

Date: 13 January, 2020

Dear Sir or Madam

Reference number:

Project name: **SUSTAINABLE FOOD SECURITY IN NORTHEAST NIGERIA: A
SYSTEM SCIENCE APPROACH**

I am a PhD student at the University of Reading. I am conducting research on the sustainable food system in North East Nigeria in order to improve the food security situation of households. My research project aims to find out how the food system can be changed to yield food security through producing more diverse food for sustainable food security.

For this research, I am contacting households in the North East to participate in answering a questionnaire which will take around 15 minutes. You have been randomly selected from people in the North East. You are encouraged to freely express your opinions. Please be assured that your views are valued and that there are no right or wrong answers to the questions asked. Your name or personal details will not be collected as part of the interview. Your identity will not be revealed to anyone other than the researchers conducting this survey.

Participation is entirely voluntary, and you are free to withdraw from the interview at any time if you feel uncomfortable, and you do not have to specify a reason. Any contribution can be withdrawn up until the point at which the data is aggregated and results are analysed on 01/06/2020. After 01/06/2020, it will not be possible to withdraw your contribution. If you wish to withdraw, please contact me quoting the reference number at the top of this page. This reference will only be used to identify your information and will not reveal any other information about you.

If at any stage you wish to receive further information about my research, please do not hesitate to contact me. The findings will be written up into my thesis and published in academic journals. This will not affect your anonymity.

All data I collect will be stored securely either electronically or on a password-protected computer. The data will be securely stored in accordance with the University of Reading's data protection and research ethics policies. It may be shared in anonymised form with academic supervisors, examiners, or collaborators for the purpose of review, validation, and future academic research. Any shared data will not contain information that could identify you or your household.

The participant information sheet will be read to you by the enumerator, if you are unable to read. So, by completing this survey, you are acknowledging that you understand the terms and conditions of participation in this study and that you consent to these terms.

This research project has been reviewed according to the procedures specified by the University Research Ethics Committee and has been given a favourable ethical opinion for conduct. Thank you very much for taking the time to take part in this survey.

Supervisor Contact Details

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Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chinweoke Uzoamaka Ike', is shown on a light-colored background.

Chinweoke Uzoamaka Ike