

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the study

Citizen participation in self-help projects in community development is not new in Nigeria, it started since the time of our forefathers. It had been carried out by villagers, voluntary associations and various government functionaries, long before the idea became formalized and institutionalized (Ekong, 2003). Communities have constructed and maintained market squares and roads, cleared their farmlands and cooperated in the cultivation and harvesting of crops. As far back as 1830, the people of Abeokuta in Western Nigeria built a civic centre- the centenary Hall, Ake through self-help efforts. Similarly, the Ibibio communities of South-Southern Nigeria banded themselves for social development as far back as 1928. By 1938, they were offering scholarships for overseas' education to their promising sons and in 1939, established the Ibibio state college which was entirely supported with their own resources.

The development of the community in contemporary time should be aligned on Self-help projects where the citizens themselves who know where the shoe pinches them should be included in their own development. The essence of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation essentially rests on the need to have a self-reliance based development process. Self-help programme as an activity ensures the integration of the people and encourages the massive participation of the people in development projects that affect their lives and the well being of their communities.

The importance of citizen participation in Self-help projects implementation cannot be wished away, as it accounts for the growing concern on how development projects and programmes can be sustained. It is thus seen as a collective effort to increase and exercise control over resources and institutions on the part of groups and movements of those hitherto excluded from control.

One is aware that citizen participation in self-help projects implementation is only of reality when the people play active role in the determination of their basic needs and utilizing local resources to meet these needs. This includes the distribution of goods and services and

satisfying the psychological desire to participate in decision making in matters which affect the lives of the people.

Citizen participation in Self-help projects implementation is a call for action where the people are central to the process and above all, an attitude of reliance on internal resource for development (Akintayo and Oghenekowho 2004). Hence, self-help projects implementation rely strongly on community mobilization for effective participation. It is clearly different from government sponsored projects which in most cases lacked people's capacity to make their impacts and use their internal resources.

However, citizen participation in Self-help projects implementation initiatives in various communities are numerous and most often strictly community-driven for the attainment of development. For instance, Abiona (2003), stated that community development is geared towards changing people's attitude and values, not merely to achieve material goals as the politicians will want them to believe, but also to develop in the community, capacity to solve its own problems by reducing citizens' apathy and imparting organizational structure that permit and promote 'citizen' involvement for self-help purpose. Anyanwu (1992) referred to community development as a purpose to bring about change for better living within the community". Community development involves a concerted effort aimed at improving the quality of life, income, welfare and employment opportunities of the rural population, with the ultimate objective of reducing and eventually alleviating malnutrition disease, illiteracy, unemployment, poor health and living conditions and other forms of poverty among rural dwellers. He also argued that people must learn to respond to new ways of doing things. They have to learn to inject new vitality to their traditional institutions. They have to learn to create new institutions and structures to serve the ends of improved living. In effect, the people have to learn to widen and deepen their capacity to absorb and sustain changes for better living in the communities. This implies that there should be new attitudes and values towards developing communities through self effort. This also stresses the importance of mobilization and readiness on the part of the people in the communities to imbibe a new orientation over and above the existing primordial culture.

Many politicians and development officials tried in the past to help community members overcome their problems. But these problems according to (Akintayo and

Oghenekohwo 2004), based on financial aid, technical assistance and temporary transfer of administrators have not achieved the desired result. An analysis of some of the results have drawn attention to the fact that, even though some of those development projects were well organized technically, they took very little account on the human factor. They have not been able to involve the citizens fully in the development process. It may be argued that the culture of passive dependence on and apathy to, what the government did, were generated by the colonial administration of the country. It was sustained by colonialism and maintained by neo-colonialism. The result was that most Nigerians were left as passive observers of development process. In the events, most communities were isolated, the enormous labour power of the people remained virtually idle, the people's creative ability and their integrity remained untapped, the capital belonging to the people remained unharnessed and the land resources of the country over which the people still hold sovereignty, still remained under utilized.

With these situations on ground, the government believed that what must be done to check this trend was to involve the generality of Nigerians in the development activities of the country and to get the people on the right paths towards grassroots foundation. Anyanwu (1992) stated that for effective participation, the people should take part in the planning, implementation, execution, utilization and evaluation of social amenities, or facilities designed to improve their welfare. Such participation gives the people the pride of ownership of the completed self-help projects.

When people refer to social services within their communities as "our school" our hospital, "our market" "our town hall", they are implicitly expressing enthusiasm and confidence in their community with strong feeling of belonging to it. This underlies the fact that change for better living can be brought about by the cooperative effort of the people. Thus, Abiona (2009), agrees that citizen participation creates self fulfillment in the minds of community members. It brings about positive change through cooperative efforts of the people to solve their problems.

Nevertheless, mobilization is crucial in citizen participation. The people must be educated and mobilized to realize the potential human and material resources available within the community to solve their various problems. The people must not be satisfied with the prevailing state of problem and needs. Moreover, there should be a desire for change and

improvement in the community. The desire will lead to citizen identification of solution to the problem. The desire for change will eventually make people to come round and actively participate in solving their problems, using local initiatives. They will design programmes aimed at finding solutions to the prevailing problems.

Even where programmes or projects are initiated by external donors (government, non governmental agencies or philanthropists), the involvement of the local people is important for their success. Programmes or /projects provided for the people in the community would be neglected by them due to non-citizen participation in their implementation. The programme might not even be the felt need of the people since they were not consulted. The success of a programme for the welfare of the people depends on the participation of the people at all stages of implementation.

Members of the community can be mobilized for participation because they realize a need for change and development. In the first instance, they will be dissatisfied with their present situation of living in the community. Hence, there is a desire for a change to bring about better living. This brings cooperative action whereby members develop a spirit of oneness towards solving the community problems. The spirit of oneness fires enthusiasm and initiates changes through community action. It brings about active participation in programmes aimed at solving community problems with or without government assistance. The community development agent can mobilize the people towards participation.

Citizen participation fosters the culture of self-help in the community. It leads people to cultivate interest in relying on their efforts to develop their community by themselves. Participation of the people includes involvement in the identification of the projects or programmes to solve problem, execution of the programme and monitoring and evaluation of the programme. Participation also includes readiness of the people to commit their resources to the development of the community. The very idea of a community doing something for itself through participatory effort of its people depicts development.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

In the past, there have been the notion that the people in one of the oil producing states, (Delta), have been restive. The assumption was that they depended on money from oil for survival. However, this is not so. The restiveness was as a result of oil spillage that

polluted their water in the Niger Delta Area. Oyo state was chosen as control for comparison, since it is not an oil producing state.

Recently, evidence abound to show that the inhabitants of most communities in Delta and Oyo states have taken to Self-help projects implementation. This is reflected in the number of Self-help projects spread across the various local communities in the two states. Though, there is vast literature on citizen participation in self-help projects generally in Nigeria, but there is a dearth of research on the extent to which the community inhabitants participated in all the components of community development (initiation of felt needs, Planning, Mobilization, Execution, Monitoring and Evaluation), and the influence on the socio-economic development of communities in Delta and Oyo states. This study, therefore examined the influence of citizen participation in self-help projects and socio-economic development of communities in Delta and Oyo States, Nigeria.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are to:

- i) examine the extent to which citizen participation in self-help projects implementation had influenced socio-economic development of communities in Delta and Oyo States.
- ii) ascertain the level at which age, sex, religion and occupation had influenced citizen participation in Self-help projects implementation.
- iii) investigate the extent to which project awareness of various community groups influenced the level at which the citizens participated in Self-help projects implementation.
- iv) determine the level at which inhabitants of the selected communities participated in each of the indices and components of Self-help projects implementation. (initiation of felt-needs, planning, mobilization, execution, monitoring and evaluation).
- v) examine if there is a significant difference between the level of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation in Delta and Oyo States.
- vi) examine if there is a significant difference between Self-initiated and externally initiated projects implementation in the selected communities in Delta and Oyo States.

- vii) determine the influence of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation on social development, health status, social relations, corporations and the provision of social infrastructure.
- viii) assess the extent to which citizen participation in self-help projects implementation had influenced the components of economic development.
- ix) examine the problems associated with citizen participation in self-help projects implementation in Delta and Oyo States and make recommendation on how Self-help projects can further guarantee socio-economic development among dwellers in the communities in Delta and Oyo States.

1.4 Research Questions

- 1) Which categories of citizens were most likely involved in Self-help projects implementation in the study areas?
- 2) To what extent has the awareness of respondents and the various community groups influenced citizen participation in self help projects implementation in Delta and Oyo States?
- 3) To what extent are community inhabitants involved in each of the indices/components in self-help projects implementation in Delta and Oyo States?
- 4) Is there any difference between citizen participation in self-help projects implementation in Delta and Oyo States?
- 5) Is there any significant difference between Self- initiated and externally initiated projects in Delta and Oyo States?
- 6) To what extent has citizen participation in self-help projects implementation influenced the health status, social status, social relation or cooperation and the provisions of social amenities in the communities in Delta and Oyo States?
- 7) To what extent has citizen participation in self-help projects implementation influenced the economic development of the communities in Delta and Oyo States?
- 8) What are the constraints to self-help projects implementation in the communities in Delta and Oyo States?

1.5 Significance of the Study

It is hoped that findings from this study will ascertain the extent to which the citizen participation in self-help projects implementation have assisted the people in the study area, and would provide quality relevance and continuing sustenance of self-help projects.

It will enhance an understanding of the constraints to citizen participation in self-help projects implementation in the various communities in the area of study. It will further help in the areas that need adjustment and improvement in the various self-help projects implementation, and will also be useful to policy makers, development planners and community leaders.

Finally, the data and findings will be of great significance and as a point of reference to future researchers in the field of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation in other communities in the two states of this study and other states in Nigeria.

1.6 The Scope of the Study

This study focused on the influence of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation on socio-economic development of communities in Delta and Oyo states. The study, therefore, was delimited to cover sixteen communities. They are eight communities. from Delta State and eight communities. from Oyo State. These communities were selected because of the high presence of self-initiated community development programmes in each of the communities. The communities selected from Delta State are based in Sapele and Warri South Local Government areas while the eight communities selected from Oyo State are from Egbeda and Ibadan North-East Local Government areas. However, the study was further delimited by completed self-help projects in each of the sixteen selected communities.

1.7 Operational Definition of Terms

The following terms are defined in concrete terms in relation to the study.

Citizen Participation

Citizen participation is the art of the community members participating actively, in the various self-help projects implementation in the communities to improve their welfare. It includes giving their whole-hearted support to the programmes they initiated. These include identification of needs, planning, mobilization, execution, monitoring and evaluation.

Self-help Projects Implementation

This involves the implementation process of projects initiated and executed by the Community people. The emphasis is on specific concrete projects e.g. a community school building, community hall, new road, bridge, market stall, community court and community hospital.

Socio-economic Development

This is the observable change in both physical, social and economic aspects of life brought about as a result of the efforts of the people in the communities to develop their area. Examples of these social and economic changes are in health, social interaction among the people being involved in income generating activities, to improve individuals, awareness of happenings in the environment and change in status.

Initiation of Felt Need

Initiation of felt need is the process whereby members in these communities take the first step to identify their most urgent need above other needs. There may be many needs or problems which should be addressed in a community. Such needs are what a particular community desires or lacks. Examples are good roads, hospital town hall, markets water, school etc. The felt need is the real need identified by the people in the community by themselves through a democratic process.

Planning

Planning here, is the act of selecting what the people want to do to satisfy their needs. The people must have the ability to articulate and think out the most feasible projects within the context of their available local resources and initiatives which must enhance their development in their community.

Mobilization of Human and Material Resources

Mobilization of human and material resources consist primarily of movements, drives or campaigns specifically designed to activate the masses in the communities in the areas of study into accelerated process of change. It pertains to both human and material resources, as well as the psychological, physical and attitudinal features that can be marshaled for community development e.g. awareness, objectives, arousal of interest in citizen participation, leadership and communication network.

Execution

Execution means to put the planned projects in the communities into action by members of the community. This involves funds in form of taxation or rating or some other way of raising recurrent revenue for communal purposes.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation is systematic supervision to determine how well or otherwise the self-help projects implementation has been achieved.

Income Status

This has to do with the level of money the citizen received as a result of participating in the projects implementation. If it had ranked them high or low in the communities e.g. living well, having enough money to meet their needs etc.

1.8 Sapele Local government

Sapele Local Government is one of the local government areas of Delta state of Nigeria. Delta state was carved out of the then Bendel State in 1991 by Ibrahim Babangida's administration. The State has over one-hundred and fifty dialects but for easy communication amongst the people, the pidgin English is used, since everyone both young and old can speak it.

Sapele Local Government Area was carved out of the then Okpe Local Government council Area on the 3rd of May, 1989. They are Urhobo speaking tribe in Delta State. It is made up of Uriapele, Amupe, Elume, Okokporo and Ugboren communities. These communities are all Ope communities and His Royal Highness, General Felix Mujakpero, (rtd) the Orodje of Okpe Kingdom is the paramount traditional ruler. The area is blessed with abundant natural rubber, palm nuts and crude oil to mention but a few. Facilities exist in the Local Government area for potential investors. The people are predominantly agrarian and peace-loving and therefore would continue to promote peace and unity in Delta State. The primary occupation of the people is farming and trading. (Erivwo, 2003).

1.9 Warri South Local Government

The Geographical entity now known as Warri South Local Government Area was created on the 23rd of September, 1991 out of the defunct Warri Local Government Area. The Administrative head quarters is Warri.

It has become fashionable to refer to part of the Local Government area as Warri urban and Warri rural. Essentially, Warri urban is the cosmopolitan Warri township consisting of such areas as Alders Town, Odion, Iyara, Pessu town, GRA, Market Road, Okere, Okumagba Layout, Ugbuwangue, Ekurede.-Itsekiri, Ajami mogha, Ekurede- Urhobo and Igbudu. Warri Rural consist of several semi-rural Itsekiri settlements such as Orugbo, Ode-Itsekiri Usele, Orere, Ikpisan, Odogene, Ubeji, Ijala, Obodo, Omadino amongst others.

It is bounded on the East by Uvwe local government, in the west Warri South West local government and on the South, by Burutu local government. The primary occupation of the people is fishing, mat weaving, pottery, making of local beads, local spices for banga and pepper soup

and trading. Warri, the head quarters is a commercial centre and home to all, including members of the international community who come to explore our natural resources. (Otumara, 2001).

1.10 Egbeda Local Government

Oyo state was created in 1976 by the Federal Military Government of Nigeria when the old Western State was created and split into three, comprising Oyo, Ogun and Ondo states. The state is bounded in the South by Ogun state, in the North by Kwara State; in the West, partly by Ogun State and partly by the Republic of Benin and in the east by Osun State.

Presently, the state consists of 33 local governments as earlier mentioned, after it had been split into two: Oyo and Osun states, by the regime of President Ibrahim Babangida in 1991. Egbeda Local Government was created along with seventeen others, by the military regime of General Ibrahim Badamosi Babangida now retired in 1989.

Until 1989, what now constitutes Egbeda Local Government Area was carved out of the old Lagelu Local Government. It was located to the East and the North East of Ibadan metropolis, the state capital. It is bounded on the west by Ibadan North East Local government, on the south by Ona- Ara Local Government and on the East by Irewole Local Government Area of Osun State.

The urbanized part of the Local Government Area is the most populated. These include the Old- Ife and New Ife road areas and Iwo road areas. Majority of the citizens and residents in the Local Government Area are predominantly farmers; state and federal civil servants, etc. There are however, some professionals like doctors, lawyers, accountants, economists, musicians photographers, tailors, painters, bricklayers etc. It consists of multi-ethnic nationalities predominantly dominated by the youths, Igbos, Edos Uhrobos, Itsekiris, Ijaws, Hausas Fulanis and foreigners from other parts of the world. (Smith 2004).

1.11. Ibadan North East

The Ibadan North-east Local government was created on the 27th of August 1991 by the administration of former Head of State General Ibrahim Badamosi Babangida. It was carved out of the defunct Ibadan Municipal Government and derives its name from the metropolitan government and derived its name from the metropolitan nature of the area it covered then (12 km radius with the Mapo as the Centre)

The Local Government has its administrative headquarters located along the Iwo road axis of Ibadan a major entry point through the Ife/ Ibadan expressway end of the Oyo-state capital. The inhabitants of the Local Government are predominantly Yoruba. Although it is highly heterogeneous, accommodating people from various other tribes who either engage in commercial activities or work in the public service. The populace consists of civil servants, teachers, traders and artisans. The main business activity in the area is buying and selling of different types of goods ranging from household needs, food stuff, Building/Electrical materials.

Most of the markets of historical and commercial significance in Oyo State are located within the local government. Among such markets are; Oje Market, Orayan, Agodi gate spare parts market. Also, building materials of all kinds are readily available at the popular Iwo road axis one of the busiest commercial centers in Ibadan where no fewer than 16 banks are located. In Oyo State, Ibadan North East is one of the most viable local government council in operation. (Ogundipe 2006).

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This section reviewed literatures that are relevant to the study, thus, serving as a bridge between previous research and current attempt. Therefore, it sought to unveil the gap or gaps in knowledge and aimed at providing a critical appraisal of existing literature with the objective of demonstrating the significance of current literature as a useful and an addition to the existing body of knowledge.

2.1.1 The Concept of Citizen Participation

The notion of popular participation and that of community or citizen participation are interlinked. The former is concerned with broad issues of social development and the creation of opportunities for the involvement of people in the political, economic and social life of a nation; while the latter connotes the direct involvement of ordinary people in their local affairs.

A number of views have been expressed with respect to the meaning of the term participation. According to Heather (2005), central to any discussions about how community members might be engaged are the questions: What is community participation and what purpose(s) might it serve? (Holsen,2000; Popple,1995). Far from self-evidence, these questions point to a series of other potentially complex questions that include, how communities are identified, the forms of communication used, the ways in which different communities inter-relate and whether some communities or sub-sections of a community dominate the others. Reflecting on how community participation is envisaged, who is included and who is left out is also worthwhile. So is ascertaining whether the ownership of land and property is central to accepted notions of community participation and if it is, whether this is fair? Further questions relating to justice and democracy include identifying whether different community activities are accorded lesser value because of the people who perform them. For instance, if the work is done by women, does it get less esteem (Dixon, 1991, Young 1990)? Understanding how conflict of interest are interpreted and whether particular interests are prioritised are also important Laverack, (2001), so too are the ways in which resources are allocated and language used to represent the work. For example, are

valuable projects not getting funded because they are act framed by terms that are currently fashionable (e.g. social capital).

The politics of community participation also involve figuring out which perspective(s) usually prevail, and how counter-positions are treated Ife, (2002). With this it is worth considering how decision making usually occurs. If some community members dominate, what does it mean for others? Related to this are the goals of the work, goals that produce objectives which at some point are likely to be used when projects are evaluated.

FAO (1991) views participation as an active process in which people take initiatives and action that is stimulated by their own thinking and deliberation and which they can effectively influence. This definition sees participation as being more than an instrument of implementing government projects. It is a development approach which recognizes the need to involve the disadvantaged segments of the rural population in project management.

According to Anyanwu (1992, 2002), “citizen participation is a powerful tool for mobilizing new and additional resources within local communities. This means that community development must depend largely on citizens participation”.

From all that have been discussed, one can see a common feature in all the definitions. They all wrote about involving a significant number of community dwellers (project beneficiaries) in one way or the other in situations or actions which will enhance their well being. Citizen participation concerns issues of power, decision-making and access to resources. Studies in Nigeria have shown that participation in community programmes are affected by citizens perception of the share anticipated benefit which will accrue to them as individuals.

2.1.2 Characteristics of Participation

UNICEF (1991), while reporting on issues of participatory development asserted that participation has some essential characteristics. These characteristics are:

- It is an on-going process. It is neither a sector nor a project, nor should it be one. Participation as a process provides a dimension that goes beyond benefit sharing and is important to the issue of project sustainability.

- Participation for development is not the same thing as participation in politics, although it is inevitably political. For example, broader participation is likely to have political fall-out like changing the use and allocation of power in the society.
- It is not a panacea. It is necessary in the development process but not a sufficient condition for achieving development objectives.
- It is a conscious and voluntary process involving choice and decision on the part of those participating. It should not be imposed from above. It can be generated from three possible sources; from government, when it is induced from above; from below when it is from the rural people themselves and this is usually spontaneous and in response to crisis or a threat to the community identity, values or survival and it may be as a result of deliberate initiatives taken by members of a community to obtain or pressure dues to obtain some benefits from a larger society. But when it is from a change agent, it intends to empower the hitherto powerless people.
- It is a process in which people organize themselves in groups to solve problems they have in common, gaining access to information and resources they need; and learning to manage them effectively.
- Participation must involve women as well as men, youth as well as old people so that they become equal agents of change. Since rural communities are composed of various economic and social groups, the involvement of all categories of people including women and other advantaged groups is essential for the achievement of programme objectives.
- Participation is both an end and a means. Participation is a means when, it is used to achieve the pre-determined goals or objectives. This means that participation is used here as a way of mobilizing the resources of the rural people to achieve the objectives of a project or programme. It is widely believed that most government projects adopt participation as a means. Oakley (1991) argued that participation as a means, is passive because, it evaporates once the project task is completed. He also contended that participation as an end is a process, the outcome of which is a meaningful participation. Participation as an end leads to strengthening of the capabilities of community dwellers to intervene more directly in development initiatives. In other words, participation as an end is all about empowerment. It is an active and dynamic

form of participation that enables community dwellers to play an increasing role in the development process; he argued that, when participation has an intrinsic merit, it increases self-esteem, confidence and an individual sense of power, it is an end.

- Equity among all those involved is the basis of participatory development.
- Participatory development is the same thing as participation in development.

2.1.3 Objectives of Participation

Some reasons have been given in the literature why community development agencies adopt a participatory approach Oakley (1991). These include:

- **Project efficiency:** Participation is seen as a means of promoting efficient use of resources available to develop projects. Through timely inputs of beneficiaries to project planning and implementation, participation can be used to promote cooperation and friendly interaction among beneficiaries and between them and the implementing agency of the project.
- **Project effectiveness (output/input ratio):** It is also seen as a means to enhance the achievement of project objectives. The involvement of beneficiaries contributes to better project design and implementation and leads to a better match of project services with beneficiary's needs and constraints.
- **Sharing of project costs:** It provides an opportunity to share project cost with beneficiaries. Participation may be used to facilitate a collective understanding on cost sharing and its enforcement.
- **Project coverage:** It helps to ensure a wider coverage of the benefits of a project among potential beneficiaries.
- **Project sustainability:** Participation is seen as a mechanism for developing a self-sustaining project. When beneficiaries share in the management tasks by taking an operational responsibility, they enhance their interest and management competence and can contribute to the sustainability of a project beyond its stipulated duration.
- **Self-reliance,** helps to break the dependence syndrome through promotion of self-awareness and confidence.

- Empowerment: Empowerment is a veritable mechanism for empowering the “excluded” as it seeks to increase their skills and abilities, their control over the resources and decisions affecting their lives.

2.1.4 Element of Participation

According to Osuji (1991), not every action of the community members can be considered as participation. As cited in Adekola (2004), Osuji (1991) asserted that the elements of participation in a general conception include:

- taking part in decision making to identify needs.
- taking part in the mobilization of resources and planning of project to be undertaken.
- taking part in monitoring and evaluation of projects.

The involvement of the community members in any of the above activities is considered as participation. However, it should be noted that programme designers and executors have the right to determine what action of the people would amount to participation in a particular programme or project. This is so because various community development programmes are designed to achieve different objectives. Thus, what constitutes participation may differ from project to project and from time to time but most often, participation still has the general elements as conceived by Osuji (1991).

2.1.5 Citizen Participation and Empowerment

Empowerment is an important component of any participatory development programme. This is based on the belief that development programme is more facilitated and enhanced if the intended beneficiaries increase their capacity to effectively deal with their underprivileged condition. Then, what is empowerment?

Empowerment is a process of enabling people to act or perform. It is a process of giving community dwellers the necessary skills, tools, resources and legal backing to perform. Empowerment has become an accepted term in development circle. More recent interpretation equates it with achieving power. That is power in terms of access to and control of the resources necessary to protect livelihood Ogun and Smith (1990).

Some authors have viewed empowerment as: the development of skills and abilities to enable rural people to manage better, have a say in or negotiate with existing development

delivery systems; Others see it as a more fundamental and essentially concerned with enabling rural people to decide upon and to take the actions which they believe are essential to their development. No matter what angle one looks at empowerment, it conveys the process of increasing the power base of the hitherto powerless community dwellers. If development should lead to equity sharing of power and to a higher level of people's political awareness and strength through participation, then empowerment should be an integral part of participation. He further argued that any project or development activity should be seen as a means of empowering the people so that they own and thus influence the processes and outcomes of development.

In Olajide and Adekola (2007), empowerment is a process of enabling individuals get out from the state of hopelessness. Empowerment could come in various forms. It could be; economic empowerment, educational empowerment and capacity building. According to them, empowerment is significant for the following reasons:

- It provide community dwellers with the will and power to combat poverty. When people are given saleable skills or improve on existing ones, the tendency is that more income would accrue to them, thus they would be able to walk themselves out of poverty.
- It also provides means of enabling individuals to actively participate in programmes designed to improve their well-being. This is because possession of skills, knowledge and improved financial condition are necessary background people need to function effectively in community programmes.
- It also allows adequate understanding of government policies and programmes. This is necessary because when people are empowered educationally they would be able to analyse and interpret information correctly
- It also enhances the possibility of individuals to effectively contribute to the social, economic and political development of their immediate community and the nation at large.
- It also enhances productivity through improved skills and performance effectiveness.
- It equips individuals, especially the local people, with the skills and knowledge needed to contribute to the process of decision making

.It also attempts to eliminate or reduce inequalities in the society and

- It also provides opportunity for self reliance.

2.1.6 Dimensions of Citizen Participation

The dimensions of participation pertains to who, what, and how of participation. That is, the set of individuals who are involved in the process and the various features of the process of participation. Kinds of participation? Cohen and Uphoff (1980) delineate four kinds of participation. They are as follows:

(1) **Citizen participation in decision-making.** This type of participation centres on the generation of ideas, formulation and assessment of options and making choices about them, as well as the formulation of plans for putting selected options into effect. The authors made a distinction among three types of decisions;

- initial decision which constitutes mainly needs assessment.
- on-going decisions which are taken after initial decisions have been made
- operational decisions which relate to the working of local associations through which the participatory project can be implemented. These concern association membership, meetings, procedures and leadership selection.

(2) **Citizen participation in implementation:** The authors have also identified three principal ways in which rural people can participate in implementation aspects of a project through:

- resource contribution such as labour, cash, materials, goods and information;
- project administration and co-ordination, that is, participating as members of voluntary associations who assist in co-ordinating a project and;
- enlistment in programmes/project activities in respective project areas.

(3) **Citizen participation in benefits:** Three kinds of benefits are identified and described in this context namely:

- material benefits which are “basically private” and relate to “increase in food consumption, income and assets;
- social benefits which are “basically public goods” and include services and amenities such as schools, health clinics, water systems, housing and better roads.
- personal benefits which include self-esteem, political power, self-confidence and sense of efficacy and these are usually often attained on an individual basis.

(4)Citizen Participation in Evaluation; Elaborating on this aspect, they noted that “there is little written or actually accomplished-on citizen participation in evaluation,” hence it is difficult to conceptualise how it might best be analysed and measured”. However, participatory evaluation as it is referred to recently in most literature is a rough and ready method of getting insights into project performance.

Generally, evaluation is usually associated with the outsiders’ (donor agencies, national project staff). Such evaluations are generally geared towards establishing whether or not a project achieved its objectives or whether the benefits of the project justify the expenditure. However, participatory evaluations “are project evaluations in which communities and beneficiaries take the lead” (Davis-Case, 1989). They are assisted in planning, in executing and reporting the results of evaluations. Davis-Case contends that the outcome of participatory evaluations ‘complement and enrich external evaluations, especially if outsiders are interested in sustainability.

Who participates? There are four general types of participants. They argued that, “the rural population is a heterogeneous group and there are significant differences in their occupation, location, land tenure status, sex, caste, religion or tribe which relate in different ways to poverty status. In this connection, four groups of participants were identified:

- local residents which include men, women of various occupation/social background both old and young. This group of people is the target of a rural development project.
- local leaders such as elite farmers, merchants and professionals.
- government personnel who are assigned to an area for a certain period of time example agricultural extension agents and social workers.
- foreign personnel such as foreign employees, heads of NGOs, missionary personnel and expatriates who live and work at local level.

The question of who is a participant is important in the analysis of participation. It ensures that certain groups such as women and rural poor people who had been influenced by previous development efforts are fully involved in activities that affect their lives.

How does citizen participation takes place?

This question elicits information on the process of how participation is occurring in a project. The “how” question will help to establish impetus to participation, that is, whether the initiatives come from above or below or whether the inducement for participation is voluntary or coercive. It will also help to establish whether participation is taking place on an individual or collective basis with formal or informal organizations and whether one participates directly or is represented by someone selected by oneself or others. They also asserted that direct participation through an association appears to have greater impact on building individual capacity. They, however, cautioned that such participation will be difficult to achieve because of the large numbers of participants who might be involved. Knowing how participation occurs in a particular project situation will help in making qualitative judgement beyond the establishment of incidence and amount of participation that has occurred.

2.1.7 Methodologies of citizen participation

Literature on methodology of participation is very scanty. Oakley (1991) claim that research into project files reveals that methodologically, participation is still largely in a period of experimentation. He further argues that although there are commitment and support for participation, but proven methodological tools are much rare. The situation is even worse in Africa as compared to Asia and Latin America.

Methodology is important to the practice of participation since it is a process, and as such, project staff responsible for promoting participation should similarly plan out and methodologically structure their work. Participation is not an objective that can be achieved by the periodic maneuvering of project circumstances. It must be carefully thought out and its development equally carefully nurtured. Drawing from the works of World Council of Churches (1981), Crowley (1987) and Unia (1988), the following principles of the methodology of participation are proposed:

- The methodology of participation should emphasise the process nature of participation as opposed to immediate qualitative outcomes. The immediate quantifiable impact should not be pursued at the expense of promoting participation.
- There should be awareness creation and economic activities since both aspects of a project are mutually supporting. Project staff should not over emphasise economic activities on the assumption that these will naturally provide the base for future participation.
- Build participation as much as possible upon a local base (local leaders and local institutions) to ensure a secure and local foundation for future activities as well as minimizing external dependency.
- Maintain regular contact between the people and project staff since participation is a labour- intensive process, and develops better where there is continuity.

2.1.8 Stages in the process of citizen participation

Oakley, (1991) proposed the following stages for the project categories:

Category 1: These are projects that methodologically follow a conventional project planning cycle and seek to make it more participatory. Projects in this category are initially planned centrally and subsequently modified to make it “more sensitive to people, consultative and less than entirely top-down process. Such projects are known and exhibit the following methodological approach:

- Grouping together a number of rural people around an activity
- Injection of capital (usually loans)
- Formation of group into formal association e.g. cooperatives.
- Linking associations up with banks.

Category 2: In this category are projects which seek to involve people in externally managed development projects. Such projects make provision from the beginning for people’s involvement in project activities. These include;

- Training of catalysts (development workers)
- Conscientization and awareness creation

- Group formation
- Preparation- Awareness creation-Animation-leadership training-identification of internal cadres-briefing.
- Progressive advance on key issues-Group action-Making outside contacts
- Programme management – doing something concrete. Linking up-Replication-Building alliances.
- Articulation-outside Support-Expansion.
- Stabilization – Establishing base-Autonomy-functioning alone.

He argued that breaking down the methodology of participation illustrates the kinds of stages involved and it helps to confirm that participation is not an ingredient which can be methodologically developed with one mechanism. It is a process that goes through a series of stages to be developed. The starting point is the first contact or entry and the finishing point is a group of people with basis and conditions for active participation.

2.1.9 Instruments of citizen participation methodologies

Instruments are mechanisms for ensuring that the participation methodology is successfully completed. Any methodology of development intervention requires appropriate instrument for its implementation. In the course of their works and studies, Oakley and Marsden (1991), have identified some commonly used instruments and they are as follows;

Economic or physical activities

Implicit in many of the project files is the overall notion that economic or physical activities undertaken by the project group are important, not only because of immediate tangible benefit but, more importantly because they serve as a means to build up and strengthen the future base for participation projects, therefore are not just useful for the targets they might achieve but also for the ways in which they help develop group cohesion, solidarity and organizational skills. Much of the recent project support work of UNIFEM for example followed the above formula; direct support which result to economically productive projects which result not only in tangible gain but also in increase women's consciousness and solidarity such activities are not judged solely in economic terms but equally on their broader qualitative effect. Effectiveness and relevance are more important.

Project group meetings and discussions

A critical instrument in the process of participation is the regular meeting of and discussion between those involved in the process. These two instruments constitute a basic dynamic in the whole process and are indispensable to developing a continuing base for people's participation. Such meetings and discussions are common place but essentially communicate things to people and see them as potential contributors to an already agreed programme. The meetings essentially function as a form to get people involved; to help create awareness of issues and subsequently, solutions to serve as a basis for a future, more formal structure and to help build solidarity, cohesion and unity of action.

Popular theatre and song

There is evidence of an increasing use of different forms of popular theatre and song as instruments of a methodology of participation across the communities. Drama and song of course, are indigenous to the peoples of these communities. and emerging forms are in many instances, building upon traditional practices. Popular theatre, folk theatre, visual arts village drama and folk media are a range of terms which characterise this phenomenon and particularly since the late 1960s, have been increasingly used as tools to promote development (Kidd, 1982). Popular theatre in a process of participation essentially builds upon the cultural and historical basis of drama and song in people's lives and employs the language and phenomena of these lives. It seeks both to explain current issues and to identify and clarify crucial problem. Popular theatre, however, is not merely an opportunity simply for people to get their grievances or frustrations off their chests, it essentially challenges people to look critically at their situation and to change it. A review of project documentation and literature suggests the following broad uses of popular theatre.

- a way of recovering, reviving and advancing people's own culture and history;
- a form for popular education bringing people together and building a spirit of solidarity;
- a medium controlled by the people for expressing their ideas, their views and their concerns in a context where other forms of expression and media are controlled by others;
-

- an experience of participation and interaction which helps people overcome their fears, and develop their own identity and self-confidence;
- a means of organizing and politicizing people and of drawing them into people's movements and organizations. In the mid 70s popular theatre changed from being theatre for the people and became theatre by the people. Both changed the nature of the piece of drama and of the role that people played in it. While most projects which use theatre as an instrument of their methodology have cadre of actors or a theatre group to give direction to activities, theatre by the people has people as the performers. This way the people have an opportunity to do their own thinking, control their own learning process and base the experience on their own immediate context plays therefore, are not always presented as static, finished products but are often open-minded and left to evolve as people's views emerge.

Bible Circles

The widespread involvement of Christian churches in development at the grass-roots level and in Latin America in particular, the emergence of a theology closely associated with participation as an act of liberation, it is not surprising to find Bible Study as a means of furthering people's awareness and involvement. The study of the Bible in fellowships therefore is seen as an instrument of liberation as the people reflect upon their common experiences and unite and organise around issues of common concern.

Small Group Media

On a more sophisticated level, there is a range of what "small group media" as opposed to mass media which are used as instruments to promote involvement of citizens. These include video, puppetry, sound slide productions and photographs, but these are more expensive and in most projects, their use is dependent upon external support. These media are potentially the most powerful instruments available but, because of their cost and the particular equipment and skills they require, their influence is currently limited largely to urban areas. Essentially, these instruments based on popular culture and the everyday realities and problems of people's lives are used to provoke discussion and reaction.

Public Meetings and Campaigns

These more mass-based instruments are less concerned with the detail or characteristics of particular groups or locations but seek to promote consciousness and involvement on a broader level. In the health field in particular, campaigns are a common way of provoking interest in a health issue on a wide scale and of seeking people's involvement in possible solutions. The public meeting is a mass version of group discussion and aims essentially to unite a broader body of people in a common cause.

Other less proven instruments found in practice include pamphlets or other written materials, the radio, television and local announcers (town criers). Appropriate instruments are fundamental to a methodology of participation.

2.1.10 Evaluation

Concept of Evaluation

Evaluation is the process of assessing the extent to which an objective or goal in an activity has been achieved. It makes it possible to find out if the desired set line of actions to achieve a purpose has been successful. In community development, evaluation programmes and projects is very important. It enables the measurement of effectiveness of various resources that have been put into the programmes or projects. It is also designed to assess the efficiency, sustainability and relevance of the programmes. It should be noted that a project or programme is only successful when the beneficiaries are able to utilize it and it is of benefit to them Abiona (2009). Osuji (1992), described evaluation as a sporadic or spontaneous process or act of assessing a project's effectiveness, efficiency, cost, relevance and impact on specific objectives, in order to improve the effectiveness and impact of the project and from information obtained laid a foundation for a better execution of similar project in future.

Forms of Evaluation

There are basically, two types of evaluations namely: formative and summative evaluation. Formative evaluation is a continuing process, that is, the entire project is evaluated on a gradual basis until it is completed. The project is assessed stage by stage as it

is on-going. This makes it possible to make corrections and adjustments in areas of defects. It enables a re-examination of the resources, plan and execution process in order to meet the set objectives.

Summative Evaluation on the other hand, is evaluation carried out at the end of the project. In the final analysis, a programme or project is assessed if it meets the main objective. This is based on the effectiveness and the benefits which the supposed beneficiaries derived from it.

Objectives of Evaluation in Citizen Participation in Self-help Projects Implementation and Socio-economic Development

Evaluation in citizen participation in self-help projects implementation which is part of Community Development focuses on the following:

- i. The effectiveness of the projects and programmes in term of its impacts on the people who are to benefit from it. It should be assessed if the projects and programmes meet the needs to solve the prevailing problems of the people.
- ii. The scope of community development includes change of attitudes, values and habit. Evaluation also examines whether change of attitudes or habit has taken place due to the interaction programme. For example, if the programme is for proper sanitation in the community, evaluation at the end of the programme, should be able to establish if there is a change in the community.
- iii. Evaluation is also used to determine the extent of people's participation in the programme or project. One of the crucial principles in community development is citizen participation. It is pertinent to know the level of citizen participation in order to determine the sustainability of the projects or programmes.
- iv. Evaluation also involves an assessment of the material and financial involvement by the stakeholders. Through the evaluation, the level of contributions of government or its agency, non governmental organizations and the community is assessed. This has bearing on the sustainability of the project in that if the contribution of the community is higher, members of the community will develop more sense of belonging to the project but if lower, the project might suffer from instability after outsiders withdraw their support.

- v. There is also the assessment of the various committees set up to execute the progress of the project. This enables the general assessment to find out the extent to which the objectives are met.
- vi. Efficiency is assessed to find out whether the effects are being achieved at acceptable or bearable costs compared to alternative ways of arriving at the same objectives.
- vii. It is to find out the sustainability of the projects or programmes after the sponsors or donors have withdrawn funding whether recipients are getting ready to continue with the project.
- viii. Relevance has to do with whether the objectives of the project are still relevant and whether its value is higher in the priority needs of the people.

Stages of Evaluation in Citizen Participation in Self-help Projects Implementation

Abiona (2009) identify the following stages in evaluation of community development.

Identification of specific objectives: One of the steps in evaluation is the identification of specific objectives which the community wishes to achieve at the end of the project. At the end of the programmes or projects, the objectives are assessed to verify the extent to which the set objectives have been achieved. It is at this point that the success or failures of the programme or project is declared.

Identification of Available Resources: Another stage is the identification of available resources for the programmes or projects. There should be data of resources, both human and material in order to establish whether they have been judiciously utilized in the projects. At the formative evaluation stage, adjustment can be made in the human and material resources if they are inadequate. At the summative stage, final assessment will reveal the adequacy or otherwise of the resources.

Identification of Planned line of Actions and Timing: Evaluation also focuses on the planned actions to execute the project. The time frame of the project should be assessed to find out if the project is completed as scheduled. The assessments of actions enable planning for future projects and projection for envisaged problems and solution.

Evaluation of the Reporting and Communication System: The evaluation covers reporting and communication system. In formative evaluation, there should be adequate report of the day-to-day activities. This makes it possible to make corrections and amendments to the line of actions where necessary.

Moreover, the defects noted in the execution of the projects are discovered and corrected. In addition, evaluation should include the communication network existing within the community. Community members should be able to pass judgment on the project as they monitor it. It makes them have a sense of belonging to the project. They should be free to ask questions and suggest means of improving the project. All members of the community should be adequately informed of the various stages of the project. Also, there should be good communication with government agencies or non- governmental organizations that are involved in the project. The important “outsiders” that have vital role in the project should be allowed to monitor and assess the project. This will ensure that all stakeholders are involved at different stages.

Re-examination of Objectives and Plan of Action

After evaluation, it might be necessary to have another look at the objectives and plan of action in order to identify the problems that have affected the success of the programme. A new line of plan and action is then put in place to ensure the success of the programme. Evaluation is therefore, a dynamic process of monitoring and assessing projects or programmes.

2.2 The Concept of Self-Help

In Abiona (2009) quoting Anyanwu (1992), Self-help means community people coming together and joining efforts and resources to get themselves out of their present unsatisfactory condition, with little or no help from external bodies. In other words all categories of people in the community should harness their local resources to meet the needs of the community.

In a community, there are various associations such as market women, carpenters, various associations age groups, leaders and all categories of people. Self-help entails that people should use existing local resources which otherwise would have lie dormant to solve problems. Such resources include man-power (labour) agriculture, levies and others. Self-

help builds the capacity of people and creates confidence in their ability to solve local problems. It enables the community to find immediate solutions to problems such as health, housing, education, unemployed and provision of some basic infrastructures.

Also it involves active participation of all categories of people in the activities and programmes to solve identified problems through which a community can develop. It is a situation whereby people identify their problems, plan solution, put their plan into action and evaluate the success by themselves. It builds on the notion that any outside assistance (government, NGOs or private) is only supplementing the efforts of the community. Self-help makes every member of the community very important in the process of development. People have the chance to participate in identification of needs and finding solution to such needs. It brings about a sense of responsibility and self importance in the community. Participants develop sentiments towards community activities and members. In all, self-help has inbuilt democratic tendencies that ensure active group involvement in development process. It is the spring board and at the same time, end product of community development.

2.2.1 Felt Needs in Citizen participation in Self-help Projects Implementation

Felt need means that people must be able to identify what they want to do in order to achieve desired development. According to Onyeozu (2007) felt need is something sincerely desired, something craved for, wanted, longed for or aspired to. It is an object of inner wish or heart-felt prayer. Ogili (2004) described felt needs as “those tangible and intangible things a group requires as essential to its survival as organic whole.” Without those tangible and intangible things the group or community would remain stagnant. Such tangible things as posited by Ogili (2004), include good roads, water supply, electricity, educational institutions, etc while the intangible things include ability to work together, methods and tools to carry out their occupation, ability to read, write and understand their physical, social and cultural environment. The principle felt needs stresses that there is a lack, problem or inhibitions that retard the growth of the people or their community. Thus, Anyanwu (1992) maintained that a need represents the difference between “what is and what ought to be” in the living conditions of a community. The essence of felt need is to start with the people where they are, proceeding with them at their own pace to achieve the goal they set for themselves.

The issue of moving with the people to satisfy the objectives they set for themselves means that the people cannot satisfy or meet all their felt needs at the same time. This brings to consciousness the question of which need to satisfy at a particular point in time. Thus the question of priority sets in. In community development terminologies the most pressing need or the need that is to be satisfied at a particular point in time is known as priority need.

2.2.2 Self-growth in Citizen participation in Self-help Projects Implementation

Self growth enjoins that a community does not have to accept, or even wait to have ready made solutions to its problems, perhaps worked out by outsiders who have no connections with the community. It has to be able through constant practice, to diagnose its own problems and to initiate action towards finding solutions to such problems. Citizens have to be involved in improving their own economic and social conditions, Anyanwu (1992). Self growth implies that people can develop a stable, responsive and self-relevant citizenry, capable of mobilizing local resources for the satisfaction of the needs of their community and the attainment of a decent and wholesome life. This means that people need change for better living. In practical term, self-growth disposes that the people are capable of changing. Hence, they are capable of rejecting the limiting circumstances.

In Oyelami (2007), the major thrust of self-growth is that there are a lot of untapped resources in the community and there is no community that is not endowed naturally with these resources. If these resources are harnessed and utilized, the end product will be the development of the community. Self-growth therefore simply means, using one's resources to cater for ones needs and aspirations.

2.3 Channels of Communication in Citizen Participation in Self-help Implementation

Since the essence of community development is group collective action, communication between the group members is a necessary factor for maintaining cordial working relationship.

Communication involves the process by which information and understanding are transferred from one person to another. It is the basic for all human interaction and for all group functioning. Every group of human beings must take in and use information, as the very existence of every human community depending on communication, on exchanging information and transmitting meaning. Every cooperative action is contingent upon effective

communication; and people's daily life is filled with communication experience. It is through communication that community members can reach understanding with one another, build up trust on themselves, co-ordinate their actions and plan strategies for the accomplishment of goals. Through communication people can reach agreement on division of labour in the process of conducting their group activity.

Braimoh (1988) describes effective communication as an essential tool for the establishment and maintenance of good social and working relationships. Effective communication takes place between two persons when the receiver interprets the sender's message in the same way the sender intended it. This is typical of interpersonal communication. The prototype present the communicator of the message as the sender. The person to whom the message is sent is the receiver. The message can be a verbal or non-verbal symbol which one person transmits to another. The means of sending such a message from one person to another remains the channel of communication between them. A communication hence consists of a sender, a receiver, and a message. The message may be sent by several means, more by gesture than words more by the emotional tone of the statement than by its content. It also involves interpretation. The receiver always has to make judgement about what the message means, for even plain words may mean different things in different contexts.

For any problem-solving group to be effective, the members have to obtain the information they need to solve their common problems. They have to put such information together in such a way that accurate and creative solutions are achieved. Cooperation among group members leads to the promotion of the sense of cooperation and the understanding of others. Most communities consider these as virtues that should be admired, instead of personal drive, forcefulness and individual self-assertion.

Communication in community development has to be nurtured and maintained henceforth through the effort of both the development agent and the members of the community. The aged however, must understand that success in the community development process depends, to a great extent, on his ability to nurse the good relations that may have been established.

2.4 Community

The term 'community' is difficult to define with precision. Despite this, it has enjoyed a long existence and usage among scholars. Thus students in social work, education, economics, sociology, community development and other related disciplines concerned with human services require knowledge of the community. This is not only because community is the centre of action of their professions, but also because the nature of a community has significant influence on success or failure of developmental programmes. Heather (2005) posited that the word 'community' is an umbrella term that is defined and applied in myriad of ways. For instance it may be used to refer to geographical communities, where members are based on region (Ife (2002)), or virtual communities where members' main form of contact is through electronic media. Communities of circumstance constitute another possible form of community. Such community might emerge, for example, when bushfires or floods occur across different regions and those most affected feel connected to one another (Marsh, (1999)). There are also 'communities of interest,' where identity groups form to lobby government for some kind of policy change and/or sponsorship (Kenny (1999)), while gay and lesbian groups are an example of this, so are business lobby groups.

Anyanwu (1992) defined 'community as a group of people living in a given geographical area. Such a group includes the family village, town or city, tribe or nation in which people share in common, the basic conditions of life.' The community thus connotes something that is common or ubiquitous. It is associated with closeness constant communication, communion and togetherness. It refers to a sense of belonging and a feeling of desirable virtue.

Going further in his attempt to define the concept of community Anyanwu (1992) identified two major approaches, namely the common sense approach and the social science approach. He claimed that from the common sense perspective community can be described as a population group which has developed a degree of social consciousness and working together as one body to satisfy common needs.

As a social concept, Anyanwu (1992) pointed out that a community can be seen as an interaction center where various activities concerning human life take place. He observed that the social science perspective uses four approaches to describe the concept of community. These approaches are:

- (1) the qualitative approach
- (2) the ecological approach
- (3) the ethnographic approach and
- (4) the sociological approach.

From the qualitative approach, community is seen as a place to live in. The approach describes the major characteristics of a community in order to measure its standard and assess its quality as a habitable place. The emphasis in the qualitative approach is on determining how good an environment can be as a habitable area.

The sociological approach sees community as a space and physical location. It also describes the community as a settlement pattern, examines the competition for space within and establishment of boundaries.

The ethnographic approach sees the community as a way of life and emphasizes the care of community life such as language, eating habits, marriage, burial, recreation habits etc. This approach is culturally based and presents the community as a mirror of the whole society of which it is, but a part.

The sociological approach looks at community as a social system and an area of common life. The emphasis of this approach is on social interaction. It presents community as arising from the development of common interest.

Despite the expansive coverage of Anyanwu's (1992) attempts at defining the concept of community, he did not define the concept to the satisfaction of every body concerned Oyebamiji and Adekola (2008 p.4). Thus, Ogili (2004 p.46) gave two definitions of community as:

a territorially bounded social system within which people live in harmony, love, intimacy and state common social, economic and cultural characteristics. He also described the concept of community as "a population living within legally established city limits where the people have some social and economic features in common which enable them to pursue common goals'.

Considering the various definitions and descriptions of the concepts of community by scholars, what is clear is that for a place or group of people to qualify as a community, the following elements must be present:

- Group of people
- Shared territory that has geographical delimitations
- Common goals or interests
- Common ways of life.

Based on the above elements, one tends to describe the concept of community as a localized population which is interdependent and which develops and nurtures specialized institutions that provide on a day-to-day basis, a full range of goods and services necessary to meet the common goals and perpetuate its existence on the surface of the earth.

2.5 The Concept of Development

The word 'development' belongs to the group or category of words regarded by philosophers as systemically ambiguous. The ambiguous nature of the term development gives opportunity for scholars to view and describe it from different perspectives especially as it suits their discipline or profession. For instance, while an economist would see development in terms of increase in the Gross National Product (GNP), Gross domestic Product (GDP) and per capita incomes of individuals in the system, the political scientist would view it as improvement in political consciousness of the people and improved government structure. The environmentalist would see the term development as improvement on welfare of the totality of the physical and natural environment. To the psychologist, development implies mental and physical growth of an individual. To the adult educators, development is viewed in terms of improvement in life and living standard of people and their community Oyebamiji Adekola (2008).

Onyeozu (2008) observed that development is a multi-dimensional process involving the organization and reorientation of the entire economic and social systems. In addition to improvement in incomes and output, it involves radical changes in institution to, social and administrative structure as well as in popular attitudes and sometimes even customs and beliefs.

Balogun (2002) noted that development is concerned with those progressive changes which are noted in and sprang out of previous situations. This means that development is not making everything new but a new emerging from the old. He also asserted that the emphasis

of development is on people, as it is they who are thought to appreciate what constitute change.

Amirize (2005 p.1) defined development as “any conscious effort made or designed by individuals organizations or state authorities, to facilitate the gradual growth, advancement and improved well-being of man and society”. He argued that development should include strengthening, up building and enablement of what is inherently good and desirable but requiring some additional or external support to bring it to fruition or maturity.

According to Akinpelu (1992) development is of man rather than of infrastructures and public works, supermarkets, sky scrappers and highways, though they are its indices.

To Rodney (1992) development should also have a social individual bent. He defines development as a “state of increased skill and capacity, greater freedom, creativity, self discipline and material well being.” Rodney’s definition units economic, the social and political aspect of development. Amounts to the optimum realization of the well-being of individuals in their communities. It may best be described as any observable traces of response by people to modern trends of social change. The emphasis of development is on people as it is the people who are stimulated, motivated, helped or encouraged to adopt new methods and to lean new skills for the attainment of their well-being. It is they who are taught to appreciate what ferment there is for social change and to adopt their ways of life to current changes which they have adopted. Development therefore, centers on people. It is a forward movement directed to the betterment of the life of people in the community.

There are various types of development namely:

- Economic Development
- Social Development
- Physical Development
- Political Development

Economic Development

To a community developer or change agent, economic development is often seen at the individual level. To him, economic development means increase or improvement in the financial capability of individuals. It is the improvement or increase in the income that is accruable to individuals in the community, not minding whether such increase is gulped by

inflation. The concern is for individual to possess enough financial muscle to find and maintain daily basic needs without hardship Oyebamiji & Adekola (2007).

Social Development

The social aspect of life encompasses all aspects of a people's interaction that promotes their essence of living together. These aspects of life may include their culture, physical environment and even their history. Thus any gradual and positive change in these aspects of people's life is social development, it could come in form of improvement in family life, education music and musical instruments, food and food preparation, information and communication and their means, transportation system, conflict and management method, Oyebamiji and Adekola (2008). Ogili (2004) define social development as:

The ability and willingness of an individual in a society to contribute his best in any form to the collective out put of services from which he will in turn receive services that enrich him materially culturally and emotionally (p.40).

Physical Development

Physical development implies improvement in the physical structure of a community, society or nation. It can be described as improvement in the existing physical structure and appearance of modern and highly technological gadgets in a community. Where a community witnesses or undergo noticeable positive changes in its physical structure, we say it is witnessing physical development. It could be inform of improved infrastructure such as roads, cinema, hospitals, schools, buildings etc.

Political Development

Political development means positive attitude and disposition of those at the helm of affairs to the ordinary citizen. Political development encompasses sensitiveness and active participation of the citizenry in political activities and governance. Politically, this is highly dependent on how informed or the extent of political education of the people. Where the citizenry is well informed about government and political matters and allow such to transform into modern forms of government that is not only democratic and transparent, but all inclusive and continuously work towards the welfare and improved conditions of life for the citizenry, such community or society has attained political development.

2.6 Community Development

According to Anyanwu (1992, 2002), the concept of community development lacks a precise definition that caters for its ever expanding field, Akintayo and Oghenekohwo (2004) support this view when they observe that it is difficult to state briefly, adequately and fully what is subsumed by the concept of community development. This by implication means that what constitutes'community development cannot be fully described in a few meaningful words called definition.

While no widely accepted definition is available, few important elements or aspects of community development appear again and again in literature. These elements together provide a generally acceptable description of the term community development. Such elements as noted by Osuji (1991) include:

- Community as a unit of action
- Community initiative and leadership as resources
- Use of both internal and external resources,
- Inclusive participation,
- An organized and comprehensive approach that attempt to involve the entire community, and
- Democratic and rational task accomplishment.

Based on the reoccurrence of the elements, Ojokheta and Olajide (2004), observe that there is little or no divergence in scholars perception of the concept, going by their views. This means they are saying the same thing in different ways. The lack of agreement on a specific definition therefore, has brought about the existence of various but similar definitions. For instance, as cited in Anyanwu (1992 p.36) the Cambridge summer conference (1948) defined community development as:

a movement designed to promote better living with the active participation and if possible on the initiative of the community, but if this initiative is not forthcoming spontaneously, by the use of techniques for arousing and stimulating it in order to ensure its active and enthusiastic response to movement.

This definition by the Cambridge summer conference formed the rallying point for subsequent definitions. Even the definition provided by the Ashridge conferment on social

Development in 1954 as cited by Akintayo and Oghenekohwo (2004 P.18) does not show much difference. The Ashridge conference defined community development as:

a movement designed to promote better living for the whole community with the active participation and on the initiative of the community.

A critical look at the, definitions given above reveal that community development has been described as a movement, a method and a process. This implies that community development is a development instrument that can manifest in different forms depending on the practitioners.

Community development, according to Anyanwu (1992) is nothing new. He stated that in the earliest periods of human history, men have sought to improve their lot and community development is the modern way of doing this. It covers all forms of development activity. It is a movement to secure the active participation and cooperation of the people in every community in programmes designed to raise their standard of living and to promote their development in all its forms. According to him, it is concerned with all forms of betterment, social as well as economic, human and cultural as well as material.

The root idea is that it is a popular movement- a making up for lost time by people who are in danger of dropping behind. It is the getting together of people of a particular community to bring their community on the path of progress. The essence of the idea is organized self-help by the people for the people. This is the first point to note about community development. It is the peoples movement.

The second point according to Anyanwu (1992) was that in scope and effect, the movement is primarily local in character. Neither is this method of tackling local problems the peculiarity of any particular society. There are communities everywhere which are in some degree or other in danger of being left behind and only catch up by taking an active part themselves in securing their own advancement. The fact is that it must be from the aspirations of the people themselves that their salvation comes. Nothing that is really good can be imposed upon a people by well-wishing superiors. In education, as in everything that concerns the spirit, freedom is a condition of progress. There is nothing that so much hinders the effective freedom of a people than their lack of opportunity to do things for themselves. Community development is education in the fullest and best sense. It is the stimulation of

the desire for better things and the urge to attain such better things. The people must be free to achieve their own betterment and they must actively want and be able, to do this. This is the process of community development.

According to him, essential elements emerge from a consideration of this complex process. First, there is the participation of the people themselves in efforts to improve their level of living, with as much reliance as possible on their own initiative. Secondly, there is the provision of technical and other services in ways which not only encourage initiative, self-help and mutual assistance, but which also make them more effective. The emphasis, for the most part is on the need to encourage communities of people to identify their own needs and to work cooperatively at satisfying them.

Community development today, has gone beyond its traditional boundaries of developing the community and the physical, economic and social conditions of the people to include; emotional and psychological development of the people. To this end, community development can be described as a process by which the united with those of governmental and non-governmental bodies for gradual and positive reconditioning process with much reliance on local initiatives, leadership and resource for improvement in the physical and social structure of the community and general well-being of the inhabitants.

2.7 Approaches to Community Development

For any project to be successfully implemented, the approach by which it is done matters a lot. Approaches to community development usually involve the point of view of three main groups in the process. These are the participants, the government and its agencies and the professionals. Participants are members of the local population, who need community development as a matter of urgency for the improvement of their community. They are the principal actors on the stage for community betterment. The government and its agencies are essentially bodies outside the local community. They include the various levels of government, voluntary associations and philanthropic bodies. There are the professional or the change agents who give on-the –spot direction and guidance for the achievement of the goal of community development programmes. These are the links between the participants and the government and other agencies. Each group has specific function to play for the success of the community development projects. As a result of the variety of definitions

given to the term community development and the fact that various agencies, organizations and institutions practice or employ the community development processes, a variety of approaches have emerged. Huey (1993) have identified six of such approaches adopted in planned community change. These include:

- (1) The community approach
- (2) The informational self-help approach
- (3) The special purpose, problem-solving approach
- (4) The demonstration approach
- (5) The experimental approach and
- (6) The power-conflict approach.

These approaches tend to reflect the changing attitude towards the definition of community in the advanced industrialized societies. For instance, the community approach emphasizes the more pristine concept of community – the type of idea upon which community development is based in the developing areas. It emphasizes broad-based participation, democratic procedures, indigenous leadership, a geographical locality as the basis of citizen participation and a holistic approach to community problems.

The special-purpose, problem-solving approach although not ignoring the features emphasized by the foregoing approach, lays more stress on ‘special problem’ as the target for resolution. It illustrates that a common interest in a particular problem e.g. water- can go beyond the limited locational criteria of a community.

The informational Self-help approach stressed that the right kind of information applied by knowledgeable participants at strategic junctures in the stream of community life, can make a difference in the direction and quality of living. The community is here looked upon as a “systemic stream,” while the emphasis on knowledgeable participants at strategic junctures smacks the idealist-unitary view of community development.

The experimental approach revealed a growing interest among agencies and institutions in the application of a quasi-experimental design to community development activities. This involves the testing and verification of the efficacy of a particular community development effort and transforming such tested technique which could be used by other communities.

The demonstration approach involved the display of method or results that work or that other procedures will probably result in failure. It involves the problem of applying the methods and result of development in one community to another community. It differs from the experimental approach in that while experimental approach is basically testing an idea without prior knowledge of the results, the demonstration approach shows methods or results. The experimental approach seeks answers or some standardized solutions to community problems, whereas the demonstration approach believes that such answers are already available.

Finally, the power-conflict approach points out that the action of social interveners and controllers of power is very crucial on community development. The struggle for ascendancy from a state of poverty to a more developed state may be frustrated if the power to effect such change is located elsewhere other than the subgroups attempting to achieve the change. It emphasizes that the traditional definition of power must be broadened in the context of contemporary complex technological society to include the capacity, know-how and means to identify, create and develop products that change the community, the ability, right, authority and responsibility to make decision on community goals and priorities and to obtain and allocate resources so that these goals can be realized.

The approaches to community development in Nigeria can on the other hand, be discussed at two levels- the government and the local people's levels. At the government level, community development in Nigeria is handled through a multi-purpose approach. This involved an attempt at developing the rural areas "by coordinating the extension services of the various executive ministries and integrating the people's organized self-help and co-operative actions with the specialized services of the Government and other voluntary agencies." Community Development; Western Nigeria Ibadan Ministry of Economic Planning and Social Development, series 1,(1966 p.1). In other words, community development has been seen as an 'umbrella organization' within which a variety of local level programmes could be housed.

More specifically, Ekong (2003) had analyzed and classified the government's approach into these sub-heads: Extension, Project and Service. The extension approach according to him, concentrates on the direct teaching of local people the improved methods and techniques or either farming, health-care and how to read and write.

The project approach is the only one that is often based on the initiative of the local people. It involves the provision of social amenities like postal agencies, dispensaries, pipe borne water, community halls etc. Generally, the local communities or the voluntary associations or elected officials have to express and justify to the government, the need for a particular social service. Then the community is encouraged to initiate or be very ready to contribute to the provision of such service. The completion of such a facility is then usually marked with fanfare and elaborate ceremonies.

At the people's level, community development in Nigeria is tackled through the "inner resources or self-help approach." This is a case where the people themselves through discussions, stimulation through demonstration, and internal enlightened leadership, identify their needs and mobilize their own resources to meet such needs. The emphasis in this approach is on specific concrete achievement (e.g. a school building, community center, new road, market stall etc) while the philosophy itself is an extension of the traditional communal way of life of the people.

Although the governmental 'multi-purpose' approach aimed at stimulation action in the various aspects of community life, the fact of and strategy for marrying this approach with the Self-help approach have remained enigmatic in Nigeria.

2.8 Steps in Community Development

Like any other processes, community development usually follows certain identifiable steps, First of all, since community development is a problem solving process, there must be a recognition or identification of a problem or need. In Ekong (2003), what community needs is determined by the condition it wants and how the existing condition differs from that which is desired. Wants therefore refer to desired state of affairs whereas needs refer to the effective means for achieving such desired state and/or maintaining it. For instance, if a community wants a constant and reliable water supply, then it needs a well or a reservoir of all those things required for the construction of any of these facilities.

Apart from identifying the desired state of affairs or the ideal condition, the citizens must also identify the alternatives which exist before finally deciding on what actions they will embark upon to attain what they desire. Although the entire process may vary among

communities and from one situation to another, some basic steps are crucial to the success of community development. These may be outlined as follows:

- a. An informal survey, fact-finding and identification of community concerns.
- b. Identification of a small group of leaders and or interest groups who can serve as the initiating sets.
- c. Identification of immediate community problem or problems.
- d. Sharing of problems identified with community leaders for legitimation
- e. Diffusion of problems and definition of needs.
- f. Securing citizens commitment to act and identification of needed resources.
- g. Appraisal of available internal resources and invitation of external aid where necessary.
- h. Formulation of a detailed plan of action including a timetable
- i. Carrying out the action and evaluating the entire process and results.
- j. Identification of derived problems or needs and planning, for the continuation of the process. By 'derived problems or needs' here we mean those unanticipated effects of the change implemented.

This final step can lead to the institutionalization of the entire community development process as it infuses value into the change effected. In community development, there is a greater emphasis on broad based participation of community members in all phases of the programme. This is because the development of a sense of belonging or identification is a major aspect of the community development effort. Although, community development programmes generally tend to emphasize the construction of infrastructure and economic revitalization, the ideal goals of community development are not economic or physical structural changes. The goal of community development is to achieve the pre-conditions to economic growth which include bringing about change in attitudes and beliefs of the people and the organization of learning experiences to enhance individual growth.

2.9 The Nature and Prospects of Community Development in Nigeria

On a very broad level of generalization, one can say that in Nigeria, community development is conceptualized as any action in a locality taken by any agency or the local residents themselves, with the primary intention of bringing some benefit to such a locality.

The formalization of community development in Nigeria as a special government concern dates back to 1948. Following the Cambridge Conference of that year, the British Colonial Administration in African countries was directed by the Colonial Office in London to intensify efforts in promoting community development generally. Mass Education officers were appointed and were required to organize adult literacy classes and encourage people to undertake community projects. Development officers were also appointed and posted to various provinces. Thus, Community Development was officially promoted by district Officers, Development Officers and Adult Education Officers in different part of the country. With the establishment of Regional Parliamentary Governments in 1951, Community development became a regional government responsibility. The regions in turn, pushed the responsibility down to the Local Councils which existed then but remained as the “coordinator’ and chief sponsor’. Each region had Ministries within which the responsibility for community development rested. The Western Region for example created a Ministry of Development in 1954 with sections for community self-help and youth clubs organization. By 1966, it became a more comprehensive unit including health and social welfare.

In the Northern Region, community development was handled by development Secretaries assisted by development Inspectors. The Adult Literacy aspect, however, remained within the Ministry of Education. In the Eastern, Region. community development was carried out within the Ministry of Welfare until 1957 when this Ministry was merged with the Ministry of Internal Affairs thereby transferring community development into a division within the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Earlier on in 1952, a Community development center had been established by that regional government at Agwu to serve as a training center for all categories of workers at the local level including Councilors, Adult Education Officers, Youth leaders and Council employees. Community development activities consisted in social welfare activities at the beginning; but in 1963, a policy for community development Ekong (2003), formulated that Government extended the division’s emphasis to include economic activities. With the creation of states in Nigeria, community development has continued to remain as the responsibility of some particular Ministries. Before the Local Government reforms of 1976, the Community development division in most states suffered frequent transfer from one executive ministry to another. Presently this division seemed to have settled with the Ministry of Local Government in most of the states.

The retention of a ministry for community development has been criticized on the ground that (1) It creates the false impression that other executive ministries have nothing to do at the local level and that such a ministry, is capable of affecting change in all aspects of rural life. Contrary to this impression all the Executive ministries do contribute to the development of rural communities. In fact, the multi-purpose workers of the Ministry of Community Development often have little expertise to deal effectively with any particular aspect of development at local level; (2) Programme Planning in such centrally administered agency must fall in line with planning in other executive ministries thereby becoming highly specialized and removed from the participation of the people for whom they are planned. (3) Although the Ministry has often been said to serve as a co-ordinating agency for various community development activities, it is known that often the members of this ministry have little or no powers to co-ordinate programmes in other more specialized Ministries. They rely on persuasion instead of power, to achieve any form of co-ordination.

According to Ekong (2003), community development in Nigeria has never been considered as a direct Federal Government's responsibility and so no separate ministry of Community Development exists at that level. Interest in community development has however, been expressed within the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare. This in addition to other things has arranged regular seminars on Community Development issues. With the reforms brought into being in the Local Government system in Nigeria since 1976, the functions formally carried out by the state Ministries of Community Development have now been assigned to the Local government. This action has meant that either the state Ministries of Community Development should be merged with the Local Government or that such a ministry should be totally discarded. This has remained an unresolved issue so far. The 1979 Ibadan seminar on the Principles and practice of Community Development sponsored by the social Development Directorate of Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare recommended that the states' Community Development divisions should continue to exist even where its functions are concurrent responsibilities of Local Government'.

It emphasized that "the states" Community development divisions "should be concerned with education and training of staff, co-ordination of programmes, formulation of policies and maintenance of standards". This proposition is however, rather impracticable since it amounts to saying that, an ill equipped sub division of a Ministry should be retained

to make policies for and co-ordinate the activities of a whole tier of a nation's government which the local government is recognized to be.

At the organizational level, it would appear that the future of the states' Ministry of Community development in Nigeria will continue to hang on the performances of the new local government system. If the local governments perform their duties effectively, the Community Development Ministry will have to concede and recognize its redundancy, vice versa.

At the operational level, the growing recognition of the fact that local community problems are not only social welfare problems but also include economic and structural problems, suggest laying more emphasis on general rural development, rather than community development. Rural community development in Nigeria should therefore combine the ideas of community development with those of rural development. This will lift community development from the status of self-help and communal, low investment programmes designed for poor ruralites, to that of a democratic programme for even development. Similarly, it will lift Rural Development from being a term used in describing governmental agricultural development programmes to that of focusing on the improvement in the quality of living and ways of making a living by non-urban dwellers. Rural community development in Nigeria would therefore aim at planning, financing and the development of facilities and services in rural areas that would contribute to making these areas desirable places in which to live and make private and business investments. Voluntary social efforts, community initiative and governmental efforts would complement each other in attaining this state. Authority,(1958). The more superficial meaning of community development as a method of solving common problems through unified democratic social action, could still be maintained both at the rural and the urban areas.

2.10 Self-help Projects and Socio-economic Development of People

When the colonial Government planned programmes for its independent territories, it was obvious that the government could not possibly be everything to everyone. The idea of self-help was therefore a strategy aimed at supplementing government development efforts with the efforts of the people themselves. However, as the term community development became more and more identified with low-keyed investments and social welfare activities in

the rural areas, the concept of self-help also began to be seriously questioned and criticized. Badeau (1977) commenting on the use of the term as a smoke screen for unbalanced development said “there is the temptation for the government of wider development as a panacea for their needs and as a substitute for sound agricultural, public health and home welfare programmes.”

At an aggregate level, achievement in self-help projects appears very impressive. However, serious problems bedevil attempts at developing the rural and urban communities via. self help schemes. Some of these problems emanated from government, some from the nature of the projects themselves and others from the projects management at the local level. The following are some of the problems.

1. Both the project communities and government functionaries fail to recognize the systematic nature of all physical and social planning. Projects such as primary schools dispensaries or agricultural projects are essentially urban based projects erected in rural communities. For such projects to be effectively used or run, photo typed urban environment with basic social services need to be created to attract and retain the right caliber of staff to run these institutions. It is common to find secondary schools and hospitals grandiosely executed but left without qualified teachers or medical personnel because pipe borne water, electricity and even good roads are not available in those rural areas. This situation dampens the moral and enthusiasm of project communities.
2. There is no clear cut policy on the nature and degree of governmental assistance to communities. At that moment, meager assistance, whether from state or local government comes as grants in aid. No technical or material assistance or even expert advise or project initiation, selection costing or implementation. Besides, the grants in aid are politically directed, especially when the state government is involved. There is no coordination between local authorities and state governments on project assistance. Only communities with big “political shots” ever got state assistance. This demoralizes communities without “heavy weight”.
3. Community self-help projects have been characterized by haphazardness and laissez faire attitudes. Communities have often started projects that will involve government in management without adequate clearance from government. As a result very costly high order institutions are proliferated with a few kilometers of one another without due regard to the

ratio between these and minimum consulting population. This is especially the case with secondary schools and hospitals. This has created management problems for the government in terms of its resources to provide staff and equipment.

4. At community level, there is a great dearth of committed and knowledgeable leader. Consequently projects are poorly conceived, poorly or not costed at all at the on set, improperly prioritized on too many projects at a time that completion rates are rather slow.

5. Poor projects site selection was affected in its utilization. The principle of centrality, a failure of maximum utilization has not been adequately considered as site selection has been politicized. Such considerations isolate institutions from essential facilities such as sources of health supply, market and accessible roads and lead to under utilization of projects on which so much money has been invested.

From the economic view point, the wisdom of proliferation non- income generating projects in an environment of preponderant rural poverty and mass national unemployment is questionable. Millions of naira spent on building town halls, club houses or even building more schools and hospitals than the government can manage could have been more profitably utilized to generate income and provide employment.

2.11 National Planning and Rural Development in Nigeria.

Right from the colonial era, rural development has received minimal attention. Rural development is used here to mean a series of quantitative and qualitative changes occurring among a given rural population and whose coverage effects indicate in time, a rise in the standard living and favourable changes in the way of life of the people concerned (ECA 1971).

Although many of the items that go into the content of rural development have been part of the staple of Nigerian development as a specific national policy objective is a late comer in our national planning experience (Ukwu, 1987). In fact, it was not until the Third National Development Plan (1975-80), that specific attention was paid to rural development. It was only in the fourth National Development Plan (1980 – 84), that rural development was recognized as a plan category and even then the programmes had to do mainly with agriculture which is only an aspect of rural development.

In this section we shall examine the place of rural development in various development plans in Nigeria. In spite of protests by the Western liberal scholars, the state

remains an instrument of exploitation and class domination. In the Nigerian case, the state is above all, a business chief organizing the society in the interest of the dominant classes. Thus in Nigeria, rural development programmes are typically inspired and elaborated by the elite classes without mass involvement. The fundamental exploitative relations between the Nigerian elite classes and the poor masses guarantee that such rural development programmes will inevitably consolidate the pre-dominant economic and political power of the rich dominant classes and the exploitative interests of their imperialist collaborators. Even when such programmes and policies are extensible and publicly declared with vitriolic propaganda to be in the interest of the poor, the main beneficiaries are the elite classes.

Consequently, most of the facilities that make life worth living in Nigeria are concentrated in the urban areas. Lagos for example which had about 10% of Nigeria's total urban population and 1% of Nigeria's population consumed 56% of the telephone services, 46% of generated electricity and accounted for 30% of registered automobiles in Nigeria. Also, 46% of Nigeria's industrial workers and about 75% of Nigeria's total industrial output emanated from Lagos (UN 1974). Lagos, Ibadan, Kano, Kaduna, Enugu, Port Harcourt, etc accounted for about 75% of Nigeria's total employment in manufacturing (UN 1974), and controlled the larger proportion of other resources relative to the rural areas.

The World Bank Report for 1981 shows that urban-rural income differential in Nigeria rose from 2.6 in 1960 to 4.6 in 1977. The proportion of the labour force engaged in agriculture declined from 67% in 1963 to 55% in 1980 as a result of rural-urban migration. Records also show that in 1973 in Anambra and Imo states, the seven urban divisions with 15.6% of the population accounted for 35% of the secondary school enrolment, 47.7% of the hospital beds, 70.8% of pipe borne water supplies, 79.2% of industrial establishment (Ukwu 1976).

The neglect of the rural areas discussed above persists to date. Therefore, in contrast to the situation in the urban places, where there are surpluses of the facilities that make life worth living, the rural areas remain disadvantaged while their inhabitants maintain a marginalized existence. Life in the rural sector is characterized by abject poverty, debilitating diseases and unpardonable ignorance.

2.12 Planning and Rural Development during the Colonial Era

Development planning in Nigeria dates back to the British Colonial Era “Plan of Development and Welfare for Nigeria” But this was not actually a plan but a collection of projects which the colonial government felt would help in achieving its twin objectives in Nigeria, mainly to provide markets and raw materials for industries in their country (Olatunbosun 1975). Only 3.8 percent of the total expenditure was allocated to local development schemes, while social welfare which included village reconstruction had a meager 1.3 percent. This was too insignificant to have made any meaningful impact. Worst still, like most post war British colonial plans, the little money allocated to rural areas was underspent.

Therefore, in spite of the claims to the contrary by colonial apologists and sympathizers, the Nigerian state was established essentially as an estate to be developed for trade. The colonial government was concerned primarily with those aspects of economic development which directly contributed to the imperial purpose of the promotion of export crop production and the creation of markets for imported European manufacturers.

Consequently, the colonial government established various research institutions in Nigeria, primarily to increase output of raw materials. Thus in 1939, the Oil Palm Research station was launched. In addition, the West African Maize Research Unit (Nigeria) was established. Welch (1964) reported that, nearly all governmental activity in the rice industry in Southern Nigeria had been directed towards research education. The colonial government also established the Niger Agricultural Project at Mokwa in 1949 (Baldwin, 1957). This land settlement scheme was a failure due to inadequate technical experimentation and preliminary feasibility studies to test the adaptability of the scheme to the locality.

To facilitate the exploitation of peasant farmers, the commodity marketing Boards were established in 1946. In theory, the boards originally were to guarantee stable seasonal crop prices to farmers, guarantee stable income to farmers and use the funds to improve the living conditions of the producers. They were forbidden by law to improve the non-export crop producing sector (Carney. 1960). But in practice, the boards paid farmers persistently low fixed rates even in those years when world prices were rising. For instance in 1946, the boards paid only N33.5 for a ton of palm oil and sold it for N190 at a gross profit of 488 percent. Groundnuts which received only N30 per ton when bought by the boards were later

sold in Britain at N220 per ton a gross profit of about 633 percent. The accumulated surplus were mostly repatriated to the metropolis while the remaining was reinvested in the urban centers to the utter neglect of the rural areas where these cash crops were produced. The rural areas were particularly denied social services that areas essential for rural development, while the bulk of social services went to the cities where the British administrators and experts lived. (Rodney 1972).

There is no doubt that the “Ten-Year Development and Welfare programme” made an insignificant impact on grassroots development in Colonial Nigeria. Its execution was half spirited. Its general impact on the fundamental problem of under development was minimal and unsystematic (Aboyade 1966). The 1955-60 plan emphasized increase in agricultural and industrial production so as to bring about a steady rise in income and standard of living. A total of N456.78 million was budgeted.

A critical analysis of the plan reveals that although there was an increase in the amount allocated to primary production than in the first plan from 6.976m or 6.5 percent in the 1946-56 plan to 31.616 or 11 percent in the 1955-60 plan, the later amount is still very meager to make any meaningful impact on the life of the rural dwellers. Worst still, as in the previous plan, actual expenditure on the primary sector fell short of planned expenditure. For example, in the then Western Region, there was an under-spending of 48.9 percent in the primary sector even though very little was allocated to it. (Government of Western Nigeria, 1961).

Although the various regional governments took steps to increase agricultural production particularly of cash crops, most of the agricultural projects like the farm settlement schemes in the Western and Eastern Nigeria were subjected to political pressures and made little impact on the standard of the rural inhabitants. (Olatunbosun, 1975).

In conclusion, the colonial government did little to improve the lot of Nigerian rural dwellers. As rightly pointed out by Birnberg and Resnick (1973):

Colonial Policy was clearly biased towards the promotion of exports rather than indigenous manufacturing and the resulting decline of traditional industry associated with the pre-colonial agrarian society was replaced by the expansion of and reliance on imported manufactures (p. 303).

2.13 Planning and Rural Development in Post-Colonial Nigeria

i. The First National Development Plan 1962-68

The first development plan in post-colonial Nigeria emerged with the National Development Plan 1962-68. The main goals of the plan were to raise the rate of economic growth and to increase the standard of living of the people who were to have an increasing control of the national's economy. (Olatunbosun,1975). The character of the plan made it essentially a continuation of the colonial development policy in Nigeria, for the substance of the economic policy implicit in the plan did not differ significantly from the previous policy of the colonial masters. In summary, the First National Development Plan just like its colonial predecessors made little impact on rural development.

Although transport and communication was allocated the highest vote in the plan, the spread of transportation and communication network during the colonial era shows their economic motives. Thus road and railway network were designed to link the cash crop producing areas and the administrative headquarters and not necessarily to facilitate transportation and communication among Nigerians especially the rural inhabitants.

Commenting on the weaknesses of the early planning efforts in Nigeria, the 1962-68 plan document states... "little provision was made for industrial development whilst in the agricultural sector attention was concentrated on a limited range of export crops" (National Development Plan 1962-68). The maintenance of law and order necessary for effecting the exploitation of the country was vigorously pursued by the British. As Kasselmann (1973) puts it.

Instead of what is the good society and how it can be achieve? The question becomes, what is the stable society? Order is not considered a pre-requisite for achieving the highest...good (p..191).

Therefore, before the start of the civil war, in July 1967, rural poverty existed alongside prevailing urban affluence, it is important to mention that about half of the total fund for financing this plan was expected to come from external sources. This reinforced the domination of the economy by foreign private concerns. In this plan, rural development was never included as a plan category.

ii. The Second National Development Plan 1970-74

The 1970-74 plan just like the previous plans did not introduce an integrated rural development programme. But perhaps, a major weakness of this plan just like the previous plans was its implicit assumption that agricultural development and rural development were synonymous.

Out of the total amount budgeted for the plan; a meager amount was allocated to programmes or projects that could have improved the lots of the rural inhabitants. For example, only 12.9% was allocated to primary production (a decrease of about 0.5% compared with the preceding plan 1962-68) 5% to rural and urban water supply, and 12 percent to labour and Social Welfare (second national Development Plan, Ibid).

Although the second National Development Plan attached much importance to growth for the purpose of achieving “a just and egalitarian society” (second National Development Plan. 1970) one could have thought that equitable distribution of the “national cake” could be as important to the authorities as the growth of the cake (Olatunbosun & Olajide, 1971). Unfortunately, the authorities seem to be more interested in the bright picture painted by the high rate of growth, which conceal the gloomy picture in the rural areas.

The failure of the 1970-74 plan to pay adequate attention to education, social amenities and job opportunities in the rural areas is a further proof of the continuation of the dichotomy between the rural and urban areas by the government.

iii The Third National Development Plan 1975-80

Unlike the previous National Development Plans, the Third National Development Plan outlined ambitious programmes of rural development for Nigeria. One of the objectives of the plan is balanced development. An aspect of this balanced development is the relative development of the rural and urban areas.

As the plan remarks:

In the past, the rural areas have lagged behind the urban areas in development resulting in increasing disparity between standard of living in the rural and urban areas and in mass migration of population from the former to the latter. The present plan aims at checking this movement by especially promoting the development of the rural areas. (Third National Development Plan, 1975, p.23).

An important achievement of this plan is that for the first time, regional development was recognized as a special plan category. Unfortunately, the pattern of fund allocation to the various sectors did not differ markedly from the previous plans. Only 10.6% of the total capital expenditure by all the governments was spent on the Regional Development out of which community development got only 0.6%. also 2.0% was spent on the health sector (Third National Development Plan 1975). As in the previous plans, transport and communication received the highest amount of expenditure. It is important to mention that in spite of such huge amount spent on transport most rural areas remain in accessible, while dual-carriage roads and airports spring up in the urban centers.

Agriculture received about 3.3% of the total expenditure. There are two investment strategies here-assistance to private farmers in the form of subsidized inputs, the provision of credit and monetary incentives for example, the establishment of the Nigerian Agricultural and Cooperative Bank (NACB); and the offering of support services such as seed multiplication programmes. Agricultural mechanization schemes with tractor hiring services in states.

The second investment strategy of the government as contained in the plan included execution of the National Accelerated Food Production Scheme, the setting up of the National Grains and Root Crop Production companies, the setting up of five rural integrated agricultural projects in Gombe (Bauchi state) Gusua (Sokoto State), Funtua (Kaduna State) Ayangba (Kogi State) and Lafiu (Plateau State). All the mentioned ambitious agricultural programmes did not make any reasonable impact on the life of the rural farmers.

iv The Fourth National Development Plan 1981-85

The Fourth National Development Plan, (1981-85), just like its predecessors, was committed to rural development. As the plan puts it:

Government is committed to social transformation in the rural sector in order to give farmers a sense of belonging and pride in their occupation... During the plan period, the Federal Government through the Federal Department of Cooperative will give boost to the formation of agricultural cooperatives throughout the county. In addition to promoting agricultural production, efforts will be made to improve social amenities in the rural areas through the provision of feeder roads, water supply, storage facilities, et cetera (Fourth National Development Plan 1981 p. 56).

Under the Fourth National Development Plan emphasis was placed on agricultural transformation as a necessary strategy for hastening the development of the rural areas so as to stem the drift of population from rural to urban areas. To achieve this objective, the plan talked about the evolution of appropriate institutional and administrative apparatus to facilitate the rapid development of the country's agricultural potential.

Apart from encouraging the further extension of the Agricultural Development Programme (ADP) which is a World Bank Assisted Programme to other states, the government also planned to establish a concurrent small-holder programme – the Accelerated Development Areas Programme (ADA) in areas not yet encompassed by the ADPs (Fourth National Development Plan 1981). The ADP and ADA programmes which would be jointly implemented by the Federal, State and Local government would contribute 422.830 million, while the World Bank and State governments would contribute the rest.

The ADP was to combine agricultural production with the provision of economic and social infrastructure such as roads, schools, hospitals, housing etc; while the ADA was to construct feeder roads and lay the foundation for the take off of the ADP in the states that have not benefited from it.

At the end of the plan period, food imports and bill had skyrocketed. Furthermore, “The impact of the ADPs in the rural areas was agricultural production as the programme did not embrace the provision of socio-economic infrastructures that would enhance the quality of life in the rural area” (Fourth National Plan, 1980).

To sum it up, the agricultural programmes of the Fourth National Development Plan, which were aimed at ensuring rural development, were dismal failures. The provision of social amenities as envisaged in the plan did not materialize and this was a major reason for the establishment of the now dissolved Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure. Therefore, the Fourth National Development Plan did not achieve much as far as rural development is concerned.

v. The First National Rolling Plan 1990-92

During this period, government rural development policies and objectives were geared towards the provision of necessary infrastructures that will improve the quality of rural life, enhance the transformation of agricultural production and promote the growth of other rural based economic activities (First National Rolling Plan, 1990). The Rural Development Policy objectives during this period include;

i. Improvement of the quality of life in the rural areas with a view to stemming and possibly reversing, the tide of rural-urban migration; (ii) Promotion of a more equitable distribution of income between the urban and the rural areas, through the creation of suitable environment for greater investment in the rural areas; and (iii) Promotion of orderly and sustained development of the vast resources of the rural sector through greater public and private sector initiatives in the development of both economic and social infrastructures in the rural areas.

The DFRRRI became a key institutional agency with statutory responsibility for rural development. In recognition of the importance of its responsibilities a total sum of N936m was embarked for the agency to implement its various programmes during this plan period. The Federal Government also planned to integrate relevant activities of ADPs (e.g those that are focused on the generation of Food and Fibre Surpluses) with the programmes of DFRRRI and the River Basin Development Authorities with a view to reducing duplication of efforts and focusing more sharply on the amelioration of the problems of the rural sector (First National Rolling Plan 1990).

The importance of the role of women in national development was recognized and emphasized by the government. Thus the 'Better Life for Rural Women's Programme which became (Family Support Programme) which aimed at mobilizing the rural women for greater involvement in development activities was vigorously pursued during the plan period.

Therefore, in line with the priorities and strategies of the plan, the greatest priority was accorded to the agriculture and rural development sector with an allocation of N9.239 billion or 19.24 percent of the entire programmes of Federal, State and Local governments. Other priority sectors included Transport, Education and Water supply with about 12.6%, 9.55% and 8.13% of the entire programme respectively. Despite the ambitious rural development programmes of the Federal Government during this plan period, no significant change for better has taken place in our rural areas. Like their predecessors, the rural

development programmes initiated under the “First National Rolling Plan; were conceived and hatched out of the context of the prevailing ideology and strategy of rural development in Nigeria which is urban-oriented.

The rural economy is only considered important in the development scheme of things so long as it continues to service the urban economy without which the metropolitan centers can neither operate in the country nor exploit its resources. Thus, the urban elite bias of the colonial economy with its attendant rural depopulation and urban population explosion has thus been intensified in the post-colonial Nigeria. Olatubosun (1975) called them Nigeria’s neglected rural majority. The rural sector of Nigeria cannot be developed as long as we remain with the capitalist system and as long as we perpetuate the present development strategy Ezeami (1989).

2.14 Concept of Poverty

The World Bank (2001) reports that 8.4 million of the 10 million extremely poor persons in Nigeria, live in the rural areas and as a result wants economies and populations to embark on programme like Poverty Alleviation- Eradication of Poverty which is considered an ethical social, political and economic imperative of human kind.

i. What is Poverty?

Poverty is a multi-dimensional phenomenon. One has to experience it personally. Thus individuals and organizations informed by different understanding of development have different definitions and description of the concept of poverty.

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary (2010) defines poverty as a state of want of the necessities of life. The conceptualization of poverty from this perspective is economic.

Yusuf (2000) sees poverty from the absolute and relative perspectives. To him, absolute poverty deals with the viability to provide one’s material requirements defined in terms of minimum subsistence level of income. Relative poverty deals with each person in relation to other people in the society. He defined poverty as the state of being in which individuals and groups lack basic necessities of life and are less privileged than other members of the societies.

Preece (2006) described poverty as encompassing inability to satisfy basic needs, lack of control over resources, lack of education and skills, poor health, malnutrition, lack of

shelter, poor access to water and sanitation, vulnerability to shocks, violence and crime, lack of political freedom and voice.

Ekong (2003) sees poverty as not only an expression of life condition, but a state of mind and a perception of self in the complex web of social relations. According to him, economists tend to view poverty as a distance on a continuum towards zero purchasing power while its polar opposite affluence, is a distance on the same continuum towards full purchasing power. This conception of poverty in terms of purchasing power is useful when considering “who is able to get what” in the society.

In conclusion therefore, poverty can be defined in terms of those who are denied the minimal levels of health, housing food water, clothing, medical care, literacy and so on.

Causes of Poverty

Societal and Environmental

The World Bank (2001) gave a summary of the break down of causes of poverty in respect of the societal causes as follows:

- i. Inadequate access to employment opportunities
- ii. Inadequate physical assets such as land and capital and minimal access by the poor to credit even on a small scale.
- iii. Inadequate access to the means of supporting rural development in poor regions
- iv. Inadequate access to markets where the poor can sell goods and services
- v. Low endowment of human capital
- vi. Destruction of natural resources leading to environmental degradation and reduce productivity.
- vii. Inadequate access to assistance to those living at the margin and those victimized by transitory poverty and
- viii. Lack of participation, failure to draw the poor into the design of development programmes.

Margaret (1990) commenting on the destruction of natural resources maintained that over use or misuse of resources including land; forest and water decrease prospects for food, security and hence environmental conditions have direct impact on low income people. Poor people in the rural areas that are denied the use of land and livelihood, are being forced into the forests and into unsustainable use of forest resources.

Meht, (1990) in his own contribution maintained that deforestation was strongly linked to poverty. It is the poor who need new farm land, who use most of the firewood, who depend on forest resources for their livelihood.

Dutta, (1992) in a similar vein, examined why the poor had not yet benefited from various rural development schemes and he therefore maintained that this had primarily been the result of their having remained too passive, disorganized and suppressed to struggle for their rights and benefits. Economic activities of the poor have little chance of becoming self-sustaining unless total economic environment is radically altered (Dutta, 1992).

Power, (1992) in support of the above submission stressed that cultural and traditional obstacles had gone a long way in contributing to the level of poverty in which women had found themselves. The poor rural people are particularly vulnerable to many forms of environmental deterioration, partly because they are forced into over power and more fragile areas and partly because they lack the means to bid for increasingly scarce resources such as fuel and water.

Preece (2006), identified the most common causes of poverty as capitalism and exploitation of resources including labour, national debt, war and conflict, gender inequality, literacy levels environmental degradation poor human right, unequal markets, migration, HIV/AIDS and poor governance and leadership.

Oyebamiji and Adekola (2008) classified the causes of poverty as political, economic such as low income and unemployment, biological such as physical and mental disabilities and health matters natural disasters such as draught, flood and pest invasion, inadequate policy implementation and illiteracy. No matter the dimension from which poverty is contacted, it places its victims at a disadvantaged position, frustrated, confused and fatalistic.

iii **Indicators of Poverty**

The World Bank report (2002) on poverty assessment gave the following as symptoms and indicators of the community perceptions of poverty, physical access symptoms; agricultural symptoms nutritional symptoms, socio and economic access symptoms and visible poverty symptoms.

Logan, (1991) in his own contribution maintained that over population and the population pressures that have manifested themselves recently in Africa represent symptoms or indicators of poverty rather than causes of poverty.

Rejuladevi (1992) in his own contribution pointed out that Regional factors, caste and the economic status of the household, act as powerful determinants of rural household strategies for the deployment of female labour. In addition, the increasing labour force participation of rural people might be a sign of deepening poverty which has forced them into labour market as a survival strategy.

iv **Poverty Alleviation in Nigeria**

Poverty alleviation refers to the lifting of the poor out of poverty. The excruciating effect of poverty has always been felt in Nigeria and the need to eradicate the affliction to ensure the necessary synergy between and economic prosperity has always been a great issue.

Poverty alleviation is in the main a task for economic policy and requires some anti-poverty programmes directed at the poor. In Nigeria, development policy has had three fundamental objectives namely (a) economic growth and development (b) price stability (c) social equity. These objectives were to be achieved through national development plans which were designed to alleviate poverty by achieving an improvement in the real income of the average citizen, equitable distribution of income and the reduction in the level of unemployment and under employment.

The anti-poverty projects of the Federal Government are targeted at the rural and urban poor, with emphasis on women and the unemployed youths. Interventions introduced were in the form of the provision of the basic infrastructure; enhance rural development, provision of credit facilities to improve the lot of the rural women and the under-privileged, the encouragement of micro-enterprises in the cities and training programmes for the unemployed youths.

Some of these poverty alleviation programmes by the Federal Government of Nigeria are:

- i. National Directorate of Employment (NDE)
- ii. Better Life Programme (BLP)
- iii. Community Banks (CB)
- iv. Family Support Programme (FSP)
- v. Family Economic Advancement Programme (FEAP)
- vi. Poverty Alleviation Programme

Since events had taken over all these programmes we shall only deal with Poverty Alleviation Programme in Nigeria.

Poverty Alleviation Programme (PAP)

The Federal Government within the first few days of the year, 2000, announced the scrapping of most of the institutions originally conceived and established as organs to facilitate the poverty alleviation programmes of past administrations, a task which they mostly perceived ill-equipped to execute.

Among those institutions scrapped are; the Family Economic Advancement Programme initiated by Mrs. Mariam Abacha. The National Agricultural Development Authority (NALDA), Federal Agricultural Coordinating Unit FACU and others. The last to fall was the Peoples Bank which was reported on the 11th January 2000, by the Guardian Newspaper to have been quietly scrapped by the government.

In place of these and in furtherance of its plan to tackle problem of poverty on the country, the Obasanjo's Federal Government announced its plans to present the National Assembly, with a provision for ten billion naira, sourced from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to fund job creating schemes. This as the government announced, would facilitate by way of public works, a scheme expected to create employment opportunities for at least Two hundred thousand persons (200,000). Under the scheme, it was expected that the rural electrification would increase from the current 30% to 50% by the year 2003. The period was expected to witness small scale industrial development to bulwark the poverty alleviation drive.

At its meeting of 4th January 2000, the Federal Executive Council approved the establishment of the "National Poverty Eradication Council (NAPEC), to formulate policy and coordinate activities of all poverty eradication programmes and initiatives. NAPEC was to establish the legislative and constitutional framework for successful implementation of these programmes. As an apex body, NAPEC was established for the policy formation coordination and monitoring and reviewing of all poverty eradication efforts and activities within the country.

Mr. President chaired the council and the Vice President, the Vice Chairman. The Secretary to the Federal Government of the federation was the secretary while 14 honourable ministers were members, with nine agencies. With all the machineries set, the poverty

Alleviation programmes was launched on Monday February 12, 2000. It was to employ two hundred thousand Nigerians. Each of the Nigerian employed were to receive an annual salary of (42,600) forty-two thousand six hundred Naira. It consisted of four schemes, namely; Youth Empowerment Scheme; Rural Infrastructural Development Scheme, (RIDS). Social Welfare Service Scheme, (SOWLSS). National Resource Development and Conservation Scheme (CS). Those recruited would be trained to ensure efficiency on their jobs to earn Three thousand five hundred naira monthly. The scheme would go to the grassroots. Ten billion Naira as earlier discussed was set aside by Obasanjo's administration for the take off of these programmes. This was to stimulate economic growth, reduce social vices and tension and engage the unemployed directly in labour based activities.

Each state according to the programme, was to engage five thousand workers and the beneficiaries of the programmes according to Women Affairs and Youth Development minister then, Hajiya Aisha Ismail in her address of 14th February 2002, would be referred to as Poverty Alleviation Programme Participants (PAPP). "Their engagement shall not be through the conventional approach of the appointment into service, neither would they enjoy the regular conditions of services as obtained in the public sector."

Failures in Poverty Alleviation Programmes

There are several causes of the failures of poverty alleviation policy in Nigeria. The causes are divided into two broad categories namely; the causes associated with policy design and implementation and causes associated with policy acceptability. Factors that relate and have bearing on these causes include, misunderstanding of the policies made for the people by the policy makers, misplaced priorities, favouritism and benefit capture which brings contempt for the policies.

When policy makers do not know the people they make the policies for, they are bound to misplace priorities. They may for example, recommend a healthy centre for a community where illness is prevalent, that only needed drinking water to stay healthy. Policy prescription like these are what is referred to as solution- a situation where instant solutions are prescribed to treat the perceived symptoms of a problem, without considering the root causes of the problem. Another important cause of policy neutrality in this area, is "benefit capture" which depicts a scenario where benefits that should have accrued to the end user or

beneficiary of designed projects are “captured” away at every stage of the project’s development.

Benefit Capture

Benefit capture means the illegal diversion or legal misappropriation of benefits (financial and otherwise) meant for a certain people, or group, for which such benefits were meant, see little or nothing of such benefits. As a result, the target group are frustrated and discouraged.

The good intentions of the government are transferred in form of benefits to the organizing ministry responsible for implementing such activities. Before the benefits are sent from the Federal ministry to the states, some parts of the benefits are captured either by the way of servicing transactions, or are used to lobby ministry staff responsible for immediate transfer of such benefit to the states. When the benefits reach the states, the states’ executive councils will deliberate on the benefits, appoint executing ministry, parastatals and programme. At this level, the greater part of the benefits will be captured to service transactions and to lobby for quick release of such benefits by the states. The benefits which are now reducing, are transferred to the programme managers and executors. In order to successfully execute the programmes for which the benefits are meant in the rural communities, the local government must be contacted. At the local government stage, the executive council will want to be lobbied.

Also, the organizing department will demand certain benefits to introduce programme implementers in the rural communities. The programme implementers and the organizing department of the local government may not be able to enter the rural communities until they are permitted by the chief’s council. The elites in the communities, who must be contacted, will be lobbied with part of the benefits which are meant for the rural community members. At all the stages of benefit movement also, there will be advanced fee fraudsters and contractors tapping these benefits through fraudulent ways. At the end, the benefit left for the community members will be very meager, meaningless and too small for any investment. The poor rural community members seeing this, as government reward for their cooperation (for example if they had given out their land to government), will be discontented and resentful to government. These feelings will discourage them from participating in these

government projects and they are also likely to resist any attempt to mobilize them to participate.

With the “Benefit capture model, any benefit embarked by government for the rural people which has to travel through this route, may eventually not get to the people. Though there was great improvement as a result of all poverty alleviation schemes, especially, with the present government, according to the representative of World Bank in the NTA, Network News at 9.25 pm of the 4th of July 2002, the government still has a lot to do because most youth trained have not been employed due to the fall in external reserves of the nation.

vi Proffered Solution to the Poverty Alleviation Schemes

The policies for achieving the objectives and developmental strategies of all poverty alleviation programmes by the government discussed so far, should include among others, greater deregulation of the economy, a liberalized foreign exchange market targeted at attaining naira convertibility, an independent central bank to ensure monetary stability by creating money only for the purposes of real production and not for financing public deficits. Government should try to maintain consistency in policy over time, particularly in the area of a balanced budget and responsible fiscal behaviour restricting its borrowing to the private sector. On the external front, borrowing for social projects should be limited to loans on low interest rates while other external borrowing should be embarked upon only if the internal rate of return exceeds the interest rate in dollar terms. As the rural economy is strongly linked to the urban economy, the income policy should be reviewed regularly to accommodate rising cost of living to ensure adequate purchasing power for workers to maintain a sustainable standard of living.

For efforts at poverty alleviation to succeed, there is need to improve and strengthen institutional capacity for plan formulation implementation, monitoring and evaluation. There must also be transparency and accountability, inter-governmental coordination and improved capacities for planning, budgeting and monitoring.

There has been no cost-effectiveness in the deployment of past huge investment resources, because of deficiencies in the institutional capacities responsible for overlapping the multiplication of effort and lack of transparency and accountability. There is need to streamline rationalize and sanitize these institutions for effective elimination of poverty. The World Bank (2002).

2.15 Theoretical Framework

This section presents a review on the theoretical framework of the study, stressing on one major theory relevant to the study.

In this study,

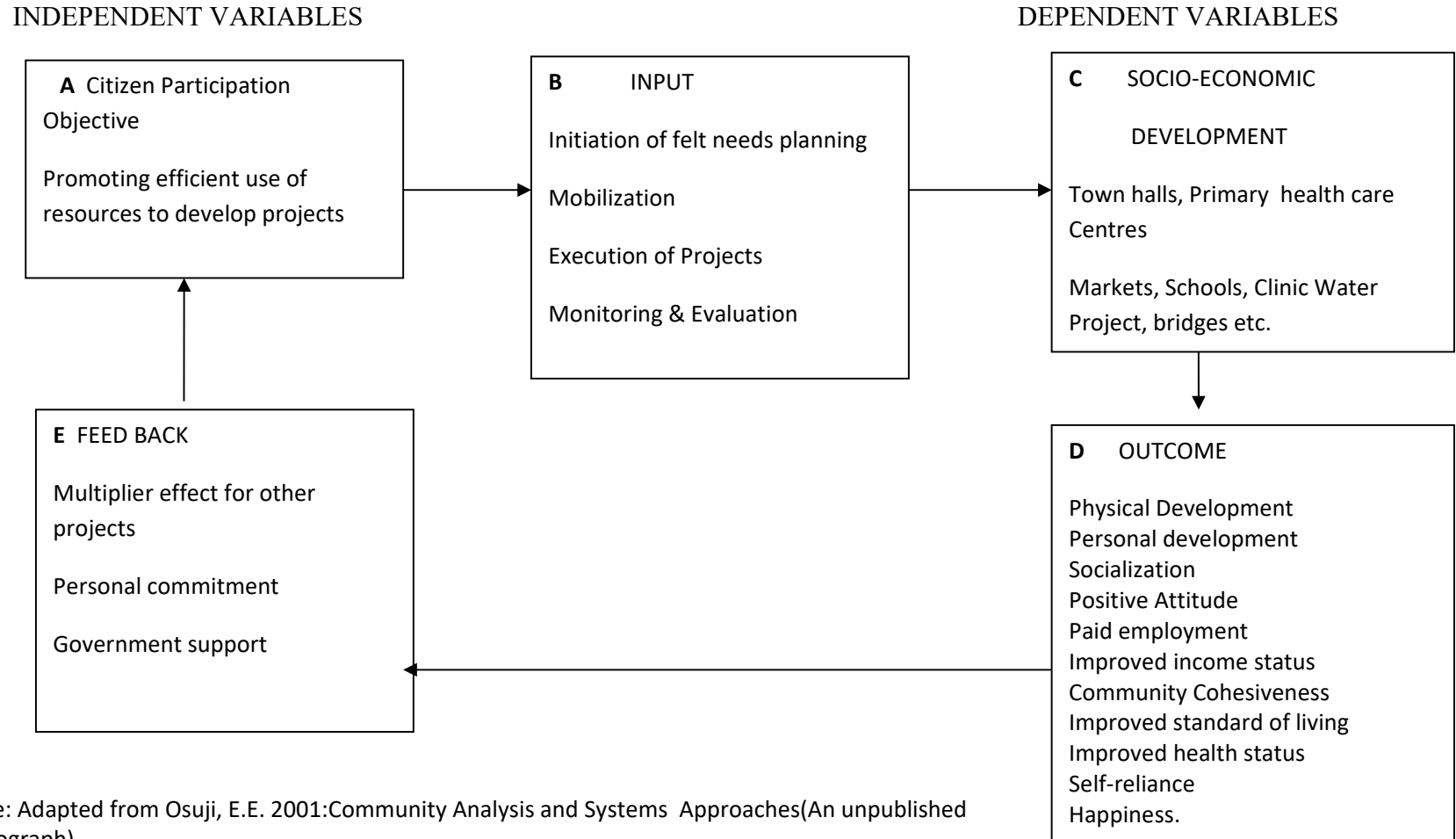
- i. Integrated theory Model was examined
- ii. Conceptual Framework.

2.15.1 Integrated Theory Models

Integrated Theory in this study means being involved in any affair that will really be of benefit to the people in the community in the areas of study. This is perhaps the recent community development strategy, which has been adopted by developing countries including Nigeria, with varying degrees of success (Machooka, 1984). Its strength lies in the integrated approach that takes into account all the aspects of rural life and promotes an effective link to urban community (Lele and Adu-Nyako, 1991). Along this line, Ayichi (1995) further posits that this approach aimed at not just increasing the contribution to the rural sector to the Gross National Product GNP, but also attempted to enthrone equality in distribution of gains and increased productivity between the urban and rural dwellers. Machooka (1984) saw it as an approach that facilitates and encourages integration of the people in the planning, management and implementation of development programmes. Anyanwu (1992) saw it as a process that manifest in the comprehensive and co-coordinated mobilization of persons, agencies and material resources in programmes (projects) that are designed to improve the economic, social and cultural conditions of communities. In other words, this approach encourages people's involvement in decisions that affect their lives in planning and implementing programmes which not only help them to improve their living conditions, but also offer them the opportunity to make contributions to national development.

Abasiengo, quoting Osuji (2001) emphasized that the integrated community approach is like a system unit having system parts which are all functionally integrated. If properly managed the integrated strategy encourages sustainable development. The integrated approach demands the active involvement of the development agencies in the development process. Of the theories, the most relevant to this study is the integrated theory model.

Fig. 2.1 CONCEPTUAL MODEL FOR CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN SELF-HELP PROJECTS IMPLEMENTATION AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Source: Adapted from Osuji, E.E. 2001:Community Analysis and Systems Approaches(An unpublished Mimeograph).

The conceptual theory model was derived from the integrated theory as discussed. Self-help projects implementation involves the active participation of the people in the communities in the programmes that affects their well being. This is done through identifying their needs and motivating them to meet those needs.

2.16 Explanation of the Study model

Independent variables- The independent box A variables are the categories of citizen who participated in self-help projects implementation.

The Input box B - The input box B in this model has to do with the process of using all the components of citizen participation Vis-a-vis, identification of felt needs, planning, mobilization execution of projects and monitoring and evaluation in self-help projects implementation.

The dependent variables in the frame work are the socio-economic development such as social infrastructure like town halls, community courts, primary health centres, community schools bridges, water projects and economic development such as paid employment.

The Output The output which is box D has to do with the influence of the various Self-help Projects on the communities and the people e.g physical development, personal development, social interaction/socialization.

Positive attitude

Provision paid employment

Improved health status

Improved standard of living

Community cohesiveness

Self-reliance

Happiness.

The Feedback- This is the multiplier effect for other new projects.

The model is made up of five components. These components function in accordance with the potency of each component. The block arrows in the model indicates a feed forward mechanism which depends on continuous interaction between the components.

In Self-help projects implementation, the personal characteristics of the community members such as age, sex, marital status occupation, the community groups, and the people expectations are very important. Therefore, the community leaders or the initiators of any

Self-help programme have to dialogue with the people through their various groups to intimate them of the programmes. In other words, the people are carried along from implementation to completion.

The implication of this is that, when the initiators of self-help projects plan with the members of the communities through adoption, negotiation and collaborative styles successful results will be achieved. This will lead to social development and economic development as earlier discussed in the output.

From the above discussion, it can be inferred that citizen participation in Self-help projects implementation, through integrated approach, facilitates and encourages people in the planning, management and implementation of the programmes. This corroborates Machooka (1984) assertion.

2.17 Empirical Studies in Self-help Projects Implementation on Socio-economic Development

As mentioned earlier in this section, not much has been done to assess the effect of self-help projects implementation and socio-economic development in the selected communities in Oyo and Delta States. But some findings in other states by other researchers on self-help projects are worth mentioning.

In Akinyemi (1990), one of the major findings of the study was that adequate government assistance would encourage greater participation in community development. Michael and Evans had both called for increased and active government involvement in community development. They asserted that a more dynamic rather than spasmodic support should be given to every community undertaking communal projects.

Another motivating factor, that could promote participation which was revealed by his study, was the need for cooperation rather than competition. The study revealed that many people would cooperate fully, in undertaking community development programmes, if they are highly motivated.

As for what constituted the most important needs of the citizens in the state, basic needs like water, electricity, hospital and good roads were identified. But in identifying these needs, it was stressed that there should be adequate consultation with the people. Similar suggestions were made by Ekong and Sokoya in their write-ups. This was the practice Ekong

and Sokoya, believed should be the first step in community development scheme. The finding also revealed that need varies from community to community.

On benefits derivable from participation in community development, the following were identified: opportunity to secure continuing government's assistance, secure more aids from external donors, more employment opportunities, and improvement of status and protection of traditional customs. These findings agreed with the views expressed by Jackson that:

Engaging in community development could bring joy and enrich the life of the people materially and spiritually.

Odinigwe also stressed that:

The more a community gets involved in community development activities, the more they would receive government patronage and assistance.

On the basis of these views this study has called for a sustained interest in community development among members of the community. Another strong factor identified for promoting participation in community development was the role being played by the community leaders. Community leaders are "motivators" when it comes to participation in community development tasks. This fact was acknowledged by Griffin Enos and Eisenstadt (1978) who viewed leadership in community development as a vital link in community development process.

Coupled with the above realization, formation of groups and committees provides a vital element for realizing goals of participation in community development. As for the obstacles facing the successful implementation of community development programmes in the states studied, the following factors were identified; lack of finance, good leadership; personnel, lack of land, unity and cooperation among members of the community. Among these factors, lack of finance and capable leadership had a high response as the most crucial problems facing community development. The obstacles given above are those the Gestalt Psychologists say could produce a state of dis-equilibrium and thus lead to apathy and dislike for participation in community development.

In Egenti (2000) "The Influence of Citizen Participation in Self-help Project on the Welfare of People in Imo-State Nigeria, findings of the study showed that there was a

significant relationship between citizen's participation in self-help projects and welfare improvement of the people in Imo-State. The findings implied that the essence of self-help project is to foster socio-economic development of the communities. Also, participation of the citizen in self-help projects either in cash and kind, directly or indirectly is an indication of transformation in the rural areas when considering the impact that such self-help project could make on the part of the people vis-à-vis the entire community members. The findings of the study corroborated Anyanwu (1992). He contended that Self-help project as an aspect of community development serves as an indicator of development in all aspects of life of the people ranging from reduction of poverty, alleviation of infants death, provision of social amenities, such as water supply, electrification and agricultural development that has corresponding effects on the standard of living of the people. The findings of the study also indicated that citizen's participation in self-help project could lead to transformation of rural life.

Also, there was a finding that indicated that a strong relationship existed between citizens involvement at either planning, implementation and evaluation stage and effective participation for improved welfare of the people in Imo-State of Nigeria. The findings implied that citizen participation in planning for self-help projects, facilitated improved welfare of the people and that their participation in implementation vis-à-vis evaluation stage had led to effective participation of the citizen vis-à-vis the socio economic development in selected local government in Imo State. The implication of the findings showed that participation of the citizens in planning, implementation and evaluation of self-help projects had significantly influenced the level of the promotion of people welfare in selected Local Government Areas in Imo State of Nigeria.

The above assertions corroborated with the findings in this research, that there is a strong positive influence of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation on socio-economic development when the citizens are involved in the initiation of felt needs, planning, execution, mobilization and monitoring and evaluation of the projects. This also aligned with Rahman (1983), Sirilakas Grassroots participation in Philippines whose objective was simply that the rural poor should increasingly participate in development process. These were to develop participatory self-reliance organization engaging in collective

work for economic and social co-operation and to increase incomes and employment on sustainable and equal basis.

2.18 Appraisal of Literature Review and Theory

From all that have been discussed in the literatures and theories, it is a known fact that with all machineries laid down by government for community development, not much was achieved because of lack of awareness of the government programmes by the community dwellers. All national development programmes by the government to assist the people in the various communities were short-lived because of frequent changes in government and changes in programmes.

From the literature it can be deduced that. Man is the end of development which is therefore to be judged by what it does to him. He also feels at home with the process of development which he becomes the subject and not the object. Citizen participation is, clearly fundamental to the whole concept of community development. The success of community development programmes will depend on the extent to which there is awareness, motivation, delegation of initiative and decision-making, so that the people can decide to the maximum the extent possible on matters affecting themselves. Only in this way, can people develop a sense of self-reliance.

A review of the literature in this work indicated that the researcher used “Integrated Theory Model.” These were combined to form the conceptual framework of this study. The choice of this is informed on the premise that community dwellers need to psychologically motivate themselves to be able to be involved in any self-help projects introduced to them.

Maslow theory of motivation is also a good choice in this study because, it is concerned with full personal development and individual creativity. The motivational behavior of a person is always dominated not by his satisfaction, but by his unsatisfied wants desires or need. The citizens were involved because the projects met their desired and felt needs.

The choice of integrated theory model is justified in this research because the approach encourages people’s involvement in decisions that affects their lives, in planning and implementing programmes which not only help them to improve their living conditions but also offers them opportunity to contribute to national development.

On the conceptual framework the following concepts were examined because the concepts are relevant to the study. Citizen participation, self-help, felt needs and socio-economic development. The integrated theory model (ITM) was adopted from Osuji (2002) for this study.

2.19 Research Hypothesis

H₀₁ There will be no significant joint positive contribution of the independent variables: felt needs, planning, mobilization, execution, monitoring and evaluation of projects on socio economic development of communities in Delta and Oyo States.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

This chapter deals with the research methodology used for the study namely: the research design, study population, sample and sampling technique, instrument, validity and reliability of instruments and method of data analysis.

3.1 Research design

The descriptive survey research of ex-post facto was adopted for this study. The design was adopted because it helps in describing existing phenomena and also useful in comparing existing conditions with pre-determined criteria for evaluating effectiveness of project planning and implementation.

3.2 Population of the study

The target population of the study consisted of adult inhabitants of the four local Government areas used for the study. These include Sapele and Warri South Local government areas in Delta State and Egbeda and Ibadan North East local government areas in Oyo State. These were those who had participated or are participating in self-help projects in the areas of study.

3.3 Sample and Sampling Technique

The multistage sampling procedure was adopted in selecting the actual respondents that participated in this study. In stage one, the purposive sampling technique was used in selecting two local governments each from Delta and Oyo States. This comprised one rural and one urban local government area in the two states. In stage two, the purposive and stratified sampling technique was adopted in selecting four communities each in the four local government areas used for the study. These communities have high presence of completed self-help projects. In stage three, the quarter sampling technique was used in allocating one hundred and fifty respondents each to the sixteen selected communities. Finally, in stage four the simple random technique was used to select two thousand four hundred respondents for the study. Out of these, only one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two questionnaires were retrieved.

The communities selected in Delta State are Amupe, Elume, Ogorode, Ugboren in Sapele local government area and Ekurede, Okere, Omadina and Ubeji in Warri South. In Oyo State, the communities selected are Egbeda, Owobale, Kasumu in Egbeda local government area and Ayekaale, Agugu, Bashorun and Oke-ofa in Ibadan North East local government area. (see table 3.1 below).

Table 3.1 Sample Chosen for the study

STATE	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	COMMUNITIES	SAMPLED POPULATION
DELTA	SAPELE	Amupe	150
		Ogorode	150
		Elume	150
		Ugboren	150
	WARRI SOUTH	Ekurede	150
		Okere	150
		Omadino	150
		Ubeji	150
OYO	EGBEDA	Egbeda	150
		Kasumu	150
		Oegere	150
		Owobale	150
	IBADAN NORTH EAST	Agugu	150
		Ayekale	150
		Bashorun	150
		Okeofa	150
TOTAL			2,400

Source: Field Survey 2007

3.4 Research Instrument

The major research instruments used for collecting data was a set of questionnaires tagged Citizen Participation in Self-help projects implementation and scales (CPISHPIS) scale. This set of questionnaire was divided into four sections A B C & D. Section 'A' contained items that measured the demographic characteristics of the respondents. Section 'B' contained items that measured the awareness of the respondents, some were open ended and in others the respondents were required to answer Yes/No questions. Section C was drawn on five points rating scale of 'Strongly Disagree' SD 2, Dis-Agree (D)3 Undecided U (1) Strongly Agree (SA) 5 Agree (A) 4). This contained items that measured the components of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation in the two states. The fourth section D contained question items that measured the socio-economic development in the two states. The set of questionnaires contained fifty four question items.

3.5 Focus Group Discussion (FGD) & Key Informant Interviews (KII)

Focus Group Discussions (FGD) and Key Informant Interviews (KII) were organized for more qualitative and pertinent information that were not easily elicited with the questionnaires. These were discussions with a small number of respondents 6-9 under the guidance of a moderator on citizen participation in self-help projects implementation. This was good for sensitive issues. The guidelines used for this are:

- a. Awareness level of respondents on self-help projects implementation.
- b. Knowledge level of the community development officers on self-help projects implementation by the people in the selected communities.
- c. Social and economic benefits derived by the respondents through participation, in the various self-help projects implementation.
- d. Constraints to self-help projects implementation.

Table 3.2: Schedule of Visits

STATE	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	COMMUNITIES	Dates of Visits		Respondents number at visits	
			1 ST	2 ND	1 st VISIT	2 ND VISIT
DELT A	SAPELE	Amupe & Ogorode	3 rd Sept 2007	5 th Oct, 2007	8	6
		Elume & Ugboren	6 th Sept, 2007	8 th Oct, 2007	9	7
	WARRI SOUTH	Ekurede & Okere	10 th Sept, 2007	12 th Oct, 2007	9	8
		Omadino & Ubeji	14 th Sept, 2007	18 th Oct, 2007	9	8
OYO	EGBEDA	Egbeda, Kasumu	24 th Sept, 2007	8 th Nov, 2007	9	7
		Osegere, Owobale	26 th Sept, 2007	10 th Nov 2007	9	6
	IBADAN NORTH EAST	Ayekale Agugu	29 th Sept, 2007	16 th Nov, 2007	9	9
		Bashorun Okeofa.	30 th Sept, 2007	19 th Nov 2007	9	8

B KII

Key informant interviews were conducted in the four local government areas, to have a full qualitative result. These interviews were facilitated by a moderator and an observer. The key interviews were held with the community leaders, heads and community government workers.

3.6 Secondary Sources

Secondary sources are books, journals, newspapers, Radio, Television and periodicals.

3.7 Validity of the Instrument

In order to ascertain the content validity of the questionnaire, draft copies were given to experts in the Department of Adult Education as well as test experts from other departments of the University of Ibadan to correct. Based on their criticisms and suggestions on the items on the questionnaire, corrections were made. The researcher also adhered to the supervisor's advice. After all the amendments, the instrument was ascertained valid for data collection in the study area.

3.8 Reliability of Instrument

Reliability of an instrument is concerned with the extent to which such instrument is accurate, consistent stable and repeatable. The instrument reliability was sought through the use of test and re-test methods. This exercise was carried out through a pilot test on a group of respondents in one of the local governments which was not in the study area. After an interval of three weeks, another set of copies of the questionnaire containing the same items was administered to the same respondents. The responses of the first test 0.79. The responses of the first and second tests were subjected to correlation test using the Pearson Product Moment method from which a coefficient of 0.87 was obtained. These showed that the instrument was reliable.

3.9 Procedure for Administration of Instrument

The researcher, with the help of her research assistants distributed the questionnaires to the subjects in the selected communities in Oyo and Delta states: That is, members of the communities involved in the self-help projects and collection was done the same way. Effort was made to ensure that no individual collected or returned two copies of the questionnaires. This was to make the result of the research more reliable. The research assistants interpreted the questions to those subjects not literate in English Language, Yoruba and Urhobo languages. The information collected through the responses given by the subjects, were used to determine answers to the research questions/hypotheses examined in this study. Few oral interviews were also carried out in some communities and focus group discussion was also used.

3.10 Data Analysis

Descriptive and inferential statistics were employed in the data collected. Frequency counts and percentages were used for the analysis of demographic data while descriptive

statistics, Pearson's Moment Correlation, Multiple Regression, t-test and content analyses were used to answer and test the research questions raised and hypothesis tested at 0.05 alpha levels respectively.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

This chapter dealt specifically with, the analysis and discussion of the major findings based on the data collected from sampled respondents in Delta and Oyo States. The results obtained through the questionnaires administered were presented and discussed extensively.

The data collected were collated and analysed in order to answer the research questions and possibly test the hypothesis generated for the study. It also attempted to answer all the questions raised for the purpose of the study. Frequency counts and percentages were also made on the results of findings.

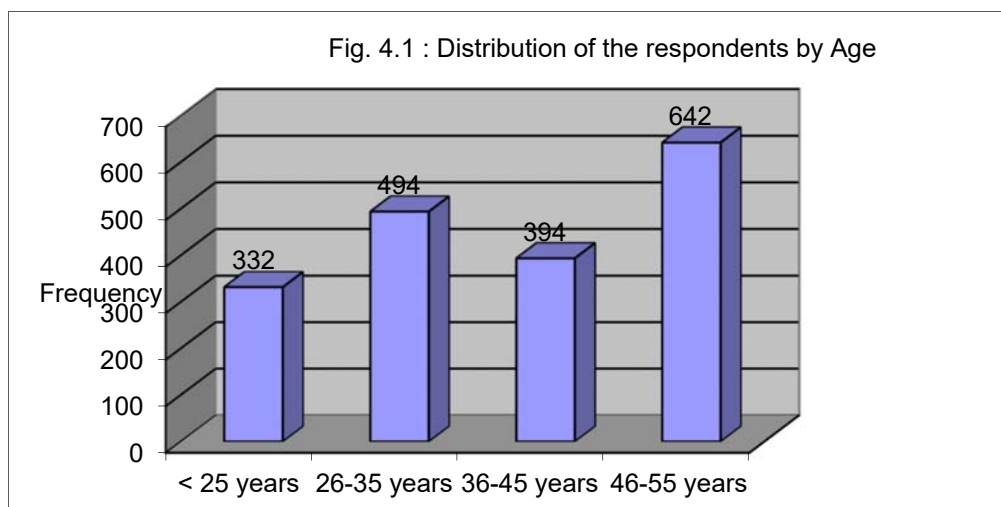
4.1 Research Question 1:

Which categories of citizens were most likely involved in self-help Project implementation in the study areas?

Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

The distribution of respondents by Age is one of the variables that had been established in participation in any programme. It determined the extent of the physical strength and also influenced involvement in many activities. Figure 4.1 below shows the age distribution of sampled respondents.

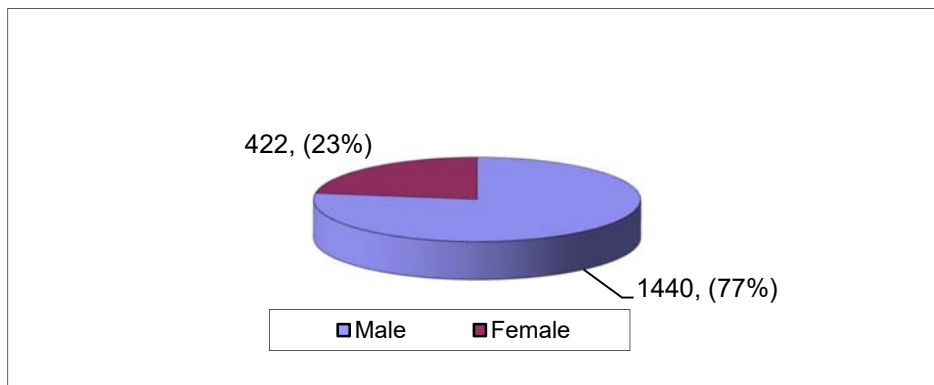
4.1: Bar Chart showing the distribution of the respondents by age



Source -Fieldwork Research Data 2007

The age distribution of the respondents was established as shown in Figure 4.1 above. Majority of the respondents were aged between 46-55 years (34.5%) and 26-35 years (26.7%) with a mean age of 41.8%. Figure 4.1 showed this distribution. Majority of the respondents (82.2%) were between the ages of 26 and 55 years. The major activities with reference to Self-help projects implementation strategies were being carried out by these groups of people. The findings showed that the youth and the adult participated meaningfully in self-help projects implementation in Delta and Oyo States. It could be inferred that the level of maturity coupled with their life experiences aided their effective participation that led to sustainable development in the selected communities. The figure also showed that none of the respondents was above fifty-five years. Also, the sex of the respondents was another variable used in citizen participation. This is shown in Figure 4.2 below:

Figure 4.2: : Pie Chart showing the distribution of the respondents by Sex



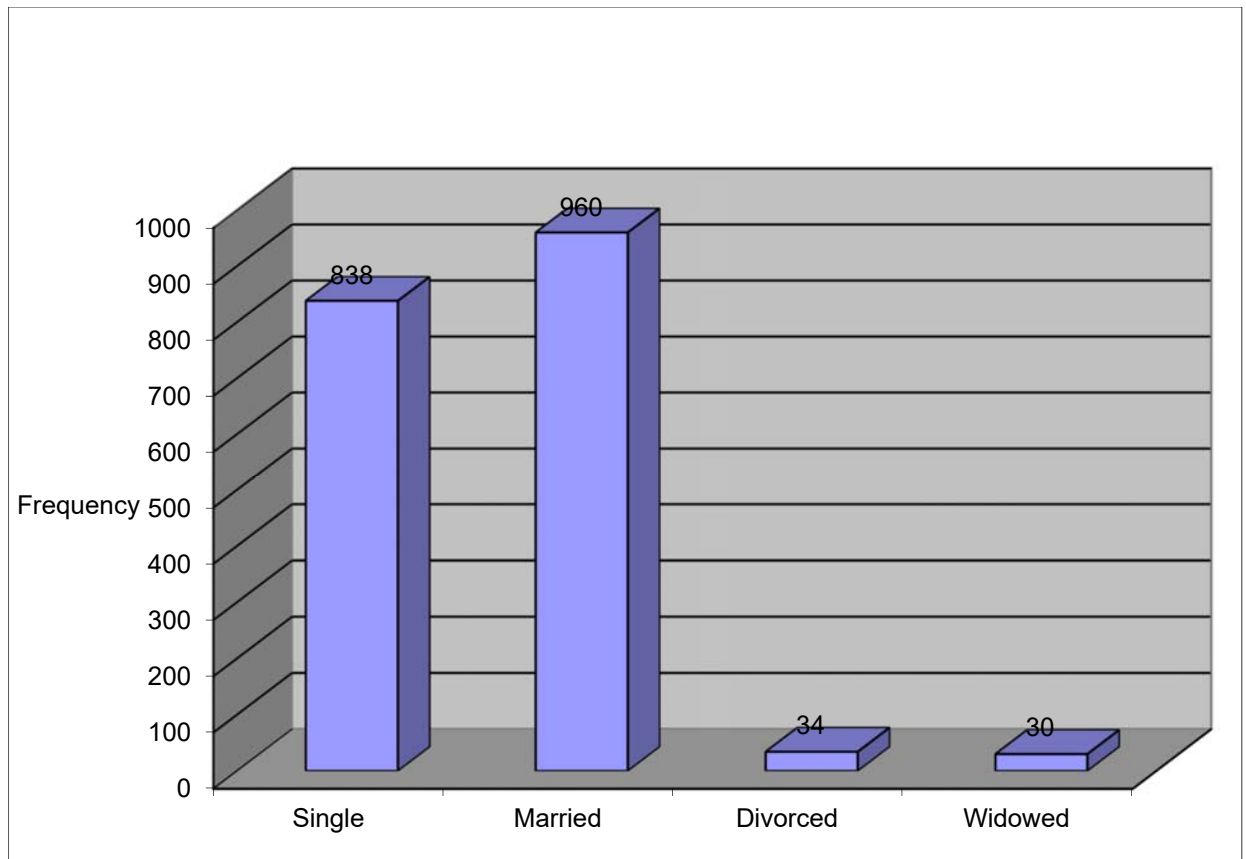
Source: Fieldwork Research Data 2007.

The sex of participants were established in the above table. The Figure showed that 77% percent of the respondents were males while 23% percent were females. This showed that the men were more involved but the women were not left out. This is due to the fact that the women may be at home taking care of the children and preparing food for the men.

In addition, the marital status of the respondents was established as a measure of citizen participation in Self-help projects implementation as shown in figure 4.3 below. We can deduce from the table below that majority (51.6 percent) of the respondents were

married. This is evidence that correlate with the age distribution already discussed. The over 50 percent respondents can be said to be independent. Singles 45 percent, divorced and widows were 1.8 percent and 1.6 percent respectively.

Figure 4.3: Bar Chart showing the distribution of the respondents by Marital Status

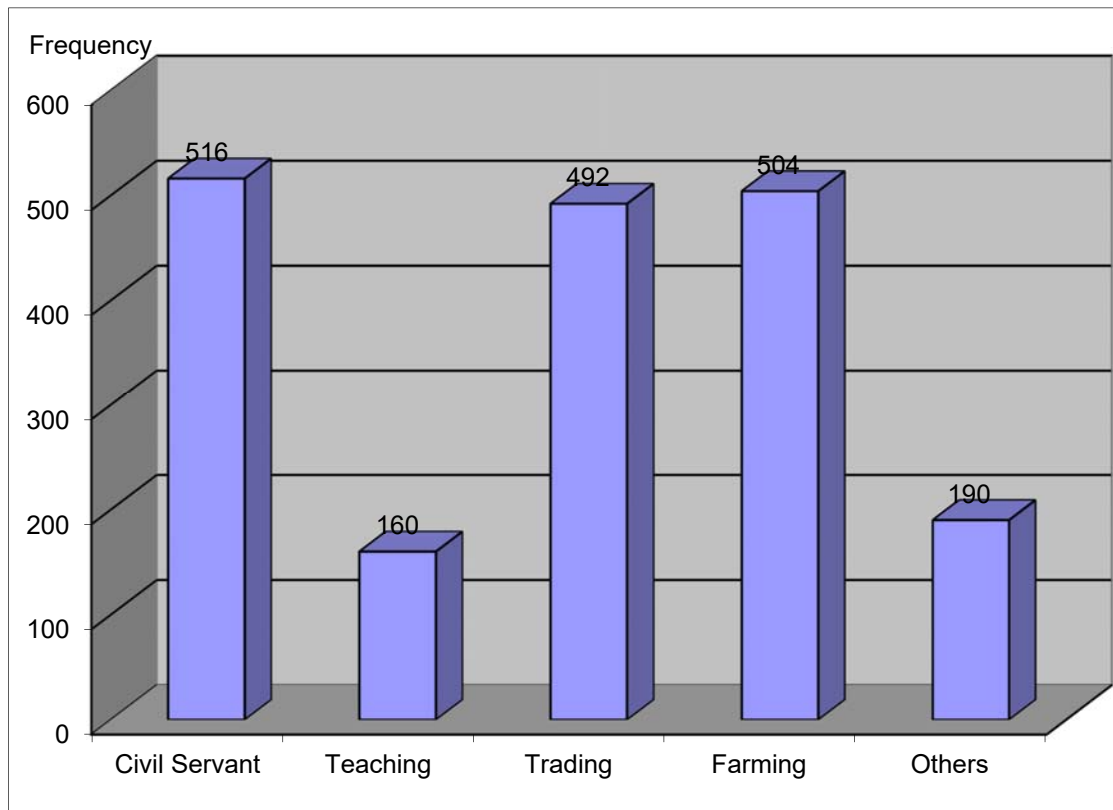


Source: Fieldwork Research Data, 2007.

Marital status was important because of its influence on decisions to take part in the self-help projects implementation. From the figure 4.3 above, the married and singles were more represented in the study because these two stages of life have lots of responsibilities. It also indicated that different categories of people engage in self-help projects implementation in the study areas.

Another fact that could determine citizen participation in self-help projects implementation is occupation. This is shown in Figure 4.4 below.

Figure 4.4: Bar Chart showing the distribution of respondents by their primary occupation

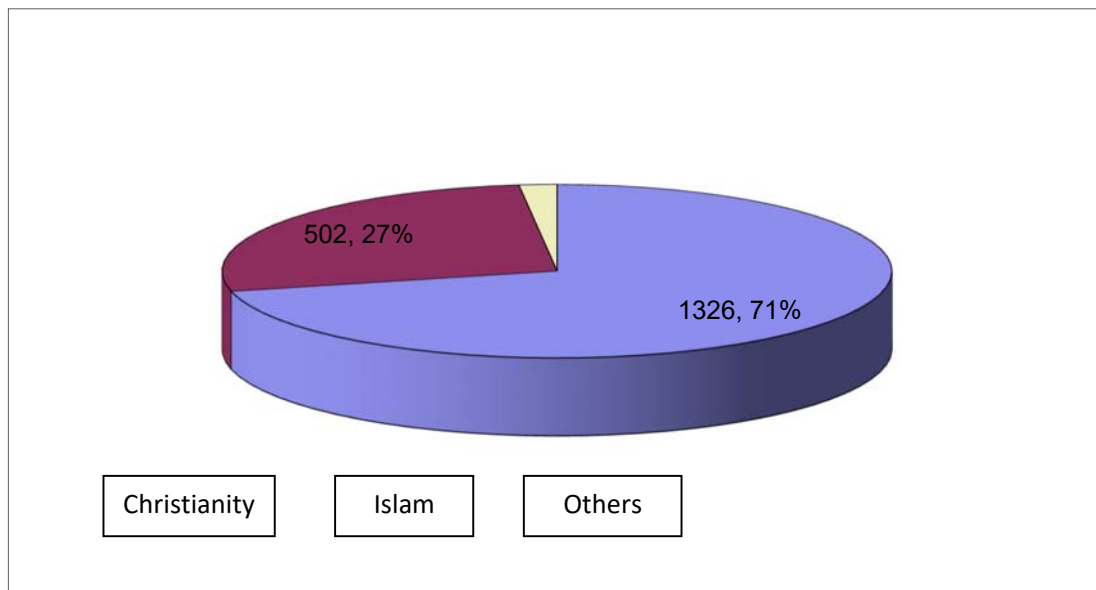


Source: Fieldwork Research Data, 2007.

Figure 4.4 above indicated that civil servants 27.7 percent, farming 27.1 percent and trading were the main sources of livelihood of majority of the sampled respondents. This indicated that they had limited income generating activities. They needed additional income generating activities that will make them more economically and socially buoyant, hence, their participation in Self-help projects implementation.

Religion was one of the demographic variables used as shown in the Figure below.

Figure 4.5: Pie Chart showing the distribution of sampled respondents by their religion



Source: Fieldwork Research Data, 2007.

It was divided into three categories which are Christianity, Islam and others. This table revealed that majority of the respondents were Christians 71 percent, while Muslims were 27 percent. It showed that Christianity was the major religion in the areas under study.

Discussion of major findings: significant effect of age, sex, occupation and religion on citizen participation in self-help projects implementation.

In order to examine the influence of age on the attitude of the people in selected communities in Delta and Oyo States, the researcher considered two broad groups. These included the young and adult respondents. They were computed in scales. The findings revealed that age had significant influence in citizen participation in self-help projects implementation in Delta and Oyo States of Nigeria.

According to Ekong (2003), any age ranged between 0- 14 years is classified as children and 16- 64 years is classified as adult and 65 years and above as aged persons. It was obvious from Figure 4.1 that 82.2% of the respondents fell within the age range of 25-55 years. The implication of this finding was that more than 80% were still in their productive years and were able to participate actively in the self-help projects implementation, in order to improve themselves socio-economically. Findings also revealed that about 17.8 percent

were below 25 years of age. People of these age categories should be encouraged and made to reflect on the need to be actively involved in self-help projects implementation.

The respondents occupation of the respondents were civil servants 27.7 percent, teaching 8.6 percent, trading 26.4 percent and farming 27.1 percent. Findings also revealed that about 71.2 percent were Christians. Findings also revealed that majority of the respondents were married. All the above mentioned played great roles in motivating the people to take part in the various self-help projects implementation. This implied that since most of the citizens were adults, they were able to reason with their leaders to discuss the most important projects to be implemented that will be of benefit to the community as a whole.

4.2 Research Question 2:

To what extent has the awareness of respondents and the various community groups influenced citizen participation in self-help projects implementation in Delta and Oyo States?

4.2a Showing distribution of respondents by level of awareness

	Frequency	Percentage
No resp	362	19.5
Yes	1202	64.6
No	298	15.9
Total	1862	100

Source: Fieldwork Research Data, 2007.

Table 4.2b Showing citizen involvement with community groups/associations

	Frequency	Percentage
No resp.	156	8.4
Yes	1598	85.8
No	108	5.8
Total	1862	100

Source: Fieldwork Research Data, 2007.

Table 4.2b above showed that about 64.6 percent were aware of the presence of self-help projects in the areas of study. Table 4.2b also showed that about 85.8 percent of the respondents belonged to one or two existing social groups and cooperative societies. There abound a lot of community groups and many of the community dwellers belong to the community groups in the local government areas of study. As a result, it was not difficult for them to identify with all the self-help projects related activities since they were fully informed by the leaders of the various groups. This corroborated with Anyanwu (1992) who asserted that for any effective community development, the change agent must identify the local groups namely; the social clubs, cooperative societies, existing in such communities since it will make for successful implementation of any new project. It is also from these groups that the people in the community will be enlightened. Findings proved this assertion to be true. The findings also corroborated Agunwamba (1995) who asserted that in some local governments, the self-help were achieved through the activities of the committees, made up of Town Union and Association of groups and local government committees. The implication of the findings of this study, is that when people are motivated to be involved in projects, it will inculcate in them a sense of ownership and responsibility to protect, maintain and use the projects judiciously and carefully. Community dwellers are powerful organs for the execution of projects. This was found out in the course of the research, by the researcher in Agugu Water Project in Ibadan North East and the Water Project in Ugboren in Sapele Local government areas where there was adequate maintenance of the various projects implemented by the people. There was a sense of belonging in the respondents in these areas. Findings from Focus Group Discussion revealed that the main reason advanced for joining the groups was for socialization, for borrowing and also for getting farm inputs which were aids from the group when they were in need. This was attested to by a discussant below:

I am Boyi Mene, I am a farmer and I belong to Ufuoma club. In this club we borrow money to farm. Our leader always inform us whenever we have a project and the importance of the project to the community.

A male respondent from Ugboren
in Sapele local Government Area
of Delta State.
September 7 2007,

The implication of this is that his belonging to the group has improved him financially and also created an awareness of projects implementation in his community. This is the essence of community development. That is, it is through the various groups that the community members were informed about any project to be implemented.

4.3 Research Question 3:

To what extent are community inhabitant involved in each of the indices/components in Self-help project implementation in Delta and Oyo States?

Table 4.3a
Joint contribution of the components of citizen participation vis-à-vis Identification of Felt Needs, Planning, Mobilization, Execution, Monitoring and Evaluation in Self-help Projects Implementation.

REGRESSION

Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean square	F	Sig
Regression	137,844.05	5	27,568.806	6,693.948	.000
Residual	7,643.876	1,856	4.118		
Total	145,487.92	1,861			

$$R = .973$$

$$R^2 = .947$$

$$\text{Adj}R^2 = .947$$

The table 4.3a above showed that the joint effect of felt needs, planning, mobilization execution and monitoring and evaluation which are components of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation was significant. ($F(5,1856) = 6693.948$, $R = .973$, $R^2 = .947$, $\text{Adj} R^2 = 0.947$ $P < .05$) about 95% of the variation was accounted for by the independent variables while the remaining 5% was not due to chance as 95% has shown a high joint prediction of components of citizen participation in self help projects implementation. The implication of this is that the involvement of community dwellers in the identification of felt

needs, planning, mobilization, execution, monitoring and evaluation is a useful tool in self-help project implementation. Anyanwu (1992 pg 94) corroborated this, when he emphasized that a community leader must endeavour to lead his people to their appreciation that, success can be achieved where they willingly cooperate to achieve their set goals. He has to ensure that the citizens themselves are involved in the planning, execution, utilisation and assessment of any project designed to improve their welfare. It is such participation that gives the people the pride of ownership of facilities completed in the process of community development. The community leaders must also endeavour to lead his people to understand and appreciate the principle of self-help, which is the main end product of community development. Anyanwu (1992 pg 95); working on this principle, the leader should enable the people to exploit their advantages which would otherwise be dormant. This principle of self-help makes use of under utilized labour and in this regard, can foster the competence of a community in managing its affairs.

Table 4.3b: Contribution of Felt Needs, Planning, Mobilization, Execution, Monitoring and Evaluation in Citizen Participation in Self-help Projects and Socio economic development.

Model	Unstandardized Coefficient		Standardized coefficient	T	Sig
	B	Std Error			
	Constant	-03.148E-02			
Felt Needs	.926	.019	.351	48.262	.000
Planning	1.007	.015	.599	68.555	.000
Mobilization	.120	.016	.069	5.286	.000
Execution of Projects	.531	.020	.202	26.963	.000
Monitoring & Evaluation	.604	.020	.229	30.564	.000

The result on table 4.8b above showed the relative contribution of each of the independent variables on the dependent. The values are Felt needs (B = 351 P<.05) Planning

(B=.599, $P<.05$), Mobilization (B =.069, $P<.05$), execution of projects (B = .202 $P<.05$) Monitoring and Evaluation (B = .229, $P<.05$), respectively. It was observed that all the five independent variables were relatively significant in the study. All these factors predicted citizen participation and determines the outcome in the success in relation to self-help projects implementation.

The finding is in line with Abiona (2007) and Akintayo and Oghenekohwo (2004) in their write up on citizen participation where they cited Anyanwu (1992) as itemizing the components of citizen participation as follows:

- i. Identification of felt needs by the people themselves; through this the morale of the people will be raised to the point of designing to make meaningful achievement to satisfy their needs.
- ii. Systematic planning to select what the people want to do to satisfy their needs followed by mobilization and harnessing of the physical economic and social potentialities of the community to build up social services. This is closely followed by the execution of the projects and finally monitoring and evaluation which is systemic supervision of the project at each stage to find out if the objectives were achieved. This implied that identification of felt needs, planning mobilization execution monitoring and evaluation of projects fostered positive citizen participation in self-help projects implementation in the areas of study, as the result on table 4.3a & b show. This further implied that the people were mobilized to identify their felt needs, during the planning of the projects and they put in, all their efforts and participated in the success of the various self-help projects.

4.4 Research Question 4:

Is there any difference between the level of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation in Delta and Oyo States?

Table 4.4 t-Test table of analysis showing significant difference between the level of Citizen Participation in Self-help Projects Implementation and Socio-Economic Development in Delta and Oyo States.

Citizen Participation	N	Mean	Std. Dev.	Crit-t.	Cal-t.	df	P
Delta	858	51.8834	8.54512	1.96	.351	1860	.726
Oyo	1004	52.0876	9.09938				

Table above showed that the critical t-test value of 1.96 was greater than the Cal-t=calculated value of .351 tested at 0.05 alpha level (Crit-t =1.96 Cal.t =.351. df = 1860 .P>0.05 level of significance. This showed that there was no significant difference in citizen participation in self-help projects implementation and socio-economic development between the respondents in Delta and Oyo States. The results showed that the null hypothesis was accepted. For any self-help projects implementation to be successful, the guiding principles of citizen participation must be followed. Findings revealed that the same method used to implement the self-help projects in Delta state was used for Oyo state. This goes to corroborate UNICEF (1991); that participation includes people's involvement in decision making processes in implementing programmes, their sharing in the benefits of development programmes and their involvement in efforts to evaluate such programmes. Paul, (1987) in line with this, wrote that community participation (is) an active process by which beneficiary or client groups influence the direction and execution of development project with a view to enhancing their well-being in terms of income, personal growth, self reliance or other values they cherish.

This was further supported by Anyanwu (1992) who describe citizen participation in community development as a popular movement. It is the getting together of a people of a particular community to bring their community on the path of progress. This implied that the

respondents in Delta and Oyo-States were equally mobilized to participate in self-help projects implementation in the selected communities in the states.

The implication of this revealed that the guiding principles of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation programmes in any part of the world is the same. This was attested to by the write up of Joint Evaluation Mission (June 1987) on rural water project in Tanzania.

4.5 Research Question 5:

Is there any significant difference between self-initiated and externally initiated projects in Delta and Oyo States?

Table 4.5 t-Test contingency showing significant difference between Citizen Participation in self initiated and Externally initiated (Government) Projects Implementation in Delta and Oyo States.

Self-help Projects Implementation	N	Mean	Std. Dev.	Crit-t.	Cal-t.	df	P
Self-Initiated	1416	50,7684	6.1607	1.96	10.992	1860	.000
Externally Initiated	446	55.8834	6.3370				

The above table showed that there was a significant difference between citizen participation in self-initiated and externally initiated self-help projects implementation and socio-economic development in Delta and Oyo States.

The Crit-t value of 1.96 was less than the cal-t value of 10.922 tested at 0.05 level of significance (Crit-t= 1.96, Cal-t =10.922. df = 1860 P< 0.05). This implied that the null hypothesis was rejected and the alternative was upheld. The findings indicated that there was a significant difference between the management of self-initiated and externally initiated projects implementation and socio-economic development in Delta and Oyo States. The implication of the findings is that the projects implemented by the people themselves were well managed because they met their felt needs. Findings aligned with Anyanwu (1992) which stated that self-help has in-built democratic tendencies that ensure active group

involvement in development process. It is the spring board and at the same time end product of community development.

Findings also revealed that the few externally initiated self-help projects in the areas of study were maintained by the people themselves. Some were abandoned. Community schools and some maternity centers were already in place before government agents came to the aid of the communities. From the Focus Group Discussion, the people admitted that they were fully involved because they were carried along from the beginning to the end of the projects and as such, they saw the projects as theirs not the government who make them passive observers.

Also in the course of Key Informant Interview, a community development officer has this to say:

A discussant

My name is Segun Oyetunji, Self-help projects abounds in this local government area. The people in the communities have participated actively in self-help projects implementation. You can see for yourself that they maintain all their projects through community efforts with little or no assistance from the government.

A community Development Officer from Ibadan North East Local Government Area in Oyo State.
19th November, 2007.

The implication of this, is that even the community development officers were aware of the fact that the community dwellers were able to successfully mobilize their local resources to effect changes in their communities and maintained their projects.

4.6 Research Question 6:

To what extent has citizen participation in Self-help projects implementation influenced the health status, social status, social relations/corporations and the provision of social amenities in Delta and Oyo States?

Table 4.6 Citizen Participation in Self-help Projects Implementation and Social development of Communities in Delta and Oyo States.

Question Items on Influence of Citizen Participation on Social development

	Citizen participation in self-help projects has	SD	D	U	A	SA	ME AN	SD
1.	improved the welfare of the community members	132 7.1%	12 .6%	13 .7%	662 35.5%	10443 56%	4.33	1.06
2.	increased the level of social relationship among the people	141 7.6%	56 3.0%	76 4.1%	682 36.6%	907 48.7%	4.16	1.14
3.	led to sustainable development	136 7.3%	220 11.8%	48 2.6%	659 35.4%	799 42.2%	3.95	1.26
4	induced interest and desire to learn on the part of the community dwellers	158 8.5%	260 14.0%	87 4.7%	625 33.6%	732 39.3%	3.81	1.31
5.	provision of social facilities such as town halls, community courts, schools.	406 21.0%	20 1.1%	72 3.9%	661 35.8%	698 37.5%	3.66	1.52
6.	the Provision of primary health care	338 18.1%	160 8.6%	69 3.79%	655 35.2%	640 34.4%	3.59	1.48
7.	partially improved the welfare of the community members	420 22.6%	106 5.78%	64 3.4%	641 34.4%	631 33.9%	3.51	1.55
8	community bridge	424 22.8%	117 6.3%	124 6.7%	667 35.8%	530 28.4%	3.41	1.52
9	not improved the welfare of the community members	789 42.4%	442 23.7%	219 11.8%	144 7.7%	268 14.4%	2.28	1.4

Question Items on Citizen Participation and social development

The multiple response data above indicated that (915%) of the respondents had their welfare improved through their participation in self-help projects implementation. The survey also established that the respondents' level of social relationship increased by (85.3%) sustainable development (78.3%) induced interest and desire to learn (72.9%) provision of facilities such as town halls, Churches, mosques and schools (73.3%). Provision of primary health care (69.6%) community bridges (64.2%). These results indicate that the people mobilized themselves in the community to provide the above social amenities which led to their improved social interaction and desire to learn more. During field work, the researcher discovered that all the four local government areas of study had community halls where they had most of their meetings in relation to self-help projects, implementation for marriages, burial ceremonies and annual festivals in the communities. During Focus Group Discussion,

the respondents have agreed that they have improved socially. They agreed that since the inception of the various self-help projects, they can discuss freely with their mates without being ashamed and also participated actively and gave useful suggestions at community meetings. This goes to corroborate Ogili (2004) who defined social development as the ability and willingness of an individual in a society to contribute his best in any form to the collective out-put of services from which he will in turn receive services that enrich him materially, culturally and emotionally. This also aligned with Oyebamiji and Adekola (2008). They asserted that any gradual and positive change in the people's culture, physical environment, improvement in family life, education, food, communication, conflicts and management method, is social development. The system may be a social group, a community, a city or a nation. The findings show that 70% benefited from the health care centers. These were used for immunization of children, attending to the pregnant women and also treating patients with malaria. From the Focus Group Discussion, the presence of these health centers have drastically reduced mortality rate from (60%) to (2%). Patronage of the community nursery and primary schools also increased from (30.4%) to 69.6%.

The community courts also witnessed high patronage of 73.3%. The most interesting one was the one in Ibadan North East of the Oyo State built by the people themselves where the researcher witnessed the court in session, settling a dispute between a man and his wife. From the Focus Group Discussion, the researcher was informed that they settle all their community disputes in these community courts amicably showing that there is social cohesiveness in these communities.

Community pedestrian bridges were found in all the local government areas, though some were only useful during the dry season. When it rains, water over flows them and made movement difficult.

4,7 Research Question 7

To what extent has citizen participation in Self-help projects implementation influenced the economic development of communities in Delta and Oyo States?

Table 4.7: Showing Citizen Participation in Self-help Projects Implementation and Economic Development of communities in Delta and Oyo States

Questions Items on Economic Development		Influence of citizen participation on economic development						
	Citizen participation in Self-help projects has	SD	D	U	A	SA	Mean	SD
1.	improved the quality of life of the people	132 7.1%	12 .6%	12 .6%	719 38.6%	987 53.0%	4.30	1.05
2.	improved the economic level of the community	140 7.5%	56 3.0%	76 4.1%	683 36.7%	907 48.7%	4.16	1.14
3.	provided paid employment for the community	136 7.3%	219 11.8%	48 2.6%	658 35.3%	801 43.0%	3.95	1.26
4.	generated income for the community	158 8.5%	260 14.0%	85 4.6%	627 33.7%	732 39.3%	3.81	1.31
5.	led to community transformation	205 21.8%	20 1.1%	72 3.8%	667 35.8%	698 37.5%	3.66	1.52
6	provided community Market	337 18.1%	160 8.6%	.64 3.4%	641 34.4%	632 33.9%	3.59	1.48
7.	provided water projects	419 22.5%	106 5.7%	64 3.4%	641 34.4%	632 33.9%	3.51	1.55
8	reliability of access roads	424 22.8%	116 6.2%	124 6.7%	668 35.9%	530 28.4	3.41	1.52

Table 4.7 above showed citizen participation and economic development of the communities in Delta and Oyo States. The survey above established that citizen participation in self-help projects implementation had improved the quality of life of dwellers by (91.6%) economic development level by (85.4%) provided paid employment (78.3%), generated income for the community (73%), led to community transformation (73.3%) provided

community markets (69.6%) provision of water projects (68.3%) and reliability of access roads (64.3%). The above findings established that the presence of the various self-help projects provided paid employment for the citizens. During the Focus Group Discussion, participants attested to the fact that the market stalls were rented by the people in the community to sell their goods, to make profit and live better. This was used to pay some guards and those who maintain the markets. For the water projects, people paid token amount to get water so that; the projects could be maintained. The town halls were rented for social functions, like burials, marriages and meetings.

During the Focus Group Discussion in Warri South Local Government area, the leader asserted that at times the community halls were used for international meetings with the oil company representatives on how they can be compensated for oil spillage. Huge amount of money were collected from the representatives. This was shared among the community dwellers. From there they send their children to good schools eat well and live better.

The water projects also were useful in these communities. People paid token amount to get good drinking water. The money realized from here is used to maintain the infrastructure and also paid those maintaining the environment. From the Focus Group Discussion the respondents attested to the fact that the presence of the water projects has led to the eradication of cholera and other communicable diseases in the various communities. In fact people in one of the communities noted for high rate of cholera disease after each Muslim festival were happy that cholera had become history in the community because of the presence of good drinkable water and good sanitation.

Pupils paid token amount of money in the community schools for the maintenance of infrastructural facilities and paying the teachers. The presence of access roads also provided them opportunity to carry out their economic activities easily. All these findings corroborated Anyanwu (1992). There, he contended that, self help projects implementation as an aspect of community development serve as an indicator of development in all aspects of life of the people ranging from reduction of poverty, provision of social amenities, such as water, electrification and agricultural development. This result validated the submission that citizen participation involved a concerted effort to improve the quality of life, income, welfare and employment opportunities of the population with the ultimate objective of reducing and

eventually alleviating malnutrition, disease, illiteracy, unemployment, poor health, living conditions and other forms of poverty among community dwellers. (Anyanwu 1992).

A fish seller in Ubeji fish market has this to say:

Since this market was built for us, I no longer hawk my fish I stay in my shop to sell and many rich people buy fish from us and we make a lot of money. From here we make daily contribution of five hundred naira each. I am now very happy because all my children have been able to go to the University. I am very happy. The community also has banga market.

A female respondent from Ubeji in Warri South of Delta state.
18th October, 2007.

Another discussant

My name na Ogheneruru James, Na mi dey take care of this Market and the Hall you see for yonder. Before they build the hall I be poor man and I no know say I fit send my children to school especially my girls, but since I start to do this work, I get money from white people who dey come do meeting here. I don send my picken go London and he done build house and buy motor for me, I thank God.

Hall and Market keeper
Amupe Sapele Local government Area
Delta State.
5th November 2007.

Mrs Moyosore in Owobale in Egbeda local government area of Oyo State has this to say:

Since this garri processing factory and frying shade was built, things have changed for the better for our community. People come from the neighbouring towns with cars to buy our garri and we don't need to carry them to the market to sell again, because we have ready buyers. I make about ten thousand naira in a week when the market is good but at times I make eight naira. With this money I pay my group dues, take care of myself and my children. I thank God. We also hired a watch dey and watch night.

Garri trader FGD/Osegere
10th November 2007.

From the statements of the respondents above, it can be inferred that the projects provided good places to sell their wares, made more money from sales of goods and made more money from taking care of the Halls. With these they were able to make daily contributions and also sent their children to school both in Nigeria and abroad. In essence, they became buoyant economically as a result of the presence of the projects.

Other findings

In the process of the research work, there were some other findings by the researcher. Some of the respondents attested to the fact that the community development officers were few. They suggested that if they were more, more self-help projects would be implemented. It was also discovered in Okere in Warri south local government area, that what they called community schools were renovated by the government to give them new face lift.

The people in Warri South Local Government also use popular songs which are indigenous to them. Findings showed that on their way to purchase the fish to sell in the fish market they usually sing songs to arouse the goddess of the sea to make them have good sales for the day. The song goes thus in Itsekiri dialect. **The song of Umale Okun**

“Ene gbo gin-ere yon
Ene era ghe gho (2x)
Ejuere niko atse no ke.
Ere ma yon Ariegbe to mi.
Omila Ebo- boo.....”

Meaning (literal)

We learnt that a play is sweet and we went to watch.
What play do they have on land?
It cannot be sweeter than that of the sea.
The sea is great, wonderful

From this it can be deduced that more community development officers are needed in these communities. The song showed the belief of the people in a higher god that gives good sales. It also showed real socialization among the groups and community cohesiveness.

4.8 Research Question 8:

What are the constraints to self-help projects implementation in the communities in Delta and Oyo States?

Table 4.8 Constraints to citizen participation in self-help projects implementation

Constraints	Frequency	Percentage
No response	218	11.7
Culture	28	1.5
Workload	10	.5
Education	266	14.3
Domestic work	94	5.0
Finance	1,112	59.9
Leadership conflict	92	4.9
Others	42	2.3
Total	1862	100.0

Source: Field work Research Data, 2007

The findings above showed that, 59.9% percent of the respondents, indicated that finance was the main constraints they had during self-help projects implementation. Majority of the respondents were civil servants and farmers. They lacked adequate finance to enable them carry out more development projects in the areas of study. This implied that finance was important for self-help projects implementation. 14.3 percent indicated that lack of education made them not to be gainfully employed. The implication of this is that, education is an effective process for their achievement of development at various levels and should be encouraged. Domestic work load was 5.0 percent. This has to do with the females. Their participation was lower. Leadership conflict was 4.9 percent. This implied that in the study understanding of social relationship within or between the community development agents and their community members is an important requisite to self-help projects implementation. Culture was 1.5 percent. This was so because most of the cultural hindrances were eliminated at the planning stage. Findings indicate that the major constraint was finance. The findings

agree with Abiona (2009), that problems of community development include fund, leadership, education and attitude of community members.

Results of Hypothesis

This study has determined citizen participation and its components in self-help projects implementation and socio-economic development. One hypothesis was tested in order to establish the influence of the independent variable on the dependent variables – socio-economic development. The result of the hypothesis is presented below:

Ho1: There will be no significant joint positive contribution of the independent variables: felt needs, planning, mobilization, execution, monitoring and evaluation of projects on socio economic development of communities in Delta and Oyo states.

Table 4.9 Joint contribution of components of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation and socio-economic development.

Model	Sum of squares	df	Mean	F	Sig
Regression	137,844.05	5	27,568.806	6,693.948	.000
Residual	7,643.876	1856	4.118		
Total	145,487.92	1861			

R = .973

R² = .947

Adj R² = .947

The findings as indicated above established that there was a significant influence of each of the components of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation on socio-economic development of the people in the communities in Delta and Oyo States. (F (5,1856) = 6693.948; R = .973;

R² = .947; Adj R² = .947 P < .05). About 95% of the variation was accounted for by the independent variables while the remaining 5% was not due to chance as the table revealed. It

can be deduced from the findings above that the essence of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation was to foster socio-economic development of the community dwellers.

The results of table 4.6 and 4.7 show the relative contribution of citizen participation on each of the dependent variables that is social development vis-a-vis improved welfare of the communities, increased level of social relationship among the people, provision of social facilities, such as schools, town halls, etc, provision of primary health centers, community bridges and economic development vis-a-vis paid employment, generate income for the community transformation, community markets water projects reliability of access roads. This showed that the hypothesis was rejected and the alternative upheld.

It can be inferred also that citizen participation in self-help projects implementation fostered effective community development in terms of all the social and economic amenities mentioned above. The findings tallies with Abiona (2009) who asserted that “Citizen Participation brings about greater interest in community development programmes. It fosters sentiment of attachment to community and programmes. It creates the pride of ownership whereby people refer to community projects as ‘our’ and finally brings co-operation and fellowship among individual members of the community who now believe in unity. The findings corroborated Adedeji (1984) who observed that in order to have rapid and harmonious development, there is need to enlist citizen participation of all individuals who are economically active in the communities, states and country.

From all that have been discussed, citizen participation in self-help projects implementation as revealed by the findings of the study, correlated significantly with the social and economic development of the communities and the people in the communities in Delta and Oyo States. This implied that citizen participation in self-help projects implementation is still playing significant role in social and economic development of both the home, the communities and the nation as a whole.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.0 Introduction

This chapter deals specifically with the summary of the study with reference to major findings of the work, conclusions were drawn and recommendations were made; and finally limitation for the study. The research work was on the influence of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation and socio-economic development in Delta and Oyo States.

5.1 Summary

This study was carried out with a view to establish the extent to which citizen participation in self-help Projects implementation had influenced the communities and people in Delta and Oyo States of Nigeria.

Major highlights of the results show that:

- Majority of the respondents (82.2%) from the selected communities participated in self-help projects implementation that have enhanced their social and economic level.
- Citizen participation in self-help projects implementation had both joint and relative influence on socio-economic development of the people in the communities.
- There existed a significant difference in age, sex and occupation in citizen participation in self-help projects implementation on socio-economic development in Delta and Oyo States.
- Felt-needs, planning, mobilization, execution of projects, monitoring and evaluation, were the components of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation which also contributed jointly and relatively to socio-economic development of the communities in Delta and Oyo States, Nigeria.
- There was no significant difference in citizen participation in self-help projects implementation between respondents in Delta and Oyo States of Nigeria.
- There was a significant difference between citizen participation in self-initiated and externally initiated projects in Delta and Oyo States Nigeria.
- There was a significant influence of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation on social development of the communities in Delta States vis-a-vis improved welfare of the communities, increased level of social interaction, provision

of social facilities such as schools, town halls, primary health centres and community bridges.

- Significant relationship existed between citizen participation in self-help projects implementation and economic development of the people and the communities in Delta and Oyo States, Nigeria, vis-a-vis paid employment, income generating activities, community transformation, community markets, water projects and reliability of access roads.
- It was also established that financial constraints was the main problem in citizen participation in self-help projects implementation in communities in Delta and Oyo States, Nigeria.

5.2 Conclusion

A number of conclusions can be drawn from a review of the major findings of the study based on the objectives and the hypothesis stated.

1. Age accounted for the ability of the people in the selected communities to be involved in the various self-help projects implementation. It could therefore be inferred that, the younger community dwellers of less than twenty-five years and those that were over sixty years did not have full strength of being involved actively in the various self-help projects implementations; but middle aged community dwellers were likely to perform better than much older ones and younger ones too. These tend to justifiably conform to the trend that the extent of activities to be involved in, tends to decrease as an individual ages.

Findings also reveal that the people's level of awareness regarding their involvement in the self-help projects implementation, was good to some extent but some of the respondents indicated that they were not carried along or were not well informed of their expected roles and responsibilities towards planning. The people should be well represented.

Findings further revealed that, where the people in the communities were carried along concerning the projects that met their felt needs, their involvements was total, because they saw it as "our own." Leaders should take this into consideration because effective leadership leads to effective followership.

Findings further revealed that most self-help projects, were initiated by the people themselves, with little assistance from the government after the completion of the programmes. The very few initiated by the government were still maintained by the people

themselves. This implied that there must be constant interaction between the government agents and the community members, for maintenance of the projects.

Findings also reveal that some government agents in some communities were not too enthusiastic about the self-help projects. They should be more interested.

A further conclusion from the study was that of financial constraints. Findings reveal that lack of finance was a major problem that the respondents indicated in the implementation of the various projects. That if there were finances, they would implement more projects for better socio-economic development.

It was further confirmed in the study that the people in the various communities derived benefits from the self-help projects implementation programmes. They made use of the halls for meetings, markets, court, bridges, schools boreholes, health centers. These also increased their income generating activities.

Finally, this study has established that citizen participation in self-help projects implementation essentially rest on the need to have a self reliance based development process which inform Nyerere (1978) declaration that “development is for man and of man”

The implication of this is that citizen participation in self-help projects implementation is an organ of community development programme that has contributed to improved standard of living of the community dwellers and also improved socio-economic development of the communities.

5.3 Recommendations

Based on findings from the study, recommendations are made with specific reference to self-help projects implementation and socio-economic development in selected communities in Oyo and Delta States of Nigeria. For further improvement, the following recommendations are made:

1. There is need to increase the level of awareness of the people in the community to the significance of self-help projects implementation on socio-economic development of the community. This will therefore enable the people to explore various avenues that may be opened to them.

2. There should be sufficiently developed line of communication. Both the traditional method of the town crier and modern methods like radio television should be used in order to get to the hinterland.
3. There should be an improvement in the state of the roads that led to the communities. Most of the roads leading to the areas of study were in bad shape. Many pot holes and some roads were not motorable at all.
4. Efforts should also be made by individuals, philanthropists at local state and federal levels to make provision for the improvement of the various self-help projects and infrastructural facilities, since the improvement in these sectors will foster opportunities for the community dwellers and improve the quality of their lives more.
5. Financial aid should equally be made available particularly for the maintenance of these self-help projects to ensure sustainability. Kudos to Mr. Ikedia Ohakim, the immediate past executive governor of Imo State who recognized the efforts of some communities in the state concerning self-help projects. The ex-Governor in recognition of the efforts made by these communities in self-help projects implementation, gave each community (N900,000) nine hundred thousand Naira, on the 17th of July 2008 to encourage them. Other States are encouraged to do same or more.
6. There is need for cordial relationship between the government agents and leaders of the communities and excessive use of power and exploitation by these government agents should be checked.
7. The community dwellers took their initiatives to improve their own standard of living based on the various self-help projects implementation. To this end it then becomes imperative to set up more community development associations, village development committees to assist them in their effort to improve lives
8. The self-help projects embarked upon by the people in the selected communities in the areas of study should be well monitored and supervised to achieve greater success.

5.4 Limitations to the study

A research of this nature requires wide coverage but due to financial constraints and time this could not be done.

Some of the roads leading to the study areas were bad. One was so bad that it was not motorable. The researcher together with her assistants and the photographer had to travel thirty kilometers on motor-bike to the community and thirty kilometers fro.

A particular government agent in one of the communities really constituted problems to the researcher because of constant demand for money. He also made the data collection difficult. He distributed some of the questionnaires to Youth Corpers who knew very little about the self-help projects in the area. This made the researcher to print new set for administration to the target population in that area. There were some difficulties in data collection. It took the researcher about three months in a particular local government to get back the questionnaires.

However, these limitations did not in anyway affect the attainment of the study objectives.

5.5 Areas for further research

The following areas need further inquiry:

- (i). Efforts should be made to carry out similar research work in all the states and local government areas of the country, so as to make general assertion on self-help projects implementation.
- (ii) A research work can be conducted to investigate the assistance rendered to selected communities in the south and south western Nigeria by non-governmental organizations
- (iii) Further research studies should be carried out in the role of the Federal and State government in self-help projects implementation in other states of the federation
- (iv) A research can also be carried out on citizen participation in self-help projects implementation in all the communities in Nigeria.

5.6 Contribution to Knowledge

The role of self-help in community participation cannot be over emphasized in the development of the nation because, majority of the people in the selected communities have been able to provide essential facilities such as water, community halls, nursery schools, maternity centers etc, through self-help projects implementation. It also proved that the people in various communities were able to mobilize themselves positively with no

assistance from the government to improve their well-being. They are not passive observers but active participants in terms of projects implementation. In all, it has been established that self-help projects implementation is essential for national development.

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APPENDIX 1
UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, IBADAN
DEPARTMENT OF ADULT EDUCATION.
QUESTIONNAIRE
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN SELF-HELP PROJECTS
IMPLEMENTATION AND SCALES (CPISHPIS)

Dear Respondent,

This questionnaire is designed to look into the influence of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation on socio-economic development of the community and people in your area.

Please go through the questions carefully and give accurate answers to the questions asked. Please tick (\surd) in the correct box and write where necessary. All information that are given will be treated as confidential. Thanks for your co-operation.

Akoroda O.

SECTION A DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

1. Age (in years): Below 25 years [] 26 – 35 [] 36 – 45 [] 46 - 55 []

56 - 65 years [].

2,. Sex Male [] Female []

3. Marital Status: single [] Married [] Divorced [] widowed []

4. Occupation: Civil Servant [] Teaching [] Trading [] Farming [] others (specify) [].

5. Religion: Christian [] Muslim [] Others []

SECTION B Awareness Scale

Please read the following and in the boxes write where necessary. Awareness of citizen in self-help projects implementation.

6. Are there any women or men group in your community? Yes [] No []

7. If yes, name the group -----

8. What are the benefits you derive from the group? Borrowing [] social interaction [] getting farm inputs [] others (specify)

9. Are you aware of any self help projects in your area/ Yes [] No [] if yes name them -

10. Who are the initiators of such programmes -----

11. Is your group in support of such programme Yes [] No [].

12. If yes why?

13. How did the information about these projects get to you. Through radio []

Television [] Town crier [] News papers [] Friends [] others.

SECTION C Components of citizen Participation Scale

This section deals with the components of citizens participation in self help projects implementation. Please read and respond to the following question items and tick [] against any of the five point rating scale of strongly disagree (SD) Disagree (D) undecided (U) Agree (A) Strongly Agree (SA) as appropriate to you.

S/N	Initiation of felt Needs in Citizen Participation in Self-help projects implementation	SD	D	U	A	SA
1.	During the initiation of projects the community dwellers were informed about implementation					
2.	Your involvement in the Self-help Projects implementation was voluntary					
3.	You were able to initiate decisions or ideas during community meetings.					
4.	During implementation the community dwellers were allowed to take part in selecting the projects that ranked highest in their scale of preference.					
5	The community dwellers were involved in the initiation of self-help projects					
6.	You took part in the selection of the most important felt need.					
7.	Income generating activities could be one of the felt needs					
	Planning influence citizen participation in self-help projects implementation					
8.	The community dwellers were consulted by the initiators of self help projects before the decision was taken.					
9.	You took part in the planning of self-help projects					
10	You took part in the decision making process					
11	Awareness of environmental issues has to do with planning of projects					
12	The art of negotiation and persuasion is part of the planning procedure in citizen participation in self-help projects implementation					
13.	Skills development is an aspect of planning in self-help projects implementation					

	Mobilization in influence of citizen participation in self-help projects implementation					
14.	Mobilization is ensuring efficient use of resources					
15.	Giving opportunities to various categories of target beneficiaries of a project including the resource poor to be involved in the whole process					
16.	Giving the project stakeholders (the people and sponsors) the opportunity to share the cost of any project					
17.	Consulting widely may lead to delay in decision					
	Execution of projects in citizen Participation is					
18.	Ensuring that participants pull material human and financial resources during implementation of projects					
19.	Enabling the beneficiaries of the project to learn new skills.					
20.	Ensuring that community members work together for common goals					
21.	Ensuring that community members take part in bearing the cost of projects implemented					
22.	Enabling community members take part in execution of projects meetings					
23.	Ensuring that project personnel organize training for community members in order to emphasise the course of implementing the projects.					
24.	Ensuring that community members take part in the supply of material for the execution of the various projects.					
	Monitoring and evaluation in Self-help projects implementation					
25.	In the course of project implementation projects were monitored and evaluated beginning to at every stage.					
26.	Some projects have been planned and successfully completed in your community					

This aspect deals with the initiators of self-help projects. Was your involvement self initiated or externally initiated.

Self initiated

Externally initiated

2. If externally initiated which of the groups listed here is principally responsible for it?

1. Friends

2. N.G.O

3. Government

4. Religious leaders

Influence of Citizen Participation on self-help projects implementation of the communities in Delta and Oyo states.

SN	Citizen participation in self-help projects implementation on Social development of the communities in Delta and Oyo State	SD	D	U	A	SA
1.	improved the welfare of the community members					
2.	increased the level of social relationship among the people in the communities					
3	led to sustainable development					
4.	induced interest and desire to learn on the part of the community dwellers.					
5.	provided social facilities such as town halls, community courts, Churches, mosques etc					
7.	provided Community bridge					

8.	not improved the welfare of the community members.					
	Influence participation in Self-help projects implementation on Economic Development of communities in Delta and Oyo States					
	Citizen participation influences economic development in the following ways					
9	improved the quality of life of the people.					
10	improved the socio-economic level of the communities					
11	provided paid employment for the people. vis-a vis					
12	led to community transformation					
13	provided community markets					
14	generated income for the community					
15.	provision of water projects					
16.	reliability of access roads					

One of the following is constitutes a constraints to citizen participation in self-help projects implementation;

- (a) Work load (b) culture
- (c) Education (d) Domestic work
- (e) Finance (f) Leadership conflict
- (g) Others (Specify)

APPENDIX II

Guide for FGD and KII Qualitative data

The reports of focus group discussion and key informant interview conducted were based on the following themes namely:

1. Awareness level of respondents on citizen participation in self-help projects implementation.
2. Knowledge level of the community development officers on citizen participation in Self-help projects implementation
3. Socio-economic development of the communities as a result of the presence of the various self-help projects.
4. Constraints to citizen participation self-help projects implementation

FGD & KII Questions.

1. Are you aware of the presence of any self-help projects in this community?
2. Did you participate in the initiation of felt needs, planning mobilization execution and monitoring and evaluation of the projects?
3. How did you become involved in the process of the implementation of the projects?
4. As a community development officer what can you say about citizen participation in self help projects implementation in your community?
5. As a member of this community what are the social benefits you have derived from participating in the implementation of these projects?
6. What are the economic benefits you've derived from the various self-help projects implementation?
7. List the difficulties you encountered in the course of the self help projects implementation.
8. What would you suggest would motivate citizens to participate more effectively in self help projects implementation in future?

APPENDIX III

Names of Community Groups in Delta and Oyo States.

SAPELE	1.Eghwremese	58	3.1	3.1
	2.Egwonor women Club	24	1.3	1.3
	3.Young Hades Group	64	3.4	3.4
	4.Ufuoma	28	1.5	1.5
	5.Udumogbako	20	1.1	1.1
	6.Community Club	2	1	1
WARRI SOUTH	7.Ekurede Men& Women Group	30	1.6	1.6
		2	.1	.1
	8.Community Women Group	28	1.5	1.5
	9.Sesan Ekurede	12	.6	.6
	10.Sisan Okere	44	2.4	2.4
	11.Women Cooperative	12	.6	.6
	12.Self-help Social Club	8	.4	.4
	13.Warri Ladies Vangard			
	14.Other Associations in the four local government Areas.	922	49.5	49.5

Local Government	Community groups	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
IBADAN NORTH EAST	15. Ayekule Women group	238	12.8	12.8
	16. Oke-Adu Onipasan community group	24	1.3	1.3
	17. Oke Ibadan Community group.	70	3.8	3.8
	18. Ayekale Comm. Development. Association.	72	3.9	3.9
	19. Ifesowopo Society.	12	.6	.6
	20. Tinwatinwa Cooperative society	16	.9	.9
	21. Oke-Adu Descendant Association	32	1.7	1.7
EGBEDA	22. Irepodun Community Association	28	1.5	1.5
		32	1.7	1.7
	23. Omolere	20	1.1	1.1
	24. Egbe Elepoati Obi	12	.6	.6
	25. Better Life Society.	2	.1	.1
	26. Itesiwaju society	10	.5	.5
	27. Tokotaya (Husband & Wife)	12	.6	.6
	28. Egbeda Community Association			

Source: Fieldwork Research Data, 2007.

APPENDIX IV

Self-help projects executed by the communities in the local government areas in Delta and Oyo States.

SAPELE	1.Community school toilet	62	3.3	3.3	45.4
	2.Renovation of classroom	48	2.6	2.6	48
	3.Building of Nursery School.	16	.9	.9	48.9
	4.Building of Primary school	36	1.9	1.9	50.8
	5.Deep well,	26	1.4	1.4	52.2
	6.Community Hall	24	1.3	1.3	53.5

WARRI SOUTH	1.Okere Community Town Hall.	148	7.9	7.9	61.4
	2.Water project	82	4.4	4.4	64.8
	3.Waiting shed	2	.1	.1	65.9
	4.Warri winner Cooperative house	14	.8	.8	66.7
	5.Renovation of Schools	2	.1	.1	66.8
	6.Ekurede Community Hall	10	.5	.5	67.3

Local Govt.	Self-help projects	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
IBADAN NORTH EAST	1.Ayekale Dev Assoc. Health Center	218	11.7	11.7
	2.Onipasan Spring water	58	3.1	
	3.Hospital	30	1.6	1.6
	4.Health Care Clinic	122	6.6	6.6
	5.Odo-Onikokoro Water Project	30	1.6	1.6
	6. Ayekale Community Educational Centre	24 14	1.3 .8	1.3 .8
	7.Construction of Quarters		1.6	1.6
	8.Maintaining water developing areas	26	1.4	1.4
	9. Ayekale community Association complex	20 18	1.1 1.0	1.1 1.0
	10.Maternity centre	102	5.5	5.5
	11.Community court	20	1.1	1.1
	12.Pedestrian Bridge			

EGBEDA					
	1.Egbeda Community Market	24	1.3	1.3	
	2..Bridge/ Drainage	20	1.1	1.1	
	3.Ogbere/ Idiosan Community Hall	8	.4	4	
	4.Maternity Centre	20	1.1	1.1	40.7
	5.Bore hole	16	.9	.9	
	6.Palm-oil processing Factory	-10	.5	.5	

Source: Fieldwork Data, 2007.

States, Local Government, Communities and self-help projects

STATES	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	COMMUNITIES	SELF-HELP PROJECTS
DELTA	SAPELE	AMUKPE	COMMUNITY HALL COMMUNITY MARKET
		ELUME	TOWN HALL COMMUNITY ORANGE MARKET
		OGORODE	COMMUNITY HALL FISH MARKET
		UGBOREN	COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY NURSERY SCHOOL COMMUNITY TOWN HALL COMMUNITY TOILET
	WARRI SOUTH	EKUREDE	COMMUNITY HALL COMMUNITY BANGA MARKET
		OKERE	COMMUNITY HALL COMMUNITY MARKET
		OMADINO	COMMUNITY HALL COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
		UBEJI	COMMUNITY FISH MARKET COMMUNITY HALL

States, Local Government, Communities and self-help projects

STATE	LOCAL GOVERNMENTS	COMMUNITIES	SELF HELP PROJECTS
OYO	EGBEDA	EGBEDA	COMMUNITY HALL COMMUNITY CLINIC
		OSEGERE	COMMUNITY DEEP WELL COMMUNITY PALM OIL PROCESSING FACTORY
		OWOBALÉ	GARRI PROCESSING MACHINE AND FRYING SHADE
		KASUMU	PALM OIL PROCESSING COMMUNITY MARKER BORE HOLE
	IBADAN NORTH EAST	AYEKALE	COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE FENCED TRANSFORMER CUSTOMARY COURT COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY SUPERMARKET
		AGUGU	WATER PROJECT COMMUNITY CLINIC
		BASHORUN	PAEDESTRIAN ROAD PROJECT COMMUNITY BRIDGE COMMUNITY MARKET
		OKEOFA	WATER PROJECT