# AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION

# INFORMATION SHARING PORTAL

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By

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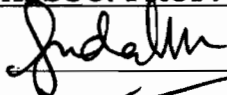*(candidate for the degree of)* **MSc. (Information Communication Technology)**

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# ABSTRACT

Extension workers play a major role in information sharing between the ministry and farmers (clientele) in information links and feedback. Information sharing portal is a device in ICT that used to improve efficiency and effective sharing of information between the ministry and extension agents which will in turn serve as technology transfer to the farmers. This research work addressed the objectives of requirement gathering, designing and development of an extension information sharing portal system. System development research method was used. The prototype of information sharing portal was developed with the use of ASP.Net (Microsoft Visual Studio 2008) and Microsoft SQL Server 2008. Five people tested the usability of prototype. The developed portal brings about timely information delivery from ministry to the farmers through extension workers and vice versa. With the use of this device, positive turnaround will manifest in Nigerian rural livelihood and increase in income level.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.0 Introduction

The development and proliferation of interconnected computers on a global scale has made the world to become compacted in terms of knowledge and information sharing. Information in this age is the key resource element for developing and establishing a prosperous, dynamic and viable information technology for any nation. The quantum leap and advancements witnessed in recent times in the field of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) have transformed virtually every facet of human activities and have generated tremendous wealth and economic prosperity in many countries around the world. ICT is now the driving-force of all successful and progressive nations; hence all countries are striving towards establishing a robust and sound ICT sector that will serve as a catalyst for rapid socio-economic development (FGN 2001, as cited in Salawu, 2008).

Adedeji (2001, as cited in Salawu, 2008) stated that in spite of all these, the development, awareness and utilization of ICT in Nigeria compared to developed nations like the United States of America and United Kingdom is grossly inadequate. However, in the last few years, there has been significant changes and progress in ICT development in the country. The Federal Government took bold steps to reverse the trend by putting in place appropriate policies and measures that bridge the digital device. Nigeria, a country located in West Coast of Africa has a population of 140,431,790 millions, according to National Population Commissions (2006), with

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