

SURVEY OF MULTIPURPOSE TREES AND SHRUBS (MPTS) FOR AGROFORESTRY DEVELOPMENT IN NIGER REPUBLIC

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ABSTRACT

Multipurpose plant and shrubs (MPTs) from which some Non-timber Forest Products (NTFPs) and Non- Wood Forest Products (NWFP) are obtained by the local people were investigated in Filinghe Local Government Area, Niger Republic. A total number of 36 MPTs made up of 23 trees species and 13 shrubs species were spotted. These species were from 20 families. The MPTs were categorized into 8 use-values namely: Food (28 spp), Medicine (32 spp), Chewing stick (5 spp), Fuelwood (20 spp) Agricultural support materials (11 spp), household utensils (22 spp) and environmental functions (24spp). Floral parts exploited for use include leaves, stem, bark, roots, fruits and seeds. A conclusion was reached that indigenous MPTs are a group of under-exploited but potentially useful natural resources in the study areas. They could form integral components of sustainable agroforestry system if their potentials are enhanced. Some suggestions were made for using the vast potentials of these MPTs in improving the socio- economic live of the dependant people

Keywords: MPTs, agroforestry, NTFP, NWFP, use-value