

# REVIEW OF THE NASARAWA STATE 2025 AGRICULTURAL SECTOR BUDGET



**Small Scale Women Farmers Organization in Nigeria  
(SWOFON)**

And



**Centre for Social Justice (CSJ)**  
*(Mainstreaming Social Justice in Public Life)*

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## Table of Contents

Acknowledgement .....	3
Table of Contents .....	4
Acronyms .....	5
List of Tables .....	6
List of Charts .....	6
Introduction .....	7
Measure of Value of the Agriculture Allocation .....	9
Disaggregation of the 2025 Agriculture Budget .....	9
Disaggregation of Capital Allocation .....	10
Summary of Findings .....	16
Next Steps .....	16

## ACRONYMS

CSA	Climate Smart Agriculture
CSJ	Centre for Social Justice
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
LGA	Local Government Agriculture
MDA	Ministry, Department and Agency
NADP	Nasarawa Agricultural Development Programme
NGN	Nigerian Naira
SHWF	Smallholder Women Farmers
SWOFON	Smallholder Women Farmers Organization in Nigeria
USD	United States Dollar
VCDP	Value Chain Development Programme

## **List of Tables**

Table 1: Allocation to Agriculture in Comparison to the Malabo Benchmark

Table 2: Trend of Agriculture Allocation in Nasarawa State Budget 2021 – 2025

Table 3: Conversion Agriculture Allocation to USD

Table 4: Disaggregation of Allocation to Agriculture MDAs in State 2025 Budget

Table 5: Some Major Capital Provisions in the Ministry of Agriculture

Table 6: Some Major Capital Provisions in the Nasarawa Agriculture Development Programme (NADP)

Table 7: Some Major Capital Provisions in the Nasarawa State Fadama Coordinating Office

Table 8: Some Major Capital Provisions in the Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme

Table 9: Extension Services in the 2025 Budget

## **List of Charts**

Figure 1: Yearly Allocation to Agriculture (2021-2025)

Figure 2: Share of Agriculture in the Anambra State Budget 2021-2025

## **1. Introduction**

The Nasarawa State Agricultural Sector consists of the State Ministry of Agriculture; College of Agriculture, Science and Technology, Lafia; Nasarawa Agricultural Development Programme (NADP); Nasarawa State Fadama Coordinating Office; and the Nasarawa Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP). Votes to these institutions collectively make up the sector's allocation for the 2025 fiscal year.

**Table 1: Allocation to Agriculture in comparison to the Malabo Benchmark**

Overall State Budget Proposal	Total Agriculture Sector Proposal	% of Agric Allocation of State Budget	10% Benchmark of the Malabo Declaration	Balance of Benchmark
N384,317,843,592.03	N24,541,959,958.62	6.39%	38,431,784,359.20	13,889,824,400.58

*Source: 2025 State Budget Proposal*

The 2025 budget reflects a significant increase from the previous year. The size of the state budget and the allocation to agriculture increased by 92.27% and 155.4% respectively from the previous year's budget. While agriculture did not get the highest allocation in the 2025 budget, its share of 6.39% implies that the sector has slightly increased in the state's agenda compared with its 4.81% share in 2024.

Table 2 presents a 5-year trend of the sector's allocation. It shows how these allocations compare over the period of 2021 to 2025. In terms of actual volume of resources, the 2025 allocation is the highest the sector has ever received. However, compared with the size of the budget, the 2025 allocation commands a share of 6.39%, making it the second highest in the comparison. The 2023 allocation of N11.262bn ranks first having received 7.54% of the state budget for the year. In terms of actual amount, the 2025 allocation more than doubles the allocation for the other years.

**Table 2: Trend of Agriculture Allocation in Nasarawa State Budget 2021 – 2025**

Year	Total State Budget (NGN)	Total Allocation to Agriculture (NGN)	Percentage of Agric Allocation (%)	Malabo (10%) Declaration Benchmark (NGN)	Variation Against 10% Benchmark (NGN)
2021	115,722,814,543.00	6,880,587,716.23	5.95%	11,572,281,454	4,691,693,738.07
2022	110,849,954,879.49	4,908,190,631.27	5.44%	11,084,995,487.95	6,176,804,856.68
2023	149,315,944,207.62	11,262,522,399.76	7.54%	14,931,594,420.76	3,669,072,021.02
2024	199,879,370,709.43	9,607,214,703.21	4.81%	19,987,937,070.94	10,380,722,367.73
<b>2025</b>	<b>384,317,843,592.03</b>	<b>N24,541,959,958.62</b>	<b>6.39%</b>	<b>38,431,784,359.20</b>	<b>13,889,824,400.58</b>

*Source: 2025 State Budget Proposal and Author's Calculation*

Figure 1 presents the growth pattern of the state budget and the allocation to agriculture in one graph. While the state budget could be seen to grow in size consistently over the period, the allocation to agriculture shows a fluctuation. It could be seen that the allocation dipped in 2022 and 2024 from the actual amounts of the years preceding them (2021 and 2023).

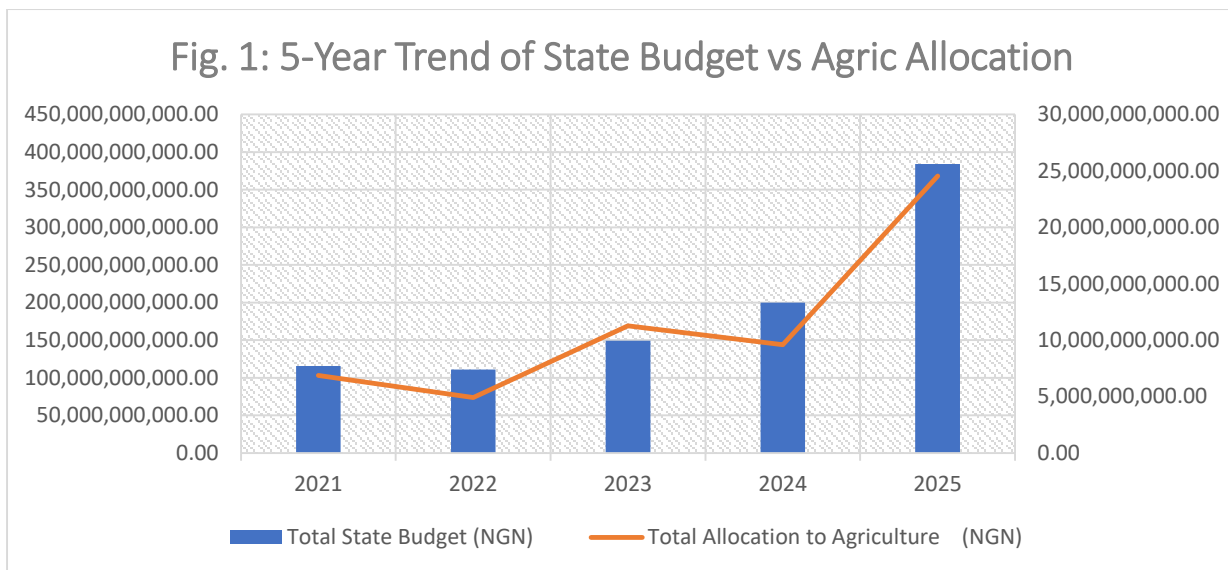
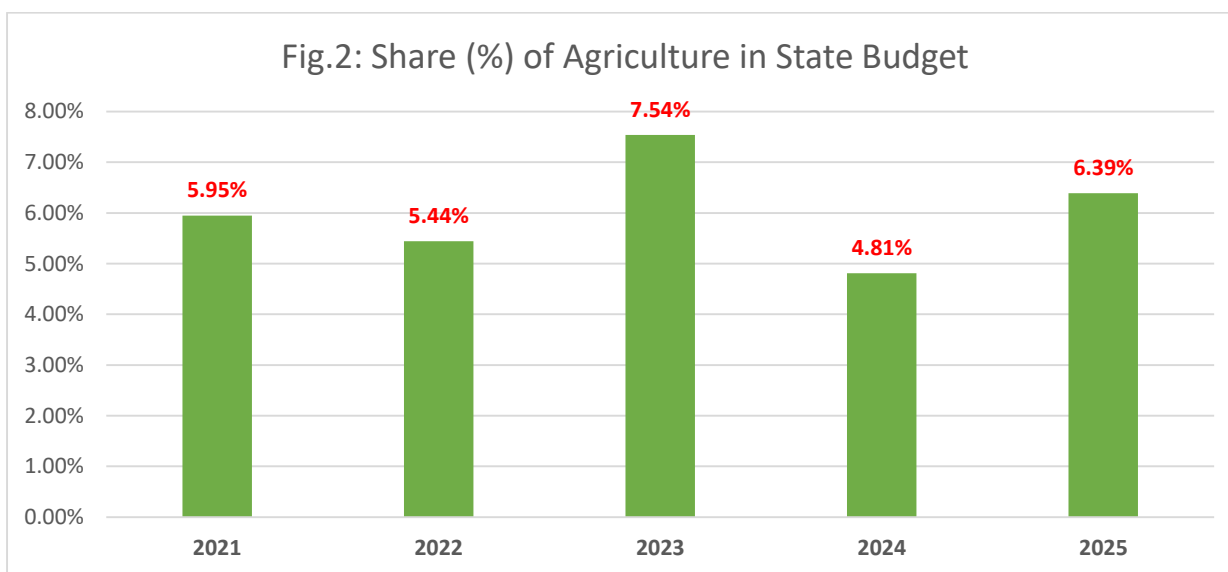


Figure 2 shows the share of agriculture in the state’s budget for each of the 5 years under review as a standalone. It presents a pattern similar to Figure 1 where the actual amounts allocated to agriculture in 2022 and 2024 dipped compared with the preceding years of 2021 and 2023.



In the last 5 years, the 2025 allocation to agriculture is the second highest at 6.39% of the state budget. Though this is below the 10% benchmark, it is a significant improvement over the previous year’s allocation, both in terms of proportion of the state budget as well as in actual amount. More so, considering that the 2024 allocation to agriculture dipped in the order of priority, given that while the state budget increase by about 50 billion from the 2023 value, the allocation to agriculture dropped both as a percentage of the overall budget as well as in the actual amount allocated by about N1.66 billion.

## 2. Measure of Value of the Allocation



Given the volatility of the Naira over the years, especially with the devaluation of the Naira and the unification of the exchange rate, it becomes necessary to value the allocation with a more stable currency to determine if the trend remains same. Table 3 below shows the allocation in USD.

**Table 3: Conversion Agriculture Allocation to USD**

Year	Exchange Rate* (USD to NGN)	Budgetary Allocation (NGN)	Budgetary Allocation (USD)
2021	379	6,880,587,716.23	18,154,585.00
2022	410.15	4,908,190,631.27	11,966,818.56
2023	435.57	11,262,522,399.76	25,856,974.54
2024	750	9,607,214,703.21	12,809,619.60
2025	1,500	24,541,959,958.62	16,361,306.64

- Exchange rate are the official rates by the federal government for each of the years

The 2025 allocation of N24.541bn is the highest in Naira terms, and it is more than double each of the other years' allocations. However, converting same to the more stable USD, it ranks the third in terms of value. While it is about N13.28bn more than the 2023 allocation, it is actually lower in value in USD terms by as much as \$9.4 million. Thus, in terms of real value, it may not be as significant as the Naira value portrays. The 2023 allocation remains the highest, followed by the 2021 allocation, then 2025, 2024 and the least was in the year 2022.

### 3. Disaggregation of 2025 Agriculture Budget

This section disaggregates the allocation as recurrent and capital expenditures and thus shows the share of both classes in the sector's allocation. Recurrent expenditure comprises personnel and overhead costs. Capital expenditure can also be broken into administrative and developmental capital. Summarily, the disaggregation shows that 28.5% of the allocation goes to recurrent expenditure while 71.5% goes to capital expenditure. This shows that the larger chunk of the sector's funds is devoted to capital expenditure and projects.

A close look at Table 4 shows that every agency/institution in the sector were allocated funds for both recurrent and capital expenditures. Furthermore, about 66.01% (i.e. N11.583bn) of the capital expenditure funds is domiciled in the Nasarawa State Fadama Coordinating Office.

**Table 4: Disaggregation of Allocation to Agriculture MDAs in State 2025 Budget**

	Total Recurrent Expenditure	% of Recurrent Exp	Capital Expenditure	% of Capital Exp	Total Allocation

Ministry of Agriculture	2,001,577,855.76	<b>28.50%</b>	3,110,500,000	<b>71.50%</b>	<b>5,112,077,855.76</b>
College of Agriculture, Science & Technology. Lafia	2,644,504,867.17		1,225,000,000		<b>3,869,504,867.17</b>
Nasarawa Agricultural Development Programme (NADP)	872,696,659.63		<b>339,300,000</b>		<b>1,211,996,659.63</b>
Nasarawa State Fadama Coordinating Office	673,783,785.06		<b>11,583,100,000</b>		<b>12,256,883,785.06</b>
Nasarawa Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP)	801,496,791		<b>1,290,000,000</b>		<b>2,091,496,791</b>
<b>Sector Total</b>	<b>6,994,059,958.62</b>		<b>17,547,900,000</b>		<b>24,541,959,958.62</b>

**Source:** 2025 State Budget

#### 4. Disaggregation of Capital Budget Allocation

The capital budget is the allocation that is of utmost interest to small holder women farmers considering that personnel and overheads votes are to a great extent focused on the administration. Table 5 shows some of the major capital provisions in the Ministry of Agriculture. The word “major” is used in terms of the importance of the provisions and secondly, the amount allocated to the project.

**Table 5: Some Major Capital Provisions in the Ministry of Agriculture<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Administrative Code</b>	<b>Amount (N)</b>
Purchase of soil test kits	021500100100 - Ministry of Agriculture	200,000,000.00
Purchase of strategies buffer grains (purchase of feed miller)	021500100100 - Ministry of Agriculture	100,000,000.00
Purchase of assorted trees crop seedlings (purchase of fertilizer/agriculture inputs)	021500100100 - Ministry of Agriculture	3,000,000.00
Purchase of 1no each; tractors, plough, rotary tiller cultivator combine harvester, etc.	021500100100 - Ministry of Agriculture	500,000,000.00

<sup>1</sup> The bracketed words in the project column are showing the “Economic Code and Description” where they seem to differ from the project name.

Purchase of juice extraction for fruits and vegetables	021500100100 - Ministry of Agriculture	4,000,000.00
Purchase of fertilizer, pesticides, seeds and machinery (purchase/acquisition of land)	021500100100 - Ministry of Agriculture	200,000,000.00
Construction/provision of infrastructure e.g. Sluice Gate	021500100100 - Ministry of Agriculture	300,000,000.00
Construction/provision agricultural facilities	021500100100 - Ministry of Agriculture	150,000,000.00
Construction of cottage hatchery facilities in the 3 zones	021500100100 - Ministry of Agriculture	150,000,000.00
Construction/provision of veterinary clinics and hospitals at Lafia	021500100100 - Ministry of Agriculture	60,000,000.00
Fencing of central store and veterinary clinics at Lafia	021500100100 - Ministry of Agriculture	100,000,000.00
Establishment of milk collection centre located at Lafia	021500100100 - Ministry of Agriculture	100,000,000.00
Establishment of taneries at Lafia	021500100100 - Ministry of Agriculture	100,000,000.00
Clearing and cultivation of land at government farm @ Ajangwa	021500100100 - Ministry of Agriculture	500,000,000.00
Establishment of fish value chain processing centre in Zimbabwe, Uke	021500100100 - Ministry of Agriculture	20,000,000.00

**Source:** 2025 State Budget

Conspicuously missing in the vote of the Ministry of Agriculture are votes that will significantly benefit small holder farmers. The votes were tilted towards big corporate farming - of tractors, heavy duty equipment and administrative facilities. There were no votes for small hand held machinery for small holder farmers and no votes were specifically targeted at small holder women farmers. The biggest vote of N500m for clearing and cultivation of government farm at Ajangwa indicates that government is directly involved in farming. This seems not to be a best practice because the returns will not be commensurate to the investment. The overall returns, in terms of revenue expected from the Ministry of Agriculture (of which the Ajangwa Farm is just a small part of) is N711,600,000.00. Furthermore, there is a vote of N700m for construction of Ribi - Ajangwa - Govt Farm Road (3km) under the votes of the Nasarawa State Bureau for Rural Development. Overall, this direct farming expenditure will not lead to value for money.

Table 6 shows some major capital provisions in the Nasarawa Agricultural Development Programme (NADP).

**Table 6: Some Major Capital Provisions in the Nasarawa Agriculture Development Programme (NADP)**

Project	Administrative Code	Amount (N)
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Purchase of 15no Boxer bm100 motor cycle	021510200100 - Nasarawa Agricultural Development Programme (NADP)	18,000,000.00
Purchase of 1no Toyota vehicle (hilux)	021510200100 - Nasarawa Agricultural Development Programme (NADP)	50,000,000.00
Purchase of 4no bookshelve/file cabinets	021510200100 - Nasarawa Agricultural Development Programme (NADP)	1,000,000.00
Purchase of 1no desktop/3no hp laptops computer	021510200100 - Nasarawa Agricultural Development Programme (NADP)	1,000,000.00
Purchase of 1no hp lazerjet/computer printer	021510200100 - Nasarawa Agricultural Development Programme (NADP)	1,500,000.00
Purchase of 1no.100kva transformer/accessories	021510200100 - Nasarawa Agricultural Development Programme (NADP)	600,000.00
Purchase of 8no. tractor & implements	021510200100 - Nasarawa Agricultural Development Programme (NADP)	160,000,000.00
Construction of bees hives & kirts	021510200100 - Nasarawa Agricultural Development Programme (NADP)	40,000,000.00
Renovation of office complex	021510200100 - Nasarawa Agricultural Development Programme (NADP)	40,000,000.00

**Source:** 2025 State Budget

NADP is established with the mandate of supporting small scale farmers in the State to increase their agricultural production and incomes which will eventually translate to better living standards. Almost all the votes for the NADP are for administrative capital to service the bureaucracy. This raises the poser of how NADP seeks to impact on the farmers in the state. Implementing the capital votes to the letter may defeat the purpose and mandate of NADP.

Table 7 shows some major capital provisions in the Nasarawa State Fadama Coordinating Office.

**Table 7: Some Major Capital Provisions in the Nasarawa State Fadama Coordinating Office.**

Project	Administrative Code	Amount (N)
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Purchase of 4000no. agricultural millers and threshers	021511000100 - Nasarawa State Fadama Coordinating Office	1,820,000,000.00
Supply of threshing & other farming machines	021511000100 - Nasarawa State Fadama Coordinating Office	1,700,000,000.00
Wet market-upgrade water sanitation & environmental mitigating	021511000100 - Nasarawa State Fadama Coordinating Office	945,000,000.00
Rehabilitation of rural roads across the state	021511000100 - Nasarawa State Fadama Coordinating Office	7,000,000,000.00
Rehabilitation of office complex	021511000100 - Nasarawa State Fadama Coordinating Office	58,000,000.00
Purchase of 10 no. tables and chairs	021511000100 - Nasarawa State Fadama Coordinating Office	25,000,000.00
Purchase of 1 no. hp laptop computers	021511000100 - Nasarawa State Fadama Coordinating Office	10,600,000.00
Purchase of 1 no. laserjet hp printers	021511000100 - Nasarawa State Fadama Coordinating Office	11,000,000.00

**Source:** 2025 State Budget

There are four key items in the votes of NADP. They are purchase of 4000no. agricultural millers and threshers; supply of threshing and other farming machines; wet market-upgrade water sanitation and environmental mitigating; and rehabilitation of rural roads across the state. Agricultural millers, threshers and other farming machineries will be of benefit to small holder farmers if they are energy saving devices, not complex and can be locally maintained across the rural areas of the state. The practical challenge is for the state to devise the methodology of identifying actual farmers and reaching out to ensure that they benefit from these procurements. The specific rural roads to be rehabilitated should have been named in the budget. The vote for “wet market-upgrade water sanitation and environmental mitigating” seems to be a vote for a jargon without clear deliverables. The deliverables should have been stated in the budget.

Table 8 shows some major capital provisions in the Nasarawa State Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP).

**Table 8: Some Major Capital Provisions in the Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme**

Project	Administrative Code	Amount (N)
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Purchase of agricultural market information system	021511500100 - Nasarawa Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP)	25,000,000.00
Purchase of processing, and post-harvest storage	021511500100 - Nasarawa Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP)	100,000,000.00
Purchase of 4no. heavy duty agricultural equipment	021511500100 - Nasarawa Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP)	500,000,000.00
Purchase of 30no. agricultural inputs	021511500100 - Nasarawa Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP)	180,000,000.00
Construction of seed germination plant at Lafia & Awe LGA	021511500100 - Nasarawa Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP)	40,000,000.00
Construction of water facilities at Lafia	021511500100 - Nasarawa Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP)	300,000,000.00
Rehabilitation of agricultural inputs tractors, sprayer machines, etc.	021511500100 - Nasarawa Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP)	50,000,000.00
Rehabilitation of agricultural heavy Equipment	021511500100 - Nasarawa Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP)	10,000,000.00
Construction of cassava processing mill at Doma Obi, Lafia and Akwanga LGA veterinary clinics	021511500100 - Nasarawa Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP)	15,000,000.00
Rehabilitation of irrigation schemes at Doma and Akwanga LGA	021511500100 - Nasarawa Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP)	58,000,000.00

**Source:** 2025 State Budget

It is stated of the VCDP as follows:<sup>2</sup>

*“The Nasarawa State Agriculture Value Chain Development Programme (VCDP) is a project focused on enhancing the production and marketing of*

<sup>2</sup>[https://www.google.com/search?q=Nasarawa+State+Agriculture+Value+Chain+Development+Programme+\(VCDP](https://www.google.com/search?q=Nasarawa+State+Agriculture+Value+Chain+Development+Programme+(VCDP)

*cassava and rice within Nasarawa State, Nigeria, by supporting smallholder farmers through initiatives aimed at improving agricultural practices, reducing post-harvest losses, and strengthening the overall value chain, ultimately contributing to food security and economic growth in the region; it is implemented in collaboration with the Federal Government and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)”*

Nasarawa VCDP seeks to increase agricultural productivity, reduce post-harvest losses, improve market access for farmers and enhance income generation for rural communities. From the votes of the VCDP, the difference in its mandate and other agencies under the Ministry of Agriculture and the mother ministry itself seems blurred. It is still about the preponderance of heavy-duty equipment. Some of the provisions are confusing vis, agricultural market information system should be a service to be delivered by staff or consultants, rather than a system to be purchased over the counter. “Purchase of processing, and post-harvest storage” says nothing about the particular machines and the crops or products associated with the storage system. “Purchase of 30no. agricultural inputs” is unclear about the inputs to be purchased and the rationale for their purchase. The votes are silent on effective collaboration with federal and state agriculture research and knowledge institutes and centres which will provide the capacity and knowledge base for achieving its mandate.

The votes of the College of Agriculture, Science and Technology, Lafia were omitted from this tabularization because they were just for the development of the school and training of students. However, conspicuously missing were provisions that linked the agriculture academia to its society and immediate environment for cross fertilization of knowledge and expertise through extension services and practical demonstrations.

Table 9 shows the two mentions of extension services in the entire agriculture sector vote.

**Table 9: Extension Services in the 2025 Budget**

Project	Administrative Code and Agency	Amount (N)
Adaptive research, unified and all-inclusive extension services delivery	010704- Ministry of Agriculture	16,500,000.00
Adaptive research, unified and all-inclusive extension services Delivery	01070413100100- Ministry of Agriculture	15,000,000.00

**Source:** 2025 State Budget

Essentially, extension services received a paltry vote of N31.5million. This cannot scratch the surface of the extension service needs of the sector.

## 5. Summary of Findings



- The state did not meet the 10% Malabo benchmark in the allocation to agriculture.
- Increases in the agriculture vote over the five years (2021-2025) have not been commensurate to the increases in the overall size of the state budget.
- The Fadama Coordinating Office received the highest part of the sector's capital expenditure vis, 66%.
- The votes to the sector could benefit from more strategic targeting of farmers in general and small holder women farmers in particular.
- The votes to the sector seem more targeted at by big commercial agriculture.
- Extension services did not receive the desired attention to link farmers with research institutes and to give them a voice in setting research agenda.
- The mandate of the agencies in the sector seems blurred in their respective votes for their services in 2025.
- The votes of the Nasarawa Agriculture Development Programme were more of administrative capital raising posers on how the NADP will realise its mandate of supporting small scale farmers.

## **6. Next Steps**

- Prepare a capital budget pullout of all projects of interest to small holder women farmers.
- SWOFON should engage in implementation advocacy to guarantee benefits and inclusivity from the extant budget provisions, especially in access to machinery, extension services, farm inputs, insisting on the authorities providing information on unclear expenditure proposals, etc.
- Budget advocacy on aligning votes with mandates, laws and policies should be intensified.