

**CLAUSE BY CLAUSE ANALYSIS OF THE  
AGRICULTURE EXTENSION SERVICES  
REVITALISATION BILL 2024**



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

Analysed in January 2026

By

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## Introduction

This clause by clause analysis by the Centre for Social Justice (CSJ) seeks to enrich the Bill for an Act to provide a legal framework for sustainable agricultural extension services, strengthen investment in agriculture and increase agricultural productivity for food security and revenue generation in Nigeria; and for related matters. It seeks to respond to the gaps in the draft and to provide greater clarity towards the achievement of the goal of a legislated agriculture extension policy with clear funding sources and operational schemes.

This analysis is a follow up to some of the findings and outcome of the “National Workshop on Improving Visibility and Linkages Between Agricultural Research, Extension Services, and Farming for Sustainable Food Value Chains in Nigeria” organised in July 2025 by Centre for Social Justice (CSJ) in collaboration with the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARCN), Small Scale Women Farmers Organisation of Nigeria (SWOFON) with the support of Heinrich Boll Stiftung, Nigeria (HBS). The workshop had observed that:

- *Although Nigeria has enacted a National Agriculture Extension Policy in 2023, many states of the Federation do not have state level Agriculture Extension Policy. Nigeria lacks a legislated Extension Policy which gives a strong legal backing to good extension practices including assured sources of funding. Federal and state level extension policies have not been costed. There is no agreed formula for funding extension services between the Federal, State and Local Government Councils. Although there are private sector extension services/agents, they need to be regulated and certified to improve available services, and compliment services of a strengthened government extension services.*

Thereafter, the workshop made critical recommendations for executive and legislative action. Major highlights of recommendations for improvement which have now been reflected in the clause by clause analysis include:

- Expanding the objectives to include: *“ensure that the means of production, conservation and distribution of food are upgraded and improved upon on a continuous basis in accordance with S.16 (A) (b) of the 1999 Constitution as amended”*. Although agriculture is on the Concurrent Legislative List, the Bill makes provisions that will bind states and the agriculture extension service duty of Nigeria is largely derived from the right to food encapsulated in the Fundamental Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy. This bill can therefore be anchored on item 60 of the Exclusive Legislative List.

- Clear functions for a secretariat to facilitate the implementation of decisions of the National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services and provisions for state structures (to be established by state laws) in accordance with National Agriculture Extension Policy.
- A funding mechanism that ensures continuous availability of resources for agriculture extension services nationwide.
- Provision and approval of agriculture extension workplans across the Federation and costing of extension services.
- Grants and engagement with states and local governments to stimulate wider and qualitative agriculture extension services coverage.
- Reportage and accountability mechanisms.
- Rearrangement of some sections for proper sequencing of the Bill.

CSJ hopes that this analysis will facilitate legislative work in the approval and enactment of the Bill into an Act of the National Assembly.

***Eze Onyekpere Esq***

Lead Director

**A BILL  
FOR  
AN ACT TO PROVIDE A LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE  
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICES, STRENGTHEN INVESTMENT IN  
AGRICULTURE AND INCREASED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY FOR FOOD  
SECURITY AND REVENUE GENERATION IN NIGERIA; AND FOR RELATED  
MATTERS**

**Clause By Clause Analysis Of The Agriculture Extension Services Revitalization Bill**

Section	Bill	Recommendation	Justification
<b>Part 1</b>			
1. Objectives	<p>1. The objectives of this Act are to-</p> <p>(a) ensure effective implementation of the National Agricultural Extension Policy and Strategy;</p> <p>(b) establish a legal framework for a sustainable agricultural extension service in Nigeria;</p> <p>c) put in place a sustainable, harmonised, pluralistic, demand- driven, E-agricultural extension system to ensure effective and</p>	<p>Retain, except as otherwise indicated.</p> <p>Add a new paragraph (c) and renumber accordingly: <i>“to ensure timely, adequate and sustainable funding for Agriculture Extension Services”</i></p>	<p>The greater part of this section is in tandem with the provisions of the Nigeria National Agricultural Extension Policy (NAEP).</p> <p>This is a fundamental objective which ought to be stated at the beginning. It should not wait to be stated in the funding provisions of the Bill.</p>

	<p>efficient extension service delivery along the agricultural value chain;</p> <p>(d) strengthen the linkages among research, extension, farmers and the public and private sector;</p> <p>(e) promote human resource development, career progression, and professionalism in agricultural extension;</p> <p>(f) promote and support a robust information, communication and knowledge management system for agricultural extension service;</p> <p>(g) encourage women and youth to actively participate and invest in agriculture;</p> <p>(h) strengthen the agricultural extension research institutions for effective service delivery</p> <p>(i) promote quality assurance and control in agricultural extension services; and</p>	<p>Redraft to read:  <i>“promote a gender, youth and people with special needs responsive agricultural extension system”.</i></p>	<p>The draft does not capture the intention and spirit of the relevant objective 6 (3.3.6) of the NAEP. The intent is not about women and youth participation and investment in agriculture. It is about gender, youth and vulnerability mainstreaming in agriculture extension services</p>
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		<p>Add a new paragraph (j) and renumber accordingly: <i>“establish an efficient monitoring and evaluation system for Agricultural Extension Service”</i></p> <p>Add a new paragraph (k) and renumber accordingly: <i>“ensure that the means of production, conservation and distribution of food are upgraded and improved upon on a continuous basis in accordance with S.16 (A) (b) of the 1999 Constitution as amended”</i></p>	<p>Monitoring and evaluation is imperative and central for the realisation of the aims of this law. The new draft captures one of the key objectives of NAEP.</p> <p>The Bill makes provisions that will bind states and this extension service duty of state is largely derived from the right to food encapsulated in the Fundamental Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy. See the federal legislative power in item 60 of the Exclusive Legislative List to wit: <i>“The establishment and regulation of authorities for the Federation or any part thereof - (a) to promote and enforce the observance of the Fundamental Objectives and Directive Principles contained in this Constitution”</i> and S.17 (d) of the Concurrent Legislative List vis; <i>“the establishment of institutions and bodies for the promotion or financing of</i></p>
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	(m) address cross-cutting and emerging issues that are relevant to extension and agricultural development.	Add a new paragraph (l) as follows:  <i>prescribe the minimum standards for agriculture extension service delivery throughout Nigeria in line with the NAEP and the directive of the National Council on Agriculture;</i>	<i>industrial, commercial or agricultural projects”</i>  The Act will apply across the Federal Republic of Nigeria.  Prescription and adherence to minimum standards is imperative for quality assurance and improved service delivery.
2. Application	2. This Act shall apply throughout the Federal Republic of Nigeria.	Retain	This is in tandem with the constitutional concurrent legislative list sections 17-20 and item 60 of the Exclusive Legislative List.
<b>Part II: MANAGEMENT OF EXTENSION SERVICES</b>			
3. Roles of Stakeholders	3. For the purpose of ensuring synergy and avoiding duplication, confusion and conflict in effective Agricultural service delivery, the responsibilities of key Ministries, extra-Ministerial Departments	Retain, but create definite responsibilities while leaving a general power to make regulations for the Minister.	The responsibilities should be clearly spelt out in this Act in accordance with the institutional framework spelt out in Chapter Four of the

	and Agencies of government and other stakeholders in agricultural extension system in Nigeria shall be as stipulated in a Regulation made pursuant to this Act.	This provision creates the impression that the sponsors of the bill are not sure of the roles for different stakeholder. This informs the postponement of the decision on the responsibilities of key Ministries, extra-Ministerial Departments and Agencies of government and other stakeholders in agricultural extension system in Nigeria	NAEP or if that framework is not suited to the letter and spirit of this bill, provide another framework which stakeholders will discuss before the bill is enacted into law.
4.Establishment of National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services	<p>4.-(1) There shall be established a National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services which shall facilitate collaboration among the relevant stakeholders to effectively manage the Agricultural Extension Services system.</p> <p>(2) The National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services pursuant to Section 4 (a) above shall comprise of the following 25 members:</p> <p>i) Permanent Secretary Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (Chairman);</p> <p>(ii) Director of FDA;</p>	Retain except otherwise indicated.	

	<p>(iii) Director of Federal Department of Agricultural Extension (FDAE) as the Secretariat/Membership);</p> <p>(iv) Chairman of ADPs Association;</p> <p>(v) Two Representatives of Agric (NGOs (I-NGO and NGO);</p> <p>(vi) Representative of Farmers Association (Farmers' group);</p> <p>(vii) Two Representatives of NARIs (one each for Research and Extension, NAERLS);</p> <p>(viii) Representative of Private Sector (off-takers, input dealers, processors);</p> <p>(ix) Representative of Development Finance Institutions (BOA, NADB,);</p> <p>(x) Representative of NADF;</p> <p>(xi) Representative of Federal Ministry of Water Resources;</p> <p>(xii) Representative of Federal Ministry of Environment;</p> <p>(xiii) Representative of NITDA;</p>	<p>Reconsider the use of or delete the word “membership”</p> <p>The National Agriculture Extension and Research Liaison Services should be clearly identified as a member - not just as one NARI.</p>	<p>The word “membership” is hanging and adds nothing to the text of the draft.</p> <p>This is due to the nature of its mandate which is directly on the subject matter of the Bill.</p>
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	<p>(xiv) Executive Secretary of ARCN;</p> <p>(xv) Two Ex-Officio adoptees;</p> <p>(xvi) Representative of FMBEP;</p> <p>(xvii) Representatives of the Six Agro-Ecological Zones selected from the Zonal REFILS:</p> <p>(3) The tenure of the Committee shall be a single term of four years;</p>	<p>Consider making tenure a different section. The issue of determination and replacement placed as a subsection below should properly belong there</p> <p>Determination/Replacement:</p> <p>(i) Membership of the Committee may be determined based on tenure completion, death, incapacitation or conviction for a criminal offense, withdrawal, resignation, etc.</p> <p>(ii) Members may be replaced from the group or interests they represent upon tenure completion or determination;</p>	<p>This a fit and good drafting practice. Lumping up several issues in one section makes the section clumsy.</p>
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	<p>(4) The roles and functions of the Committee shall include:</p> <p>(i) Develop and review agricultural extension plans and strategies for effective extension service delivery nationwide in collaboration with state Agricultural Development Programmes (ADPs) and Federal Department of Agricultural Extension (FDAE).</p> <p>(ii) Formulate evidence-based decision-making to promote effective and sustainable agricultural extension practices in Nigeria;</p> <p>(iii) Partner, interface, and collaborate with FMBEP, development financial institutions, and donor agencies to source funds to support extension service;</p> <p>(iv) Collaborate and coordinate stakeholders and actors in Agriculture Extension Service delivery to ensure a professional, holistic, and integrated approach to extension services;</p> <p>(v) Promote, identify, coordinate, and support research needs and priorities in agricultural extension;</p>	<p>Consider making roles and functions of the Committee a different section.</p>	<p>This a fit and good drafting practice. Lumping up several issues in one section makes the section clumsy.</p>
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	<p>(vi) Assess and identify training needs and modules to guide capacity-building initiatives for Agricultural Extension personnel at all levels;</p> <p>(vii) Review and align the progress and implementation of national agricultural extension programs and projects annually;</p> <p>(viii) Identify and address emerging issues and challenges related to agricultural extension and development;</p> <p>(ix) Advocate for adequate and sustainable funding and resources for agricultural extension services from both public and private sources;</p> <p>(x) Promote quality assurance and control in agricultural extension services and ensure compliance with relevant standards and regulations;</p> <p>(xi) Promote the creation of innovation hubs and startups in agricultural extension, disseminate best practices and lessons learned, and promote agro-industrial investment;</p> <p>(xii) Promote scholarship for deserving students studying agricultural extension</p>		
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	<p>in tertiary institutions to increase students' enrolment in agricultural extension.</p> <p>(5) Determination/Replacement:</p> <p>(i) Membership of the Committee may be determined based on tenure completion, death, incapacitation or conviction for a criminal offense, withdrawal, resignation, etc.</p> <p>(ii) Members may be replaced from the group or interests they represent upon tenure completion or determination;</p>	<p>Add a new objective, paragraph (xiii) to read as follows:</p> <p><i>Stimulate and assist States and Local Governments to initiate or accelerate reforms of agricultural extension services where none is taking place or at a slow pace, by supporting the development of capabilities of States and at Local Governments in the planning, reviewing and re-planning of agriculture extensions services.</i></p> <p>Subsection (5) should be deleted from here as it has been moved to the “tenure” section.</p>	<p>This is important for overall improvements of extension capacity across the States of the Federation.</p> <p>There is no need for repetition.</p>
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<p><i>Functions of the Secretariat</i></p>	<p>Nothing is provided in the Bill</p>	<p>Provide a new section stating the duties of the Federal Department of Agricultural Extension (FDAE) as the Secretariat.</p> <p><i>The Federal Department of Agricultural Extension shall coordinate and ensure the implementation of the decisions of the National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services at the federal level and engage States and Local Governments to implement decisions applicable subnational governments.</i></p>	<p>A Committee of very busy official members, with different primary assignments and extension services as one of their several part time issues, they have to attend to, will not deliver quality services if there is no strong coordination and implementing agency.</p>
<p>5. Monitoring and Evaluation</p>	<p>5.-(1) The National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services shall establish a Monitoring and Evaluation Unit for the purpose of effective monitoring and evaluation of agricultural extension services.</p> <p>(2) The National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services shall put in place an appropriate legal and institutional framework to enable the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit established under subsection (1) of this</p>	<p>These M&amp;E duties should be transferred to the Secretariat working in collaboration with National Agriculture Extension and Research Liaison Services.</p> <p><i>(1) The Secretariat in collaboration with National Agriculture Extension and Research Liaison Services shall undertake monitoring and evaluation of agricultural extension services.</i></p>	<p>There is no need to set up a new bureaucracy when there are existing departments and agencies with mandates and competence on the same issue. Assuming without conceding that the Department and Agency do not currently have the capacity, they can hire new personnel to carry out M&amp;E. To set up a new</p>

	<p>section to provide a mechanism or system of ensuring accountability and learning outcomes for an efficient and sustainable extension system.</p> <p>(3) The legal and institutional framework put in place pursuant to subsection (2) of this section shall provide-</p> <p>(a) agreed outcomes to monitor and evaluate;</p> <p>(b) selected result-based indicators to monitor outcomes;</p> <p>(c) set baselines and collect data; and</p> <p>(d) select results targets and monitor results, using evaluation to support results-based management.</p> <p>(4) Any data collected pursuant to this section shall be-</p> <p>(a) responsive to gender, youth and People with Special Needs (PWSN); and</p>	<p><i>(2) The Secretariat shall put in place appropriate M&amp;E institutional framework and provide a mechanism or system of ensuring accountability and learning outcomes for an efficient and sustainable extension system.</i></p> <p>Delete “legal and” while retaining “institutional” in subsections 2 and 3.</p>	<p>bureaucracy is a waste of time resources.</p> <p>Delete “legal” framework because such legal framework can only be enacted by NASS.</p>
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	<p>(b) utilised for effective extension service delivery.</p> <p>(5) The FDAE and the Agricultural Development Programmes (ADPs) shall provide-</p> <p>(a) the needed logistics and tools to ensure the effective performance of the responsibilities of the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit; and</p> <p>(b) vital and relevant Agricultural Extension field data to be fed into the Information, Communication, and Knowledge Management system, as may be necessary.</p>	<p>Add National Agriculture Extension and Research Liaison Services to the providers.</p> <p><b>Redraft to read:</b>  (a) the needed logistics and tools to ensure the effective performance of the responsibilities of the Monitoring and Evaluation; and</p>	<p>This is based on the mandate of National Agriculture Extension and Research Liaison Services</p>
6. Officers in the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit	6. A Monitoring and Evaluation Unit shall employ qualified officers and develop their capacity to collect, analyse, interpret, store, retrieve and disseminate relevant data for effective extension service delivery.	The Secretariat gets the mandate and not an M&E unit.	This is in accordance with previous recommendations.
7. Agricultural extension research institution	7.-(1) The National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services and relevant stakeholders shall put in place adequate measures, funding and infrastructural development, to strengthen the activities of the institutions for effective service delivery.	This is vague and extremely general without details and specifics for implementation. The poser is - which institutions?	Clarity is required in drafting/law making.

	(2) The relevant institutions in the National Agricultural Research and Extension System (NARES) and other stakeholders, including input dealers, financial institutions, off-takers, insurance and agro allied industries, shall actively participate in REFIMLS.	How they will participate is not clear. REFIMLS and its role needs to be introduced before third parties are asked to actively participate in its activities.	Clarity, contextual details and proper sequencing is required in drafting/law making.
8. Capacity building	<p>8. The National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, shall-</p> <p>(a) equip agricultural extension service providers both in public and private organisations with requisite technical knowledge and skills for sustainable Agricultural Extension Services;</p> <p>(b) regularly build professional capacity in relation to knowledge, attitudes and skills of extension service providers both in public and private organisations;</p> <p>(c) support improved technical capacity of agricultural students in primary, secondary and tertiary educational institutions through counselling and exposure;</p> <p>(d) develop a career structure for agricultural extension personnel and provide professional and hazard allowance; and</p>	Retain except as otherwise indicated.	

	(e) establish and ensure minimum competencies for extension practice by service providers	A new subsection (f) is imperative. It should read:  “accredit and license private extension service providers”	This is necessary for the maintenance of quality and fit and good extension service practice standards.
9.Utilization of digital technology	9.-(1) The National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services in collaboration with relevant Stakeholders in the Agricultural extension value chain shall-  (a) utilize and expand digital services, including the use of apps to provide real-time market and agricultural information, support the aspirations of farmers and agricultural small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs);  (b) identify relevant and affordable digital technologies for women and youth-led agribusinesses to assist women and youth to employ innovations and technologies in their agricultural SMEs and farms.  (c) expand the e-extension legal framework to incorporate a national information, communication, and knowledge management system;	Retain.	

	<p>(d) promote the National Farmers' Helpline, Farm Broadcasts and other services; and</p> <p>(e) share information on agricultural and related activities electronically and manually.</p> <p>(2) Farmers and other value chain actors shall be trained in the management, methodologies and utilization of the various innovations and technologies related to the cross-cutting issues in agricultural extension.</p>		
10. Participation of women and youth	<p>10. The National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services and stakeholders at all levels of agricultural extension value chain shall-</p> <p>(a) create a platform to ensure the participation of women, youth and People With Special Needs;</p> <p>(b) provide friendly tools, approaches, training and budget that are responsive to women, youth and PWSN; and</p> <p>(c) promote the use of gender disaggregated data in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.</p>	<p>Retain except otherwise indicated.</p> <p><i>Promote the gathering and use of gender, youth and vulnerability disaggregated</i></p>	<p>This provides clarity for the context of gender and diversity</p>

		<i>data in the deployment and management of extension services.</i>	
11. Collaboration of stakeholders	<p>11. The National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services shall in collaboration with relevant stakeholders-</p> <p>(a) provide enabling environment at all levels to enable effective participation of public and private extension service providers;</p> <p>(b) create platforms for effective interaction, collaboration and coordination to achieve synergy</p> <p>(c) develop and maintain a data base of public and private extension service providers at all levels;</p> <p>(d) strengthen the agricultural extension service structures and promote effective synergy with all stakeholders including private sector, donors, FBOs and NGOs for a harmonized and effective extension system; and</p> <p>(e) mainstream all bilateral and multilateral development partner-supported extension initiatives and interventions into the national agricultural extension system to avoid duplication</p>	Retain.	

	and ensure effective collaboration and build synergy at all levels.		
<i>12. State Agriculture Extension Services Implementation Steering Committee and its functions</i>	There is nothing on the establishment of the State Agriculture Extension Services Implementation Steering Committee and its functions	<p>Create a new section 12 and renumber accordingly.</p> <p><i>(1) There shall be established State Agriculture Extension Services Implementation Steering Committee which shall facilitate collaboration among relevant stakeholders to effectively manage the Agricultural Extension Services system in a State</i></p> <p><i>(2) The composition of the State Agriculture Extension Services Implementation Steering Committee shall be determined by a state law that retains all the critical stakeholders as provided in the National Agricultural Extension Policy.</i></p> <p><i>(3) The functions of the State Agriculture Extension Services Implementation Steering Committee shall be:</i></p>	This is part of the structure listed in the NAEP policy framework but this is omitted in the Bill.

		<p><i>(a) to coordinate and supervise agriculture extension services delivery at state level;</i></p> <p><i>(b) carry out advocacy and mobilise resources for the agriculture extension in the State and for the Agriculture Extension Service Fund;</i></p> <p><i>© collate, review and recommend for approval the State Agriculture Extension Annual Work Plan and budget;</i></p> <p><i>(d) carry out any duties as may be assigned by the National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services or any other legitimate authority.</i></p> <p><i>(4) The State ADP shall serve as the secretariat of the State Agriculture Extension Services Implementation Steering Committee.</i></p>	
12. State Agricultural Development	12.- A new subsections (1) and (2) is provided to introduce the duties of Agriculture Development Programmes	Renumber. Retain except otherwise indicated. The	New subsections (1) and (2) is provided to introduce Agriculture Development

<p>Programmes</p>		<p>new subsections (1) and (2) to read as follows:</p> <p><i>(1) States shall establish Agriculture Development Programmes through enabling laws.</i></p> <p><i>(2) The functions of States' Agricultural Development Programmes (ADPs) shall include:</i></p> <p><i>(a) support the Departments of Agriculture of Local Government Councils to carry out grassroots extension service delivery using demand driven participatory extension methodologies under a decentralized, harmonized and pluralistic extension system;</i></p> <p><i>(b) engage and provide implementation facilitation support to the Local Government Agriculture Departments;</i></p>	<p>Programmes and their duties.</p>
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		<p><i>(c) active participation in REFIMILS, host TRMs and conduct on-farm research and forth nightly trainings</i></p> <p><i>(d) establish a State ICKM unit to include an M&amp;E Unit and develop appropriate frameworks for effective implementation;</i></p> <p><i>(e) develop an M&amp;E framework for effective, participatory monitoring and evaluation of Agriculture Extension Services in the State;</i></p> <p><i>(f) upgrade the WIA Unit of the ADP into a Gender Unit with emphasis on youth, women and people with special needs;</i></p> <p><i>(i) maintain a directory of private extension service providers (PESP), FBO and NGOs in the State and provide capacity building for them;</i></p> <p><i>(k) develop and implement quality assurance and</i></p>	
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	<p>(3) For the purpose of extension services delivery to farmers in their areas of jurisdiction, the States' Agricultural Development Programmes (ADPs) shall benefit from the extension funds.</p> <p>(2) To benefit from the Agriculture Extension Service Fund, a State ADP shall-</p> <p>(a) be established in accordance with the state's law and regulations;</p>	<p><i>control framework at a point of entry;</i></p> <p><i>(l) develop and ensure career progression for extension personnel especially extension agents.</i></p> <p>Which extension funds will state benefit from? Redraft (1) to read:  <i>(1) For the purpose of extension services delivery to farmers in their areas of jurisdiction, the States' Agricultural Development Programmes (ADPs) shall benefit from the Fund established under this Act and the Agriculture Extension Services Fund.</i></p> <p>Redraft to read  <i>(a) be established in accordance with the state's law which meets the standards set in this Act;</i></p>	<p>It is necessary to define or introduce "extension funds". Extension funds would generally include resources from the "Fund", as established by this Act, funds available at state and local governments levels and the intention of this provision is to state that state ADPs shall benefit from funding under this Act.</p> <p>There is the need for state laws to be in alignment and harmonised with this Act.</p>
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	<p>(b) have an approved workplan of extension services for which the funds sought are to be expended; and</p> <p>(c) acquire a functional knowledge management and Development Communication or Media Unit;</p> <p>(3) Due process shall be a prerequisite for access to extension funds from the National Agricultural Development Fund.</p> <p>(4) Any State ADP that violates any existing law or guidelines relating to Agricultural Extension Services shall not be eligible to access the National Agriculture Development Fund or the Fund established by this Act.</p>		
<p>Local Government Agriculture Department/ Local Government Agricultural Extension Implementation Committee</p>		<p>Create a new section and renumber accordingly,</p> <p><i>There shall be established a Local Government Agriculture Department/ Local Government Agricultural Extension Implementation Committee.</i></p> <p><i>The functions of the Local Government Agricultural Extension Implementation Committee shall include the following:</i></p>	<p>This is part of the state structure listed in the AES policy framework but this is omitted in the Bill.</p>

		<p><i>(a) effectively carry out grassroots agriculture extension service delivery in collaboration with State ADPs and Private Extension Service Providers in the local Government Area;</i></p> <p><i>(b) establish a Gender Unit with emphasis on Youth, Women and People with Special Needs;</i></p> <p><i>(c) contribute not less than 5% of their annual agriculture budget to the Agriculture Extension Service Fund.</i></p> <p><i>(d) maintain a directory of Private Extension Service Providers active in the Local Government Area.</i></p>	
Fund of the National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services	Nothing concrete and tangible in the bill on funding.	<i>(1) The National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services shall establish and maintain the Agriculture Extension Service Fund from which shall be defrayed all expenses incurred by the Committee.</i>	A law creating deep duties and responsibilities on an issue of grave and urgent national importance but without a credible funding source can best be described as ropes of sand. A provision in S.14 of the Bill – “Consequential amendment” stating that the

	<p>(2) <i>There shall be paid and credited to the fund established pursuant to subsection 1 of the section such payments as may be made to it by the Federal Government for running expenses and all assets accruing from time to time to the Committee.</i></p> <p>(3) <i>The sources of fund shall include but not limited to:</i></p> <p>(a) <i>a take-off grant from the Federal Government;</i></p> <p>(b) <i>not less than 5% of the Federal Agriculture budget to be provided in the yearly Appropriation Act;</i></p> <p>(c) <i>grants or contributions from the National Agriculture Development Fund;</i></p> <p>(d) <i>proceeds of loans obtained by the Federal Government on concessional terms with single digit low interest rates and with a reasonably long period of amortisation.</i></p>	<p><i>“National Agricultural Development Fund Act, ....., is amended in .....to specifically allocate part of the generated fund as extension fund for the effective implementation of Agricultural Extension Services in Nigeria”- cannot be a credible source of funding.</i></p>
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		<p><i>(e) grants from Development Partners and corporate social responsibility from corporate bodies and communities;</i></p> <p><i>(f) contributions from public and private sector agricultural development interventions;</i></p> <p><i>(g) annual subscription by farmer organisations, agro-allied industries and value chain actors;</i></p> <p><i>(h) gifts and donations and any other source of funding not inconsistent with the objectives of this Act.</i></p>	
Expenditure of the National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services	There is no provision in the Bill.	<p><i>The National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services may, from time to time, apply the proceeds of the fund established in pursuance of section ... of this Act-</i></p> <p><i>(a) to the cost of administration of the Committee;</i></p>	This is a necessary provision where a group, institution or agency is created and a public fund is to be managed.

		<p><i>(b) for reimbursing members of the Committee or of any sub group set up by the Committee for such expenses as may be expressly authorised by the Committee in accordance with the rates applicable in the public service;</i></p> <p><i>(c) to the payment of fees or other remuneration, or allowances payable to the officers and servants responsible for implementing the directives of the Committee; and</i></p> <p><i>(d) for and in connection with all of its functions under this Act.</i></p>	
<i>Grants to States and Local Governments</i>	<i>There is no provision in the Bill.</i>	<p><i>(1) States and Local Governments shall be entitled to grants from the Committee.</i></p> <p><i>(2) For any State or Local Government to qualify for a grant pursuant to sub-section (1) of this section, such State or Local</i></p>	<i>This will spur and enhance agriculture extension service delivery across the Federation.</i>

		<p><i>Government shall contribute not less than fifteen per cent of the total cost of projects as their commitment in the execution of such projects.</i></p> <p><i>(3) The National Technical Committee on Agricultural Extension Services shall not disburse money to any:</i></p> <p><i>(a) State or Local Government if it is not satisfied that the money earlier disbursed was applied in accordance with the provisions of this Act;</i></p> <p><i>(b) State or Local Governments that fail to contribute their counterpart funding; and</i></p> <p><i>(c) States and Local Governments that fail to implement the NAEP, norms, standards and guidelines prescribed by the National Council on Agriculture.</i></p>	
Annual estimates and accounts	There is no provision in the Bill.	<i>(1) The Committee shall, not later than 31 October in each year, submit to the Minister</i>	This is a necessary provision where a group, institution or agency is

		<p><i>of Agriculture an estimate of the expenditure and income of the Committee during the following year.</i></p> <p><i>(2) The Committee shall keep proper accounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenditure in respect of each year and proper records in relation thereto and shall cause the accounts to be audited not later than six months after the end of each year by auditors appointed from the list and in accordance with guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General of the Federation.</i></p>	<p>created and a public fund is to be managed.</p>
Annual report	There is no provision in the Bill.	<p><i>(1) The Committee shall prepare and submit to the President through the Minister of Agriculture, not later than 30th June in each year, a report in such form as the Minister may direct on the activities of the Committee during the immediately preceding year, and shall include in the report a copy of the audited accounts of the Committee</i></p>	

		<p><i>for that year and the auditor's report thereon.</i></p> <p><i>(2) A copy of the report as prepared in subsection (1) shall be submitted to the relevant oversight Committee National Assembly.</i></p>	
<b>PART IV – MISCELLANEOUS</b>			
13. Power to make Regulations	<p>13.-(1) The Minister may make such regulations as are necessary for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.</p> <p>(2) Regulations made under subsection (1) of this section may provide for the-</p> <p>(a) classification, nature and scope of Agricultural Extension Services;</p> <p>(b) availability of land, seed crops and other services;</p> <p>(c) criteria and procedure for disbursement of Agricultural Extension Service Fund;</p> <p>(d) provision of incentives, recognition and awards for performing extension services provider across the nation;</p> <p>(e) digital agricultural extension services, technological advancement and global</p>		

	<p>improvement of agricultural extension services;</p> <p>(f) prequalification of States or other organs of extension delivery system for benefiting from the Fund established in this Act and the National Agricultural Development Fund to ensure that the funds are being used effectively and efficiently to promote agricultural development in Nigeria;</p> <p>(h) requirement for States to institutionalise Agricultural Development Programme (ADP) that is inclusive of all stakeholders;</p> <p>(i) roles and responsibilities of stakeholders in the Agricultural Extension Services;</p> <p>(j) duration of Agricultural Extension Programme; and</p> <p>(k) any other matter connected with the implementation of the provisions of this Act.</p> <p>(3) Any person, who contravenes any regulation made pursuant to this Act commits an offence infraction and liable to administrative sanction as may be prescribed in the regulations.</p>		
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<p>14. Consequential Amendment</p>	<p>14. Section .... of the National Agricultural Development Fund Act, ....., is amended in .....to specifically allocate part of the generated fund as extension fund for the effective implementation of Agricultural Extension Services in Nigeria.</p>	<p>Delete</p>	<p>It may be impracticable to compel the board of the National Agricultural Development Fund to dedicate a percentage of the fund to extension services. This will raise opposition to the bill and it may not be passed.</p>
<p>15. Interpretation</p>	<p>15. In this Bill- "Agricultural Extension" includes the offer technical advice on agriculture to farmers, supplies of necessary inputs and services to support agricultural production to farmers and the provision of information or new ideas developed by agricultural research stations to farmers in order to reduce constraints such as low productivity, poor marketing and distribution infrastructures, sustainable irrigation, storage, inadequate access to funds or credit, and inadequate database among others.</p> <p>"FBO" refers to Faith Based Organisations.</p> <p>"FNT" refers to fortnightly training.</p> <p>"ICKM" refers to information, communication and knowledge management.</p>		

	<p>“I-NGO” refers to International Non-Governmental Organisations.</p> <p>“M&amp;E” refers to monitoring and evaluation.</p> <p>“NGO” refers to Non-Governmental Organisations.</p> <p>“OFAR” refers to on-farm research.</p> <p>“REFIMILS” refers to research – extension – farmer – inputs - market linkage system.</p>		
16. Short Title	16. This Bill may be cited as the Agricultural Extension Services Revitalization Bill, 2024.		
<p><b>EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM</b></p> <p>This Bill seeks to provide a legal framework for a sustainable agricultural extension services, strengthen investment in agriculture and increased agricultural productivity for food security and revenue generation in Nigeria</p>			