

**RURAL DEVELOPMENT:A MEANS OF COMBATING  
RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION OF EGOR LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT IN NIGERIA**

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NIGERIA.**

**APRIL,2024**

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**BEING AN ORIGINAL RESEARCH ESSAY PRESENTED TO  
THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION,  
UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, NIGERIA.**

**IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR  
THE AWARD OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.Sc.) DEGREE  
IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**APRIL,2024**

## CERTIFICATION

We certify that this project work - **Rural development: a means of combating rural-urban migration of Egor local government in Nigeria**- was carried out by OSHOGWE MOSES of the Department of Public Administration, University of Benin, and is adequate in scope and quality in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) Degree in Public Administration.

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## **DEDICATION**

This project work is dedicated first to God Almighty who has given me life and will to go through the hurdles of the University all these years.

I dedicate this project to my Parent-Mr. and Mrs. Oshogwe.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

My sincere gratitude and appreciation goes to God Almighty because without Him, I could have done nothing. Right from the day of my birth. He has been faithful and gracious.

To the world best Mother-Mrs. Faith Oshogwe-I say a big thank you. She has been a huge source of inspiration and support throughout this journey; her words of encouragement, the way she provides even with minimum notice, going out of their way to ensure I am comfortable. May the good Lord bless and keep you. Amen.

I will use this opportunity to appreciate my elder sister, Joy Oshogwe, for all your support, advice and counsel throughout my life. You have been a great source of strength for me; I thank you now and always.

To all of my other siblings, I love you all so much! Thank you for all your support and input in my life; I am eternally grateful.

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To my awesome Aunty-Mrs. Evelyn Dada-I say a very big thank you. Thank you for being there for me in support and encouragement, Ma. God will handsomely reward you, thank you very much.

Special thanks to Mr and Mrs John, thanks for your love and support towards the achievement of this programme

To my awesome supervisor, Dr.E.I. Okonmah, I say a big thank you. I was determined to go through this project work the best way I could and definitely give my best, and you were of immense help. Thanks for calmly putting me through, making corrections and giving me the push needed for the completion of this research.

Special and sincere thanks also goes to Chief Daudu Momodu 1 of Uzaurie , Mr. and Mrs. Okoro(CEO of GMOTOR limited),Ugbodaga Rachael, Sagay Sussan, Adebayo Iyanu to all my coworker

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at Gmotor, and Ayomide Olusexy.

There are many individuals whom the researcher did not mention here who in one way assisted him writing this project. This does not imply that the researcher has neglected them, but he actually remains indebted to them

**ABSTRACT**

*For many years, the issues of rural urban migration have contributed or resulted to so many societal consequences in the urban and rural areas, focusing on those consequences in rural area and taking Egor local government as case study. Government of different levels have makes laws and policies but none of those laws*

*and plans have solves this issues of rural-urban migration. The discussion will base on the background of rural-urban relationship, causes and effects of mass migration and recommendation on recreating a more balanced society and reducing to its barest minimum the on-going lopsided migration.*

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## CHAPTER ONE

### 1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY.

Rural development encompasses the social, economic, and environmental advancements of areas outside urban centers. It aims to improve the quality of life and livelihoods for people living in rural communities. However, numerous complex issues hinder progress in rural development, creating disparities between rural and urban areas. This study delves into these issues, analyzing their causes and consequences.

Rural development is a wide and term that focuses on improving the economic, social and environmental well-being of areas outside mainstream urban centers. It involves initiatives and strategies aimed at enhancing the quality of life in rural communities.

Rural development has continued to fascinate and consume the attention of writers, government at all level and other stakeholders. This is not because the idea of rural development is now to man but because of its rising prominence as a process and movement of grass root development. Rural development aim at finding ways to improve rural lives with participation of rural people themselves, so as to meet the required needs of rural communities.

Rural development has traditionally centered on the exploitation of land-intensive natural resources such as agriculture and forestry.

However, changes in global increased urbanization have changed the character of rural areas; increasingly rural tourism, niche manufacturers recreation have replaced resource extraction and agriculture as dominant economic drivers.

Rural areas play a crucial role in national development by contributing to the national economy, preserving cultural heritage, and ensuring sustainable income for peasants. The development of rural areas is essential for solving the problems of stable economic development through agricultural and improving the welfare of the population. Comprehensive development of rural areas is necessary for stable functioning of rural communities and the effective development of economic, social, ecological, and settlement components. The implementation of federal programs for sustainable development of rural areas is crucial in eliminating the crisis situation in these areas.

In every society, the rural sector is very important to the socioeconomic development of the nation. According to Nyangba (2009), the most important sector of the Nigeria population is the rural areas. This is because the rural sector is the major source of capital formation for the state and the country and a principal market for a domestic and raw materials for industrial processes (Ugwuanyin and Emma, 2013). Rural dwellers have been found to engage in primary economic activities that form the country's economic development (Abah, 2010).

Owing to the immense contribution of the rural sectors to the nation's economy, so, therefore enhancing the development of the rural area should be central to government and public administration. This is necessary as success would further enhance the ability of the sector for increased contribution to the overall national growth and development.

Nigeria as one of the Countries in the African continent has an area of about 914072.64km of 100million people at present. The rural dwellers are not only substantial proportion of the nation's manpower needs, but from the base upon which an industrial and technological growth, hope and aspiration are built.

. Rural areas are characterized by much listed opportunity for economic and social infrastructure like transport facilities, good roads, electricity, pipe borne water and so on.

With globalization and technological advancement increasing people's mobility to an unprecedented level, understanding migration the mobility and people is ever more important today. Migration impacts states, as well as societies' economies and policies. As such, much attention has been given to international migration in the research literature (Castles, Miller, & Ammendola, 2005).

## **1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

Due to the poor infrastructure development and uneven distribution of resource and economical sector, poor standard of living, lack of advanced technological infrastructures, rural migration in Egor local government have striven for so many years. Incessant and excessive rural- migration in Egor local government has brought about a lot of socioeconomic difficulties both in the rural and urban areas in Edo state and Nigeria as a whole. McCarthy (2004), opined that excessive urbanization leads to high rate of urban congestion, crime and poor infrastructure such as proper sewage disposal system, safe and portable drinking water, electricity and other amenities, chronic unemployment with the attendant creation of large slums and shanty towns. Many developing countries including Nigeria have attempts to resolve this problem of rural underdevelopment and desertion.

Abonti and Nnamani(2011) noted that rural poverty persist in Nigeria despite the prosperity created by the country's oil wealth as evidence in getting basic daily needs such as food, water and shelter. Lack of these basic life needs in the rural areas has made a number of

rural dwellers migration to urban centers with high hopes of improving their standard of living.

According to Abah (2010), the deplorable condition of the Nigeria rural sector is emphatic and more worrisome in that; even the few policies and programme put in places and implemented by government over the years have not result in significant improvement in the development of rural areas in Nigeria (Ezeani, 2005). In Nigeria, from the colonial period till date, successive administration have tried to reform the rural areas where over 75% of Nigerians live in for the sake of attaining balanced growth and development, and discourage rural-urban migration, but all to no avail (Omonigho, 2013). This study herein guarantees the following research questions:

### **1.3. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES**

The general objectives of this study are to determine the effect of rural development on rural-urban migration in Egor local government. The specific objectives are:

- To determine whether rural development can serves as a panacea for rural-urban migration in Egor local government.
- To find out the social- economic causes of rural migration in Egor local government
- To determine the implications of rural-urban migration in Egor local government on rural development
- To identify measures put in place for rural development in Egor local government by government.

### **1.4. RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

- ·Can rural development serve as a panacea to urban migration in Egor local government?
- ·What are the socio-economic causes of rural-urban migration in Egor local government?
- ·What are the consequences of rural-urban migration in egor local government on rural development?

- What measures are put in place by government to develop the rural areas in Egor local government?

## **1.5 HYPOTHESIS**

In order to enable the researcher assess the effect of rural development in combating rural-urban migration in Nigeria. The following hypothesis will be tested.

H<sub>0</sub>: Rural development does not have any influence on rural-urban migration in Egor local government of Nigeria.

H<sub>R</sub>: Rural development has an influence on rural-urban migration in Egor local government of Nigeria.

## **1.6 SIGNIFICANT OF THE STUDY**

This study will help to advance the focus on rural development and its substantive effect in combating rural-urban migration in Nigeria. So as to encourage rural development and survival. When completed, it will serve or used as a policy document for rural development as well as research material for reference.

## **1.7 SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

This research will cover rural development and its impact on combating rural-urban migration in Egor local government of Nigeria with spatial reference to the actual influence it has on the social-economic activities and life of rural dweller, causes of rural-urban migration and measure

put in place by relevant stakeholder and authority to combat the menace of rural-urban migration in the study area. The study will also give also cover all rural areas and incidence of rural- urban migration in Nigeria.

## 1.7 DEFINITION OF TERMS

- **RURAL AREA:** a geographical location outside cities and towns with a relative low population density and small settlements
- **MIGRATION:** movement of people across a specific boundary for the purpose of establishing a new semi-permanent residence.
- **RURAL DEVELOPMENT:.** The process of improving the quality of life and economic well being of people living in rural areas often relatively isolated and sparsely populated areas.
- **RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION:** is a process of population shift from rural areas to urban areas with attendant increase in proportion of people living in urban areas.
- **INFRASTRUCTURE:** Basic physical and organization structures and facilities needed for the operation of a society or enterprise.

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## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 INTRODUCTION**

In its general term, development has been describe as a process by which man increase or maximizes his control and use of the material resources with which nature has endowed him and his environment. According to Afigbo,(1991), development consist of five main ingredien:increasing of material wealth for the use of individual and the nation; eliminating unemployment; eliminating poverty and want; eliminating inequality, and increasing the general availability of labor-saving device. Arising from this, therefore, rural development is a multi-dimensional process through which the productivity, income and welfare, relating to health, Nutrition, education, transportation, employment and other features of better living conditions of rural people can be improve upon or transformed. According to Igbokwe and Ajala(1995), the earliest attempt at rural development during colonial era took the form of community development, and later agriculture extension. The community development approach emphasized self-help to improve health 1, nutrition and community welfare, whereas

the agricultural extension approach was concerned with improving the agricultural productivity.

The goal of both programmes ultimately was to produce primary products for the feeding of European industries. This era was also characterized by the development of transport networks in form of railway system not for the benefits of the rural people, but primarily for the benefits of the European business. The early years of Nigeria's independence also witnessed colossal concentration of development efforts on the modern sector of the economy, however, to the exclusive of investment in the rural economic. The problems emanating from the total neglect of rural areas and consequential pressures on the urban economy thus generate a serious concern for the government at various levels. Therefore the problem has been how to develop rural areas both in terms of economic and human resources. Towards the end, a number of development approaches have been pursued by various governments in Nigeria. This consists mainly in the establishment of project programs and capacity buildings institutions. Regrettably, No of those or some of this programs and project relatively succeed, many of them we are still born and unable to achieve the expected goals for which they were designed. This failure result from a number of administrative inefficiency such as corruption lack of comprehensive rural planning misplacement of priority lack of citizen participation at both the initial and implementation stage of programs among others. The solution so far advance have remain particularly elusive, unserviceable or realistic. This situation has therefore posed serious challenge to the development strategy in Nigeria and other developing country. Hence, the condition of the peasantry or rural communities have consistently worsen or deteriorated as more rural development programs and strategy has been unfolded.

## **2.2 CONCEPT OF RURAL AREA**

The concept of rural area has been addressed in various ways by different scholars depending on very context. It is also conceptualized as it occurs to different countries and Nations based on geographical, activities and population characteristics.. The 1996 census dictionary define rural area as "sparsely" populated lands Lying outside urban areas (statistics Canada 1999a:226). According to Wikipedia rural areas are large and isolated areas of an open country with low population density. United States census (2000 census), define rural areas as open country and settlement with fewer than 2,500 residents (population/administrative based); areas designed as rural can have population densities as high as 999 per square mile or as low 1 person per square mile (population/land use-based).United States Department of Agriculture. (2002 farm bill)define rural areas as any areas other than a city or town that has a population of greater than 50,000 inhabitants, and also the urbanized areas contiguous and adjacent such a city or town. Functional, a rural area is a geographical area characterized by primary activities such a extraction, farming and gathering amongst others. Harmonizing all these definition especially as concerned this study, rural areas in Nigeria is measured by two indices at spatial index indicating the indicating the percentage of the population living in rural areas and by occupation index which shoes the percentage of the labour force in the agricultural occupation. It therefore connote a spatial entity with low population density and whose activities are majorly of primary activities such as agriculture, extraction and gathering among others. It's estimate that agriculture activity occupied four-fifth of the rural population of Nigeria.

### **2.3 CONCEPT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Development and rural development are two basic concepts involved here that need clarification. To understand and appreciate what rural development stand for, we need to look at the development as it reflects the areas of this study. Don Taylor see development as a process of economic, social and political change which results in an

improvement in the quality of life of the majority of people in a given country. Here, there is an emphasis that the goal of development should be to develop man and his environment. Any process of growth which disrupts and does not fulfill the basic needs of human beings e.g food, shelter and clothing, health and education is a travesty of the idea of development.

Okwudibia Nnoli in his book "path to Nigeria development" defines development as a dialectical phenomenon in which the individual and society interact with their physical, biological and inter-human environment, transforming them to their own betterment and that of humanity at large and being transformed in the process. Development, he asserts, should be seen first and foremost as a phenomenon associated with change in man's humanity and creativity energies, not in things.

Development includes freedom of expression and impression, the right to give and receive ideas and stimulus. There is deep social need to participate in shaping the basis of one's existence to make contribution to the fashioning of the world's future. Above all, development includes the right to work by which we mean not simply finding self-realization in work finding self-realization in work, the right not to be alienated through production processes that use human beings simply as tools.

It is apparent from the above definition that development as perceived here is distinct from the concept of economic growth. For example, "the case of steadily increasing per Capital income which does not tell us who gets the wealth". The western liberal democracy sees it in terms of material process based on regulated markets, redistribution of wealth, social security, public health services, public education and unemployment insurance. However, the liberal democracy school does not see the need for the disappearance of state apparatus from the society. While they disagree in the approach, they however agreed by their definition that development is concerned with both economic and social growth which in turn reduce poverty

and increase the standard of living of the people and this is to be done through deliberate state policy by administering the development process.

These views were considered when one of the NYSC orientation series, it was stated that the purpose of development regardless of each state's implicit/explicit political ideology, is to bring about a qualitative improvement in a standard of living of the citizen by promoting industrialization, agricultural development, construction of roads, railway and other transport facilities, the provision of key utilities such as water and electricity, supply and the availability to the entire citizen, basic reoccurring theme here is that development seek to improve economic, social and political condition of the people.

Rural Development however is concerned with the welfare of the rural sector of the national economy, but nonetheless development implies national progress. There is no consensus as to the definition of rural development and this constitutes it initial problems. Different schools of thought had given different definition of rural development. Dirjomah (1973) define it as a process of increasing the level of living of the rural population, measured by food and nutrition level,health,health,education,housing,recreation and security.

Adegboye(1873) defin s it as the development of rural people in such a continuous manner as to enable them to meet effective and efficiently intellect utilize technology and other resources for further development of botnl themselves and their resources. Uwakah(1985) sees it as a change process which involves moving rural people from what it is to what to he.From the definitions above, it is clear that theobject of the rural people who Olatunbosun (1973) called Nigeria's neglected majority and Anthony (1981), called them the stagnant sector in the Nigeria economy while Ijere,(1981),called them the Nigeria with poverty linked characteristics.

According to Williams (1978) the ambit of rural development is very wide and includes generation of new employment, more equitable access to arable land, equitable distribution of income, wide spread

improvement in health, nutrition and housing, maintenance of law and order, creation of incentive and opportunities for individual to realize their full potential through education and sharing of information and decisions and actions which affect their lives. All said and done, the salient point in the definitions of rural development is raising the standard of living of the rural people through their own efforts coupled with government assistance.

The concept of rural transformation/development has different interpretation to different people of its multi-dimensional and multi-disciplinary nature. Hunter, (1964), was among the earliest to use the expression rural development which he considered as the "starting point of development" characterized by subsistence. According to Mabogunji,(1980), rural development implies a broad based re-organization and mobilization of the rural masses so as to cope effectively with the daily tasks of their lives and with changes consequent upon this. As stated elsewhere, rural transformation is a process of mobilizing and harnessing human and material resources of all the rural populaces with a view to improving their social-economic situation through qualitative and quantitative change(Ogunnowo,1997).

## **2.4 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Rural development deficient of sustainable is not likely to stand the test of time; hence, the concept of sustainable development is crucial in this kind of study. Sustainable Development as a new paradigm world over has been explained differently. According to the Brundtland commission report which globally initiate and popularize the concept, sustainable development is define as "Development that meets the needs of current generation without compromising the ability of the future generations to keeps their own needs" (WCED, 1987,p.44). Abumere (1997),referred to the concept to lean that in our use of environmental resources to satisfy current demands, we must not inflict irreversible damage on the environment in such a way as to jeopardize the ability of the future generations to meet their needs, simply put therefore, sustainable development advocate design development that meets the needs of the present generation

without compromising the ability of unborn generation in meeting their own needs.

## **2.5 OBJECTIVES OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Based on the scope of rural development improving the total welfare of the rural low-income people, Ijere, (1990) identified the following objectives of rural development:

- I. To have greater commitment of the resources to the rural areas in terms of budgeting allocation and actual expenditure.
- II. To ensure popular participation of rural people in the identification of priorities, planning of programmes as well as their implementation.
- III. To lay greater emphasis on the use of total resources and promotion of local skills.
- IV. To expand and improve on rural infrastructure such as roads, market stalls, electricity, water and storage facilities.
- V. To maintain political and social stability.
- VI. To increase commodity out-put and production and subsequently increase food and food supply as well as rural farm income.

Increased attention has been given to rural development in Nigeria. The attention is justified because rural transformation is a requisite foundation for social and economic progress. Nigeria has adopted several approaches/strategies towards improving the well-being of the rural dwellers. Such strategies include:

### **2.5.2 Community development**

This is designed to promote better living for the whole community with active participation and initiative of the people. It works primarily through the enlistment and organization of self-help and cooperative efforts in the part of the community but with technical

assistance from government or voluntary agencies. It emphasized group action in improving rural condition. This means that the welfare of the group supersede the welfare of an individual. The term connote that people themselves exert their own efforts joining with any one aspect of life such as agriculture, business, health and education. Here people work together to shape their future. The effectiveness of the strategy will depend largely in the extend to which government encourage local planning and participation.

### **2.5.3 Citizen participation**

This involves the direct participation by members of the community and stakeholder such as the change agent in the formation and execution of proposals or plans and programmes designed to bring about improvement in the living conditions of the community. It is the initiative and implementation by the people as a means of ensuring the success of community development programmes. This principle is deeply rooted in the concept of community development, which entails that whatever is done to improve the welfare of a people must endeavor to elicit the enthusiasm of tsuch people. This portrays community development as a cooperation or partnership in progress along with relevant stakeholders. This principle further stipulate that the rural people should take part in the planning, execution, utilization an assement of social amenities or facilities designed to improve their welfare in their area. It is this participation that gives the people the pride of ownership of the facilities completed in the process of community development.

#### **2.5.4 Principle of Felt-Needs**

This implies that the people must be able to identify what they want to do in order to bring about the desired development. According to Omorodion the identification is possible only if the people are able to do something to remove it. The awareness of need and problem arises from dissatisfaction with the way people are living and the urge to induce desirable change to address the problem or improve their way of living. This principle depicts that people must be to identify the real things they want to doing order to achieve their desired development. This is possible if they are able to understand what stands in their way of achieving progress, and are able to do something to remove it. This identified obstacle is known as the problem of such a community. Needs may arise from the lack of or absence of particular services or amenities which would facilitate the welfare of the community if present or available. Hence, anything which may be considered essential for maintenance of a desired affair in the community is a need.

#### **2.5.5 Principle of Self-Growth**

This principle implies that the community must be able to diagnose its own problems, initiative actions aimed at finding solution to them by mobilization of its own resources. This principle stipulates that a community does not have to wait to get solution to its problems from outsiders who have no connection with the community. The community has to be able through constant practice, to diagnose its own problems. In this process, the community should strive to rely, as much as possible on its own resources, the community can appreciate and properly manage external resources that may be infused from time to time, into the

community effort either by government or other external specialized agencies. Furthermore, as postulated by the FAO, rural development programmes set up to develop the rural communities especially in developing countries must not only be accessible, independent and sustainable but must also be effective and encourage active community participation (Laah D.E et al,2013).

## **2.6 RURAL DEVELOPMENT: THE NIGERIA SITUATION**

Overtime, successive governments have embarked on several programmes targeted at rural development. Other approaches have been by Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), cooperatives, individuals through private initiatives, corporate bodies as well as International Organizations. These efforts shall be examined under these two time frame Pre-independence epoch and Post-Independence epoch.

### **2.6.2 Pre-Independence Experience in Rural Development**

Government's involvement in infrastructural provision began as far back as 1917 when the colonial government promulgated the Township ordinance. This ordinance classified settlements in the country into three classes: namely, the first, second and third class townships. The first class townships harbored the whites and their workers. There was heavy concentration of infrastructure in these settlements e.g. Lagos. In other words, they differ from the second and the third class townships, which received little or no facilities. In the same era, roads and railway lines were constructed across the country, in the name of and ostensibly for the development of rural areas. However, the real reason for such constructions was exploitative rather than welfaristic, it was to enable the colonialists and the imperialists to tap and evacuate our agricultural products such as groundnuts, cocoa, cotton, and palm produce. This particular motive dictates the pattern of rail system in Nigeria in particular and developing countries in general, where rail lines only connect the hinterlands with the sea ports from where the agricultural

products could be transported overseas. In the rural areas within this era, agricultural mechanization was introduced to increase the hectares of food production for export; and also for the maximization and exploitation of the rural areas.

The objective of the development of the rural areas during this period is secondary and not of primary objective. In other words, the direction of development at this period was foreign-centered rather than for rural development per se. As such, the few developments recorded in the rural areas across the country in this period were by chance, rather than planned. In a nutshell, a common feature of rural development plans at pre-independence period was a single emphasis on agricultural development and productivity. While in the recent time the rural areas are still described as synonymous with peasant and subsistent agriculture (Onokerhoraye,1978;Udeh, 1989;Abdu&Marshall,1990; Filani,1993;Iwuagwu, 2006; Saheed, 2010),it is equally seen as synonymous with absence of basic infrastructural facilities such as sanitation, electricity, pipe-born water, good roads and health care services.

### **2.6.3 Post-Independence Experience in Rural Development**

Even though, the political drivers of the post independent Nigeria were indigenous, majority of who came from rural settings, the period witnessed colossal concentration of development efforts on the modern sector of the economy at the expense of investment in the rural economic base. Government intervention in rural transformation then were in response to lifting urban pressures emanating from rural neglect and improving export commodity earnings (Igbokwe& Ajala,1995). The resources meant to open up the rural areas were diverted to service the urban centers. Example of such were the building of the famous Cocoa House in Ibadan, the first Television Station in Africa and other numerous urban projects all of which were financed with the proceeds from taxes and levies from the rural farmers. The action led to dramatic influx of rural dwellers into the urban areas as it became more profitable and

more sensible to remain in cities even as unemployed than to be enslaved in the rural areas only to "feed the nation". As posited by Raheem et al, (2014) the inflow of human resources from the poor regions to the rich regions will greatly increase the population sizes of the latter, thereby creating complex socio economic problems of unemployment and overcrowding residential accommodation. However, in the 1970s, there was a renewed effort in what was called rural development. Although, the first and second national development plans (1962-68; and 1970-74) were not basically concerned about developing the rural localities, serious concern for rural development at the national level was first highlighted in the third national development plan (1975-80). The plan emphasized the need to reduce regional disparities in order to foster national unity through the adoption of integrated rural development. The total budget allocation in the third national development plan was N32 billion. The plan provided for the allocation of N90 million towards nation-wide rural electrification scheme, the establishment of nine River Basin Development Authorities (RBDAs) in addition to the two existing ones (Sokoto and Rima (RBDAs) by decree Nos. 25 and 28 between 1976 and 1979 respectively (Adedipe, 2002), the construction of small dams and boreholes for rural water supply and the clearing of feeder roads for the evacuation of agricultural produce and the supply of electricity to rural areas from large irrigation Dams. In a similar development, the Fourth National Development Plan (1981-85) exhibits several distinguishing features, but most importantly, it was the first plan in which the local government tiers were allowed to participate fully in their own right. (Fourth National Development Plan, 1981), also, according to Filani (1993), the 1981-1985 national development plan marked a turning point in rural development efforts in Nigeria because it was the first to recognize the rural sector as a priority area.

The plan emphasized among other things the need for balanced development of the different sectors of the economy and of the various geographic areas of the country. It also emphasized the importance of rural infrastructural development as a vehicle for enhancing the quality of

rural life. Consequently, about N924 million was allocated to the eleven River Basin Development Authorities whose functions include among other things, the construction of boreholes, dams, feeder roads and jetties. About 12,064 kilometers of feeder roads, 2,280 wells, 29 farm service centers, 2,650 boreholes, and 249 earth dams, were expected to be constructed by the River Basin Development Authorities.

The Federal Government also allocated N645 million for a country-wide electrification, in addition, all the states of the federation allocated N700.4 million for the electrification of about 1,600 towns and villages in their areas of jurisdiction, while transport facilities such as construction of motor parks, and petrol filling stations and provision of inter village commuting services were also provided by local governments for rural transportation development.

At the state level, the various state governments spelt out different policy issues in the fourth development plan. For instance, in Oyo State, the government identified four cardinal programmes for itself. These include free education at all levels, free medical services, integrated rural development and gainful employment while other states in the federation also embarked on projects that could make meaningful impact on the lives of the citizenry. In order to effectively implement the above programmes, the sum of N1,642,401 million were allocated to the various sectors of the economy. The rural sector received much attention at the period as many local roads were upgraded, 27 Primary Health Centers, 105 health clinics and 6 comprehensive health centres were established across the rural areas. In addition, wells were sunk in rural areas where piped water is not available and more rural communities were connected to the national grid through electrification scheme.

In spite of these efforts, however, it is pertinent to note that the conditions of the rural inhabitants continued to be poorer, and their lives more miserable. This is because the projects were either not the right priority aimed at developing the rural people, or perhaps, they could not stand the test of time because of unsustainable practices.

## **2.7 APPROACHES TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA**

Realizing the importance of rural areas in the development of Nigerian economy and the need to adequately harness resources to better the lives of the rural dwellers that constitute substantial segment of the population, successive governments had in the past rolled out series of programmes and approaches aimed at arresting the ugly situations bedeviling the rural populace. Some of these are highlighted below:

### **2.7.2 The National Accelerated Food Production Project (NAFPP)**

This project was launched in 1973 during the military era under General Yakubu Gowon and it continued until 1976 when it was replaced by the Operation Feed the Nation Programme by General Olusegun Obasanjo. It was an agricultural strategy aimed at increasing food production in specific areas and sub-sectors of the agricultural economy. NAFPP relied heavily on the cooperative approach as well as on technical assistance for its success. The scheme was a well-conceived and guided change programme for rural development, especially in the area of food production.

### **2.7.3 The River-Basins Development Authority (RBDA)**

It was established in 1976 and 1979 by decrees 25 and 28 respectively and further expanded in 1983 (Adedipe, 2002). The sole aim of the authority was to harness the water resources of the river basins across the country in order to better the lives of the citizens. It was an idea borrowed from developed and other developing countries such as the Tennessee Valley Authority, where flooded area was dammed for irrigation farming, water navigation and Hydro Electric Power (HEP) generation. In addition, the project was designed to make the nation self-sufficient in food production and to uplift the socio-economic standard of the rural dwellers. To this end, substantial funds were

allocated to the programme in the Third National Development (1975-80). However, the activities of the authority showed that the development philosophy was still the trickle-down approach as rural development was not a serious issue in its objectives Which include inter alia?

- I. Undertaking comprehensive development, both surface and underground water resources for multi-purpose use.
- II. Undertaking scheme for the control of flood, and erosion, and for the water-shed management including afforestation.
- III. Construction and maintenance dams, dykes, wells, boreholes, irrigations and drainage systems.
- IV. Provision of water from reservoir and lakes for irrigation purposes to farmers and recognized associations, as well as for urban water supply scheme.
- V. Control of pollution in rivers, lakes, lagoons, and creeks.
- VI. From the objectives, it can be confirmed that the activities of the authorities were only focused at the development of material things, rather than the people. And again, it was a kind of top-down approach, thereby leading to its partial success.

#### **2.7.4 The Agricultural Development Projects (ADPS)**

This project was launched in Nigeria in 1975, and was financed by the trio of the World Bank, the Federal and State Governments. The example in Oyo state was the Oyo North Agricultural Development Project (ONADEP), later metamorphosed to Oyo State Agricultural Development Programme (OYSADEP). Its main objective was to raise productivity, increase farm output, income and standard of living of the rural people. It has its headquarters in various locations across the country and zonal offices in close proximity to the farmers. The

programme offered farmers access to extension services, trainings and workshops as well as affordable farm inputs. Besides, some rural roads were opened up and others rehabilitated while water provision was also given consideration through construction of dams. However, due to lack of technical know-how, mismanagement and misappropriation of funds and embezzlement, the Programme could record just little achievement in actually developing the rural areas.

### **2.7.5 Operation Feed The Nation(OFN)**

It was launched in 1976 by Lt. Gen.Olusegun Obasanjo (the then Head of State). It was designed to rekindle the consciousness of the generality of Nigerians especially, those living in the rural areas to the advantages of the agricultural occupation. The objective of the programme was to among others, mobilize the nation towards self-sufficiency and self-reliance in food production. The Operation Feed the Nation was not specifically a rural development strategy, but the rural areas benefited through inputs and professional advice. However, it was on record how the project, rather than solve food problems created opportunities for the ruling class to appropriate national funds. They were appointed Board members and given fat contracts at the expenses of the masses who were meant to be originally served by the idea.

### **2.7.6 Green Revolution**

Launched in 1980 by civilian administration headed by Alhaji Shehu Shagari, it was designed to boost food production. Its main objectives include among others, to make the country self-sufficient in food production within. It however failed because the same government that instituted Green Revolution with the aim of making Nigeria self-

sufficient embarked on a large-scale importation of rice from India and America

(Raheem et al,2014; Otoghagua,1999).This singular act of the government rendered the aim of the programme in achieving rural development useless, as there was no protection for the local farmers from foreign competition.

### **2.7.8 Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme (ACGS)**

This programme was meant to ease farmers and rural dwellers 'access to credit facilities. Some financial institutions were established and empowered by the government to disburse loan facilities to the rural dwellers with little or no interest and without collateral securities. This in the aim of government would encourage high productivity and strengthen the financial base and economy of the rural populace. Unfortunately, however as, in no distant period, mismanagement crept in their activities and the banks collapsed, without actually serving the purpose for which it was established.

### **2.7.9 Directorate for Food, Roads And Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI)**

This directorate was one of the numerous rural development policies instituted by the then President of Nigeria, Gen. Ibrahim Badamosi Babangida during his almost a decade administration. The main thrust of the programme according to Ekpo and Olaniyi(1995),is to improve the quality of life and standard of living of the majority of the people in the rural areas. In achieving this,the following objectives were set:

- i. To utilize the enormous resources of the rural areas to lay a solid foundation for the security, socio-cultural, political and economic growth and development activities of the rural areas;
- ii. To ensure a deeply-rooted self-sustaining development process based on effectively mobilized mass participation, beginning from the grass roots and spreading thereafter to the wider economy.

DFRRI was really a transition effort to genuine rural development in Nigeria. It developed rural access roads to connect rural-rural communities, rural-urban centers and farmers to the markets. This is because prior to the introduction of the programme, one of the serious problems facing farmers and farming activities was poor road network. (Raheem et al, 2014) Government surveys indicated that 60,000km of rural feeder roads were either constructed or rehabilitated under the first phase which was completed in 1987, In 1990, a total of 30,724.34km of rural feeder roads were completed and accepted as having met the required specifications under the second phase of the project. Another 55,576.24km of rural roads was constructed in 1991. However, in 1992, a total of 85,592.82km of rural feeder roads were completed, inspected and accepted. Other major areas where DFRRI's activities were targeted were in the area rural electrification, with the first phase taking off in 1987. Two model villages in each local government area of the country were selected as prototype. By 1989, 142 electricity projects were completed in phase 1. In 1990, 114 communities in 11 states were provided with electricity. In 1991, 325 communities were supplied with electricity, and

another 506 communities benefited in 1992. In the area of water supply to rural communities, 4,000 wells/boreholes were reported to have been sunk by 1989. Another 1,291; 11,310 and 18,680 wells and boreholes were sunk in 1990, 1991 and 1992, respectively (Ekpo & Olaniyi, 1995).

### **2.7.10 The Better life For Rural Women Programme**

This programme, established in 1987 by the then first lady Hajia Maryam Babangida, was an offshoot of Beijing Conference of 1985.(Akanbi,and Jekayinfa, 2011) The objectives of the programme was to among others stimulate and motivate rural women towards achieving better living standards, and sensitize the rest of Nigerians to their problems, (Obasi and Oguche 1995). The programme can aptly be described as second to none in the various efforts at championing the cause of women in Nigeria. Apart from launching the women folk to their role as society leaders and managers, its various activities at all level of governments propelled the inert talents in themn in all human endeavours.It also led to the "institutionalization" of the position of First Ladyship and establishment of ministries of women affairs in all the states of the federation,(Ijere,1990:59).

### **2.7.11National Directorate Of Employment (NDE)**

Rising unemployment issue in the 1980s in Nigeria led to the establishment of the National Directorate of Employment by the administration of Ibrahim Babangida. It was designed to cushion the effect of the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP). It offered the youths who were job seekers the opportunity to be on thei own through agriculture, industry and handicrafts. Loans were made available for the unemployed who have one skill or the other with little or no interest. NDE was and is however confronted with low funds, bureaucratic bottle neck and tribalism.

### **2.7.12 The National Directorate For Social Mobilization**

Mass Mobilization for Self-reliance and Economic Recovery (MAMSER) as was popularly called was established in 1987 by the same government,

and was known to be strong in the articulation and campaign for people's rights. It also proved its worth in the sensitization of masses towards government policies and programmes. It had its tentacle spread all over the country, educating and informing people about their rights and duties, which is considered as the first step in rural development strategies. Other programmes aimed at rural development in the past are National Agricultural Land Development Authority (NALDA), National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP), National Rural Roads Development Fund (NRRDF), Rural Banking Scheme (RBS), Family Support Programme (FSP), Universal Basic Education (UBE) and Rural Infrastructure Development Scheme (RIDS). All of them were established to better the lives of the rural dwellers to ensure better standard of living. Many of these programmes were mainly targeted at rural development in an attempt to better the lives of rural dwellers, stimulate and enhance

economic growth, as well as get the rural sector to contribute meaningfully to the national economic and social development. These programmes have direct or indirect influence on rural development with some specific and others generalized. Specific programmes are targeted at agriculture, health, education, housing, transport and infrastructure while the generalized programmes were put in place to handle general projects and other pressing issues such as unemployment, illiteracy, such as HJ programmes include; NDE, DFIRI, better life, family support etc. many of these specific programmes had some positive effects on rural development although did not last long. Sadly though, lack of integration of the various rural developmental efforts significantly militated against sustainable rural development. This is largely due to the inability of the rural development institutions to cooperate and ensure their respective initiatives, actions and mandates are coordinated to reinforce and support each other and that their activities streamlined towards effective realization of governmental and rural development objectives.

## **2.8 MEANING OF RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION**

Rural-urban migration is one of the discomfiting problems facing the Nigerian socio-economic development. Rural-Urban migration represents a phenomenon of unprecedented movement of people from the rural country side to the urban cities. Historically, migration existed internally across city boundaries to enable excess labour to be taken slowly from the rural areas to provide workforce for industries in the urban areas and therefore aid industrialization and economic growth. However, overtime, the rate of rural-urban migration has rapidly outweighed the rate of job creation in developing and underdeveloped countries with over stretched available social and infrastructural facilities in the urban areas.

Migration is broadly defined as a relocation of residence for a specified duration and various reasons (Hossain, 2001). Migration incorporates all kinds of movement of people from one place to another. It may take place within a particular geographical boundary of a country and then beyond its boundaries. RUM is the movement of people from the country side to the urban center. Migration may be permanent in nature or it may be temporary. People may choose to migrate voluntarily or they may be forced into it. Both at the urban destination and at the rural origin there are demographic, economic, socio-cultural and environmental impacts of migration which is diverse and deep.

According to Todaro and Smith (2007), this worsens the already existing deplorable urban conditions and problems triggered by economic and physical inequality between urban and rural areas.

Rural-urban migration is one of the most important modes of migration existing in the society. Previous studies (Adewale,2006)reveal that various factors could predispose a certain rural population to migration, which might be due to crisis, ethno-religious conflicts and war etc.

## **2.9 CAUSES OF RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION**

Rural-urban migration may be occasioned by voluntary forces or involuntary forces. Involuntary or forced migration is migration that takes place when the migrant has no choice whether or not to move. Examples

include ethno-religious crisis, conflicts and wars, political strife, family and land disputes, conflicts with neighbors etc.

Migration occurs as a response to economic development as well as social, cultural, environmental and political factors and effects on areas of origin as well as destination (Adewale, 2005). People tend to move away from a place due to need to escape violence, political instability, drought, congestion in various dimensions and suspected or real persecution. Also, adverse physical conditions such as flood, landslide (erosion and earthquake), insects and pests, soil infertility contribute largely to the reasons why people leave one environment for another.

Rural to Urban migration is a response to diverse economic opportunities across space.

Historically it has played a significant role in the urbanization process of several countries and continues to be significant in scale, even though migration rates have slowed down in some countries (Lall, Selod and Shalizi, 2006). According to Torum (2002), the interplay of both "Push and Pull" factors at the points of origin and destination stimulates migrations. The push factors, which cause migration include: political fear, lack of food, unemployment, wars and unhappy lifestyle, etc. Similarly, the pull factors are the desire to better life, job opportunities,

improved living conditions, desire for qualitative education, better housing, improved medical care and a good network of roads. Urban and rural areas all over the developing world are becoming more closely linked socially, economically and politically (Deshingkar, 2004). An important manifestation of this is the increasing mobility of rural populations through temporary migration and commuting. Cloete (2002) describes the relationship between infrastructure and migration as being twofold: infrastructure and services as pull factors for migration ("migration attractors"), and infrastructure and services as reasons for moving again.

While people may migrate to better infrastructure and services, this is not independent of economic and employment concerns. It became apparent in Cloete's (2002) research, looking at the influence

of education and health facilities on migration into the Western Cape, that "poor household may well up and leave their present dwelling if household members remain unemployed and hear about job opportunities elsewhere "and "that the promise of work opportunities is the main reason for migrating" (Cloete, 2002). This study is based on the "push-pull theory which is used as a guide for this study. The theory was postulated by Ravenstern (1889), who analyzed migration in England using data from the 1881 census of England and Wales. This theory suggests that people move out of their location because they are pushed out, while others move because of forces pulling them from their location to a new one. Ravenstern further concluded that pull forces were more important than

push factors. As he puts it, "bad or oppressive laws, heavy taxation, an unattractive climate, uncongenial social surroundings, and even compulsion (slave trade, transportation), all have produced and are still producing currents of migration, but none of these currents can compare in volume with that which arises from the desire inherent in most men to better themselves in materially (Onokerhoraye, 1985).

Thus, it is the desire to move more than the desire to escape an unpleasant situation that is most responsible for the voluntary migration of people, at least in the late nineteenth century England. Similarly, Stouffer (1940) in his theory of Intervening opportunity "looks not at the size of settlements or the distance between them, but at perceived opportunities between them; maintaining that the amount of migration over a given distance is directly proportional to the number of opportunities at the point of destination, but inversely proportional to the number of opportunities between the point of departure and the destination. Thus, in line with Ravenstern's basic law which identified three major determinants of migration as follows:

- I. Migration stimulating situations for individual migrants, for example, marriage, employment opportunities, political oppression and graduation from school;

- II. Factors affecting the choice of destination, for example, cost of transportation and presence of relatives and friends;and
- III. iSocio-economic conditions that underlie individual migration decision, for example, the quality of housing in an area, ethnic or racial tolerance and economic investments in the area, especially those that can generate job opportunities (Boque, 1959). Similarly, Udo (1982) identified a number of reasons why people migrate which include:
  - a. The desire to escape from an inferior social status imposed by the community because of the social status of one's parents. In many villages in parts of Ibo land, for example, some people are stigmatized also because they are descendants of slaved who are considered inferior and are isolated due to their
  - b. Dedication to the earth-gods.
  - c. The desire to evade domination and restrictions imposed by one's parents or local custom.
  - d. The desire to attend high education institutions, which are mostly located in urban centres.
  - e. The desire to evade punishment for crimes committed in the local communities or to escape from perceived local enemies and witchcraft.
  - f. The desire to move to an area with more varied recreational activities, and modified cultural practices devoid of morbid superstition. The Macaulay Institute (2004), identified the push factors, which stimulate migration to include; little work and low pay, drought/crop failure, large family, land inherited by eldest child, evolution of mechanized farming, poor services (e.g. transport, schools, doctors, etc.) and little or no entertainment or leisure facilities. Others include: isolation,boredom,lack of housing and generally poor quality of life.

Also, the pull factors identified by the Macaulay Institute (2004) are better job prospects and wages, exciting and lots of opportunities, variety of shops, entertainment (e.g. theatres, restaurants, etc.) good services (transport, schools, Colleges, hospitals) a range of accommodation available as well as better overall quality of life (Torrey, 2005).

## **2.10 CONSEQUENCES FOR RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION**

Migration has its own positive and negative consequences on the place of departure and destination. Natural resource depletion, environmental pollution, earning disparities, redundancy, urban expansion, social unrest, population crowding were or some of the negative effects of migration.

The burden of rural to urban migration in Nigeria is multifaceted and intertwining. As such, an analysis of one decomposable component or consequence, such as unbearable population density, impinges on other issues within the identifiable cycle of burdens. For instance, in examining the immediate effect of rural to urban migration, which is an increase in population or at the extreme its explosion, various other subsequent effects are expected to be considered. Population explosion activates the housing challenge both at micro family and macro society levels. Congestion in households and communities has implications for both the health and psychology of victims. Nigerian cities such as Lagos, Port-

Harcourt, Kano, and Onitsha among others are characterized by human traffic, vehicular congestions, environmental pollution, consistent in migration and spurious expansion of territories to accommodate human additions. Although, maternal and infant mortality have been identified as accounting for a significant number of deaths in Nigeria (Okolocha et

al.,1998; Isiugo-Abanihe, 2003; Population Reference Bureau,2005;Nwokocha, 2006), frustration, conflicts, poor sanitary conditions and frequent road accidents, which have associations with dense population, collectively contribute most significantly to mortality statistics. Research shows that life expectancy among Nigerians dropped from an average of 52 to 44 years between 2002and 2005 (Population Reference Bureau 2002;2005), even when there was marked reduction in HIV/AIDS prevalence from 5.8 percent in 2001 to 4.4 percent in 2005 (Olalcyc et al,2006).

Unplanned population increases in most cities explains infrastructural decay in relevant contexts. This is especially the case in Nigcria where maintenance of existing amenities, which ab-initio are haphazardly situated due to unprecedented corruption and biased award of contracts, is not prioritized (Okafor, 2005). It is interesting to note that most roads in the country are impassable, hospitals lack human and necessary material resource, schools are dilapidated and electricity supply is very far from stable in most rural communities, though, none of these in [restructures exists. The people's agony is visible in frustrations arising from avoidable diseases and deaths, lack of access to portable water, subsistent economic

activities, various kinds of unemployment, child abuse in all its ramifications and dwindling focus on societal norms and values. The burden inherent in normative conflict and social maladjustment in a non-regulatory system is enormous (Kammeyer and Ginn, 1986). Given that individuals aro culture-bearing, in-migrants do not immediately adjust sufficiently to cultures at destinations, while others are for very long time guided by/ethnocentric orientations hardly adapting to the realities of new locations. High crime rate has also been linked to rural-urban migration given the anonymity provided by urban environments. Rural communities share this burden through loss of manpower necessary for agricultural activities and production. The impoverishment of rural areas in Nigeria is partly explainable by out-migration of able youths in search of employment in cities.

Consequently, agriculture which prior to the discovery of oil was the mainstay of Nigeria's economy was fur relegated to the background leading

to the country's mono-economy status, Overdependence on oil, it is argued here, that has led to employment crisis and avoidable importation of agricultural products, which together have over the years had a negative net effect on local industries and productions as well as International trade balances. Several analyses of Nigeria's economy insist that petroleum resources have been more of a curse rather than a blessing to the development of the country (Iwayemi, 2006).It is imperative to note that some migrants overcame the locality-imposed powerlessness in new destinations, while a large majority of others became more impoverished.

Rural areas are oftentimes incapacitated at various levels by inaccessibility, seclusion, underdevelopment, extreme poverty, ignorance, depopulation, hunger and all types of debilities. Couple with this is that migration from rural to urban areas leads to a reduction in the number of rural populace with a negative effect on rural agriculture output and slowed pace of development in the rural areas.

With the exit of youths and young adult from villages and rural communities, the aged, women and children are left behind to labour on the farms which lead to reduction in agricultural output with its attendant effect on the domestic products of the nation, lowered funds for development and standard of living for rural inhabitants, underdevelopment and total desertion of the rural areas.

Constant reduction in the population of the rural areas over the years will invariably lead to gross rural neglect by government as they tend to concentrate on developing the more obviously populated urban centers. This further reinforces the vicious circle of gross rural neglect and underdevelopment as reflected in the lack of rural industrialization and poor physical, social and institutional infrastructure social amenities

such as electricity, health facilities, educational facilities, recreational facilities, motor able roads, pipe borne water, housing etc.

Other consequences of rural-urban migration includes urban traffic congestion, unemployment, high crime rate such as advance free fraud, hired assassins, political and civil unrest, armed robbery, alcoholism, drug abuse, prostitution, hooliganism, health hazards from pollution; air, water and noise, inadequate refuse and sewage disposal system, poor drainage system resulting in flooding, growth of slums leading to shanty settlements, cultural change, juvenile delinquency and overall decline in traditional values.

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## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.0 INTRODUCTION**

This chapter focuses on the method used in carrying out this research, to generate and analyze data.

According to Bryman(2012) methodology refers to the basic principle and scientific methods used by a researcher to gather raw data for a study,as a result, they are scientific fundamental concept and hypothesis. It gives researcher a basis background as well as scientific tools for data collection and analysis.

Research methodology is referred to as the process of gathering information and data for the purpose of generalization. Publications, interview, survey and other primary or secondary research approach are all part of this process employed in scientific research. The methods or modalities that the researcher uses to attain the research work's objective are referred to as research methodology, (Saunder et al 2009). Research methodology is the mechanism used in collecting knowledge and data for generalization purposes.

This chapter will therefore treat the following areas; research design, population of the study, sampling technique, method of data collection as well as method of data analysis.

#### **3.1 RESEARCH DESIGN**

The research was designed to examine rural development as a means of combating rural-urban migration in Egor local government of Edo state in Nigeria.

The research design for the purpose of this study is the survey design. It is the most famous design involving the study of a relatively small sample. Hence, it is adopted for this study.

### **3.2 DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA**

The study area is Egor Local Government Council in Edo State, Nigeria. Its headquarter is in the town of Uselu. Egor LGA covers an area of 93square kilometers and has a population of 339,899. Egor LGA is part of the larger metropolitan area of Benin City, which is the capital city of Edo State. Egor LGA consists of various towns and villages, including Okhoro, Use, Uwelu, Iguikpe, Ugbighoko, Iguediaye, Evbougide and Oghedaivbiobaa. The postal code for Egor LGA is 3002, with the area hosting members of several tribal groups such as the Esan, Bini,and the Owan. The area is home to Christians, Muslims, and traditional worshippers while the Bini, Owan and Esan languages are spoken in the area (Wikipedia,2023,last edited by Graham).

### **3.3 SOURCE OF DATA**

This research made use of both primary and secondary source of data collection. The primary source included the use of a closed ended

Questionnaire and an in-depth interview guide which were structured to meet ethical standards.

Data from secondary sources were collected from relevant publications, scholarly articles, textbooks, unpolished research material, online

journals and amongst others to undertake a critical analysis of the subject matter.

### **3.4 POPULATION OF THE STUDY**

According to Saunders et al. (2009) research population is the sum total of all the elements of units of analysis which a study is interested in. Bryman (2012) describes population of study as a theoretically determined aggregate of the study elements from which the sample population is drawn. Research population is the sum total of all the elements of units of analysis that a study is interested in researching (Ogili, 2005). In other words, it is a group considered for a study or statistical reasoning. It is not limited to the human population only as it comprises aspects that have something in common. They can be objects, animals, measurements, etc., with many characteristics within a group

This study is based in Nigeria, which is located in west Africa on the gulf of guinea. According to figures obtained from the 2006 national census put the total population of Nigeria at one hundred and forty million, three thousand five hundred and forty two (140,003,542).

### **3.5 SAMPLE SIZE AND TECHNIQUE**

However, for this research, a total of one hundred (100) questionnaires will be distributed for the effective representation of this research work.

In carrying out this research, a sample of one hundred (100) residents drawn from the total population of the study would be administered the questionnaires. The questionnaires would be administered to this sample to elicit their opinions on the topic; RURAL DEVELOPMENT: A MEANS OF COMBATING RURAL-URBAN IN EGOR LOCAL

GOVERNMENT OF EDO STATE IN NIGERIA. For this study, the sample random technique will be used.

### **3.6 METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION**

The data for this study were gathered with the use of questionnaires. The instrument consists of two (2) sections. Section A consists of information about the respondents. While section B consists of the major questions to the study. The questionnaire includes closed ended questions.

### **3.7 METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS**

Data analysis is the breking down of data into groups to seek out a pattern of relationship among this data groups. The data will be tabulated and this will make for easy analysis in chapter four. The statistical method of analyzing the data was based on simple percentage method.3.7

### **3.8 VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY**

Reliability requires the consistency and dependability of testing instrument used during the data collection process, which can produce similar results in another sense (Saunders et al.,2009).

In the populations studied. Survey research is the collection of information from a sample of individuals through their responses to questions (Check & Schutt, 2012:160 cited in Ponto,2015). This type of research allows for different approaches to recruit participants, collect data, and use of various instruction. Survey research can use quantitative research strategies (e.g,using questionnaires with numerically rated

items), qualitative research strategies (e.g using open-ended questions), or both strategies i.e., mixed methods (Ponto, 2015). As it is often used to describe and explore human behavior, surveys are therefore frequently used in social and psychological researches (Singleton & Straits, 2009).

### **3.9 SAMPLING TECHNIQUES AND SAMPLE SIZE**

The use of the sampling technique is more reliable than a census (Saunders et al., 2009). The Sampling techniques used in this study are the simple random sampling and purposive sampling. In simple random sampling, each unit of the population is given an equal chance of being selected. The selection of units from the population is done in such a manner that every unit in the population has an equal chance of being chosen and the selection of any one unit is in no way tied to the selection of any other (Bryman, 2012). The law of chance is allowed to operate

Freely in the selection (Ogbeide, 2011). The simple random sampling technique was used for the selection of respondents in each of the areas in order to ensure significant representation of respondents from the different zones of the study area. The simple random sampling was used to administer the research instrument (questionnaire) to the respondents.

### **3.10 INSTRUMENT OF DATA COLLECTION**

Closed ended questionnaires were deployed to elicit information from the Egor local government respondents. The questionnaire is bifurcated into six (6) sections. Section A consists of the bio-data (sex, age, marital status, education, religion, occupation) of the respondents. The

respondents were expected to tick the appropriate demographic that apply to them.

Sections B to F was constructed on a 4-Likert point scale of SA-Strongly Agree, A-Agreed. Disagree and SD-Strongly Disagree relating to how microfinance banks are supporting sustainable access to formal financial services; microfinance banks contribution to micro-enterprise productivity, microfinance banks promotion of household resilience in Edo State, microfinance banks grassroots mainstreaming to the formal financial system in Edo State and factors inhibiting microfinance banks facilitation of financial inclusion in Edo State. This reflects the relationship between the dependent and the independent variables in the already formulated hypotheses.

For the avoidance of doubt the 4-point modified scale questionnaire that ranges from 4-SA, 3-A, 2-D and 1-SD was used to elicit information from the respondents. The respondents were required to rate their preferred responses to the research questions. The respondents were given options from which they ticked the one that best described the issue raised. Thus, the questionnaire gives room to respondents to make their choice base on their perception of the issue asked in the questionnaire. An in-depth interview guide was designed for practitioners 'and regulators 'engagements

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Bryman(2012) atrophic administrative system

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **DATA PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS**

#### **4.1 INTRODUCTION**

In this chapter, the data gathered from responses to the questionnaire were analyzed and discussed using simply percentage

#### **4.2 SECTION 1: BIO DATA**

Sex, age marital status, highest qualification and occupation distribution of respondents.

SEX	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Male	34	34%
Female	66	66%

Total	100	100%
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***Source: Field work, 2024***

The analysis in the above table indicates that 34% of the respondents are male, while 66% of the respondents are females

**TABLE 2:AGE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS**

AGE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
18-25	43	43%
26-35	41	41%
36-46	16	16%
Total	100	100%

***Source:Field work,2024***

The analysis in the above table indicates that 43% of the respondents are at the range of 18-25years, 41% of the

respondents are at the range of 26-35 while 16% of the respondents are between the age of 36-46 years.

**TABLE 3: MARITAL STATUS OF RESPONDENTS**

MARITAL STATUS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Single	47	47%
Married	48	48%
Widow	5	5%
Total	100	100%

***Source: Field work, 2024***

The above table shows that 47% of the respondents are single, 48% of the respondents are married, while 5% of the respondents are widow.

**TABLE 4:HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF RESPONDENTS**

QUALIFICATION	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
SSCE	26	26%
HCE/OND	50	50%
BSc	24	34%
Total	100	100%

*Source:Field work,2024*

The analysis in the table above shows that 26% of the respondents have SSCE,50% of the respondents have NCE/OND, while 24% of the respondents have B.Sc.

**TABLE 5:OCCUPATION OF RESPONDENTS**

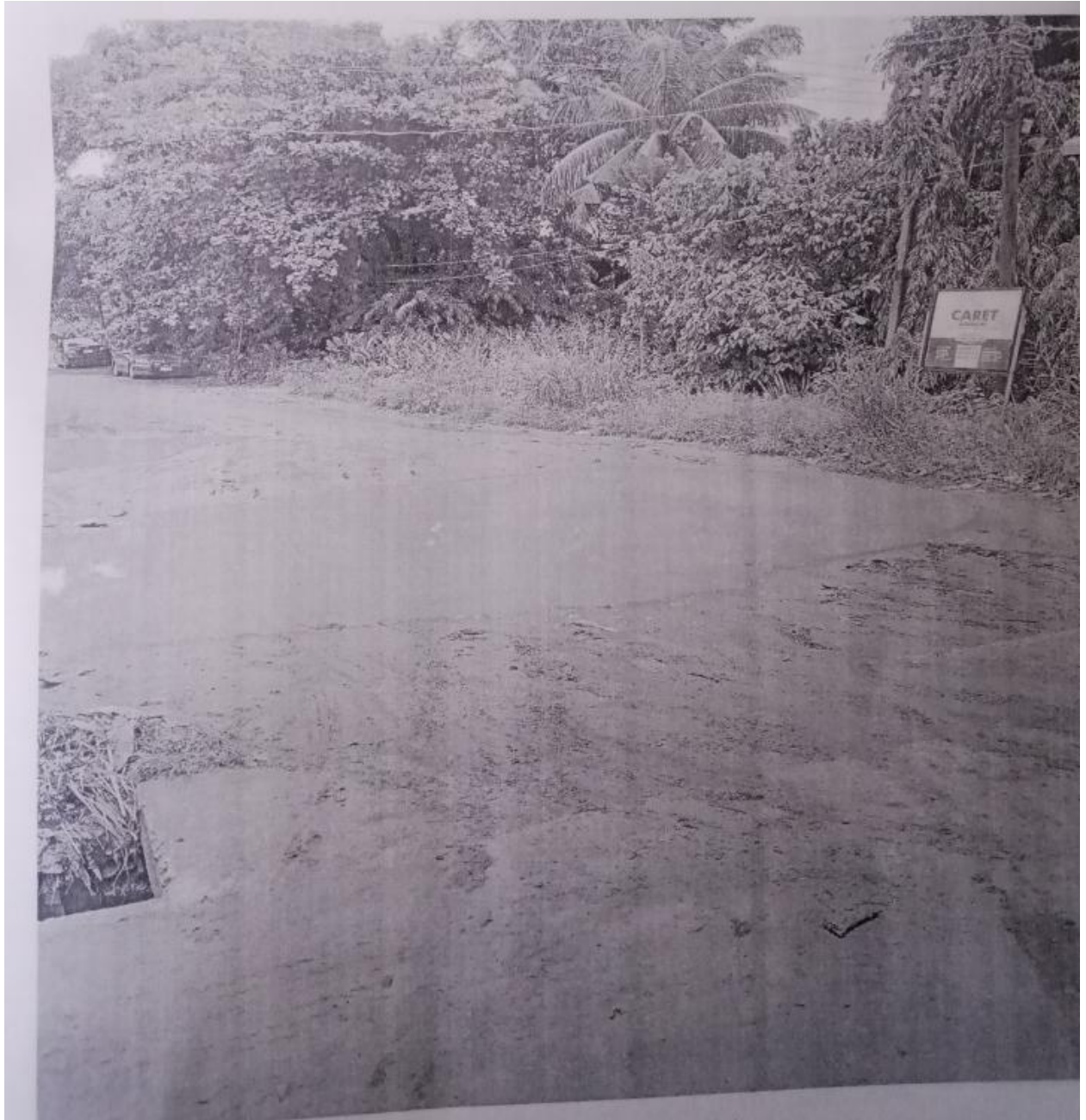
OCCUPATION	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
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Trader	46	46%
Student	41	41%
Civic	17	17%
Total	100	100%

***Source: Field work,2024***

The above table shows that 46% of the respondents are traders,41% of the respondents are students, while 17% of the respondents are civil servants





*Undeveloped roads at Egor local government, @2024*

## SECTION II: RESEARCH QUESTIONS

### 4.3 DATA PRESENTATION

**TABLE VI: Shows the respondents responses to the level of federal and state government in development in the rural areas in Egor local government.**

<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
Agree	49	49%
Disagree	51	51%
Total	100	100

***Source:Field work, 2024***

From the table above, 49% of the respondents agreed that the intervention of federal and state government is more in rural areas as against the 51% of the respondents which disagree owing to the fact that government (federal/state) have not really engage in

developmental programme in the rural areas which would bring about development in the rural areas in Egor local government.

**TABLE VII: Shows the respondents responses to the culture and political system as it affects development in the rural areas in Egor local government.**

RESPONSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Agree	62	62%
Disagree	38	38%
Total	100	100

***Source:Field work,2024***

From the table VII above,62% of the respondent agree thatthe development in the rural areas will see the light of the day if there is corresponding transformation culture and political systems based on the fact that the kind of culture that is being practiced and the way our political system is structured, iftransformed from that it used to be to what it ought to be then the development in the rural areas will thrive as against the 38% of the respondents who disagreed.

**TABLE VIII: Shows the respondents responses on development of the rural areas in combating rural-urban migration in Egor local government**

RESPONSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Agree	66	66%
Disagree	34	34%
Total	100	100%

***Source:Field work,2024***

With reference to table 8,66% of the respondents agreed that rural development can serve as a means of combating rural-urban migration in that rural-urban migration is mostly due to the lack of development in the rural areas therefore, if there is proper and adequate provision of the basic social amenities it will deter rural-urban migration as against the 34% of the respondents which disagreed.

**TABLE IX:Shows the respondents responses on the development programme that is currently initiated by government in the rural areas in Egor local government**

RESPONSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
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Agree	70	70%
Disagree	30	30%
Total	100	100%

***Source: Field work,2024***

With reference to Table IX,70% of the respondents agreed that government is currently initiating rural development programmes in all rural areas in Nigeria arising from the various policies of government that are geared towards rural development as against the 30% of the respondents which disagreed.

**TABLE X: Shows the respondents responses to rural development and its effect on rural-urban migration in Egor local government.**

RESPONSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Agree	40	40%
Disagree	60	60%
Total	100	100%

*Source:*

*Field*

*work, 2024*

From table X, 40% of the respondents agreed that rural development cannot serve as a means of combating rural-urban migration as against the 60% of the respondents which disagreed owing to the fact that when the rural areas are fully developed and the basic amenities are provided, it will deter people from migrating to urban centers.

**TABLE XI: Shows the respondents responses to the massive migration of youth from Egor Local government to urban areas due to neglect of rural areas by state and federal government.**

RESPONSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Agree	67	67%
Disagree	33	33%
Total	100	100%

***Source:Field work,2024***

From table XI, 67% of the respondents agreed that the neglect of the rural areas by government has led to the massive migration of youths in the rural areas to urban centres due to the fact that the Nigerian government

over the years abandoned the rural areas and focused more on urban centers thereby leading to the massive migration of youths in the rural areas to urban centres as against the 33% of the respondents which disagree.

**TABLE XII: Shows the respondents responses to underdevelopment of rural areas as a cause of rural-urban migration in Ego local government**

RESPONSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Agree	58	58%
Disagree	42	42%
Total	100	100

*Source: Field work, 2024*

From table XII, 58% of the respondents agreed that rural-urban migration leads to the underdevelopment of the rural areas owing to the fact that in trying to look for greener pastures, the able bodied men in the rural areas have migrated to urban centres thereby making the rural areas under develop because the old people that are left behind cannot stir up developmental activities in the rural areas as against the 42% of the respondents which disagree.

**TABLE XIII: Shows the respondents responses to development programmes and its impact on rural dwellers.**

RESPONSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Agree	69	69%
Disagree	31	31%
Total	100	100%

***Source:Field work,2018***

The table above indicates that 69% of the respondents agreed due to the fact that over the years government have in one way or the other provided for the needs of the rural dwellers through various developmental programmes which have affected the lives of the rural dwellers while 31%of the respondents disagreed.

## TEST OF HYPOTHESES

In line with the formulated hypotheses for this study, analysis of data gathered in testing the hypotheses are shown below:

### HYPOTHESES

$H_0$ : Rural development does not have any influence on rural-urban migration in Egor local government

$H_1$ : Rural development has an influence on rural-urban migration in Egor local government

With reference to table vii 62% of the respondents agreed that the development in the rural areas will see the light of the day if there is corresponding transformation culture and political system against 38% of the respondents which disagreed, table viii 66% of the respondents agreed that rural development can serve as a means of combating rural-urban migration in Egor local government as against the 34% of the respondents which disagreed while table x 40% of the respondents agree against the 60% of the respondents which disagreed that rural development cannot serve as a means of combating rural urban migration in Egor local government. Therefore, the null hypotheses ( $H_0$ ) which states that rural development does not have any influence on rural-urban migration is rejected while the ( $H_1$ ) which states that rural development has an influence on rural-urban migration in Egor local government of Edo state Nigeria is accepted.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

#### **5.1 SUMMARY**

This study was conducted to examine rural development as a means of combating rural-urban migration in Egor local government of Nigeria. The study topic was introduced and the concept of rural area as well as rural development and development itself were discussed. It revealed that development and rural development are two basic concepts, in that development is seen as a process of economic, social and political change which results in an improvement in the quality of life of the majority of people in a given country, while rural development is seen as creating and widening opportunities for rural individuals to realize full potential through education and sharing in decision and action which affect their lives.

The issue of sustainable development was also considered, also, some of the objectives of rural development were highlighted. Some of these objectives are: To have greater commitment of the resources to the rural areas in terms of budgeting allocation and actual expenditure, to maintain political and social stability, to create rural employment opportunities etc. The approaches Nigeria has adopted towards improving the well-being of the rural dwellers were looked into which include: community development, agricultural extension, integrated rural development and co-ordinate rural development. The principles of rural development were also considered such as the principle of citizen participation which involve direct participation by member of the community and other stakeholders such as the change agents in the formation and

execution of proposals for plans and programmes designed to bring about improvement in the living condition of the community as well as principle of self-help, principle of felt needs, principle of self-reliance, principle of self-growth etc.

The issue of rural development in Nigeria was looked into. It showed that successive government has in one way or the other embarked on several programmes targeted at rural development. These efforts were examined in two time frame, pre-independence epoch and post-independence epoch.

Another important part of the study was the consideration of development programmes initiated by successive government in time past in Nigeria.

Some of these programmes are; the National Accelerated Food Production Project (NAFPP), River Basin Development Authority (BBDA), Agricultural Development Project (ADPs), Operation Feed the Nation (OFN) etc.

In a nutshell, the meaning of rural-urban migration as well as the causes of rural-urban migration were examined and some of the reasons why people migrate from rural to urban centers were highlighted, they, include: The desire to evade domination and restrictions imposed by one's parents or local customs, the desire to attend high education institutions, which are mostly located in urban centers etc.

The consequences caused by rural-urban migration were considered as well as how it affects the migrants and place of departure. Lastly, the measures to combat rural-urban migration were examined.

The research design which was used in the study is the survey design. A sample of 100 residents was drawn from the total population of this study. The sample random technique was used for the study. The instrument used for this study as the main

questionnaire and the simple percentage method was used in the analysis.

Finally, data were collected and analyzed. Based on the analysis it was confirmed that: Rural development has an influence on rural-urban migration, therefore, can serve as a means of combating rural-urban migration in Nigeria.

## **5.2 CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, this study shows that through appropriate rural development programmes by government, rural-urban migration can be curtailed. As part of the findings of this study, the impediments to rural development are majorly the non-commitment to policies initiated by government in Nigeria, while the absence of rural development does facilitate rural-urban migration and infrastructures.

The findings also revealed that government needs to do more to stop rural-urban migration government must intensify rural development in Nigeria as expected by majority of the rural populace. People in the rural areas have no need to migrate to the urban centers, if basic social amenities and other variables to make them comfortable are provided for in the rural areas.

## **5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

With respect to the research, the following recommendations were made:

1. Government should create employment opportunities to reduce the high rate of unemployment.
2. Government should promote agriculture and farming in order to avoid poverty among the rural dwellers.
3. Government should improve on transport and communication

4. Government should improve on infrastructural development by constructing modern schools and hospitals in the rural areas.
5. Government should improve on security and provide security services in the rural areas in order to promote peace.
6. Government should make land reforms to enable the poor and low income earners get access to land.
7. Government should sensitize the people regarding the effect of rural-urban migration and how they can develop themselves in villages.
8. Government should provide credit facilities in rural areas to enable easy access to finance.

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**APPENDIX**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**  
**FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**UNIVERSITY OF BENIN,**  
**BENIN CITY.**

**QUESTIONNAIRE**

This questionnaire is purely designed for academic purpose. The investigation being carried out in this exercise is on Rural Development as a means of combating rural- urban migration in Egor local government of Nigeria. All information supplied will be treated strictly confidential. Your cooperation as well as objective and honest answers are highly solicited.

Thanks for your anticipated cooperation.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** please tick (V) bracket as appropriate. Please note that your name is not needed.

**SECTION A: BIO DATA**

1. Sex: Male , Female

2. Age: 18-25 years , 26-35 , 36-45 , 46 and above .

3. Marital status: single , married , divorced , widow , widower

4. Highest Qualification: Primary school , SSCE [1, NCE/ONT] , B.SC

5. Occupation: Farmer , trader , student , civil servant

**SECTION B: RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

6. The intervention of federal and state government in development is more in rural?

7. The development in the rural areas will see the light of the day if there is a corresponding transformation cultural and political system.

8. Rural development can serve as a means of combating rural-urban migrations

9. Rural-urban migration leads to underdevelopment of the rural area?

10. The personnel who oversee rural development programmes are not competent enough.