

SECTORAL PROGRAMMES

The sectors under consideration in this paper include Agricultural Manufacturing Educational Health, Housing and Environment.

(a). AGRICULTURE:

Since 1986, poverty alleviation related programmes in the agricultural sector include; Agricultural Development Programme (ADP), National Agricultural Land Development Authority (NALDA); Strategic Grains Reserves; Alleviated Crop production Schemes (ACPS) and the Development of Artisanal Fishery and small Ruminant production, pasture and grossing schemes. The ADPs - a World Bank assisted programme, located in all state capitals, and more local governments have the objective boosting the productivity of peasant farmers through farm inputs supply, extension services, and construction and maintenance of rural roads. The ADPs have been successful in most state; and has fostered the establishment of cooperatives among the farmers.

(b) EDUCATION:

A lot of efforts have been made since 1996 to increase the level of literacy through mass literacy schemes established in every state of the Federation. Also Nomadic and Adult Education Programmes were established to eradicate illiteracy which is one of the causes of poverty. Despite all these efforts, Nigeria is still among the 11 worst countries in sub-Saharan Africa (FOS, 1996). A clear indication of this is the lack of strong political will to implement these programmes.

(c) HEALTH:

The health sector has also experienced attempts made towards improvement of the conditions of the poor. At the centre of the National Health Policy during this period was the Primary Health Care (PHC) system which is purely protective, promotive and preventive. The major components of the PHC are child and maternal Health (eg 1 Family Health, Health Education, Immunisation etc) control of local endemic diseases, Mental health and provision of essential drugs (the PTF is recommended for its performance in this area) and promotion of food supply. In spite of all these efforts, the health condition in the country is still very precarious.

(d) HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT:

The Federal Ministry of Works and Housing and State Governments have put in place housing programmes. Attempts have been made to provide land for housing and the building of prototype low cost houses in most state capitals. The Government has attempted to make the environment neat and safe. Apart