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**LEASING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: AN EMPIRICAL EVALUATION OF
NIGERIAN LEASING.**

ABSTRACT

Leasing, which started in Nigeria in the 1960s, has been an alternative source of finance for individual and companies. Consequently, over the years, leasing business has grown both in volume of transaction and the number of companies involved in leasing transaction has increased. Therefore, this paper empirically evaluated the relationships between leasing and economic development. The paper clearly established, using the ordinary least square (OLS), a positive relationship between leasing and economic development. It was therefore recommended that both Equipment Leasing Association of Nigeria (ELAN) and the Nigerian government should encourage and provide an enabling environment for leasing.

Key words: Equipment Leasing, Economic Development, Gross Domestic Product