

**THE IMPACT OF MINNA ON ITS
SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT**

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ABSTRACT

Sixteen villages within the vicinity of 25km and 50km from Minna each located along the eight cardinal points were studied. The objective of the study is to determine the influence of Minna, being the State Capital, in the development of these villages.

Questionnaires were administered to a total number of one hundred and sixty people from the sixteen villages 50km away contrary to the expectation of more children from the closer villages attending schools in Minna.

The villages lack basic infrastructural facilities such as health, good housing, water supply and markets. Therefore, they choose to go to Minna either to sell the farm products or in search of better living conditions and better employment opportunities.

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CHAPTER ONE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

It has been observed that Minna has had a considerable effect on the rural development of its surrounding area. Minna being the State Capital of Niger State (Fig. 1 for position of Niger State) in Nigeria is experiencing rural/urban movement of the perceived opportunities such as educational, employment, recreational etc. which tend to act as pull factor on the migrants.

Because of Minna's rapid development in recent years has brought about an influx of people from other areas. People come probably to look for white-collar jobs especially the youths because there is a deception display of well being by many city dwellers (even when unemployed).

Most of the rural dwellers are primarily engaged in agricultural activities and their products are taken to Minna for sale as this is the biggest town within this vicinity, being the State Capital (Fig. 2 for position of Minna in Niger State). Minna therefore, provides a convenient market for this sale of the products. Some of the villages within this study area are popular for this production of yams among other commodities in Niger State. Such villages include Gwada and Paiko.

The State Capital is not yet congested like other States in Nigeria. However, housing problem is becoming acute as a result of influx of people due to governmental development efforts - establishment of offices and institutions by both Federal and State governments, construction activities, commercial activities and finally migration as a result of all the factors mentioned above.

This study will look into the factors in the urban areas which attract people from its surrounding areas. The study has been divided into five chapters.

Chapter one contains the aims and objectives, the problem, statement and study area, the scope and study and justification.

Chapter two contains the literature review. Chapter three deals with the method used in carrying out the research and in chapter four, it analyses the results from chapter three.

Chapter five contains the conclusion and recommendation that has to be made.

1.1 Aims and Objectives

This study is aimed at determining the effect of Minna Municipality and its surrounding areas. In order to achieve this aim, the following objectives have been adopted.

1. The impact of Minna municipality on the living standard of the people and its surrounding areas.

2. Assessment of infrastructural facilities in this area such as electricity, educational, health, industrial and water supply.
3. Examine the underlying "push" factors responsible for the migration from rural area to Minna.

1.2 The Problem

The cities as centres of attraction are areas of large population concentration and increase due to the presence of industries and other urban economic development activities.

It is believed that the city has greater opportunities such as employment, high income, better living conditions hence there is influx of people into the cities even if they do not have relatives in the city. This influx has increased the tempo of activities, commerce, personal services and manufacturing industries. Also it has contributed to the social, economic and physical problems in those areas such as their failure to adjust and identify themselves with their host community, unemployment, lack of adequate social and infrastructural facilities, the development of slums and the worsening housing shortage.

The focus of this study, is the causes of migration of people into Minna from the surrounding areas.

1.3 Justification

One of the main aims of creation of States was to allow for even development of component parts of the country. To further improve the lot of

the people in the rural areas, additional local government areas were created. Apart from bringing the government close to the people, it is argued that development would be enhanced in the rural areas as it is believed that over 75% of the nations population reside in the rural areas.

The study is desired to find out the effect of Minna development as a State capital on the villages within the vicinity of the town. This is with the view to determine if the much stated objectives of government for creation of additional States and Local Government Areas is being attained.

The main objective of the study is to determine the effect of Minna, being the State Capital, on the development of these villages within the vicinity of the town. This is to test the validity of the belief generally held that creation of States has brought development nearer to rural areas if the stated objective for creation of States, which is even and accelerated development is being achieved.

It is assumed that increase in urban population is as a result of migration from rural areas. If this is not looked into the result would be evident in the rapidly growing slums and unauthorized settlements, the deterioration in many public services, the extreme shortage of housing and the congestion in the streets.

With the influx of the labour force into the urban areas has led to the unemployment especially among school leavers who later find out that their qualification is not a passport to white-collar jobs.

The decision to migrate has been recognized in the large differences between wages paid to urban workers and those paid to skilled rural labourers. For example, in Nigeria (Todaro et al, 1971), noted that "urban wage" are typically at levels twice as high as average farm incomes. Between 1950 and 1963, prices received by farmers through marketing boards in southern Nigeria fell by 25% while at the same time the minimum wage scales of the Federal Government increased by 200%.

This study is therefore, necessary so that planners would know the rate of influx of people into the urban areas so as to know how to cater for the growing population.

1.4 Scope of Study

The study covers an area in the vicinity of Minna township within approximately 50km radius of the town and 25km. There are quite a number of villages in the limits defined by the study area but the villages selected as samples due to time constraint and facility available to the student/author include Gida Pautno, Gwada, Shakwafu, Paiko, Butu, Garatu, Beji, Lawo, Gida Sariki, Zumba, Gidan Wakili, Boku, Lenfa, Kataeregi, Kanko and Kako.

Gidan Pautno, Gidan Sariki, Gidan Wakili, Lawo and Kako are in Rafi Local Government Area. Gwada in Shiroro Local Government Area. Shakwafu, Paiko, Butu, Garatu, Beji, Zumba, Boku and Kataeregi are all in Chanchaga Local Government Area. Lenfa is in Lapai Local Government Area and Kanko is in Mariga Local Government Area.

Though there are villages within the small radius, not all would be covered for this study because of accessibility hence a few were selected which the research believe are good representative.

Minna as the State Capital is not a proper urban and not a complete rural area but compared with it, local area it could be.

To achieve the aim of this study, method to be employed includes visiting of these villages to physically assess the availability of basic infrastructural facilities (modern amenities).

Questionnaires are also to be administered with the view of collecting data/information on such indices of development such as Education, Vocation, Housing, Family economy, Transportation, Health and recreation.

At times, when this type of study is being carried out illiterates do not normally answer questions because they believe one is trying to dig into their private lives. This results in a shortage of facts for the study.

Also time generally is too short for this study and the researcher believe that with facts available, Minna's effort on its surrounding areas can be drawn.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

The relationship between service centres (Towns) and the rural areas in Africa where the existence of traditional markets make the calculation of wage differentials difficult, the picture is not so clear and it may be that the availability of certain social services in urban areas, such as schools, medical facilities, pipe-borne water etc. may be crucial factors in attracting the migrants above and beyond wage differentials (Gugler, 1974).

The International Development Research Centre (1973) Internet (IDRC) survey of several low income communities in large cities of Africa, Asia and Latin America found that electricity (sometimes stolen from passing lines), water pipe at least to the neighbourhood, at rather high levels and this undoubtedly contributes to the benefits which migrants obtained from city.

Adebusoye (1981) reported that in Nigeria, with the unemployment in the urban areas, there is still increase in the rural-urban migration. This suggests that socio-economic conditions in the rural areas of the country have contributed significantly to the urbanization process in Nigeria.

The first of these conditions is the scarcity of adequate land in some parts of the country with the expansion of export crop such as cocoa, groundnut, rubber and cotton. Some of which occupy a piece of land for as long as fifty years and amount of land particularly in parts of the cocoa belt of

Nigeria. Furthermore, with technological improvement in terms of improved health facilities and child care, there was a general growth in population without necessarily being an accompanying rise in food production.

But in spite of population growth, traditional methods of cultivation continued to be practiced with a shorter and shorter period of fallow. This by fertility of the soil, brought an overall decrease in the margin of subsistence and the density of population which the land could support in some parts of the country.

Furthermore, the pressure of population of land in some parts of Nigeria, particularly sections in Anambra, and Imo States in the southeastern part of the country has created a group of peasants whose holdings are so small that migration to urban areas appears to be the only alternative source for them to make a living.

Studies in Nigeria (Olusanya, 1981 and Makinwa, 1981) indicated that movement to urban areas is influenced remarkably by social and cultural attractions of the urban areas in the country.

According to Gideon et al (1986), migration is a response to the perception of a changed regional distribution of economic opportunities. A review of the literature on the impact of migration on development in Africa suggests that as far as regional development in the various countries of the continent is concerned, there are two major ways in which migration has

contributed to spatial variation in development. The first relates to that on the receiving urban area while the second is on the departure area.

They noted in the study that there are two types of impact identifiable on the receiving regions. There are positive and negative impacts. Those regions which are largely rural productive areas, show an increased tempo of activities due to the presence of large number of immigrant communities in the labour. Studies have also further shown that migrants have played leading role in large scale plantations, oil palm plantations, and exploitation of minerals like tin, gold, coal and petroleum in some African countries.

They went further to observe that settlements have built in areas which were virtually uninhabited or being habited by small number of hunting groups and shifting cultivation as a result of migration consequently a number of infrastructural and social services such as road network, education, health etc. have developed.

On the other hand, some large urban settlements receiving regions have not had positive or advantageous impacts on their regional development as a result of migration observed the authors. Though the migrants have contributed remarkably to development in such areas as commerce, personal services and manufacturing industries, they also have contributed in no small measures to social, economies and physical problems. Such problems include lack of adjustment and identification with their host communities, unemployment, inadequate infrastructural facilities which has

resulted in development of slums and the worsening of housing shortages. These have contributed to slowing down the process of regional development.

The authors continued and noted that as far as the source region of migrants are concerned, positive and negative impacts also exist. Such negative effects include decline of food production and other agricultural activities as due to age and sex selectivity in migration and land left by migrants are often left idle as these are not available to those remaining. The only positive effect stated by the authors include regular monetary remittance to relation left behind by the migrants.

Modern times urbanization has risen in response to attempts at upward mobility by elite groups like new graduates, professionals, businessmen, students to service new and expanding urban institutions on one hand, and immigrants from rural areas and young school leavers who typically get trapped into the slums on working class groups and the reserve army of unemployed (Onimode, 1977).

In rural areas, the peasants derive their subsistence income in cash and kind through producing food crops like yam, rice, maize, guinea corn, millet, cassava etc., and the so called export crops like cocoa, rubber, oil and palm kernel, cotton, beniseed etc. These are produced on small individual plots. On the average, the export croppers tend to be richer than the food croppers and the farmers often develop into capitalist farmers with plantations

employing dispossessed farmers as labourers. Another feature of rural income is its growing uncertainty as a result of land speculation by the urban elite who buy upland in the outskirts of urban centres at cheap prices in expectation of resale to foreign monopolists and government agencies.

Besides social class, Onimode (1977) also stated that the physical environment residence or neighbourhood of individuals also exert differential impact on incomes in urban and rural areas. In particular, the concentration of industrial and commercial enterprises and real estate including infrastructural facilities for colleges, schools, hospitals etc. in urban areas greatly has had the potentials for job opportunities hence higher labour income earning of individuals who move into cities.

Mc Master (1965) argued that towns are important not because of their size but because of the role they exert on the rural areas. Johnson's (1970) view in relation to centres in India emphasizes the positive, beneficial effect on the local economy emerging from the increased development of the centres themselves. In contrast, Frank et al (1971) maintained that these services centres are merely the outpost of a system of extraction which result in the net transfer of wealth from rural areas to the large cities and ultimately to the metropolitan centres in other continents.

Baba et al (1973) stated that migrant levels of unemployment seem no worse than those of the urban born. In fact, better educated migrants many of

whom arrive young to continue their schooling, may have substantially lower unemployment rates and higher occupational mobility than the urban born.

Simon (1970) said that most of the result from above are based on 'one-shot' survey in which current employment status is related to the length of time since the migrant arrived.

Mabogunje (1968) said migrants may become caught up in a process of vertical change in terms of the acquisition of new attitudes, tastes, aspirations and general outlook to life.

Brandt et al (1972) have studied the degree to which the industrial town of Jinja, Uganda has led to changes in the pattern of local agriculture. The dominant food demand in Jinja is for a plantain, matoke which is also the staple food of the population in the surrounding area but has had little effect on the production of this crop. Supply is easily increased to cope with the urban demand because production techniques are simple. The town makes a significant demand for food stuffs and merchants visit the villages to buy from the township or for further shipment.

According to Udo (1977), the problem with the implications of the drift of population to the southwest of Nigeria address seeks to highlight is the disproportionate growth of the population of southwest Nigeria, an area which made up of five western State (then) comprising Lagos, Oyo, Ondo and Bendel States. This situation has arisen largely as a result of increasing migration of people into the southwest from other parts of Nigeria, and in

particular to the cities of the southwest. The southwest of course has a disproportionately high share of urban centres, industrial establishment, university and other higher educational institutions and a disproportionately high proportion of Federal expenditure is concentrated in the Lagos metropolitan district of the region. Employment opportunities are greater and much more varied and more importantly the increase in employment, real and projected area for greater than for any other area of comparable size in Nigeria. However, a large proportion of migrants into the southwest settle in the rural areas which are also relatively more developed than rural areas in other parts of the country.

Thus, it may be seen that urbanization, employment, economic activities and educational facilities etc. tend to pull people from rural to urban centres or act as incentive as migrant tendencies in relation to marketing of goods and services. The extent to which there are relevant in the case of Minna and environs is the focus of the present study.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This research work requires information mainly socio-economic characteristics of the population which can help to explain the behaviour of the migrants. Two methods of data collection were employed to extract the required information.

3.2 Data from Secondary Sources

Selection of villages would be required. This would be done by selecting a village at about 25km and 50km north of Minna, the same selection and distances would be applied to the northeast, east, southeast, south, southwest, west and northwest of Minna on map of Minna. The names of the villages would be listed including the population of the people in each household and their local governments. These would be obtained from the Federal Agricultural Development Project office, Minna.

3.3 Data from Primary Source

Bulk of the information was obtained using direct method of investigation through questionnaires. This instrument (questionnaire) would extract information.

3.4 Procedures

The map used from obtained from the Federal Ministry of Lands and Survey, Minna. A village could have served as a case study, however because of realization that varying distance and accessibility etc. have to be taken into account in migration studies, decision was made to select sixteen villages.

Ten questionnaires would be distributed in each village. One questionnaire would represent one household.

Table 3.1 showing the home of the sixteen villages, their Local Government and Household Population

25km	Household population	50km	Household population
Gidan Pautno	20.80	Gidan Sariki	18.76
Gwada	855.92	Zumba	55.12
Shakwatu	842.4	Gidan Wakili	16.64
Paiko	72.8	Boku	30.2
Butu	21.84	Lenfa	67.6
Garatu	20.80	Kataeregi	98.8
Beji	87.36	Kanko	74.88
Lawo	20.80	Kako	25.90

Source: Compiled by the Author

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The data obtained through questionnaires were processed and presented employing known statistical methods such as grouping bar charts and average.

4.1 Age of Respondents

It is observed that the respondents interviewed in all the sixteen villages fall mostly within the age bracket of 21-60 years. In fact, over 80% (88.75) of the people interviewed are within this age limit. It was also noted that approximately 74% are male while 26% are females; and as it is expected in this type of rural setting, most of the males are married (81%) with 35% having one wife, 22% with two wives while 43% have more than three wives.

Majority of the single men only come to the villages when there are occasions and during the weekends to help in the farms and later return to Minna. This group of respondents fall within the age brackets of 21-30 years and 1-20 years respectively.

4.2 Education

4.2.1 Primary Schools

All the villages visited during the study have primary schools. It was observed that more children attend primary schools in Minna from the villages that are 25km from the town than the children from 50km (Table 4.1). But from Table 4.2, it could be seen also that there are higher concentration of

children from villages in the north (Gidan Pautno and Gida Sariki) and south (Butu and Garatu) of Minna attending primary schools in the town while this figures indicate a lower concentration in the villages in the west, east and southeast corners. The reason for this observation may not be unconnected with the availability of good access roads in both the north and south and it was found out that most inhabitants prefer the town (Minna) as same do come to Minna to sell or for other business such that, they use the opportunity to leave their children with relatives in Minna.

Table 4.1: Showing the direction, distance and percentage of children attending primary schools in Minna

	25km	Percentage	50km	Percentage
North	Gidan Pautno	50	Gida Sariki	50
Northeast	Gwada	20	Zumba	0
East	Shakwatu	10	Gida Wakili	0
Southeast	Paiko	0	Boku	40
South	Butu	50	Lenfa	0
Southeast	Garatu	50	Kataeregi	0
West	Beji	0	Kanko	20
Southwest	Lawo	20	Kako	50

Source: Compiled by the Author

The villages in the west, east and southeast corners of the town have a lower concentration of the children attending primary schools in Minna due

to the fact that their children attend primary schools in the area being bigger villages with relatively well equipped primary schools. These children are required at home to perform some duties. These duties include working in the farm, household scores especially the females and taking care of aged parents.

4.2.2 Secondary Schools

It was discovered that most of the villages do not have secondary schools except Paiko, Beji, Gwada and Kataeregi. Therefore, most of the children from these villages from the northwest, southwest and southeast attend secondary schools in Minna.

Table 4.2 shows a higher concentration of children from each of these villages attending secondary schools in Minna.

Table 4.2: Showing the direction, distance and percentage of children attending secondary schools in Minna

	25km	Percentage	50km	Percentage
North	Gidan Pautno	0	Gida Sariki	0
Northeast	Gwada	20	Zumba	20
East	Shakwatu	10	Gida Wakili	40
Southeast	Paiko	50	Boku	40
South	Butu	0	Lenfa	10
Southeast	Garatu	40	Kataeregi	10
West	Beji	10	Kanko	20
Southwest	Lawo	20	Kako	40

Source: Compiled by the Author

In Table 4.2, it would be seen that majority of the children from the villages at 50km from Minna attend schools in Minna. Even though villages

like Beji and Paiko have secondary schools, higher percentages of children still attend schools in Minna. From Table 4.3 one would have expected this to be the reverse because of the distance (50km) from Minna but due to the belief that Minna schools have higher standards and better facilities, being the State Capital. This indicates that Minna therefore has a positive impact on these villages.

4.2.3 School Leavers

From the study, it was revealed that most school leavers (either primary or secondary leavers) have the notion that only uneducated persons remain in the village and as long as they understand the common English language, they would be able to do certain jobs. These jobs are those that do not require any skills such as washing of clothes and cars, office help, goods carrying in markets, watch night, cleaners etc. Most of them initially leave the villages with the intention of going to school but could not because of high cost of living.

4.3 Occupation

The predominant occupation in all the sixteen villages considered is farming. Trading follows this. Table 4.3 below shows the number of various people involved in different occupations.

Table 4.3: Table showing occupation of the Respondents

	Gidan Pautno	Gidan Sariki	Gwada	Zumba	Shakwatu	Gidan Wakili	Paiko	Boku	Butu	Lenfa	Garatu	Kataeregi	Beji	Kanko	Lawo	Kako	TOTAL
Civil Servants	1	2		1					1			2			1	1	11
Farmer	8	5	10	7	9	10	8	7	2	10	10	3	8	4	2	4	107
Trader	1	3		2	1		2	3	1			3	2	3	6	4	30
Retired															1		1
Student									6			2		2		1	11
Apprentice																	

Source: By the Author

The study revealed that most of the farmers in the villages are indigenes. They farm mostly for subsistence and the remaining of their produce are for sale in the markets.

It was found out that most of the farmlands in the villages are either behind the house or outside the areas. Farm exist outside the village (areas) in places like Gwada where residential structures have occupied the land and therefore little is left for farming activities.

4.3.1 Markets

The main market in Minna especially for villages at 25km from Minna and do not have markets. These villages include Shakwatu, Gidan Wakili, Koku, Butu, Lawo, Kako and Kanko. Other villages have small markets with different market days.

Most farmers from villages 25km from Minna sell their products in Minna market, being the biggest and closest one to them. Most of these farmers go to Minna everyday or twice a week to sell their products and in most cases return to their villages the same day. In the case of farmers from distance of 50km from Minna, they came to Minna markets to sell their products once a week or twice a month and return the same day. They also sell their products in neighbouring villages that most of the traders from this villages buy their goods and wares from Minna market while very few, mostly non-indigene travel down south to procure their goods. Traders selling cosmetics and provisions do travel south for their goods.

It could be seen that majority of the farmers from villages close to Minna (25km) come into the town daily with a 65 in number. Those farmers who come to Minna at various time varies from time to time as can be seen in Table 4.3. For instance, most farmers that come into the town once in two weeks are from villages that are 50km away from Minna. This show that farmers come into town at different times with majority from villages that are 25km.

Table 4.4: Table showing the number of Farmers in each village coming to Minna

	Gidan Pautno	Gidan Sariki	Gwada	Zumba	Shakwatu	Gidan Wakili	Paiko	Boku	Butu	Lenfa	Garatu	Kataeregi	Beji	Kanko	Lawo	Kako	PERCENTAGE
Daily	5	2	6	1	5	1	6	2	7	2	6	1	7	5	5	4	65%
Twice a week	1	0	2	1	2	1	1	0	1	0	4	1	2	1	1	2	20%
Once in 2 weeks	2	4	1	3	2	7	1	5	1	6	0	7	1	2	3	1	46%
Twice a month	2	4	1	5	1	1	2	3	1	2	0	1	0	2	1	3	29%
Others (specify)																	

Source: By the Author

4.3.2 Income

From the study, it was found out that most of the farmers make above N1,000.00/month. This is followed by income of N800/month and above. As mentioned earlier, the income is spent mostly for feeding their immediate families. If it remains part of this is used for catering for their parents.

Figure 4.1 shows the income of farmers while Table 4.5 shows the amount the farmers give to their parents. From the Table 4.5, it could be seen that most of the farmers could only afford between N100 - N500.00 or less than N100.00 while very few could afford above N500.00.

Figure 4.1: Income of Farmers per month in each village

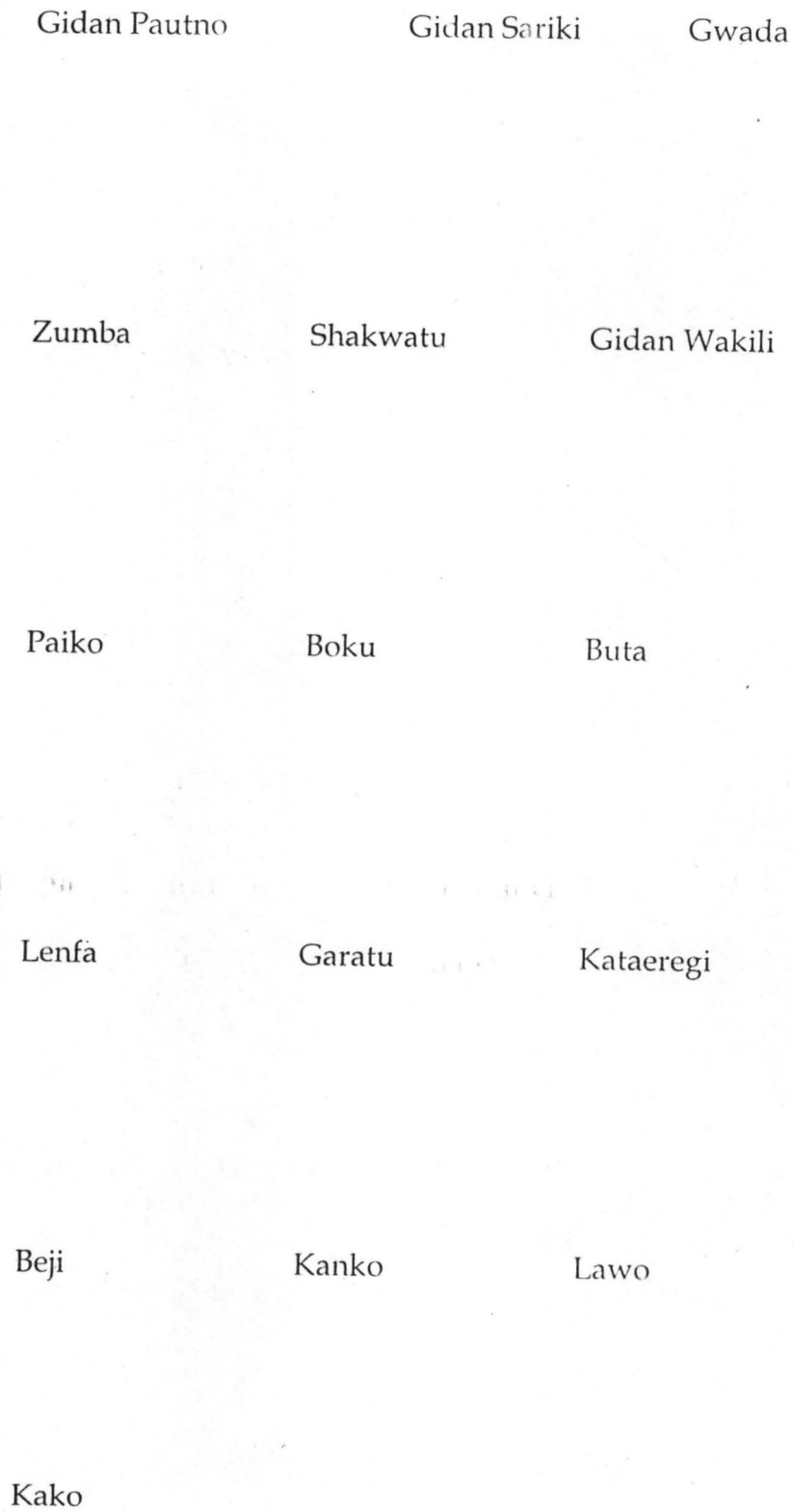


Table 4.5: Table showing the Income of Farmers per village

	Gidan Pautno	Gidan Sariki	Gwada	Zumba	Shakwatu	Gidan Wakili	Paiko	Boku	Butu	Lenfa	Garatu	Kataregi	Beji	Kanko	Lawo	Kako	TOTAL
100 - 500	7	6	7	5	4	6	4	6	2	2	5	3	7	4	5	6	75
550 - 750						1	1							2	1	1	5
800 - 1,000														1	1	1	3
Above 1,000	2	4	3	5	6	4	5	4	8	8	5	6	7	3	-	3	77
<100	2	4	3	5	6	4	5	4	8	8	5	6	7	3	3	4	48

Source: By the Author

It is the belief of the farmers that living in the town would have doubled their incomes. In fact, most of them who had lived in Minna before confirmed this and stated that they had to return to the villages to take care of their family farms or aged parents. The farmers find income from the farm inadequate for their basic needs. With their income, they are unable to procure fertilizers thereby unable to expand their farms and resulting in low productivity. They therefore encourage their children to migrate to the town.

4.4.1 Transportation

Not all the villages are easily accessible. Villages in this category include Gidan Pautno, gidan Sariki, Boku, Butu, Kanko, Kawo and Kako. In most cases, footpaths lead to these villages and therefore the villagers have to trek some distance before reaching the main road in order to find any form of transportation.

Other villages like Gwada, Zumba, Garatu, Shakwatu, Gida Wakili, Paiko, Lenfa and Beji are readily accessible with tarred roads connecting them to Minna. These villages have motor parks where commercial vehicles that ply Minna pick up their passengers. The tarred road availability has improved movements from these villages to Minna. The villages are able to come from their villages to Minna at least twice or thrice daily. The cost of transportation is directly proportional to the distance to and from Minna and the type of vehicle.

4.4.2 Housing and Family

The data collected in all villages show that between the ages of 31-50 years are more, followed by above 50 years, then 21-30 years and lastly 1-20 years. Figure 4.2 reflects this. Most of the houses are located with compounds. Each compound has an average of three or four houses.

The houses are built mostly of mud with very few constructed with bricks. The roofs are made of zinc. The houses do not contain any form of water system for the disposal of sewages. Some houses do have pit latrines while others do not have any form of toilets. The head of the household is usually a male living with his wife or wives as the case may be and the younger children mostly females and the males have migrated to town in search of better living. Located around houses are barns in which crops are stored. These barns are built of mud and thatched roofs. These are very

common to all the villages except places like Gwada and Paiko with stores in which produces are stored.

Figure 4.2: Ages of People in a House

Gidan Pautno	Gidan Sariki	Gwada
Zumba	Shakwatu	Gidan Wakili
Paiko	Boku	Buta
Lenfa	Garatu	Kataeregi
Beji	Kanko	Lawo
Kako		

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1 Age of Respondents

Over 80% of those interviewed in the sixteen villages fall between the ages of 21 and 60 years. Approximately 74% of these people are males. 81% of the males are married with 35%, 22% and 43% of them having one wife, two wives and more than three wives respectively.

5.2 Education

Fifteen of the sixteen villages studied have primary schools while three have secondary schools. The study revealed that there is a higher concentration of children from the villages in the north and south of Minna attending primary schools in the town while a lower concentration exists in the west, east and southeast corners of the town.

In the case of secondary schools attendance, the concentration tends towards Minna as most of the villages do not have secondary schools.

5.3 Occupation

A large percentage of the people are farmers while a few of them are traders and civil servants.

5.3.1 Incomes

The average income of most of the farmers is above N1,000.00/month. The income is spent on feeding immediate family members and parents. The incomes are not adequate to meet the basic needs of the farmers. Therefore,

the younger ones (mostly males) are encouraged to migrate to Minna where they believe their income could be achieved.

5.3.2 Markets

Most of the farmers closer to Minna bring their farm products for sale in Minna. While other farmers 50km away from Minna come to Minna to sell their products once a week or twice a month and return to the villages immediately. They do sell their products in rather nearby villages with markets in different market days.

5.4 Infrastructural Facilities

5.4.1 Transportation

More than half of the villages are well connected to Minna through tarred and laterite roads. The people from the other villages have to trek some distances before taking any form of transport to go to Minna from the main roads.

5.4.2 Housing

All houses in the villages are located within the compounds with an average of three or four houses per compound. Most of the houses are built of mud while few are constructed with bricks. These houses do not have any modern toilet facilities except pit latrines in some cases.

5.4.3 Health and Recreational Facilities

No major recreational facilities exist in the villages studied with the exception of the existence of NTA viewing centre and a cinema house in one or two villages.

All the other villages have football field located within the premises of the primary schools. There are basic health centres and dispensaries where minor ailments are treated while serious cases are transferred to Minna General Hospital.

5.4.4 Water Supply

All the villages have borehole and wells from where they fetch water for their daily needs. Not all the boreholes are functioning in some villages.

5.5 Summary

From the study, it could be deduced that villages within 25km and 50km radii from Minna have received some positive impacts in terms of number of children attending schools in Minna. However, contrary to what would be expected, more children from villages further away (i.e. 50km away) attend secondary schools in Minna. This may not be unconnected with the fact that the children from closer villages to Minna after leaving primary schools become hawkers of goods in Minna market, being nearer to them. They are not encouraged to further their education as they migrate to Minna in search of better living conditions. It could further be seen from the result of the study that higher percentage of farmers sell their farm products in Minna

every day due to the concentration of the population in the town being the state capital and the fact that most of the villages do not have market facilities. Lack of other modern facilities such as health sanitary, good housing and educational facilities, serves as a push factor for the villages who migrate out of their villages to the town in search of better living condition.

Finally, the inadequate supply of farm inputs, which in turn prevents the expansion, the farms result in lower farm incomes. This reinforce the believe that migrating into the town could improve their income base. The swell in population in Minna as a result of migration led to overstressing of the existing electricity, pipe borne water etc.

Houses are erected without planning. The environment of Minna becomes stressed with various hazards setting such hazard include flooding, urban slum, erosion etc.

5.6 Recommendation

1. In view of the fact that markets are necessary requirements for the farmers to sell their farm products, it is suggested that more markets be constructed in these villages.
2. Basic modern amenities be provided such as good housing, electricity, and educational facilities.

3. Government should improve the employment opportunities of some of these villages by provision of cottage industries to stop migration of the people to town.
4. It is recommended that further study be carried out to determine the optimum level of infrastructural facilities provided to reduce the barest minimum, the migration of the villagers.

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APPENDICES

Appendix I: Questionnaire on the Impact of Minna on its surrounding environment

1. Age of Respondent:
 - a. 1-20 years ()
 - b. 21-60 years ()
 - c. Above 60 years ()

2. Sex:
 - a. Male ()
 - b. Female ()

3. Marital Status:
 - a. Single ()
 - b. Married ()
 - c. Separated ()
 - d. Widow ()
 - e. None ()

4. How many wives do you have?
 - a. One ()
 - b. Two ()
 - c. Three ()
 - d. Four ()
 - e. Above four ()

5. How many children do you have?
 - a. None ()
 - b. 1-5 ()
 - c. 6-15 ()
 - d. Above 15 ()

6. How long have been living in this area?
- a. 1 year ()
 - b. 1-10 years ()
 - c. 11-21 years ()
 - d. Above 30 years ()
7. Is there any school in the area?
- a. Yes ()
 - b. No ()
8. If No, where do your children attend primary school?
- a. Another area ()
 - b. Another town ()
 - c. In Minna ()
9. Where do your children attend secondary school?
- a. Another area ()
 - b. Another town ()
 - c. In Minna ()
10. What is your level of education?
- a. Primary school ()
 - b. Secondary school ()
 - c. Tertiary training ()
 - d. Teacher training ()
 - e. None ()
11. What is your occupation?
- a. Civil servant ()
 - b. Farmer ()
 - c. Trader ()
 - d. Retired ()
 - e. Student/Apprentice ()

12. If a farmer, what is your income per month?
- a. N100-N500 ()
 - b. N550-N750 ()
 - c. N800-N1,000 ()
 - d. Above N1,000 ()
13. How long have been engaged in your present occupation?
- a. 1 year ()
 - b. 1-10 years ()
 - c. 11-29 years ()
 - d. Above 30 years ()
14. How do you get to work?
- a. By foot ()
 - b. By bicycle ()
 - c. By bus ()
 - d. Owned vehicle ()
15. How much does it cost you?
- a. N1-N5 ()
 - b. N6-N10 ()
 - c. N11-N15 ()
 - d. N16-N20 ()
 - e. Above N20 ()
 - f. None ()
16. What type of water system is in your house?
- a. Water closet ()
 - b. Pit ()
17. What type of material do you use to build your house?
- a. Mud ()
 - b. Brick ()

18. What are the ages of people living in this house?

- a. 1-20 years ()
- b. 21-30 years ()
- c. 31-50 years ()
- d. Above 50 years ()

19. Are your parents still living?

- a. Yes ()
- b. No ()

20. How often do you go to see them?

- a. Once a week ()
- b. Once a month ()
- c. Once a year ()
- d. Twice a year ()
- e. Daily ()

21. How much do you give them during the visit?

- a. N100-N500 ()
- b. N550-N750 ()
- c. N800-N1,000 ()

22. What health care facility/facilities are available?

- a. Hospital ()
- b. Clinic ()
- c. Dispensaries ()
- d. Basic health ()
- e. None ()

23. Who runs the health care centre?

- a. Federal Government ()
- b. State Government ()
- c. Local Government ()
- d. The Community ()
- e. Private Individual ()

24. Where do referred cases go to?

- a. Minna ()
- b. Outside Minna ()
- c. Others (specify) ()

25. What type of recreation centre is in the area?

- a. Amusement park ()
- b. Cinema ()
- c. Waterfall ()
- d. Mountains, hills or inselbergs ()
- e. Others (specify) ()

Appendix 2: Results of Questionnaires

	Gidan Pautno	Gidan Sariki	Gwada	Zumba	Shakwatu	Gidan Wakili	Paiko	Boku	Butu	Lenfa	Garatu	Kataregi	Beji	Kanko	Lawo	Kako	TOTAL
1. Age of Respondent:																	
a. 1-20 years					1	7			3					1	2	2	16
b. 21-60 years	8	9	7	9	6		6	5	3	8	6	1	7	7	4	5	40
c. Above 60 years	2	1	3	1	3	3	4	5		2	4	9	3	2	4	3	52
2. Sex:																	
a. Male	9	7	8	8	7	6	7	6	5	9	9	8	8	6	5	8	118
b. Female	1	3	2	2	3	2	3	4	5	1	1	2	2	4	5	2	42
3. Marital Status:																	
a. Single		1		2	1			6	5			6		3	2	2	27
b. Married	10	9	10	6	9	10	10	10	3	10	10	4	10	5	6	7	129
c. Separated				1										1	1		3
d. Widow																	
4. How many wives do you have?																	
a. One	8	5	4	3	4	3	2	2	2	6	5	1	2	4	2	3	56
b. Two	1	2	1	3	2	3	5	2	1	2	2	1	3	3	2	2	35
c. Three		1	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	1	1	3		1	1	23
d. Four	1	2	3	1		2	1	1		1	1	1	2		2	2	20
e. Above Four							1	2			1				1		5
f. None				2	1				5			6		3	2	2	21
5. How many children do you have?																	
a. None		1		1					5	1	1	6	1	3	1	2	15
b. 1-5	5	4	2	8	6	5	3	4	3	4	4	3	8	4	3	4	73
c. 6-15	2	5	8	1	3	5	7	4	2	4	3				4	4	53
d. Above 15								2						2	2		13

Appendix 2: Results of Questionnaires (Cont'd)

	Gidan Pautno	Gidan Sariki	Gwada	Zumba	Shakwatu	Gidan Wakili	Paiko	Boku	Butu	Lenfa	Garatu	Kataregi	Beji	Kanko	Lawo	Kako	TOTAL
6. How long have you been living in this area?																	
a. 1 year				1							1				2	1	5
b. 1-10 years	8	7	6	5	5	5	2	4	5	2	2	5	2	6	2	4	20
c. 11-29 years	2	3	2	3	2	5	4	5	3	6	2	4	5	2	3	3	54
d. Above 30 years			2	1	3		4	1	2	2	5	1	3	2	3	2	31
7. Is there any school in the area?																	
a. Yes			10	10	10	10	10	10	10		10	10	10	10	10	10	110
b. No	10	10				10				10							50
8. If No where do your children attend primary school?																	
a. Another area	5	3				6			2		1			2	2		21
b. Another town		1	2	1							1			3	4	1	11
c. In Minna	5	5	8		1			4	5		5			2	2	5	36
d. In the area		1			3		5	4	3	9		1	9		2		45
e. None				9	6	4	5	2		1	3	9	1	3		4	47
9. Where do your children attend secondary school?																	
a. Another area	1	3		3											3		10
b. Another town			1	3	1						1	2		4	4	1	16
c. In Minna				2	1	4	5	4		1	4	1	1	2	2	4	32
d. In the area													3				3
e. None	9	7	9	2	8	6	5	6	10	9	5	7	6	4	1	5	99

Appendix 2: Results of Questionnaires (Cont'd)

	Gidan Pautno	Gidan Sariki	Gwada	Zumba	Shakwatu	Gidan Wakili	Paiko	Boku	Butu	Lenfa	Garatu	Kataregi	Beji	Kanko	Lawo	Kako	TOTAL
10. What is your level of education?																	
a. Primary school	1	1		3				1									18
b. Secondary school				1			1		4		3	3		1	1		20
c. Tertiary training	5	4							5			4	1	4	2	2	13
d. Teacher training			1		3		1		1		1	2		2	1	1	9
e. None	4	5	9	6	7	10	8	9		10	6	1	9	2	6	7	99
11. What is your occupation?																	
a. Civil servant	1	2		1					1			2		1	1	1	11
b. Farmer	8	5	10	7	9	10	8	7	2	10	10	3	8	4	2	4	107
c. Trader	1	3		2	1		2	3	1			3	2	3	6	4	30
d. Retired															1		1
e. Student/Appren.									6			2		2		1	11
12. If a farmer, what is your income per month?																	
a. N100-N500	1	3			3							2			1	2	12
b. N550-N750		1		2	1		2	3			1	1	2	2		2	18
c. N800-N1,000	6	3	4	2	1	2	2	3	1	4	3	1	2	1	1	1	37
d. Above N1,000	2	1	6	5	5	8	6	4	2	6	6	2	6	3	6	3	71
13. How long have you been engaged in your present occupation?																	
a. 1 year																	
b. 1-10 years	3	3	5		4	4	2	3	5	3	1	5	4	5	5	2	49
c. 11-29 years	6		3	3	2	5	5	4	1	4	5	5	5	2	4	4	55
d. Above 30 years			2	6	3	1	3	3	2	3	4		1	2		1	31

Appendix 2: Results of Questionnaires (Cont'd)

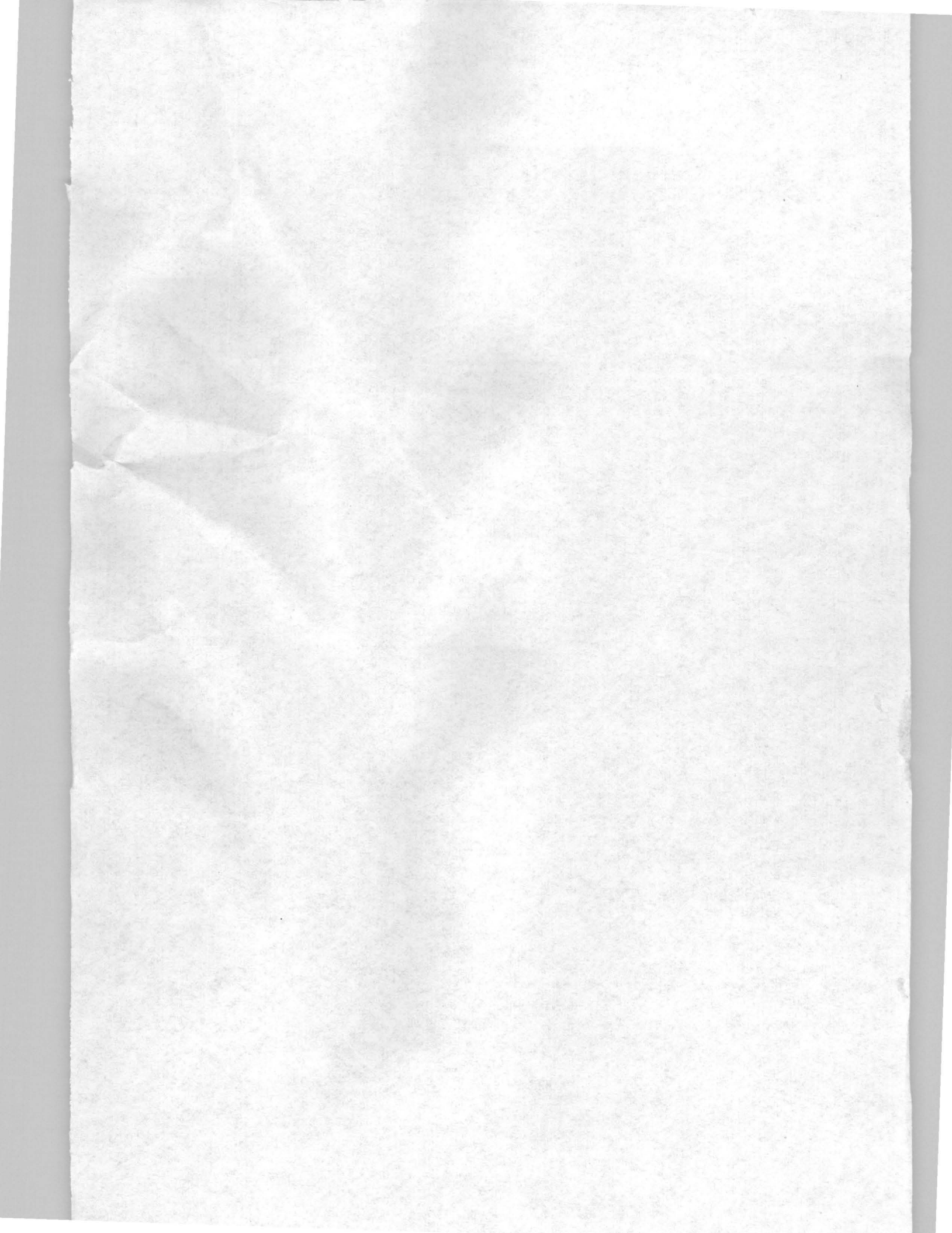
	Gidan Pautno	Gidan Sariki	Gwada	Zumba	Shakwatu	Gidan Wakili	Paiko	Boku	Butu	Lenfa	Garatu	Kataeregi	Beji	Kanko	Lawo	Kako	TOTAL
14. How do you get to work?																	
a. By foot	5	6	4	9	8	10	10	7	5	10	6	7	10	3	6	6	112
b. By bicycle	3	2	6	1	2			3			4			2	2	1	25
c. By bus	2	2							3					2		2	11
d. By owned vehicle									2					3	2	1	11
15. How much does it cost you?																	
a. N1-N5.00																	
b. N6-N10.00	2	2							3					2		2	11
c. N11-N15.00																	
d. N16-N20.00	8	8	10	10	10	10	10	10	7	10	10	9		8	10	8	136
e. Above N20.00																	
f. None																	
16. What type of material do you use to build your houses?																	
a. Mud	10	10	10	5	10	10	8	9	2	10	8	6	10	4	9	9	130
b. Brick							2	1	8		2	4		6	1	1	30
17. What type of water system is in your house?																	
a. Water closet							2		8				5	2	2	2	19
b. Pit	10	10	10	6	9	10	8	10	2	10		10	5	8	8	8	126
c. None				4	1					10							15

Appendix 2: Results of Questionnaires (Cont'd)

	Gidan Pautno	Gidan Sariki	Gwada	Zumba	Shakwatu	Gidan Wakili	Paiko	Boku	Butu	Lenfa	Garatu	Kataeregi	Beji	Kanko	Lawo	Kako	TOTAL
18. What are the ages of people living in this house?																	
a. 1-20 years	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	5	2		1	1	2	25
b. 21-30 years	3	2	1	2	3	3	1	1	3	2	1		1	1	5		29
c. 31-50 years	5	5	5	4	3	2	6	7	5	4	1	2	5	3	3	4	64
d. Above 50 years	1	2	2	2	3	3	1	2	1	2	3	6	4	5	1	4	42
19. Are your parents still living?																	
a. Yes	10	8	3	5	10	8	5	2	8	5	8	5	8	9	8	8	116
b. No		2	7	5		2	5	8	2	5	2	5	2	1	2	2	44
20. How often do you go to see them?																	
a. Once a week	2	2	2		4	1	3	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	5	4	35
b. Once a month	8	5	5	1	2	5	3	1	6	3	4	5	5	4	3	3	60
c. Once a year		2		2		2	3		2			3	3	2		1	22
d. Twice a year				2	1			2		2				1			8
e. Daily		1	3	5	3	2	1	5	1	3	4			2		2	35
21. How much do you give them?																	
a. N100-N500	7	6	7	5	4	6	4	6	2	2	5	3	3	4	5	6	75
b. N550-N750	1						1							2	1		5
c. N800-N1,000														1	1		2
d. Above N1,000												1					1
e. N100	2	4	3	5	6	1	5	4	8	8	5	6	7	3	3	1	77

Appendix 2: Results of Questionnaires (Cont'd)

	Gidan Pautno	Gidan Sariki	Gwada	Zumba	Shakwatu	Gidan Wakili	Paiko	Boku	Butu	Lenfa	Garatu	Kataregi	Beji	Kanko	Lawo	Kako	TOTAL
22. What health care facility/facilities area available?																	
a. Hospital						10											10
b. Clinic			10			10						10	10	10	10	10	30
c. Dispensary				10			10	10	10	10		10					30
d. Basic Health	10	10	10			10											90
e. None																	



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TITLE PAGE

THE IMPACT ASSESSEMENT

OF

DESERTIFICATION *ON ? VEGETATION*

BONU AREA SOKOTO STATE, *NIGERIA*

~~NIGERIA~~

~~WRITTEN BY~~

MUSA ABDULRAHMAN ALIYU

PGD \GEO\2006\355

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND SCIENCE EDUCATION

FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

MINNA

IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT *For* ~~OF~~ THE REQUIREMENT *OF* FOR

THE AWARD OF POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA [PGD] IN

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

CERTIFICATION

Entitled:

I hereby certify that I have read, supervised and accepted this project work be an original work carried out by **MUSA ABDULRAHMAN ALIYU** *as meeting the requirements* ~~in partial fulfillment of~~ *award of* Post Graduate Diploma (PGD) in Environmental Management of the Federal University of Technology Minna.

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