



Maximizing Vocational Potentials of Palm Kernel Oil: A Changing Phase of Yoruba Culture for Economic Development

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Abstract

Yoruba culture, like other African cultures, is in a period of transition where indigenous products are no longer being looked down upon, but their potentials are being utilised and harnessed for economic and commercial purposes. People all over the world now seize the potential in the indigenous products to improve economic development. One of such indigenous products is Palm Kernel oil called *àdì* in Yorùbá. This study explores and discloses the economic potentials of palm-kernel oil in Yorùbá society with the hope to attract the foreign and local investors in the sector for economic progress. The study utilised qualitative data collection after obtaining data from resource people in Apòmù town in Òṣun state through interviews and participant's observation and subject the data to qualitative analytical approach. Grounded on cultural theory, the study found that, palm kernel oil is of diverse varieties instead of overgeneralisation of all of them as *àdì èkùrò* (PKO) and each of them has economic, health, commercial, religious and cosmetic relevance in the family and society. The study recommends massive investment of the local and foreign investors in this area and charge the graduates to open economic potentials of palm-kernel oil that will ensure the productivity of sophisticated machines into the sector that will maximise Nigeria economy and improved standard of living.

Keywords: *Adi*, Economic, Occupation, Perm-kernel oil, Vocation

1. Introduction

Colonisation and civilisation have positive and negative impact without iota of doubt in African, most especially in Yorùbá culture (Adejumo 2023). Just like their counterparts in Western world, there are many inventions and discoveries made by African prior to advent of colonialism. A lot of these discoveries were attributed to colonial masters of their refinement attributed to western world because of level of publicity and advertisement of such in Africa (Opeyemi and Salawu, 2019, p. 2578). The trend is made worse by the neocolonisation that leaves lasting negative marks on our indigenous discoveries and culture because everything from the West is considered superior to locally produced ones in spite of their quality and reliability attested to by standard parameters. Falola (2018, p. 1) states that the colonial experience has so many faces to the African culture... Most Africa cultures were transformed because of colonialism. Such is the case of cultures in Africa, Yorùbá culture inclusive. Our mode of life- dressing, food, occupations, values and virtues are almost eroded or transformed into foreign style because of attitude. The same thing applies to our occupations and what we produce locally including palm-kernel oil. The importance of palm-kernel oil is monumental

in all spheres of life and this study proves. It has economy, commercial, medical, cosmetic and spiritual values in Yorùbá land and other climes. This monumental usefulness is being harnessed but it has further potentials that investors and vocational experts can dabble into to improve our economy and solve part of unemployment problem in Africa. Adejumo (2023, p. 17) also laments the underestimation of African culture as thus:

The Western culture and European mode of civilisation began to thrive and outgrow African cultural heritage. Traditional African cultural practices paved the way for foreign way of doing things as Africans became fully 'westernised'. Western culture now is regarded as frontline civilisation. African ways of doing things became primitive, archaic and regrettably unacceptable in public domain.

The scholar is of the opinion that whether we like it or not, Western culture has been superimposed on our culture but it is not too late to retrace our step back to where it used to be or better still negotiate the hybridity of culture where African culture and inventions would be given a facelift ton the standard of western world and the utility of things like palm-kernel oil, red oil, sheer butter and others will attract people and utilisation in the industries. Adejumo (2023, p. 18) adds that:

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It is obvious that technology has enhanced the digitalization of many of the intangible aspects of Yorùbá culture, and the social media has greatly helped in the dissemination of Yorùbá culture. Therefore, the influence of Western culture has impacted the Yorùbá culture both positively and negatively. The Yorùbá culture has been dispersed from the source to other parts of the world. Its contact with the world has produced a lot of hybrid culture which both the older and younger generations are now living with.

The work of this scholar posits that most of the invention of Africa, that are at the level of palm-kernel oil have the tendency to receive global attention and utilised by the industries to better our economy only if we take the advantage provided by the technology, social media, and other vocational techniques that would promote the culture and other potentials in them. Traditionally, palm-kernel oil is very useful for various household, industrial, medical and other sectors of the society (Oluwasola, 2018). Their potentials need to be more investigated, the investors need to show interest, the vocationalist need to show interest and the stakeholders in African-to-the-world campaigns need to intensify efforts to ensure the maximization of advantages of palm-kernel oil (Akinwale, 2010). That is why Yahaya and Kareem (2021, p. 6) proclaims the extent to which technology can go to be of help to disseminate information to the targeted audience about this. Not only that, the massive investment of technology in the sector of its production will make it one of the best resources that come out of Africa as follows:

The use of sophisticated machine will facilitate the production of palm kernel oil in large quantity. The production of palm kernel oil in large quantity will serve as one of the means of enhancing the diversification of the Nigerian economy

Looking at the position of this scholar, the maximization of the potential of palm-kernel oil will help to diversify the economy of people in Yorùbá culture which will also affect Nigeria as well. Our economy has to shift from mere crude oil and revenue generated from taxes alone. It has to be enhanced by locally processed resources like this and others that can utilise palm-kernel oil and catapult its advantages to the global scene where it will attract the investors.

2. Process of Extraction and Varieties of Palm-Kernel Oil

The processing of palm kernel oil is an age-long indigenous economic activity deeply rooted in the agrarian and cultural life of the Yorùbá people of southwestern Nigeria. Oil palm cultivation and processing form a major component of traditional livelihoods, with palm kernel oil serving domestic,

medicinal, ritual, and commercial purposes. The knowledge and techniques associated with palm kernel oil processing are largely indigenous, transmitted orally and practically across generations. This processing tradition reflects not only technological ingenuity but also the socio-cultural organisation of labour, gender roles, and communal cooperation within Yorùbá society. The process involved in palm-kernel oil in African, most especially the traditional ones are numerous.

Palm kernel oil is derived from the seed, or kernel, of the oil palm fruit after the extraction of palm oil from the fleshy mesocarp. In Yorùbá land, the oil palm thrives naturally within the rainforest and derived savannah zones, making palm produce readily available to rural communities. Rather than discarding the palm nuts after palm oil extraction, Yorùbá processors treat them as valuable raw materials. The kernels obtained from these nuts are processed into oil that is distinct from red palm oil in colour, texture, and usage.

There are two methods of cracking Palm Kernel, the hand cracked and mechanical methods. Hand cracking method is mostly common in the villages which is done through the use of milestone in the breaking of the shell in order to remove the nuts. This method is preferred because the free fatty acid content is usually low due to fewer breakages of the nuts although output is low. While the mechanical method is done by the use of sophisticated machine called "Crusher". These processes are made easy with the introduction of technology that help to facilitate the speed of production. Yet, some of these processes are germane part of production of palm-kernel oil.

The traditional processing of palm kernel oil in Yorùbá land begins with the collection and drying of palm nuts. After palm oil has been extracted, the remaining nuts are spread under the sun for several days to reduce moisture content and harden the shells. The palm-kernel is dried, and oil extracted from the seeds. One the oil is extracted. This process takes a lot of processes and steps.

Once adequately dried, the nuts are cracked manually using stones, metal rods, or improvised cracking tools. This stage requires patience and skill, as excessive force may damage the kernels. The cracked shells are then separated from the kernels through handpicking, winnowing, or washing.

Following kernel extraction, the kernels are further dried and roasted. Roasting is a crucial stage in the processing cycle, as it enhances oil yield and reduces residual moisture. Traditionally, roasting is done using clay pots or metal pans over open firewood. The roasted kernels are then pounded with mortar and pestle or ground using stone grinders to form a thick paste. This paste is subsequently mixed with water and boiled, allowing the oil to separate naturally from the

kernel residue.

During boiling, palm kernel oil gradually rises to the surface and is carefully skimmed off using calabashes or metal spoons. The extracted oil is then filtered to remove impurities and allowed to cool before storage. Despite being labour-intensive, this traditional method is environmentally sustainable and relies solely on locally available resources. The entire process demonstrates indigenous scientific knowledge of heat control, oil-water separation, and material reuse.

Palm kernel oil processing in Yorùbá land is strongly associated with gendered exclusive labour roles. Women are the primary actors and orchestrators in kernel cracking, roasting, oil extraction, and marketing, while men often assist with harvesting and transportation. The activity provides supplementary income for households and contributes significantly to rural economies. Palm kernel oil is commonly sold in local markets, where it is purchased for household use, soap production, and traditional healing practices (Enedoh et al., 2017).

In contemporary times, palm kernel oil processing in Yorùbá land has experienced gradual transformation due to modernization. Mechanical nut crackers, grinders, and oil expellers have been introduced in some communities, reducing manual labour and increasing output. However, limited access to capital, electricity, and modern equipment means that traditional processing methods remain dominant in many rural areas. The coexistence of traditional and modern techniques illustrates the adaptive capacity of Yorùbá indigenous technologies.

Despite its continued relevance, palm kernel oil processing faces several challenges, including fluctuating market prices, competition from industrial vegetable oils, and declining interest among younger generations. Nevertheless, the practice remains a viable rural enterprise with significant potential for sustainable development if adequately supported through policy intervention, technical training, and access to improved processing tools.

Overall, the processing of palm kernel oil in Yorùbá land represents a resilient indigenous economic practice that integrates culture, technology, and livelihood sustenance. Its continued practice underscores the importance of indigenous knowledge systems in addressing local economic needs and promoting sustainable agro-based development. Preserving and enhancing these practices can contribute meaningfully to rural empowerment and cultural continuity in Yorùbá society.

3. Palm Kernel Oil Products among the Yorùbá: *Adí Èyán*, *Adí Èrò* and *Èyìn Aró*

Among the Yorùbá of southwestern Nigeria, palm kernel oil processing goes beyond the extraction of a single form of oil. This is a result of age-long invention

and ancient technology of the people. Indigenous knowledge systems recognise different palm kernel oil products based on the stage of processing, degree of refinement, and intended usage. Three prominent products traditionally extracted from palm kernel are *adí èyán*, *adí èrò*, and *èyìn aró*. While *adí èyán* is the most authentic and medicinal, *adí èrò* is a result of further processing of *adí èyán* while *èyìn aró* is a particle obtainable at the end. Each of these substances is distinct in texture, colour, extraction method, and cultural function. Their production demonstrates the sophistication of Yorùbá indigenous technology and the people's deep understanding of palm kernel chemistry.

Adí èyán is the most commonly produced palm kernel oil product in Yorùbá land. It refers to the thick, crude oil extracted directly from roasted and pounded palm kernels through boiling and oil separation. The process of extracting *adí èyán* begins with the drying and cracking of palm nuts after palm oil extraction. The kernels are carefully roasted over firewood to reduce moisture content and enhance oil yield. After roasting, the kernels are pounded using mortar and pestle or ground into a thick paste with stone grinders. This paste is mixed with water and boiled, allowing the oil to rise gradually to the surface, where it is skimmed and filtered.

In terms of usage, *adí èyán* serves multiple domestic and medicinal purposes. It is widely used in traditional soap making, particularly in the production of black soap (*òsè dúdú*). Medically, *adí èyán* is applied to treat skin infections, wounds, and rashes, especially among children. It is also used as a base oil for herbal mixtures and massage, reflecting its role as a carrier substance in Yorùbá traditional medicine. Culturally, *adí èyán* is valued for its perceived purity and natural healing properties.

Adí èrò is a more refined palm kernel oil product obtained through repeated heating and purification of *adí èyán*. The extraction of *adí èrò* involves subjecting crude palm kernel oil to further controlled boiling to remove impurities, water content, and kernel residues. Through this process, the oil becomes clearer, lighter in texture, and less viscous than *adí èyán*. Traditional processors achieve this refinement by careful heat regulation and repeated filtration, using cloth or fine sieves.

Adí èrò is primarily used for medicinal and cosmetic purposes. It is preferred for body application, infant massage, and hair treatment due to its smoother texture and reduced odour. In traditional healing practices, *adí èrò* is often mixed with herbal extracts for treating coughs, joint pains, and internal ailments. Its refined nature makes it suitable for long-term storage and ritual use, where purity is culturally significant.

Èyìn aró represents the solid residue or cake that remains after oil extraction from palm kernel paste.

Arẹ̀ṣà Àjẹ̀jẹ̀ òdì	Arẹ̀ṣà Àjẹ̀jẹ̀ òdì
Omọ olópe kan ògégétigé	The owner of quite tall palm trees
Omọ olópe kan ògégétigé	The owner of plenty palm trees
Omọ olópe kan ògégétigé tí so owó	The owner of quintessential palmtree that produce money
Nìkan méréndínlógún là á	16 items are what we use palm tree
mú ọ̀pẹ̀ ẹ̀ nílẹ̀ àwọn bàbá yín	to do in your father's lineage
È bí mí pé kí ni wón fí ọ̀wó ẹ̀?	Do ask me what they use money-making tree to do?
Ọ̀kan là á fí ẹ̀ epo,	One is used to make palm oil
Ọ̀kan là á fí ẹ̀ ihá	One is used to make chaft
Ọ̀kan là á fí ẹ̀ ikẹ̀tẹ̀	One is used to make saturated oil (ikẹ̀tẹ̀)
Ọ̀kan là á fí ẹ̀ ògùsò	One is used to make ògùsò
Ọ̀kan là á fí ẹ̀ sọ̀wọ̀ gbálẹ̀	One is used to make broom
Ọ̀kan là á fí ẹ̀ àdín	We also use one to make palm kernel oil
Ọ̀kan là á fí ẹ̀ eyin	One is used to make palm fruit for cooking soup
Ọ̀kan là á fí ẹ̀ igi kolé	We also use it to make plank for house construction
Ọ̀kan là á fí ẹ̀ lẹ̀wùú isáná	We use one to make fire ignition
Ọ̀kan là á fí ẹ̀ dògùrò	We also use palm tree to make palm wine
Ọ̀kan là á fí ẹ̀ èkùrò	One is used to make palm kernel
Ọ̀kan là á fí ẹ̀ ètán rògòdò	One is good at producing eetan (small palm fruits)
Tí wón fí ẹ̀ omọ ará Ìrẹ̀ṣà lẹ̀kún	That is used to console children while crying in Iresa
	(The Panegyrics of Arẹ̀ṣà Lineage)

Figure 1: Excerpt showing Arẹ̀ṣà lineage panegyrics buttressing multifarious utility of palm tree.

Although often regarded as a by-product, *ẹ̀yin aró* is not considered waste in Yorùbá indigenous practice. It is obtained after the boiling and skimming stages, once most of the oil has been removed from the kernel paste. The residue is pressed and dried to remove remaining moisture and oil content.

The uses of *ẹ̀yin aró* are largely utilitarian. Traditionally, it is employed as a fuel source for firewood, especially in rural households. It also serves as a binding agent in local soap production and is sometimes used as organic manure to enrich farmland. In some communities, *ẹ̀yin aró* is utilised as animal feed supplement, demonstrating the Yorùbá principle of total resource utilisation and waste minimisation.

Collectively, the extraction and use of *adí ẹ̀yán*, *adí èrò*, and *ẹ̀yin aró* illustrate the efficiency and sustainability of Yorùbá palm kernel processing systems. Each product is derived through deliberate stages of transformation, ensuring that no part of the palm kernel is wasted. These practices highlight the integration of economic pragmatism, environmental consciousness, and cultural values in Yorùbá

indigenous knowledge. Despite the influence of modern industrial oils, these traditional palm kernel products remain relevant, particularly in rural livelihoods, traditional medicine, and cultural continuity.

4. Multifarious Utility of Palm Kernel Oil (KPO) in Yorùbá land

Beyond its economic value, palm kernel oil holds cultural and medicinal significance among the Yorùbá. It is widely used in the treatment of skin infections, cough mixtures, and infant massage. In traditional religious and healing contexts, palm kernel oil is sometimes employed as a carrier for herbal preparations. Its symbolic association with purity, healing, and sustenance reinforces its importance in Yorùbá indigenous knowledge systems. It is already contained in Yoruba lineage panegyrics that oil palm is a multi-purpose trees that can be maximised to produce many things and solve unimaginable problem ranging from medical, economic, employment, scientific, family to rituals, as seen in the excerpt of Figure 1.

As implied in the above excerpt, Yoruba oral traditions

ascertain that many things can be made from palm tree, which produces palm fruit from which palm kernel is extracted. It is aware that palm tree is useful beyond these sixteen items because further processing of palm kernel can also lead to *àdí èro* and *àdí èyan* (water palm kernel oil and oily palm kernel oil) which can be used to tackle several societal problems, hence, palm tree is referred to as *Igi owó* (money-making tree). Therefore, making reference to palm kernel oil (*àdí èkúro*) (palm kernel oil) is to be oblivious of multifarious utility of palm tree for many products are now discovered to be obtainable from various palm tree items. In a nutshell, nothing is a waste in palm tree. But the subject matter now is multifarious utility of palm kernel oil in different sector to maximise development.

4.1 The Use of Palm Kernel Oil for Medical Purposes

Palm kernel oil in Yorùbá is used for several health-related issue by individual and traditional medical practitioners. Self-medication and anything of first aid practice is not a strange phenomenon in Yorùbá society. When a child is having constipation and unable to poo due to infrequent bowel movement, resulting in hard or dry stool, pain, bloating, or soiling medically referred to as encopresis for three to four days, the use of *adi* (Palm kernel oil) comes in most especially *adi éyan*. Once two spoonsful of it are given to the affected child, the constipation will subside and it is a long-time and tested treatment.

When a child is suffering from eczema, ringworm or arthritis, osteoarthritis or rheumatism, Palm kernel oil can be useful to tackle it and the pain and effects will subside and treated mostly. Such is the practice in a typical Yorùbá community. Most of these illness and medical conditions have cost families fortunes and discomfort but having Palm kernel oil at home is such a relief for parents in traditional Yorùbá societies. Dizziness, convulsion and other medical emergencies are what Yorùbá contain with the use of Palm kernel oil. It is therefore imperative that medical experts, pharmacists and other trado-medical experts research more into medical utilities of palm kernel oil. By so doing, the potential or its usefulness will encourage the investors to venture into its production thereby translate to employment and improved standard of living.

4.2 The Use of Palm Kernel Oil for Cosmetics

Palm kernel oil is an ultimate ally of beauty (*Èkúró ni alábaákú ewà*) is a popular aphorism in Yorùbá that highlights the importance of palm kernel oil in the area of cosmetics because palm kernel oil is a valuable item in making cream. In fact, in the hypothetical beginning of things in Yorùbá land, before the introduction of modern creams, even up till now in some parts of Yorùbá land, (water PKO) *àdí èro* or *oily PKO* (*èyan*) is used as cream to beautify body. It is not out of place if we say that palm kernel oil is one of the ingredients of cosmetic in many cream making factories.

When a new baby is given birth to in the ancient Yorùbá land, they utilise palm kernel oil to rub the child's body. This will ensure that the child is safe from skin infection. There is a belief that palm kernel oil contains chemical that prevent such skin infection that may cause irritation or burn. This is an eye-opening piece reveal the cosmetic potentials of palm kernel oil in Yorùbá land that can be globalised for maximised and improved standard of living.

4.3 The Utility of Palm kernel oil for Economy

The usefulness of palm kernel oil is not hidden. It is useful in many sectors that have been mentioned like cosmetics, health, household and manufacturing companies. Many discoveries have been made about the potential and utility of palm kernel oil in for production of vegetable oil if properly processed, creams and soaps. Market Publishers (2013) buttresses this further when they revealed that; "extensive market research has revealed that palm kernel oil {PKO} is everyday goods used by Industries, where they are mostly used in the production of soap and other food products". This implies that food, soap, cosmetic factories are benefiting from products of palm kernel oil in Nigeria and beyond. Reliance of government on taxes and petroleum will reduce and diversifying of economy is achieved. Further discovery can also be made apart from the indigenous inspired ones cited above, to maximise our economy better.

Nothing less than 1 million people are involved in production and utility of palm kernel oil in Nigeria because hardly will one gets to any village in southern Nigeria without seeing people working related to palm kernel oil. By so doing, the progress is recorded in per capital income of people and standard of living is improved. People that are not directly involved work in transporting and operating the machines they use in producing palm kernel and related products. The hawking of palm kernel in the villages and town is another aspect of its usefulness. People make black soap. In Apòmù, where the researcher made enquiry for this study, people from Lagos, Abuja and Port-Harcourt do come every week to buy and export the products from palm kernel. These commercial activities are economical boost for the town.

4.4 The Use of Palm Kernel Oil for Food Processing

Culturally speaking, the use of palm kernel oil in the household food processing is monumental. It is one of the hose groceries in the indigenous Yorùbá society. Even before the mechanised processing of palm kernel oil became the order of the day, *àdí èro*, used to be oil Yorùbá people used to augment some foods like *égbo* (corn meal), *isú* (yam), *èkuru* (bean puddy) and others. This highlights the instrumentality of palm kernel oil in food production, household cooking and others. In the same vein, palm kernel oil is also used for food preservation in the household. Our informants in Apòmù, Òşun State, also made it known that, fried meat or otherwise can be kept in the palm kernel oil for up to 1 month without spoiling. The food processing

Lágbájá mò pé àdín lèèwò rẹ, Láaróyè	Somebody knows that PKO is your taboo, Láaróyè
Awa kò la fún ọ ní àdín	We are not the ones that give you PKO
Lágbájá ọmọ lágbájá ló fún ọ ní àdín.	Somebody that child of somebody gives it to you
Kí o sì lọ ẹ é ríbaríbo	You should go ahead and torment him

Figure 2: Excerpt showing the ritual presentation of palm-kernel oil to Èsù (Trickster god)

company can also harness this potential in preparation of preservative to prevent food wastage.

Similarly, palm oil and ground nut oil are major and commonest vegetable oil in Nigeria and most of part of the world. The revenue derived palm oil and groundnut oil constituted major income of the government in the past before the exploration of petroleum that is now main source of revenue for federal government. Yet, the use of palm kernel oil is fast replacing or augmenting ground nut oil and palm oil for cooking and household use. Market Publisher (2023, p. 3) also attests that:

Palm Kernel Oil (PKO) is the major raw material for the production of edible vegetable oil. Ninety percent of what is called groundnut oil in our market today is in fact vegetable oil made from palm kernel oil (PKO). Original groundnut oil which is three times more costly than refined vegetable oil made from palm kernel oil cannot be afforded by ninety percent of Nigerian housewives”.

Apart from the fact that PKO can be used to replace groundnut oil in term of quality and nutrient content, it is also affordable, accessible and helps the improvement of our economy while employment opportunities are also created. This will help the diversification of Nigeria economy and ensure little reliance on foreign products.

4.5 The Use of Palm Kernel Oil for Spiritual Purpose

The usefulness of palm kernel oil in the household has been discussed and explained but not from ritual and spiritual point of view. Our informants, Mrs Adéṣun made it known that palm kernel oil is a general antidote for infection, stomach upset or food poisoning and poison whose cause or particular antidote is not known yet. The use of palm kernel in this regard signals to its multifariousness in Yorùbá society. Therefore, it is a sine qua non in any household. So, before the contact with medical expert, the presence of palm kernel oil will prevent unnecessary panicking.

Similarly, palm kernel oil in the traditional Yorùbá religion is a symbol of repulsion and disgust for Èsù, the policing deity in Yorùbá. It is a taboo for Èsù (policing god of cross roads), Ọ̀rúnmìlà (god of wisdom) and Èdun (the twins). So, to cause Èsù (policing god of cross roads) anger against opposing

party or individual, palm kernel oil is used not to placate but to infuriate Èsù (policing god of cross roads) or Ọ̀rúnmìlà (god of wisdom). In that case, the utterance like the one in Figure 2 is used:

The excerpt above shows that palm kernel oil is repulsive and disgusting to spirit of Èsù (policing god of cross roads). They still go ahead and offer it to Èsù (policing god of cross roads) on behalf of someone with the hope that affliction and suffering is cast on such person. Using it negatively or positively, depending on the user is not uncommon by spiritual people. It is then a signifier that palm kernel oil is spiritually significant in the society.

4.6 Employment Potential of Palm Kernel Oil Production

Every stage of PKO production is laden with stress and heavy task that only one person cannot face. This thereby open way for economic boost because of employment opportunities for people. Both male and female are involved in palm kernel oil production even though it is a traditionally female gendered occupation. For example, transportation of palm kernel from one location to the site before and after production are parts one of the duty of men. The mechanical blending and processing of PKO is not male designated in Yorùbá society.

5. Conclusion

This study has opened up the economy potentials in production of palm kernel oil in Yoruba society. The study contends that in spite of the global shift from the manual and indigenous production of palm kernel oil in Yorùbá and Africa as a whole, quite a number of people, most especially women still indulge in its localised system of exploration which inhibit the economic potentials of palm kernel oil. The indigenous production of palm kernel oil in Yorùbá land reveals that it is not limited to only one but three different varieties obtained from it in different workshops across the Southern Nigeria. For Yorùbá land, the varieties are *àdì ẹ̀yan* (OILY PKO), the most authentic and multifariously utilised one, *àdì ẹ̀ro* (water PKO), the commonest kind of PKO and *ẹ̀yin aró*, the end-product particle that is also useful for household, medical and industrial use. The findings of the study show that the economy potential of palm kernel oil has not been maximised even when it is used in various sectors of economy.

6. Recommendation

The study recommends that economy potential of the PKO should be well harnessed in term of orientation of people towards indigenous products and encouraging mechanisation. Until indigenous technology behind the discovery of palm kernel and other local items including sheer-butter, get to the limelight to attract more mechanisation before real vocational efficacy that unleashes potentials and tackle job security and employment takes place. The study therefore enjoins the student of vocational studies to look in that direction for effective diversification of Nigeria economy.

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