index						**4.5588**
3. Planting for food and jobs						
a. Supply of improved seeds at subsidized prices to farmers	0	0	0	33 (20.6)	127 (79.4)	4.7938
b. Provision of subsidized quality fertilizers	0	0	0	96 (60.0)	64 (40.0)	4.4000
c. Free extension services to farmers.	0	0	7 (4.4)	113 (70.6)	40 (25.0)	4.2063
d. Market opportunity for farmers under the programme	0	36 (22.5)	34 (21.3)	55 (34.4)	35 (21.9)	3.5563
Perception Index						**4.2391**
Perception statements Overall index						**4.4868**

Source: Field survey (2019)

The result of the perception statement free extension services to farmers showed that majority (71%) of the respondents agreed, 25% strongly agreed and 4% neutral. In addition, market opportunity for farmers under the programme had 34% of the respondents agreed, 23% disagreed, 22% strongly agreed and 21% neutral. These findings are in line with Kiratu *et al.,* (2006); Wasihun *et al.,* (2014); Isife and Okorie (2014) that respondents interviewed in their study agreed to policies that are implemented by Government to target farmers and increase food production.

In summary, the result of the overall perception index for the programmes indicate that farmers' interviewed in the district strongly agreed to the perception statements raised for this study. This implies farmers are involved in the pro-poor agricultural programmes formulation process in the district and also implementation of pro- agricultural programmes implementation policies in the district is very effective.

4.5 Challenges facing the implementation of pro–poor agricultural programmes from the perspective of the primary stakeholders (farmers)

In this section respondents were asked to indicate the challenges facing the implementation of pro – poor agricultural programmes in the study area. The study showed that majority (16%) of the respondents interviewed in the study area indicated that high cost inputs is the major challenge facing the farmers in the Adansi South District. Thus only resource rich farmers can have access to farming inputs in the district this constraint adversely affect implementation of pro-poor agricultural programmes and also productivity. The result is consistent with Singh and Ward (2016) who revealed in their study on challenges facing implementation of India's Aadhaar-enabled fertilizer management system that high costs of farm inputs affect Government agriculture policies implementation effort. The results further showed that 14% of the respondents indicated

that inadequate technical knowledge or comprehensive understanding of implemented pro–poor agriculture policies is a major challenge. Farmers in the district do not have adequate technical knowledge to understand the technical aspect of pro-poor agricultural programmes implementation, this reduce their participation during formulation and implementation stages of polices and adversely affect productivity.

Additionally, the study showed that problems such as inadequate extension staff, non-availability of mechanisation centre in Adansi South District, inadequate training of stakeholders prior to implementation, absence of proper monitoring and evaluation systems, and non-availability of ready market comprised of 13%, 11%, 11%, 9%, and 6% respectively. Inadequate extension staff affects farmers' access to information on the implemented pro-poor agricultural programmes. The non- availability of mechanisation centres affects farmers' preparation and harvesting time for the crop season in the district. Also, inadequate training of stakeholders prior to implementation affects participation of key primary stakeholders such as farmers in the implementation process in the district. The absence of proper monitoring and evaluation systems after the implementation process affects progress in the implementation process. For instance, lack of a monitoring report on pro-poor agricultural programmes implemented in the district affect planning and possible changes needed to better the implemented pro-poor agricultural programmes. The non-availability of ready market in the district also affects farmers' participation in pro-poor agricultural programmes and productivity that is farmers' in the district are discourage to produce more when market for their produce are unavailable. Maoba, (2016) observed in his study that inadequate extension staff for training and education during implementation of pro-poor agriculture policies affect participation of primary stakeholders (farmers) in implementation of agricultural programmes. Okoboi and Barung (2012) also indicated in their study on constraints to

fertilizer use in Uganda that inadequate access to extension services to provide technical advice are a major constraint to increased adoption of fertilizer in Uganda as less than one-fifth of agricultural households receive extension services.

The study further indicated that problems such as bad road network, high interest rate, high cost of farm labour and lack of storage facilities consisted of 6%, 4%, 4% and 3% respectively. Farmers interviewed indicated that these challenges affect their productivity and participation in pro-poor agricultural programmes implemented by the Government in the district. Additionally, 2% and 1% of the respondents respectively indicated land tenure system and lack of credit for farming are some of the problems facing the farmers in the study area. The land tenure system in the district provide less farm land available for farmers' to expanse their farming activities, this challenge discourages farmers to participate in pro-poor agricultural programmes. Also, lack of credit for farm expansion and on farm operations reduces productivity of farmers in the district.

4.6 Summary and implications of results

Except for the Planting for Food and Jobs Programme, all respondents in the study area did not know about the other programmes. This has implications on the adoption or otherwise of such programmes. Farmers' awareness of a programme improves the general acceptability of such programmes. Also, the benefits and challenges could be easily substantiated when there is mass awareness and participation in the programme.

As the results of the study demonstrate, the level of use by farmers of these pro-poor programmes was lesser, although the awareness level was high. The government is more likely to succeed when the awareness and participation on the programme is increased. A lot more farmers becoming aware and participating in the programme would increase the

output from agricultural production. There farmers would therefore appreciate in their yields which would improve the revenue they obtain from their fields.

Table 4.5: Challenges facing the implementation of pro – poor agricultural programmes

Challenges	Frequency	Percentage
High cost of inputs	26	16.3
Inadequate technical knowledge or comprehensive understanding of implemented agricultural policy	23	14.4
Inadequate extension staff	20	12.5
Non-availability of mechanisation centre	18	11.3
Inadequate training of stakeholders prior to implementation	17	10.6
Absence of proper monitoring and evaluation systems	15	9.4
Non-availability of ready market	10	6.3
Bad road network	9	5.6
High interest rate	7	4.4
High cost of labour	6	3.8
Lack of storage facilities	4	2.5
Land tenure system	3	1.9
Lack of credit	2	1.3

Source: Field survey (2019)

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

The main objective of the study is to examine the perception of primary stakeholders on pro-poor agricultural programmes in Ghana. Specifically, the study examined the level of the primary stakeholders' awareness of pro-poor agricultural programmes, assessed the perception of the stakeholders about these policies and assessed the challenges facing the implementation these policies.

To reach these goals, three research questions guided the study: What are the level of the primary stakeholders' awareness of pro-poor agricultural programmes; what are the perceptions of the primary stakeholders about these policies; and what are the challenges facing the implementation these policies from the perspective of the primary stakeholders?

A multistage stage sampling technique was used to select one hundred and sixty farmers from ten communities in the Adansi South District of the Ashanti Region of Ghana. Data was gathered by means of a semi-structured questionnaire. Both quantitative and qualitative methods were used in analyzing the data.

This chapter presents a summary of the findings of the study, recommendations and conclusion of the study. The recommendations made will help inform the formulation and implementation of pro-poor agricultural programmes in Ghana.

5.2 Summary of findings

The summary of findings of this study is arranged based on the research objectives of this study.

5.2.1 Socioeconomic characteristics of primary stakeholders (farmers) in the study area

A sample of one hundred and sixty (160) primary stakeholders (farmers) formed the total number of respondents for this study, of which 59% were males and 41% were females. The results from the study also made it known that majority (54%) of the respondents had Junior high school level of education, no formal education was 23%, 10% had polytechnic level of education, 9% had university level of education and 1% with primary level of education.

71% had their own land for farming with 29% lease, rent or contract farm lands from their owners for farming. On distance from respondents' house to the farm 81% travelled between 5 and 10km and 19% travelled less than 5km.

The findings from the study further showed that the minimum age of the farmers was 22 years whilst 68 years was the maximum age, the minimum household size was 3 and the maximum was 12. The minimum experience in farming was 6 years and maximum was 50 years. Also, the minimum farm size was 1 acre and the maximum was 25 acres.

5.2.2 Primary stakeholders' (farmers) awareness and utilisation of pro-poor agricultural programmes

The analysis of primary stakeholders' awareness and utilisation of pro-poor agricultural programmes

showed that:

Majority (88%) of the farmers interviewed in the district indicated yes that they were aware of the fertilizer subsidy programme and 39% indicated yes for utilisation of the programme in their farm operations.

Farmers' awareness of Agricultural mechanisation centres programme in the district showed that 78% of the respondents (farmers) indicated yes with only 19% yes for utilisation of the programme in their farm operations.

The analysis from the study further showed that, the planting for food and jobs programme received 100% yes indication from farmers interviewed with 51% yes response for on and off farm utilisation.

5.2.3 Perception of primary stake holders' (farmers) on pro-poor agricultural programmes

Upon the analysis, the perception of farmers on pro-poor agricultural programmes examined in this study showed that:

The perception index (4.68) for the agricultural mechanisation centres programme indicated that farmers interviewed in the district strongly agreed to the perception statements.

Also, the fertilizer subsidy programme had a perception index of 4.56 which showed that farmers' interviewed in the district strongly agreed to the perception statements. Nonetheless, the planting for food and jobs programme had a perception index of 4.24 which showed that the farmers' interviewed agreed to the perception statements.

5.2.4 Challenges facing the implementation of pro–poor agricultural programmes

The study established the following challenges facing the implementation of pro-poor agricultural programmes in the district:

The study showed that the three most pressing constraints to implementation of pro–poor agricultural programmes in the district are high cost of inputs, inadequate technical knowledge or comprehensive understanding of implemented pro-poor agricultural programmes and inadequate extension staff for training and education with 16%, 14% and 13% respectively out of the number of respondents interviewed.

5.3 Policy Recommendations

This section presents the key recommendations made to improve primary stakeholders' participation in pro-poor agricultural programmes in the district. Though the study was conducted at district level, some of the recommendations made have policy implications and are relevant to the central government as well.

5.3.1 Improving awareness and utilisation of pro-poor agricultural programmes

Government through it policy implementing agency (Ministry of Food and Agriculture) must have complete data of all primary stakeholders such as farmers who are beneficiaries and not, so as to help in target monitoring and support other farmers who have not benefited from the implemented pro–poor agricultural programmes.

Agricultural extension officers must be well-resourced in the district to provide constant monitoring and training to primary stakeholders (farmers) on implemented policy strategies, structures and benefits so as to encourage farmers who are the main reason for the implementation of the pro-poor agricultural programmes to partake and utilise the

programme in their production, storage and marketing operations and that agricultural extension impact on the livelihood of farmers and farming community at large.

Moreover, agricultural policy formulation should emanate from the farmer to the governments. The farmers should be made to assess their local farming conditions and suggest ways to improve them. Local Agricultural Committees should be formed in each community who would regularly meet with the entire community to assess the farming situation and propose measures to resolve challenges. These should form the basis of any government intervention so that policies and programmes formulated would be self-owned by the farmers. In a more participatory way, the level of awareness and especially utilization of pro-poor agricultural programmes would be improved since they originated from the primary beneficiary themselves.

5.3.2 Strengthening perception of primary stakeholders' (farmers) on pro-poor agricultural programmes

The Government through the Ministry of Food and Agriculture must ensure consistency and continuation in the implementation of government pro-poor agricultural programmes by employing holistic approaches in the handling the policies. This is because respondents interviewed in the study strongly agreed to the three pro-poor agricultural programmes implemented by the government. These initiatives should be strengthened to significantly address farmers' problems in food production and marketing in the country. For instance, government removal of fertiliser subsidies slowly kills initiative, leaves no room for rural farmers to innovate and that Ghana only make progress in food security when governments provide long term subsidies to place our farmers in a level playing grounds to be able to compete well with farmers anywhere in the world.

Also, farmer based organisations should be given special consideration in the formulation and implementation of existing pro-poor agricultural programmes and in any new ones. This is essential given their circumstances and central role they play in agriculture in Ghana. Achieving this may call for designing contextually relevant and pro-poor strategies of development for instance, interventions that enable poor farmers to participate more in agricultural development activities and integrate functional literacy in the implementation stage of the programme by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture through its district agricultural and extension officers. This will help the government, targeted farmers and development partners to see spending on the pro-poor agricultural programmes such as the fertiliser subsidy programme and the planting for food and jobs programme as investment expenditure against the mind-set that subsidy is bad. As such, there is need for the government to be more careful on the design, structure and implementation of such subsidy programs to farmers.

5.3.3 Improving challenges facing the implementation of pro–poor agricultural programmes

Government should lead and provide support to help fix the challenges raised by primary stakeholders (farmers) in the implementation of pro–poor agricultural programmes. For instance, Government should make financial credit more accessible and interest on agricultural loans more friendly to encourage farmers to acquire loans and expanse production. Adequate consideration of these challenges will strengthen and sustain Government developmental drive in agricultural sector in the Ghana.

Strategies put in place by the government through the Ministry of Food and Agriculture in the procurement and distribution of subsidised agricultural inputs such as fertiliser and improved seeds must be effective and strengthened to reduce the cost of agricultural

inputs. This will achieve better farmers' access to inputs such as fertilizer and improved seeds under the implemented pro–poor agricultural programmes.

Furthermore, agricultural extension officers in the districts require constant training, monitoring and re-training skills to be conversant with recent formulated pro–poor agricultural programmes so as to disseminate same to farmers who lack technical knowledge or comprehensive understanding of implemented agricultural programmes.

5.4 Conclusions

The study concludes that there is male dominance in farming in the study area as 59% were males.

Moreover, the sector is dominated by the youth with a mean age of 44years with 54% having junior high school education. 71% of the respondents have their own lands for farming with 81% travelling between 5 and 10km. Also, respondents had a mean farming experience 25 years with an average farm size of 8 acres.

This means that most of the farmers in the study area have been farming for over two decades. On the average, the youth of the study area enter into farming by age 19. At this age, they might have completed senior high school. However, a majority of these farmers only completed junior high school. Functional literacy on agriculture should remain an integral part of junior high and senior high school syllabus to equip the youth with adequate and relevant knowledge of comprehensive agricultural procedures and practical knowledge.

The study also revealed that most of the farmers in the study area indicated yes that they were aware of the pro-poor agricultural programmes implemented by the Government that is fertilizer subsidy programme, agricultural mechanization centers and the planting

for food and jobs programme with 88%, 78%, 100% responses respectively. Nonetheless, there was low utilization of implemented pro–poor agricultural programmes in their off and on farm operations compared to level of awareness in the study with 39%, 19% and 51% for fertilizer subsidy, agricultural mechanization and planting for food and jobs respectively.

Also, perception estimates for the pro–poor agricultural programmes examined in the study area showed that respondents interviewed in the district strongly agreed to the perception statements under agricultural mechanisation and fertiliser subsidy programme. However, respondents only agreed to the perception statements on planting for food and jobs programme.

In addition, high cost of inputs, inadequate technical knowledge or comprehensive understanding of implemented agricultural programmes and inadequate extension staff were indicated by the respondents (farmers) interviewed in the study area as the three main challenges facing the formulation and implementation of pro–poor agricultural programmes.

5.5 Suggestions for Further Research

The results from this study could serve as a basis for further research into the factors that determine whether a farmer will utilize or adopt an intervention introduced by the government. This would help in the design of other programmes. Also further research can be conducted to measure the impact of government policies and programmes on the target beneficiaries and communities. Governments could use the results of such research for developmental planning. An examination into the role of stakeholders in formulating agricultural programmes is worth considering.

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CHRISTIAN SERVICE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

MSc. (Monitoring and Evaluation)

PERCEPTION OF PRIMARY STAKEHOLDERS ON PRO-POOR

AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMMES IN GHANA: CASE STUDY OF THE

ADANSI SOUTH DISTRICT OF ASHANTI REGION.

This questionnaire is meant for data to address the above topic in partial fulfilment for the award of Master of Science Degree in Monitoring and Evaluation at the Christian Service University College. Your respond to the questions would encourage the researcher to get appropriate findings that will contribute to knowledge in the academia. Your **confidential** is assured.

District…………………………………..….

Town…………………………………………..

Farming   community………………………………………………………………

Interviewer……………………………….. **Date**…../…/…

A. SOCIOECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

1. Name of respondent……………………………………………………

2. Gender 1 = Male [ ] 2 = Female [ ]

3. Age of respondent …..…………………….

4. Household size……………………………….

5. Any other dependants that are not household head's children or spouse?………………

6. Marital Status 1=Single [ ] 2=Married [ ] 3=Divorced/Separated [ ]

   4 = Widowed [ ]

7. Level of Education Attained 0 = No Formal Education [ ] 1 = Primary [ ] 2 = JHS [ ]

    3 = SSS/WASSCE [ ] 4 = Vocational [ ] 5 = Polytechnic level [ ]

    6 = University (bachelor) level [ ] 10 = University (Graduate or Above) level [ ]

8. Primary occupation……………………………………………….

9. Number of years in primary occupation…………………………………

10. Secondary occupation……………………………………………….

11. Land own: 1= Owner (eg. family, purchase) [ ] 2 = Otherwise (eg. lease, rent,

contract) [ ]

12. Type of crop you are farming…………………………………

12. Total farm size……………………………………….acres.

14. What distance do you travel to the market?

 1) < 5 Km 2) 5 – 10 Km 3) > 10 Km

15. Did you use hired labour during the last cropping season? 1=Yes 2=No

 If yes,

  (i) How many permanent labourers did you have?...

  (ii) How many casual .... and for how many mandays?...............................

B. LEVEL OF PRIMARY STAKEHOLDERSAWARENESS OF PRO-POOR POLICIES

16. Kindly indicate whether you are aware of any of these three pro poor agricultural programmes

Please tick the most appropriate

Pro-poor agricultural programmes	Awareness		Utilizing on farm	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Fertilizer subsidy programme				
Agricultural Mechanization centres programme				
Planting for food and jobs				

C. PERCEPTION OF STAKE HOLDERS ON PRO-POOR AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMMES

17. Kindly tick the most appropriate

Perception Statement	Strongly Disagree (1)	Agree (2)	Neutral (3)	Agree (4)	Strongly Agree (5)
4. **Mechanisation centres**					
f. Timely field cultivation,					
g. Decrease planting time					
h. Decrease harvesting time					
i. Reduce cost of farm labour					
j. Increase the yield of land per unit of area					
5. **Fertilizer subsidy programme**					
f. Increase yield per acre					
g. Increase farm income					
h. Reduction in price of fertilizer					
i. Increase in quantity of fertilizer available to farmers					
j. Increase the use of fertilizer in the farming area					

6. **Planting for food and jobs**					
e. Supply of improved seeds at subsidized prices to farmers					
f. Provision of subsidized quality fertilizers					
g. Access to free extension services to farmers.					
h. Market opportunity for farmers under the programme					

D. CHALLENGES FACING THE IMPLEMENTATION THESE POLICIES FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE PRIMARY STAKEHOLDERS (FARMERS)

D1. What do you think are the challenges facing the formulation and implementation of pro – poor agricultural programmes?

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D2. What do you think should be done to improve the formulation and implementation of pro – poor agricultural programmes?

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Thank you