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IMPACT OF GOOD GOVERNANCE IN ATTAINMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

This paper evaluates the impact of good governance in attainment of infrastructural development in Nigeria. The problem investigated is stimulated by the expectation of the people for good governance in democratic era. The specific objective of the study include determining the extent to which the government archived the tenets of good governance, finding out the impact of good governance in attainment of infrastructural development in Nigeria and examining the constraints of good governance in achieving infrastructural development. Data for the study were generated from both primary and secondary sources using the instrument of observation, questionnaire, published and unpublished material as well as the internet. Data were analysed using both descriptive and inferential statistics. The descriptive tools used include tables and simple percentages while the inferential tool used is the spearman rank correlations. The study revealed that, good governance has not provided infrastructural development. More specifically, there is low service delivery, low rate of adherence to rule of law, lack of transparency and accountability, existence of high rural poverty, decay in rural educational system, inadequate water and road infrastructure as well as inadequate health facilities. The study also revealed poverty, corruption, poor judicial system, need for excess wealth as constraints for good governance. It was therefore recommended that, there should be institution of integrity, transparency and accountability in governance, there should be improvement in social services and there should be measures to check mismanagement.

Keywords: Good Governance, Impact, Infrastructural Development

1. Introduction

The infrastructural development is the desirability of all countries, whether by their own volition or as made so by the world bodies like United Nations. As such, most States are now championing its course. The efforts for the attainment of this desirable level of infrastructural development have brought with it a different set of issues, different from those which necessitated its evolution in the first place. These spans from the question of its scope through to whose responsibility it is to the actualization of sustainable development (SD) to the means by which it could be attained. In terms of its scope, the consensus seems to be that it is broad with its coverage from economic, social, political, environmental, and ecological systems to local, national, international,

and global concerns and participation. With regards to whose responsibility, it is believed to be the responsibility of all individuals and groups.

Good governance emerges as a product of emphasis on societal development, progress and infrastructural development (Ugwu, 2010). Indeed one way of measuring the success or failure of governments in modern society's world over is to assess how successful such governments are in developing the conditions for satisfying the basic needs of the people they govern (Basil, 2009). The needs include basic infrastructure; social services; creation of an efficient and productive economy. In addition, it also includes ability to mobilize or generate adequate resources as well as utilize them on

the path of both urban and rural development (Ayo, 2009).

Nigeria is one of those countries of the developing world that urgently requires infrastructural development for her citizens through the instrumentalities of good governance. Shehu (2015) opines that infrastructural development is that part of development that seek to enhance the quality of life in Nigeria by providing basic infrastructural facilities, that include water supply, Health Care; road, transport and communication, education, agricultural facilities, markets and electricity.

In Nigeria; the return of the country to a democratic rule in 1999, arose the demand of the people for good governance especially in the rural areas. Observation shows that in Nigeria, most rural areas lack good water supply, motorable roads, rural electricity as well as educational and Health facilities. Hence, the problem aroused by this paper is stimulated by the fact that though good governance is expected to ensure rural development, but does the rising expectations of the people seems to have been met? Therefore, the research questions arising from the research problem are;

- i. To what extent does the government achieve the tenets of good governance in rural and urban areas?
- ii. To what extent does good governance ensures infrastructural development?
- iii. And what constitute the constraints for good governance to ensure infrastructural development?

The central objective of this paper is to determine the impact of good governance in attainment of infrastructural development in Nigeria. However, specifically, the study seeks

- i. To find out the extent to which government achieve the tenets of good governance in rural and urban areas;
- ii. determine the extent to which good governance ensure infrastructural development

- iii. and examine the constraints of good governance in ensuring infrastructural development.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Conceptual Clarification

Three concepts were explored in this study. These are good governance, development and infrastructural development.

Concept of Good Governance: The Concept of good governance does not tend itself to a single definition. Ezeife (2002) sees good governance as the careful and guided application government resources to the upliftment of standard of living of the society. Ademolekun (2002, 2006) sees governance as the exercise of political authority in managing the affairs of the state, he identified the indices of good governance as adherence to the rule of Law; freedom of expression and association electoral legitimacy; accountability; transparency and development oriented leadership.

Concept of Development: Development as a concept defies precise definition. This is because scholars and practitioners advanced definitions based on their orientation and social milieu Ngu, (2014), sees development as a positive process of comprehensive transformation of economic, political and socio-cultural values and institutions towards substantial amelioration of societal values.

Concept of Infrastructural Development: The term infrastructural development has been variously defined. However, it is much more restricted conceptually and spatially to rural environment or urban areas (Shehu, 2015). The World Bank (1975), sees infrastructural development as a strategy designed, to improve the economic and social life of a specific group of people the country. Ayichi (1995) defines infrastructural development as a process of increasing per capital income and standard of living of rural and urban population which is measured in terms of food and nutrition, health, education housing and security. Mabel (2010) gave a more comprehensive definition of

infrastructural development as the development of political, and economic potentialities of rural/urban communities to enhance their self-reliance through the provision of appropriate infrastructures. They include pipe home water, electricity, good roads, and increase in people's political consciousness and participation to promote their moral and social wellbeing.

2.2 Empirical Review

The study by Abdulkarim (2004) entitled "Good governance at local government level and development in Nigeria" attempted to analyse the role of good governance in local government administration. The study assumed that the lack of accountability, transparency, qualified staff and independence are indicators of good governance. The study is similar to the present one in its usage of transparency and accountability as indices of good governance.

Another study by Idris (2006) entitled "Towards sustaining democracy for good governance in fourth republic Nigeria", It was revealed that adherence to rule of law, electoral legitimacy, as well as accountability and transparency has been low and that the fourth republic did, not ensure good governance. It was therefore suggested that rule of law need to be strengthened; public institutions need to be referred among other things.

Basil (2009) studied good governance and leadership in Africa, panacea for sustainable growth and development. To him, what is lacking is the proper leadership that could successfully harness the abundant, natural and human resources of Africa for sustainable growth and development.

Finally, Ugwu (2010); studies good governance accountability and development in Nigeria the study revealed policy of clientalism, Compton, poor judicial system and absence of procurement law as some of the constraints of good governance.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework adopted for this study is the rural modernization theory. One of the proponents of this theory is Neil Smelser (1963). Rural modernization theory is often operationalised in infrastructure development policy. The theory posits that rural development can be attained through provisions of modern facilities in rural areas, so that they will also share features of modern urban areas.

Applying rural modernization theory to the study on the impact of good governance on infrastructural development in Nigeria. Government should be responsive, accountable and transparent in the provisions of schools and colleges in the country. Establishment of health care centres and maternities, extensive rural water supply and electrification projects, provisions of rural feeder roads and so on. By this, the citizens will have trust in government and thus participate in decision making.

3. Methodology

In terms of research design, this study adopted the survey research design. The purpose is to enable population so that inferences can be made. The use of survey design can be justified on the bases of economy, reliability, and rapid turnaround in data collection. This study was designed to investigate the impact of good governance on infrastructural development. Variables relating to good governance and that of infrastructure development were examined. The responses of the respondents were measured in the five point liker scale of Strongly Agree (SA). Agree (A), Undecided (U), Disagree (D) and Strongly Disagreed (SD).

In terms of sources and methods of data collection, the study utilized both primary and secondary sources of data. The primary source makes use of observation, and questionnaire methods. This is justified on the bases of reliability, convenience, preserving anonymity and lower rate of reactivity. The secondary source consists of books, magazines, newspapers; internet and unpublished materials. The secondary source compliments the primary source.

The target population of the study consists of inhabitants in Abuja area councils such as Gwagwalada, Kuje, Kwali etc. it consists of 750 rural populace, 300 politicians, 410 staff of local governments, 200 members each of youth

organizations and women group, 30 traditional rulers; 70 members of non-governmental organizations, as well as 120 community leaders totaling 2,081. The table below shows the distribution.

Table 1: Population Distribution.

Category	Zone A Edati	Zone B Shiroro	Zone C Magama	Total
Rural Populace	200	250	300	750
Politicians	90	110	100	300
Staff of Local Govt	100	140	170	410
Youth Organizations	60	50	90	200
Women Group	80	60	60	200
Traditional Rulers	8	14	8	30
NGOs	21	30	19	70
Community Leaders	35	30	55	120
Total	594	684	803	2,081

Source: Survey Research 2022

From the population distribution above, the sample size is determined using Yamane's formula as thus; $n = N$

$$1 + N(e)^2$$

Where n = Sample size

N = Total population

e = Level of significance (95%)

Source: Yamane (1968) as expressed by Israel (1992)

$$n = \frac{2,081}{1 + 2,081(0.05)^2} = 335.5$$

$$\therefore n = 336 \text{ representing } 16.15\% \text{ of the total population.}$$

335.5

∴ n = 336 representing 16.15% of the total population.

4. Discussion, Results and Findings

Rate of Returns and Response of Questionnaires

Three hundred and thirty six (336) questionnaires equivalent to the sample size were administered to the sample respondents. Out of 336 questionnaires administered, 316 were returned given a rate of returns of 94.04%. Also, out of the 316 questionnaires returned, 300 questionnaires were duly completed, given a rate of response of 89.3%. The table below shows the rate of questionnaire returns and response.

Table 2: Rate of Returns / Response of questionnaire

Category of Respond	Zone 'A' Edati	Zone 'B' Edati	Zone 'C' Magama	No.Of Questionnaire Administered	No. Of Questionnaire Returned	No. Of Questionnaire Duly Completed
Rural Populace	22	26	40	88	85	80
Politicians	16	23	10	49	45	40
Local Gov't Staff	10	15	30	55	54	54

Youth Organisation	7	8	10	25	20	20
Women Group	14	7	7	28	25	24
Traditional Rulers	3	6	4	13	12	10
NGOS	10	17	5	32	32	30
Community Leaders	7	12	27	46	43	42
Total	89	114	133	336	316	300

Sources: Survey Research 2022

Based on the above; analysis of data in this study is on the basis of 300 respondents.

Secondary Data on the Activities of Nigeria Governments on Good Governance and infrastructural Rural Development

Table 3: Elements of Good Governance

VARIABLES	INDICATORS	ASPECTS
People Oriented Leadership	1. Formation of Jama'a forum to enhance participation in governance 2. Monthly media briefings to educate be peopl/e on new government operate 3. Visitations to institution of higher learning to and lecturers learning to interact with students and lecturers of Niger State extraction. 4. Payment of backlog of gratuity to retirees. 5. Release of counterpart funding to international donors mis-programmes.	Good Governance
Transparency, And Accountability And Rule of Law.	6. Constant declaration of state government account to the public 7. Establishment of human rights commission. 8. Establishment of many high courts. 9. Increase in salary of the Judiciary.	Good Governance
Responsiveness And Inclusiveness	10. Capacity building for civil servants. 11. Increase and prompt payment of salaries. 12. Inclusion of permanent secretaries in state executive council. 13. Merit system through civil service exams. 14. Payment of Annual salary bonus. 15. Formation of graduate employment scheme	Good Governance

Source: Nigeria Development Agency, 2022.

Table 4: Elements of infrastructure

VARIABLES	INDICATORS	ASPECTS
Housing and Roads	1. Construction of Housing estate in Minna, Bida and Kontagora 2. Providing a new look for Minna as capital. 3. Rehabilitation of Roads in Minna, Bida and	Infrastructure

	Kontagora. 4.Construction of 10km Roads	
HEALTH	5. Contraction and equipping of hospitals in Gulu, Nasko and Tafa. 6. Free medical services to children, pregnant women and the Aged. 7. Signing of MOU with foreign of medical experts. 8. Free medical treatment on eye, Gaiter and cancer	Infrastructure
EDUCATION	9. engagement and support girl child education 10. Settlement of WAEC and NECO fees. 11. provision of textbooks. 12. Provision of Buses for transporting students. 13. Payment of student allowance	Infrastructure
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	14. Granting of N1,000,000 for ward development project. 15. Granting 25% subsidy on sale of fertilizers. 16. Release of funds for Local Government project. 17. Extension of conditional cash transfer COT to Local Governments	Infrastructure

Source: Nigeria Development Agency, 2022.

Measurement of Good Governance

Respondents opinion on variables of good governance were presented on table 5 below

Table 5: Respondent's Opinion on Good Governance

VARIABLES RELATING TO GOOD GOVERNANCE	SA	A	U	D	SD	TOTAL
1. Citizens participated in governance as a result of high service delivery.	40 (13.3%)	30 (10%)	10 (3.3%)	100 (33.3%)	120 (40%)	300 (100%)
2. Rate of adherence to the principles of rule of law is high.	20 (6.6%)	10 (3.3%)	30 (10%)	140 (46.6%)	100 (33.3%)	300 (100%)
3. There is existence of development oriented leadership	80 (26.6%)	60 (20%)	10 (3.3%)	90 (30%)	60 (20%)	300 (100%)
4. Rate of accountability and transparency within the three arms of government is high.	15 (5%)	20 (6.6%)	5 (1.6%)	110 (36.6%)	150 (50%)	300 (100%)

Key: SA = Strongly Agreed, A = Agreed, U = undecided, D = Disagreed, SD = Strongly Disagreed

Source: survey research, 2022

From table 5 above, it is clear that about 220 respondents representing 73.3% disagreed that citizens participated in governance as a result of high service delivery. Similarly,

240 respondents representing 79.9% claimed that there is low rate adherence to rule of law. Also from the table, opinion was divided on the existence of development

oriented leadership. 150 (50%) disagreed while 140 (46.6%) agreed. Finally, the table shows that rate of Accountability and transparency within the three arms of government is not high. 260 respondents representing (86.6%) attested to this

Measurement of Infrastructural Development

Respondent's opinion on measurement of infrastructural development is also presented on table below

Table 6: Respondent's Opinion on 7 Infrastructure Development

VARIABLES FOR INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT	SA	A	U	D	SD	TOTAL
5. Poverty is high in the rural areas..	120 (40%)	80 (26.6%)	30 (10%)	60 (20%)	10 (3%)	300 (100%)
6. Water and roads infrastructure were fully developed in the rural areas.	10 (3%)	5 (1.6%)	5 (1.6%)	180 (59.9%)	100 (33.3%)	300 (100%)
7. There is total decay and collapse of the rural system	150 (49.6%)	100 (33.3%)	20 (6.6%)	20 (6.6%)	10 (3.3%)	300 (100%)
8. There are inadequate healthcare facilities services.	140 (46.6%)	120 (40%)	5 (1.6%)	15 (5%)	20 (3.3%)	300 (100%)

Key: SA = Strongly Agreed, A = Agreed, U = undecided, D = Disagreed, SD = Strongly Disagreed
Source: Survey Research, 2022.

From table 6 above, respondents revealed that poverty is high in the rural areas understudy. 200 respondents representing (66.6%) attested to this. It was further claimed that water and roads infrastructure were not fully developed in the rural areas. As high as 280 respondents representing (93.2%) attested to this. Also, the table further revealed that there is total decay and collapse of the rural educational system and there are inadequate

healthcare facilities for rural health services. 250 respondents representing 82.9% claimed the farmer while 260 respondents representing 86.6% attest to this later.

Constrains Of Good Governance

Respondent's opinion on the factors constraint variables of good governance to enhance infrastructural development were presented to table 7 below.

Table 7: Respondent's Opinion on Constraints of Good Governance for Rural Development

S/NO	CONSTRAINTS	NO. OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Poverty	280	93%
2	Corruption	250	83.3%
3	Test for excess wealth	190	63.3%
4	Poor judicial system	220	73.3%
5	Personalization of public offices	240	80%

Source: Survey Research, 2022

The table above, shows poverty, corruption, test for excess wealth, poor judicial system and Personalization

of public offices as constraints of good governance that can hinder rural development

Summaries of Findings

From data collected and analysed, the study reveals that good governance has not enhanced Infrastructural development in Nigeria more specifically.

- i. Attribute of good governance has not seen, in the sense that service delivery is low rate of adherence to rule of law is also low. Also transparency and accountability was not seen within the three arms of government.
- ii. The study revealed high rate of poverty, existence of total decay and collapse in educational system, there is inadequate healthcare facilities for rural healthcare services there is also inadequacy of water supply and roads to enhanced development.
- iii. Fundamental constraints like poverty, corruption, desire for excess wealth, personalization of public office as well as poor judicial system affected the development of areas in the study environment.

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

From data collected; the study concludes that good governance has not provided infrastructural development in Nigeria. That is there is no significant relationship between good governance and infrastructural development.

In consequence of this, government public resources have undergone mismanagement, misused and misapplication,

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hence the existence of bad governance which has made our country to remain in perpetual poverty and underdeveloped.

It is based on this that. This study proffers the following recommendation:

- i. There is the need for the institution of the culture of integrity, accountability and transparency in the three arms of government. Here, the executive arm must provide policies that eliminate corruption in governance; the legislature must pass relevant laws that ensure transformation of the country while the judiciary must be truly independent to ensure adherence to rule of law.
- ii. There is the need for development by reducing poverty through improvement in the provision of social services, improvement in qualitative education, provision of adequate healthcare facilities, potable water supply as well as feeder roads.
- iii. To remove the constraints of good governance, there is the urgency of enthroning effective checks against bad governance.

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