

## PREFACE

The book titled *Policies and Development Issues in Nigeria* is a scholarly compilation dedicated to honor the academic contributions and achievements of Professor Simeon Oko Ajegi. His profound insights, leadership, and dedication to economic thought have left an indelible mark on the study of development economics in Nigeria. This volume gathers a series of academic papers from esteemed colleagues, researchers, and scholars, presenting critical issues that influence Nigeria's socio-economic landscape.

The chapters in this book traverse a wide array of development themes, ranging from human capital expenditure and its interplay with population growth to economic progress, healthcare, and the impact of fuel subsidy removal on small and medium-scale enterprises. These analyses provide essential insights into the policy challenges and development concerns that shape Nigeria's journey towards sustainable economic growth. A unique feature of this book is its multi-disciplinary approach. Contributions from various fields "Economics, Sociology, and Development Studies" ensure that this volume captures the diverse dimensions of Nigeria's development. Each paper is well-researched and provides critical reflections on the policies and reforms that could shape a brighter future for the nation.

The objective of this publication is to provide a comprehensive platform where policy issues that affect development are debated and solutions proposed. It brings together a wealth of research that is both timely and relevant, reflecting on economic realities and development challenges faced by Nigeria today. This book is not just an academic endeavor but also a tribute to Professor Simeon Oko Ajegi, whose dedication to research and mentorship has inspired countless academics and students. His influence will continue to guide future generations as they contribute to Nigeria's economic transformation.

It is our hope that the contents of this book will provide valuable insights for policymakers, scholars, and practitioners as Nigeria continues to navigate its developmental challenges. May this book serve as a lasting tribute to the remarkable life and work of Professor Ajegi, a beacon of excellence in Nigeria's academic community.

***The Editors***