

Dr. Felix I. Nweke is currently a Visiting Professor of Agricultural Economics and African Studies at Michigan State University. He completed his B. Sc. degree in Agricultural Economics at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka and his Ph. D. degree at Michigan State University in 1975. He then joined IFPRI (International Food Policy Research Institute) and carried out a study of food policy in Ghana. Dr. Nweke joined the University of Nigeria, Nsukka in 1977 and taught Agricultural Economics courses for a decade and also carried out in-depth studies of root and tuber food systems in southeastern Nigeria from 1977 to 1987.

In 1987, Dr. Nweke joined the IITA (International Institute of Tropical Agriculture) and served as the Leader of the COSCA study (Collaborative Study of Cassava in Africa), a six country study of cassava in Africa that was financed by the Rockefeller Foundation and the IITA over the 1989-1997 period. In 1995, he was rewarded with the Distinguished Service Award of the ISTRC-AB (International Society for Tropical Root Crops-African Branch) for outstanding leadership in the COSCA study.

Dr. Nweke has consulted for numerous African Governments, the STRC-OAU (Scientific and Technical Research Committee of the Organization of African Unity), the Ford Foundation, and the FAO (Food and Agriculture of the United Nations) on the problems of the root and tuber food systems in Africa. He has published numerous scientific papers on cassava. His new book (with Dunstan Spencer and John Lynam), *The Cassava Transformation: Africa's Best Kept Secret*, will be published in November 2001 by Michigan State University Press.