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World Bank Rural Development in Ebonyi State: A Study of Community, Water and Social Development Projects in Ikwo Local Government Area (2009-2014)

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ABSTRACT
The study on World Bank Rural Development in Ebonyi State investigated why the rural communities depended on natural water resources rather than the water provided for them through World Bank Assisted Projects. Survey Research Design was used because of the nature of the study which was quantitative. The hypotheses formulated to guide the study were: (i) the socio-cultural factors do not prevent the rural communities from benefiting and enjoying the World Bank assisted water project, (ii) the poor quality of water project does not affect the rural communities from benefiting from the World Bank Programme, (iii) the location of water project does not affect the rural communities from benefiting from the World Bank programme, and (iv) the abandonment of Community and Social Development Project does not have negative impact on rural communities. The study showed that the rural communities do not benefit from World Bank assisted water project because of the impact of socio-cultural factors, the poor quality of water project, the location of water project, and the abandonment of Community and Social Development Project on them. The study recommended among other things that the government should encourage the rural communities to use the water projects in their localities by abolishing obnoxious cultural practices that hinder them from accessing the water project; project officials should be properly trained and monitored to ensure the provision of quality project and prevent fraudulent practices by the officials during execution of water projects and that water projects should be located within residential areas.
Keywords: *World Bank Rural Development, Community and Social Development Project and Socio-Cultural Factors.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Rural development in Nigeria is an age long issue which successive governments have given attention since the nation's independence in 1960. Realising that a large percentage of her population lives in the rural areas where the standard of living is very low due to the absence of social infrastructure, Nigerian Government has continued to partner with the Development Partners such as the World Bank to enhance the standard of living of the rural settlers across Nigeria.

[1] with Nigeria's population put at 180 million people by the 2016 population estimates and majority of which lives at the grassroots, that constitute the rural poor, the demand for development at that level has continued to be on the increase. [2] stated that apart from the lopsided nature of the rural population, most of the rural dwellers live in abject poverty. If development at the grassroots is to be measured by per-capita income of individuals then the level of development at that level, to a large extent, reflects the level of development nationally. In supporting Ocheni's view, [3] stressed that:

Almost 70% of the people in Nigeria live in rural areas and have not benefited much from the rural development programmes of the government over the years. For there to be grassroots development, the rural dwellers should be empowered to contribute to development. In distribution of the limited resources, emphasis should be placed on things that will have direct bearing on the lives of the downtrodden, especially programmes that will enhance the incomes of the rural settlers and as well transform infrastructure at the grassroots.

From Idode's view, it is obvious that the rural areas in Nigeria are not given adequate attention in the development agendas of past governments in the country. Social and economic development indicators are absent in the rural areas where most Nigerians reside.

To reverse the status quo, the World Bank through its assisted programmes in Nigeria has been providing social infrastructure at the grassroots. These infrastructures include skill acquisition centres, processing machines, rural roads, harvested rainfalls and boreholes, electricity, educational facilities and quality health care centres.

Apart from normal banking activities, the financial institutions engage in grassroots development. The history of the World Bank institution dates back to the early post 1945 World War II era when the bank considered it necessary to go into grassroots development to alleviate poverty among the people especially in the Third World countries' because of the neglect of basic needs, resources, and representation in politics.

In the Twentieth Century, the Bank gave attention to the plight of the rural population and representation and it was this rural concern that brought about the coming of the Bank to Nigeria to make development approach more participatory. The mission of the Bank evolved from International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) to the present day mandate of worldwide poverty alleviation with its affiliate, the International Development Association and other members of the World Bank Group, the International Finance Corporation, the Multi-lateral Guarantee Agency and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes.

The Transition programme of General Abdusalam Abubakar's Military regime and Chief Olusegun Obasanjo's administration resolved to partner with the Bank to take development to the door steps of the people, thus making the World Bank to stage the third come back (World Bank).

The World Bank focused on the economic empowerment and grassroots development as key to her overall strategy to alleviate poverty among Nigerians. [4] argued that the Country Driven Development Approach (CDDA) to development at the grassroots will enhance financing of social infrastructures across the country, and that the World Bank intervention in rural development enhances the incomes of the rural dwellers and their involvement in the control of resources and decision making and resource control. This implies that Community Driven Development Approach enhances decision making, and local governance, which are the necessary tools for ensuring genuine and sustainable development.

[5] noted that there was a harmonization of programmes of the World Bank in Nigeria between 2005-2007, to make them people oriented. It was the exercise that brought about the merging of two sister agencies: the Local Empowerment and Environment Management Project (LEEMP) and the Community Based Poverty Reduction Project (CBPRP) to form the Community and Social Development Project (CSDP).

The project is geared towards rural development in Nigeria. It is targeted at improving on the social and environmental infrastructure at the grassroots level and the responsibility of the Local Government Area in service delivery [6]. It is structured in a way that allows all levels of government and the rural communities to participate in rural development. At every level there is either, a community or unit, agency or board, to ensure smooth running of the programme. In addition, the CSDP allows the community to initiate priority projects and make at least 10% resource contributions to ensure the successful implementation of the project. These contributions may be in cash or kind or material. The CSDP seeks to the following goals;-

a) Make service delivery accessible.
b) B).Empower rural dwellers to contribute to development of all sectors.
c) Ensure Local Government and community partnership in human oriented programmes; and
d) Combine Federal, State, and Local Government Area and Community resources to promote Community Driven Development interventions in the rural communities [7].

In Ebonyi State, before the introduction of the World Bank assisted Programme, the people of the area had coexisted for ages. Because of the way the people were marginalized and neglected by past administrations, the military regime led by late General Sani Abacha, created Ebonyi on 1st October, 1996.

The population of Ebonyi State going by the 2006 population Census Figures is 3million people. The state was carved out of Abia State and Enugu State and has thirteen (13) Local Government Areas and Sixty four (64) Development Centres. The people are predominantly farmers and known for their cassava and yam farming. [8] explained that:

The Ebonyians are agrarians, peaceful with rich culture and have lived together over the years. Ebonyi state has a lot of natural resources, though the people of the area are seen as poor people by strangers because of the low level of development in the area, especially in the area of infrastructure.

When the state was created, the people heaved a sigh of relief as they were given their own destiny in their hands and they can now use the abundant natural endowments in the state to transform their lives and compete favourably with people from other states in the country. The coming of the World Bank to the State is aimed at transforming the grassroots through her assisted Community and Social Development Programmes.

In order to make the World Bank programme more efficient and effective in meeting the needs of the people, the administration of Chief Martin N. Elechi established the Ebonyi State Community and Social Development Agency (EB-CSDA) on 1st April, 2009. The agency provided social infrastructure such as roads, electricity, harvested rainfalls and boreholes, health care facilities and educational facilities.

However, Ikwo Local Government Area was one of the Local Governments chosen to benefit from the agency's water project. The Local Government has a population of Two Hundred and Fourteen Thousand, Six Hundred and Four (214, 604) people [9]. Water infrastructure such as boreholes and harvested rain fall and small water schemes are commonly seen in the Effiemgbabu village in Inyimagu Autonomous Community in the area. These infrastructure were put in place through the Agency with assistance of the World Bank between 2009- 2014, but the people of the area have not been using them because of their poor quality. This study was therefore designed to investigate the effect of Community and Social Development Programme water project in the area.

Statement of the problem

The World Bank intervention in rural development in Ebonyi State through her assisted Community and Social Development Programme is meant to transform infrastructure especially at the grassroots. As at 2012, a total of 66 micro projects had been implemented at the cost of Three Hundred and Twenty Three Million Naira (₦323M} in Ebonyi State [10]. Between that time and 2014 a lot of human oriented projects had also been completed, commissioned and put to use. In spite of the effort of World Bank in this regard, a lot still needs to be done to transform the rural areas. This is because lack of good quality water has continued to be a major obstacle to rural development in Ebonyi State. [11] noted that regular drinking water is not accessible in most villages. In the hinterlands people look dirty, and their houses look un-kept because of lack of clean water to maintain personal and environmental hygiene. Most water projects are not functioning.

People use water they fetch from the ponds, streams and rivers for domestic chores. Lack of good quality water has not only deepened poverty in the rural areas but also hampered all efforts geared toward rural development. [12] Stated that many people depend on poor quality water supplies. Lack of good quality water is a major cause of poverty, bad odors in the streets and diseases. Poor quality water contributes to the deteriorating population health in the rural areas [13].

From the foregoing, the paper aims to investigate the impact of World Bank assisted water project in Ikwo Local Government Area. This obviously made the paper to raise the following research questions:

How do the socio-cultural factors affect rural communities from benefiting the World Bank water projects?

How does the poor quality of water projects affect the rural communities from benefiting from World Bank programme?

Does the location of water projects affect the rural communities from benefiting from World Bank Programme?

Does the abandonment of the Community and Social Development Project have negative impact on the rural communities?

II. METHODOLOGY

This section describes the methods adopted in this paper. It explains the rationale for the design, area of the study, population of the study, sample size, sources of data as well as instrument for data collection and tools for data analysis.

Research Design

This paper employed Survey Research Design and depended on primary data to examine programme performance. [13] Noted that this design is adopted when collecting original data and it is peculiar to quantitative study. However, Survey Research Design was employed to gather new insight into World Bank and Rural Development in Ebonyi State. According to [14] and [15] with the survey design it is easy to test descriptions and make generalization.

Area of the study

The area of the study is Ikwo Local Government Area. It is located at Ebonyi Central Senatorial Zone of Ebonyi State with its common boundaries at the North – Izzi L.G.A., South – Onicha L.G.A., East – Cross River State and West - Ezza South L.G.A. The people of the area speak Igbo language and are predominantly farmers.

Population of the study

The paper covered the thirteen autonomous communities in Ikwo Local Government Area. These communities are Ekpanwudele, Ndufu Alike, Ekawoke, Uweka, Ndufu Echara, Okpoitumo, Indiegu Igbudu, Inyimagu, Echara, Amagu, Indiagu Amagu, Igbudu and Alike. The total population of the area is Two Hundred and Fourteen Thousand Six Hundred and Four people (214, 604), [16]. The male population of the area is Ninety Eight Thousand, Nine Hundred and Eighty Two people (98982) and the female population is One Hundred and Fifteen Thousand, Six Hundred and Twenty Two people (115, 622). The Local Government is a rural one. Both the male and female population of the area were studied on the account that they both participated in the execution of water project in the area.

The population is heterogeneous as it comprises of illiterates, literates and semi – illiterates and children. The sampling technique adopted for the study was simple random sampling. This sampling technique helped to study a sizeable number of rural dwellers because of the number of communities in the area. Everybody stood a chance to be selected in the population to form the sample.

Table 3: Population of Ikwo Local Government Area and sex

L.G.A	Population	Male	Female
Ikwo	214604	98982	115622

Source: National Population Commission, 2006

Sample Size

Due to the numerous communities in Ikwo Local Government Area comprising the population of the study, simple random sampling was used to determine the sample size to be administered with the research instrument. Simple random sampling was used for this study because it allowed the researcher to select the elements to be included in the sample as they relate to study [17]. As stated above, in simple random sampling, every element has a chance to be selected.

Consequently, the sample of rural dwellers studied was randomly but proportionately selected from the 13 Autonomous Communities of Ikwo Local Government Area. To this end, the actual sample size was determined by using [18] formula as shown below:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N\,(e)^2}$$

Where n = sample size
N = Total population of the study
e = error margin $(0.05)^2$
1 = Constant
Applying the Yamani mathematical model of determining sample size to the present study we have:

$$n = \frac{214604}{1 + 214604(0.05)^2} = \frac{214604}{538.51} = 399$$

Thus, the overall sample size for the study was 399.

However, Bowler's proportional allocation formula was used in determining the number of questionnaires to be allocated to each of the sampled rural communities.

The formula as quoted in [19] is:

$$nh = NHn$$

Where; nh = number of questionnaires allocated to each rural community.
N = overall population of the study
NH = population of each rural community
n = total sample size obtained

The formula when applied gave the following distributions:

Ekpanwudele $\frac{15408 \times 399}{214604} = 29$

Ndufu Alike $\frac{16508 \times 399}{214604} = 30$

Eka Awoke $\frac{17608 \times 399}{214604} = 33$

Uwueka $\frac{17916 \times 399}{214604} = 32$

Ndufu Echara $\frac{16000 \times 399}{214604} = 30$

Okpoitumo $\frac{16100 \times 399}{214604} = 30$

Ndiegu Igbudu $\frac{16916 \times 399}{214604} = 31$

Inyimagu $\frac{14000 \times 399}{214604} = 26$

Echara $\frac{19016 \times 399}{214604} = 35$

Amagu $\frac{12001 \times 399}{214604} = 22$

Ndiagu Amagu $\frac{21015 \times 399}{214604} = 39$

Igbudu $\frac{10015 \times 399}{214604} = 19$

Alike $\frac{23001 \times 399}{214604} = 43$

Table 4: Proportionate allocation and Return of questionnaire

Rural Community	Population of each Rural Community	No. of Questionnaire Allocated	No. Questionnaire Returned	Percentage
Ekpanwndele	16, 508	30	30	8
Nudfu Alike	15,408	29	21	5
Eka Awoke	17,608	33	33	9
Uweka	16,000	30	30	8
Ndufu Echara	17,016	32	32	8
Okpoitumo	16,100	30	30	8
Ndiege Igbudu	16,916	31	31	8
Inyimagu	14,000	26	26	7
Echara	19,016	35	35	9
Amagu	12,001	22	21	5
Ndiagu Amagu	21,015	39	39	10
Igbudu	10,015	19	19	5
Alike	23,001	43	43	11
Total	**214604**	**399**	**390**	**100**

Sources/Forms of Data

Both primary and secondary sources of data were used. The primary data were those sourced as first hand information with the aid of questionnaire. These data were in raw forms as other researchers have not used them in their previous studies.
Secondary data were those sourced from the studies of other researchers but are considered to be relevant to the present study. They were sourced as second hand information from text books, journals, internet materials and unpublished works.
Data for this study were in form of quantitative data. [20] Described such data as information for determining the findings.

Administration of questionnaire
In this paper, field survey approach was adopted to obtain relevant data. The field survey was carried out on the thirteen (13) rural communities in Ikwo Local Government Area. The standard questionnaire was used to gather data for the study. The questions in the questionnaire were close-ended questions. The questions were drawn in line with the research questions, objectives of the study and hypotheses as stated in chapter one.

Research instrument
Standard questionnaire was used in this study to strengthen the research focus and tools for more accurate measurement of the variable.
Validity of the instrument
The questionnaire was subjected to both construct and content validity tests before applying it for this study. [21] Stated that validity is the process of finding the degree to which a research instrument or a test measures what it intends to measure. Coefficient of validity is 0.75.
Reliability of the instrument
To establish the reliability of the questionnaire, a pilot study using test-retest approach was used where modified questionnaire was administered to some respondents, and a month later the same questionnaire were issued to the respondents to ascertain their consistency in answering the questions therein. Coefficient of Reliability is 0.70.
Data analysis Techniques
The paper used both descriptive and inferential statistical tools for the analysis of data in this study. While for the descriptive statistics the simple percentages were used to summarize and describe the data to enhance better understanding of their characteristics, variation and similarities, the inferential statistics specifically the chi-square was used to test the hypotheses and make predictions.
The formulas used to calculate the simple percentages and the chi-square were as follows:

i. Simple percentage $\frac{F}{N} \times \frac{100}{1}$

Where; F = Frequency
N = Number of respondents

ii. Chi – square: $X^2 = \sum(0 - E)^2$

Where: 0 = Observed or Actual frequency
E = Effected frequency
$\sum$ = Summation sign

III. DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

Data presentation
For the purpose of this study the paper employed 399 questionnaire to the respondents of the 13 Rural Communities in Ikwo Local Government Area but only 390 were completed and returned. The data collected with questionnaire were presented in tables and converted to percentages in order to achieve uniformity in comparative discussion.

Table 5: Sex

Sex	Responses	Percentages
Male	200	51
Female	190	49
Total	**390**	**100**

Out of a total of 390 respondents, 200 being 51% were males while 190 being 49% were females. From the above data, it was established that the males were more active participants in the World Bank assisted water Project in Ikwo Local Government Area. It is an acceptable data because of male population of the area and their active participation in rural development programme.

Table 6: Age

Age	Responses	Percentages
18- 30	20	5
31 – 50	210	54
51 and above	160	41
Total	**390**	**100**

Data in table 6 above shows that 390 respondents participated in the study. An analysis of the above data shows that youths between the ages of 18-30 years were less active in the study of World Bank assisted water project in Ikwo Local Government Area. The data in the table shows that adults within ages 51 and above were more active in the study. A combination of ages of 31-50 and 67 and above which fall within the age brackets of adults give 370 respondents representing 95% which is an indication of high level of adult involvement in the study of the project.

Table 7: Marital Status

Marital Status	Responses	Percentages
Single	5	1
Married	360	92
Divorced	6	2
Widowed	19	5
Total	**390**	**100**

The above table 7 shows that 5 respondents representing 1%, were single. The low percentage indicates the tendency of this set of people not to be actively involved in the study of water project executed with the assistance of World Bank in Ikwo Local Government Area. This data is acceptable because this set of people is less experienced in development programmes. The data in the table shows that 360 respondents representing 92% were married. The percentage of this data indicates the active involvement of married people in the study of the project. However, a combination of single, divorced and widowed respondents show low involvement of 30 respondents representing 8% of the total respondents that participated in study of the project.

Table 8: Educational qualifications

Education Qualification	Responses	Percentages
Illiterate	12	3
FSLC	12	3
WAEC	100	26
Degree and above	266	68
Total	**390**	**100**

Data in table 8 above show that respondents with Degree Certificates and above were 266 representing 68%which is the highest in the table. The data was adopted as an indicator that the respondents' level of education made them to participate actively in the study of the World Bank assisted water project in the area.

Table 9: Religion

Religion	Responses	Percentages
Christianity	300	77
Islam	4	1
Traditional	70	18
None	16	4
Total	**390**	**100**

Data in table 9 above show a high dominance of Christians among the respondents with 77% representing 300 respondents who participated in the study. This is an acceptable data in view of the fact that the people of the area are predominantly Christians.

Table 10: Community

Community	Responses	Percentages
Ekpanwudele	30	8
Ndufu Alike	29	7
Eka Awoke	33	8
Uweka	21	5
Ndufu Echara	32	8
Okpoitumo	30	8
Ndegu Igbudu	31	8
Inyimaagu	26	7
Echara	35	9
Amagu	22	6
Ndiegu Amagu	39	10
Igbudu	19	5
Alike	43	11
Total	**390**	**100**

Data in table 10 above show that 43 respondents representing 11% from Ndiegu Amagu had the highest participation in the study of the World Bank assisted water project in the Ikwo Local Government Area.

Table 11: The culture of the community affects it from benefiting the World Bank assisted water project

Options	Responses	Percentages
Strongly Agree	360	92
Agree	19	5
Strongly Disagree	6	2
Disagree	5	1
No idea	-	-
Total	**390**	**100**

The responses in table 11 show that 360 or 92% of the respondents strongly agreed that the socio-cultural factor affects the communities from benefiting the World Bank assisted water project whereas 19 or 5% partially agreed with the opinion, while 6 or 2% strongly disagreed and 5 or 1% partially rejected the notion. From the foregoing, the combination of strongly agreed and agreed responses produce 97% of the responses showing that the socio-cultural factors affect rural communities from benefiting the World Bank assisted water Project.

Table12: The community leadership affects her chances of benefiting from the project

Options	Responses	Percentages
Strongly Agree	200	51
Agree	90	23
Strongly Disagree	50	13
Disagree	32	8
No Idea	18	5
Total	**390**	**100**

The responses from table 12 show that 200 or 51% of the respondents strongly agreed that community leadership affects her chances of benefiting from the project, whereas 90 or 23% of the respondents partially agreed with the notion, 50 or 13% strongly disagreed with the notion, 18 or 5% had no idea.

From the foregoing, a combination of strongly agreed and agreed responses produce 74% responses showing that the community leadership affects her chances of benefiting from World Bank assisted water project in Ikwo Local Government Area.

Table 13: Over reliance on political leaders affects the community from benefiting the project

Options	Responses	Percentages
Strongly Agree	200	51
Agree	90	23
Strongly Disagree	50	13
Disagreed	32	8
No Idea	18	5
Total	**390**	**100**

From the responses in table 13 above 200 or 51% of the respondents were of the view that over reliance on political leaders affects the community from benefiting the project whereas 90 or 23% partially agreed with the notion, while 50 or 8% strongly disagreed with the notion and 32 or 8% partially rejected the notion.

From the foregoing, a combination of Strongly Agreed and Agree responses produced 74% responses showing that over reliance on political leaders affects the community from benefiting the project.

Table 14: Leadership crises hinder the chances of the community from benefiting the project

Options	33	Responses	Percentages
Strongly Agree		370	95
Agree		20	5
Strongly Disagree		-	-
Disagree		-	-
No Idea		-	-
Total		**390**	**100**

The responses from table 14 show that 370 or 95% respondents strongly agreed with the notion that leadership crises hinder the chances of the community from benefiting the project whereas 20 or 5% partially agreed with the notion.

From the foregoing, a combination of strongly agreed and agreed responses produce 390 or 100% responses indicating that leadership crises hinder the chances of the community from benefiting the project.

Table15: Poor Quality of water project makes the community to rely on natural water resources

Options	Responses	Percentages
Strongly agree	200	51
Agree	110	28
Strongly disagree	50	13
Disagree	30	8
No idea	-	-
Total	**390**	**100**

From the responses in table 15 above 200 or 51% of the respondents strongly agreed with the notion that poor quality of water project makes the community to rely on natural water resources whereas 110 or 28% partially agreed with the notion, 50 or 13% strongly disagreed with the notion while 30 or 8% partially disagreed with the notion.
From the foregoing, a combination of strongly agreed and agreed responses will produce 79% responses indicating that poor quality of water project makes the community to rely on natural water resources.

Table 16: Embezzlement of funds by project officials affects the quality of the project

Options	Responses	Percentages
Strongly agree	300	77
Agree	40	10
Strongly disagree	30	8
Disagree	20	5
No idea	-	-
Total	**390**	**100**

The responses in table 16 above show that 300 or 77% of the respondents strongly agreed with the notion that embezzlement of funds by project officials affects the quality of the project whereas 40 or 10% partially agreed with the notion, 30 or 8% strongly disagreed with the notion and 20 or 5% partially disagreed with the notion.
A combination of strongly agreed and agreed responses produced 87% of the responses indicating that embezzlement of funds by project officials affects the quality of the project.

Table17: Poor audit system encourages the execution of poor quality project

Options	Responses	Percentages
Strongly agree	300	77
Agree	50	13
Strongly disagree	31	8
Disagree	9	2
No idea	-	-
Total	**390**	**100**

The responses in table 17 above show that 300 or 77% of the respondents agreed with the notion that poor audit system encourages the execution of poor quality project whereas 50 or 13% partially agreed with the notion, while 31 or 8% strongly disagreed with the notion and 9 or 2% partially disagreed with the notion.
From the foregoing, the combination of strongly agreed and agreed responses produced 90% indicating that the poor audit system encourages the execution of poor quality project.

Table 18: Poor funding affects quality of the project

Options	Responses	Percentages
Strongly agree	320	82
Agree	52	13
Strongly disagree	18	5
Disagree	-	-
No idea	-	-
Total	**390**	**100**

In the responses in table 18 above, 320 or 82 respondents agreed with the notion that poor funding affects quality of the project, whereas 52 or 13% partially agreed with the notion, while 18 or 5% strongly disagreed with the notion.

From the foregoing, the combination of strongly agreed and agreed responses produced 95% indicating that poor funding affects quality of the project.

Table 19: Non-involvement of community stakeholders in project implementation affects quality of the project

Options	Responses	Percentages
Strongly agree	300	77
Agreed	40	10
Strongly disagree	30	8
Disagree	20	5
No idea	-	-
Total	**390**	**100**

From the responses in table 19 above 300 or 77% of the respondents strongly agreed with the notion that non-involvement of community stakeholders in project implementation affects quality of the project whereas 40 or 10% partially agreed with the notion, while 30 or 8% strongly disagreed with the notion and 20 or 5% partially disagreed with the notion. From the foregoing, the combination of strongly agreed and agreed responses produced 87% responses indicating that non-involvement of community stakeholders in project implementation affects quality of the project.

Table 20: Location of the project affects the community from benefiting from the World Bank Programme

Options	Responses	Percentages
Strongly agreed	280	72
Agreed	60	15
Strongly disagreed	30	8
Disagreed	20	5
No idea	-	-
Total	**390**	**100**

From table 20 above, 280 or 72% respondents strongly agreed with the notion that location of the project affects the community from benefiting from the World Bank programme whereas 60 or 15% partially agreed with the notion while 30 or 8% strongly disagreed with the notion and 20 or 5% partially disagreed with the notion.

From the foregoing, the combination of strongly agreed and agreed responses produced 87% responses indicating that location of the project affects the community from benefiting from the world Bank programme.

Table 21: Water project is located in far distance because of lack of space in residential areas

Options	Responses	Percentages
Strongly agreed	299	76
Agreed	51	13
Strongly disagreed	30	8
Disagreed	10	3
No idea	-	-
Total	**390**	**100**

From table 21 above, the 299 or 76% of the respondents strongly agreed with the notion that water project is located in far distance because of lack of space in residential areas, whereas 51 or 13% partially agreed with the notion while 30 or 8% strongly disagreed with the notion and 10 or 3% partially disagreed with the notion.

From the foregoing, the combination of strongly agreed and agreed responses produced 89 responses indicating that water project is located in far distance because of lack of space in residential areas.

Table 22: Women hardly use water project located in far distance for fear of being raped

Options	Responses	Percentages
Strongly agree	250	64
Agree	80	21
Strongly disagree	31	8
Disagree	29	7
No idea	-	-
Total	**390**	**100**

From table 22 above, 250 or 64% of the respondents strongly agreed with the notion that women hardly use water project located in far distance for fear of being raped whereas 80 or 21% partially agreed with the notion while 31 or 8% strongly disagreed with the notion and 29 or 7% partially disagreed with the notion. From the foregoing, the combination of strongly agreed and agreed responses produced 85% responses indicating that women hardly use water project located in far distance for fear of being raped.

Table 23: The abandonment of project exposes the rural community to water born diseases

Options	Responses	Percentages
Strongly agree	345	88
Agree	30	8
Strongly disagree	15	4
Disagree	-	-
No idea	-	-
Total	**390**	**100**

In table 23 above, 345 or 88% respondents strongly agreed with the notion that the abandonment of the project exposes the community to water born diseases whereas 30 or 8% partially agreed with the notion while 15 or 4% strongly disagreed with the notion.

From the foregoing, the combination of strongly agreed and agreed responses produced 96% responses indicating that the abandonment of the Community and Social Development project exposes the community to water born diseases.

Table 24: The abandonment of Project deepens poverty among rural dwellers

Options	Responses	Percentages
Strongly agree	290	74
Agree	60	16
Strongly disagree	25	6
Disagree	15	4
No idea	-	-
Total	**390**	**100**

In the table 24 above, 390 or 74% respondents strongly agreed with the notion that the abandonment of project deepens poverty among the rural dwellers whereas 60 or 16% partially agreed with the notion while 25 or 6% strongly disagreed with the notion and 15 or 4% partially disagreed with the notion.

From the foregoing, the combination of strongly agreed and agreed responses produced 90% responses indicating that the abandonment of project deepens poverty among rural dwellers.

Test of hypotheses

Hypothesis One: The hypothesis tested here is stated as follows:

H_{01}: The socio-cultural factors do not affect rural communities from benefiting the World Bank water project.

Table 25: Summary of Contingency Table for Hypothesis One

	SA	A	D	SA	Total
Observed	360	19	5	6	390
Expected	97.5	97.5	97.5	97.5	
Total	**360**	**19**	**5**	**6**	**390**

Chi-square = 943.559, P-value = 0.000

The analysis in Table 25 shows that the P-value of the Chi-square test was significant (P = 0.00), as a result the null hypothesis was rejected and the alternative hypothesis accepted that the socio-cultural factors affect rural communities from benefiting from World Bank assisted water project.

Hypothesis Two: The hypothesis tested here is stated as follows:

H_{02}: The Poor quality of World Bank assisted water project does not affect rural communities from benefiting from World Bank programme.

Table 26: Summary of Contingency Table for Hypothesis Two

	SA	A	D	SA	Total
Observed	200	110	30	50	390
Expected	97.5	97.5	97.5	97.5	
Total	**200**	**110**	**30**	**50**	**390**

Chi-square = 179.231, P-value = 0.000

The result in Table 26 indicates that the P-value of the Chi-square test is less than 0.05, indicating significant (P = 0.00). Hence, the null hypothesis was rejected and the alternative hypothesis accepted that the poor quality of World Bank assisted water project affects rural communities from benefiting from World Bank Programme.

Hypothesis Three: The hypothesis tested here is stated as follows:

H_{03}: The location of water project does not affect rural communities from benefiting from World Bank programme.

Table 27: Summary of Contingency Table for Hypothesis Three

	SA	A	D	SA	Total
Observed	280	60	20	30	390
Expected	97.5	97.5	97.5	97.5	
Total	**280**	**60**	**20**	**30**	**390**

Chi-square = 464.359; P-value =0.000

The test of hypothesis three as presented in Table 27 shows P-value of 0.00, which is less than 0.05, thus the null hypothesis was rejected and the alternative hypothesis accepted. This implies that the location of water project affects rural communities from benefiting from World Bank programme.

Hypothesis four: The hypothesis tested here is stated as follows:

H_{04}: The abandonment of Community Social Development Project does not have negative impact on rural communities.

Table 28: Summary of Contingency Table for Hypothesis Four

	SA	A	D	SA	Total
Observed	345	30	-	15	390
Expected	130.0	130.0	-	130.0	
Total	**345**	**30**	**-**	**15**	**390**

Chi-square = 534.231; P-value =0.000

The analysis in Table 28 show that the P-value of the Chi-square test was significant (P = 0.00), as a result the null hypothesis was rejected and the alternative hypothesis accepted that the abandonment of Community Social Development Project has negative impact on the communities.

IV. Research Findings

From the responses generated, the questionnaires administered and the hypotheses tested, it was found that the supposed beneficiaries of World Bank assisted water project in Ikwo Local Government Area felt dissatisfied and abandoned the water facilities provided for them through the assistance of World Bank for natural water resources, a situation that has continued unabated. This was due to the following;

The paper found that the socio-cultural factors affect rural communities from benefiting the World Bank assisted water project.

Still on the findings, it was shown that the poor quality of water project affects the rural communities from benefiting from World Bank programme.

We also found that the location of water project affects the rural communities from benefiting from World Bank programme. It was equally deduced from the hypotheses tested that the abandonment of Community and Social Development Project has a negative impact on the rural communities.

The paper also showed that the abandonment of projects deepened poverty among the rural dwellers.

V. DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS

It is evident that in Ebonyi State there are abundant human and material resources in the hinterlands, but despite all these, life in the rural areas is not only pathetic but unbearable. It is obvious that water which is one of the essential amenities is not only scarce but also of poor quality where it is available in these areas. People in the rural areas abandon the water project provided for them for natural water resources because of a number of factors; hence, the findings of this study are discussed as follows:

The paper found that the socio-cultural factors affect rural communities from benefiting the World Bank assisted water project. It is pertinent to state that the social factors as shown in tables 5 to 10, such as sex, age, marital status, educational qualification, religion and community stood in favour of the behaviour of the members of these rural dwellers towards water project in Ikwo Local Government Area.

Table 11 showed that the agreed responses were 360 representing 92% of the total responses showing that the rural dwellers capitalize on their cultures to abandon the water project provided for them through the World Bank assisted Community and Social Development Programme. Therefore the abandonment of water facilities for natural water resources such as rivers, ponds, and streams by the rural communities is a manifestation of the love they (i.e. the rural communities) have for their culture over the years.

However, women and children depend on the natural water resources to meet their needs because of the cultural norms, [22]. This implies that the way the rural dwellers do things over the years affects the utilization of water facilities in the communities.

In the findings the paper shows that the poor quality of water project affects the rural communities from benefiting from World Bank programme. Table 15 shows that the agreed responses were 200 representing 51% of the total responses indicating that the poor quality of water project affects the rural communities from benefiting from the World Bank Programme. Millions of people, particularly in communities in the developing world use unreliable water supplies of poor quality [23]. Women have no access to quality water and therefore do not maintain personal hygiene or contribute to community leadership [24]. Therefore those who do not have access to quality water are exposed to water borne diseases. The availability of poor quality water in the environment places the six highest burden of disease on community scale, a health burden that is preventable [25].

The paper found that the location of water project affects the communities from benefiting from World Bank programme. It is obvious as shown in table 210 that 280 responses representing 72% of the total responses show that location of water project affects the community. [26] Stressed that the consumption rate does not tend to increase significantly until sources lie within a few minutes. When water facilities are located in far distances, people don't usually access them. This is the situation in the autonomous communities in Ikwo Local Government where the people depend on natural water resources rather than the water facilities provided for them through World Bank assisted water project. The use of unsafe natural water resources such as streams, rivers and ponds expose the people to diseases and thereby worsening their socio-economic condition, a situation that deepens poverty at the grassroots.

Finally, the paper shows that the abandonment of Community and Social Development Project has negative impact on the rural communities. Table 23 shows that the agreed responses were 345 representing 88% of the total responses indicating that abandonment of Community and Social Project has negative impact on the communities. When project is abandoned, it is not maintained and as a result of lack of maintenance culture a project will cease to function and this affects the living conditions of the people.

VI. Summary

These questions were originally posed by the paper:
a). How do the socio-cultural factors affect rural communities from benefiting the World Bank assisted water project?
b). How does the poor quality of water project affect the rural communities from benefiting from World Bank programme?
c). Does the location of the water project affect the rural communities from benefiting from World Bank programme?
d). Does the abandonment of the Community and Social Development Project have negative impact on the rural communities?

Thus the hypotheses were formulated as follows:-
i). The socio-cultural factors do not affect the rural communities from benefiting from World Bank assisted water project.
ii). The Poor quality of water project does not affect the rural communities from benefiting from World Bank programme.
iii). The location of water project does not affect the rural communities from benefiting from World Bank programme.
iv). The abandonment of Community Social Development Project does not have negative impact on the communities.

The paper showed the following:
a). The Socio-cultural factors prevent rural communities from benefiting from the World Bank assisted water project.
b). The Poor quality of water project affects the rural communities from benefiting from World Bank propgramme
c). The Location of water projects affects the rural communities from benefiting from World Bank programme.
d). The abandonment of Community and Social Development Project has negative impact on the rural communities.

VII. CONCLUSION

This paper on World Bank Rural Development in Ebonyi State: A study of Community, Water and Social Development projects in Ikwo Local Government Area (2009-2014) showed that the socio-cultural factors affect rural communities from benefiting from World Bank water project in Ikwo Local Government Area as the rural communities in the area tend to maintain their age long culture which does not give them the room to appreciate and use water project provided to improve their standard of living.

The prevalence of water borne diseases is as a result of the over dependence of the communities on natural water resources that are not safe as a result of their poor quality, and the location of water project and their abandonment in the rural communities across Ikwo Local Government Area and by extension Ebonyi State.

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS

The paper makes the following recommendations to help improve the quality of water project and the attitude of the end users of the project in Ikwo Local Government Area in particular and Ebonyi State at large:
a). The government should encourage the rural communities to use water projects in their localities by abolishing obnoxious cultural practices that hinder them from accessing the project.
b). Project officials should be properly trained and monitored to ensure the provision of quality project and prevent fraudulent practices by the officials during the execution of water project.
c). Water project should be located within residential areas.
d). Parties that fund water project should be properly sensitized on the need to pay their counterpart funds early.
e). Beneficiaries of water project should be properly carried along during project execution.
f). There should be effective maintenance culture to preserve water project.
g). Finally, the sustenance of water project is in the hands of members of the rural communities in Ikwo Local Government Area in particular and the entire Ebonyians, therefore, all hands should be on deck to maintain and preserve water projects across the state.

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