



# SOCIAL CAPITAL AND EFFICIENCY IN RESOURCE UTILIZATION AMONG CASSAVA-BASED FARMERS IN SOUTHWESTERN NIGERIA



**Kehinde Olagunju<sup>1</sup>, Adebayo Ogunniyi<sup>2</sup>, Latifou Idrissou<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>*Szent Istvan University, Institute of Economics and Regional Development*

<sup>2</sup>*International Institute of Tropical Agriculture*

## 1. Introduction

- Cassava plays a vital role in securing food security especially in rural Nigeria (Nweke et al, 2014).
- In Nigeria, increase in cassava production is attributed to increase in land area cultivated rather than in yield (FAO, 2015).
- Cassava yield deficit is about 10Mton/ha over the years (Nweke et al, 2014).
- Efficiency in resource use is key to increasing productivity.
- However, the level and understanding of resource use efficiency by small scale farmer is still crude.
- Past findings concluded that the major determinants of resource use efficiency are socioeconomics, neglecting the role of social capital.

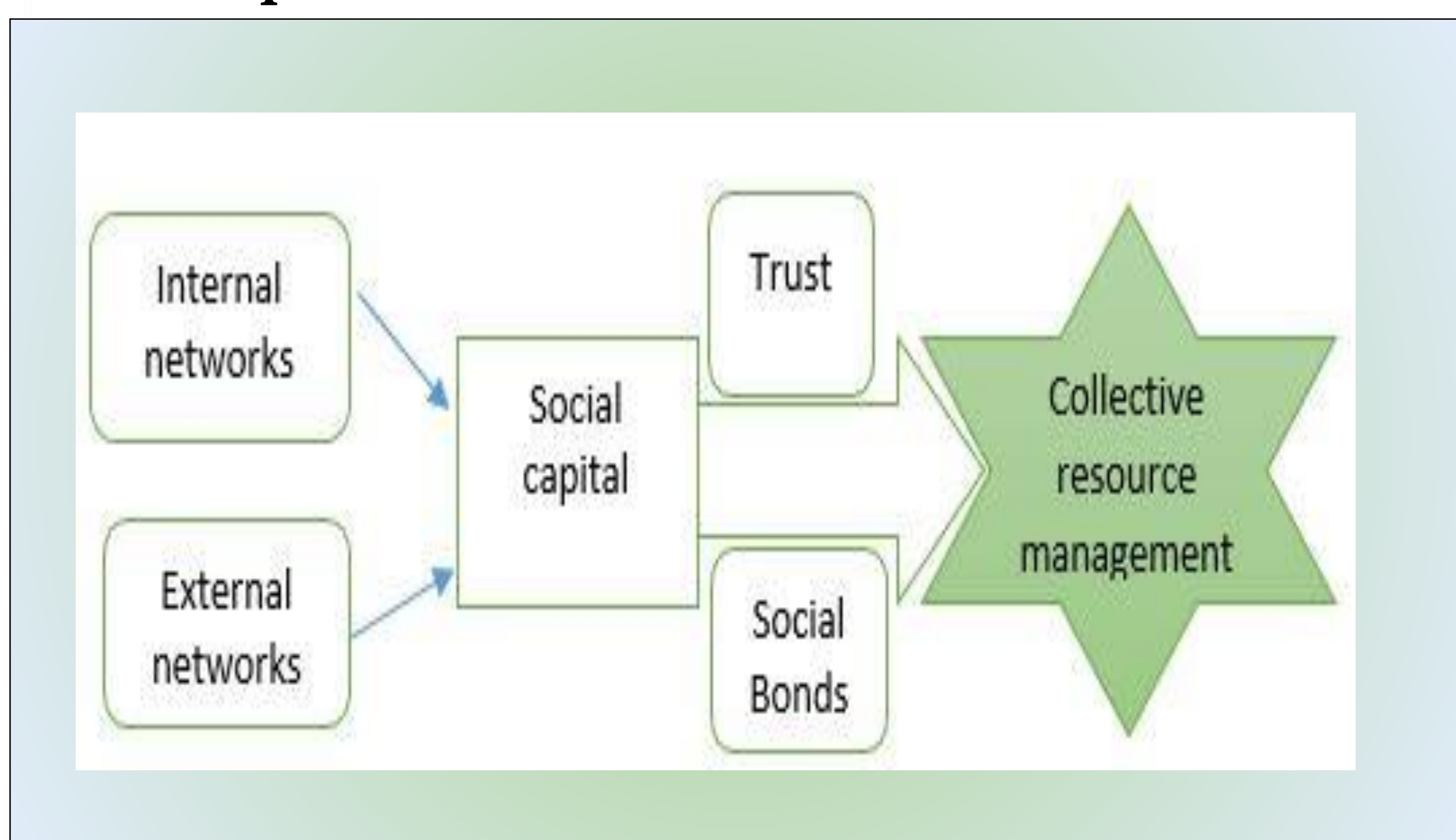
## 2. Objectives

- Assess the level of social capital among cassava farmers..
- Analyse the effects of social capital(SC) on resource use efficiency.

## 3. Data and Methodology

- Survey of 390 households in 8 local government areas (LGAs) in Ogun state, Nigeria.
- A binary probit was used to analyse the effect of social capital on resource use efficiency.

## 4. Conceptual Framework



## 5. Results

### 5a. Dimensions of social capital

Social Capital	Mean	Minimum	Maximum
Decision Making Index	7.30	25.0	100.0
Heterogeneity Index	58.40	20.0	70.5
Meeting Attendance Index	65.42	20.0	80.0
Cash Contribution Index	13.45	0	100.0
Labour Contribution Index	10.21	20.0	100.0
<b>Social Capital Score</b>	<b>23.76</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>42.8</b>

- The mean social capital is 23.76, less than 50, implies low social capital.

### 5b. Effect of social capital on resource use efficiency

Explanatory variables	Marginal effect(dy/dx) (Social capital multiplicative)	Marginal effect(dy/dx) (Social capital additives)
Age(years)	0.124	0.376
Gender(1=male)	0.201	0.111
Household size(number)	-0.393	0.472
Social capital	0.630***	
Decision making Index (%)		0.006*
Heterogeneity index (%)		-0.0055**
Meeting attendance index (%)		0.890*
Cash contribution index (%)		-0.056*
Labour contribution index (%)		0.062**

## 6. Conclusion

- Overall social capital of cassava farmers in study area was poor which greatly influenced their level of yield.
- Policy options for improvement of agricultural resource utilization should be focused towards empowerment and support of social capital needs.

## References

- Nweke FI, Spender DSC, Lynam J (2014). The Cassava Transformation: Africa's Best Kept Secret. Michigan State University Press, East Lansing, Michigan, USA.
- Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO). (2015). Trends in cassava production. www.fao.org..