CHAPTER SIXTEEN

NON-OIL EXPORT AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN NIGERIA: A DISAGGREGATED APPROACH

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Abstract

The negative consequences of being overly dependent on the oil trade have highlighted the necessity of diversifying the Nigerian economy away from oil and toward nonoil exports, as outlined in the Nigerian Economic Sustainability Plan. In light of these factors, this chapter assessed the influence of nonoil exports on the growth of the Nigerian economy from 1990--2021. To accomplish this, the study takes a detailed approach by examining the effects of various types of exports, including agricultural products, manufactured goods, solid minerals, and services, on economic growth. The vector error correction (VEC) methodology was employed to analyze the data. The study revealed that agricultural, manufacturing, solid mineral, and service exports had positive and significant relationships with economic growth in Nigeria at the 5% critical level. The study recommends that the government increase spending on agriculture, exploration of solid minerals, and manufacturing sectors to increase production in these sectors, which will lead to an increase in exportable goods and services and spur growth. The government should also enact policies such as export grants targeted at boosting the domestic production of nonoil products for export.

Keywords: Economic growth, nonoil export, agricultural export, manufacturing export, solid mineral export, service export.

1. Introduction

In a world characterized by increasing globalization and interconnectivity, the dynamics of international trade have emerged as critical determinants of economic growth for nations across the globe. Trade facilitates the efficient allocation of resources within countries and fosters the propagation of growth from one region to another (Ijuo & Andohol, 2020). In pursuit of trade benefits, developing nations such as Nigeria have consistently pursued similar trade and developmental strategies over different periods with the goal of invigorating economic growth. In this vein, the Nigerian government implemented the Structural Adjustment Program (SAP) in 1986, characterized by the liberalization of trade to boost the growth of nonoil exports, particularly agricultural products, to achieve sustainable economic growth among member nations. Other policies on different occasions included initiatives such as the establishment of the National Export Promotion Council (NEPC), Export Processing Zones (EPZ), and the signing of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AfCFTA), among others (Akpan & Obayori, 2022).

Despite these initiatives, nonoil exports have experienced a decline attributed to excessive reliance on the oil sector. The aggregate value of nonoil exports accelerated from N552.10 billion in 1986 to ▶1,130,170.52 billion in 2013, decreased to №656,793.95 billion in 2016, and then increased to N2,466,831.25 billion in 2021 (Central Bank of Nigeria [CBN], 2021). Thus, nonoil exports have been somewhat neglected, disregarding their potential to foster economic growth. Advocates for a larger share of nonoil exports argue that this sector possesses significant potential to drive the desired growth and development of the Nigerian economy (Akpa, et al., 2022; Anyanwu & Ojima (2021)). Consequently, Akeem (2011) and Ajakaiye and Ojowu (2014) emphasize that among the nonoil exports in Nigeria, agricultural exports, manufactured exports, solid mineral exports, and service exports hold the utmost significance. Edeme, Onoja, and Damulak (2018) contend that enhancing these sectors-agriculture, manufacturing, solid minerals, and services-invigorate economic activities by promoting investment, efficient resource utilization, increased output, and aggregate demand.

However, the nonoil sector is plagued with inadequate domestic investment in nonoil industries, an absence of established institutions, deficient transportation and inadequate infrastructure, unfavorable market conditions, pervasive corruption, political instability, inappropriate technology adoption, weak connections within the agro-business sector, and rapid population growth (Akpan & Obayori, 2022; Nwankpa, 2017). Thus, it has the potential to increase economic growth.

In addition to growth, the Nigerian economy recovered from a recession in the early 1980s to attain a growth rate of approximately 6.4% in 1989. The growth rate subsequently slowed to an average of 2.6% between 1990 and 1999. In the period from 2000--2014, the GDP increased at an average rate of 7.9%, followed by a decrease to 2.65% and consecutive recessions of -1.62% in 2015 and 2016. This decrease was succeeded by a gradual recovery, with growth rates of 0.81% in 2017 and 1.92% in 2018 (CBN, 2021). By the end of 2021, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS, 2022) reported GDP growth of 3.4%.

The attempt to increase economic growth and the need to reduce the overreliance on oil exports underscored the urgency and necessity of diversifying Nigeria's economy away from oil and toward the realm of nonoil exports, given their considerable potential to complement and invigorate the desired growth and development trajectory. It is against this backdrop that the chapter investigated nonoil exports and economic growth in Nigeria via the disaggregated approach. This approach accounts for the different sectors of agricultural exports, manufacturing exports, service exports and solid mineral exports and their effects on economic growth in Nigeria. The rest of the chapter presents a literature review in section 2, the methodology is presented in section 3, and section 4 presents the results and discussion, with section 5 offering conclusions and recommendations.

2. Literature Review

Theoretical Framework

This study is grounded in export-led growth theory, which posits that the expansion and enhancement of exports play pivotal roles in fostering sustained economic growth (Idowu, 2005). This theory is rooted in the favorable outcomes of international trade, a principle underscored by various trade theories. The mercantilists, who advocated that trade was the exclusive means to accumulate wealth and promote economic growth, laid the initial groundwork for this theory. Subsequent developments came from economists such as Lewis (1955), Balassa (1960s), and Williamson (1970s and 1980s). As outlined by Cosmas (2015), growth is considered export-led when it is stimulated by a substantial increase in the export of a specific product. This theory is founded on the belief that the expansion of exports yields positive externalities, including the diffusion of technological advancements, specialization, economies of scale, improved access to markets, and a more efficient allocation of resources. These elements collectively contribute to an increase in factor productivity.

Donald, *et al.* (2018) posited that the hypothesis contains dual viewpoints, pertaining to both the demand and supply sides: the perspective from the demand side contends that maintaining sustainable growth in demand is challenging within a limited domestic market. This is because the economic momentum propelled by the expansion of domestic demand is likely to swiftly reach its limits. Conversely, the export market remains inexhaustible and is not constrained by growth limitations on the demand side. On the other hand, the supply side of the export-led growth hypothesis suggests that the amplification of exports can foster and increase economic growth by bolstering total factor productivity (TFP). This process begins with the notion that an increase in exports can stimulate specialization in sectors that hold a comparative advantage within the country. Consequently, it triggers the reassignment of resources from less efficient nontrade sectors to the more productive export-oriented sector (Silverstors & Herzer, 2005)

Empirical Review

Several studies have assessed the effect of nonoil exports on economic growth. In their research, Naanzem, Uwondo, Madaki, and Ndam (2023) used ARDL to examine the effect of nonoil exports on

Nigeria's economic growth between 1986 and 2021. The results revealed that both agricultural and service exports exert favorable and statistically significant effects on economic growth in the long and short run. Furthermore, their findings showed that manufacturing exports positively affect economic growth in the short term. Taiga and Ameji (2020) and Okuduwor, Amadi and Udi (2023) also reported that agriculture positively impacts economic growth in Nigeria. In contrast, Ijuo and Andohol (2020) confirmed that agriculture had an insignificant effect on economic growth in Nigeria.

Furthermore, Oboro and Aguwamba (2022) explored how exports from the nonoil sector impacted the growth of Nigeria's economy from 1990--2020 via the vector error correction method. They reported that exports of agricultural and manufacturing products played a significant positive role in driving the growth of Nigeria's economy, whereas exports of solid minerals and services exhibited a economy, whereas exports of solid minerals and services exhibited a significant detrimental influence on economic growth. In contrast, Onose and Aras (2021) find that service exports exert a beneficial influence on economic growth. Using ARDL, Lawali *et al.* (2020) studied the impact of nonoil exports on economic growth in Nigeria from 1981--2019. The study findings revealed that, with the exception of agricultural exports, there was a negative and statistically significant association between manufacturing and solid mineral exports and economic growth in the long term. Denald, *et al.* (2018) exports and economic growth in the long term. Donald, *et al.* (2018) further investigated the influence of nonoil exports on Nigeria's economic growth spanning from 1986--2016. The findings revealed a direct and substantial influence on economic growth from agricultural exports, solid mineral exports, and tourism exports. Nwanne (2014) examined how diversifying nonoil exports, and tourisin exports. Twuline (2014) examined how diversifying nonoil export products affected economic growth in Nigeria from 1981--2014. The study revealed that the agricultural and manufacturing components of nonoil exports had a favorable and substantial relationship with economic growth, whereas the solid mineral components had a detrimental and nonsignificant association with economic growth in Nigeria.

Studies have been carried out on the effect of nonoil exports on economic growth in Nigeria. Some of the studies maintained a holistic perspective on the effect of nonoil exports on economic growth without disaggregating into specific export sectors (Anyanwu & Ojima 2021; Akpan & Obayori, 2022), whereas others concentrated on one sector (Onose & Aras, 2021; Okuduwor, *et al.*, 2023). However, few studies have analyzed the effect of nonoil exports on economic growth via a disaggregated approach (Nwanne, 2014; Donald, *et al.*, 2018; Oboro & Aguwamba, 2022); hence, there is still a wide gap in the understanding of the effect of the nonoil sector on economic growth via a disaggregated approach to identify the individual export sectors that contribute to the growth of the Nigerian economy.

3. Methodology

Data

This study adopted an ex post facto research design to objectively arrive at the conclusion of the study. The data used for this study were annual time series on economic growth (real GDP), the exchange rate, agricultural exports, manufacturing exports, solid mineral exports, and service exports. These data were sourced from World Bank Indicators (2022).

Model Specification

The modified model for the study was adapted from the study of Oboro and Aguwamba (2022), with the inclusion of the exchange rate as a variable that is key in international trade. This is in line with the export-led growth hypothesis and thus the specification of the functional form of the relationship as follows:

RGDP = f(AEX, MEX, SMEX, SEX, EXR) ------(1)

where RGDP is the real gross domestic product as a proxy for economic growth, AEX represents agricultural exports, MEX represents manufacturing exports, SMEX represents solid mineral exports, SEX represents service exports and the EXR represents the exchange rate.

By taking the first difference of the variables and establishing that they are integrated of order one and that there is cointegration among the variables, we present the relationship in a vector error correction (VECM) model, which is given as: Non-Oil Export and Economic Growth in Nigeria: ... M. Ahemen, M. Okibe and I. I. Udaah

4. Results and Discussion

Unit root and cointegration analysis

The first step when considering the VECM is to establish the order of integration and the nature of cointegration among the variables. The Augmented Dickey Fuller (ADF), NG-Perron and KwaitKowski-Philips-Schmidt-Shin (KPSS) unit root tests confirmed that all the variables are integrated of order one; this result is presented in Table 1.

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Variables	AD	F		Ng-Pel	rron		KP	SS	Decision
	t-Stat	Prob	MZa	MZt	MSB	MPT	KPSS	t-Stat	
			-8.1	-1.98	0.233	3.17			
InRGDP	-0.163108	0.9333	0.79995	0.70679	0.88354	53.5025	0.463000	0.609501	Not stationary
D(lnRGDP)	-5.297925	0.0002	-14.9025	-2.70923	0.18180	1.72066	0.463000	0.124658	I(1)
InAEX	-0.596241	0.8575	-1.17584	-0.60971	0.51853	15.6683	0.463000	0.562839	Not stationary
D(InAEX)	-4.100414	0.0034	-12.3162	-2.47959	0.20133	1.99682	0.463000	0.136576	I(1)
InMEX	-1.374805	0.5816	-1.10903	-0.57896	0.52204	16.0358	0.463000	0.633292	Not stationary
D(lnMEX)	-4.602788	0.0009	-12.8071	-2.51894	0.19668	1.95740	0.463000	0.142722	I(1)
InSMEX	-0.871645	0.7837	0.18315	0.09940	0.54274	21.9466	0.463000	0.724550	Not stationary
D(lnSMEX)	-6.911253	0.0000	-14.3023	-2.66969	0.18666	1.72994	0.463000	0.037122	I(1)
InSEX	0.455984	0.9822	0.94577	0.65569	0.69329	36.4983	0.463000	0.735053	Not stationary
D(lnSEX)	-4.986972	0.0003	-13.2502	-2.56289	0.19342	1.89119	0.463000	0.149659	I(1)
EXR	1.279063	0.9979	2.92371	1.59670	0.54612	33.2219	0.463000	0.697816	Not stationary
D(EXR)	-5.131769	0.0003	-42.0523	-4.55123	0.10823	0.67461	0.463000	0.352637	I(1)
Source: Extrac	tion from E-v	riews 10 O	utput						

Once the order of integration has been determined, we employ the Johansen cointegration test to assess the cointegration among the variables. The test affirms cointegration and establishes the presence of a long-term relationship between the variables. The outcomes of these results are presented in Table 2.

Trace	0.05	Null	Max-	0.05
Statistic	Critical	Hypothesis	Eigen	Critical
	Value		Statistic	Value
100.7443	95.75366	r=0*	53.64456	40.07757
71.13873	69.81889	r≤l	21.44802	33.87687
25.65170	47.85613	r≤2	14.03814	27.58434
11.61356	29.79707	r≤3	8.718246	21.13162
2.895311	15.49471	r≤4	2.609233	14.26460
0.286078	3.841466	r≤5	0.286078	3.841466
-	Trace Statistic 100.7443 71.13873 25.65170 11.61356 2.895311 0.286078	Trace0.05StatisticCriticalValueValue100.744395.7536671.1387369.8188925.6517047.8561311.6135629.797072.89531115.494710.2860783.841466	Trace 0.05 Null Statistic Critical Hypothesis Value - - 100.7443 95.75366 r=0* 71.13873 69.81889 r≤1 25.65170 47.85613 r≤2 11.61356 29.79707 r≤3 2.895311 15.49471 r≤4 0.286078 3.841466 r≤5	Trace 0.05 Null Max- Statistic Critical Hypothesis Eigen Value Statistic Statistic 100.7443 95.75366 r=0* 53.64456 71.13873 69.81889 r≤1 21.44802 25.65170 47.85613 r≤2 14.03814 11.61356 29.79707 r≤3 8.718246 2.895311 15.49471 r≤4 2.609233 0.286078 3.841466 r≤5 0.286078

Table 2: Johansen cointegration test result

Source: Extraction from E-views 10 Output

Note: r represents the number of cointegrating vectors. Both the trace statistic and Max-Eigen statistic indicate 2 and 1 cointegrating equations, respectively. * Denotes rejection of the hypothesis at the 0.05 level.

Long-run Results

To determine the nature of the long-term relationship, the normalized Johansen cointegrating equation, which is based on the lowest log likelihood, is used:

Note: Standard errors are in parentheses, while t statistics are in brackets

Agricultural exports have a positive relationship with economic growth in Nigeria at the 5% significance level. This is theoretically plausible. This implies that an increase in agricultural exports will spur economic growth in Nigeria. This finding is in line with the findings of Okuduwor, *et al.* (2023), Oboro and Aguwamba (2022), Anyanwu and Ojima (2021), Lawali, *et al.* (2020), Taiga and Ameji (2020) and Donald *et al.* (2018). However, this finding contrasts with the findings of Ijuo and Andohol (2020), who reported an insignificant direct effect between agriculture and economic growth in Nigeria. Manufacturing exports have a positive relationship growth in Nigeria. Manufacturing exports have a positive relationship with economic growth in Nigeria. This is theoretically plausible. This implies that an increase in manufacturing exports will spur economic growth in Nigeria. Naanzem, *et al.* (2023), Oboro and Aguwamba (2022), and Nwanne (2014) disagree with the findings of Lawali, et (2022), and Nwanne (2014) disagree with the findings of Lawan, *et al.* (2020). Moreover, solid mineral exports have a significant positive effect on economic growth in Nigeria. This is theoretically plausible. This implies that an increase in solid mineral exports will spur economic growth in Nigeria. This finding is consistent with the findings of Donald *et al.* (2018) and differs from the findings of Oboro and Aguwamba (2022), Lawali, *et al.* (2020), and Nwanne (2014). Service exports have a positive relationship with economic growth in Nigeria at the 5% significance level. This is theoretically

Service exports have a positive relationship with economic growth in Nigeria at the 5% significance level. This is theoretically plausible. By implication, an increase in service exports leads to a positive change in economic growth. This finding agrees with the findings of Naanzem *et al.* (2023) and disagrees with the findings of Oboro and Aguwamba (2022). Finally, the exchange rate negatively affected economic growth in the long run at the 5% significance level. By implication, exchange rate can create uncertainty and discourage investment and trade, hampering economic growth in Nigeria.

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Variables	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
CointEq1(-1)	-0.174273	0.037750	-4.616565	0.0000
LNRGDP	0.014316	0.046276	2.519070	0.0129
LNAEX	0.161073	0.053688	2.210264	0.0287
LNMEX	0.100621	0.062839	3.045910	0.0028
LNSMEX	0.106475	0.050075	2.126315	0.0353
LNSEX	-0.013113	0.055535	-0.236122	0.8137
EXR	-0.022568	0.000148	-2.689374	0.0080

 Table 3: Summary of the Vector Error Correction Model

Source: Extraction from E-views 10 Output

Table 3 presents the estimates of the Johansen Co integrating equation and VECM model. The ECM indicates that any short-run disequilibrium from the long run is adjusted in every succeeding period at a rate of 17%. The ECM is negatively signed and statistically significant, meeting the acceptability criteria.

Impulse response

The result of the impulse response of economic growth to shocks in nonoil exports in Nigeria is presented in Figure 1. Response of LNRGDP to Innovations



Figure 1: Response of lnRGDP to innovations

The result of the ten-year forecast shows that economic growth would respond positively and permanently to a one standard deviation shock in its own residuals throughout the forecast period. The results also show that the response of economic growth to a shock in agricultural exports is positive and permanent throughout the forecast period. Again, economic growth responded positively and permanently to a one standard deviation shock in solid mineral exports. Furthermore, the study also revealed that economic growth responds positively and permanently to shocks in exchange rates. This implies that increases in agricultural exports, solid mineral exports and exchange rates have long-lasting positive impacts on economic growth in the long run and permanently.

The study also revealed that a one standard deviation shock to economic growth initially decreases manufacturing exports. The negative response would decline to period two and increase gradually to the positive region through period four. From period four, it would decline into the negative region and then improve gradually, although still in the negative region from period five to period ten, with increasing tendencies. This implies that a shock in manufacturing exports would have a negative temporal response to economic growth but with increasing tendencies. Finally, the study revealed that economic growth responds negatively and permanently to shocks in service exports.

Diagnostic tests results

This subsection addresses the postestimation analysis of the model with the goal of ascertaining that the model was never spurious, and Table 4 shows the diagnostic test for the model.

Table 4: VEC Diagnostic Test Results					
Type of Test	Test statistic	Prob			
VEC Correlation LM Test	LRE* F-Stat (25.19581)	0.9225			
VEC Heteroskedasticity Test	Joint Chi-Sq (288.3234)	0.5824			

Source: Computed from Eviews-10

Table 4 presents the results of the VEC residual tests assessing serial correlation and heteroscedasticity. The findings indicate that the LRE* F statistic value is 25.20, with a corresponding probability value of 0.9225, supporting the acceptance of the null hypothesis. This finding suggests that there is no correlation among the sequence residues. Furthermore, the joint chi-square value of 288.32, accompanied by a probability value of 0.5824, indicates that the residuals exhibit homoscedasticity. This finding demonstrates that the VEC model remains robust against issues related to serial correlation and heteroskedasticity.

5. Conclusion and policy recommendations

The study findings indicate that agricultural exports, manufacturing exports, service exports and solid mineral exports have positive effects on Nigeria's economy. These sectors have demonstrated a propensity to stimulate economic growth, resulting in enhanced national prosperity. In light of these findings, the study offers the following recommendations:

- i. To invigorate the domestic production of nonoil goods earmarked for export, policymakers should devise and implement targeted policies such as export incentives. This endeavor could be realized through reinvigorating local enterprises and adhering to globally recognized export processing standards.
- ii. The government should consider investing in agriculture, solid mineral exploration, and the manufacturing sector to amplify production within these sectors. This strategic approach would foster a surge in the availability of exportable goods and services, which can act as catalysts for driving economic growth.
- iii. The Nigerian government should enforce nonoil export policies to resuscitate the failing nonoil export industry. The government should review policies and practices that are not favorable to exporters and apply a national export program that will promote the export culture in the country.

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