

UNDERSTANDING

**CHILDREN-IN-AGRICULTURE
PROGRAMME (CIAP)
IN NIGERIA**

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P.M.B. 2002, Ago-Iwoye, Nigeria.

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@ TORIMIRO, D. O., 1995

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.

Children-In-Agriculture Programme (CIAP) was initiated by Dixon Olu. Torimiro and it was established in the Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Sociology, Ogun State University, Ago Iwoye in Nigeria as a missing link in Rural Farm Family Research (RFFR) in March, 1995. The CIAP is not in support of Child Labour, but, it was rather established to assist the farmers' Children participating in farming activities so that they may resourcefully make use of the farming knowledge and experience they have acquired through Socialization process right from childhood to advantage.

The programme preceeded with nine areas of research efforts for better understanding of the children-in-Agriculture (CIA) concept. The research works are as follows; Using Ago-Iwoye in Ogun state as case studies.

- The Socio-economic characteristics of farmer's children participating in farming activities.
- The rural infrastructure and Social amenities requirements of farmer's children participating in farming activities.
- Identification of needs and interest of farmers' children participating in farming activities.
- Farmers' perception of Socio-economic needs of their children participating in farming activities.
- Involvement of farmers' children in farming activities.
- Role perception of farmers' children in Farm Family decision making process.
- A study of Farmers' Children Socialization process into farming activities.
- Factors affecting the participation of farmers' children in farming activities.
- A survey of farmers' children programme in Nigeria.

However, findings of pilot survey carried out on the last area showed that there was no particular programme for farmers' children in Ogun State. This further strenghtens the need for developing the CIAP.

THE CHILDREN IN AGRICULTURE (CIA) CONCEPT:

Majority of Farmers' Children are literates and it is assumed that those children participating in farming activities have the potentialities and the most tendencies to continue with farming if their needs are justifiably satisfied and their interests are well motivated in the profes-

sion. The CIA, therefore is conceptualised as a programme aimed at motivating farmers' children participating in farming activities to develop the intention and willingness to continue with farming profession in their adulthood.

THE CIAP: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

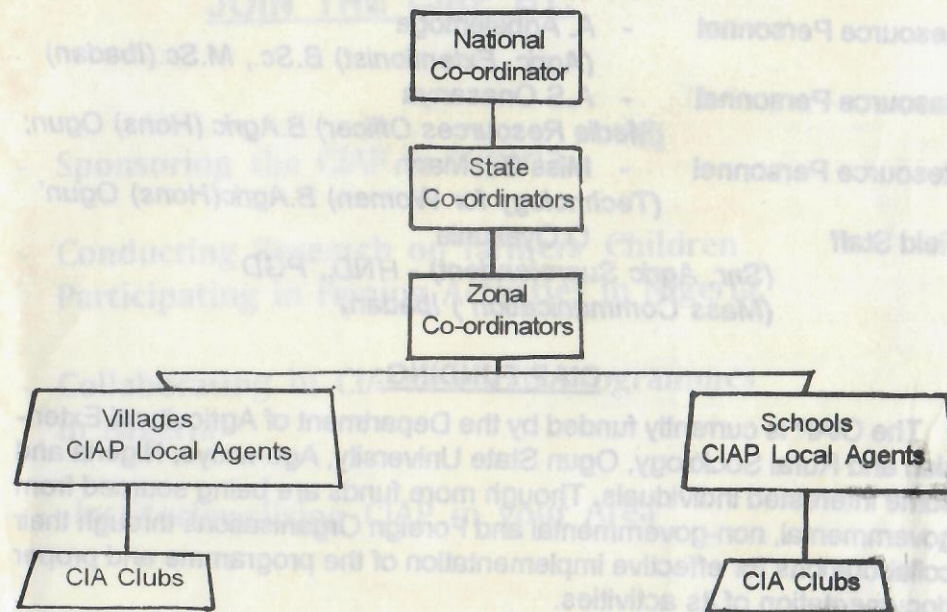
The Programme aims at enhancing a sustainable agricultural development in Nigeria, Since it will constitute part of the strategies for replacing the retiring aged farmers on the farms. It will also constitute a forum for up-dating and linking indigenous knowledge with newly improved farm practices. The following specific objectives are outlined for the programme:

- i. To organise the dependent Farmers' Children participating in farming activities into Children-in-Agriculture (CIA) club based in Villages and Schools.
- ii. To conduct researches on this category of children based on their needs and researchable problems peculiar to them and as identified by them.
- iii. To circulate CIAP book series or materials and/or any agricultural development information through the group.
- iv. To source, develop and promote talents in gifted members of the group.
- v. To develop ideas and/or organise programmes and/or engage in activities that will enhance adequate development of the group either solely or in collaboration with governmental/Non-governmental/Foreign Organisations.

CIAP OPERATIONAL STRATEGY:

The CIAP is to be established in Villages and Secondary Schools where the CIA clubs are formed with the permission of the Village heads and School Principals respectively. The CIAP Local agents appointed by the village heads and Principals in collaboration with CIAP Co-ordinator are made to undergo training on CIA club management for easy Co-ordination of the clubs. Only the interested Villages and Schools are Co-opted for participation in the programme.

CIAP Organisation Structure in Nigeria



CIAP Philosophical Anthem (8.8.8.8.8.8.8)

We are child-ren of farmers,
 born and taught to live on farming,
 seeing our dear parents everyday,
 toiling and ageing on their farms.

We long to keep the profession on,
 With love to feed our Fatherland.

Oh God, help our generation
 to keep our determi-nation.

CIAP ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

- Chief consultant and Head of Department - S. Fola Adedoyin
HN D ,Bsc.,Msc.,Ph.D,
- National Co-ordinator - Dixon Olu. Torimiro
Dip. Agric.,B.Agric (Hons)Ogun.,Msc (Ife)
- Resource Personnel - B.O. Adefuye
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(Media Resources Officer) B.Agric (Hons) Ogun;
- Resource Personnel** - Miss C.I. Mann
(Technology for Women) B.Agric(Hons) Ogun'
- Field Staff** - O.Oyekunle
(Snr. Agric Supretendent) - HND., PGD
(Mass Communication) Ibadan,

CIAP FUNDING:

The CIAP is currently funded by the Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Sociology, Ogun State University, Ago-Iwoye, Nigeria and some interested individuals. Though more funds are being sourced from governmental, non-governmental and Foreign Organisations through their collaborations for effective implementation of the programme and proper documentation of its activities.

CIAP COMPONENTS:

1. CIA Clubs: These are clubs formed in Villages and Schools for implementation of CIA Programme. The clubs are being Co-ordinated by the CIAP in collaboration with CIAP Local Agents appointed by the Village heads and School Principals.
2. CIA Foundation: This is established to source funds for adequate implementation of the CIA Programme.
3. Research and Development Component: This is mandated to research into needs and problems peculiar to Farmers' Children using the CIA club members as samples and also; to develop more programmes that will enhance the interest of farmers' Children in Farming Profession.
4. Communication and Extension Component: This is established to publish printed and non-printed materials of the CIA Programme; Such publications include bulletins, newsletters, conference papers, journals, e.t.c. for disseminating innovation or new ideas emanating through the CIA Programme.

JOIN THE CIAP BY:

- Sponsoring the CIAP in Nigeria.
- Conducting Research on farmers' Children Participating in Farming Activities in Nigeria.
- Collaborating in CIA Research Programmes in Nigeria
- Institutionalising CIAP in your Area

**WE HAVE A LOT TO GAIN THROUGH
THE CIAP TO GUARANTEE A SUSTAINABLE
FARMING AND AGRICULTURAL
PROFESSION IN NIGERIA.**

All enquiries should be directed to:
The National Co-ordinator,
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"JOIN THE CIAP CRUSADE TO BETTER THE LOTS OF FARMERS' CHILDREN"