

**ACCOUNTABILITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN OREDO LOCAL
GOVERNMENT AREA OF EDO STATE.**

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**A PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION,
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, BENIN CITY IN
PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.Sc.) DEGREE IN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION**

APPROVAL

I hereby certify that this research work carried out by **Blessing Odufa KADIRI** with Mat. Number SSC1911709 is adequate in scope and content in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the Award of The Bachelor Of Science Degree in Department of Public Administration, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Benin, Benin City.

Blessing Odufa KADIRI

Date

CERTIFICATION

We the undersigned, certify that this research work was carried out by Blessing Odufa KADIRI with Mat. Number SSC1911709 in the Department of Public Administration, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Benin, Benin City in partial fulfillment of the requirement of the award of the Bachelor of Science degree in Department of Public Administration.

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Date

Date

DEDICATION

This research work is dedicated to God Almighty, always loving Father, my very present help in times of need and my sufficiency. His unending grace has seen me through my academic pursuit in the University of Benin.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
Title	i
Approval	ii
Certification	iii
Dedication	iv
Acknowledgement	v
Table of content	vi
Abstract	viii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	
Background of the Study	1
Statement of Problem	4
Aims and Objectives of the study	5
Research Questions	7
Significance of the Study	7
Scope and delimitation of study	8
Definition of Terms	8
CHAPTER TWO: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	
Literature Review	11
The Concept of Accountability	11
Theoretical framework	12
Theories of accountability	13
Theories of Economic Development	15
Accountability in Nigeria's local government	16
Local government administration in Nigeria	17
Local government and development	19
Economic development in Oredo LGA	19

Impact of Accountability on Economic Development in Nigeria	20
Empirical Review	22
The Role of Local Government Accountability in Edo State	24
Challenges to Accountability in Oredo Local Government	24
Community participation and Economic Development	25
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	
Research Design	27
Population of Study	28
Sample and Sampling Techniques	28
Instrument of data collection	28
Validity of instrument	29
Technique for data analysis	30
CHAPTER FOUR: PRESENTATION OF RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS	
Presentation of Results	32
Discussion of Findings	44
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	
Summary	47
Conclusions	48
Recommendations	49
REFERENCES	51
APPENDIX	

Abstract

Accountability is a fundamental pillar of good governance and economic development. This study examined the role of accountability in economic development within Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State. The research aims to assess the current state of accountability, its impact on economic initiatives, public perceptions of government officials' accountability, existing mechanisms for ensuring transparency, and challenges impeding effective governance. A structured questionnaire was administered to 300 respondents, and data were analyzed using mean and standard deviation. Findings reveal that accountability within Oredo LGA is low, with a mean score of 2.32 for the general level of accountability and 1.88 for government transparency. Town hall meetings and public engagement scored 2.26, indicating limited opportunities for citizen participation in governance. The study found strong agreement that accountability significantly influences economic development initiatives (Mean = 4.67), while lack of accountability negatively impacts government-led programs (Mean = 4.48). However, confidence in officials' ability to manage public funds effectively was low (Mean = 2.68), and government accountability in cases of resource mismanagement also received a low rating (Mean = 2.67). Corruption was identified as a major hindrance to accountability (Mean = 4.66). Respondents recognized the existence of monitoring mechanisms (Mean = 4.1) but emphasized the need for stronger anti-corruption laws (Mean = 4.66) and enhanced transparency measures (Mean = 4.66). Major challenges to accountability include political influence (Mean = 4.51), lack of financial transparency (Mean = 4.58), and weak enforcement of laws (Mean = 4.61). The study concludes that weak accountability structures undermine economic development in Oredo LGA. Strengthening anti-corruption laws, increasing public transparency, enforcing legal frameworks, and fostering civic engagement are recommended to improve governance and economic growth in the region. This research provides valuable insights into local governance challenges and offers practical recommendations for enhancing accountability in Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State.