

LAND ACQUISITION STATUS ON THE PERMANENT SITE OF USMANU DANFODIYO UNIVERSITY, SOKOTO

¹Michael O. Ahundu, ¹Mohammed A. Iliya, ¹Muazu A. Shamaki and
²Muftau O. Olarinde

¹Department of Geography, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto

²Department of Economics, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto

Corresponding Author's email: orkuma.ahundu@gmail.com



Abstract

This paper examined the status of land acquisition by Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto (UDUS), and the possibility of effective livelihood reconstruction by the indigenous population on its permanent site. The research is premised on the fact that most land acquisitions in Nigeria negate certain requirements of the Land Use Act (2019) which is the land law in Nigeria. Land acquisition for UDUS formed the basis for this paper. The paper used the Sustainable Rural Livelihoods model to study the livelihoods of the indigenous population. Key Informant Interviews (KII) and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and observations were used. Data collected were transcribed and interpreted. Findings indicate that land was acquired from the indigenous population who became displaced when UDUS was established. Only those who were affected by the first phase of development were compensated and resettled. Compensation paid covered only land for a house without consideration for size and agricultural land. This led to displacement of persons into a life of impoverishment in that they cannot reconstruct their livelihoods appropriately. The paper, therefore, recommended that adequate compensation and resettlement of the indigenous population in line with the provisions of the Land Use Act, 1979 which requires an alternative piece of land is equal value to the one acquired should be adhered to instead of the present model used by the Sokoto State and UDUS.

Keywords: Land Tenure System, Compulsory Land Acquisition, Compensation, and Resettlement.