

You are cordially invited to the NSSP Research Seminar (III) on

*“Agricultural Growth and Investment Options for Poverty Reduction in Nigeria”*

by

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2:00pm – 4:00pm

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Abstract:

Between 1980 and 2004 the percentage of Nigerians that are poor doubled from 27% to 54%. During this period and at present, farmers constitute the largest share of the poor. At the same time the agriculture sector accounted for over 30% of GDP and was a major source of national growth during this period. In terms of growth and poverty, the agriculture sector is therefore a key determinant of eventual outcomes. Using an economy wide model, this report examines the options that are available to government and non-government agencies in the drive to increase agricultural growth and reduce poverty in Nigeria. It examines the expected future poverty and growth outcomes if the targets outlined in the NEEDS II, National Food Security Program and the National Medium Term Investment Program (under the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program) are achieved. It goes further to examine the growth and poverty results of feasible increases in yields for selected crops. The report ranks agriculture products according to their ability to reduce poverty and increase GDP and outlines key elements that can guide the selection of agriculture products for investment projects. Finally it examines the amount of investment that will be needed for the country to maintain a 6% agriculture growth rate and halve poverty by 2015.

Time will be left for discussions and questions.