**CHAPTER FIVE**

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

**5.1 Introduction**

This chapter offers an overview of results, makes conclusions, & offers potential directions for implementing the Nigeria's food supply chain's circular economy design.

**5.2 Summary of Findings**

A lot of attention has been paid to the circular economy (CE) in recent years due to its potential to address today's economic, social, and environmental problems. The food organizations are pushing for implementing a circular economy measures to improve the supply chains' social, economic and ecological sustainability. Food system specialists are enthralled with the idea of the Circular Economy (CE) as workable answer to all the upcoming uncertainties & challenges (Babbie et al., 2017; Saidi et al., 2021). A sustainable paradigm called CE seeks to develop a mechanism that is both restorative and regenerative (Laso et al., 2018).

Food is among the most fundamental necessities for individual survival, & supply chain is crucial in getting food from producers or farmers to consumers, whether it has been processed or not (wang et al., 2021). The supply chain is concerned about feeding a growing global population, & the FSC notes pressure to provide all people with environmentally friendly & safe food. Consequently, reducing food waste and feeding people urgently demand sustainable development in the FSC. The shelf life of food goods is limited and they are perishable, leading to a significant quantity of waste being produced throughout the entire supply chain, including during harvesting, processing, shipping, & consumption. FSC presents a significant issue to sustainable development because Food losses and waste directly affect biological deterioration, which affects the world economy, poverty, and food insecurity (Ali et al., 2019).

This study offered a multi-stakeholder viewpoint on the difficulties facing circular food supply networks. No matter how directly or indirectly a stakeholder is involved; the findings provide insights to all parties (Ada et al., 2021). This section presents novel findings that hadn't been reported in the literature before and outlines crucial guidelines for future investigations.

In comparison to rich countries, it is more challenging for poor countries to create circular economies and sustainability measures. Nigeria, the most populous country of African descent in the world, has poor laws that hinder the adoption of CE. However, it was discovered that among the key reasons why there are obstacles in the food sector was lax implementation of such environmental rules. Given the position the Nigerian government has taken on the circular economy, it’s ironic and challenging to ponder about (Boon 2020; Bressanelli et al., 2019).

Environmental protection is not a priority for the majority of Nigerian businesses and consumers which is another major cause barrier (Ahmad et al., 2016). As a result, the general population does not share or support the government's objective for CE. The significance of policy makers in Nigeria tackling difficulties with bureaucracy, governance, corruption, and environmental education is seriously impacted by these findings.

According to a survey of the literature, there are several obstacles to designing a sustainable food supply chain using a circular economy:

Lacking the funds necessary to deploy CE. a lack of design, process, and supply chain skills, as well as a lack of supporting technologies. lack of knowledge about best practises and the technology that are available. The adoption of CE is hampered by organisational culture. weak management abilities and a lack of managerial commitment. Those involved in the food supply chain reluctance to change. Uncertainty regarding possible financial, environmental, and economic advantages of CE, particularly any possible tax advantages. Lack of scale economies when installing CE. High expense of applying CE and potential harm to scale economy Lack of environmental enforcement and rules to facilitate CE adoption. Pressure from clients and consumers, as well as a insufficient market demand, lack of assistance or cooperation from supply chain participants.

**5.4 Recommendations**

The circular economy's implementation in the establishment in Nigeria of a sustainable food supply chain faces inherent challenges, according to the extensive and comprehensive body of literature studied and the results of the surveys included in this study. The barriers recognized in this study serve as the foundation for these recommendations:

Nigeria has adopted a backwards approach to promoting & adopting circular economy practices is a part of national policy, in the agricultural sector. Low bureaucratic status and pervasive corruption have made it more difficult to enforce such environmental legislation than to enact them.

Involving in the food supply chain, at micro, meso, & macro levels of organization, the government needs to create an efficient enforcement system. However, it is essential to create pertinent indicators in order to guarantee CE implementation at every level. The government may take into account broad criteria and indications that businesses can modify or customize to represent their own traits, circumstances, and issues. These indicators ought to include thorough explanations, goals tailored to the industry, and consistent methods for gathering, measuring, and submitting the necessary data. The indicator system has to be monitored and enforced using stricter regulatory measures. To guarantee optimum compliance, the food business should be made aware of these indications, along with other industries.

The majority of environmental policies in Nigeria don't incorporate any kind of public input. The Nigerian political system's lack of a formal institutional framework for this further undermines the interest of the public in & understanding about environmental projects like the circular economy practice. As a result, this study suggests a broad advertising strategy that includes interactive venues like exhibitions, conferences, and workshops as well as traditional media like the internet, social media, TV, radio, and newsletters. Environmental education and CE must be included in schools if the public's interest in and knowledge of the sustained the circular economy in practice is to be maintained. Additionally, from a strategically perspective, this study recommends cooperative systemic sustainability among important players in the Nigerian food supply chain, with a clear interest on enhancing outcomes for the economy and the environment.