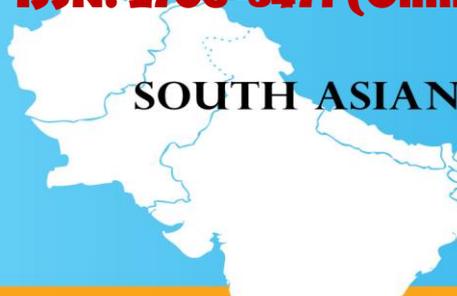


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**EFFECTS OF IMPROVED COCOA TECHNOLOGIES ON INCOME AND
POVERTY LEVELS OF FARMERS IN ONDO STATE**

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ABSTRACT

The study assessed the effects of the improved cocoa technologies on income and poverty levels of farmers adopting improved technology in the study area. A multi-stage sampling technique was used to select a total of 200 cocoa farmers from 4 Local Government Areas of Ondo State. Primary data were collected using a well-structured questionnaire. Data collected were analyzed using descriptive statistics, the instrumental variable method and Foster-Greer-Thorbecke (FGT) model. Results showed that the improved technologies adopters were more exposed to formal education and cultivated larger hectares of farm-land as compared to non-adopters. The non-adopters were older and more experienced in farming than the improved technologies adopters. Education, membership of farmers' association, farm size, influenced adoption decisions of improved technologies significantly and positively. The parameter estimates of the regression model for the determinants of farm income showed that household size, farm size and yield were positive and statistically significant at 1% level. The parameter estimates of the regression model for the determinants of poverty showed that household size was positive and statistically significant at 1%; while education and years of experience were negative and statistically significant. The proportion of adopters whose per capita income fell below the poverty line was 11.5% while that of non-adopters was 35.4%. The poverty gap index for adopter and non-adopters were 2.3% and 6.7% respectively. In addition, the severity of poverty among adopters was 0.69% and 1.89% for non-adopters. It was recommended that cocoa farmers in the study area should be provided with timely subsidized inputs to boost their production activities and hence minimize discontinuation of adoption. There is need for more awareness and sensitization programmes on use of improved technologies and effective monitoring and evaluation team for the cocoa farmers in order to guide them on the use of these technologies which has been introduced to them and also get feedback from the farmers.