

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN AGRICULTURE,
RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND POPULATION DYNAMICS

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(A Festschrift in honour of Prof. Mohammed A. Iliya)



EDITED BY
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ALIYU T. UMAR
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MURTALA A. GADA
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A PUBLICATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
USMANU DANFODIYO UNIVERSITY, SOKOTO, NIGERIA

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FOREWORD

It is my pleasure to write the foreword for this Festschrift titled '*Contemporary Issues in Agriculture, Rural Development and Population Dynamics in Nigeria*' in honor of Professor Mohammed A. Iliya, one of the most respected and accomplished scholars in the field of Agricultural, Rural, and Population Geography, whose works and contributions to these disciplinary areas are immeasurable. This compendium of scholarly contributions is a testament to the recognition and acknowledgement of his expertise and dedication to the subject matter.

Mohammed A. Iliya is a retired Professor in the Department of Geography at Usmanu Danfodiyo University, where he taught, grew, and developed the above-mentioned thematic fields for almost five decades. In recognition of his contributions and giant strides in these fields both locally and internationally, his former students and colleagues alike from different universities in Nigeria considered him worthy of honour with this Festschrift.

The book covers a wide spectrum of topical and contemporary issues related to the above thematic areas with masterpiece contributions based on empirical field data collection and application of relevant analytical tools. The papers were peer-reviewed and embellished with sound editorial inputs. Besides being an honorary academic package, I have no doubt that the book will serve as a reading, teaching, and reference material for both students and lecturers alike. The book proves to be a pool of baseline data for future studies in the diverse areas covered.

Prof. Sulaiman Lawal Bilbis
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Chapter 18 Rural Fortification as a Panacea to Curb Rural - Urban Migration in Nigeria: A Synopsis <i>Ahmed Y. A.</i>	245
Chapter 19 Estimation of Fuel Wood Consumption in Rural and Urban Farming Households of Kano State, Nigeria <i>Gaya, A.Y., Mustapha, A., Ahmad, S.Y., Lawal A.T., Abdulwahab, F.S. Abdullahi Z. Y., Abdussalam, S. S. and M. Yaya</i>	256
Chapter 20 Assessment of the Impact of Self-Help Projects on the Development of Tula Community, Kaltungo Local Government Area of Gombe State, Nigeria <i>Idoma Kim and Idakwoji, M.L.</i>	269
Chapter 21 Rural transport and its influence on marketing of farm produce in Kwara South Senatorial District, Nigeria <i>Aboyaji, Olurotimi Joseph</i>	281
Chapter 22 Corruption and Underdevelopment in Rural Areas an Appraisal of Jibia Local Government of Katsina State (2015-2020) <i>Abdurrashid Dalha</i>	298
Chapter 23 Mineral Resources Mining In Azara: An Implication For Ecosystem Sustainability In Nigeria <i>Muhammad Kabiru Dahiru, Muazu Alhaji Shamaki & Abubakar Magaji Jibrillah</i>	310
Chapter 24 Seasonal Migration: A Rural Poverty Coping Strategy in Selected Villages of Bakura Local Government Area, Zamfara State <i>Nasir, Z. M. Ibrahim S. A. Umar B. and Jagaba M. A</i>	320
POPULATION DYNAMICS ISSUES	
Chapter 25 Assessing the impacts of population increase and other drivers of vegetation cover change in Lema Forest Reserve, Kebbi State, Nigeria <i>Ahmad Abdullahi, Murtala Dangulla, Abubakar M. Jibrillah & Sanusi Bello Shamaki</i>	336
Chapter 26 Socio-Economic Factors Affecting the Livelihood Sustainability of Rural Women in Roni Local Government Area, Jigawa State, Nigeria <i>N. R. Dahiru, A.M. Dambazau</i>	346
Chapter 27 Family Planning Practices among Married Women in selected Rural Areas in Jos North LGA of Plateau State, Nigeria.	361

CHAPTER 11

RURAL FORTIFICATION AS A PANACEA TO CURB RURAL – URBAN MIGRATION IN NIGERIA

Ahmad Y. A.

Abstract

There is an absolute awesome need to accord rural development a priority by government at different levels if the rural communities must contribute meaningfully to the social, cultural and economic development of Nigeria. Without doubt, a bulk of the Nigerian wealth is derived from agriculture, and oil which lie in abundant quantity in rural communities. Current estimates put the rural population in the country is about 47%. So far, not much in terms of infrastructural development has been done to bring this bulk of concentration of both human and material resources to contribute optimally to national economy. The neglect has resulted to the mass exodus of rural able bodies-youth and aged and this new growth has led to rapid urbanization, depopulation and progressively less attractive for socio-economic investment. All stakeholders, policy makers and urban planners are faced with the qualms that are placing on existing infrastructure and services. While various environmental and socio-economic factors are easily associated with the rapid rural-urban migration trends in Nigeria, it is of utmost importance to identify their implications and developing strategies to combat their effects. This paper therefore argue on the synopsis needs for rural development as a panacea for rural-urban migration in Nigeria.

Keywords: Rural-migration, development, population, economy, Nigeria

Introduction

Rural areas in Nigeria harbour about 47% which not less than 80% of the national population. The rural population in Nigeria is about 101575770 in 2022 (World Bank, 2022). Accordingly, the source, collection and development indicators were compiled from officially recognized basis that declared Nigeria rural population - actual values, historical data, forecasts and projections to this figures (World Bank, 2022). However, Nigeria rural areas can only boast of about ten percent of the infrastructure and other indices of development there-in. The billions of dollars, which the three tiers of government and international agencies budget for the development of rural areas are often dissipate away. Otherwise, with the level of attention and the amount of money that are expended on efforts at developing the rural communities, the disparity and irregularity between the rural and urban areas of the country with regard to the level of poverty and socio-economic as well as infrastructure boost-up would have been equally the same. It appears that the more money is spent on the rural areas, the greater the disparity in the level of development between the urban and rural areas. The article explores the reasons for this seeming contradiction in terms of level of economic development, quality of life, access to opportunities, infrastructural facilities and amenities, standard of living and general livability, the gap between the urban and rural areas in Nigeria is very extensive. This leads to what is aptly described as the rural-urban dichotomy (Mammud, 2019).

Conceptual Issues of Rural-Urban Migration

Migration is the movement of people from one geographical entity to another; it could be a permanent or temporary settlement (Bukar, et al.2021). He referred to migration as a response to economic development as well as social, cultural, environmental and political

factors. The region where people are leaving is referred to as the source region or origin while, the region to which people are entering is known as destination or target region. Rural-urban migration is a phenomenon of socio-economic and a spatial process involving the movement of people from rural areas into urban areas (cities), either permanently or semi-permanently. At present, it occurs mainly in developing countries as they undergo rapid urbanization. (Bukar et al. (2021). People tend to move away from source (rural place) due to need to escape from violence, persecution, political instability, and hazardous-environment (Adewale, 2005). Also, Nyagba (2009) noted that rural areas are the most important sector of the Nigerian population. This, according to Ugwuanyi & Emmanuel (2013) is because the rural sector is the major source of capital formation for the country and a principal market for domestic and raw materials for industrial processes. Abah (2010) argued that rural area dwellers have been found to engage in primary economic activities that form the foundation for the country's economic development. As it is conspicuously apparent from the foregoing, given the national economy, enhancing the development of the rural sector should be central to government and public administration. Regrettably, these rural sectors of Nigeria that are vital to the socio-economic development of the nation are faced with the problem of retard development. This has been attributed to the top down approach policies of most Nigerian government in the approaches to rural development. Another possible reason for the poor state of the rural areas could be attributed to continuity of rural development policies and projects by successive government. In this regard, Ajadi (2010) noted that there is usually the absence of sustained, comprehensive and conclusive implementation of rural development policies in Nigeria. This results in high rate rural-urban migration with its attendant challenges. Moreover, 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-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 play a significant role even though migration rates have slowed down in some countries (Lall, et al 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.

In general migration is broadly refers to as a permanent or semi-permanent change of residence. This movement has no restrictions placed upon the distance of the move or upon the voluntary or involuntary nature of the act. Every act of migration involves an origin, a destination, and an intervening set of obstacles – Distance is always present as an intervening obstacle (Amaral, 2018). Generally, some rural areas in Nigeria have remained undersized due to inability to get access to essential services like; education, healthcare services, and needed infrastructural facilities. This underdevelopment is aggravated by the rural-urban dependency that exists in Nigeria, as urban areas are perceived as the only source of these essential services. Rural-urban dependency is a self-reinforcing cycle, where the concentration of resources in urban areas attracts more people, leaving rural areas even more impoverished and underdeveloped (Owolabi, 2018). The attendance problem of rural-urban dependency has been a topic of interest among scholars in Nigeria, and several studies have been conducted to investigate the impact of rural-urban opportunities. Thus, rural-urban dependency is driven by economic factors, and it has significant implications for rural development in the country. According to Tochukwu (2023), rural-urban migration in Nigeria is driven by economic factors such as the concentration of industries and job opportunities in urban areas. This agglomeration and concentration of resources in urban areas creates a

vacuum in rural areas, leading to the migration of people in search of better economic opportunities. Thus, rural-urban dependency is driven by economic factors, and it has significant implications for rural development in Nigeria.

For rural enrichment to be faced with the paradox that the production oriented rural economy relies heavily on non-productive people who are ill-equipped with outdated tools, technical information, scientific and cultural training and whose traditional roles and access to resources pose problems for their effective incorporation into modern economic systems. Whereas, the consumption oriented urban economy is flooded with male (people) many of who are either unemployed or unemployable, or a tad employed or underemployed in the urban centers. As a result of this mass exodus, the rural areas have become qualitatively depopulated and are progressively less attractive for social and economic investments while the urban areas are becoming physically congested, socially unhealthy and generally uneconomic to maintain. Over a period of 30 years (1952-1982), the population in most major towns has increased five-fold (see table 1& fig.1.) Lagos, Kano, Port Harcourt, Maiduguri, Kaduna, Jos and Ilorin had over 1000 per cent increases over four decades. These population increases account, in part, for the rapid physical expansion of these cities. This gives an average annual physical expansion rate of over 5.98 square kilometers between 1963 and 2000s (Mammud, 2019; Onibokun & Faniran, 1987).

Table 1: Nigeria's rural and urban population in Nigeria, 1950-2025

Year	Rural Population	Urban Population	Urban Population as % of Total
1950	29,595,000	3,340,000	10.1
1955	32,605,000	4,489,000	12.1
1960	36,220,000	6,058,000	14.3
1965	40,396,000	8,280,000	17.0
1970	45,252,000	11,319,000	20.0
1975	50,835,000	15,511,000	23.4
1980	57,188,000	21,242,000	27.1
1985	63,448,000	28,568,000	30.9
1990	70,383,000	38,159,000	35.2
1995	77,533,000	50,16200	39.3
2000	84,853,000	64,768,000	43.3
2005	91,960,000	82,347,000	47.2
2010	98,435,000	102,831,000	51.1
2015	103,411,000	125,343,000	54.8
2020	106,458,000	148,935,000	58.3
2025	107,758,000	173,135,000	61.6

Source: Modified by the authors from UN (1986 and 2022)

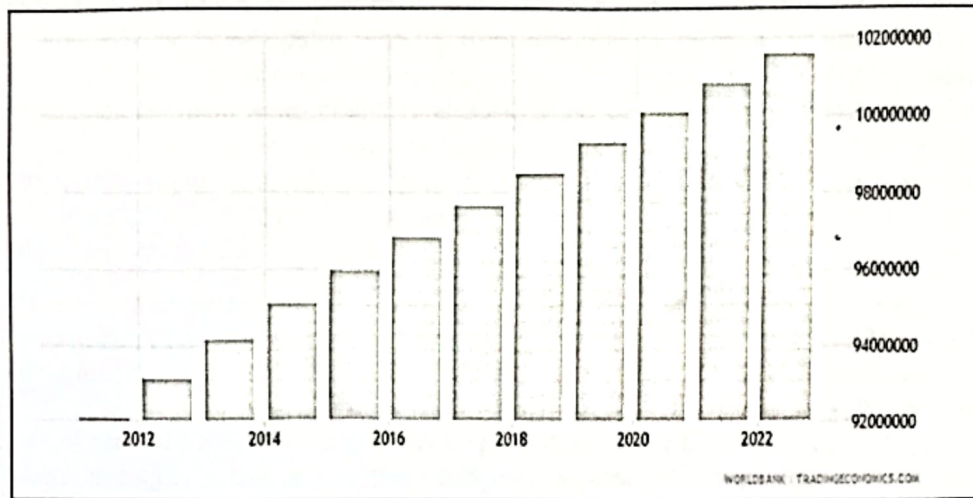


Fig.1. Nigeria –Rural Population 2012-2022 *Vertical Figures are in % Rural Population in
Source: World Bank: Trading Economics.com

Thus, the scuttling trend of rural-urban migrations permeates with serious insinuations. Consistently, the rates of rural-urban migrations are as a result of some states in the country deliberate neglect the basic needs of rural residents (Bukar et al 2021). The problems associated with population influx are more often than not, accompanied by overcrowding and squalor living that has provoked the soaring tension and instability in both the urban and rural settlement patterns. Therefore, these problems have increased additional pressures on urban habitat bordering on services like health care, water supply, waste disposal, transportation and educational facilities, the growing number of lump proletarians has consequently worsen the unemployment rate and agricultural productivity in the urban and rural sectors of the economy. All these have contributed in the swelling crime rates, political turmoil, violence and so forth (Bukar et al 2021).

Methodology

This write-up adopted the appraisal approach in its method of study. The paper is more of descriptive in nature. It discusses the rural fortification as a panacea to curb rural- urban migration in Nigeria. It also reviews challenges that rural development face from the previous rural policy and development programmes from the past to present government in order to stem the incursion of youths into urban areas.

An appraisal of rural-urban migration in Nigeria

Bukar et al. (2021) referred to migration as a response to economic development as well as social, cultural, environmental and political factors. People tend to move away from source (rural place) due to need to escape from violence, persecution, political instability, and hazardous-environment (Adewale, 2005). Also, Nyagba (2009) noted that rural areas are the most important sector of the Nigerian population. This, according to Ugwuanyi & Emmanuel (2013) is because the rural sector is the major source of capital formation for the country and a principal market for domestic and raw materials for industrial processes. Abah (2010) argued that rural area dwellers have been found to engage in primary economic activities that form the foundation for the country's economic development. As it is conspicuously apparent from the foregoing, given the national economy, enhancing the development of the rural sector

should be central to government and public administration. Regrettably, these rural sectors of Nigeria that are vital to the socio-economic development of the nation are faced with the problem of retard development. This has been attributed to the top down approach policies of most Nigerian government in the approaches to rural development. Another possible reason for the poor state of the rural areas could be attributed to continuity of rural development policies and projects by successive government. In this regard, Ajadi (2010) noted that there is usually the absence of sustained, comprehensive and conclusive implementation of rural development policies in Nigeria. This results in high rate rural-urban migration with its attendant challenges.

Moreover, adverse physical conditions such as flood, landslide (erosion and earthquake), insects, pests and 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. There has been rapid growth of urban population far more than that of rural population in many developing countries (Aklilu & Tadesse, 1994). Nigeria is a typical example of this, where there had been a remarkable expansion of urban areas consequent to the rapid rural urban migration. In 1974 rural population was 75% of the total population but by 2001 urban population had assumed a high dimension of 44% of the country's population (Mcgree, 1974). This rapid urban growth portends serious implications on the environment and the well-being of the citizenry (Aworemi et al, 2011).

In Africa, it is estimated that between 1990 and 2020, half a billion people will be added to already overcrowded conurbations as against the less than 200 million people in north America and Europe (USAID, 2002). Such rapid urban growth in these African countries including Nigeria started even before independence. The migration far outstrips services and infrastructural deployment resulting in deepening crisis in some major urban areas, a situation which was later further worsened by the Structural Adjustment Programme of the 1980s. Also in Nigeria, the rural populace moves out in large numbers temporarily or permanently to towns and cities to seek out new employment opportunities, improved livelihoods and better standard of living (Nwuke, 2004). Subsequently, however, they end up in city slums, squalor, and ghetto development scratching out a living with limited capacity to adapt to socio-economic changes in the new environments they find themselves. Primarily, their livelihood patterns contribute significantly to climate change and the negative impacts of this change. According to Braunvan, (2004) people tend to be pulled to the areas of prosperity and pushed from areas of decline. Migrants are usually concerned with the benefits they hope to gain in the new destination with less thought to the problems that they may likely incur as a result of the process, some of these problems may impact more on the non-migrants left behind in the rural area.

In countries where most of the population is atypical rural, agricultural production systems are increasingly based around large-scale, mechanized farming and inadequate access to credit and technology put a strain on the capacity of small-holders to adapt to droughts and climate variability (Lykke, 2002). Rural-urban migration is thus, the result of these transformations and a critical component of urbanization. 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. Historically, migration has played a significant role in the urbanization process of several countries and continues to be significant in scale, even though its rates have slowed down in some countries (Lall, 2006). According to Torum (2002), the interchange 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.

Causes of Migration

The personal choice of migration from origin/rural to the destination / cities is determined by different border (reasons) for migration and this becomes the areas of interest by different social science disciplines (Bilsborrow et.al, 1984). The reason for migration and selection of the destination areas appraisal become more multifaceted hence the pattern, idea, kind, the nature and course varies from time to time, from place to place and from person to person (UN 1984).

Most of the research works in the causes of migration revealed that the "push" or "pull" factors become more underlying one; and directly linked with economic and non-economic aspects of the migrants. The circumstances that obliged the migrants to leave his/her origin of residences considered as push factors like conflict, famine, crop failure due to some reasons and others. The issues of the practical implementation of the principles of democracy become one of driving force for increments of rural urban exodus. The lack or absences of good governance and the principles of democracy may pave the way for rural residences to feel unconfident and enforced to migrate (Dang et al, 2010). Such kind of political reasons become one of the reasons to rural - urban migration in most of developing nations (Aklilu and Tadesse, 1994). A pull factor is impressive relating to the place a person migrates to. It is by and large a good thing that attracts people to a certain place. Some scholars stated it as to the young's 'Bright lights' syndrome – the move of young /rural youth from rural areas in seeking of better opportunity in cities. High possibility of access to employment, enhanced way of life, adequate provisions of social services- medication, education, electricity, piped water delivery and others - state of feeling safe, recreation, relatives relation were/ are considered as some of the pull factors for rural urban migration. Cities are the centers of different attraction like a relative high wage, an advanced soft and hard infrastructure with connection cities facilities and services, enhanced city cultural expression and way of life.

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/are some of the negative effects of migration. Whereas migration has paved the way for development, enhanced process of industrializations, serve as means of livelihood and even more the remittance become sources of family income and mechanism to escape drought and famine (Dang et.al, 2010).

Rural-urban migration may be occasioned by voluntary forces or involuntary forces. Whichever way, there are some factors that are causing the initiative. There are specific factors responsible for voluntary rural-urban migration include urban job opportunities, better housing conditions, rural land tenure and inheritance patterns, better education opportunities, better health standard among others. Oftentimes, rural dwellers may learn about people that left the community, moved to cities and are apparently 'doing well'. This acts as incentives for out-migration especially among youths and able body Lykke, (2002).

Migration has both positive and negative consequences on the place of departure and destination. Natural resource diminution, environmental pollution, earning gross disparities, idleness, urban expansion, social upheaval, population throng among others are some of the negative effects of migration. Whereas migration has paved the way for development, enhanced process of industrializations, serve as source of revenue earning and even more the remittance becomes sources of family income and mechanism of to escape drought and famine (Dang et.al 2010).

Various studies have been carried out on the causes and consequences of rural-urban migration. While some of these studies related the causes of rural-urban migration to discriminatory government policies in favour of urban development, response to disparities in income, employment and other socio-economic amenities available within the urban and rural areas, with the urban areas being privileged, others related it to spontaneous, emotional, structural, traditional and some other factors. Agyemang (2013) summarized the major causes of rural –urban migration in Nigeria. He noted that different motives account for rural-urban migration amongst rural dwellers. These include; socio-cultural issues where people are forced to migrate to avoid numerous social problems at their places of origin. Poor infrastructural development and lack of basic amenities as well as a search for better economic opportunities such as jobs among others.

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

Other consequences of rural-urban migration includes urban traffic congestion, unemployment, high crime rate such as advance free fraud, political and civil unrests, 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 changes, juvenile delinquency and an overall decline in traditional values, are all attendant effects of rural-urban migration.

Problems & Policy Measures of Government

The challenges threatening rural communities especially in developing countries are numerous and cut across all spheres of life. Most often, rural development policies or programs are discontinued whenever there is a change in government leadership. Most times, a new government abandons the projects and programs of its predecessor even when such programs are appropriate done. In this regard, Ajadi (2010) noted that there is usually the absence of sustained, comprehensive and conclusive implementation of rural development policies. To this end, some of the rural development initiatives are haphazardly implemented as a result of poor supervision and corruption. This is evident in many rural communities with installed water taps that lack water since installation.

Rural development that could have rescued rural environment from pushing youths and strong men to cities/urban centers faces with series of fundamental problems in Nigeria. Over the years, rural development has been neglected. Rural areas are regarded as abodes of diseases, superstition, poverty, lethargy, low income and low productivity. This problem, which is primarily due to government non sustainable policy action towards rural transformation, is responsible for the poor state of affairs among rural dwellers in Nigeria.

Government is virtually concerned with urban development and Urban renewal programmes to the neglect of the rural areas. Based on these opinions and postulations, it is imperative to explore ways by which this malady of rural underdevelopment in Nigeria can be resolved through an integration approach to solving the problem. Umeabali and Akubailo (2006) as cited by (Leah et al, 2013) summarized the challenges of rural development as follows:

- i. High population density within rural setting.
- ii. Poor infrastructure/ amenities.
- iii. High level of illiteracy and poor awareness syndrome.
- iv. Extreme poverty/health infirmity
- v. Rural-urban migration/diminutive social interaction.

Government Initiatives for Rural Development in Nigeria

Many governments in Nigeria over the years have made attempts at enhancing rural development through various programmes. But its significant realization however has remained a mirage. This is clearly seen as there is an apparent lack of basic amenities and the glaring low standard of living conditions among the rural populace (Ugwuanyi and Chukwuemeka, 2013).

Nwuke, (2004) explains that extreme poverty is prevalent among the rural dwellers as about 70% of the people in Nigeria living below poverty line are domiciled in the rural areas. One major effect of this rural underdevelopment is rural-urban migration, which is fast reducing the active population which constitutes the workforce of the rural areas in Nigeria. In recent times, as a result of persistent lack of means for economic growth, there has been a noticeably high level of rural-urban migration in search of better standards of living and better prospects for meaningful economic and social activities (Oghoghoughie and Jerry-Eze, 2011). This is dysfunctional not only to rural development but in the overall national development. In view of the above mentioned, various Nigerian governments from the past have initiated rural development programmes targeted at the rural sector. They include:

- a. The Green Revolution (GR)
- b. Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme (ACGS)
- c. Directorate For Food, Road And Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI)
- d. Better Life For Rural Dwellers
- e. National Agricultural Insurance Corporation (NAIC)
- f. National Directorate Of Employment (NDE)

Many of these programmes were mainly targeted at rural development in an attempt to better the lots of rural dwellers, as well as get the rural sector to contribute meaningfully to the national economic and social development. 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 programmes include NDE, DFRRI, Better Life, Family Support Programme and so forth. However, many of these programmes had some positive effects on rural development although did not last long. Unfortunately, lack of integration of the various rural development efforts significantly militated against sustainable rural development².

Rural Fortification as means to Stem-down Rural-Urban Migration

It is better to involve the rural community members and rural beneficiaries of a rural development project at all stages of the project, this would stem the tide of rural-urban

migrants since they would be involved on individual/own projects (Ocheni and Nwankwo, 2012). The people's contributions in form of ideas, financial and human resources will serve as a motivating factor for them to see to the complete success of the programme and since the local people know and understand their environment and conditions better than the policy formulators and decision makers who operate from outside. Again, studies from the developed world where policy makers explore all possible options and adopt inclusive practices in the rural development policies and where appropriate institutional framework are put in place to strengthening and ensuring rapid realization of rural developmental goals, the trend in rural-urban migration has been stemmed. It is also instructive to note that in the developed world where government is seen and viewed as continuum, rural development projects are not abandoned. Since major finding note that the major causes of rural-urban migration are search for better education, employment, and business opportunities, poverty, unemployment, famine, and inadequate social amenities in the rural areas. It follows, therefore that, with conscious effort towards rural development, the trend of rural –urban migration will be drastically reduced. Also, is noted that rural development is significant to combating rural-urban migration in Nigeria and indeed it is capable of initiating ways through which we manage the rural areas which will make a difference in governance practice.

Conclusion

Finally, this paper demonstrates that through appropriate rural programme that can enhance a thorough development and fortification of rural settings by government, rural-urban migration can be curtailed if not totally eradicate. As part of the findings of this paper, the impediments to rural development is majorly the non-commitment to policies initiated by government in Nigeria, while the flimsy or absence of rural development does facilitate rural-urban migration due to lack of basic social amenities and infrastructures. The findings also revealed that government needs to do more to stem 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 swift-drift to the urban centers, if basic social amenities, infrastructure and other necessary variables are in place to make them comfortable.

Recommendations

Based on the outcome of this work, the following recommendations were made and if they are put in place by the government it will help in solving some of the problems of rural –urban migration if not all.

- i. Government should provide infrastructural facilities to rural areas in Nigeria in order to put a stop to the high rate of drift of able body from rural areas to urban areas.
- ii. In view of the effects of rural-urban migration, Government should endeavor to provide social amenities and facilities that are lacking in the rural areas.
- iii. The Government should also provide employment opportunity for both skilled and unskilled rural dwellers in order to stem the rush from rural to urban areas by the youths.
- iv. Government should also establish and provide adequate and effective vocational training centers for the training of the productive youthful population in the rural areas for self- employment.
- v. Government should provide incentives for private sector investment in rural areas to promote rural development and reduce rural-urban migration.

- vi. Efforts should be made to improve the quality of education in rural areas, which will help to improve the employability of rural dwellers and reduce rural-urban migration.
- vii. Government should develop policies that promote the integration of rural areas into the national economy, to increase the economic opportunities available to rural dwellers and reduce rural-urban migration.
- viii. There is a need for continued research and monitoring of rural-urban migration and its impact on both rural and urban areas, to guide policy formulation and implementation.

No doubt, by put into practice these recommendations will go a long way in addressing the challenges of rural urban dependency in Nigeria

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