



**A
COMPENDIUM
ON THE
DEVELOPMENT OF THE COCONUT
VALUE CHAIN IN LAGOS
2019-2022**





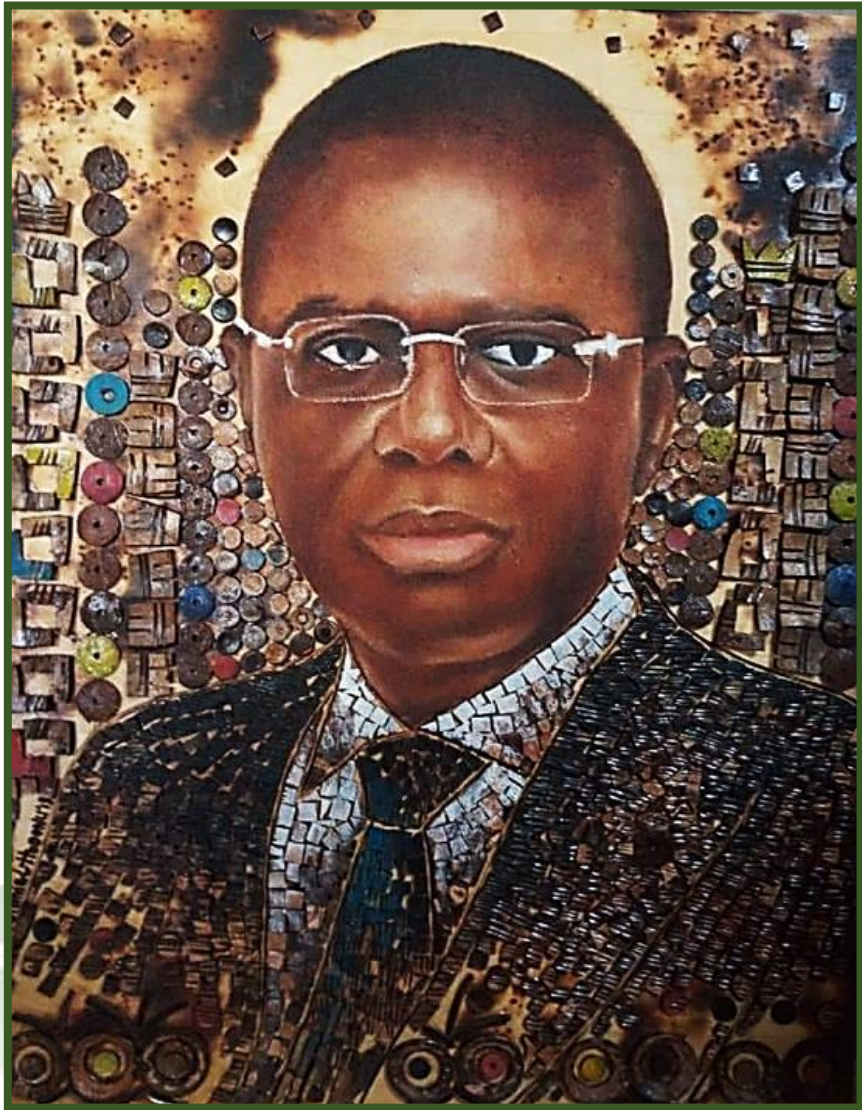
COMPENDIUM OF THE COCONUT VALUE CHAIN 2019 - 2022



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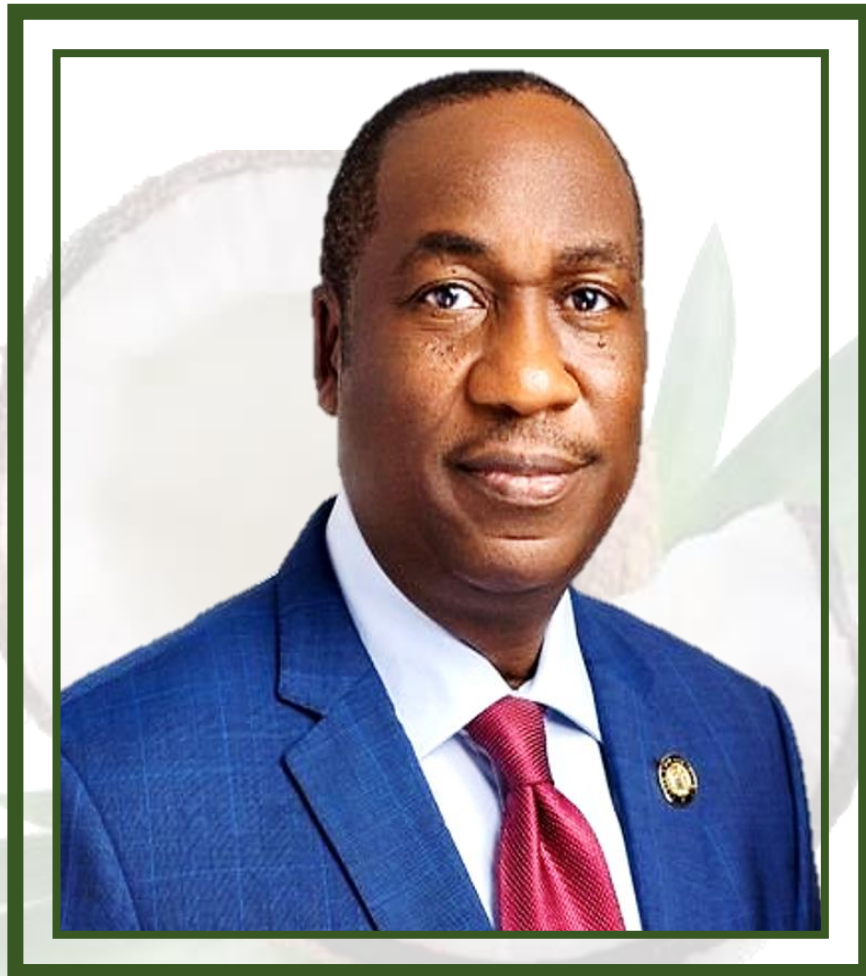


**LAGOS STATE GOVERNMENT
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**



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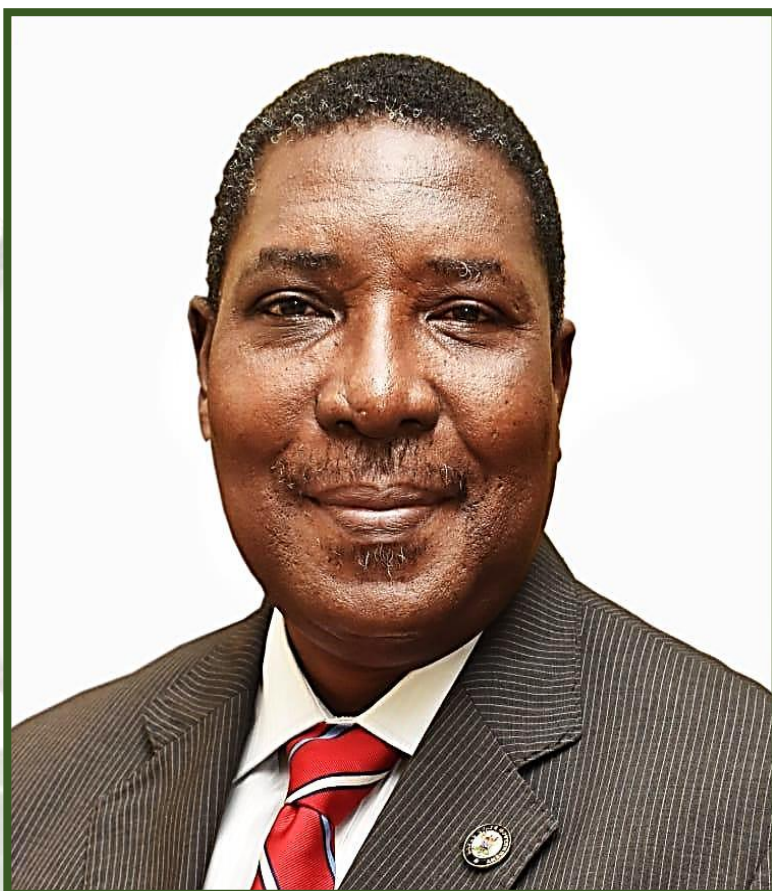




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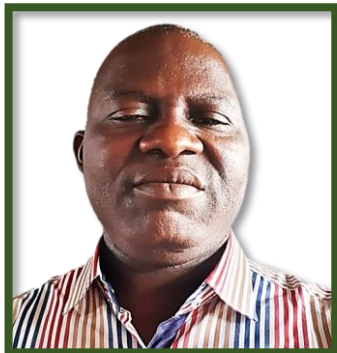


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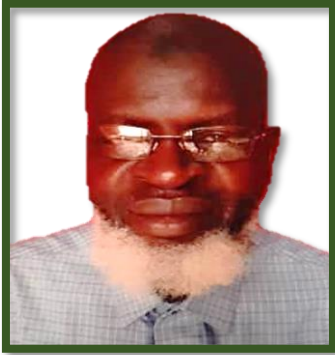


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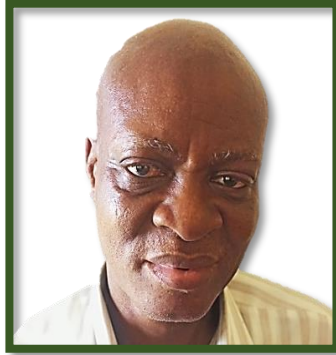


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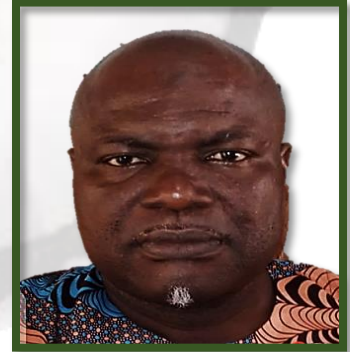
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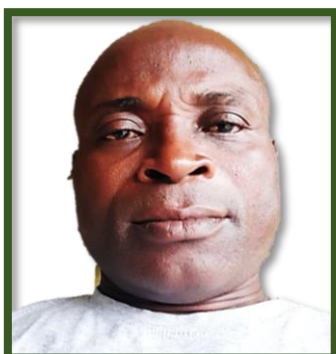
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COMPENDIUM OF THE COCONUT VALUE CHAIN 2019 - 2022

This Compendium contains details of the giant strides of Mr. Governor, Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, in the Coconut Value Chain in Lagos State from 2019 to 2022, as well as future projects, collaborations and projections.



Planting of Coconut Seedling by Mr. Governor



FOREWORD

The Lagos State Coconut Development Authority (LASCODA) was established for the purposes of upgrading the Coconut subsector and for other connected matters. The Authority was mandated to accelerate the production, processing, commercialization and utilization of Coconut.

The establishment of LASCODA was based on the fact that Lagos State is blessed with an abundant vast Coconut belt with unlimited potentials for both economic and environmental purposes.



In a bid to remove all bottlenecks and fully harness the potentials of the wonder crop for the benefit of the State and its citizens, several initiatives and programmes, as well as international and local collaborations have been established.

The importance of Coconut cannot be overemphasized as it can evidently be seen on the official crest of the State as the supporting pillars. The Coconut tree can be processed into over 200 different products with high economic value. It has been an important source of export for some countries contributing as high as 11% of the country's GDP. It has therefore been a necessity for this present administration of Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu Governor of Lagos State to ensure that Coconut contributes significantly to the economy of the State in line with the T.H.E.M.E.S. agenda under the "M" pillar of "Making Lagos a 21st Century Economy".

This Compendium is a compilation of the giant strides of Mr. Governor in the Coconut Subsector from initiatives on accelerating the production, processing, commercialization and utilization of Coconut to capacity building and training of youths and women, as well as future initiatives that will ensure the sustainable development of the Coconut industry in Lagos State.

Thank you.

Mrs. Olatokunbo Ibironke Emokpae
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
LASCODA	Lagos State Coconut Development Authority
LASG	Lagos State Government
MoA.	Lagos State Ministry of Agriculture
MoE.	Lagos State Ministry of the Environment
CVC	Coconut Value Chain
NAFDAC	National Agency for Food and Drugs Control
NGOs	Non Governmental Organization
NIRSAL	Nigerian Incentive-Based Risk Sharing for Agricultural Lending
LSETF	Lagos State Employment Trust Fund
LSADA	Lagos State Agricultural Development Authority
ALHA	Lagos State Agricultural Lands Holding Authority
UN	United Nations



About Lagos State and Coconut

Coconut is a crop generally associated with the Coastal Belt, usually lagoon front, but introduced as a cultivated crop in Nigeria in the 17th Century by the Portuguese, thus early pioneers of Coconut cultivation were the Roman Catholic Mission and some colonial officials in Lagos. Coconut did not come to commercial use until late 19th Century when the British encouraged its production for Copra, a major by-product.



Ajara Farm settlement Coconut Plantation

In Lagos State, up to the late 1970s, Coconut had changed from a mere agricultural crop to becoming closely associated with the local culture, particularly the food system of the residents of Brazilian Quarters (Popo Aguda), Badagry with different food made from Coconut like Fredjon, Babadudu, Candy etc and other Coconut based delicacies during the festive periods.

Lagos State is naturally blessed with a vast Coconut Belt made up of 180 km2 (180,000 Ha) Coastal line and about 703.19km2 (703,319 Ha) on the islands (riverine communities).



Map of Lagos State Coastal Belt



First Storey Building in Nigeria

Owing to their relationship with the Europeans, farmers in Badagry Division keyed into the cultivation of Coconut plantation while other farmers along the Coastal Belt of Lagos did not because of its relatively long gestation period, lack of knowledge of its agronomic practices, pests and diseases, as well as competition from Oil Palm Production.

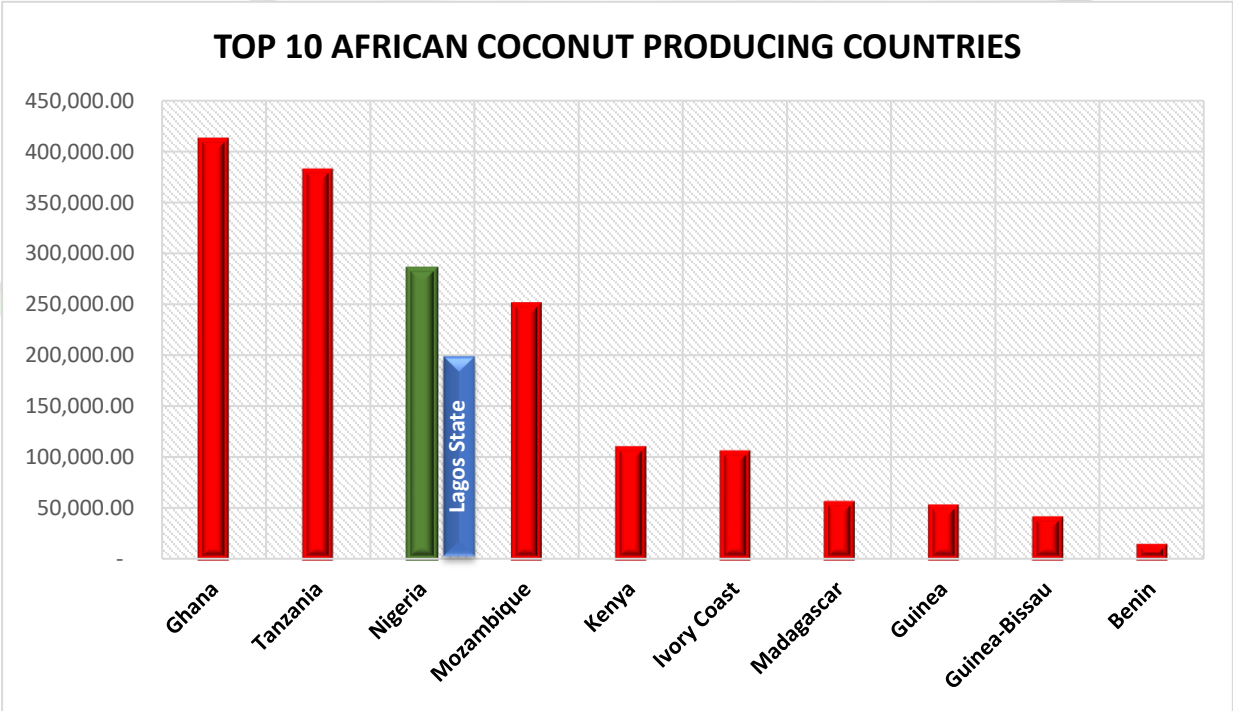
Coconut became a notable agricultural export commodity or produce in Badagry Division by the middle of the 20th Century (around 1950s), and in fact, it became the main stay of local economy.



The report of the benchmark survey conducted by the then Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives in 1995 showed that over 200,000 families derive their livelihood from Coconut across all its value chains. Coconut is the major cash crop in Lagos State, though its potentials have not yet been fully tapped into. However, there are over 20 Coconut Growing States in Nigeria, such as, Ogun, Oyo, Ondo, Ekiti, Osun, Kwara, Kogi, Niger, FCT, Nassarawa, Benue, Taraba, Edo, Delta, Rivers, Akwa-Ibom. Cross River, Imo, Abia, Anambra, Enugu, Ebonyi and Kaduna.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Corporate Statistical Database on Coconut production, Nigeria ranks 19th on the list of Coconut-producing countries of the World with an annual production of 285,200MT in 2018. Lagos State currently contributes about 70% of Coconut production in Nigeria and as at present, she has an estimated 2.9 million trees with an annual production of 187,880 MT. However, with right interventions, the State has the potential of having more than 10 million trees which will push its annual production level to about 700,000MT.

Africa contributes 3.4% of the world nuts. The top 10 leading producing African countries include Tanzania, Ghana, Nigeria, Mozambique, Kenya, Cote d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Guinea, Guinea Bissau and Benin. Nigeria ranks 3rd majorly as a result of the massive contribution of Lagos State in the production of Coconut.



Establishment of the Lagos State Coconut Development Authority (LASCODA)

In the early 1990s, the Government of Lagos State recognized the deficit in Coconut production, despite its potentials for increased income generation as a crop for local processing, and as a foreign exchange earner. As a result, a Benchmark Survey on Coconut Production in Lagos State was conducted in 1995, to ascertain the current situation, identify the challenges responsible for the shortfall, as well as possible solutions.

The 1995 Survey involved many Agencies and Institutions including: Nigerian Institute for Oil Palm Research (NIFOR); Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC); Lagos State Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives; Agricultural Development Project (ADP); Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism; Directorate for Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI); Centre for Rural Development at Lagos State University (CERUD) and Coconut producing communities.

The major constraints identified by the survey as hindering the development of the Coconut industry in Lagos State, included:

- Advancing age of palms with declining levels of production;
- Minimal use of Coconut production inputs;
- Inadequate rural infrastructure in Coconut growing areas;
- Absence of policy and institutional support for Coconut production, processing, utilization and commercialization;
- Poor utilisation of Coconut products in Lagos State and;
- Absence of Coconut plantation rehabilitation efforts.

Following the results of this survey, the Executive Council of Lagos State Government articulated the Lagos State Government Policy on Coconut Production.

Subsequently in 1996 the establishment of the Lagos State Coconut Development Authority (LASCODA) was approved to implement the policy, remove the constraints identified in the Benchmark Survey, and promote Coconut development within the State. LASCODA commenced operations in 1998.

LASCODA became operational in 1998 with the purposes of accelerating the production, processing, utilization and commercialization of Coconut, as well as upgrade and sustain the development of Coconut Value Chain in the State and other connected matters.

LASCODA, being an enterprise specific agricultural development agency, is probably one of its kind in Nigeria.



VISION

To evolve a Coconut Sub-sector with feasible, achievable goals and benefits capable of competing favorably with other Coconut driven economies.

MISSION

To promote the sustainable production, processing, utilization and commercialization of Coconut in Lagos State



The specific objectives of the Authority are to:

- Accelerate the development of Agriculture in the State through the upgrading and sustenance of the whole Coconut industry from planting to marketing including exportation of Coconut products through processing, storage and other processes;
- Encourage farmers, communities, produce merchants, related dealers to improve their industry;
- Accelerate the structural transformation of Coconut producing communities;
- Promote and implement Government policy on Coconut production; and
- Stimulate the development of related Coconut-based industries in the State.



The specific functions of the Authority are to:

- Create awareness on the industrial potentials of Coconut in Nigeria
- Stimulate and facilitate a sustained development of Coconut in Lagos State through the provision of policy guidelines, incentives and financial support to farmers, communities, Coconut-based industries etc.,
- Produce and make resistant and high yielding seedlings of improved Coconut varieties available to farmers
- Accelerate the planting and replanting of the “Coconut Belt” of the State which includes coastline stretching from Seme Border (Badagry LGA) to Aboreji (Ibeju-Lekki LGA) with an average of one thousand metres (1km) width and;



- Mobilize private investors, agencies and relevant international organizations to remove the inadequacies of the quantity and quality of farm inputs, as well as the low level of related agricultural and industrial technologies relevant to Coconut production, in order to make it attractive;
- Promote the setting up of Coconut-based small and medium-scale industries in rural areas;
- Promote the export of Coconut products;
- Train and upgrade the skill of value chain actors.

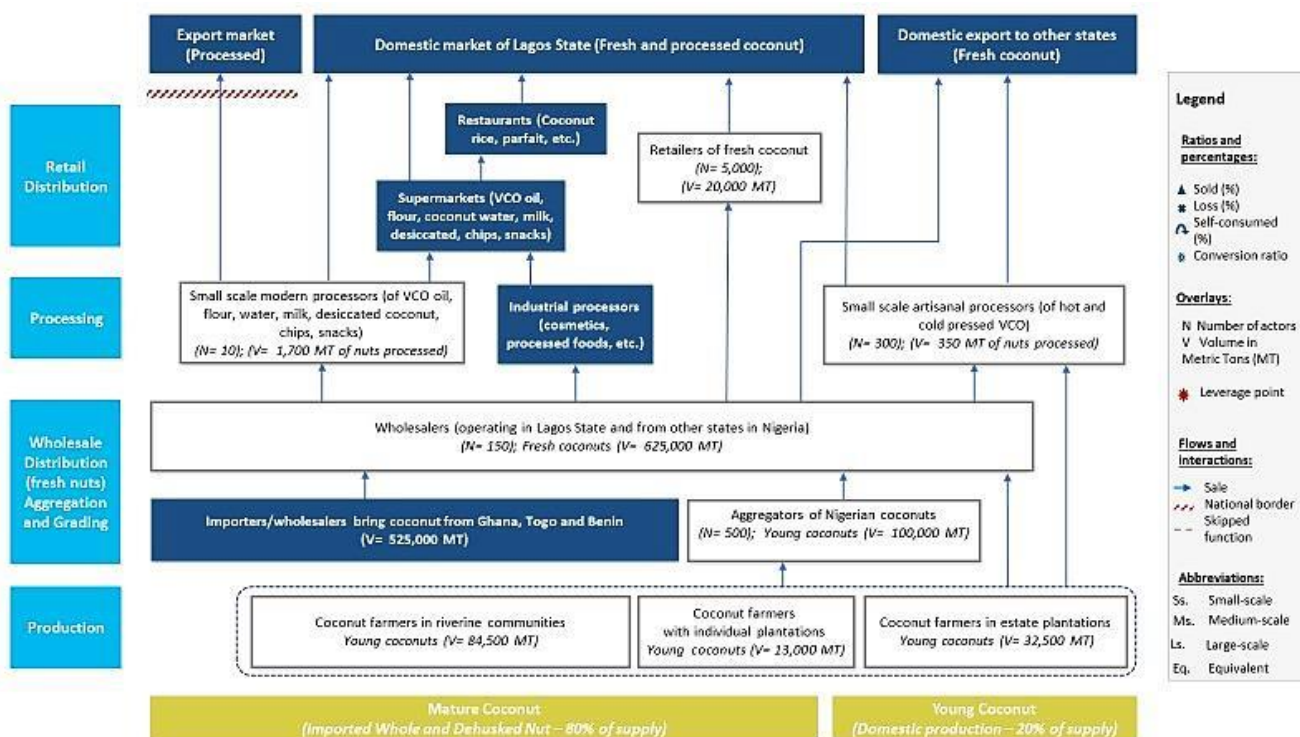


The Authority is also empowered to:

- Produce inputs such as Coconut Seedlings
- Purchase such other inputs as fertilizers and agro-chemicals through agencies;
- Acquire, purchase and import tools, equipment and relevant machineries and commission agencies to fabricate Coconut processing equipment and machineries;
- Collect fees on primary Coconut products;
- Appoint planting material contract growers;
- Grant, sell, and subsidize Coconut production inputs;
- Recommend eligible Coconut farmers and industrialists to financial institutions for loans;
- Work out with local government council's ways and means to promote Coconut production in their areas;
- Liaise with relevant agencies to secure financial and all types of assistance to upgrade Coconut production in Lagos State;
- Liaise and cooperate with relevant local, national and international organizations and agencies to develop Coconut production in the State.



Current Status of the Coconut Value Chain in Lagos State



In the past three decades, Coconut production in Nigeria has been increasing by 1.7% annually with Lagos State still accounting for about 70% of the national Coconut output, however, in spite of increasing demand, the domestic output is only able to serve between 20% and 30% of the estimated 1million MT national requirement, leaving the remaining demand to be fulfilled by imports from Togo, Ghana and Benin Republic.

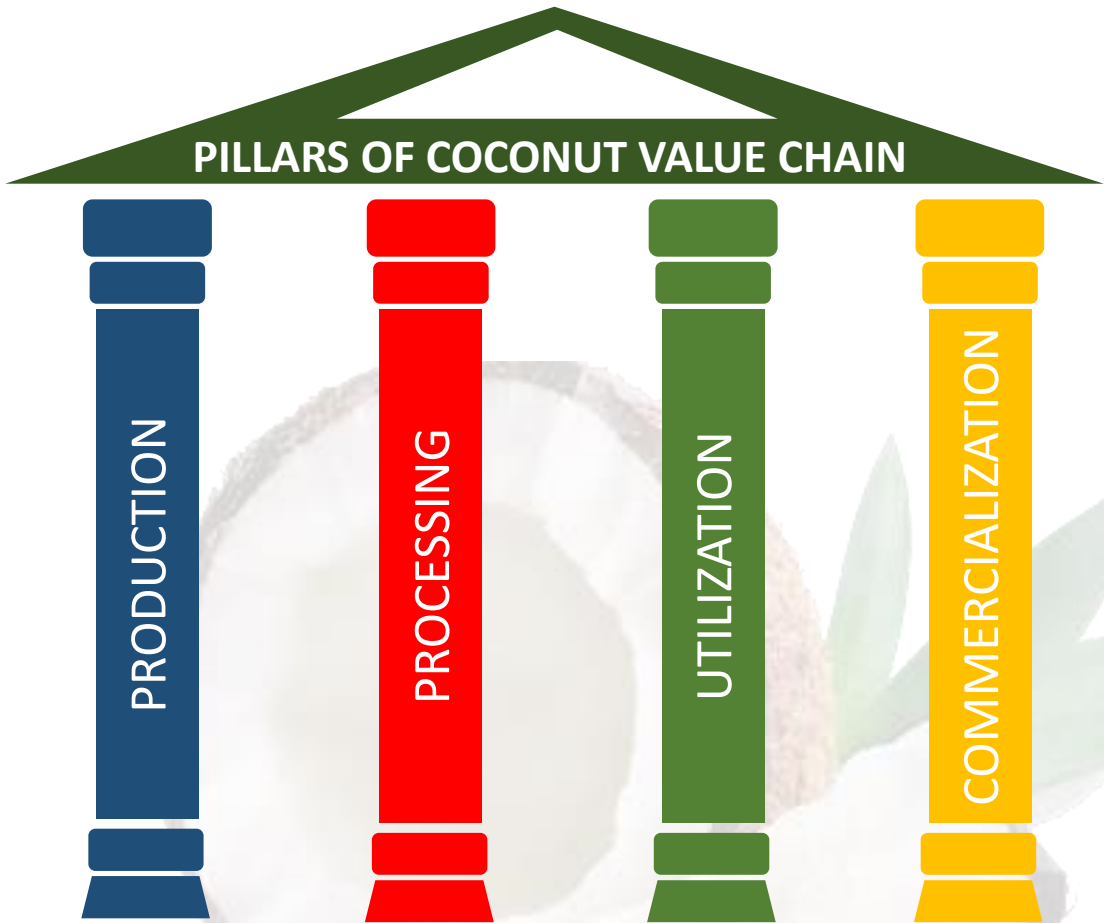
The value chain is dominated by small-scale actors including farmers, aggregators, wholesalers, processors and retailers, who use largely traditional methods and have weak linkages with each other as well as, with input and support service providers.

LASCODA has supported the creation of some market linkages between actors, e.g., linking farmers and processors, however, the coordination and interaction between members of different groups/associations/cooperatives continues to be weak.

Currently, many Coconut trees in Coconut producing communities are older and less productive varieties, farmers lack adequate access to quality and improved seedlings and planting materials, actors across the Coconut value chain lack access to adequate financial, insurance, extension and transport services as well as business incubator programs, knowledge and technical capacity on improved and best practices along the chain.

The value chain lacks appropriate regulations and institutional arrangements to provide specific guidance and support to the development of the Coconut sector.





An Analysis of the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) of the Value Chain

STRENGTH

- ✓ Existing Coconut growing and processing communities and their local knowledge,
- ✓ Availability of suitable agricultural land and favourable climate for Coconut production,
- ✓ Presence of LASCODA and other government and research and development agencies to support the Coconut industry, and established fresh Coconut wholesale market.
- ✓ Intensification of LASCODA activities in attracting private investors to Coconut Value Chain and creating awareness on the socio-economic and environmental potential of Coconut

OPPORTUNITY

- ✓ Increasing global and domestic demand for Coconut products and the existing domestic supply-demand gap,
- ✓ Sustained interest of Lagos State Government in ensuring the Coconut sub-sector of Agriculture contributes significantly to IGR and Making Lagos a 21st Century Economy
- ✓ Existing financial interventions by the Lagos State Government, (e.g. Lagos State Employment Trust Fund - LSETF),
- ✓ Emerging interest of FAO and UNIDO in collaborating with Lagos State to develop the Value Chain,
- ✓ Increasing awareness on the wide ranging possibilities for value addition.

WEAKNESS

- ✓ Aging Coconut trees,
- ✓ Minimal use of improved inputs/technologies,
- ✓ Lack of knowledge on modern practices,
- ✓ Unreliable domestic supply of Coconut and high dependence on imported Coconut,
- ✓ Limited value-addition due to the lack of adequate post-harvest and processing facilities,
- ✓ Limited vertical and horizontal linkages between value chain actors,
- ✓ Low level of competitiveness due to high costs and low efficiency of production/processing,
- ✓ Lack of access to financial and extension services,
- ✓ Absence of policy and institutional support for actors across the value chain and inadequate rural infrastructure in Coconut growing areas.

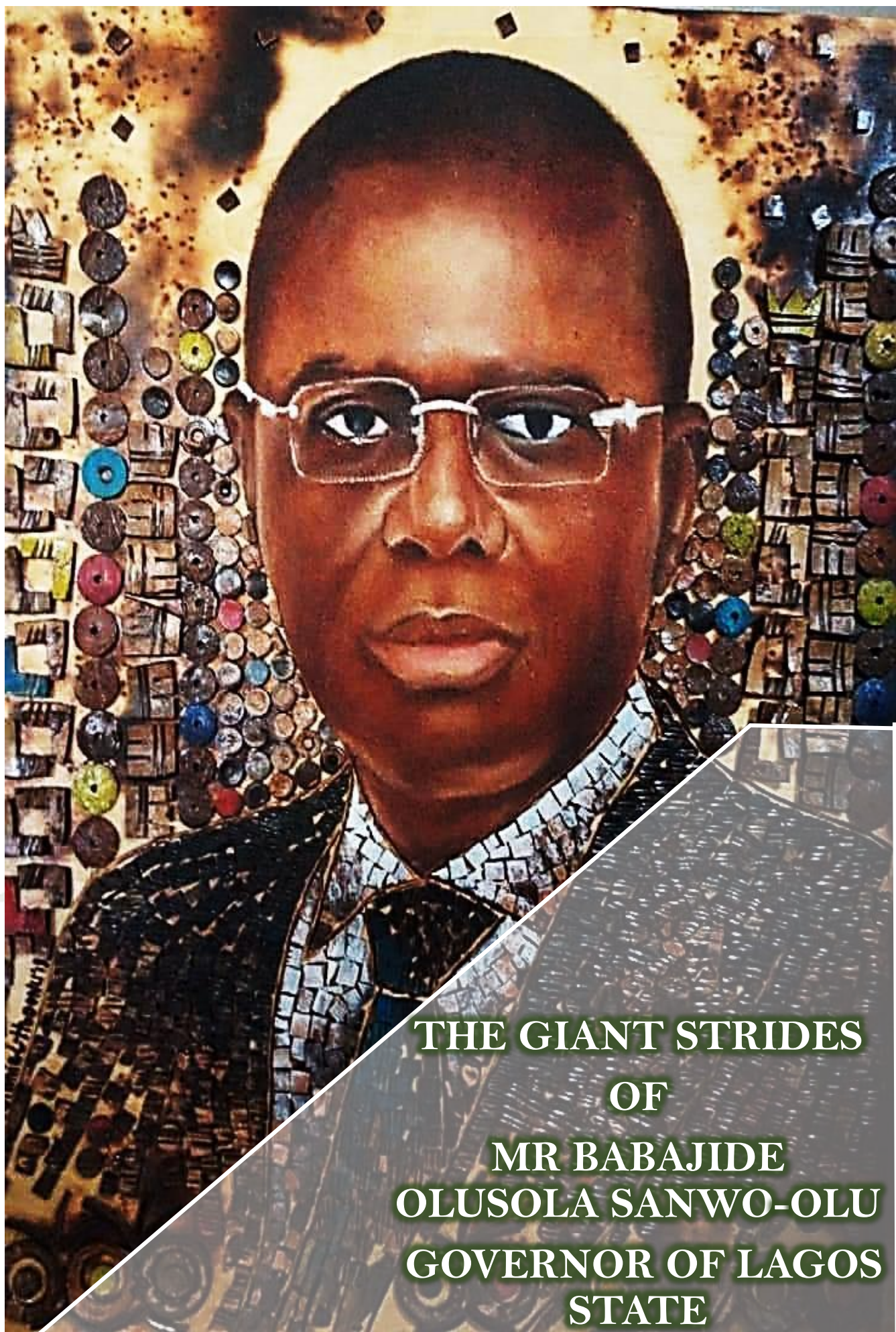
THREAT

- ✓ Aging labour and possible lack of manpower,
- ✓ Further reduction of land for land cultivation due to coastal erosion as well as development,
- ✓ Pests and diseases affecting local Coconut production,
- ✓ Climate-change associated risks and other shock that could undermine the performance of the value chain and changing government priorities and Lagos State's quest for Megacity Status.



Product Derivatives of Coconut





**THE GIANT STRIDES
OF
MR BABAJIDE
OLUSOLA SANWO-OLU
GOVERNOR OF LAGOS
STATE**



COCONUT SEEDLING PRODUCTION

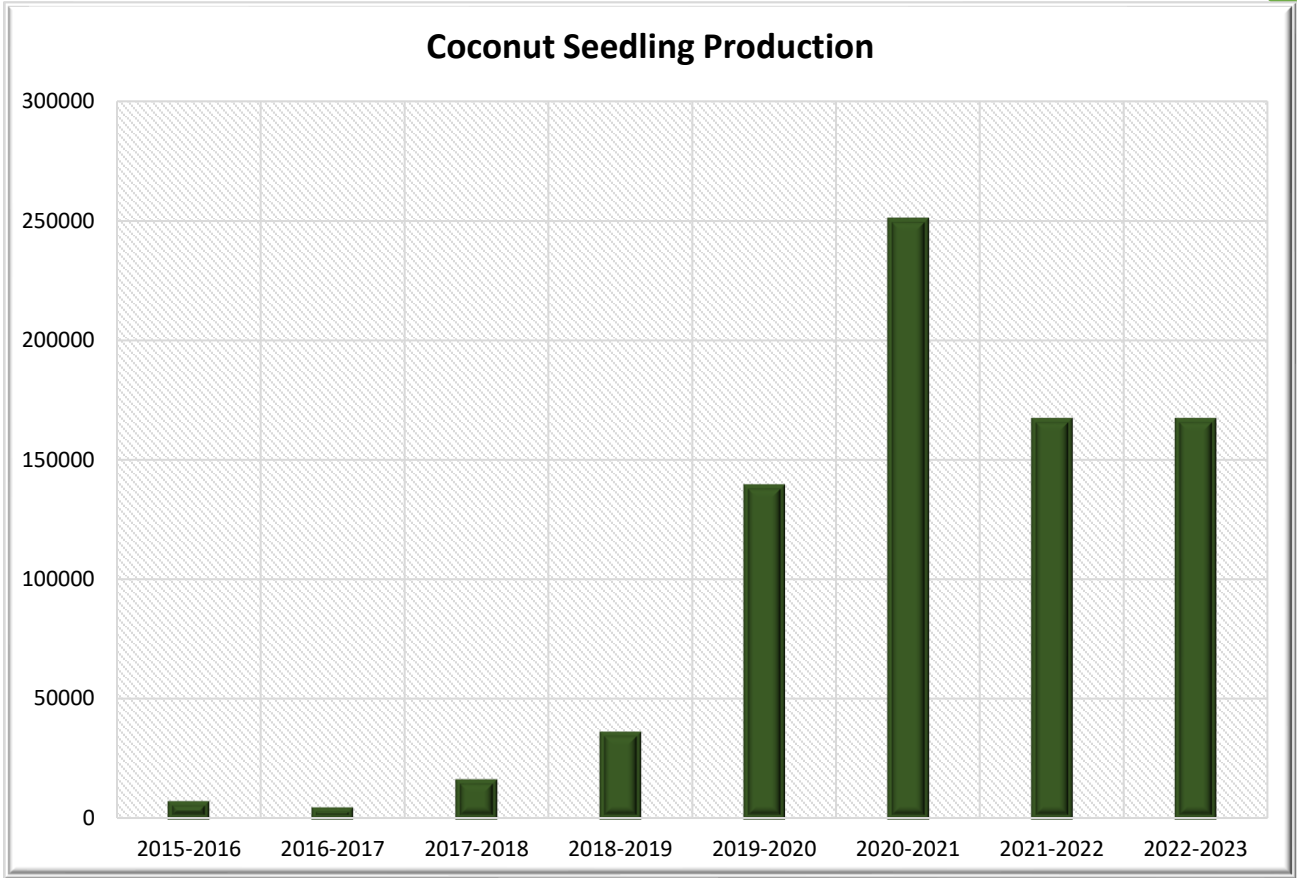
The availability of quality Seedlings (planting materials) is as important to the Coconut value chain sub-sector just as day-old chicks are to poultry farming. However, the technology for mass production of quality and viable seedling is beyond local farmers' level because of the technicality involved, thus, seedling production is restricted to specialized nurseries with necessary facilities.

Since her establishment, LASCODA has been involved in seedling production. The administration of Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, Governor of Lagos State, recognized this and aggressively initiated the programme for massive production of seedlings, therefore, recording massive improvement with the upgrading of the nurseries at Mowo (Badagry), Farm Service Centre, Oko-Oba (Agege) and Okun Ise (Ibeju Lekki) as could be seen in the annual seedling production of LASCODA in the chart overleaf.

Since the inception of Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, it can be clearly seen that the Governor has done a lot in terms of Coconut seedling production as the importance of these seedlings cannot be overemphasized.

Between 2015 and 2018, the Authority in conjunction with the Outgrowers Scheme were only able to produce 62,042 Coconut seedlings. However, under the administration of Mr. Governor between 2019 and 2022, the Authority in conjunction with the outgrowers produced more than 700,000 Coconut seedlings which is almost 800% increase in production.





Mr. Governors Achievement



Coconut Seedlings at LASCODA Nursery in Mowo, Badagry 2020



Planting of Scarified Seednuts at LASCODA Nursery in Farm Service Centre (FSC) Oko-Oba Agege 2021



COCONUT RENEWAL INITIATIVE

One of the mandates of the Authority is to promote sustainable Coconut production through the windows of aggressive Coconut Rehabilitation / Replanting Programme and constant collaboration with other relevant agencies for research and development of the Coconut subsector of agriculture. This initiative was aimed at planting of Coconut seedlings in LGAs/LCDAs, educational institutions, industrial and residential estates etc. in the urban and semi-urban areas of the State. The idea was to create Coconut economy in the neighborhoods.



Produced Coconut Seedlings for Distribution 2020



Distribution of Seedlings to the HOD (AGRIC.) of LGAs/LCDAs in 2020 at Farm Service Centre Nursery, Oko-Oba, Agege



Some Symbolic Coconut Seedling Presentation and Planting Sessions



Planting of Coconut Seedling at Ansar-UI-Deen Junior High School, Agege, 2021



**Planting of Coconut Seedling at Lions Club
Ojodu Grammar Schhol, Ikeja, 2021**



Planting of Coconut Seedling at Epe Grammar School, 2022



Presentation of Coconut Seedlings to University of Lagos, 2020



Planting of Coconut Seedling at Iya Afin Type 2 Feedlot, Badagry, 2020



Planting of Coconut Seedling by Rotary Club, 2021



Agidingbi Technical College, 2021



African Church Model College, Ifako, 2021



Government College, Ketu Epe, 2021



INCREASED NUMBER OF COCONUT TREES



Owing to different initiatives on the Coconut value chain since the inception of this administration, the number of productive Coconut trees in the State has increased from an estimated 2,000,000 in 2018 to almost 3,000,000 as at 2022, ensuring that Lagos State continues to be the highest producer of Coconut in Nigeria, therefore, ranking her as the 19th top Coconut producer in the world. This steady increase is as a result of the productive efforts of the State Government through the Lagos State Coconut Development Authority, made possible through the Coconut Farmers Outgrowers Scheme and the Six (6) Lagos State Government Seed Gardens across the State (Coconut House – Mowo in Badagry, Ilogbo in Badagry, Farm Service Centre, Oko-Oba, Agege, Okun-Ise in Ibeju Lekki, Gberefu in Badagry and Igboodu in Epe) established for the purposes of producing improved Coconut seedlings and preservation of the varieties adaptable to the agro-ecological conditions of Lagos State were upgraded in 2021 to the present seedling production capacity of 500,000 seedlings.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in 2018, Nigeria ranked 19th among the top Coconut producing countries of the world with 290,288 mt per annum. It is pertinent to note that about 70% of this production comes from Lagos State.

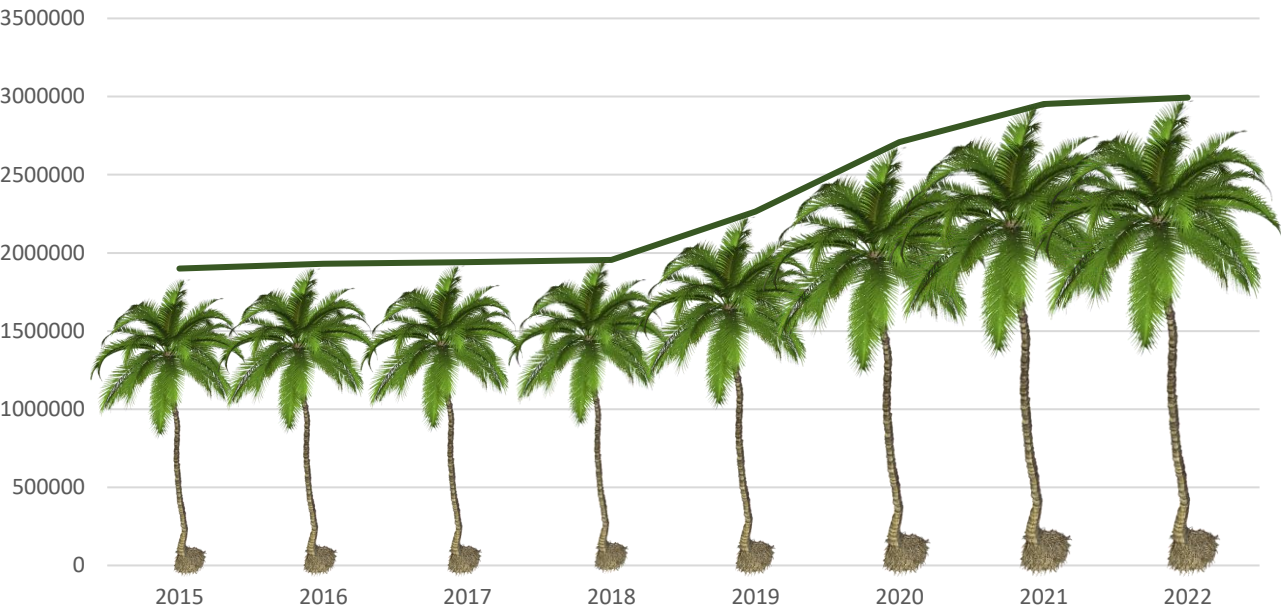
With the increase in Coconut trees in Lagos, the State's ability to produce more dry nuts for seedling production has increased by 8%. Although, the State can only currently meet with 30% of the local demand for Coconut, the State also supplies nuts to all parts of the Country.



Honourable Commissioner for Agriculture, Ms. Abisola Olusanya, inspecting scarified dry Coconuts ready for nursery at FSC Oko-Oba in 2020



Estimated number of Coconut trees in the State Trees Planted



RANK	COUNTRY	COCONUT PRODUCTION (MT)
1	Indonesia	18,674,157
2	Philippines	14,513,151
3	India	11,718,608
4	Sri Lanka	2,658,031
5	Brasil	2,304,836
6	Vietnam	1,592,635
7	Papua New Guniea	1,234,998
8	Mexico	1,159,667
9	Thailand	834966
10	Myanmar	567,438
11	Tanzania	550,661
12	Malaysia	505,544
13	Bangladesh	464,236
14	Dominican Republic	423,224
15	Vanuatu	418,596
16	China	411,936
17	Ghana	398,840
18	Solomon Islands	389,843
19	Nigeria	290,288
20	Jamaica	250,336



Source: Food and Agriculcture Organization Corporate Statistical Database



TRAININGS, CAPACITY BUILDING AND EMPOWERMENTS

The Lagos State Coconut Development Authority (LASCODA), established for the purposes of upgrading and sustaining the development of Coconut production in the State and for other connected matters, has been training youths and women that have flair for Coconut processing since 2018.

Coconut, as the main cash crop of Lagos State, can go a long way in eradicating poverty and joblessness among its citizens if properly harnessed. Since the introduction of the above programme and its successful impact, there have been positive results from participants with testimonies on how the training and empowerment has enabled them to start their own businesses and generate income for themselves.

This is directly in line with the aim of this present administration to bring youths and women out of poverty, in line with the “THEMES” Agenda of Mr. Governor under the “M” pillar of **‘Making Lagos a 21st Century Economy’**. This can be achieved through the optimal utilization of Coconut for wealth and job creation, as well as additional income opportunities.

So far, the Authority in collaboration with the Lagos State Employment Trust Fund (LSETF) has registered over 5000 youths for this capacity building and training programme out of which the Authority has successfully trained and empowered 1,262 across the value chain as follows:

- 500 youths and women on Coconut Arts and Crafts Production (Waste to wealth),
- 400 youths and women on Coconut Oil and Flour Production,
- 200 youths and women on Coconut Seedling Production and Plantation Establishment and,
- 162 youths and women on Coconut Charcoal Production (Alternative Energy/Waste to Wealth).

The trained youths and women across the Coconut value chain mentioned above were empowered with equipment for a micro-scale (homestead) production.



The main objective of this programme is to bring youths, women and people living with disability out of poverty through the optimal utilization of Coconut for wealth and job creation, as well as additional income opportunities.

The specific objective was to train youths, women and people living with disability across the Coconut value chain on:

1. Coconut Arts and Crafts-Making (Waste to Wealth)
2. Coconut Shell Charcoal (Alternative Energy and Waste to Wealth) and;
3. Coconut Oil and Flour Production
4. Coconut Seedling Production

This training, capacity building and empowerment programme is a sustainable solution for reducing unemployment in the State, and among other things:

1. Actively engage youths and women across the State by providing entrepreneurial skills;
2. Create sustainable direct and indirect employment opportunities;
3. Improve the standards of living of youths, women and people living with disability and;
4. Reduce civil unrest among youths in the State.



Coconut Arts and Craft Training Sessions



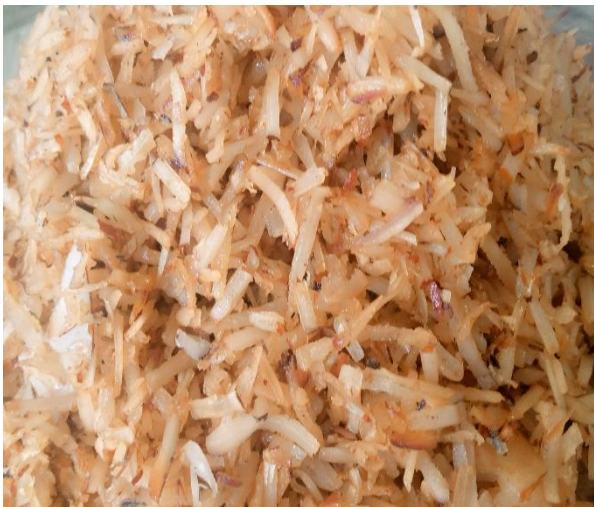
Some Coconut Arts and Craft Products

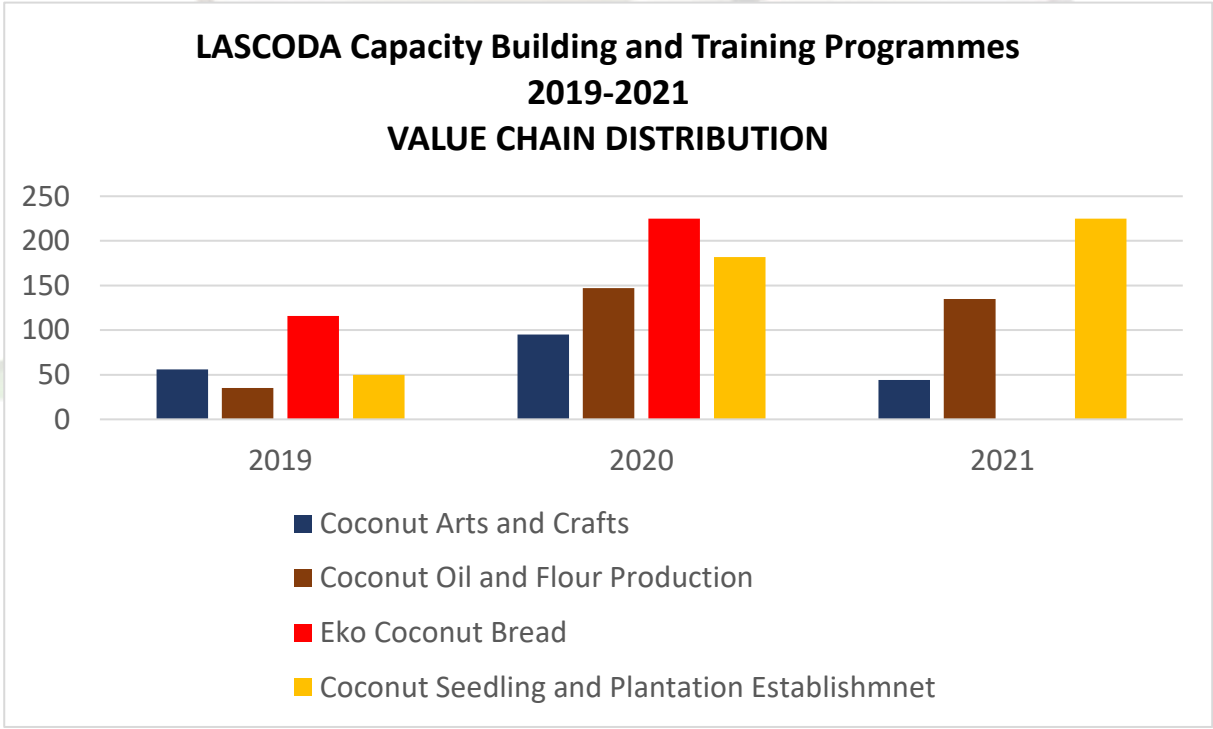
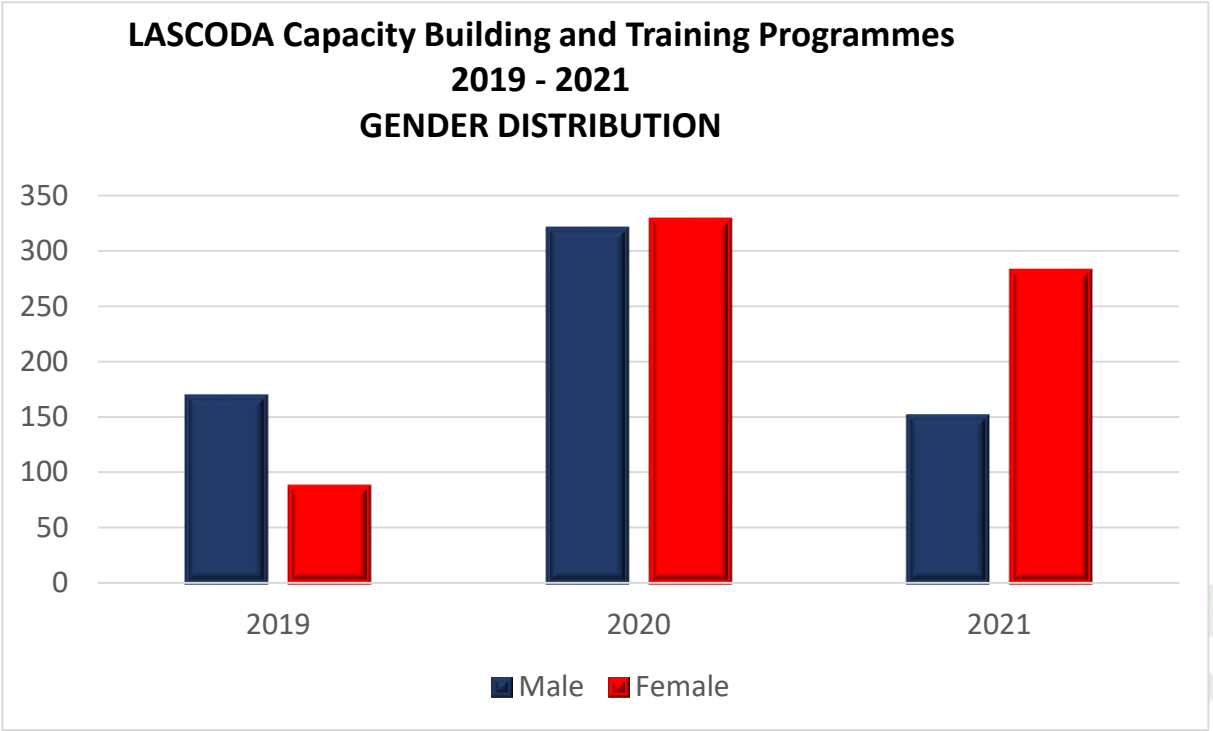


Edible Coconut Processing Training Sessions



Edible Coconut Products from Training Sessions





EKO COCONUT BREAD EXPANSION INITIATIVE



Bread-making was identified as a strategy for increasing consumption of Coconut in the State, including it in a major staple diet of Lagosians. In 2019, the Eko Coconut Bread intervention was designed to increase the consumption of Coconut and improve the dietary value and nutrition of Lagos citizens by encouraging bakeries to include Coconut in their bread production without legislation. The ultimate objective of this initiative is to ensure that the economic and health potentials of Coconut are optimally tapped.

The immediate output of this initiative includes support to 10 Bakeries with customized branded wrapper, cylinder, branded kiosks, tricycles and input materials, creation of wealth opportunities for over **350 youths and women** in the State through provision of start-up resources. Quantitatively, the output of this initiative is as captured in the table below.

No. of Bakeries Empowered	No. of Youths and Women Empowered	No. of Estimated Production Days since Inception	Total Estimated No. of Eko Bread Produced and Sold since Inception	Estimated Value of Eko Coconut Bread since Inception (₦)
10	350	324	400,000	180,000,000.00



Since 2019 to date, the initiative has contributed immensely to changing the narrative of Coconut bread consumption, production and promotion in the State. It should be noted that prior to the implementation of the initiative, Coconut bread used to be an elite product with its sales restricted to major stores but now, Coconut is one of the major value attractions of bread in the State. Thus, we have a lot of bakeries that have imbibed the principle of Coconut inclusion into bread-baking and a lot of selling points (e.g., Agege, Ikorodu, Mazamaza etc.) are now dealing in Coconut bread of other brands



Branded Eko Coconut Bread Tricycles



Branded Eko Coconut Bread Kiosk and Banner



Display of Eko Coconut Bread for Empowerment 2020



Presentation of Eko Coconut Bread to a Beneficiary 2020



Presentation of Eko Coconut Bread to Beneficiaries 2020



COLLABORATION WITH LAGOS STATE SCHOOL OF NURSING ON COCONUT PROCESSING



Group Photograph of the Management of the Ministry of Agriculture, Lagos State Coconut Development Authority (LASCODA) and Lagos State College of Nursing with Student Nurses Prepped for Training

As a result of the intensive awareness and sensitization of the general public on the economic benefits of the Coconut value chain and the positivity associated with the processing of Coconut to create viable businesses, and in turn, create wealth and generate employment, the Provost of Lagos State School of Nursing recognized the value of Coconut and included it as an entrepreneurship course for student nurses with the aim of promoting product development and wealth creation.

This programme, which is a collaboration with the State Government, was graciously approved by Mr. Governor to build the agro-preneurship capacity and skills of the student nurses through the Lagos State Coconut Development Authority (LASCODA).



Presentation of MoU to Coordinator of Nursing School by GM & Staff of LASCODA



So far, over 50 student nurses have been fully trained and the programme has also been incorporated into the curriculum of the school.

The training apart from the practical sessions on how to process Coconut into different viable products had theoretical classes which included: Understanding Farming Business and Business Planning, Record-Keeping and Accounting, Purchasing Decisions, Costs and Benefits of Investments, as well as, Assessing and Managing Credit.

It is pertinent to note that successful nurses were linked with the Lagos State Employment Trust Fund (LSETF) for access to credit.



Opening Ceremony with Management



Theoretical Lecture Delivered by Facilitator



Student Nurses receiving Lectures in one of the Theoretical Sessions



Practical Sessions



Practical Sessions



COLLABORATION WITH LAGOS STATE SPORTS COMMISSION



The Lagos State Coconut Development Authority (LASCODA) collaborated with the Lagos State Sports Commission through Lagos State Sports Trust Fund on Waste to Wealth: Coconut Arts and Crafts Making programme held by the Authority annually.

This training was aimed at developing and providing entrepreneurial skills to athletes registered with the Lagos State Sports Commission to serve as an alternative source of income. It can be noted that these athletes have an active sports life which usually ends between the ages of 35 and 40 years old. It was noted that most of these athletes who lack entrepreneurial skills as well as business acumen find it difficult to integrate into the society economically and therefore end up being subjected to poverty and unemployment which usually results in uneasiness and dire societal issues.



Athletes during Arts and Crafts Practical session 2021

This initiative of training athletes was an innovative idea that the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu keyed into and made a success. So far, LASCODA and Lagos State Sports Commission have been able to train 200 athletes who have been empowered with micro-scale start-up tools and linked to the Lagos State Employment Trust Fund (LSSTF) in order to access windows of credit facilities.





WORLD COCONUT DAY CELEBRATION

Coconut is one of the most popular fruits consumed in the world, along with that, the fruit's multipurpose nature makes it stand out from the rest. Right from extracting Coconut water out of the nut to making Coconut milk or oil from the flesh, the fruit is extremely versatile.

Every year, September 2nd is celebrated as **World Coconut Day** to highlight the benefits of the fruit along with raising global awareness about how it can be grown and preserved. Several countries around the world specialize in manufacturing items made from Coconut that has become a part of our daily lives.

This day was first celebrated in 2009 by the Asia Pacific Coconut Community (APCC). Since then, there has been no going back. Collaborating with UN-ESCAP (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific), APCC goes on to highlight its versatility and how it plays an important role in keeping us healthy.





In previous years, it was usually celebrated at the beach front in Badagry with great enthusiasm and fanfare, but due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, the Ministry of Agriculture through the Lagos State Coconut Development Authority celebrated the Year 2020 World Coconut Day modestly at Farm Service Centre, Oko-Oba in line with guidelines to curb the spread of the pandemic. The theme of the celebration in Lagos was ***Coconut in the 21st Century Economy***.

The celebration was graced by Honourable AbdulGaniu Okanlawon Sanni of the State House of Assembly representing Kosofe Local Government (LGA), who was also the immediate past Special Adviser to the former Governor on Agriculture. Also, the special guests were the Acting Commissioner for Agriculture, Ms Abisola Olusanya, Special Adviser PMO, Honourable Afolabi Ayantayo, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Dr. Olayiwole Onasanya, representative of the General Manager of Lagos State Employment Trust Fund (LSETF), Dr J.O Odewale, Rt. Director Nigeria Institute For Oil Palm Research (NIFOR) Benin, Edo State, members of management team of the Ministry of Agriculture comprising of Directors and Head of Departments and Units. The Chairmen of all the 20 LGA and the 37 LCDA were also ably represented. Also present were media houses from Alausa Alert, News Agency of Nigeria (NAN), Traffic Radio, The Sun Newspaper, Corporate Farmers International and Agribusiness Weekend. Furthermore, exhibitors of different Coconut products were in attendance to showcase their products such as Coconut Candies, Coconut Flour, Coconut sugar, Coconut water, Coconut arts and Crafts, Coconut rice, Coconut bread etc.



Photograph Sessions of the Celebration



Photograph Sessions of the Celebration - Product Exhibition



Photograph Sessions of the Celebration - Product Exhibition & LASCODA Team



LAGOS STATE GOVERNMENT (LASG)/FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION (FAO)/UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (UNIDO) UNILATERAL TRUST FUND (UTF) INTERVENTION ON COCONUT VALUE CHAIN IN LAGOS STATE



Food and Agriculture Organization High Mission Courtesy Visit to Mr Deputy Governor

In 2021, Lagos State Government requested for the technical support of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) through FAO Unilateral Trust Fund (UTF) Modality Coconut Value Chain Analysis and Development of an upgrading strategy for the Coconut sector of Lagos State. To make the support technically feasible, cost-effective and ensure an optimized return on Government investment, FAO proposed implementation of an initial inception phase for six months to carry out the Coconut Value Chain Analysis (VCA), design an effective action plan that will identify the necessary public and private investments, technical assistance, and policy implications for sustainable value chain development. The Lagos State Government co-financed the initial phase of the project with \$150,000 USD, supported by FAO. FAO jointly implemented the Coconut value chain analysis with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) under the FAO-UNIDO jointly-managed project Agri-Food Systems Transformation Accelerator (ASTA).



Mr. Governor graciously approved \$150,000.00 (One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars) for the above collaboration through UTF with the agreement signed on 12th November 2021 at the Conference Room of the Ministry of Agriculture by the Honourable Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture.



Official Signing of UTF Agreement between FAO & LASG

Sequel to the above and in line with the action plan laid out by FAO/UNIDO value chain experts, a multi-stakeholder inception workshop was conducted on the 9th of December 2021, followed by a month-long intensive field exercise for data collection via key informant interviews, surveys, key actor interviews, focus group discussions etc. and analysis which involved combing the nooks and crannies of Coconut-producing communities, processors, marketers and other value chain actors' locations in the State. This exercise kicked off on the 18th February 2022 and ended on the 18th March 2022.





Inception Workshop with Coconut Value Chain Actors



Training of Enumerators for Field Work Exercise

Presentation on Summary of Field Work Exercise



Photo Sessions from FAO/UNIDO Field Visits



Visit to Ajara Farm Settlement Coconut Farmers, Badagry



Visit to Ketu Market



Visit to Ojo Riverine Coconut Farmers



Visit to Coconut Market at Agbalata, Badagry



Visit to Mama Aivoji Coconut Oil Processor, Aivoji, Badagry



Visit to Jam Coconut Company at Okun Ajah, Ajah



Upon completion of the exercise, a Participatory Validation Workshop was held on the 24th and 25th of May 2022 at Providence Hotel by Mantis, Ikeja which involved a presentation and discussion of the strategy document prior to implementation.



L-R: Mrs. Akinrinlola Adeola, FAO Rep, Mr. Ukattah Bernard, Rep. of Permanent Secretary Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Dr. Oluwarotimi Fashola Special Adviser, Rice Initiative, Mr. Jean Bagambanya Bakole Rep. to ECOWAS & Regional Director, Nigeria Regional Office Hub, Ms. Abisola Olusanya Honourable Commissioner Ministry of Agriculture, Mrs. Folashade Jaji Secretary to the State Government, Dr. Fred Kafeero FAO Representative in Nigeria, Mrs. Tokunbo Emokpae Permanent Secretary Ministry of Agriculture, Pharm. Toyin Osanyintolu, Permanent Secretary, Parastatals Monitoring Office (PMO), Mr. Dapo Olakulehin General Manager, LASCODA



Participatory Validation Workshop Participants inclusive of FAO Value Chain Technical Experts, LASCODA team, Coconut Value Chain Actors and Relevant Federal and State MDA's



The proposed upgrading strategy consists of five key elements (outcomes), which aim to holistically improve the economic, social, and environmental sustainability performance of the Coconut value chain, as below.

A. Improved access to finance and support services:

- ✓ Capacity of business development service providers strengthened
- ✓ Financial products/mechanisms (e.g., loan facilities, guarantees) developed/strengthened for investment in improved techniques

B. Farmers adopt improved production techniques to sustainably increase Coconut quantity and quality:

- ✓ Improved sustainable production techniques identified with business models developed
- ✓ Capacity of seedling nurseries and other physical input suppliers strengthened
- ✓ Land use suitability for Coconut analyzed and mapped
- ✓ Farmer groups supported to adopt improved techniques

C. Processors adopt improved processing techniques to increase value addition and product quality:

- ✓ Improved sustainable processing techniques identified and business models developed
- ✓ Capacity of processing input suppliers strengthened
- ✓ Processors (artisanal, firms, new segment) supported in adopting improved techniques

D. Enhanced market access by improving linkages amongst stakeholders:

- ✓ Targeted markets (domestic, export) and buyers identified
- ✓ Groups of VC actors established and/or strengthened
- ✓ Market facilitatory support (e.g., digital platform, trade fairs) provided to VC actors

E. Improved enabling environment to support the sustainable development of the value chain:

- ✓ Policies reviewed in support of the VC development
- ✓ Support provided to enhance inter-ministerial coordination
- ✓ Infrastructural improvements proposed, and financing partners identified



Success in Commercialization of Coconut in Lagos State



The Coconut industry in Lagos is currently worth billions of naira while meeting only 30% of the local demand. According to Globe News Wire; "Coconut Products Market: Global Opportunity Analysis and Industry Forecast, "2019-2026" report", the global Coconut products market size was at \$11.5 billion in 2018 and is anticipated to reach \$31.1 billion by 2026.

Mr. Governor in line with the "THEMES" Agenda under the "M" Pillar of "Making Lagos a 21st Century Economy has created an enabling environment for high export opportunities for Coconut and its by-products. The hub of Coconut production in Lagos State is Badagry. Lagos State, obviously is the commercial hub centre of Coconut in Nigeria, albeit West Africa. Some of the markets for the wholesale of Coconut include the Agbalata and Weikom Coconut Markets, Badagry LGA and Ojo Coconut market, Ojo LGA. Other major Coconut markets include Ayetoro Market, Epe LGA, Ketu Fruit Market, Kosofe LGA, Sabo Market and Ikorodu LGA. These markets are destinations of wholesale Coconut buyers from across the country.



According to a market research conducted by LASCODA in 2021, there has been a 45% increase in sales of Coconuts which is as a direct result of the increase in awareness and sensitizations, trainings and empowerment programmes being carried out by Mr. Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu which has created business opportunities for a lot of youths and women as a source of wealth creation and employment.



Agbalata Coconut Market, Badagry

Furthermore, it is pertinent to note that an average of 1million bags (80 nuts per bag) of Coconut are being aggregated and sold annually with an economic transaction worth ₦9.394 Billion through these markets. This figure can be tripled with value added activities from edible and non-edible processing of Coconut to other valuable products.

Since the inception of this present Administration of Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, Governor of Lagos State, Coconut production, processing and utilization has increase by 45%.



SUCCESS STORIES

In 2016 I was opportune to attend a Coconut oil training Programme organised by LASCODA. It was an eye-opening experience. I learnt how to make both cold and hot-pressed Coconut oil and Coconut chips. LASCODA Coconut oil is very pure, healthy, medicinal, good for the skin. The aroma is irresistible. What impresses me more is the personal relationship I have with LASCODA. I can go to them anytime I need an advice on Coconut production. They still invite me to their fairs. It's a huge family to reckon with anytime.



Mrs. Chika Obi
07038061985



Kunnuji Semako
08023876165

LASCODA has impacted my business greatly, especially with their intensive Coconut art and craft training exercise that I was part of. I hope this good gestures don't cease to occur so as to encourage everyone including our youths as this would also stand as a means of gaining livelihood. Keep up the great work LASCODA!!

LASCODA has been a blessing to Us in this industry. It brought more visibility and opportunities. De-Cribbs Cocogry got Featured on BBC, Yes, it wouldn't have been possible without LASCODA. All of Us At De-Cribbs Cocogry Factory says "THANK YOU" to Mr. Governor for giving us the required promotion of our business and an enabling environment.



Toyin Kappo-Kolawole
De-Cribbs Cocogry
08033409333



Chief Jimoh Adele
08037015301

I am one of beneficiary of Coconut oil processing machine, seedlings and technical assistance from LASCODA. This empowerment has gone a long way in changing my life and that of my family. This was made possible by the ever able Governor of Lagos State Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu and I want to thank LASCODA and the Lagos State Government for remembering us living in Ojo Local Government riverine communities. God Bless Mr. Governor.



SUCCESS STORIES

After the covid 19 lockdown , Coconuts were made available to us and this went a long way in energizing our production. Our factory was equally visited by the FAO consultant team and we are expectant of a positive outcome. We are grateful to Mr. Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu and the Lagos state government for giving us the necessary support through LASCODA. God bless you sir.



Mrs Wunmi Fatunbi
CEO Jisubol Ventures
08033084575



Sollisy Foods & Beverages
Limited

I am a beneficiary of different initiatives of LASCODA that render to support the MSMEs on Coconut Value Chain through empowerment programs targeting women and youth across the state. we are grateful to the Lagos State Government and Mr. Governor, for all these great initiatives. We hope to be part of the forthcoming ones and we pray to God to keep on blessing our state and our Nation.

I met LASCODA in 2019 when I needed 1,700 Mt of Coconut, I was introduced to the General Manager of LASCODA Mr. Dapo Olakulehin and since then, we have been working together, from buying seedlings and selling to third parties and encouraging them to plant Coconuts. With the empowerments from Mr. Governor through LASCODA, we have started our own Coconut farm and assisted others to start in as far away as Abuja, Jos , ijebu Ode, Ibadan , Iseyin, Abeokuta, Benin, Lekki etc.



John-Bede Anthonio
First African Coconut Company
08033025886



Ani Jeff
08033344768

LASCODA has been at the forefront of all things Coconut in Lagos State. They facilitated the creation of the Association of Lagos State Coconut Processors, ALSCOP (of which I was an executive), the launch of the Farmer's Market (TBS), the Int'l Coconut summit, the Mainland Market Exhibition amongst others.

In retrospect, working with LASCODA has given me exposure, opportunities and high-level networking for my Coconut business over the years.



SUCCESS STORIES

LASCODA as an Agency has been a great supporter and encourager to our association NACOPPMAN. LASCODA's positive role in Coconut value chain has provided an opening into unlocking the potentials of Coconut a platform on which NACOPPMAN was established. We say a big thank you Mr. Governor for his unrelenting efforts in developing the value chain.



Alhaji Abdulsalam Abdullateef
Chairman NACOPPMAN Lagos
08033058964



Biola Ipinloju
Director, Regal bakery
08023118300

I'm a testimony to the fact that Eko Coconut Bread Expansion Initiative of LASCODA remains one of the best and laudable projects of any government in Nigeria. It provided subsidy to the price of Coconut bread by supporting the participating bakeries as well as publicity to Coconut as a medicinal agricultural product through bread consumption. Kudos to the Governor of Lagos State for this laudable project.

LASCODA goes above and beyond the call of duty, they represent all that is good, opening up channels to explore the Coconut field. With LASCODA we have been able to expand our products with the empowerment programme initiated by Mr. Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu to empower ten (10) Bakeries in Lagos State with EKO Coconut Bread branded nylon, EKO Coconut Bread branded kiosks, EKO Coconut Bread branded delivery mini truck, and cash benefit to assist us grow the brand and also meet the demands of the populace of Lagos State. Mr. Governor's efforts are greatly appreciated for this magnanimous act and also by members of the community. We look forward to seeing the continued progress you will make in the imminent future.



Fluffy Though Bakery



Rofiat Owonikoko

I wish to commend the giant strides of Mr. Governor through LASCODA on the "waste to wealth training program. The program organized during and after the pandemic, of which I am a beneficiary, has made positive impact in my life. I now have ample a stable business that I earn more money from by turning Coconut waste (shell) into wealth.



SUCCESS STORIES

I am delighted to have partnered with LASCODA in trainings on the health benefits of Coconuts and all its Value Chain to youths and women in Lagos State. We are grateful to Mr. Governor on empowering LASCODA to raise more awareness of the health, economic and environmental benefits of Coconut.



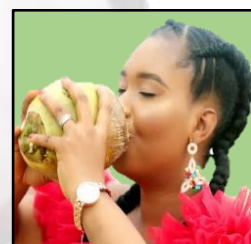
Folu Adejayan
Coconut Country Global Limited
08033260565



Olufunmilayo Ewajesu
Vineline Global ventures
08178598007

We appreciate the efforts of Mr. Governor on the giant strides achieved with LASCODA in revamping the Coconut industry by restoring its glory through its various activities in the development of the Coconut value chain. I have benefited from the Skill acquisition and empowerment Training on Coconut Arts and Crafts Value chain organised by LASCODA. My aim of participating in this Training Program is to empower the youths within my community by engaging them in the production of various arts and crafts objects from the shells obtained from our company's production. I wish Mr. Governor greater heights and more impact in the creation of employment opportunities for the society.

LASCODA is one of the greatest partner any Coconut processor can have. Mr. Governor through LASCODA has been very supportive in rendering any networking or referral assistance. The dedication of Mr. Governor through LASCODA to develop the Coconut sector in Lagos is highly commendable. Thank you so much for the unrelenting efforts. Long live Mr. Governor! Long live LASCODA!! Long live Lagos State!!!



Mrs. Uzoamaka Onyeka
Aloil Industries



Eburn Feludu
JAM Coconut Company
08183072979

LASCODA has been an integral part of my journey as a Coconut farmer and processor since I started running my business- JAM The Coconut Food Company in 2016. One of the most pivotal moments between then and now was the inception of this present administration of Mr. Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu. LASCODA invites us every year to attend the Lagos Trade Fair all-expense paid. In 2019 when we needed to increase our production capacity, we applied and got approval for a 10-year lease of the fully kitted Coconut processing facility at Mowo Badagry which we still operate till date. God bless Mr. Governor and LASCODA.



SUCCESS STORIES

I am a retiree of Lagos State Govt.-LASCODA 2014. I was exposed to processing & marketing of Coconut oil while in office. My advent experience in Coconut oil processing was conceived after my retirement from office. With the awareness and enlightenment programmes on importance, uses & benefits of Coconut products & Coconut by- products continue to yielding positive responses and testimonies as my business has thrived very well. I thank Mr. Governor for his ardent support of LASCODA.



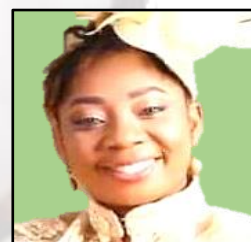
Mrs. Zainab Alogba
Oluwatoyin Integrated Farm
08023015067



Jamal Ayeni
Jamusco Enterprises
08165254727

I want to thank Mr. Governor and LASCODA specially for the wonderful opportunity given to me and my family which has amplified our work and announce it to world by promoting our business. LASCODA has been instrumental to our growth and development and I and my family and team say a very big thank you to Mr. Governor Jamal Ayeni. 08165254727

I learnt the act of turning waste to wealth during the lock down pandemic under the auspices of LASCODA, tagged Waste to Wealth Initiative. The Arts and Crafts initiative has added another stream of income to me, while it turns me to an employer of Labour and by the nature of my creation which is an elite products. I will like to say a big thank you to Gov. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-olu who in his benevolence paid for the training that bore this great opportunity and growth to my existence. Am most grateful.



Opayemi Modupe
Omoge Alagbon Ent.
08056382546



John Mido
08067020174

LASCODA has contributed immensely to my livelihood through the training i attended. I wish to appreciate the efforts of Mr. Governor for this opportunity and I hope that this training continues to be extended to all parts of the State. I am forever grateful to LASCODA.





**Mr. Governors Outlook
on
Coconut Value Chain in Lagos State
2023 - 2027**

ATLANTIC GREEN WALL PROJECT - REHABILITATION OF THE COCONUT BELT



Lagos State has a 180Km-coastline with 1Km setback which translates to about 18,000 Hectares of land which by law and nature, can accommodate only Coconut. The Coconut plantation, along the 180km stretch with 1Km setback coastline, naturally forms a 'Green Wall' which protects land from vagaries of the ocean, providing livelihood for more than 200 communities over the ages.

However, over the years, the 'Coconut Green Wall' along the Lagos State Coastline have been shrinking both in length and in breadth, thus, unable to adequately provide the expected roles such as in environment/ecology (which has resulted in unprecedented coastal erosion and exposing the land to vagaries of ocean) and economically to support the livelihood of communities along the belt. Some of the factors attributed to the continuous shrinking of the belt include but not limited to:

- i. Infrastructural Development activities such as Jetties, Ports, Tourism etc.
- ii. Human activities such as indiscriminate felling of Coconut Trees, Tourism etc.
- iii. Aging of trees without conscious and deliberate replacement/replanting strategy.

As a result of the factors highlighted above, about 10,000 hectares of land along the coast is available to be rebuilt (rehabilitated).



There is an urgent need to reverse the ugly trend and dangerous impact of coastal erosion, ocean surge etc. which are traceable to the collapse of the “Green Atlantic Wall” made up of Coconut Trees over the years.



The livelihood of people living in and around the coastline has also been negatively affected e.g., loss of Coconut based job opportunities.

Thus, rebuilding of the Green Atlantic Wall with Coconut will contribute positively to saving Lagos land from vagaries of the coast and will ensure sustainable socio-economic and environmental impacts on:

1. Short-Term: e.g., employment opportunities through replanting,
2. Medium-Term: e.g., wealth creation through boom in tourism activities, and
3. Long-Term: e.g., mitigation of the adverse impact of climate change through carbon sequestration and contributing to the IGR of the State



Strategy for Implementation

The implementing Agency for the rebuilding of Green Atlantic Wall is LASCODA supported by international Donor Agencies. It is proposed that LASCODA is strengthened in terms of capacity building of the officers and provision of necessary resources. Find below the synopsis of the strategy:

- ✓ Total Area of Green Atlantic Wall: - 10,000 Hectares
- ✓ Project Location: - Lagos Coastline (Seme – Badagry to Ode Omi – Ibeju Lekki)
- ✓ Main Stakeholders: Government, International Donor Agencies, Local Communities and Private Sector
- ✓ Variety of Coconut: - WAT Variety
- ✓ Quantity of Seedlings: - 2,000,000 Seedlings
- ✓ Duration: 3 year
- ✓ Starting: - 2023
- ✓ Ending: - 2026
- ✓ Estimated Cost – **N2.3 Billion** and broken down as follows:
 - Seedlings at N1,000.00 per unit – N2Billion
 - Strengthening of LASCODA (Upgrading of Nurseries – Mowo (Badagry), Oko-Oba (Agege), Okun Ise (Ibeju Lekki), Ilogbo (Badagry) and Igboodu (Epe), 5 Project Vehicles at – N250Million
 - Pre-Implementation Activities (Study, Surveys etc.) – N50Million

Deliverables:

- ❖ 2,000,000 Coconut trees planted under this initiative.
- ❖ Production of an average of 130 million nuts or 182,000 Metric Tons
- ❖ Economic upgrade of N37.5Trillion worth of Husked Nuts per annum in the next 4 to 5 years.
- ❖ Multimillion Naira private and foreign investments on Coconut processing factories in the State.
- ❖ Provision of 100,000 direct and indirect employment
- ❖ Contribution of N325 Million to the IGR of the State
- ❖ Improved local economy of Coconut producing communities.
- ❖ Improve infrastructure in Coconut producing economies.



ESTABLISHMENT OF A POLICY ON COCONUT TREE REHABILITATION AND FELLING ALONG THE LAGOS STATE COASTLINE



About 85% of the Coconut trees along the coastline are over 100 years old and are therefore, non-productive. The illegal felling of these trees, results in low to non-existent production yield of nuts.

While the efforts of the State Government to rehabilitate the Coconut Belt is highly challenging, the annual Governmental budgetary allocation for the process is inadequate to meet the required number of Coconut seedlings and its maintenance for the rehabilitation.

In line with the above, this initiative is aimed at ensuring sustainable rehabilitation of the Lagos Coastline by promoting the felling of old and non-productive Coconut trees along the coastline by approved tree fellers, the replanting of 4 (Four) Coconut trees and a surcharge to its effect for every tree felled.



This practically means that if 1,000,000 (One Million) old and non-productive Coconut trees are felled, 4,000,000 (Four Million) Coconut trees will be replanted.

It is pertinent to note that Coconut tree wood is reminiscent in appearance to mahogany; however, Coconut timber has a much more fibrous grain than mahogany and lacks mahogany's iridescence. Also, Coconut trees have no annual growth rings, rays, heartwood or branches, meaning that Coconut timber is free from knots and other such imperfections. As a tree of numerous uses, it is important to note that Coconut timber has many applications as both a structural and interior design material. The harder, high-density timber is suitable for general structural purposes such as pillars, trusses, rafting, furniture, window and door frames, floors, decking and floor joists. Medium density Coconut timber can be used for walls, ceiling joists and horizontal studs. Low density Coconut timber is used in non-load bearing applications like wood panelling, internal trim and ceilings, as well as homewares.

Apart from the economic and environmental benefits of this initiative, it will among other things:

- Minimize public cost on seedling procurement
- Make Lagos the Coconut commercial hub of the world, thus enabling Coconut Value Chain to contribute significantly to the economy of the State.
- Develop the tourism sector due to its improvement of the ambience and aesthetics of beaches thereby serving as a tourist attraction for eco-tourists and fun seekers.
- Curb the indiscriminate felling of Coconut trees.
- Ensure the sustainable production, processing, utilization and commercialization across all aspects of the Coconut Value Chain.



La Campagne Tropicana Beach Front, Lagos



ESTABLISHMENT OF A 10,000 MTPA COCONUT HUSK PROCESSING FACTORY IN BADAGRY



In Nigeria, only the Coconut’s meat is used as food and processing into other products while the husk is thrown away or burnt as waste. However, processing of the Coconut husk into Coconut coir fibre and peat is a multimillion-dollar industry globally. The current world production is 250,000 MTPA (Wikipedia) valued between \$250 -\$400. The coir fibre and peat production is an untapped industry in Nigeria and with the adoption of green and sustainable methods in all sectors, the utilization of coir fibre and peat which are 100% natural is increasing daily.Hence, there is need to establish a Coconut husk processing factory through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) in Lagos to utilize the husk regarded as waste to produce economically viable products (Coir fibre and peat), generate massive wealth and employment opportunities and promote export for revenue generation to the State



Coconut Husk



Coir Fibre

Coir fibre are widely applicable due to their advanced properties such as high-water absorption, high durability, soil erosion control capacity, etc. Traditionally, coir fibre had been used in the making of:

- Coir rope
- Twines
- Brooms
- Brushes
- Doormats
- Rugs, and others.



Coir Fibre



Baled Coir Fibre

Coco Peat

Coco peat is made of coco pith that is produced from the husk that grows around the hard Coconut. The husk contains both fibres and fine materials. By separating most of the fibres from the fine materials, the so-called coco pith, is collected. It is used mainly in the Agriculture, horticulture and hydroponic industries. The popularity of coco peat is based on the remarkable good characteristics:

- Excellent water - air ratio
- Natural high air-porosity
- Absorbs water easily
- Stable material
- 100% organic material
- Easy in handling
- Can be transported in compressed form
- Is a growing medium with proven experience



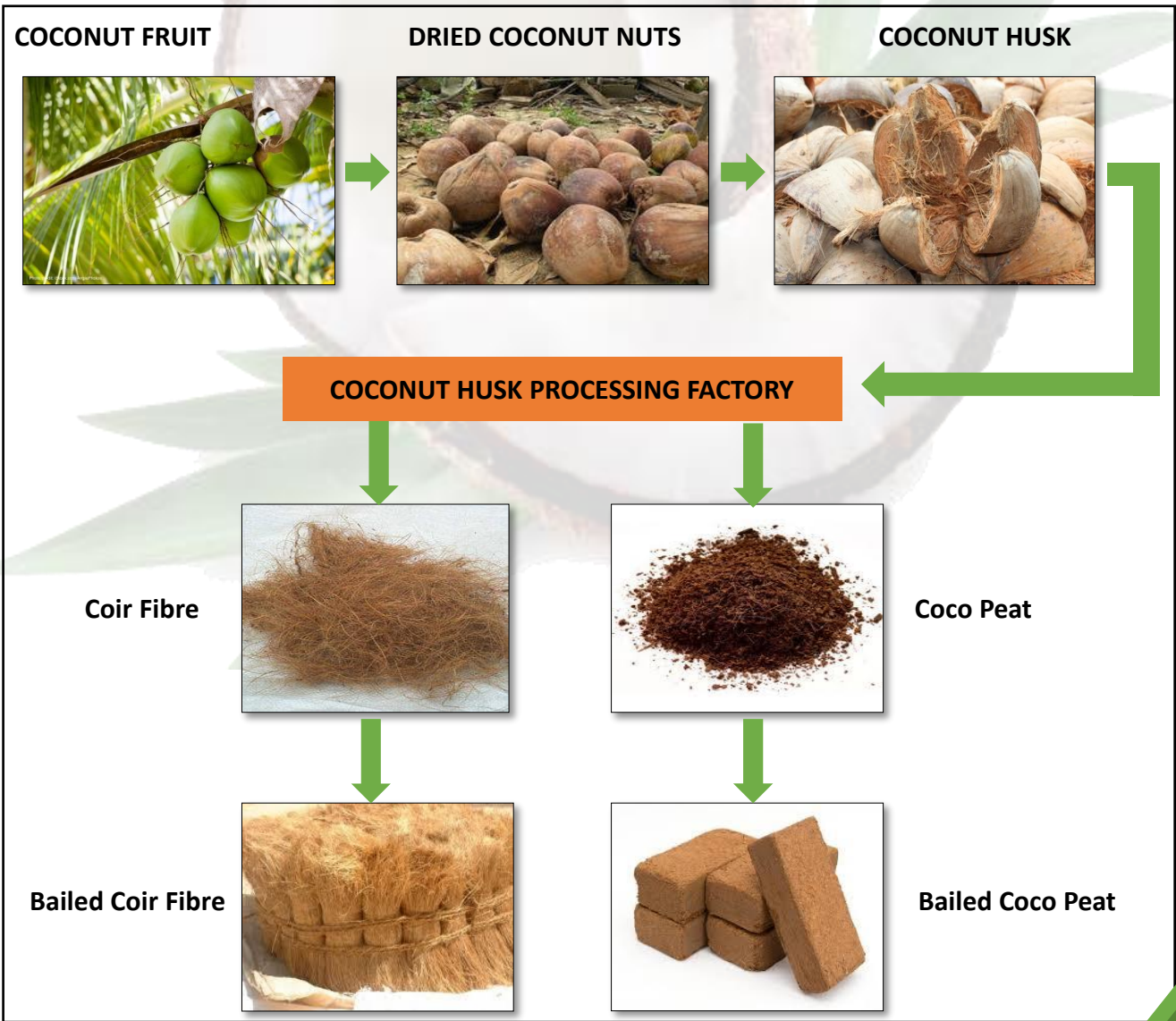


Coco Peat



Bailed Coco Peat

PRODUCTION PROCESS FLOW CHART



It is pertinent to note that a 10,000metric tons per annum Coconut husk processing factory will produce 3,000 metric tons of coco fibre and 7,000 metric tons of coco peat per annum which is valued aurrently at N378 million and N1.029 trillion, respectively.

The benefits accruable from the establishment of the processing factory in Badagry include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Establishment of 260 direct and 3500 indirect employment
2. Substantially and sustainably adding to the internal generated revenue (IGR) of Lagos State
3. Meeting the “M” pillar of the present Administration’s “THEMES” Agenda in **“Making Lagos a 21st Century Economy”** by boosting the economy of the State through activities across the value chain
4. Making Lagos State the Coconut hub of Nigeria and West Africa.
5. Promoting the sustainable development of the Coconut sub-sector of Lagos State
6. Ensuring the infrastructural development of the host community and its environment
7. Attracting foreign investments for development of other aspects across the Coconut Value Chain



ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRIVATE SECTOR-DRIVEN COMMERCIAL COCONUT PLANTATION ESTATE



Sequel to the Coconut Stakeholders Forum held on the 13th July 2021 and efforts of this Administration to consolidate the gains of attracting private investors into the Coconut value chain, as well as, to further enhance the development of Coconut value chain in the State as contained in the Lagos State 5-Year Agricultural and Food System Roadmap, it has become necessary to put more conscious efforts into creating an enabling environment for private sector participation through the establishment of commercial scale Coconut plantation in the State.

Coconut Plantation is the soul of having sufficient Coconuts to meet the processing demand needs. The demand for Coconut is increasing daily with the State recording an estimated of 60% shortfall in her nuts processing need despite being the highest producer in the country.

Experts have also suggested that the processing need of the nuts will keep increasing and, if urgent and sustainable steps are not taken in the next couple of years, the State might only be able to meet only 20% of the demand for Coconut, thus, the State cannot rely solely on the existing Coconut grooves in the Coconut Belt of the State alone to meet the ever-increasing demand for Coconut.

It is in the light of the above that the administration of Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu is proposing a private sector partnership in the establishment of a 500 Ha commercial Coconut plantation estate.



ESTABLISHMENT OF A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (PPP) BASED COCONUT BEACH RESORT AND TOURIST CENTRE AT GBEREFU COCONUT SEED GARDEN, GBEREFU, BADAGRY



In a bid to accelerate Coconut production (i.e., Cultivation), the Lagos State Government through LASCODA has established Six Seed Gardens across the State for the purposes of producing improved Coconut seedlings and preservation of the varieties adaptable to the Agro-ecological conditions of Lagos State.

One of these seed gardens is located at Gberefu, Badagry which is the only seed garden along the coastline, hence, full utilization of this seed garden covering about 40 Ha, will not only boost seed nut production but also enhance agro-tourism.

It has been established that local and international tourism is significantly associated with coastal environments and Coconut palms have long been associated with the natural aesthetics of tropical tourist destinations. Ecotourism can potentially provide important economic benefits to local people and help protect biodiversity. Community-based ecotourism has become a popular tool for biodiversity conservation and sustainably boosting livelihoods based on the principle that biodiversity must pay for itself by generating economic benefits particularly for local people.

Local stakeholders and international companies involved in tourism are invited to partner with the State Government to develop ecotourism programmes favoring Coconut conservation.



ESTABLISHMENT OF COCONUT VALUE CHAIN BUSINESS INCUBATION CENTRE



One of the major functions of LASCODA is to promote the setting up of Coconut-based small and medium-scale industries in rural areas which involves training youths and women on Coconut processing (edible and non-edible), upgrading the skills of Coconut processors and to stimulate the development of related agro-based industries in the rural areas.

Furthermore, the present administration has trained over 1,200 youths and women across the Coconut value chain and there is need to ensure that the youths and women trained can survive as small business owners in the present economy.

It is in line with the above that this administration is planning to establish Coconut-based incubation Centre's across the 5 geopolitical zones of Lagos State where youths and women can have access to processing facilities for both edible and non-edible Coconut-based products and offer trainings on improved processing techniques, production space and create a supporting environment for their businesses to thrive.

The incubation centers will help Coconut entrepreneurs to solve some of the problems commonly associated with running a startup. This is carried out by providing them a few basic needs. Some of the most common services to be provided by the Incubation centers are processing space, access to processing machines and equipment, raw material and marketing assistance, mentoring assistance, accounting/financial management access, connections to higher education resources and comprehensive business training programs.

The incubation Centre's can also serve as a good path to capital from angel investors, international donor organizations, economic-development coalitions and other investors. Hence, we can say these Incubation centers are proposed to be geared towards speeding up the growth and success of Coconut-based startups and early-stage companies.



CONCLUSION

Having come thus far, the State still has a long way to go in fully harnessing the potentials of the Coconut value chain for economic and environmental purposes. With secured and reliable partnerships, collaborations and interventions from international organizations, as well as, private investors, there is no doubt that the State can achieve success in the Coconut value chain.

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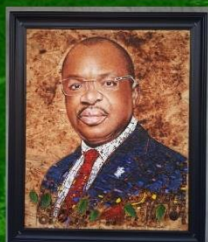
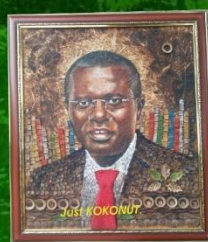
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LEAVES

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SHELL –

ARTS&CRAFTS

Lampshade, Tray, Coffee tray, cups, Lapels, Pen Holders, Coffee pot, Buttons, Souveniirs

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COCOSHEAT

Bag, Cap, Slippers, Helmet

HUSK

Mattress, Coir fibre, Bottle brush, Rope, Net, Upholstery, Fuel, Soil conservator, Mulch, Rugs, Geotextiles

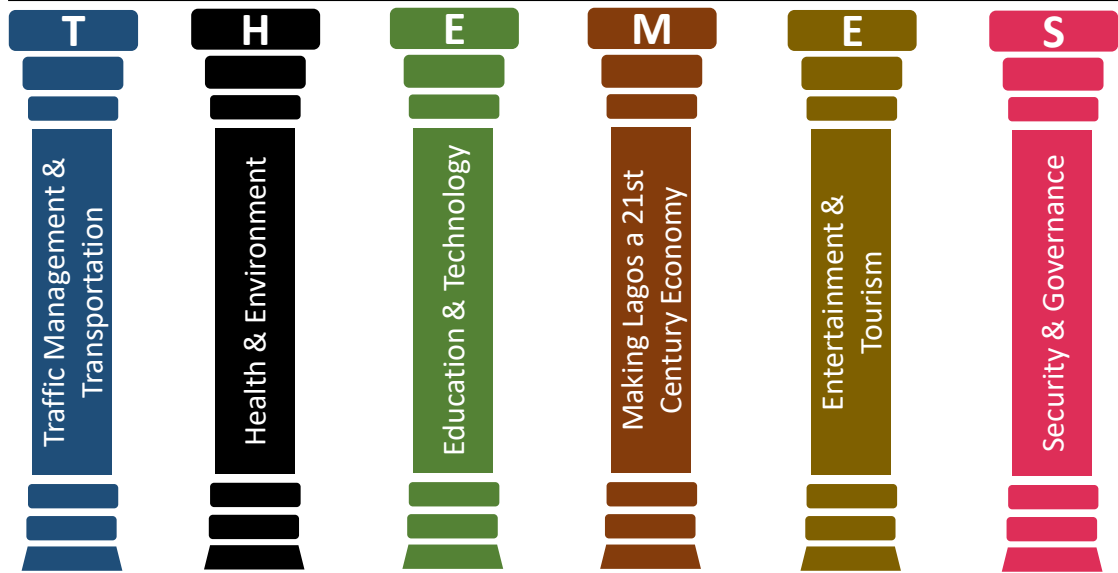
SHELL - CHARCOAL

,Charcoal briquette, Activated carbon, Wood preservative





LAGOS STATE T.H.E.M.E.S. AGENDA



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