COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH SELF-HELP EFFORT IN NIGERIA
(A CASE STUDY OF NSUKKA TOWN IN NSUKKA LGA, ENUGU STATE)

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CERTIFICATION

We, hereby certify that the project written by **Uche Uhunoma** with Matriculation Number **SBS/6321831027** is adequate in scope and quality and is submitted to the Department of Public Administration, Auchi Polytechnic, Auchi in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Higher National Diploma (HND) in the department of Public Administration.

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DEDICATION

This research work is dedicated to God Almighty who gave me the grace to be alive today and making my academic pursuit a success.

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ABSTRACT

This project work examined community development through self-help efforts in Nigeria using Nsukka Town in Nsukka Local Government Area as a case study. In Nigeria, the philosophy of people's participation in community development is increasingly gaining acceptance as an important instrument for mobilising resources and organising the rural populace to have cogent interests in providing for their wellbeing. The sample size for the study comprises of 100 respondents drawn from the Nsukka Town. The researcher sourced for material from both primary and secondary sources, Data gotten from respondent were presented in table and simple percentage form and hypotheses were also formulated and tested using chi-square. It was found out that self-help effort brings about community development as opinion from respondents were harnessed, Also, that there is a significant relationship between self-help effort and community development. It was therefore concluded that the importance of self-help in any community cannot be overemphasized this is because the government cannot provide everything that is needed for every citizen looking at countries of the worlds like United States and UK who were been developed through community self-help. The study therefore recommended amongst others that:1. Government should encourage community to embark on self-help programme as it would be helpful in national development, 2. The community should create enabling environment for the people to participate in community development. 3. Community project should be made public so as to enable everyone participate and contribute to the development of the community.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY:

The difference in development between rural and urban in Nigeria is brought by government concentrating social amenities in the state capital and local government council headquarters. The social amenities initiated and provided by community include postal agencies, markets, slaughters, roads, maternity centres and dispensaries to mention a few. According to (Idahosa 1991) referred to these social services provided by communities as self-help. It is a massive local involvement which have popularized the initiative of the rural persons to fend for themselves in an effort to develop their communities.

There are evidence in literature that the action taken to sustain self-help throughout Enugu state and Nigeria are not only in realization that self-help is an essential optimum development but also for the awareness that self-help can tremendously improve the living standard of everybody in the rural setting and thus improve their state. As a result of the role of self-help in national development, communities engages in self –help activities are enjoying the support of various government at different levels. They assist individuals, communities to develop to the extent that their human and

material resources can allow while attracting from the government on viable projects that they are interested in.

The ability of any community to provide social amenities in its area has become a measure of community's fame. Ultimately, self-help is a major virtue support by government. Every community wants to compete and excel other communities with available resources as to win respect through accelerating pace of development.

The Nigeria government and the various communities acknowledge the value of self-help in development of communities. Thus communities have been called upon by various government to engage in self-help in providing social amenities in their area to support the efforts of government as it is in many states in the world. Communities work is essentially concerned with affecting the course of social change through the two processes of engaging in social services and forming relationship with different groups to bring about some desirable change. It has three main aims; the first is the democratic process of involving people in taking decision, planning and playing an active part in the development and operating of services that affect their daily lives, the second relates to the values for personal fulfillment of belonging to a community. The third is concerned with the need of community planning to think of actual people in

relations to other people and the satisfaction of their need as persons rather to face attention upon a series of separate needs and problems.

Loveth Tom, Adult Education Community development and working class ward Lock Education Work in Liverpool was motivated by similar objectives with the emphasis on working class communities. Adult education brought to support the activities of local people in their effort to play a positive role in issues affecting their daily lives. It was concerned to assist in the process of personal fulfillment by emphasizing the opportunities afforded by education to strengthen community bonds and at the same time to widen the choices available to individuals in such communities comparing the rural system and planning confirmed that the expectation of the federal and state government that communities should provide available amenities in their area as a means of accelerating development is still a dream. This is not surprising because some communities are not endowed with sufficient human and materials resources as others and the government with federal character posture is not helping. Then that the government rely on self-help to develop community and the continuous reliance on self self-help has remained a primary source of discomfort on the inability of the less privileged communities to play the same role. Thus it seems logical to work at the roles of self-help in community development programmes in Nsukka

it is hoped that this could be a source of information to the improve the standard of living of the rural areas to Nsukka to meet the expectation of Nsukka local government area of Enugu state and Nigeria in general.

1.2   STATEMENT OF THE RESEARCH PROBLEMS

Communities in other part of Nigeria used self0help efforts to effectively develop their stages. Enugu state has since recognized the value of self-help and has always called on its community to take leading role in self movement. Unfortunately, these communities have not been able to meet these challenges. Scholars such as Anka, and Onokerhoraye (1985) have argued that, the ability of most rural communities to cope with these challenges to save human and material resources at the disposal of most local communities. Some other have said that the failure was caused by government leaving the rural communities to fend for themselves. Some critics of self help programmes as Onibolen and Rogger (1981) have argued that the inability of most communities to evolve meaningful self-help project have been due to the non availability of sufficient forward looking individuals in the rural setting and administrative problems.

This study therefore seeks to investigate the role of self –help in relation development of communities and how these programme have fed in Nuskka local government area in view of ascertaining government determination to encourage and give support to the development of communities engaged in self-help efforts.

1.3   OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

To be able to carry out a research successfully, there must be at least particular objectives which the study wants to achieve. Every human being

must have an objective of doing anything.

The research work is aimed at:

1. To find out whether there are differences in roles of self-help among female and male community members.

2. To ascertain whether there differences in the roles of self-help among rural and urban dwellers.

3. To find out whether there are differences in the role of community members as a result of the incentive they received from government and

4. To investigate the role of self-help in community development

1.4 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

In a view to ascertain the validity of the research work, the researcher put forward the following research questions;

1. Are female participant more than male counterpart in community development programme?

2. Do rural areas participate more in self-help programme than the urban centers?

3. What is the level of government financial support for self project in Nsukka local government council?

4. What is the level of local government council support for self-help in community development project?

1.5 RESEARH HYPOTHESIS

The following hypothesis will be tested in this study to ascertain the validity of the research work

Hypothesis One

H_0: Rural community has not witnessed tremendous development through self-help

H₁: Rural community has witnessed tremendous development through self-help

Hypothesis Two

H₀: there is no significant relationship between self-help and community development.

H₁: there is significant relationship between self-help and community development

Hypothesis Three

H₀: self – help in community is not a tool for national development

H₁: self – help in community is not tool for national development

1.6 SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The research is designed to cover Nsukka community which is located in Nsukka local government area. The study is concentrated in Nuskka and on the role of self-help in community development programme in Nsukka. However, occasional reference will be made to other contributors in the field.

1.7 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The study ill increase the existing literature in adult education as a discipline.

Besides it will give rural dweller better understanding of the role of self-help and thus channels their effort to more viable projects.

The findings of this study will enable communities to intensify efforts towards initiating more viable projects to improve their areas.

This work will nr useful to local government in monitoring the roles of self-help in development process.

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This work will be useful to policy makers and administrators in gaining greater understanding of the role of self-help in community

1.8   LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

During the course of research work, several factors brought about constraint or hindrance of which the following were feasible one.

Time factor

Time as a factor was not enough to execute this project work due to academic work which run alongside the project. Getting the appropriate information from respondent was also a very difficult task because of the outbreak of Corona Virus pandemic which stall human activities and forced government to imposed a compulsory lockdown to contain the spread.

Finance

Finance constitutes a major hindrance to this research work, traveling to Enugu from school was not very easy and the high cost of transportation also hinder this research work.

The study was limited by inadequate literature in the polytechnic library. The research has no source onerously for information with which this study was carried out's

1.9   OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS

In the course of this work, some terms were used to put this work together, we shall literarily look at the meaning of some of these words as used in the research work.

- **Community:** Persons or group of people in the same environment sharing the same language, and belief and having a specific boundary with common heritage, putting their resources together to develop their area.

- **Community Development:** as something dealing with the sequence through which communities (or their segment) advances from preindustrial to industrial stage.

- **Development:** derived from verb develop; according to oxford advance learner's dictionary of current English, it means to grow larger, fuller or more mature or organized. Development means a new state has been reached as consequences of developing.

- **Development programmes:** project capable of improving the living standard of communities.

- **Programme:**   these are list of project meant for implementation.

- **Roles:**   the part played by every community members in the project embarked upon by the communities through communal efforts to improve standard of living.

- **Social Amenities:** the basic necessities like pipe borne water, hospitals, maternity centres, electricity, postal agencies etc to make an area developed.

- **Viable Projects:** work embarked upon by communities which are capable of attracting government assistance.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 CONCEPT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community development is a process were community members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to certain problems. Community wellbeing (economic. Social, environmental and cultural) often evolves from this type of collective action being taken at a grassroots level. Community development ranges from small initiatives within a small group to large initiative that involves broader community.

Effective community development should be:

1. A long0term endeavor and well planned.

2. Inclusive and equitable.

3. Holistic and integrated into the bigger picture.

4. Initiated and supported by community member of benefit to the community grounded in experience that leads to best practice.

Community development is a grassroots process by which communities:

1. Become more responsive .

2. Organize and plan together.

3. Develop healthy lifestyle options

4. Empower themselves

5. Reduce poverty and suffering

6. Create employment and economic opportunities

7. Achieve social, economic, cultural and environmental goals.

Community development seeks to improve quality of life, effective community development result in mutual benefit and shared responsibilities among community members. Such development recognizes:

1. The connection between social, cultural, environmental and economic matters

2. The diversity of interest within a community

3. Its relationship to building capacity

Community development helps to build community capacity in order to address issues and take advantage of opportunities, find common ground and balance competing interest. It doesn't just happen. Capacity building requires both a conscious and conscientious effort to do something (or many things) to improve the community.

2.1.2 MEANING OF COMMUNITY

Often when we think a community, we think of geographic terms. Our community is the, town or village where we live. Hen community is defined through physical location, it has precise boundaries that are readily understood and accepted by other. Defining communities in terms of

geography, however is only one way of looking at them. Community can also be defined by common cultural heritage, language and beliefs or shared interest. These are sometimes called communities of interest. Even when community does refer to a geographic location, it doesn't always includes everyone within the area for example, many aboriginal communities are part of a larger non-aboriginal geography. In lager urban centres, communities are often differed in terms of particular neighbourhoods.

Most of us belong to more than Most of us belong to more than one whether we are aware or nor not. For example an individual can be part of a neighbourhood community, a religious community, and a community of shared interest all at the same time. Relationship whether ith people or the land defines a community for each individual.

2.1.3 Meaning of Development

The term development often carries an assumption of growth activities and expansion. During the industrial era, development was strongly connected to increased speed, volume and size. However, many people are currently questioning the concept of growth for numerous reasons. a realization that more isn't always better or an increasing aspect for reducing outside dependence and lowering levels of consumerism. So while the term development may not always mean growth it always imply change.

The community development process takes charge od the conditions and factors that influence a community and changes the quality of life of its members. Community development is a tool for managing change not a:

1.   a quick fix or a short0term response to a specific issue within a community

2.   a process that seek to exclude community members from participating or

3.   an initiative that occurs in isolation from other related community.

2.1.4 Community Development Defined

Community development is a practice based profession and an academic discipline that promotes participative democracy, sustainable development, right equality, economic opportunity and social justice through the organization , education and empowerment of people within their communities, whether these be of locally identity or interest, in urban and rural settings.(Chiazor, 2002)

Community development is about community building as such, where the process is as important as the result. One of the primary challenges of community development is to balance the need for long term solution with day-to-day realities that require immediate decision making and short-term actions. According to Dolan (2005) Community development is a process where community member come together to take collective action and generate

solution to common problems. Community wellbeing (economic, social environmental and cultural) often evolves from this type of collective action being taken at a grassroots level.

The United Nations defines community development as a process where community members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to common problems. It is a broad concept applied to the practice of civil leaders, activists, involved citizen and professional to improve various aspect of communities typically aiming to build stronger and more resilient local communities.

Community development is also understood as a professional discipline and it is defined by the International Association for Community Development (www.iacdglobal.ord) the global network of community development practitioners and scholars as a practice based profession and an academic discipline that promotes participative democracy. Sustainable development and social justice through the organization, education and empowerment of people within their communities whether these be of locality, identity or interest in urban and rural settings.

Community development seeks to empower individuals and groups of people with the skills, they need to effect change within their communities. These skills are often created through the formation of social groups working

for a common agenda. Community developer must understand both how to work with individual and how to affect communities positions within the context of larger social institutions.

Community development as a term has taken off widely in Anglophone countries, i.e the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, New Zealand as well as other countries in the Commonwealth of b. It is also used in some countries in eastern Europe with active Community Development Associations in Hungary and Romania. The Community Development Journal publish by Oxford University press since 1966 has assumed to be the major forum for research and dissemination of International Community development theory and practice.

Community development approaches are recognized internationally. These methods and approaches have been acknowledge as significant for local social economic, cultural, environmental and political development by such organization as the UN, WHO, World Bank Council in Europe and EU.

The community development challenge represent was produced by a working party comprising leading UK organizations in the field (including the now defunct) Community Development Foundation, the (now defunct) Community Development Exchange and the Federation for Community Development Learning defined community development as:

A set of values and practices which plays a special role in overcoming poverty and disadvantaged society together at the grassroots and deepening democracy. There is a community development profession defined by national occupational standards and a tool of theory and experience going back the best part of a century. There are active citizens who use community development techniques on a voluntary basis and there are also professions and agencies which uses a community development approach on some aspect of it.

Community Development Exchange defines community development as both an occupation (such as a community development worker in a local authority and a way of working with communities. Its key purpose is to build communities base on justice, equality and mutual respect.

Community development involves changing the relationships between ordinary people and people in positions of power so that everyone can take part in the issues that affect their lives. It stands from the principle that within any community their a wealth of knowledge and experience which if used in creative ways can be channeled into collective action to achieve the community desired goals.

Community development practitioners work alongside people in communities to help build relationships with key people and organizations and to identify common concerns. They create opportunities for the community to

learn new skills and by enabling people to act together. Community development practitioners help to foster social inclusion and equality.

2.2 APPROACHES TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

There are numerous approaches to community development. Some focus on the process, some on the outcomes/objective. They includes:

1. Community Engagement: focuses on relationships at the core of facilitating understanding and evaluation, involvement, exchange of information and opinions about a concept issue or project with the aim of building social capital and enhancing social outcomes through decision – making.

2. Women self0help group; focusing on the contribution of omen in settlement groups.

3. Community capacity building; focusing on helping communities obtain, strengthen and maintain the ability to set and achieve their own development objective.

4. Large group capacitation; an adult education and social psychology approach grounded in the activity of the individual and the special psychology of the large group focusing groups of unemployed or semi-employed participants, many of whom with lower level of literacy (LLLs)

5. Social capital formation; focusing on benefits derived from the corporation between individuals and groups

6. Nonviolent direct action: when a group of people take action to reveal an existing problem, highlights an alternative or demonstrate a possible solution to a social issue which is not being address through traditional societal institutions (government, religions organizations or established trade unions) to the satisfaction of the direct action participants.

7. Economic development; focusing on the development of developing countries as measured by their economies although it includes processes and policies by which a nation improves the economic, political and social well-being of its people.

8. Community economic development (CED)l an alternative to conventional economic development which encourages using local resources in a way that enhances economics outcomes while improving social conditions. For example, CED involves strategies which aim to improve access to affordable housing medical and child care.

9. A worker cooperative is a progressive CED strategy that operates as business both managed and owned by their employee. They are beneficial due to their potential to create jobs and providing a role for grassroots potential political actors. Some challenges that the worker

cooperative faces includes the rendering of the cooperative identity as business and as a democratic humanitarian organization. They are limited in resources and scale.

10. Sustainable development which seeks to achieve in a balanced manner, economic development, social development and environmental protection outcomes.

11. Community – Driven Development (CDD), an economic development model which shifts over relevance on central government to local communities.

12. Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD); is a methodology that seeks to uncover and use the strengths within communities as a means for sustainable development.

13. Faith-based community development which utilizes faith0based organizations to bring about community development outcomes.

14. Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR); a partnership approach to research that equitably involves for example, community members, organizational representatives and researchers in all aspects of the research process and in which all partners contribute expertise and share decision making and ownership which aims to integrate this knowledge with community development outcomes.

15. Community organization: an approach that generally assumes that social change necessarily involves conflict and social struggle in order to generate collective power for the powerless.

16. Participatory Planning including community-based; planning (CBR) involving the entire community in the strategic and managerial process on urban planning or community0level planning process, urban or rural.

17. Town-making or Machizukuri (£5 x b) refers to a Japanese concept which is an umbrella term generally understood as citizen participation in the planning and management of a living environment. It can include redevelopment, revitilation and post-disaster reconstruction and usually emphasizes, the importance of local citizen participation. In recent years, cooperation between local communities and contents tourism (such as Video games, anime, and Mango) has also become a key driver of Machinuzu in some local communities such as the tie-up between CAPCOMS Sengoku Basra and the city of Shiratshi.

18. Language – based development or language revitalization focuses on the use of language so that it serves the needs of a community. This may involve the creation of books, films and other media in the language. The actions help a small language community to preserve their language and culture.

19. Methodologies focusing on the educational component of the community development, including the committee empowerment that increased educational opportunity creeds.

20. Methodologies addressing the issues and challenges of the digital divide making affordable training and access to computers and the internet, addressing the marginalisation of local communities that cannot connect and participate in the global online community. In the United States, non profit organizations such as per scholars seek to break the cycle of poverty by providing education technology and economic opportunities to individuals, families and communities as a path to development from the communities they serve.

There are myriad of job titles from community development workers and their employers include public authorities and voluntary or non-governmental organizations funded by the state and by independent grants making bodies. Since the nineteen seventies, the prefix word community has also been adopted by several other occupations from the police and health workers to planner and architects which have influenced by community development approaches.

2.3   HISTORY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Amongst the earliest community development approaches where those developed in Kenya and British East Africa during the 1930s. community

development practitioners have over many years developed a range of approaches for working within local communities and in particular with disadvantaged people. Since the nineteen sixties and seventies through the various poverty programmes in both developed and developing countries community development practitioners have been inslured by structural analyses as to the causes of disadvantage and poverty, inequalities in the distribution of wealth, income land and especially political power and the need to mobilise people power to effect social change.

Thus the influence of such educators as Paulo Freire and his few works . other key people who have influenced this field are Seul Avansky (rules for radicals) and E.F Schemachers (small is beautiful). There are number of international organization that support community development for example Oxfam, UNICEF. The hunger project and freedom from hunger and community development activities for relief and prevention of malnutrition since 2006, the dragon dreaming project management techniques have spread to 37 different countries and engaged in an estimated 3250 projects worldwide.

2.3.1 Community development in United States

In the united states in the 1960s, the term community development began complement and generally focused on physical development projects often at the expense of working class communities. One of the earliest proponents of the

term in the United State was social scientist William Biddle in the late 1960, philanthropies such as the Ford foundation and government officials such as Senator Robert, F. Kennedy took an interest in local nonprofit organization. A pioneer was the Bedford restoration corporation in Brooklyn which attempted to apply business and management skills to the social mission of uplifting low income residents and their neighbourhoods, eventually such groups become known as community development corporations or CDCS and other nonprofit organizations.

National organizations such as the Neighbourhood Reinvestment corporation (founded in 1978 and now known as Neigbhour Works America), the local initiative support corporation (LSC) founded in 1980 and the enterprise foundation (founded in 1971) have built extensive network of affiliated local nonprofit organization to which they help provide financing for countless physical and social development programs in urban and rural communities. The CDCs and similar organizations have been credited with starting the process that stabilized and revived seemingly hopeless inner city are such as the south Bronx in New York.

2.3.2 Community development in United Kingdom

In the UK, community development has had two main traditions. The first was an approach for proffering for independence of countries from the

former British Empire in the 1950s and 1950s. domestically, it first came into public prominence with the labour, government, and anti deprivation programmes of the latter sixties and seventies. The main example of this being the CDP (Community Development Programme), which piloted local area based community development. This influenced a number of largely urban authorities in particular in societies with small regions major on community development programme (the largest of the time in Europe)

The Gulbenken Foundation as a key founder of commissions and reports which influenced the development of community development in the UK from the latter sixties to eighties. This included recommending that there be a national institute or centre for community development, able to support practice and to advice government and local authorities on policy. This was formerly set up in 1991 as the community development foundation in 2004, the Carnegie UK Trust established a commission of inquiry into the future of rural community development examining such issues as land reform and climate change, Carnegie funded over sixty rural community development action research project and the UK and Ireland and national and international communities to practice to exchange experience. This included the International Association for community development.

In 1999, a UK wide organization responsible for setting professional training standard fro all education and development practitioners working within local communities as established and recognized by the government. This organization as called Paulo the National Training organization for community development (it was named after Paulo Freire) who as formally recognized by David Blunketh, the secretary of the state fo education and employment. Its first chair was Charlie McConnell the chief executive of the Scottish Community Education council who had played a lead role in bringing together a range of occupational interest under a single national training standard body including community education, community development and development education.

The inclusion of community development were significant as it takes initially uncertain as to whether it would form NTO for social cares. The community learning and development NTO represent all the main employers, trades unions professional associations and national development agencies working in this area across the four nations of the UK.

The term community learning and development was adopted to acknowledge that all of these occupations, worked primarily within local communities and that this work encompassed not just providing less formal learning support but also a concern for wider holistic development of those

communities, social – economically environmentally, culturally and politically. By bringing together these occupational groups this created for the first time a single recognized employment sector for nearly 300,000 full and partime paid staff within the UK , approximately, 10% of these staff being full time. The NTO continued to recognized the range of different occupation within it, for example specialist who work primarily with young people but all agreed that they shared a core set of professional approaches to their work. In 2002, the NTO became part of a wider sector skills council for lifelong learning.

2.3.3 Community Development in Nigeria

The importance of community development in contemporary Nigerian society cannot be overemphasized as much as it cannot be relegated to the background as its significance stems from its recognized role in the process of achieving the communities. As a study, community development ensure rapid national hence (Ugwu''s 2009) assertion "community development is one of the major planks upon which National developmental policies and their implementation are hinged". This is why the group dynamic perspective of rural community development becomes imperative especially as issues in rural community development with special emphasis on self-help approach tend to rely on the "felt need theory" and the traditional democratic theory". These theories are indicative of the place of people's participation in the development

of the rural populace. Hence the search by development theories over the years for alternative strategies that would not only accelerate growth but also spread the benefits of development to the rural areas, the distortion of Nigeria's development pattern as decried by Aboyade (1980) when he wrote about the profound dualism between the urban and rural areas and the proportionate costs and consequences of rural infrastructural lagging behind urban modernism.

Consequently, some eighty percent of the population in rural areas either had no medical services or made do with rudimentary facilities scattered over wide distances (Onimode, 1982). This obvious neglect of the rural majority of Nigerians in the developmental scheme of things, is an indictment of both colonial and independent governments not only for neglecting the majority who live in the rural areas but also for "milking them dry" for the benefits of the British metropolis and the urban minority in Nigeria. Contemporarily, rural community development has become a national imperative in Nigeria and the following are the reason.

Firstly, the proportion of the national population resident in the rural areas of Nigeria is higher hence the 1963 census, which place the figure at 80.7% of the national population. By 1985, this proportion went down to 70.13% and by 1990; it further dropped to 69%. It is therefore clear that despite our high level of urbanization, Nigeria remains largely rural. Secondly, is the

realization that a dangerous gap exists in the development levels of both the urban and rural areas which threatens the political and social stability of the country. Hence the development of a country cannot be completed with the singular act of developing the urban areas at the detriment of the rural area which supplies the urban areas with food and labour.

Disheartening as it may sound and seem, the rural areas are characterized by pervasive and endemic poverty, made manifest by widespread hunger, malnutrition, poor health, general lack of access to formal education, liveable housing and various forms of social and political solution compared with their urban counterparts. Thirdly, it is being recognized that the problems of our urban centres cannot be solved unless those of the rural areas are solved, or at least contained. Hence these problems emanated from the unprecedented rural-urban migration which in turn derives from rural area underdevelopment, poverty and unemployment (Akpomuvie, 2010).

Despite the efforts made in the past to effect development at the rural areas, the conditions of the rural dwellers have not improved, rather they have further deteriorated. It is against this background that this paper examines "the group dynamisms of Nigerian rural community development.

2.4   CONCEPTUAL AND THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVE

The choice of the topic- rural-community development; instead of "rural development", "community development" and/or "rural and community development" is based on the observed misconceptualization of the concepts involved such as rural, community and development. In the literature, scholars have used rural development and community development interchangeable. Some of them have even succeeded in pinpointing one or two attributes to distinguish them. Such attributes as the involvement of external forces in the execution of the project that is aimed at enhancing the development of such area.

Others talked about the funding of the project as well as the initiation of the project. For us, this aspect dwells in the realm of approaches to community development. Semantically, the term "rural" is an adjective that precedes a noun; Nouns such as a place, a person or a thing. Therefore such nouns should be society, community, economy, dwellers, people, areas, environment etc. it is strictly compared to the antonym, urban.

Rural and urban are two broad categorisation of a society. Such as urban societies; rural societies, urban dwellers; rural dwellers, urban communities; rural communities, et cetera. The term „development" is an adverb that gives more information about a thing, place, person an even an adjective. Thus, the

adverb (development) gives more information about the adjective (rural). Essentially therefore, rural development as a concept is colloquially used in development literature as it is simply a combination of adverb and adjective- both, seeking to describe and give more information about a noun (community, area, people, dwellers, environment, society, etc). Explicatively, our choice of the concept of rural-community development is to capture the real meaning of the entire concepts.

Therefore, we seek to assert that most, if not all definitions of and talks on rural or community development is actually talking about "rural-community development". This is premised on the assumption that development does not occur in a vacuum but in a place. That place (community) is the noun that the adjective (rural) seeks to describe and the adverb (development) gives more information about. An understanding of the concept of development however, will give a clearer picture of rural community development.

Therefore its conceptualisation suffices as Hornby (2000), defines development as the gradual growth of something so that it becomes more advanced, stronger, etc. This definition implies that development involves a gradual or advancement through progressive changes. changes, which Umebali (2006) saw as multi-dimensional involving changes in structures, attitude and institutions as well as the acceleration of economic growth; the reduction of

inequality and eradication of absolute poverty. He further asserts that development involves economic growth component, equality or social justice component, and socio-economic transformational component which are all on a self sustaining basis. Viewing the concept differently, Simon (2004) sees it as an improvement in quality of life (not just material standard of living) in both quantitative terms.

He further opines that development must be seen as actually and temporally relative, needing to be appropriated to time, space, society, and culture. From the foregoing, it is obvious that rural-community development is not a one-off thing or an immediate and snap phenomenon. Rather, it is gradual and progressive towards perfection. The idea of self-help is one of several distinguishing features of rural community development theory, practice and ideology. It is based on the premise that people can, will and should collaborate to solve community problems. In addition to the practical problem-solving utility of this perspective, self-help builds a strong sense of community and a foundation for future collaboration. It embodies the notion that a community can achieve greater self-determination within constraints imposed by the larger political economy in which it is imbedded. In community development practice, it is rudimentary that the solution to community problems is sought first within the community and its resources and capabilities. Hence self-help embodies two

interrelated features: (1) it is expected to produce improvements of people's living conditions, facilities, and/or services; and (2) it emphasizes that the process by which these improvements are achieved is essential to the development of the community. Willynilly, the "community" is both improved and empowered as a result (Christenson & Robison, 2008) having a set standard in mind. No wonder some scholars and writers referred to it as a process.

To conceptualise the concept of rural-community development, the characteristics of a rural area will suffice alongside variety of definitions of community development from renowned scholars and institutions, which will be compared with the various definitions of the misconstrued concept of rural development. Outlining the characteristics of a rural area, Ekekpe and Ekpe (2009) averred „whether you are in the northern part of the country or in the southern part, you will be struck by the very level of abject poverty; mass illiteracy; unsanitized environment; lack of clean water supply; lack of access roads; unavailability of health care facilities; improper and inadequate housing; poor lighting particular at night; large family sizes; small income; defeatist/fatalist attitude; small land parcel ownership; out-moded ineffective farming implement etc. these conditions discourage the educated young persons from remaining in the rural areas. The result is unchecked rural-urban

migration, thus further depleting from the rural areas, the human potential resources for development.

In line with the above characteristics of rural development, scholars have defined rural development variedly. For instance, Obinne (1991) perceived it as involving creating and widening opportunities for (rural) individuals to realize full potential through education and share in decision and action which affect their lives. He further views it as efforts to increase rural output and create employment opportunities and root out fundamental or extreme cases of poverty, diseases and ignorance.

Others like Olayide, Ogunfowora, Essang and Idachaba (1981) view it as means for the provision of basic amenities, infrastructure, improved agriculture productivity and extension services and employment generation for rural dwellers. Hence, Olayide et al (1981) see it as a process whereby concerted efforts are made in order to facilitate significant increase in rural resources productivity with the central objective of enhancing rural income and creating employment opportunity in rural communities for rural dwellers to remain in the area. It is also an integrated approach to food production, provision of physical, social and institutional infrastructures with an ultimate goal of bringing about good healthcare delivery system, affordable and quality education, improved and sustainable agriculture etc.

From several quarters, the call that rural development needs to be given priority attention have come. Several reasons for such urgency such as high and unacceptable rate of poverty, poor access to social and economic infrastructure and services such as access to safe drinking water supply and sanitation, higher rate of health indicator such as infant mortality rate, malnutrition and disease prevalence and lower enrolment of children in school

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH MOTHEDOLOGY

3.1   RESEARCH DESIGN

Descriptive research is used in the study. The research design is of two types, these are the survey and case study. The researcher embarks on the descriptive research design because of the nature of study.

3.2   POPULATION OF THE STUDY

The population of the study covers feminine gender in the Nsukka Local government which were selected for the study. A total of 135 respondents were selected from the various wards in the local government.

3.3   SAMPLE SIZE

The researcher used random sampling method in the selection of respondents for the study. Based on this techniques, a sample size of (100) respondents were selected from the entire population using Using Rinces Linkert formular to derive sample size

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + Ne^2}$$

Where n =   the sample size

   N = the total population

   E = tolerable error (normally 5%)

I = constant

Applying this formular in this study

$$N = \frac{135}{1 + 135 \, (0.05)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{135}{1.3375} = 100$$

3.4   METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION

In doing this research, the researcher sought for and collected data from various sources. Basically, data was sourced and collected from both the primary and secondary sources of information. The interview and questionnaire methods were the primary sources, while the secondary source entails the use of many relevant textbooks and journals, and unpublished lecture notes and internet.

3.5   INSTRUMENT OF DATA COLLECTION

This study was based on a survey. A structured questionnaire was extensively used to gather data from the respondents for the study.

Oral interview were conducted with some selected study participants. This was adapted so as to take care of any deficiency arising from the use of the questionnaire as instrument of data collection.

3.6   METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS

Tabulation and percentage score method was used to analysed the data that was collected from respondents on the issue raised in the questionnaire which was administered by the use of the

formula percentage score = $\underline{X}$ x $\underline{100}$

$\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\quad$ N $\quad$ 1

X = the total number of respondent with the same answer or choice

N = the total number of respondent who took part in the study.

Also the hypotheses formulated in the chapter of these research work were tested using chi-square.

$X^2 = \sum(f_0 - f_e)$

f_e

Where X^2 = Chi square

$\sum$ = summation

F_o = observed frequency (i.e number of response, received)

F_e = expected frequency (i.e number of expected)

Level of significance

The degree of freedom is calculated thus

D/F = (r-1) (c-1)

D/F = degree of freedom

R = number of rows

C = number of columns

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION ANALYSIS OF DATA INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

4.1   PRESENTATION OF DATA

The essence of this chapter is show the data obtained in tabular form and analysed them based on the importance of the topic as well as the topic itself of the 100 questionnaire sent out and were retrieved from the respondents (100%) of actual number administered

TABLE 4.1.1; **Does Self-Help Effort Bring About Development ?**

Responses	No of respondent	Percentage
Yes	90	90%
No	10	10%
Total	100	100%

Source: computed from the field 2021

This analysis shows that 90% of the respondents believed that self- help effort brings about community development while the rest of 10% says no, which means that only 10 percent say that self0help effort does not bring about community development

Table 4.1.2: If yes, how would you rate the contribution ?

Responses	No of respondent	Percentage
Very satisfactory	50	50
Satisfactory	30	30
Fairly satisfactory	10	10
Unsatisfactory	10	10
Total	100	100%

Source: computed from the field 2021

Analyses shows that 50% of the respondents rate the contribution very satisfactory, 30 % percent rate satisfactory, 10% said fairly satisfactory, while the other 10% said unsatisfactory

TABLE 4.1.3; does the economy support community self-help effort towards achieving community development?

Response	No of respondent	Percentage
Yes	90	90
No	10	10
Total	100	100%

Source: computed from the field 2021

This analysis shows that 90% of the respondents believed economy support community self - help effort towards achieving community development while 10% says no.

Table 4.1.4 is the significant relationship between self-help effort and community development?

Working experience	No of respondent	Percentage
Yes	80	80
No	20	20
Total	100	100%

Source: computed from the field 2021

This analysis shows that 80% of the respondents said yes that there is a a significant relationship between self-help effort and community development while 20% said no.

4.2   TEST OF HYPOTHESIS

In testing for formulated hypothesis we are making use of chi-square which makes us to know the variants and relationship between variables.

Chi square formula is $X^2 = \dfrac{\sum(f_0 - f_e)}{f_e}$

HYPOTHESIS 1

Ho: Rural community has not witness tremendous development through self-help

H1:   Rural community has witness tremendous development through self-help

The table below shows the findings relating to the hypothesis

Community development and self-help effort	Very satisfactory	Satisfactory	Fairly satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
Yes	50	30	10	-	90
No	-	-	-	10	10
Total	**50**	**30**	**10**	**10**	**100**

Source: data computed from field 2021

Chi square formula is $X^2 = \dfrac{\sum(f_0 - f_e)}{f_e}$

Where

F_o = observed frequency (i.e number of response, received)

F_e = expected frequency (i.e number of expected)

E = expected frequency of any value ,

Level of significant = 5% of x^2 table

O	E	O-E	$(O-E)^2$	$\frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$
50	45	5	25	5.55
30	45	3	9	3.33
10	9	1	1	1.11
10	1	9	81	81
Total	33		17	

Source: data computed from field 2021

Chi square formula is $X^2 = \sum \frac{(f_0 - f_e)}{f_e} = 90.9$

X^2 at different of 0.05% level of significant

Degree of freedom (row – 1) column – 1) (2-1) (4-1) = 1+3 = 3

Decision: from the test above, the research hypothesis H1; which state clearly that rural community has witness tremendous development through self-help should be accepted. This is based on the fact that the calculated value is greater than the chi-square value (X^2) table value 7.815

HYPOTHESIS 2

Ho: there is no significant relationship between self-help and community development

H1:   there is a significant relationship between self-help and community development

The table below shows the findings relating to the hypothesis

Relationship between self-help effort and community development	Very satisfactory	Satisfactory	Fairly satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total

Yes	10	45	35	-	90
No	-	-	-	10	10
Total	**10**	**45**	**35**	**10**	**100**

Source: data computed from field 2021

Chi square formula is $X^2 = \frac{\sum(f_0 - f_e)}{f_e}$

Where

F_o = observed frequency (i.e number of response, received)

F_e = expected frequency (i.e number of expected)

E = expected frequency of any value ,

Level of significant = 5% of x^2 table

O	E	O-E	$(O-E)^2$	$\frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$
10	9	1	1	1.1
45	40.5	4.5	20.25	5.01
35	3.5	31.5	99.2	28.3
10	1	9	81	81
X^2				115.4

Source: data computed from field 2021

Chi square formula is $X^2 = \frac{\sum(f_0 - f_e)}{f_e} = 115.4$

X^2 at different of 0.05% level of significant

Degree of freedom (row – 1) column – 1) (2-1) (4-1) = 1x3 = 3

Table value at 3 degree of freedom = 7.815

Decision: from the test above, the research hypothesis H1; which state clearly that there is significant relationship between self-help effort and community development and should be accepted. This is based on the fact that the calculated value is greater than the chi-square value (X^2) table value 7.815

HYPOTHESIS 3

Ho: self –help in community is not a tool for national development

H1: self – help in community is a tool for national development

The table below shows the findings relating to the hypothesis

Self help a tool for national development	Very satisfactory	Satisfactory	Fairly satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
Yes	50	25	5	-	80
No	-	-	-	20	10
Total	**10**	**45**	**35**	**10**	**100**

Source: data computed from field 2021

Chi square formula is $X^2 = \sum \dfrac{(f_0 - f_e)}{f_e}$

Where

F_o = observed frequency (i.e number of response, received)

F_e = expected frequency (i.e number of expected)

E = expected frequency of any value ,

Level of significant = 5% of x^2 table

O	E	O-E	$(O-E)^2$	$\dfrac{(O-E)^2}{E}$
50	40	10	100	2.5
25	20	5	25	1.25
5	4	1	1	0.25
20	4	16	25.6	6.5
X^2				19.5

Source: data computed from field 2021

Chi square formula is $X^2 = \sum \dfrac{(f_0 - f_e)}{f_e} = 115.4$

X^2 at different of 0.05% level of significant

Degree of freedom (row – 1) column – 1) (2-1) (4-1) = 1x3 = 3

Table value at 3 degree of freedom = 7.815

Decision: from the test above, the research hypothesis H1; which state clearly that self-help is a tool for community development and should be accepted. This is based on the fact that the calculated value is greater than the chi-square value (X^2) table value 3.841

4.4   DISCUSSION OF FINDING

The discussion of findings of this work was achieved after analyzing questionnaire personal interview as conducted and experienced during the period of research work, the following were made.

1. This analysis shows that 90% of the respondents believe that self-help effort brings about community development as their option are harnessed through their response

2. It was find out that there is economy support community self-help effort towards achieving community development.

3. From the 90% of the respondents that believe that the economy support community self-help effort towards achieving community development, it can be seen that that the economy viably ushering support for community shelf-help in order to attain development.

4. It was also discovered that from the 80% of the respondents said yes that there is a significant relationship between self-help effort and community development. This means self-help has a way of developing the economy and improving the living standard of the people.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1   SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The work done in this study was put together in summary, conclusion and policy recommendation as made for implementation and subsequent areas for further study was put forward.

The researcher studied community development through self-help effort using Nsukka Town in Nsukka local government area as a case study.

The statement of problem formulated in chapter one intended to investigate the extent to which self-help has contributed to community development.   It was established that self-help effort has contributed to community development. It was established that self-help effort has contributed to community development and subsequently empower the local community to be able to fend for themselves without having to rely on the government.

It was discovered that Nsukka town has witnessed tremendous development owing to the fact that the community has been able to harnessed all the available resources within her reach to develop it. And also the positive collocation between self-help and community development cannot be overemphasized as it has helped to provide basic necessities to the community.

5.2   CONCLUSION

Conclusively the importance of self-help in any community cannot be overemphasized this is because the government cannot provide everything that is needed for every citizen. The study drew a view from advance countries of the worlds like United States and UK, they have been developed through community self-help and also the rate of community self is playing in the advanced democracy.

Most developed nations today are developed because of their participation in community self-help effort. It also contribute to the growth of a nation. Economy, thereby increasing the gross domestic product (GDP)

It has helped in solving problems of overdependence in government to some extent, majority of the people are now in tune with community development project as such they want to participate and have a sense of belonging.

Therefore any community that is eager to be developed must not ignore the practice of self help effort because since it can help in lifting the burden on government.

5.3   RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings the following recommendation were made:

1. Government should encourage community to embark on self-help programme as it would be helpful in national development.

2. The community should create enabling environment for the people to participate in community development.

3. Community project should be made public so as to enable everyone participate and contribute to the development of the community.

4. Government should try and provide assistance by way of finance to encourage those that want to embark on self help project or those who embark and count finish.

5. Financial institution (banks) can also help by providing long term loan to interested communities at low interest rate.

6. Industries, companies or organization which are sited in communities should do well to participate in community programme.

The researcher sincerely hopes that if the above recommendations are adopted, there would be greater room for more national development.

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Sir/Madam,

QUESTIONNAIRE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH SELF HELP EFFORT IN NIGERIA

I am a final year student of the Department of Public Administration Federal Polytechnic Auchi.

I have been assigned to carryout a research work on the "Community development through self-help effort using Nsukka Town in Nsukka local government area of Enugu State.

The purpose of the questionnaire is to elicit necessary information on the attached questionnaire to complete my research.

The study is a part fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Higher National Diploma (HND)

The research is strictly for academic purpose therefore, any information supplied, will be treated with strict confidence.

It will be highly appreciated if you can provide honest answers to the questions state below.

Thank for your co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

UCHE UHUNOMA

APPENDIX II

QUESTIONNAIRE

Please tick the appropriate answer or write briefly on the space provided.

1. Six: ( ) or ( ) name…………………………….. options

   a. Male ( )

   b. Female ( )

2. Marital status

   a. Single ( )

   b. Married ( )

   c. Divorced ( )

   d. Widower ( )

3. Age:

   a. 15-25 years ( )

   b. 25-35 years ( )

   c. 35-45 years ( )

   d. 45-55 years ( )

4. Education qualification

   a. Primary six certificate ( )

   b. Modern three/government class from certificate ( )

   c. WASC/GCE ( )

d. Ba, BSC, MA, MISC, AND PHD ( )

PART II

1. Does self – help effort bring about development?

   Yes ( )

   No ( )

2. Does the economy support community self-help effort towards achieving community development

   a. Yes ( )

   b. No ( )

3. Is there any significant relationship between self-help and community development?

   a. Yes ( )

   b. No ( )

4. Has rural community witness tremendous development through self-help?

   a. Yes ( )

   b. No ( )

5. Self-help in community is a tool for national development?

   a. Yes ( )

   b. No ( )