1. Philosophy

The founders of the University of Nigeria believed that there was need to train Nigerian Youths locally, and in sufficient numbers, for the formidable task of disseminating useful and practical information from the research base to the rural farm families’ for sustainable food production. Agricultural Extension is based on the philosophy that rural people are intelligent, capable and desirous of receiving information and making use of it for their individual and community welfare. It is purely voluntary and democratic in its approach to people. It is truly anchored on the principle of working with the rural farm families where they are, build on what they have, add to what they know and enabling them to develop themselves. The underlying philosophy of the programme therefore, is to produce professionals who will be theoretically and practically knowledgeable in agricultural production and rural life.

2. Brief History of the Department

The programme in Agricultural Extension in the University of Nigeria was initiated at the instance of UNICEF in 1965, when the agency entered into an agreement with the University to support the programme for a period of five years. This was done because it was realised that the programmes of the Faculty of Agriculture were defective without a programme in Agricultural Extension. Agricultural development was conceptualised as a system held in place by three important links – agricultural education (which includes soil, crop and animal scientists as well as agricultural economists and extension experts), agricultural research and agricultural extension. The omission of agricultural extension in the Faculty programme was thought a serious one because research and other activities carried out in soil, crops and animals were useless unless their findings were made available to and accepted by farmers; hence, the need for a programme in agricultural extension.

At the inception of the programme in 1965, agricultural extension was organised as part of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension because of lack of teaching staff and other logistic support. In 1973/74, the curricular of agricultural economics and extension were restructured to permit two degree options – Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Extension. In 1981, as a result of greater national awareness of the importance of agricultural extension, the University Senate created a separate Department. The programme started in 1981; the trend in student enrolment at undergraduate and postgraduate levels as well as staff disposition has been in the upswing. The department had always had full accreditation from the Nigerian Universities Commission (NUC) since inception.
The Heads of Department from inception to date are:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>S/No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Prof. L. O. Obibuaku</td>
<td>1978-1983</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Prof. C. T. Uwaka</td>
<td>1984-1989</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Prof. A. A. Ajala</td>
<td>1989-1992</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Prof. A. C. Anyanwu</td>
<td>1992-1994</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Prof. M. C. Madukwe</td>
<td>1994-2000</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Prof. E. M. Igbokwe</td>
<td>2000-2002</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Prof. A. R. Ajayi</td>
<td>2002-2004</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Prof. M. C. Madukwe</td>
<td>2004-2005</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Prof. A. R. Ajayi</td>
<td>2005-2006</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Prof. E. M. Igbokwe</td>
<td>2007-2009</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Prof. E. A. Onwubuya</td>
<td>2009-2011</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Prof. A. E. Agwu</td>
<td>2011-2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Dr. (Mrs) M.U. Dimelu</td>
<td>2014 - 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Dr. (Mrs) J.C. Iwuchukwu</td>
<td>2015 - Date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Approved Postgraduate Programmes

The approved postgraduate programme comprises the Postgraduate Diploma (1993), Master (1976) and Doctorate (1981) degrees.

At the Master and Doctorate degree levels, students are expected to take agricultural extension courses and specialize in any one of the following areas:

- Agricultural administration
- Agricultural development communication
- Agricultural extension education
- Agricultural planning and evaluation and
- Rural sociology

5. Academic Staff of the Department

(a) Dr. (Mrs) J.C. Iwuchukwu (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria); Member, Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria and Nigerian Rural Sociological Association)

(b) Professor M.C. Madukwe (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria); Fellow, Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria; Member, Association of International Agricultural Extension Educators (AIAE), African Technology Policy Studies (ATPS) Network, Nigeria Rural Sociological Association and Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria(AESON))
(c) Professor E.M. Igbokwe (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria); Associate Fellow, African Heritage Institute (AfriHeritage); Member, Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria and Nigeria Rural Sociological Association)

(d) Professor E.A. Onwubuya (B.Agric, MSc (Nigeria), PhD (ESUTH); Member, Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria, Nigerian Rural Sociological Association, Science Teacher's Association of Agricultural Educators, Nigeria Association of Agricultural Educators, Third World Organization for Women in Science, African Technology Policy Studies, African Institute for Applied Economics and Nigerian Maize Association)

(e) Professor A.E. Agwu (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria); Associate Fellow, African Heritage Institute (AfriHeritage); Member, Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS), African Technology Policy Studies (ATPS) Network, International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists (IAALD), Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria and International Society of Extension Education (INSEE), India)

(f) Dr. (Mrs) M.U. Dimelu (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria); Member, African Technology Policy Studies (ATPS) Network, Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS) and Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria)

(g) Dr. N. Ozor (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria); Fellow, African Climate Change Fellowship Programme; Associate Fellow; African Institute for Applied Economics (AIAE), Member, Development Studies Association (DSA), United Kingdom, African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS), Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria (AESON), Animal Science Association of Nigeria (ASAN), International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE), African Society for Ecological Economics (ASEE) and West African Research and Innovation Management Association (WARIMA))

(h) Dr. (Mrs) J.M. Chah (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria); Member, African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS), Asian-Pacific Chemical, Biological and Environmental Engineering Society (APCBEES) and Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria (AESON))

(i) Rev’d Dr. I.A. Enwelu (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria); Member, Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria (AESON) and Rural Sociology Association of Nigeria)

(j) Dr. (Mrs) A.N. Asadu (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria); Member, Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria (AESON))

(k) Mrs C.J. Ayogu (B.Agric, MSc (Nigeria); Member, African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) and Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria (AESON))

(l) Mrs C.E. Nwobodo (B.Agric, MSc (Nigeria); Fellow, AfricaRice; Scholar, Commonwealth Fellowship; Member, African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) and Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria (AESON))

(m) Mrs I.Q. Anugwa (B.Agric, MSc (Nigeria); Fellow, Norman Borlaug Leadership Enhancement in Agriculture Programme (LEAP), USA; Member, African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS), Food Security International Network (FSIN), Third World Organization for Women in Science (TWOS), Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria (AESON), International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists (IAALD), USA, Association of International Agricultural Extension Educators (AIAEE),
USA, International Society of Extension Education, Nagpur, India (INSEE), Maharashtra Society of Extension Education, Maharashtra, India (MSEE) and Asian-Pacific Chemical, Biological and Environmental Engineering Society (APCBEES)).


(o) Mr. C. Attamah (B.Agric (Nigeria); Member, Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria (AESON))

6. Postgraduate Experience
(a) Number of graduants

(i) Postgraduate Diploma – 26
(ii) Masters – 110
(iii) PhD – 30

(b) List of approved postgraduate supervisors and affiliations

(i) Dr. (Mrs) J.C. Iwuchukwu (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria)
(ii) Professor M.C. Madukwe (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria)
(iii) Professor E.M. Igbokwe (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria));
(iv) Professor E.A. Onwubuya (B.Agric, MSc (Nigeria), PhD (ESUTH)
(v) Professor A.E. Agwu (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria)
(vi) Dr. (Mrs) M.U. Dimelu (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria)
(vii) Dr. N. Ozor (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria)
(viii) Dr. (Mrs) J.M. Chah (B.Agric, MSc, PhD (Nigeria)

7. Competencies/Skills
Participants in the programme will:

i) Develop their understanding of:
   - the nature of rural extension within agricultural programmes.
   - the processes of social and technical change in rural communities.

ii) Identify constraints to effective agricultural extension work in their own community or project, and explore ways of overcoming them.

iii) Improve their skills in:
   - analyzing the social and economic context within which agricultural programmes takes place.
   - setting objectives for, and the planning and monitoring of extension programmes
   - the management, supervision and monitoring of extension staff.
   - selecting and using appropriate extension communication methods for the various stages of an extension programme, including the design of extension aids.
   - working collaboratively with various client groups to enable them to participate in agricultural programmes.
8. **Distinguished Grand Alumnus**

1. **Professor A.C. Anyanwu**
   Department of Agricultural Extension,
   University of Nigeria, Nsukka
   Enugu State.

2. **Professor C.J.C. Akubuilo**
   Department of Agricultural Extension and Economics,
   Enugu State University of Science and Technology,
   Agbani, Enugu State.

3. **Professor C.P.O. Obinne**
   Department of Agricultural Extension and Communication
   University of Agriculture,
   Makurdi, Benue State.

4. **Professor A.O. Ani**
   Department of Agricultural Extension,
   Federal University of Technology, Owerri
   Imo State.

5. **Dr. N. Ozor**
   Executive Director,
   Africa Technology and Policy Network,
   Nairobi, Kenya.

6. **Chukwu Patience Chika**
   Zenith Bank Plc,
   Abuja.

7. **Ajieh Patrick Chuks**
   Delta State University,
   Asaba Campus, Delta State

8. **Mr Hyacinth Nwalieji**
   Anambra State University
   Igbariam Campus, Anambra State

9. **Nnana Uzofia Egwonwu**
   United Bank for Africa

10. **Dr. Caleb Ezeano**
    Department of Agricultural Extension and Economics,
    Nnamdi Azikiwe University,
    Awka, Anambra State

11. **Chika Polycarp Umunakwe**
    Department of Agricultural Extension,
Federal University of Technology,
Owerri, Imo State.

12. Amala Okoye
   Ebonyi State University,
   Abakiliki, Ebonyi State

13. Agber Tsokura
    College of Agriculture,
    Makurdi, Benue State

14. Mr. I. Ofoka
    Ministry of Agriculture,
    Anambra State.

15. Dr. Mary Agada
    Benue State University,
    Makurdi, Benue State.

16. Mr. A.A. Ngene
    Commercial Agricultural Development Programme,
    Ministry of Agriculture,
    Enugu State.

17. Umar Issah
    Kano State University of Science and Technology,
    Kano State

18. Joy Ellah
    Benue State Agricultural Development Programme,
    Benue State.

19. Matthew Edoka
    Kogi State University
    Anyingba, Kogi State

20. Anucha Innocent
    National Root Crop Research Institute,
    Umudike, Abia State

21. John Oshiedu
    Stanbic IBTC,
    Kogi State

22. Mr. C. Chime
    Agricultural Development Programme,
    Abuja.

23. Uche Obi
    Shell Development Company,
Portharcourt, Rivers State

24. Dr. Emordi Joy  
   University of Portharcourt,  
   Rivers State.

25. Mr. G.O. Orji  
   Ministry of Agriculture,  
   Anambra State

26. Mr. M.C. Umehai  
   Post Primary School Management Board,  
   Delta State.

27. Mr. E.O. Mbanaso  
   National Root Crop Research Institute,  
   Umudike, Abia State.

28. Mrs M.L. Nor  
   College of Education,  
   Benue State.

29. Mrs F.U. Nwadike  
   Micheal Okpara University of Agriculture,  
   Umudike, Abia State.

30. Amos Victor  
    Micheal Okpara University of Agriculture,  
    Umudike, Abia State.

31. Angela Aniegbunam  
    Shell Development Company  
    Rivers State

32. Mrs E.N. Imbur  
    College of Education,  
    Benue State.
9. Pictures of Activities Undertaken by the Department

West African Agricultural Productivity Programme
The Department of Agricultural Extension at Igwe’s palace in Obollo-Nkwo

West African Agricultural Productivity Programme
Presentation of cola nuts to the Department of Agricultural Extension at Obimo Community
West African Agricultural Productivity Programme
Inspection of site for the construction of fish pond at Obimo

West African Agricultural Productivity Programme
Prof. M.C. Madukwe addresses the participants at Ovoko
West African Agricultural Productivity Programme

Profs Agwu and Madukwe inspect the site (insert) at Opi-Agu.