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# Impact Assessment of Non-Governmental Organization Development at Fugar, Nigeria

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**Abstract-** Over the years, it has been observed that Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) has increased their development profiles at local, national and international levels. NGOs have come to be recognized as important actors on the landscape of development on health, education, provision of water, construction of school buildings in Nigeria. The major aim of this study is to assess the impact of Non-Governmental Organization in community development in community and some of the objectives of the paper are to assess the socio-economic and infrastructural development impact Non-Governmental organization has made in rural communities and identifies the major areas Non-Governmental organization has really impacted on rural communities. Taking inventory of the impacts of NGOs in other countries, the 'Tanzania Education Network has embarked on over 5 educational programs which have benefited close to 100,000 students and more than 850 teachers to date. These include: The Madrasa Pre-School program, the School Improvement Programmes, the International Academic Partnership, the Aga Khan Education Service Tanzania and the Coastal Rural Support Program. While in Nigeria a lot of projects like health, education and infrastructure were executed by NGOs in this regard, more is expected to be put in place by the growing number of NGOs in Nigeria, for the overall wellbeing of the society. However, the non-governmental organizations have some challenges which have limited their performances and also impeded their growth. Based on the findings, it has been recommended that Government should embark on aggressive development of the rural areas. Similarly, NGOs at the various levels should partner and work in collaboration with other private agencies. These can be done through an effective collaborative programmes and strategies with an effective and efficient leadership structure and Non-Governmental Organization should ensure that their programmes are not politicized. Allocation of projects/programmes should be influenced by felt needs of rural communities.

**Keywords:** *non-governmental organizations, community development, programmes, collaboration, nigeria.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Community development implies the provision of basic amenities such as roads, electricity, pipe borne water, health care facilities, schools including human capacity building and other necessities of life pertaining to man's general wellbeing. There is global realization of recent that, contemporary

government can no longer single handedly meet most communities' needs within their jurisdiction in terms of service provision. This notion has triggered off the urgent desire for synergies with development partners while enlisting community participation to actualize the spread of development to the rural areas (Colderin, 2001). According to Mulgunji (1990), the problem of rural development cannot be viewed as a narrow technical problem of increasing output, but that of the institutions to mobilize and induce members of the rural society to greater productivity, to help them overcome the constraints in the way of utilizing available resources, and to enable them distribute the results of their efforts to develop the rural areas. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are non-profit creation, self-governing group outside the domain of government in the areas of formation, funding, management, and the process and procedures in which their objectives are set, reflect a conscious effort towards the cultural, socio-economic and political transformation of all facets of the society (Eni, 2005, Angba, 2008, Omofunmwan and Odia 2009).

Studies have shown that, developmental activities of most NGOs usually focus on nature conservation, skill acquisition, economic empowerment, disease control and management, literacy schemes, capacity building, amenities provision, conflict resolution, charity, and peace promotion. For instance, in South Korea, (Eni, 2005) reported that an environmental conservation association provided in service training programme for administrators and managers in public and private sectors and in Kenya, the Mazingira Institute (NGOs) spear headed tree planting campaign through sensitization of pupils in public schools. A study by Adebayo (1997) revealed that most NGOs in Nigeria focus on development related issues which aptly indicate a positive drive to stamp out poverty plaguing the Nigerian citizenry at different levels.

Rural development is a veritable tool for fighting poverty and achieving economic prosperity at the grassroots level (Nwachukwu and Ezech, 2007). As an integral part of the overall national development, rural development is given prominent attention in development circles because dominant proportion of the population in most developing countries including Nigeria, live and derive their livelihood in rural areas. Also scholars in economic and broader social science literature have paid special attention to issues of

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agricultural and rural development, and their interaction with industrial and urban development (International Development Research Centre - IDRC, 2004). In most developing countries, the public sector plays a dominant role in the provision of agricultural and rural development services. However, it has been observed that government alone cannot provide resources for rural development, because of the dwindling national resources and ever increasing competing needs. Besides, the public sector is being criticized as outdated, top-down, paternalistic, inflexible, subject to bureaucratic inefficiencies and thus unable to cope with the dynamic demands of rural populace (Rivera et al., 2000). This has paved way for an enhanced and more extensive civil society involvement in activities previously carried out by the public sector, such as delivering social services, promoting grassroots development, and preventing environmental degradation. It has also resulted in upsurge establishment of NGOs and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) with increased capacity to engage people at the grassroots level.

Also, in Nigeria there has been increasing involvement of NGOs in rural development activities. However, in more recent times, it has been observed that certain factors limit their performance in contributing to rural development. Farinde and Adisa (2005) reported that the constraints facing NGOs in Nigeria ranges from poor collaboration with government agencies, political instability and strong affiliation to over dependence on donor partners. Traditionally, most donor organizations work only with NGOs with a legal status and which are able to produce project proposals, to plan properly, and to handle budget administration and produce financial and technical reports regularly. Unfortunately, most grass-roots NGOs in developing countries do not comply with these requirements and therefore cannot benefit from donor funds.

In Nigeria, the network of NGOs is on the increase since the 1980s; and in recent decades, NGOs are networking with national and international agencies, with the aim of meeting national economic empowerment development strategy (NEEDS) and the millennium development goals (MDGs) by 2015. Specifically, NGOs in Nigeria contribute to national development in the areas of democracy and good governance, poverty alleviation, women empowerment, primary healthcare, STDs/AIDS and other health related matters, education and functional literacy .the development of the girl child, environment, conflict resolution, drug abuse and human rights (Akpanudoedehe, 2006). Despite government and NGOs efforts, human development index in the Nigeria especially in rural areas is far below countries like Kenya, Ghana and South Africa (UNDP, 2008: Agba, Ushie, Bassey & Agba, 2009). This may be because over 15 percent of total overseas development aid channel through NGOs are notoriously implemented

(World Bank, 2001) or that NGOs are not sensitive to the felt needs of Nigerians.

## II. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research methodology is the various methods and techniques used in gathering research information. For any research to be meaningful data must be collected and analyzed. Research result can only be known if data collected are analyzed. Data on the other hand are facts relating to an element that is subject of study. Oniawu (2008). The research was carried out in the Fugar community. It covered six quarters. Data was obtained from people through open ended and face to face interviews with the respondents. In order to investigate how they view their plight and what they think can be the best solution to their vulnerability. Structured and semi-structured interviews were used for obtaining information. Household interviews were done using questionnaires.

## III. SOURCES OF DATA COLLECTION

Basically, there are two types of instrument of data collection; they are Primary and Secondary Methods of data collection. The primary method of data collection involved the use of interview and questionnaire, while the secondary method involves the use of published materials and unpublished materials such as textbook, newspaper, magazine e.t.c. For the purpose of this research, primary and secondary methods of data collection were used. To ensure effective data collection, the study area was subdivided into five quarters they are: (i) Iviarua Quarte r (ii)Iviokhile Quarters (iii) Ivinone Quarters (iv)Iviavia Quarters (v) Iviadachi.

### a) Survey Method

The information contained in questionnaire falls into three categories and they are discussed exhaustively such are:

- i. Personal data
- ii. Socio-economic Survey
- iii. Infrastructural Survey

*Personal Data:* The personal data survey which was contained in the Questionnaire displaced information which includes: Gender, Age, Marital Status, number of children and educational background of the respondent.

*Infrastructural Survey:* These are information relating to the existing social amenities and infrastructural facilities provided for the community either by Government or Non-Governmental Organization. It also give attention to social amenities the community lacks, the sufficient ones and the ones that is not enough to accommodate the need gap of the inhabitant of the area.

*Socio-Economic Survey:* This is a kind of survey that is conducted to gather information relating to the economic activities of the people in the study area. For

example; Farming, Trading, Civil servant, Artisan, public servant e.t.c.

#### b) Sampling procedure

The term sample may simply be defined as a representative proportion of the population of the study that observed, which enable the researcher to make inferences about the population. The systematic approach to selecting sample from a population is known as sampling. While the total subjects or elements from which the sample is selected is known as population. The individual items or subjects that make up the population are known as element. These elements can either be animal, human being, houses, events equipment e.t.c. depending of the problem under study. For the purpose of this research random sampling techniques will be utilized in selecting the sample.

Random Sampling Techniques: In research, these techniques are sampling methods were all the elements constitute the study populations have a chance of being selected in the sample. As a result of the size community and to ensure adequate information is gathered and too much time not to be over spent, the random sampling method was employed in selecting random sampling which every sixth house was selected and interviewed with the aid of questionnaire and oral interview.

## IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section of the research exercise is very important. At this stage, data collected must be transformed from its raw state to relevant information which will yield meaning to the readers. Information gathered through the administration of questionnaires and oral interview in the study area (Fugar). These data are analyzed and interpreted with various statistical tools such as table and charts for easy comprehension and by which findings and recommendation will be justified in the next chapter of the research endeavor. In order to present explicit and logical information about the research problem that will form the basis for decision making. The research highlighted some of the relevant issues as contained in the questionnaire. Out of the 300 questionnaire distributed 200 were received which then represent 100% the numbers administered. Below is the order of data presented and analyzed in the study area.

#### a) Administration of questionnaires

The survey analysis in Table 1 shows how the questionnaires distributed were shared in the five quarters in Fugar. 30 % of the questionnaire which is 60 numbers was distributed to respondent in Iviavhia quarters because it has the highest numbers due to the fact that a lot of willing respondent was found in the zone. Also, 22.5 % of the questionnaire which is 45 numbers was distributed to respondent in Iviarua, 17.5

% of the questionnaire which is 35 numbers was distributed to respondent in Iviadachi quarter 15% of the questionnaire which is 30 numbers was distributed to respondent in Iviokhile quarter while 15% of the questionnaire which is also 30 was distributed in Ivinone quarters. The questionnaire were distributed using the random sampling method, where by every 6th house were interviewed with the aid of questionnaire and interview.

*Table 1:* Quarters distribution and respondent of questionnaire

Quarters	No of Respondents	Percentage %
Iviarua	45	22.5
Iviokhile	30	15
Iviavia	60	30
Iviadachi	35	17.5
Ivinone	30	15
Total	200	100

Source: Field Survey August, 2015

*Table 2:* Occupation of the respondents

Occupation	No of Respondent	Percentage
Student	58	29
Trader	26	12
Civil Servant	43	21.5
Fishing	1	0.1
Farming	46	23
Artisan	5	2.5
Unemployed	21	11
Total	200	100

Source: Field Survey August, 2015

#### b) Occupation and income

Table 2 shows the occupation of the respondent. Looking at the obvious analysis, it therefore mean that the inhabitant of the area are more of students with 29% of the 58 respondent, 21.5 % of the respondent of 26 are trades, 13 % of the respondent of 26 are civil servant 0.1% of 1 of the respondent is into fishing, also 2.5 % of the five respondent was artisan while 11% of the 21 respondent was unemployed. With the analysis above, it is very clear that the resident of the study area (Fugar) are majorly mixed of civil servant, students and farmers. From the field survey, it was observed that the number of respondent that earn between ₦7,500-15,000 is 5%, 15% of the respondent earn between ₦15,000-22,000, also five percent of the respondent said they earn between ₦ 20,000-30,000. Moreso, 50% of the respondent earn between 25,000-40,000, 10% of the respondent said they earn between ₦ 35,000-45,000 while 15% of the respondent earn between ₦40,000-50,000. It therefore implies that, the average salary of the respondent falls with ₦ 20,000-40,000 as their monthly earnings.



c) *Infrastructure*

The analysis of the survey result shows that 12.5% of 25 respondent has erratic supply of power in their area while 50% of 100 respondent claimed they always witness very epileptic power supply in their area. However, 12.5 % of the 25 respondent claimed they experienced power once in a week, 15% of the 30 respondent were supplied twice in a week, while 10 % of the 20 respondent were on rotational basis as shown in Table 3. In addition water coverage in Fugar is not impressive. The outputs of the study indicated that 44% of the 88% respondents access water supply from borehole, while 17.5% of the 35 respondent access well water, 7.5% of the 15 respondent through pipe born water, 65% of 12 respondent access water from the river, 10% of the 20 respondent access stream water, while 15% of the 30 respondent gather water from the board as indicated in Table 4.

Table 3: Power supply coverage

Power Stability	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Epileptic	25	12.5
Very epileptic Power Supply	100	50
Once a week	25	12.5
Twice a week	30	15
Rotational	20	10
Total	200	100

Source: Field Survey August, 2015

Table 4: Sources of water supply

Sources of Water Supply	No of Respondent	Percentage %
Borehole	88	44
Well	35	17.5
Pipe Bore water	15	7.5
River	12	6
Stream	20	10
Water Board	30	15
Total	200	100

Source: Field Survey August, 2015

d) *Non-Governmental Organization and Donor Agencies*i. *Existence of Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) in the study area*

From the data collected on the existence of Non-Governmental Organization in the study area, Fugar, it was observed that Fugar has three basic functional Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) namely as:

- Martins Imhore Agabi foundation
- Okakagbe Foundation
- Fugar Progressive Union (F.P.U)

Apart from the aforementioned three NGOs whose presence is fully established in the study area, other two NGOs have also carried out project in the study area, namely;

- The Clem Agba Foundation
- Pro-Health

The outputs of the investigation revealed that 39% of the 78 respondent claimed that the project in the study area were executed by philanthropist, whereas 55% of 110 respondent confirmed that the projects were done by Non- Governmental Organization (NGOs), while 6% of the 12 respondent laid claim that the project was done by individual effort as indicated in Table 5.

Table 5: Types of sponsors

Sponsors	No of Respondent	Percentage %
Philanthropist	78	39
Government	-	-
NGOs	110	55
Community	-	-
Individual	12	6
Total	200	100

Source: Field survey 2015

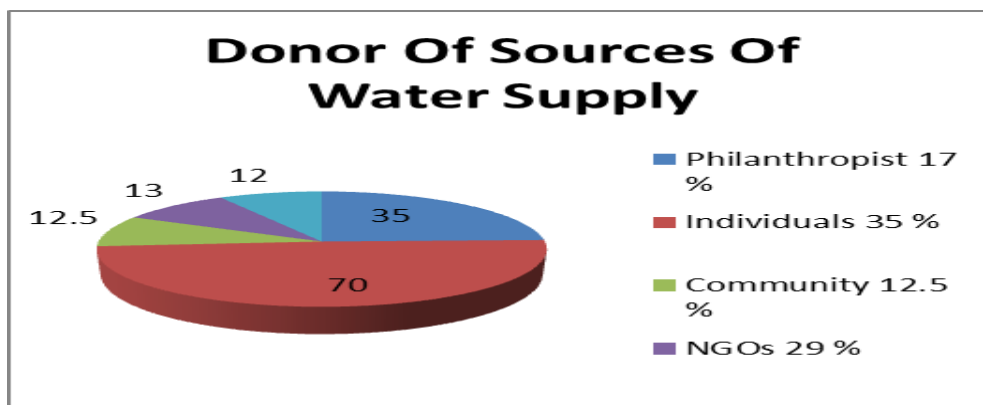


Fig.1: Activities of NGOs and Donors at Fugar: Source: Research study, 2015

The activities of NGOs at Fugar have tremendously contributed to the development of community and its environs. According to the analysis on the Table 5, 3.5 % out of the 65 respondent claimed that Martins Imhore Agabi Foundation has made impacts in the study area, 5% of the 10 respondent also claimed that Fugar Progressive Union also impacted on the lives of the resident of the study area in the Youth

Empowerment and Community Development, while 42.5 % of the 85 of the respondent claimed that Okakagbe Foundation has impacted on the lives of the inhabitant of the study area in the area of Health, Education and Women empowerment and finally 40 % of the 20 respondent reported that Clem Agba Foundation also impacted in the lives of the resident of Fugar in the area of health.

*Table 7: Names of NGOs that impacted on Fugar*

NGOs	No of Respondent	Percentage %
Martins Imhore Agabi Foundation	65	32.5
Fugar Progressive Union F.P.U	10	5.0
Okakagbe Foundation	85	42.5
Pro-Health	22	11.0
Clem Agba Foundation	18	9.0
Total	200	100

Source: Field Survey August, 2015

e) *Pro-Health International*

This is another Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) that has also impacted on the lives of the resident of the study area in the area of health. For instance, on Saturday 12th July, 2014, Pro-Health International embarks on Health awareness creation in Fugar the Etsako Central Local Government Area of Edo State. The awareness program includes; Hand washing, hygiene, eating healthy food such as (fruits and

vegetables), Low cholesterol meals and also, enlightenment on Sexually Transmission infection and prevention, giving public talk on HIV/AIDS and voluntary counseling and testing Behaviour communication for people Living with Chronic diseases such as hypertension, Diabetes, asthma,. Also, visitation to secondary school for talks and chats with students on the issues of Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) and HIV/AIDS and other health talks as depicted in Plate 1.



*Plate.1: Resources person at the pro-health health awareness program giving a practical demonstration on how to maintain good hygiene in Fugar*

f) *Challenges of non-governmental organizations in Nigeria*

Some of the challenges of non-governmental organizations in Nigeria include the following:

- Financial constraint. Their financial resources are made up almost exclusively of dues/contributions paid by members. Most at times, these dues and contributions are not paid regularly by members who affect their growth and also prevent them from performing their legitimate roles effectively.
- Leadership. Non-Governmental Organizations in Nigeria lack efficient leadership. They are characterized by illiterate and inexperienced leaders

- who lack requisite knowledge and managerial ability to pilot their affairs.
- Corruption. There is large-scale misappropriation, embezzlement of funds (gifts and dues) and other unprogressive activities. The prevalence of widespread corruptio limits their scope of activities and impede their growth.
- Tribalism, ethnicity and nepotism. Nigeria is a heterogeneous society and as a matter of fact, tribalism, ethnicity and nepotism are canker-worms that have eaten deep into the social fabric of the society. This problem has adversely affected the performance of non-governmental organizations in Nigeria.

- v. Insecurity. There is high-level and widespread insecurity in the country that has led to the wanton destruction of lives and property is also a major factor that has hampered the progress of nongovernmental organizations.

## V. CONCLUSION

The impacts of Non-Governmental Organizations have made towards the development of the society in general is enormous and inexhaustible, and its activities cut across all sphere of human endeavours. In this regard, more is expected to be put in place by the growing number of NGOs in Nigeria, for the overall well-being of the society. These can be achieved through collaborative programmes and strategies with an effective and efficient leadership structure. To be able to meet up with the millennium development goals (MDGs), strategizing to ensure sustainable development in Nigerian local communities, through empowerment of the people with knowledge required to participate actively in the process of development is important.

According to the World Bank (1992), many symptoms of poor government include failure to make a clear distinction between what is public and what is private that allows diversion of public resources for private gain; inability to establish a predictable framework of law and government behaviour conducive to development; or arbitrariness in the application of rules and laws; excess rules, regulations, licensing requirements, etc that impede the functioning of market and encourages rent seeking. Priorities inconsistent with development leading to misallocation of resources. Others are excessively narrowly based or non-transparent decision making. All the above and the exclusion of democracy impair our understanding of the political condition of economic, social and infrastructural development in rural communities.

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