

**EXAMINING THE RAMIFICATIONS OF RECURRENT SEIZURE OF
ELECTRICITY AMONG EKOSODIN RESIDENTS COMMUNITY**

BY

**FAVOUR UKPONMWAN
SSC1909860**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF BENIN
BENIN CITY**

MARCH 2024

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**A PROJECT WRITTEN AND SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
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BENIN CITY**

MARCH 2024

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this project was carried out and completed by **FAVOUR UKPONMWAN** and is adequate in scope, content, and quality in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) Degree in sociology and Anthropology, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Benin, Benin City.

Mrs. I. Toby
(Project Supervisor)

Prof. A.O Dokpesi
(Head of Department)

Date: _____

Date: _____

DEDICATION

This project is specially dedicated to God the father, Son and the Holy Spirit. For consistent guidance, grace, protection, provision, and above all for his constant wisdom and understanding he granted me to finish this project successfully. I also dedicate this project to my Amazing siblings and also to my Father and Mother Mr and Mrs Ukponmwan, for your financial and spiritual support, to make this project a reality. God bless you sir/ma.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Upon witnessing today's reality, an indescribable wave of joy washed over me. God has been remarkably dependable throughout my journey thus far, serving as my greatest source of inspiration during my school days. My purpose here is to give God Almighty full credit for his unwavering grace and mercy toward me. Restoring God's glory is necessary, if I'm being sincere. Many thanks to my parents, who were my pillar of support. As well as My Amazing siblings, who in all their capacity supported me both financially, emotionally and spiritually through out my school days. I sincerely appreciate that I have been granted the chance to participate in formal education. You all helped make today a reality, and for that, I am truly grateful. Even though it wasn't convenient, you met all of my needs. You will reap the rewards of your love-filled labor rather than forgetting it quickly. The head of the sociology and anthropology department, Prof. A.O Dokpesi. has my gratitude as well.

I am proud to announce that I was taught by professors who are scholars in their various disciplines. I have learned from these wonderful tutors, among others. Prof. A.O Dokpesi and my lecturers, Mr. Abiola, Mr. Austine Alenkhe, and Dr. Lucky, They have affected me positively through their constant lecturing and advice. Specially, to Mrs. I. Toby, my one and only project supervisor. Your paternal contributions to the success of this project are greatly appreciated, may God continue to bless you. My gratitude is eternal.

ABSTRACT

This study aims to explore the difficulties that residents of the Ekosodin Community encounter due to epileptic power supply. Significant socio-economic consequences result from the community's frequent power outages, despite the growing demand for dependable electricity. The study investigates the underlying causes of the inconsistent power supply, which range from administrative inefficiencies to deficiencies in infrastructure, using a quantitative approach that includes the use of questionnaire.

The results show that the ongoing power outages are caused by antiquated infrastructure, poor maintenance, and bureaucratic bottlenecks. The study emphasizes how urgently targeted interventions and policy changes are needed to address the epileptic power supply, improving the community of Ekosodin's quality of life and promoting economic growth.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

In the history of the modern world, electricity has been the most prevalent energy source. This explains why it is so important to the industrial and technological advancement of countries all over the world. As a result, any nation seeking sustainable development in this technological age must by necessity have reliable power sources and regular generation methods. Significant industrial and socioeconomic development of any kind is impossible without it. In addition, a reliable supply of electricity has a good effect on other aspects of modern human life, particularly in sectors as important as trade, education, communication, and general living standards (Urrutia, 1965). Ohajianya, Abumere, Owate, Osarolube, (2014) estimate that Nigeria produced 3,600 megawatts of power on average for a population of roughly 150 million. This pales in comparison to the electricity generated for populations of 50 million and 23.84 million in South Africa and Ghana, respectively, during the same period, averaging 40,000 and 2,111 megawatts, respectively. This could explain why there has been a persistently low supply of electricity in the nation throughout the years.

Power Holding Company of Nigeria is the hub of Nigeria's electricity system. This is due to the fact that it generates roughly 98% of all electricity (Central Bank of Nigeria, 2000). Adenikenju (2005) states that businesses can react to an unstable electricity supply in basically five ways. These include selecting a location, substituting factors, offering private services, selecting a business, and reducing output. But the most popular strategy, in his opinion, has been private provision. This could take the form of using generators powered by gasoline or diesel, which raises operating expenses and even has a large negative macroeconomic impact. For instance, the World Bank calculated in 1990 that the inefficiency of the power supply authority cost the nation roughly ₦1 billion in lost revenue (Adenikenju, 2005).

Economic development is hampered by inadequate power availability and quality for both commercial enterprises and the general public. It has the propensity to impede both the socioeconomic well-being of the populace and economic development and growth. It follows that inadequate power supplies have the potential to impact business operations in a variety of ways. When there is a power outage, it causes numerous inputs to pause, which lowers the productivity of the company. Power outages cause massive business losses and impede the operations of small and medium enterprises which exacerbates the issue. For

example, the GDP growth rate dropped from 8.8% in 2012 to 7.11% in 2013. This decline is ascribed to the manufacturing subsector's and the service sector's negative growth, which is fueled by an insufficient supply of electricity. Every nation's ability to grow economically and develop is negatively impacted by this (Ado, Josiah, 2015).

Concerns about the state's epileptic power supply, provided by the Benin Electricity Distribution Company (BEDC), are also voiced by the people living in Benin City, Edo State. Focusing on our neighborhood, the people of Ekosodin have endured frequent and continuous seizure of electricity. For the purpose of this study, "seizure" refers to an abrupt and uncontrollable loss of electrical power, which results in a blackout or interruption of the supply of electricity to homes, businesses, or infrastructures, and residents are unable to predict when electric power from the national grid will be available for consumption. The Cambridge Dictionary defines "seizure" as the action of taking something by force or with legal authority, i.e., seizure of power/property/control etc. It is well known that using electricity raises household standards of living and fosters economic growth (Akomolafe, Danladi, 2014). Therefore, electricity consumption is an essential infrastructure component. This is so because one of the main energy sources that power households, businesses, and other establishments and enable services is

electricity. Residential electricity consumption, is the amount of electricity used by households, businesses, and other establishments for their everyday activities. Many factors, including industrialization, widespread urbanization, population growth rates, rising standards of living, and modernization of the agricultural sector, drive the extensive demand for electricity among households and businesses in all economies (Masduzzanan, 2012).

Based on factors like type of residence, country of origin, and climate, a community's electricity as well as household's electricity consumption can differ significantly. The implication is that, given the interdependence of the standard of living and economic growth, there may be a bidirectional causal relationship between the two. This finding is consistent with the findings of Hosain, Sacki (2012), Omotor (2008), who found evidence of causation between the two variables. Electronics and electrical appliances owned by residential customers have expressed dissatisfaction over power outages.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

It is impossible to overstate the issue of the inhabitants of Benin City's Ekosodin community experiencing frequent power outages. There are frequent occurrences of this issue, and many locals are always complaining. The high cost of using fuel as a substitute for electricity and running their businesses with

generators instead of utilizing the money to expand their operations by purchasing more products and services makes this situation very crucial. Power supply is very vital in modern day business no matter how small it is perceived to be. Whenever it is not forthcoming, customers and business owners would naturally grumble. Worse still, power failures are experienced without prior knowledge from the authorities. This leads to frustration, financial losses and in some cases equipment damage. Conversely, students who reside in the community are also included and affected in one way or the other. There have been little to no changes made despite the residents' numerous protest-related actions. Many people are choosing to move from Ekosodin to other areas as a result of the frequent power outages, and some people are not even willing to live in the community. The people most impacted are often traders who deal in frozen goods, and also students who resides in the community, Consequently, the absence of an electricity supply affects every single resident of Ekosodin. Residents of Ekosodin a specific location in Benin City Edo state face the problem of paying high electricity bills without receiving sufficient value. The power supply in Ekosodin is often inadequate or unreliable, and there are cases of long-term power outages that last several days. However, Ekosodin's economic development depends on the availability of sufficient electricity supply, which is an essential factor for the creation of jobs and wealth generation. Without a strong supply of electricity, a society cannot experience economic growth. As a

result, many people and businesses in Ekosodin use generators to generate their own electricity, due to intermittent electricity supply. However, this option does not only contribute to noise pollution, but also proves to be extremely expensive. A 2007 study by Etiosa highlighted the strong link between energy and poverty, indicating that about 40% to 50% of the population of Ekosodin lacked electricity and modern energy services.

These days, a lot of people install electricity in their homes and places of business on their own dime. This entails both purchasing the electrical cables and covering the cost of installation. The only functions of the electricity regulatory agencies are to collect electricity tariffs, disconnect users for reasons best known to them, and issue bills—albeit irrationally based on estimation. The unfavorable electricity conditions have resulted in complete blackouts and deterred prospective entrepreneurs from launching Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). The purpose of this paper is to investigate the causes, types and effects, as well as possible solutions to the unreliable power supplies experienced by the inhabitants of Ekosodin. Examining the problem of the frequent electrical seizures in Ekosodin is the goal of this study in light of these issues.

1.3 Research Questions

The following will guide this study:

1. What are the challenges students encounter in their academics due to epileptic power supply?
2. What are the causes and contributing factors leading to persistent power outages in Ekosodin, Benin City?
3. What are the Impacts of the unreliable power supply on the residents of Ekosodin?
4. What are the possible solutions to the problem of poor power supply in Ekosodin community?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

To examine the ramifications of the reoccurrent seizure of electricity among Ekosodin residents is the primary aim of this study. Other objectives are:

1. To determine the challenges students encounter in their academics due to epileptic power supply.
2. To identify the causes and contributing factors leading to the persistent power outages in Ekosodin, Benin City.
3. To examine the Impacts of the unreliable power supply on the residents of Ekosodin.
4. To identify possible solutions to the problem of poor power supply in Ekosodin community.

1.5 Significance of the Study

One general issue that still hasn't been resolved in Nigeria is the poor power outage problem. This research aims to investigate the Ramifications of the reoccurrent Seizure of electricity on the people who live in Ekosodin, including business owners and University of Benin students. Along with raising awareness of the need to maintain and enhance Ekosodin's steady supply of electricity, the study will also educate the management of BEDC and the government of Edo State. School administrators will also benefit because the results will inform them of the policies that should be implemented to improve the power supply in their particular institutions.

Furthermore, as a result of its benefits, the study can be used as a reference by future researchers who may want to conduct research related to, or similar to the one mentioned above.

1.6 Scope of the Study

This study will focus on the recurrent seizures of Electricity among the people living in Ekosodin. This research will offer potential solutions to these problems. It will focus on the difficulties that students in the Ekosodin community face in their academic pursuits as a result of the town's inadequate power supply. It will also describe the difficulties that market women face in operating their

businesses as a result of the power outage in the Ekosodin community. This research will use residents of Ekosodin community who resides in areas like Edo Street, Market road, and Newton Street.

1.7 Definition of Terms

Seizure: A persistent issue with power interruptions or disruptions.

Epileptic: Epileptic is a term metaphorically used to describe power outages that occur in an unpredictable, and recurrent manner, similar to the unpredictable nature of epileptic seizures. In this context, it suggests that the power supply experiences frequent interruptions or disruptions, resembling the unpredictable and recurring nature of epileptic seizures. This phrase is often used to express frustration with the irregularity of electricity service and its impact on daily life.

Power supply: An electrical apparatus that provides electricity to a load. A power supply's primary function is to transform electric current from a source into the proper voltage, current, and frequency so that the load can be powered. Power supplies are therefore occasionally referred to as electric power converters.

Outage: A period when a power supply or other service is not available or when equipment is closed down e.g. frequent power outages

Ramifications: A complex or unwelcome consequence of an action or event.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Electricity Seizure: An Overview

Electricity sub-sector is one of the sectors that are capable of stimulating the economy and ensure economic growth in Nigeria, hence the development. For several decades, Nigeria has been experiencing epileptic electricity supply and successive governments have tried to stabilize the sector so as to drive the socioeconomic growth and development of the country. However, the country is still grappling with unreliable and erratic power supply. It has affected the performance of the industrial sector which is the engine of growth and socio-economic development in Nigeria. According to Obuka, Utazi, Onyechi, Agbo (2014), Electricity production and distribution in Nigeria is faced with the following hurdles: Insufficient generation, Insufficient and delayed rectification of electrical faults, inadequate funding of sector, out dated electrical machines and equipment, lack of operational vehicles, inadequate exploration teams to tap all energy from other available resources, and use of ad-hoc staff (Obuka, et al 2014).

Electricity seizure in this study refers to poor power outage. A power outage (also called a power cut, a power out, a power failure, a power blackout, a power loss, or a blackout) is the loss of the electrical power network supply to an end user. A power outage is a disturbance in the power supply that results in the loss of

electricity to your home, business, or other buildings. According to Abanihi, Ikheloa, Okodede (2018), electricity distribution in Nigeria is currently facing high voltage drop, which varied according to the distribution pattern. Sagging is one of the problems that are witnessed in electricity transmission and distribution lines. Sagging of electrical cables in most cases is gradual process. Electrical cables can sag due to age and high temperature thereby limiting the amount of electrical power it can transmit, and increasing their tendency of them touching trees and shorting out. (Oluwajobi, Ale, Ariyanninuola, 2012).

Extreme sagging of transmission cables can increase the dead load of the power line, which can cause the weak utility poles and towers to fall. Additionally, excessive sagged cables have higher electrical resistance (due to increase in the cable length between two points); hence, lowering the current the transmission line can normally transmit (Liquidators, 2020). According to Slegers (2011), the distance that a transmission cable will cover before it sag, is dependent on the length of the cable between two fixed points, the cable weight, the initial cable tension, and the cable mechanical properties. Transmission are designed and installed in a manner to maintain a suitable vertical clearance between the cables and the earth surface; a clearance that must guaranteed maximum static load. Load shedding is a common phenomenon in most Nigeria towns and villages. This is to either reduce electricity consumption by the customers due to poor power

generation, or avoid overloading of the transmission and distribution lines. Load shedding can still be caused by bad weather conditions or dilapidating electrical equipment (Harrison, 2019).

2.2 Concept of Electricity

An electrical charge or power flow is called electricity. Because it is a secondary energy source, it comes from the conversion of primary energy sources, such as coal, natural gas, oil, nuclear power, and other natural sources. Renewable or non-renewable energy sources can be used to produce electricity, but electricity itself is neither. Electricity is a fundamental component of the natural world and one of the most extensively utilized energy sources in human civilization (McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science and Technology, 2002). In order to generate mechanical energy, which in turn drove water wheels to turn, many cities and towns were constructed next to waterfalls. Kerosene lamps lit homes, iceboxes kept food cold, and wood- or coal-burning stoves heated rooms prior to the invention of electricity more than a century ago. The principles of electricity were eventually understood, starting with Benjamin Franklin's experiment with a kite one stormy night in Philadelphia in the 2002 edition of the McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science & Technology.

Thomas Edison improved the electric lightbulb, a creation that changed everyone's life. Direct current (DC) electricity was utilized in arc lights for outdoor lighting prior to 1879. Because alternating current (AC) electricity can travel far farther than direct current, it was developed, transmitted, and used by Nikola Tesla in the late 1800s. Thanks to Tesla's inventions, we can now power industrial machines and have indoor lighting in our homes. Even though electricity plays such a significant role in our daily lives, very few of us ever consider what university libraries' e-newspaper services would be like without it. But we often take electricity for granted, just like we do with air and water. We use electricity for a variety of purposes every day, such as computer power, internet access, library automation, and lighting and cooling of our libraries (Agboola, 2011).

2.3 History of Electricity in Nigeria

According to Emodi, Yusuf (2015), Sambo, Garba, Zarma, Gaji (2008), Makoju (2007), the history of electricity generation in Nigeria dates back to 1896, when electricity was first produced in Lagos with a total capacity of 60kW. The maximum demand was therefore less than the 60kW generated. At this point, electricity production had begun in England fifteen years prior. Negating the fact that electricity has been around for more than a century, its advancement has been sluggish (Obuka, Utazi, Onyechi, Agbo, 2014; Obadote, 2009). When the Nigerian

government established Native Authorities in Ibadan and Kano in 1946, the Public Works Department (PWD) assumed control of the electricity supply to Lagos, Warri, and Port-Harcourt (Sule, 2010; Okoro, Chikuni, 2007; Uwaifo, 1994). They established the Nigeria Electricity Supply Company (NESCO), which became operational as an electricity utility with the building of a hydroelectric power plant at Kura, close to Jos. Since damming water was NESCO's primary energy source, the plant produced hydroelectric power. (Onyi-Ogelle, 2016; Adebayo, Adejumobi, Adepoju, 2013) The output of NESCO served some locations, mostly in the Northern states. According to Iwoamadi, Dike (2012), the Legislative Council established the Electricity Corporation of Nigeria (ECN) as a central organization in 1950 to oversee the development and supply of electricity. The establishment of the Niger Dams Authority (NDA) in 1962 was the result of a parliamentary act.

The rationale for the merger was that it would consolidate national production, distribution, and electricity supply under one organization, which would also take on the financial responsibilities. The integration of the NDA and ECN should lead to a more efficient use of the financial, human, and other resources available for the nation's industry and electrical supply (Niger Power Review, 1989). NEPA attempted to oversee the production, transmission, and distribution of electricity in Nigeria for approximately 40 years without success. Customer indifference peaked. According to Folorunso, Olowu (2014), the

National Electricity Power Authority was a vertically integrated utility that was beset by institutional corruption, inconsistent bureaucracy, and incompetent administration. NEPA underwent numerous changes and revisions, all of which ultimately turned out to be fruitless endeavors. NEPA became the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN), which was established before the sector was privatized, after the Electric Power Sector Reform Act was introduced in 2005 (Emodi, Yusuf, Boo, 2014; Ainah, Afa, 2013; Ossai, 2012).

Private businesses were given the chance to take part in the generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity when President Olusegun Obasanjo signed the Power Sector Reform Bill into law in March 2005. According to Emodi, et al (2015), James, Okafor (2010), the deregulation of PHCN was to comprise eleven-eighteen new companies, comprising six generators (GENCOs), eleven distributors (DISCOs), one transmission company (TRANSCO), and semi-autonomous business units. According to the National Technical Working Group Report (2009), these businesses were in charge of handling tasks including electricity generation, transmission, trading, distribution, bulk supply, and resale. In order to guarantee sufficient production, distribution, and use of reliable and efficient electricity across the country, PHCN was fully divested of its government holdings. Indeed, Nigerians had experienced a difficult and rocky ride from ECN through NEPA to PHCN. Since the Nigerian power sector had been growing

negatively for more than 40 years, new players had to be brought into the market, including Nigeria Electricity Liability Management Company (NELMCO) and Independent Power Producers (IPPs). Currently, the Federal Ministry of Power's National Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) is in charge of regulations. The Power Holdings Company of Nigeria (PHCN) assets were formally transferred by the Federal Government in November 2013.

2.4 Challenges Students Encounter in Their Academics Due To Epileptic Power Supply

Power outage has a negative impact on students' study habits and educational experiences because it makes it difficult for them to concentrate, schedule tutorial classes and engage in group discussions, this is because majority of students study in the evening following regular class lectures, and frequently these classes are canceled due to power outages. This outcome is consistent with Noble's (2006) findings, which showed a strong correlation between students' performance and their study habits and educational experiences. When a power outage keeps students from studying effectively, they will have a bad learning experience, which will lead to subpar performance. Students are compelled to suffer during load-shedding since they are unable to complete their tasks without

electricity (Hlatshwayo, 2022). Secondly, poor power supply also interferes with the in-person classes, especially the virtual ones.

Assignments that students can't turn in on time due to power outage have an impact on their grades (Siddiquah, Salim, 2017). Additionally, students are unable to watch media awareness and educational programs (Koirala, Acharya 2012). Lack of electricity affects the availability of water, which makes it difficult for educational institutions to conduct classes smoothly and causes students to lose interest in their studies (Suleman, Hussain 2014). As a result, students are unable to maintain personal hygiene, which causes them to feel uncomfortable both physically and mentally (Bentein 2012) When demand for electricity exceeds supply, there is a temporary loss of power, known as load shedding. Summertime load shedding is the primary cause of the rise in academic challenges. The most negatively impacted areas are online studies, punctuality, and expected results (Kazmi 2019). According to a study, those who live in hostels are more impacted and over half do not have access to alternative energy sources. A study revealed effects on physical health, including sleep disturbance, poor learning, incomplete work, and task slowdown (Lodhi, Malik 2013)

2.5 Causes and Contributing Factors Leading to the Persistent Power Outage

Frequent power outages could result from various factors, According to Ohajianya, Abumere, Owate, Osarolube (2014) , the primary causes of Nigeria's unstable power supply are inefficient power generation, transmission, distribution, and consumption; additionally, inconsistent energy policies of the federal government and the incompetence of energy company employees are also included.

Ponnle (2005) attributed the extended blackout periods consistently experienced in certain areas to load shedding by electricity distribution companies in his paper, "Performance of Domestic AC Voltage Stabilizers in Meeting Low Voltage Problems in Nigeria: A Case Study of 12 Different Brands.". According to him, the limited amount of power generated in the nation, he claims, forces electricity distribution companies to always use load shedding.

Festus, Olatunji, Samuel, Oluwole all say as much. in their work "Electrical Power Outage In Nigeria published in 2012, found that the main reasons for differences between the amount of electricity required and the amount of power generated were as a result of low water levels, lack of gas to run the turbines, and poor plant maintenance

In October 2014, Awosope gave a public lecture titled "Nigeria Electricity Industry: Issues, Challenges and Solutions." In it, he recognized that the reason

why investors were reluctant to support the Nigerian electricity supply industry (NESI) was due to a poor maintenance culture. He mentioned a few more consequences of inadequate funding on power availability, including a lack of modern equipment, a policy that discourages the manufacture of machinery and spare parts locally, low worker morale, and an employment embargo.

Other major causes of persistent power outage include:

Overloading: If the demand for electricity exceeds the capacity of the local power grid, it can lead to overloading and subsequent power failures. This often happens in communities experiencing rapid population growth or increased energy usage.

Technical Faults: Equipment failures, faults in the electrical grid, or issues at the power generation source can contribute to frequent power outages.

Financial Challenges: Insufficient funds for maintenance and upgrades can result in neglected infrastructure, increasing the likelihood of power disruptions.

Illegal Connections: Unauthorized and unsafe connections to the power grid can lead to overloads, technical issues, and power outages.

Natural Disasters: Events like storms, floods, or other natural disasters can damage power infrastructure, causing interruptions in the supply.

Inadequate Planning: Poor urban planning and insufficient capacity planning for growing communities may lead to an inadequate power supply infrastructure, causing frequent outages.

To address these challenges, community leaders, utility providers, and relevant authorities need to collaborate to invest in infrastructure upgrades, maintenance, and sustainable solutions to ensure a reliable power supply.

2.6 Impacts of the unreliable power supply

Power outages can have significant impacts on both residents, including traders, and students, as well as other significant aspects. Here are some potential consequences:

Traders

Loss of Business: Power outages can disrupt commercial activities, particularly for traders relying on electricity for their operations. Businesses may suffer financial losses due to interrupted sales and transactions.

Perishable Goods: Traders dealing with perishable goods, such as food or medicines, may face spoilage and waste during extended power outages, leading to additional economic losses.

Reduced Productivity: Industrial and manufacturing activities heavily dependent on electricity may experience reduced productivity, affecting the overall economic output of the community.

Students

Impact on Studies: Power outages can disrupt students' ability to study, especially during crucial periods such as exams. Lack of access to electronic devices and lighting can hinder academic performance.

Limited Access to Information: Students may rely on electronic resources for research and assignments. Power outages can limit their access to these resources, hindering the quality of their academic work.

Disruption of Learning Platforms: With the increasing use of online learning platforms, power outages can interrupt virtual classes, making it challenging for students to keep up with their coursework.

Inconvenience for Night Studies: Students who rely on electricity for nighttime studies may face challenges in maintaining their study routines, affecting their academic performance.

Economic Consequences

Loss of Income: Residents who rely on electricity for livelihoods, such as small business owners and artisans, may experience financial losses during outages.

Reduced Economic Activities: Power outages can disrupt daily economic activities, leading to decreased productivity and economic output.

Health and Safety Concerns

Medical Services: Power outages can affect healthcare facilities, making it difficult for residents to access medical services, especially in emergencies.

Safety Issues: Poorly lit streets and neighborhoods during outages may pose safety concerns for residents, increasing the risk of accidents and crime.

Quality of Life

Disruption of Daily Life: Lack of power can disrupt everyday activities such as cooking, refrigeration, and communication, impacting the overall quality of life.

Psychological Impact

Persistent power outages can lead to the following:

a: frustration: inability to use essential electronic devices and appliances during a power outage can cause inconvenience and frustration. People heavily rely on

technology for work, communication, and entertainment, and the sudden loss of access to these services can be aggravating.

b: stress: Power outages induce stress by disrupting daily routines, causing inconvenience due to the loss of electronic devices, creating uncertainty about when power will be restored, posing safety concerns, and potentially leading to financial worries, all contributing to heightened levels of anxiety and frustration.

And

c: A decline in mental well-being among residents: Power outages can decrease residents' well-being by disrupting daily life, causing discomfort due to a lack of essential services like heating or cooling, creating uncertainty and anxiety about when normalcy will resume, and potentially leading to health concerns and financial burdens, collectively contributing to a decline in overall well-being.

Infrastructure Strain

Appliance Damage: Frequent power fluctuations and outages can damage electronic appliances and devices, causing financial strain on residents to repair or replace them.

Strain on Generators: Residents relying on generators for backup power may face increased costs for fuel and maintenance.

Social Impact

Disruption of Social Activities: Power outages can hinder social gatherings, events, and community activities, affecting the social fabric of Ekosodin.

Communication Barriers: Lack of electricity can impede communication, making it difficult for residents to stay connected with each other and the outside world.

Addressing these impacts requires a coordinated effort from local authorities, community leaders, and utility providers to improve the reliability and accessibility of power in Ekosodin.

2.7 Solutions to the Problem of Poor Power Supply

Addressing frequent power outages requires a comprehensive approach.

Here are some potential solutions:

Infrastructure Upgrade: Invest in upgrading and maintaining the power infrastructure, including transformers, substations, and power lines, to ensure they can handle the community's growing energy needs.

Diversification of Energy Sources: Explore alternative and renewable energy sources, such as solar or wind power, to supplement the existing energy grid and provide a more reliable power supply.

Grid Stability Measures: Implement measures to stabilize the power grid, including modernizing grid technology, installing voltage regulators, and improving overall grid management.

Community Awareness and Cooperation: Educate residents about responsible energy consumption and discourage illegal connections to reduce overloads on the power grid.

Investment in Smart Technologies: Introduce smart grid technologies that can efficiently monitor and manage power distribution, reducing losses and improving overall grid reliability.

Emergency Backup Systems: Install backup power systems, such as generators or battery storage, to provide temporary power during outages and ensure essential services continue.

Collaboration with Utility Providers: Foster collaboration between the community, local authorities, and utility providers to address power supply issues collectively and implement long-term solutions.

Regular Maintenance: Establish a routine maintenance schedule for power infrastructure to identify and address potential issues before they lead to outages.

Government Support: Advocate for government support and funding to improve the overall power supply infrastructure in the community.

Community Power Projects: Explore community-based power projects, where residents collectively invest in and manage local energy solutions, fostering sustainability and resilience.

Energy Efficiency Programs: Introduce programs to promote energy efficiency, such as encouraging the use of energy-efficient appliances and practices, to reduce overall energy demand.

Disaster Preparedness: Develop and implement plans for managing power supply during natural disasters to minimize disruptions and facilitate a quicker recovery.

Implementing a combination of these solutions, tailored to the specific needs of Ekosodin, can contribute to a more reliable and resilient power supply for the community.

2.8 The use of relevant theories

A theory is a body of knowledge that offers a rationale for why certain things happen. A theory provides an explanation for the relationship between causes and effects. That is, a certain event must have an accompanying effect when it happens. Structural Functionalism propounded by Emile Durkheim in 1917 is the most appropriate theory that will be used to explain this study.

Structural Functionalism

Functional structuralism was applied in this study. The French sociologist Durkheim (1917) laid the foundation for the structural functional theory, also known as functionalism. Durkheim saw structure as a set of relatively stable and patterned relationships between social units, or as a form of solidarity, and function as the results of social activities that allow for the adaptation or adjustment of a given structure or its component parts. It emphasized how different social institutions, such as the government, the law, the educational system, and religion, among others, relate to each other their cooperation guarantees stability and solidarity. Social structures, which are comparatively stable patterns of social behavior, direct and shape people's lives. Every social structure affects how society functions overall (Parson, 1951; Merton, 1968; Anosike, 2010).

Parson, who developed the four-function paradigm to achieve equilibrium and thereby satisfy societal needs, is another significant contributor to the structural functional theory. Parson argued that in order for a system to achieve functional imperatives, there should be essential conditions in place for the enduring existence of a system. These four roles include managing tension, maintaining patterns of latency, integrating, adapting, and achieving goals. He contends that in order to prevent deviance, society needs the socialization process,

the internalization of social values, and the social control mechanism (Parson, 1951).

According to structural functional theorists like Durkheim (1951) and Parson (1997), society is a system of interconnected parts meant to meet the needs of its members and work toward equilibrium. However, not all contributions are good or useful for society, and some actions have unintended consequences that hinder system adaptation or adjustment. Here, "function" refers to the beneficial contribution of a part to the whole; consequently, functions are those effects or contributions that enable a society to adapt or adjust. Therefore, it is crucial that everyone adhere to the same set of norms and values in order for society and its institutions to function (Merton, 1968). Compared to an organism, whose structure and function can be studied independently, societies have different structures. This function deals with a structure that is made up of a collection of relationships between unit entities, and the activities of the constituent units make up the life process that keeps the structure continuous. Therefore, the underlying presumptions are as follows: a society must have a minimal level of integration between its constituent parts in order to survive; the term "function" refers to the processes that keep this integration in place; and structural characteristics of each society can be demonstrated to support the preservation of the essential solidarity.

This theory is important for showing how structural inefficiency, unemployment, and security intersect.

In conclusion, Functional Structuralism placed a strong emphasis on the contributions made by each individual, consensus, and order, all of which contribute to the stability of society. All structures emerge and exist to perform specific functions; therefore, the theory aims to improve one's capacity for problem solving and greatly aids in the functioning of complex institutions that comprise society. Accordingly, structures can be classified based on their specific functions, and a structure's creation process is a major factor in determining its functionality. Therefore, a structure's function determines its behavior, and a structure's set or pattern of behavior constitutes its structure (Durkheim, 1997; Parsons, 1951; David, 2015).

2.9 Theoretical Framework

Through its application, the structural functional theory clarifies the relationship between the unstable power supply and the socioeconomic issues that resulted from it. Functionalism's arguments establish that the inability of the Discos (Nigerian Distribution Companies) to maintain a steady supply of electricity caused some businesses, students, as well as the overall residents to face numerous challenges. According to Skitka and Wisneski (2003), social systems

require some level of consensus regarding the standards and values that govern interpersonal relationships in order to operate. The current structure still has some monopolistic qualities and is not very competitive in the market. Tariffs or duties on inverters and solar products can also be lowered by the government. Reduced electricity rates would enable the majority of residents to purchase prepaid meters rather than turning to illicit methods or evading wires in order to produce electricity. In addition, a law that penalizes individuals for illicit connections and immoral behavior is necessary to ensure that the cost of all provided power is covered.

The general stability and functionality of the community are impacted by this in turn. On the other hand, a structural functionalist perspective can also be used to examine how the community responded to the power loss. Social institutions such as community organizations, NGOs, and local government can coordinate efforts to improve infrastructure or offer support to those affected by the problem. To put it simply, structural functionalism clarifies how the power outage affects the overall functioning and points out possible areas for intervention by examining how it permeates through different social structures.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

This study design focuses on the ramifications of recurrent seizures of electricity on the people living in Benin City's Ekosodin community. A descriptive study will be carried out. The research's strength will be determined by the methodology used, which included a quantitative approach to data collection and analysis and the use of a semi structured questionnaire. To choose the research subject in the study area, a cluster sampling technique will be used. The next step will be to recruit the respondents from within the clustered study region using a sample random sampling technique.

3.2 Population of the Study

The primary respondents or target population of this study will comprise of traders, business owners, students, and other individuals residing in Ekosodin. It should be mentioned that these respondents may belong to any tribe or religion and that they are inhabitants of Benin City, Edo state, who live in Ekosodin. However, samples will be chosen since it would be challenging to conduct research with every member of a group.

3.3 Sample Size

From the entire population, a sample size of one hundred (100) responders was selected. The sample was constructed so that it would cut across all occupants of the community. But because they make up the majority of the population, a bigger share was given to those who are students', traders, and business owners. 100 questionnaires were distributed, all of which were narrowly focused on a few specific occupations in Ekosodin, Benin City (Edo State).

3.4 Sampling Techniques

The best sampling technique will be a probabilistic technique because the research is based on a quantitative research design which will enable the study to analyze the various strata (i.e., groups of traders, students etc) and obtain a sample that is as representative of the community as possible. The random sampling method would be the best option for a probabilistic sampling strategy. People would be chosen at random for the sake of impartiality and equal presentation.

3.5 Instruments for Data Collection

The research instrument that will be used in this study is questionnaire. The questionnaire will be semi-structured with both open and closed question. The questionnaire will be divided into section A and B. Section A will focus on socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents and section B will be used to elicit

information on recurrent seizure of electricity among Ekosodin resident community.

3.6 Method of Data Collection

This research will adopt both the primary and secondary methods of data collection. The primary data for this study will be questionnaire which will be the main source of data collection for the study. The secondary data will be on existing Journals, books, articles and magazine.

3.7 Methods of Data Analysis

The study will be analyzed using descriptive statistics in it's analysis which includes simple frequency, percentage and charts, where necessary using a software package known as Statistical Package For Social Sciences (SPSS & 20.0 version).

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION

This chapter focuses on the presentation, analysis, and interpretation of data collected from the field. A total of 100 questionnaires were used to collect data from Respondents. Questionnaires were administered in order to “Examine the Ramifications Of Reoccurrent Seizure Of Electricity Among Ekosodin residents Community”.

SECTION A: SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS

TABLE 4.1: SEX DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS

SEX	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Male	48	48
Female	52	52
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

The information from table 1 shows that there were 100 responses in total. They are made up of 48 males and 52 females. this means that the percentage of males

in the population is (48%), while the percentage of females is (52%). This indicates that among the overall sample population, there were more females than males who answered the questionnaire. This also implies that both sexes were proportionately represented.

TABLE 4.2 AGE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS

AGE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
18-21	26	26
22-26	47	47
27-31	16	16
32 above	11	11
TOTAL	100	100

Source: Field Work, 2024

Table 2 shows that 26% of the respondents are within the ages of 18-21. While 47% are within the ages of 22- 26. Also 16% of the total respondents are within the ages of 27-31. While 11% are within the ages of 32 and above. This table reveals that majority of the respondents are between the ages of 22-26.

TABLE 4.3 MARITAL STATUS OF RESPONDENTS

MARITAL STATUS	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Single	75	75
Married	25	25
Divorce	Nil	0
Widow/Widower	Nil	0
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

As indicated by table 3 above, majority of the respondents, representing 75% are single, while 25% of the respondents are married. Lastly, none of the respondents are divorced, a widow/widower. This clarifies the fact that most of the respondents are not married.

TABLE 4.4 ETHNICITY OF RESPONDENTS

ETHNICITY	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Igbo	23	23
Yoruba	13	13
Edo	33	33
Urhobo	10	10
Hausa	6	6
Others	15	15
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

Table 4 indicates that from the total population 23% of the respondents are igbos. Also 13% of the respondents are yorubas. While 10% are the Urhobos. Also 6% of the respondents are Hausas. And 15% of the total population indicated others. This clearly implies that majority of the respondents are from the Edo ethnic group.

TABLE 4.5 EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF RESPONDENTS

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Primary School	Nil	0
Secondary	40	40
Others	60	60
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

Table 5 indicates that out of the total population, non of the respondents are in primary school. Also, 40% of the respondents has secondary education. While 60% of the respondents indicated others.

TABLE 4.6 RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION OF RESPONDENTS

RELIGION	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Christian	74	74
Muslim	25	25
African Traditional	1	1
Others	Nil	
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

Table 6 above shows that 74% of the entire population are Christians, Also 25% of the respondents are Muslims. While 1% of the respondents practice African tradition. Also non of the respondents indicated others. This implies that majority of the respondents are christians.

TABLE 4.7 OCCUPATION OF RESPONDENTS

OCCUPATION	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Students	62	62
Employed	9	9
Unemployed	4	4
Self-employed	25	25
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

The table above indicate that out of the overall population 62% of Respondents are students. Also 9% of the respondents are Employed. While 25% of the respondents are self-employed. This simply implies that majority of the respondents are students.

SECTION B:

OBJECTIVE ONE: To determine the challenges students encounter in their academics due to epileptic power supply.

This section deals with the challenges students encounter in their academics due to epileptic power supply as well as the strategies they employ to cope with these challenges. It further examine the improvement they would suggest to address these challenges.

TABLE 4.8 QUESTION (1): HOW OFTEN DO YOU EXPERIENCE EPILEPTIC POWER SUPPLY IN YOUR AREA?

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Rarely	9	9
Occasionally	18	18
Frequently	40	40
Always	33	33
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

Table 8 reveals that 9% Respondents ascertain that they rarely experience Epileptic Power outage in their area. Also 18% of the respondents occasionally experience Epileptic outage area. While 40% respondents ascertain that they frequently experience Epileptic Power outage. Also, 33% of the overall population ascertain that they Always experience Epileptic Power outage in their area. This implies that Epileptic Power outage occurs often or at regular intervals.

TABLE 4.9 QUESTION (2): HOW HAS INCONSISTENT POWER SUPPLY AFFECTED YOUR ABILITY TO ACCESS AND UTILIZE TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES FOR ACEDEMIC PURPOSES?

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Positively	14	14
Negatively	75	75
No impact	11	11
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

Table 9 shows that 14% of Respondents are positively affected by the inconsistent power supply. While 75% of Respondents are negatively affected. Also 11% of the Respondents are not impacted by the inconsistent power supply. This clarifies that majority of the population are negatively affected in one way or the other due to the poor and inconsistent power supply.

TABLE 4.10 QUESTION (3): HAVE YOU FACED CHALLENGES MEETING ASSIGNMENT DEADLINES OR PREPARING FOR EXAMS DUE TO POWER OUTAGES?

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Yes	74	74
No	26	26
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

Table 10 above shows that 74% of the respondents have faced one challenges meeting assignment deadlines or preparing for exams due to power outage. While 26% of the respondents haven't faced any challenges. This clarifies the fact that majority of the population has faced one challenge or the other meeting assignment deadlines or preparing for exams due to the power outage, thereby leading to the fact that the problem of power outage affects students and they sometimes have to bear the consequences of not being able to submit their assignment or even study properly for exam leading to the lose of Acedemic scores that will boost their CGPA and not being able to perform properly during exams.

TABLE 4.11: WHAT STRATEGIES DO YOU EMPLOY TO COPE WITH THE CHALLENGES POSED BY EPILEPTIC POWER SUPPLY IN RELATION TO YOUR ACEDEMIC RESPONSIBILITIES?

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
The use of generator	12	12
Using solar power	8	8
Reading During the day	13	13
Charging devices somewhere else	30	30
The use of touch light	20	20
Null	17	17
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

Table 11 reveals that 12% of the total population of respondents indicated that they make use of their generator. While 8% of the Respondents stated that they make use of solar power. Also, 13% of the respondents indicated that they read during the day. While 30% Respondents stated that they charge their devices somewhere else. Also, 20% of the Respondents indicated that they make use of touch lights.

While 17% of the population did not state or indicate anything. This clearly implies that majority of the respondents charge their devices somewhere else, either at their neighbors place who has alternative use of electricity or any available place with electricity.

TABLE 4.12 QUESTION (4): WHAT IMPROVEMENTS, IF ANY, WOULD YOU SUGGEST TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES STUDENTS FACE DUE TO EPILEPTIC POWER SUPPLY?

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
The use of alternative source of power like solar powered light, touch light, and generators	15	15
Replacement of transformers and more transformers	9	9
More hours of light	12	12
Appeal to government and relivant authorities	27	27
Payment of Bills	6	6
Creation of awareness	4	4
Null	27	27
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

Table 12 reveals that 15% of the respondents recommended the use of alternative source of power as an improvement of address the challenges students face due to Epileptic Power supply. Also 9% of the respondents suggested that there should be

a replacement of transformers and more transformers should be put in place. While 12% indicated that there should be more hours of light. Also 27% of the respondents suggested that government should do something about epileptic power supply. While 6% of the respondents recommended that there should be a constant payment of Bill. Also, 4% of the total population of Respondents stated that there should be a creation of awareness about what poor power supply is all about. While 27% of the respondents did not suggest or give any recommendations. This clearly implies that majority of the population needs government intervention in order to eradicate epileptic power supply.

OBJECTIVE TWO: To Identify the causes and contributing factors leading to the persistent power outages in Ekosodin community.

This section accesses the causes and contributing factor leading to persistent power outage in Ekosodin community, as well as the primary causes of the persistent power outage, and how these power outage can impact daily lives. It further examine the fact that if the residents of the community believe that government policies impact power supply in Ekosodin.

TABLE 4.13 QUESTION (5): IN YOUR OPINION, WHAT ARE THE CAUSES OF PERSISTENT POWER OUTAGES IN EKOSODIN?

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Infrastructural Issues	22	22
Technical Failure	30	30
Financial Constraints	10	10
Non-payment of bills	18	18
Overloading of the power grid	20	20
Others	0	0
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

Table 13 reveals that 22% of the respondents indicated that infrastructural Issues are the causes of persistent power outage in Ekosodin. Also, 30% of the respondents indicated that technical Failure are the causes of persistent power outage in Ekosodin. While 10% indicated financial constraints. Also, 18% of the respondents indicated that non-payment of bills are the causes of persistent power outage. While 20% of the respondents stated that overloading of the power grid are the causes of persistent power outage in Ekosodin, Aslo non of the Respondents stated or indicated any cause of persistent power outage in Ekosodin. This clarifies

the fact that most of the Respondents believes that technical Failure is what is causing persistent power outage in Ekosodin.

TABLE 4.13 QUESTION 6: HOW CAN THESE PERSISTENT POWER OUTAGES IMPACT DAILY LIFE IN EKOSODIN? (e.g, businesses, education, healthcare).

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Low productivity in business and constant spoilt frozen foods	33	33
Negatively	18	18
Lack of access to information as a student and unable to charge devices	18	18
Stop important equipment from functioning	6	6
Affects Healthcare negatively	6	6
Null	19	19
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

Table 13 reveals that 33% of Respondents indicated that persistent power outage has impacted their daily lives by bringing about low productivity in business and also spoiled frozen foods. Also, 18% of the respondents stated that persistent power outage has impacted their daily lives negatively. While 18% indicated that as a student, they lack access to information and they are unable to charge their devices due to the persistent power outage in Ekosodin. Also 6% of the respondents stated that persistent power outage stops important equipments from functioning. While 6% of the respondents also indicated that persistent power outage affects health care negatively. Also, 19% did not indicate anything. This clarifies the fact that majority of the respondents are of the opinion that persistent power outage brings about low productivity in business and spoilt frozen foods.

TABLE 4.14 QUESTION (7) : DO YOU BELIEVE GOVERNMENT POLICIES OR REGULATIONS IMPACT THE POWER SUPPLY IN EKOSODIN?

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Yes	61	61
No	39	39
Total	100	100

Source: Field work 2024

Table 14 shows that 61% of the respondents indicated yes. While 39% of the respondents indicated no. This is simply telling us that majority of the population agreed with the fact that government policies or regulations impact the power supply in Ekosodin.

TABLE 4.15: GIVE REASONS

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Government system is corrupt	6	6
Government nonchalant attitude	10	10
Proper policies concerning electricity is not laid and enforced by government	14	14
Increase in electricity tarriff	5	5
Lack of trust in government	6	6
Nill	59	59
Total	100	100

Source:, Field work, 2024

Table 15 reveals that 6% of the Respondents indicated that government system is corrupt. Also, 10% of the Respondents stated that government as nonchalant attitude towards persistent power supply. While 14% of the total population indicates that proper policies are not laid and enforced by government. Also, 5% of the respondents stated that there's is an increase in electricity tariff. While 6% of the respondents stated that they lack trust in government. Also, 59% didn't comment. This therefore explains that although the majority of the respondents might have had something to say concerning how government policies or regulations impact the power supply in Ekosodin, they choose to reserve their comments and not say anything.

OBJECTIVE THREE: To examine the impact of the unreliable power supply in the residents of Ekosodin.

This section addresses the impact of unreliable power supply on the residents of Ekosodin, as well as how these unreliable power supply impact their daily lives. It further examine the fact that if these residents have faced any financial losses or additional expenses due to unreliable power supply, and if there has been any Community led initiatives to address the persistent power supply in Ekosodin. While also examining ways these power outage has impacted their economic activities.

TABLE 4.16 QUESTION (8): HOW DOES UNRELIABLE POWER SUPPLY IMPACT YOUR DAILY LIFE?

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Cooking	16	16
Studying or working from home	43	43
Communication (charging devices)	26	26
Refrigeration of food	8	8
Access to entertainment	6	6
Others	1	1
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

Table 16 shows that 16% of the respondents indicated cooking as how unreliable power supply has impacted their daily lives. This is to say that, there are some persons who use hot plate or electric cooker that requires electricity for cooking, but won't be able to cook when there's power outage. Also, 43% indicated that unreliable power supply has impacted their daily lives through studying or working from home, thereby stating the fact that, they might experience difficulty in studying online or using electricity light while studying. They might also

experience difficulty in using their electronics such as laptops for work. While 26% indicated communication (charging devices) as how unreliable power supply has impacted their daily lives, thereby stating the fact that they are unable to charge their devices due to the power outage. Also, 8% of the respondents indicated refrigeration of food thereby stating the fact that they are unable to refrigerate their food and also preserve their food due to unreliable power supply. While 6% of the respondents stated that Access to entertainment, this is to say that, they lack access to access to entertainment or might find it difficult to access entertainment due to unreliable power supply. Also, 1% of the respondents indicated others stating the fact that they have they have other ways in which unreliable power supply impact their daily lives. This implies that most of the respondents stated that cooking and working from home is how the unreliable power supply has impacted their daily lives.

TABLE 4.17 QUESTION (9): HAVE YOU FACED FINANCIAL LOSSES OR ADDITIONAL EXPENSES DUE TO UNRELIABLE POWER SUPPLY?

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Yes	71	71
NO	24	24
Null	5	5
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

Table 17 reveal that 71% of Respondents indicated yes. Also, 24% of the respondents indicated no. While 5% of the respondents were null. This therefore clarifies that majority of the population have faced financial losses or additional expenses due to unreliable power supply. Thereby bringing to the limelight that not only does unreliable power supply impact lives in a negative way but also can lead to financial losses due to usage of alternative electric source such as fuel to power generator.

TABLE 4.18 IF YES, PLEASE DESCRIBE

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
High cost of fuel to power generator	22	22
Spoilt foods	15	15
Charging devices somewhere else	5	5
Buying Multiple laptop chargers	5	5
Increase of utility bills	5	5
Low work productivity	6	6
Contribution of money to pump water	4	4
Null	38	38
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

The result in the above table 18 shows that 22% of the respondents stated high cost of fuel to power generator as a description of financial losses or additional expenses due to unreliable power supply. Also 15% of the respondents stated spoiled foods as a description of financial losses or additional expenses due to unreliable power supply. That is to say that, due to the unreliable power supply they were unable to refrigerate their food thereby leading to waste and spoiling of the food. While 5% stated that as a result of the unreliable power supply, they had to look for somewhere else to charge their electronic devices. Also, 5% of the respondents stated that they had to buy multiple laptop charger because they keep getting destroyed by bad electricity supply. While 5% of the respondents also indicated that increasement of utility bills, that is electricity bill as a description of financial losses or additional expenses due to unreliable power supply. Also, 6% stated low work productivity, this simply describe the fact that due to unreliable power supply they are unable to work effectively with their devices thereby leading to low work productivity. 4% of the respondents also stated that they had to contribute money inorder for them to be able to pump water. While 38% of the respondents did not give a description as to how they face financial losses or additional expenses due to unreliable power supply.

TABLE 4.19 QUESTION (10): ARE THERE ANY COMMUNITY-LED INITIATIVES OR EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF PERSISTENT POWER OUTAGES IN EKOSODIN?

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Yes	62	62
No	38	38
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

The result in the above table 19 reveals that 63% of the respondents indicated yes, while 38% of the respondents indicated No. This clarifies the fact that majority of the respondents agreed to the fact that there has been previous community-led initiatives to address the issue of persistent power outage.

TABLE 4.20: IF YES, PLEASE DESCRIBE

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Protest	62	62
Nil	38	38
Total	100	100

Source: field work, 2024

Table 20 shows that 62% of the respondents stated protest as the community-led initiatives to address the issue of persistent power supply. While 38% of the respondents gave no description. This therefore implies that majority of the

population stated that protest was organized to demand for power in the community.

TABLE 4.21 QUESTION (11) IN WHAT WAY DOES UNRELIABLE POWER SUPPLY IMPACT YOUR ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Loss of business income	26	26
Increased operational cost (e.g, fuel for generator)	40	40
Job productivity	19	19
Business closure	13	13
Others	2	2
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

From table 21, it is revealed 26% of the Respondents indicated loss of business income as ways unreliable power supply has affected their economic activities. Also, 40% indicated Increased operational cost (e.g, fuel for generator) as ways in which unreliable power supply has affected their economic activities. 19% of the

respondents indicated job productivity, thereby indicating the fact unreliable power supply and affect their job productivity. While 13% of the respondents indicated business closure as how unreliable power supply has affected their economic activities. 2% of the respondents indicated others thereby stating sleepless nights because of heat and mosquito

OBJECTIVE FOUR: To Identify possible solutions to the problems of poor power supply in Ekosodin community.

This segment addresses the opinion of respondents on the possible solutions to the problem of poor power supply in Ekosodin community, how the community can actively address the issues causing poor power supply in Ekosodin, and actions individual residents take to contribute to a more stable Power supply.

TABLE 4.22 QUESTION (12): WHAT SOLUTION OR IMPROVEMENT DO YOU THINK COULD EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS THE ISSUES CAUSING POOR POWER SUPPLY IN EKOSODIN?

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Government funding and provision of more infrastructure	23	23
More transformers and security to avoid theft	27	27
Payment of light bill on time	6	6
Elimination of corruption and enforcement of better management	7	7
Solar energy source	5	5
Protest	11	11
No idea	4	4
Nil	17	17
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

From table 22 above, it is revealed that 23% of the respondents stated government funding and provision of more infrastructure as solutions or improvements that could effectively address the issues causing poor power supply in Ekosodin. Also, 27% of the Respondents indicated that more transformers should be provided and there should be more security to avoid theft of these transformers. While 6% of the Respondents stated that light bulbs should be paid on time in order to bring about effective power supply. Also, 7% of the respondents stated that there should be an elimination of corruption and enforcement of better management. While 5% of the Respondents stated that in order to address the issue causing power supply in Ekosodin community solar energy source should be made available. While 11% of the respondents stated the use of protest related action as an improvement to effectively address the issue causing power supply in Ekosodin community. Also, 4% of the respondents stated that they had no idea as to how the issue of unreliable power supply can be addressed. While 17% of the Respondents did not give any solutions to effectively address the issue causing poor power supply in Ekosodin. This simply clarifies that majority of the respondents (27%), are of the opinion that making more transformers available and security to avoid theft will eradicate the poor power supply in Ekosodin community.

TABLE 4.23 QUESTION (13):HOW DO YOU THINK THE COMMUNITY CAN ACTUALLY CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVE THE POWER SUPPLY SITUATION IN EKOSODIN?

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Payment of electricity bills	36	36
Reporting to relevant authorities	13	13
Creation of policies to checkmate the power sector	15	15
Protest related actions	10	10
No idea	6	6
Null	20	20
Total	100	100

Source: project work, 2024

Table 23 shows that 36% of the respondents stated that in order for the community to actively contribute to improve the power supply situation in Ekosodin, there should be payment of electricity bills. Also, 13% of the respondents indicated that the issue should be reported to relevant authorities. While 15% of the respondents

stated that policies should be created to checkmate the power sector. Also, 10% of the respondents stated that the only way the community can actively contribute to improve the power supply situation in Ekosodin is through protest related actions. While 6% of the respondents stated no idea. Also, 20% of the respondents did not state any ways the community can actively contribute to the power supply situation in Ekosodin. This clarifies the fact that majority of the Respondents are of the opinions that if the community can always pay their light bills on time and regularly, they are actively contributing to improve the power supply situation in the community.

TABLE 4.24 QUESTION (14): WHAT ACTION CAN INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTS TAKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO A MORE STABLE POWER SUPPLY IN EKOSODIN?

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Payments of electricity bill regularly	29	29
Protest	9	9
Avoid illegal connections	8	8
Get prepaid metres	7	7
Use energy efficient appliances	9	9
Report electrical faults	8	8
No idea	9	9
Null	21	21
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

Table 24 shows that 29% of the respondents stated payment of electricity bills regularly as the action an individual can take to contribute to a more stable Power Supply in Ekosodin. Also, 9% of the respondents stated that in order for an individual resident of Ekosodin to contribute to a more stable Power Supply in the

community, there should be protest. While 8% of the respondents stated that individuals should avoid illegal connections. Also, 7% of the respondents stated that an individual can take the action of getting a prepaid metre to contribute to a more stable Power Supply. While 9% of the respondents indicated that using energy efficient appliances can help contribute to a more stable Power Supply. Also, 8% of the respondents stated that reporting electrical faults to relevant authorities can lead to a more stable Power Supply in Ekosodin. While 9% of the respondents indicated the fact that they had no idea on what action individual can take to contribute to a more stable Power Supply. Also, 21% of the respondents were null. This simply shows that majority of the respondents are of the opinion that paying electricity bill as at which due is an action an individual can take to contribute to a more stable Power Supply in Ekosodin community.

TABLE 4.25 QUESTION (15): BASED ON YOUR EXPERIENCE AND OBSERVATIONS, WHAT SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS WOULD YOU MAKE TO RELEVANT AUTHORITIES TO IMPROVE POWER SUPPLY IN EKOSODIN?

RESPONSE	RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%)
Enforcement of more rules and regulations to guide power supply	33	33
More transformers should be provided	19	19
Electricity problem should not exceed a day or two	9	9
Provision of prepaid metres	8	8
No idea	7	7
Null	24	24
Total	100	100

Source: Field work, 2024

From table 25 above, 33 Respondents stated that enforcement of more rules and regulations to guide power supply are the specific recommendations they would make to relevant authorities to improve Power Supply in Ekosodin. Also, 19% of the respondents stated that more transformers should be provided by relevant authorities. While 9% of the Respondents stated that electricity problem should not exceed a day or two. Also, 8% of the Respondents stated that Provision of prepaid metre by relevant authorities can improve Power Supply in Ekosodin. While 7% of the respondents stated the fact that they had no idea. While 24% indicated no specific recommendations they would make to relevant authorities. This clarifies the fact that majority of the respondents are of the opinion that there should be an enforcement of rules and regulations to guide power supply in Ekosodin community so as to avoid constant power outages.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Summary

This study explores the wide-ranging ramifications of frequent electricity disruptions in Ekosodin community. A thorough analysis reveals the major difficulties that people and households face as a result of these frequent outages. The socioeconomic ramifications are examined in the study, which include impaired access to necessary services, disruptions to daily routines, and increased safety risks. It also explores the psychological cost, demonstrating higher stress levels and lower general wellbeing among community members. By illuminating these effects, the study emphasizes the necessity of focused interventions and community resilience tactics to lessen the negative consequences of power outages and promote sustainable growth in Ekosodin community.

5.2 Conclusion

In conclusion, the study has illuminated the significant consequences that the Ekosodin community faces as a result of frequent electrical seizures. The effects are wide-ranging and serious, ranging from decreased safety to setbacks in the economy. Governmental organizations, energy suppliers, local authorities, and the people themselves must work together to resolve these problems. To lessen the

load and promote a better, more resilient future for Ekosodin and its residents, sustainable solutions like infrastructure improvements, community education, and policy changes must be put into practice.

5.3 Recommendations

The following suggestions could be used to address the problem of frequent power outages in the Ekosodin community:

1. The community leaders in Ekosodin and government of Edo State should invest in modernizing the current electrical grid infrastructure in order to increase transmission efficiency and decrease outages brought on by aging or overloaded machinery.
2. Replace power lines and aging transformers to reduce faults and increase overall reliability.
3. To provide a more sustainable and independent source of power during blackouts, residents of the Ekosodin community should be encouraged to install solar panels, wind turbines, or biogas generators for individual homes or community centers.
4. In order to notify locals about planned outages and restoration schedules, the electricity provider should set up more effective communication channels.

5. To ease the burden on the grid and possibly lower the frequency of outages, there ought to be an awareness campaign teaching locals how to save energy during peak hours.
6. Policies with financial incentives can be introduced by the government or local authorities to incentivize citizens and businesses to adopt renewable energy solutions.
7. It is imperative to establish regulations and enforce standards to enable electricity providers to prioritise grid maintenance and investment in enhancements.
8. The government and locals ought to look into the possibilities of connecting Ekosodin to a more dependable power supply from the neighbouring region.

By implementing a combination of these approaches, Ekosodin can work towards a more stable and reliable electricity supply.

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APPENDIX
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF BENIN
BENIN CITY

QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Respondent,

My name is **UKPONMWAN FAVOUR**, I am a 400 level student of the above named Department and Institution. I am conducting a research on the topic: “**Examining the Ramifications of Recurrent Seizure of Electricity Among Ekosodin Resident Community**”. Your valuable insights will contribute to a comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by the community due to irregular power supply. Please take a few minutes to share your experiences and opinions on the impact of epileptic power supply on various aspects of daily life in Ekosodin. Your responses will aid in identifying areas for improvement and potential solutions. Your participation is highly appreciated. I promise to keep whatever information given as strictly confidential. Please tick [] in the appropriate box that suits your response

Thank you for taking time to complete the questionnaire.

Yours faithfully,

UKPONMWAN FAVOUR

Researcher

SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Gender: Male [], Female [].

Age: 18 - 21 [], 22 - 26 [], 27 - 31 [], 32 years and above [].

Marital status: Single [], Married [], Divorce [], Widow/Widower []

Ethnicity: Igbo [], Yoruba [], Edo [], Urhobo [], Hausa [], Others.....

Qualification: Primary School [], Secondary [], Others [].

Religion: Christian [], Muslim [], African Traditional Religion [], Others

Occupation: Student [], Employed [], Unemployed [], Self-employed [],
Others

SECTION: B: QUESTIONNAIRE ITEMS

Instructions: Please tick (✓) under the column in the option that suits you best.

Item 1: What are the Challenges Students Encounter In Their Academics Due To Epileptic Power Supply Among Ekosodin Resident Community Area Of Edo State?

- 8. How often do you experience epileptic power supply in your area? Rarely [], Occasionally [], Frequently [], Always [].
- 9. How has inconsistent power supply affected your ability to access and utilize technological resources for academic purposes? Positively [], Negatively [], No impact [].
- 10. Have you faced challenges meeting assignment deadlines or preparing for exams due to power outages?. Yes [], No []. What strategies do you employ to cope with the challenges posed by epileptic power supply in relation to your academic responsibilities?.....
.....

11. What improvements, if any, would you suggest to address the challenges students face due to epileptic power supply?

.....
.....

Item 2: What are the causes and contributing factors leading to persistent power outage in Ekosodin, Benin City?

12. In your opinion, what are the primary causes of persistent power outages in Ekosodin? (Select all that apply). Infrastructure issues [], Technical failures [], Financial constraints [], Non-payment of bills [], Overloading of the power grid [], Others (please specify).....

13. How do these persistent power outages impact daily life in Ekosodin? (e.g., businesses, education, healthcare)

.....
.....

14. Are there any community-led initiatives or efforts to address the issue of persistent power outages in Ekosodin? Please describe

.....
.....

15. In your opinion, what measures or improvements could be implemented to alleviate persistent power outages in Ekosodin?

.....
.....

Item 3: What are the Impacts of the unreliable power supply on the residents of Ekosodin?

16. How does unreliable power supply impact your daily life? (Select all that apply). Cooking [], Studying or working from home [], Communication (charging devices)

[], Refrigeration of food [], Access to entertainment [], Other (please specify)

17. Have you faced financial losses or additional expenses due to unreliable power supply? (e.g., spoiled food, generator fuel costs). Yes [], No []. If Yes, please describe

.....
.....

18. Are there any community-led initiatives or efforts to address the issue of persistent power outages in Ekosodin? Yes [], No []. If yes, please describe.....

.....
.....

19. In what ways does unreliable power supply impact your economic activities? (Select all that apply). Loss of business income [], Increased operational costs (e.g., fuel for generators) [], Job productivity [], Business closures [], Others (please specify).....

.....

Item 4: What Are The Possible Solutions To The Problem Of Poor Power Supply In Ekosodin Community?

20. What solutions or improvements do you think could effectively address the issues causing poor power supply in Ekosodin?

.....
.....

21. How do you think the community can actively contribute to improving the power supply situation in Ekosodin?

.....

.....

22. What actions can individual residents take to contribute to a more stable power supply in Ekosodin?.....

.....

.....

23. Based on your experiences and observations, what specific recommendations would you make to relevant authorities to improve power supply in Ekosodin?

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