

IMPLEMENTATION OF WATER SCHEME PROJECTS IN THE RURAL COMMUNITIES BY COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES (CSDP) OF ENUGU STATE

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ABSTRACT: The study was on implementation of water scheme projects in the rural communities by community and social Development programmes (CSDP) of Enugu State. The study looked into definition of CSDP, its characteristics and extent to which water scheme projects are implemented in the state. One research question and one hypothesis guided the study. Descriptive survey Design was used. Sampling technique was stratified random sampling and the sampling size was 276 respondents (180) community members and 96 CPMC members. A structured questionnaire was used to elicit information from the respondents. Data was analysed using mean and standard deviation while hypothesis was tested at 0.05 level of significance and appropriate degree of freedom with t-test statistics. The result of the findings revealed that respondents were generally of the view that CSDP water scheme projects were implemented in rural communities in Enugu State to a high extent. In conclusion, there was an increase in the number of people fetching water from the water facilities, thereby exposing people to portable and clean water. One of the recommendations that the water scheme project should be supported with good management team who can also be able to supervise and monitor its effectiveness in the communities.

Introduction

Community and Social Development Programmes (CSDP) aims to achieve a better life for the rural people through collective effort. In the United States, the term community and social development in 1960 began to complement and generally replace the idea of union renewal which typically focused on physically development projects often at the expenses of working class communities. CSDP is a community driven Development (CDD) project focusing on building and rebuilding social and natural resource infrastructure services at the community has helped in assisting with the delivery of many projects in rural areas. In the 1970's and 1980's community and social development strategy was promoted by United nations Agencies and the World Bank (Castro cited in Ohuoha, 2018).

CSDP is a form of national flagship project that provides grants for human capital development of communities and rural people to make them develop various development programmes. CSDP is majorly concerned with boosting the following sections in a community; portable water supply, road rehabilitation and construction, provision of electricity, health scheme, education services, and other services as the community demands (NASSCO, 2022). The CSDP projects are

always supported by World Bank with the assistance of Federal government, the participating State and communities involved.

Ani (2010), sees Community and Social Development as a process by which people living in a geographically demarcated area unite together to work for improving their living conditions with/without assistance from the government. Since independence, successive Nigerian government has made specific provisions for community development in the national development plans. To give this strong expression to community development, Nigeria has witnessed a number of government initiated national development programmes with embedded and inherent community goals and objectives. Some of them includes the Green Revolution, Operation Feed the Nation (OFN), the Mass Mobilization for Social Justices and Economic Recover (MAMSER), The Directorate for Foods, Roads and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI), The Better Life for Rural Women (BLRW), among others (Ewelum & Madu, 2010) Ewelum & Madu went further to state that the Modern concept of community development gave rise to the establishment of community development division/department/directorate an important arm of government charged with the

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responsibility of channeling the effort of the people towards promoting social economic development.

In the view of Akintayo and Oghenekohwo (2004), community and social development involves the improvement of the systems of values in a community, its structure, as well as the usage through which it functions and is maintained. The community and development perspective places the responsibility for the development of community on the people which is equally what community and social development programmes (CSDP) preaches. The people working through their own organizations have the vision, knowhow, capabilities and experience to confront and solve the problems of under development. External support is needed only as a complement to their resources and efforts to fashion a society where they are architects, implementers and beneficiaries of development (Castro, 2003).

Obikezie (2006) is of the view that community and social development is the process where by local groups are assisted to clarify and express their needs and objectives and take collective action in an attempt to meet them.

Ngozi (2010) sees community development as the process of restructuring the political economy in order to satisfy the materials, social and economic needs, as well as the aspiration of the people, and the process of development. The researcher sees community and social development as the process of developing the social and physical amenities of the people living in an area.

The researcher also views community and social development as a process whereby people come together, explore resources within them for their developmental needs without any external help. In line with this, the United Nations in Nwoye (2016) defines community and social development as a process where members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to common problems. Community development is a broad term given to the practices of civic leaders, activists involved citizens and professionals to improve various aspects of communities typically aiming to build stronger and more resilient local communities.

According to Sanders as cited in Ezimah (2009), there are ways of viewing community and social development which includes process perspective emphasized the social relationship that develops as a result of interactions. As individuals interact, they come to share common concerns, needs and challenges and work towards a solution by identifying and using both internal and external sources of assistance. It is a process moving by stages from one condition to the next. The focus is on

what happens to people as they move from one stage to the other. Ezimah (2009) asserted that the emphasis is on the psychological effects it has on community members as they expand such relationship.

Seen (2010) stated that community and social development as a method has to do with a set of procedures to be followed to attain specified objectives. It involves the education of community members on the why and how of projects carried out. This may be from conscientization/sensitization of members on the need to follow a particular course of action. It is a way of working towards the attainment of a goal. As a programme community and social development is seen as an organized on-going activity with procedures and objectives which may be either short or long term. As a movement community development is seen as a crusade driven by emotional issues and charismatic leadership as a source of stimulation. It is a cause to which people become committed. The emphasis is on inciting action.

According to Anurugwo (2014), community and social development is viewed as an educative process towards effecting positive change in the lives of community members. It is a capacity building venture in which members collectively work towards addressing their common interest. Similarly, the issue of felt need, extensive citizen involvement, consensus of opinion and local decision making are given primary place in every community and social development activity. Community and social development is about developing the power, skills, knowledge and experience of people as individuals and groups. It enables them to undertake initiatives of their own to combat social economic, political and environmental problems as well as participate fully in democratic process.

The Characteristics of CSDP

The CSDP is characterized with

- Solving the challenges of prevalence poverty in every community in the country.
- Maintaining success stories of any community in the country
- Driven development interventions as an overall strategy for growth and poverty reduction in the country, the federal government has sought assistance with the World Bank towards implementation of CSDP.
- Improving the standard of living in communities by sustainably increasing natural resource and infrastructural services (Hakeem 2017).

Extent to which water scheme projects are implemented in rural communities

CSDP is usually known for fishing out projects in communities and assisting them by first of all issuing the community a letter of expression of interest, carrying out socio economic surveys, advocacy visits, sensitization, mobilization, participatory rural appraisal etc. CSDP uses community driven development (CDD) approach to reach out to the communities.

CSDP objectives is to sustainably increase access of poor people to improved social and natural resources and infrastructure services. (Owoh, 2011). For example CSDP implements sinking and reticulation of motorized water boreholes, construction and rehabilitation of roads etc. Implementation of water sector in Enugu state involved the drilling of 190m motorized water boreholes at Amakofia Ukehe with a 30 KVA generator set and 5000gls steel overhead tank. the projects cost 9, 435,000.00 for the drilling of 214m motorized water borehole with 50,000gls steel overhead tank and 30 KVA Generator set, Udenu Local Government Area project cost was N8,649, 490.00 the outcome on water facilities in those communities shows increase in number of people fetching water from those boreholes (Ogbueze, 2017). This water project from CSDP provided a rural community with direct responsibility for project contracting and empowered the communities to take charge of the project. The communities themselves were levied and provided a means of maintaining the water as funds were generated on a regular basis at this level towards the maintenance of the water systems. Individuals at the community level were usually appointed to secure

the materials on-site. CSDP is responsible for maintaining the borehole regularly, construction of new boreholes, rehabilitation of the existing ones, engaging their staff to manage the boreholes, provision of generator to power the boreholes, completion of all the outstanding water projects in a community, extending water taps to different hamlets in the community for easy accessibility to the people of that community (Owoh 2021).

Research Question: To what extent has CSDP water scheme project been implemented in rural communities in Enugu State?

Hypothesis: There is no significant difference between the mean ratings of the responses of Community Project Management Committees (CPMC) and other selected community members on the extent to which CSDP's water Scheme Projects are being implemented in rural communities in Enugu State.

Methodology

Research Design: Descriptive Survey Design was used for the study.

Sample and sampling Technique: the study's sample size was 276 respondents (180 Community members ad 96 CPMC members).

Instrument for Data Collection: a structured questionnaire was used to elicit information from the respondents.

Method of Data Analysis: Data was analysed using mean and standard deviation while hypothesis was tested at 0.05 level of significance and appropriate degree of freedom with t-test statistics.

Result

Research Question 1: To what extent are water scheme projects implemented in rural communities in Enugu State?

Table 1: Mean response scores of CPMC members and other selected community members on the extent to which water scheme projects were implemented in rural communities in Enugu State.

S/N	Items	CMPC 96					
		\bar{X}	SD	Dec.	\bar{X}	SD	Dec.
1	Construction of new boreholes	3.02	0.97	HE	3.00	0.89	HE
2	Rehabilitation of existing boreholes	3.05	1.02	HE	3.16	0.87	HE
3	Engaging staff to manage borehole	3.16	0.88	HE	3.01	0.77	HE
4	Provision of generator to power the borehole	3.06	0.96	HE	3.31	0.73	HE
5	Completion of all outstanding water projects	3.03	0.95	HE	3.24	0.73	HE
6	Extending water taps to different hamlets	3.01	0.91	HE	3.13	0.85	HE
	Cluster means	3.06	0.95	HE	3.14	0.81	HE

Data presented in table 2 show that the responses of the respondents were all to a high extent. However, the CPMC's mean ranged from 3.01 to 3.16 while those of

the other community members ranged from 3.01 to 3.24. in addition, they were cluster means of 3.06 and 3.14 for CPMC and other community members and

other selected community members respectively. These imply that the respondents were generally of the view that CSDP assisted water scheme projects are implemented in rural communities in Enugu State to a high extent.

HO₂: There is no significant difference between the mean ratings of CPMC members and other selected community members on the extent to which water scheme projects are implemented in rural communities Enugu State.

Table 2: T-test of significant difference between the mean ratings of CPMC members and other selected community members on the extent to which water scheme projects were implemented in rural communities.

Group	N	Mean	SD	df	t-cal	t-crit	Decision
CPMC	96	3.06	0.95	274	0.73	1.96	Not rejected
Other Community Members	180	3.14	0.81				

Table 2 shows that the calculated t-value is 0.73 at 0.05 level of significance and 274 degree of freedom while the critical t-value is 1.96. since the calculated t-value is less than the critical value, the null hypothesis is, therefore between the mean scores of CPMC members and other selected community members on the extent to which CSDP assisted water scheme projects are implemented in rural communities in Enugu State.

Discussion of Findings

Extent to which water scheme projects were implemented in rural communities in Enugu State.

The findings revealed that respondents were generally of the view that CSDP water Scheme Projects were implemented in rural communities in Enugu State to a high extent, in that CSDP carried out many roles in water scheme projects such as construct new boreholes, rehabilitate existing boreholes, engage staff to marriage borehole, provide the generator to power the borehole, complete all the outstanding water projects and extend water taps to all hamlets.

The findings was in line with the opinions of (Ogbueze, 2017) carried out research on outcome of water facilities in rural communities and the result showed that there is increase in number of people fetching water from these water scheme projects or facilities in these communities.

The hypothesis which was on implementation of water scheme projects in CSDP indicated that there is no significant difference between the mean ratings of CPMC members and other selected community members on the extent to which CSDP water scheme projects are implemented in rural communities in Enugu State. The findings are in line with the opinions of Owoh (2011) who stated that CSDP assisted water scheme projects are implemented in selected communities in Enugu State. Therefore the opinion and comment of this expert confirmed the opinion of the respondents on CSDP implementations of water scheme projects in rural communities in Enugu State.

Conclusion

Based on the findings of this study as illustrated by the research question, and hypothesis, the research respondents agreed that CSDP water scheme projects are implemented in rural communities in Enugu State to a high extent, and that there was from the writer scheme projects.

Recommendations

1. There should be evaluation and assessment of the quality and quantity of work done by CSDP to ensure that the communities get value for their money and the project; thus the community periodic evaluation should not be left alone in the hands of the CPMC members and CSDP officials.
2. There should be active community involvement before programme commencement and during implementation through continued advocacy, sensitization and mobilization of community members.
3. The water scheme project should be supported with good management team who can also be able to supervise and monitor its effectiveness in the communities.
4. The community members should be able to nominate those youths who can be able to protect and maintain the water scheme projects in the community so that it will not be vandalized.

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