

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS ACTIVITIES AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AMONG RURAL DWELLERS OF BOSSO, NIGERIA

Abstract

The phenomenal growth in the level of poverty in spite of the increasingly government established programs aimed at poverty alleviation in Nigeria call for the study into other options outside the purview of the Government. Hence this paper examines the impact of Non-Governmental Organisations activities on poverty alleviation among dwellers of selected villages (Gidan Kwano, Gidan Mangoro and Gurara) in Bosso Local Government, Niger State of Nigeria based on Weisbrod performance failure theory. A framework of three NGOs activities: Electricity supply, borehole provision and humanitarian services as a determinant for poverty alleviation was developed. The quantitative approach with survey design was employed for the study. The quota sampling technique was adopted so as to provide a representative sample of the various subgroups within the population. A self-structured questionnaire in Hausa language was used to collect data from 107 respondents. Descriptive statistics, Pearson-Product Moment correlation and Multiple Regression analysis were used for the data analysis. The study concludes that a significant relationship exist between electricity supply, humanitarian services and poverty alleviation but not with provision of borehole. It is therefore, recommended that NGOs should pay more attention to the supply of electricity and provision of humanitarian services in seeking to alleviate poverty in the selected villages.

Keywords: Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Poverty, Poverty alleviation, Nigeria.

1. Introduction

Poverty is a fundamental and universal social phenomenon (Chimobi, 2010) with multi-dimensional definition (Ewetan, 2007; Kehinde, 2009), depending on the discipline or unique areas of studies. The World Bank (2007) defined poverty as the level of income below which a certain percentage of the population is to live (Ojo, Okoronkwo, Patience, & Adewumi, 2016). It is a state of being poor while being poor is having little or not enough money for basic needs. As global poor hits 1billion more than 67% of Nigerians live below poverty line (National Bureau of statistics, 2017). Many factors are responsible for this which includes slow development of human resources, minute wage and productivity in the informal sector, sluggish economic growth, inappropriate micro economic policies and imperfection in labor market leading to unemployment (Adeyeye, 2007). Other causes as enumerated by Owolabi (2009) include corruption, poor governance, and population growth rate, the economic nature, absence of basic infrastructure among others that needs urgent attention to salvage the masses from penury.

Addressing the challenge of poverty was one of the reasons for the United Nations (UN) summit at the dawn of the millennium where a Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with 8 goals, 18 targets and 24 indices subsequently known as the Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) in 2015. The first goal was to eradicate extreme poverty for those whose income is less than \$1 per day

Adeyeye, M.M., Obieguo, I.K. & Ogu-Egege, D.A. (2017). Nigerian Journal of Management Technology & Development. Vol.8 (2) 449-461.

which is the first target. These proportions are to be reduced to half between 1990 and 2015 (Jide, Felix & Ese, 2014). Although, the UN member states implemented various programs to achieve these MDGs, only few among the African countries partially succeeded in 2015, while countries like Nigeria did not achieve so much (Ajiye, 2014).

Conventionally, the government is responsible for the economic and social welfare of the citizens (Kemi, 2012). However, Adebayo (2012) revealed that in the past decades, successive governments of Nigeria have put up policies aimed at poverty alleviation such as Operation Feed the Nation (OFN), Green Revolution Program, National Economic Empowerment and Development strategies (NEEDs) among others, all aiming at poverty alleviation. Despite all attempts, the problem of poverty continues to linger because the prescribed solutions have failed to unravel the root causes of poverty (Kehinde, 2009). Thus, the intervention of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Community-Based Organisations (CBOs), Social Entrepreneurs (SE) and Philanthropists, often non-profits, which activities cut across diverse aspects of social needs with immense effect in the transition from poverty to betterment of life.

Previous studies (Ezuma, 2010; Brad, Eric & John, 2013 and Jide et al, 2014) on poverty alleviation in Nigeria focused on various options in respect of poverty alleviation in other locality, but none considered the effect of NGOs activities on poverty alleviation in this context. Hence, extending on previous research, this study examines the relationship between NGOs and poverty alleviation among the rural dwellers of selected villages in Bosso LGA in the light of Weisbrod performance failure theory (Weisbrod, 1975). In doing this, the following research questions were addressed:

- 1) What is the impact of electricity provision on poverty alleviation among rural dwellers of selected villages in Bosso Local Government Area?
- 2) Does boreholes provisions have effect on poverty alleviation among rural dwellers of selected villages in Bosso Local Government Area?
- 3) What impact do humanitarian services have on poverty alleviation among rural dwellers of selected villages in Bosso Local Government Area?

The result of the findings will contribute to the literature in developmental studies. This study is therefore structured thus: section 2.0 Weisbrod performance failure theory; section 3.0 and 4.0, the history of NGOs and concepts and Methodology. The next section presents the results and discussion, and finally, conclusion and recommendations.

2.0 Weisbrod Performance Failure Theory

Performance failure theory or public goods theory is one of the oldest economic theories on the role of non-governmental organizations developed by Burton Weisbrod from his influential paper 'Toward a Theory of the Voluntary Non-profit Sector in a Three-Sector economy.' The theory explained that NGOs exist as a result of governmental failures with regard to the residual unsatisfied demand for public goods in the society and market failure due to non-optimal provision of public goods. Thus, Weisbrod proposed that a group of voluntary organisations will emerge as extra-governmental providers of collective consumption goods to supplement the public goods (which might be zero) and be an alternative to the private-sectors collective goods (Weisbrod, 1975). The failure of the government in Niger state to provide the basic public goods such as electricity, certain humanitarian services and water supply that made the rural dwellers to

Adeyeye, M.M., Obiegbo, I.K. & Ogu-Egege, D.A. (2017). Nigerian Journal of Management Technology & Development. Vol.8 (2) 449-461.

experience poverty has aroused the interest of NGOs into activities to improve the life of the rural dwellers.

3.0 History of Non-Governmental Organisations

NGOs had been active at the international level since the eighteenth century in Western countries, when national level issue-based organisations focused on the abolition of the slave trade and movements for peace (Lewis, 2007). However, NGOs was coined during one of the conferences of the UN in 1945 to distinguish organisations from inter-governmental and member organisations (Mostashiri, 2005). They are heterogeneous groups that are organized by different bodies referred to as parent organization (Lewis, 2009). Some parent organisations could be another NGOs, or Government organized NGOs (GONGOs), which are set up by governments to appear like NGOs in order to qualify for outside aid or promote the interests of that government. There are Business-friendly International NGO (BINGO), Civil Society Organization (CSO), Donor Organized (DONGO), Environmental NGO (ENGO), such as Greenpeace and WWF, International NGO (INGO) such as Oxfam and INSPAD, Quasi-autonomous NGO (QUANGOs), Technical Assistance NGO (TANGO), Transnational NGO (TNGO), Grassroots Support Organization (GSO), Market Advocacy NGO (MANGO) among others (Akpan, 2010).

Within the Africa context, the declining role of government especially in Nigeria has led to the alarming rate of the growth of NGOs generally (Ogunyemi, 2012). For instance, Niger State has 136 registered NGOs (Adeyeye, 2016) aim at meeting the social needs of the poor, aside some functional yet unregistered ones such as Datu foundation that is concerned with schooling assistance. Mallam Sheu foundation that is involved in community development in the area of provision of rural borehole water and several other social services from the students of Federal University of Technology, Minna Niger State among others in the three villages of study.

3.1 Concept of Non-Governmental Organisations

The term 'NGO' is difficult to define due to its functional and structural diversifications (Lekorwe, 2007). However, it is widely accepted that they are entrepreneurial organisations that pursue activities that relief suffering and promote interests of the poor, protect environment, provide basic social services and undertake community development (Stephenson, 2009). According to Uzuegbunam (2013), NGOs are legally constituted non-state organisations created by natural or legal persons with no participation or representation of any government, and even in cases being funded totally or partially by government, they still maintain the non-governmental status by excluding government representatives from membership. In the same vein, Ball and Dunn (2013) described them as non-profit agency that serve some public interest voluntarily, and autonomously managed, not for personal profit or self-service and other related personal values. They work with and for disadvantaged people through their innovative projects or programs. However, there are other social service providers such as the Community-Based Organisations (CBOs), Social Entrepreneurs (SEs), and Philanthropists. In view of the above, the following are postulated to characterise NGOs: First, they should be privately set up and sufficiently autonomous in its activity, that is, independent of direct governmental control. Secondly, they should be non-profit organisations, which would clearly define its voluntary character. Thirdly, they should not aspire for political power. Lastly, they should support development which demonstrates the nature of their public interest. This four characteristic are sacrosanct to be judicially referred to as NGO (Schiavo-Campo and Sundaram, 2001).

Adeyeye, M.M., Obieguo, I.K. & Ogu-Egege, D.A. (2017). Nigerian Journal of Management Technology & Development. Vol.8 (2) 449-461.

3.2 Classification of Non-Governmental Organisations

There are many different classifications of NGOs, nevertheless this study adopts the World Bank typology that divides NGOs into two, Operational and Advocacy (Uzuegbunam, 2013). On one hand, operational NGOs are primarily to design and implement developmental related projects and programs. They mobilize resources, in form of donations financially, materially or voluntary labour. On the other hand, Advocacy NGOs focus on advocating, defending and promoting policy changes related to a particular cause especially on rights. Despite the differences, both operational and advocacy NGOs need to engage in fund-raising, work mobilization, organising special events, engaging the media and so on (Mostashiri, 2005) for sensitization, implementation and achievement of objectives but the line of demarcation rests on definition of activities and method of implementing projects. NGOs play important and increasing roles in both national and international development.

3.3 Sources of Fund for Non-Governmental Organisations

Every organisation needs funding for survival. NGOs source funds generally from philanthropists, parent organisations, endowments, grants, subsidies, donations, and fees among others, which can be classified into the internal and external sources (Ngeh, 2013). The internal source focuses on the domestic sources of support such as members' contributions, donations from friends and sympathizers sharing the same values, enrolment fees from organized events, income from sales of publications, investments of reserves and capital and productive activities (Warner, 2008). Whilst the external source focuses on necessary finance for the survival and development of the NGOs like support from governments, corporations, private sectors, rich individuals and philanthropists (Fernand, 2006). However, Lotsmart (2007) posited that dependency on external funding depicts mixed results of possible impacts on lives and the state as a whole by NGOs because external financing tends to impose some degree of constraint on local NGOs. Similarly, Andreas (2005) expressed that strong dependency on external funding can be a serious problem on the long-term development of local NGOs. He maintained that international donors operate according to their own goals and project management styles, local NGOs have to conform to their requirements in order to receive financial support which could mean a divergence from their goals. Thus much reliance on external funding could make it difficult for local NGOs to accomplish their stated objectives (Turary 2002).

3.4 Activities of Non-Governmental Organisations

There are diverse activities undertaken by NGOs, such as provision of infrastructural facilities (good roads, construction of drainage channels, and sewage facilities, electricity supply, borehole), educational facilities, healthcare services, environmental sanitations and protection, and humanitarian services that have been major contributors to poverty alleviation even among the rural dwellers of the selected villages in Bosso Local Government. Anheier (1990) argued that NGOs are capable of providing services more economically than the government because they undertake projects at lower labor costs since they rely on voluntary local inputs that exclude transaction costs and do not seek profit for their services. Based on this premises, failure with NGO-led projects compared with those of the government have fewer consequences on the economy as a whole, moreover, NGO-led projects are executed at micro-level. Nevertheless, this study focuses on the supply of electricity, provision of boreholes and humanitarian services.

Adeyeye, M.M., Obiegbo, I.K. & Ogu-Egege, D.A. (2017). Nigerian Journal of Management Technology & Development. Vol.8 (2) 449-461.

3.4.1 Electricity Supply

Nigeria has one of the least net electricity generation per capita rates globally (Chinwuko, Mgbemena, Aguh & Ebhofa, 2011). Thus energy poverty becomes a major challenge due to extreme electricity shortage in Nigeria. Energy poverty is the absence of sufficient choice in accessing adequate, affordable, reliable, high quality, safe and environmentally benign energy services to support economic and human development (Hussein & Filho, 2012). The energy challenge to meet the first MDG, “Eradication of extreme poverty and hunger”, has two components: income generation and household cooking needs (Peter, 2010). Lack of access to electricity for the household and enterprises, is perceived as a major constraint to economic growth and increased welfare in developing countries especially in Nigeria where epileptic power outage is a normal life (Chinwuko et al., 2011). However, having good access to electricity involves attributes such as duration, capacity, affordability, availability, reliability, quality, legality, health safety and convenience among others which drive the extent to which people and enterprises can make use of electricity so as to improve lives and livelihoods (Mary et al, 2015). Energy is useful when the utility can facilitate human development (Hussein & Filho, 2012). Thus, energy has strong links with poverty reduction as it enhances the standard of living domestically, improves income, health, education and the environment especially in the rural areas where household generator is a rare luxury for a scant population.

3.4.2 Boreholes Provision

Water is life (Mkondiwa et al, 2013). It is an omnipresent factor of life and thus its deprivation (water poverty) has catastrophic consequences including outbreak of diseases, acute food shortage and drudgery in rural work. Inadequate access to safe water for domestic purposes (drinking, cooking, washing, bathing, personal and home hygiene) is an index of poverty (Carter & Bevan, 2008). Hence, access to safe water means livelihood as it is the route out of poverty for individuals and communities (World Water Assessment Programme, 2009). Harvey (2008) argued that access to water and poverty is significantly associated because access to safe water reduces health care expenditure, morbidity and mortality, increases income generating opportunities, free and productive time for work and school attendance (girls). Extending and enhancing the development of water resources in general, and of groundwater in particular, can have significant beneficial impacts on poverty and livelihoods (Nwankwoala, 2016) especially for rural dwellers in Bosso LG that never had government provision of tap water but rather search for stream water for both domestic and enterprise usage.

3.4.3 Humanitarian Services

Humanitarian services are catered for by social-service providers who are motivated by humanitarian reasons to donate tangible and intangible resources for the betterment of the needy group or community (Morris et al, 2012). These social services may be for humanitarian anti-poverty scheme such as provision of shelter, clothing, shoes, books, grant, scholarship, and advocacy, human rightist etc. (Adeyeye 2016). It may include the protection of civilians from hostilities, abuses, health services and other items of assistance undertaken for the benefit of the less privileged (Edmund, 2004). That is, the centrality of saving human lives and alleviating suffering wherever it is found. Humanitarian assistance provided in recent years by NGOs in Africa has saved many lives (Edmund, 2004) and still does.

3.5 Concept of Poverty

A concise and universally accepted definition of poverty is elusive largely because it affects many aspects of the human conditions: physical, moral and psychological conditions. Different criteria have, therefore, been used to conceptualize poverty (Olatomide, 2012). Poverty is not merely an issue or problem relating to low level of income but also related to non-income aspects such as social, economic, environmental, physical, infrastructural, institutional, political as well as cultural, ethnic and gender (Collier, 2007; Prahalad, 2010). However, among economists, poverty is a state of minimal income and consumption (Ewetan, 2007) which occurs when people fall below the level of economic welfare deemed to represent a reasonable minimum either in some absolute sense or by the standard of a specific society. In alleviating poverty, diverse measures are being undertaken by government and NGOs in order to achieve the sustainable goals. Hence, this study examines the relationship between the activities of the NGOs in the selected villages and poverty alleviation.

A framework is developed to examine the relationship between NGOs activities and poverty alleviation among rural dwellers in some selected villages in Bosso LG, Niger state Nigeria

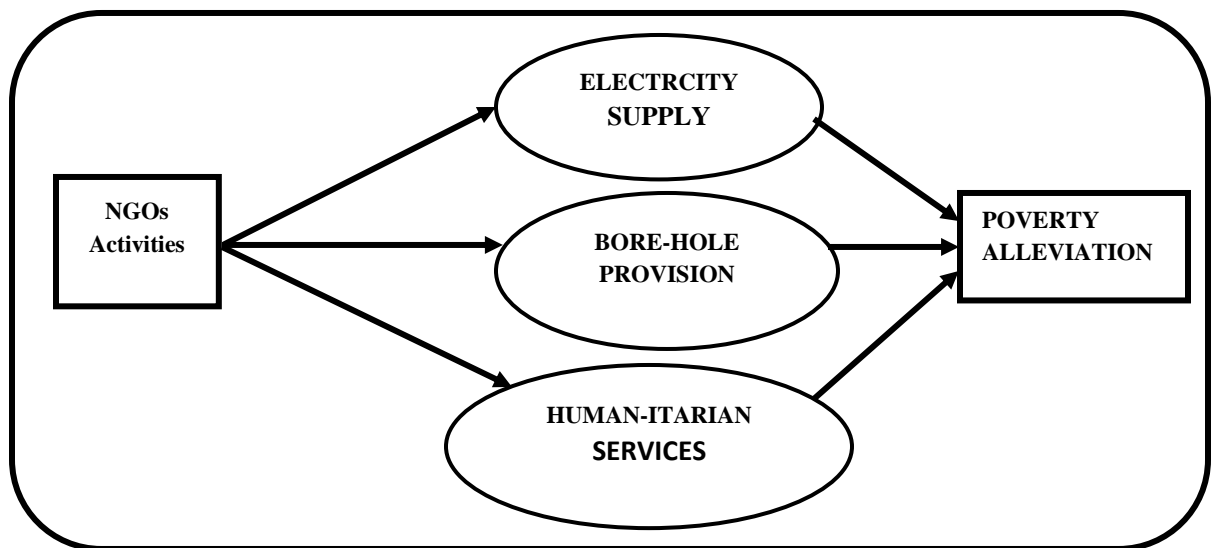


Figure 1. Framework of NGOs activities and poverty alleviation in Bosso LG

Source: Authors, Field Study (2017)

The framework explains how NGOs activities: provision of electricity, provision of borehole and humanitarian services relates with poverty alleviation under the lens of Weisbrod performance failure theory. Weisbrod performance failure theory stated that NGOs exist to complement government failures in providing for the basic needs that will improve the standard of living of the masses (Tallon and McGregor, 2014).

4.0 Methodology

The quantitative approach was employed for this study using survey design for data collection in an attempt to elicit primary information from the three selected villages in Bosso LGA comprising Gidan Kwano, Gidan Mangoro and Gurara. Bosso LGA is one of the two LGAs in Minna

Adeyeye, M.M., Obiegbo, I.K. & Ogu-Egege, D.A. (2017). Nigerian Journal of Management Technology & Development. Vol.8 (2) 449-461.

metropolis, the head quarter of Niger State, Nigeria. Bosso LGA has many villages that has merged together due to urban development into a megacity (Minna) except these three villages that are faraway hence their suitability for this study. A Quota sampling technique was adopted to provide a representative sample of the various subgroups within the population. A self-structured 5-likert scale questionnaire translated to the indigenous language (Hausa) was used to collect data from 107 respondents out of the 150 copies that were administered by the research assistants. The face and content validity was carried out while a pilot test-re-test was conducted. A reliability test conducted on the test-re-test result gave a coefficient of 68%. Hence the instrument is perceived to be reliable for the study. Descriptive statistic, Pearson-Moment Correlation and Multiple Linear Regression analysis were employed for data analysis. The result is presented at $P < 0.05$ which is the conventional level of significance for social sciences.

4.1 Dependent Variable

4.1.1 Poverty alleviation

The dependent variable for the study is Poverty alleviation. The variable has 5 items of which the respondents were to indicate their responses by ticking from the items with the highest score 5 and the lowest score 1. The 5 items were subsequently transformed into one variable PovA.

4.2 Independent Variables

The independent variables for the data collected are electricity supply (ElecS), borehole provision (BohoP) and humanitarian services (HumanS). The variables had 5 items each to which respondents were to tick between highest 5 and 1 as the least, hence a respondent can score highest 20 and lowest 5 scores. The items for each variable were transformed into one construct each.

4.2.1 Electricity supply

The variable electricity supply is measured with the following indices. Improved security; reduced spending on (kerosene and candle), use of electronic gadgets, better light to see at night, and TV viewing.

4.2.2. Borehole provision

This variable is measured with the following indices. Availability of clean water for cooking, regular bathing, reduced waterborne diseases, regular cloth washing, and reduced time spent on searching for water.

4.2.3. Humanitarian services

The variable is measured with the following indices, scholarship, gift of books, free transport to school, clothes and shoes donation and free lunch at schools.

5.0 Results and Discussions

The study investigates the impact of Non-governmental organization on poverty alleviation. The descriptive analysis reveals the general features of these rural dwellers.

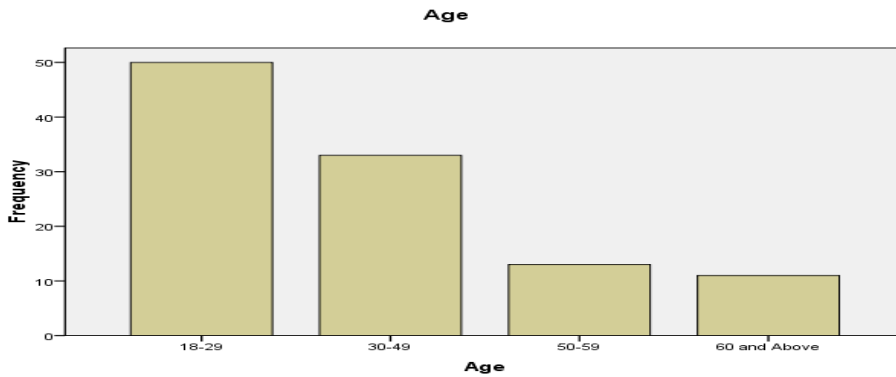


Figure 2: Distribution of Respondents by Age

Source: Authors' Field Study (2017)

Figure 2 showed that majority of the respondents are between the age range of 18-29years. This range is a noticeable segment that households started experiencing poverty from their active age which might be the rationale for high rate of poverty in these communities. The ultimate effect usually includes gangstering, criminality, scavenging, begging, prostitution, trickstering etc. (Sarr, 2006) if there is no intervention. Thus the NGOs intervention could avert these tendencies and divert them to meaningful endeavours.

Table 1: Distribution of Respondents by Gender

Gender	Frequency	Percent
Male	67	71.7
Female	40	38.3
Total	107	100.0

Source: Author, Field Study (2017).

Table 1 revealed that 67(71.7%) of the respondents are males while the remaining 40 (38.3%) of the respondents are females. This implied a cultural influence of male dominance. Bennett and Daly (2014) researched on a range of EU countries showed that men are more likely to live in 'in-work' poverty because of their family situation (including having a partner with no income of her own) than women, which is similar to this finding.

Table 2: Distribution of respondents by level of education

Level of education	Frequency	Percent
None	47	43.9
Primary Education	18	16.8
Secondary Education	33	30.8
Tertiary Education	9	8.4
Total	107	100.0

Source: Authors' Field Study (2017).

Table 2 indicated that majority 43.7% of the respondents has no formal education. This implied that the rural dwellers are educationally poor and should have contributed to the level of poverty in the communities. However, this might be due to the low level of income in this community to support education and its effect as explained in UNESCO (2005) report that illiteracy and quasi-illiteracy greatly contributes in entrenching rural communities in poverty as people are unable to embrace the benefits of basic current scientific knowledge and technology application to improve their well-being (Adow, 2013). Further analysis revealed that 67.3% of this sample are married while 32.7% are unmarried. This might be due to early child marriages as the community have low income to further their children's' education. It might also be because majority of the respondents are not exposed to other side of life than living to marry and have children which makes poverty to be there unequivocal lifestyle without contest.

Table 3: Distribution of Respondents by area of specialization

Area of specialization	Frequency	Percent
Farming	50	46.7
Trading	21	19.6
Craft work	25	23.4
Apprenticeship	11	10.3
Total	107	100.0

Source: Author, Field Study (2017).

Table 3 shows that majority of the respondents (46.7%) are farmers, typical of most rural dwellers in Nigeria. This is in line with (Alfred etal, 2014) study that confirmed farming as the main occupation of rural communities as over seventy percent of the dwellers are engaged in agriculture for survival. However, allude to the plight of farmers in Nigeria, like poor preservation, buyers from cities enjoy the financial benefits while they labor and live in abject poverty. All these calls for Non-governmental intervention to attain the MDGs.

5.1 Pearson-Moment Correlation analysis result

Adeyeye, M.M., Obieguo, I.K. & Ogu-Egege, D.A. (2017). Nigerian Journal of Management Technology & Development. Vol.8 (2) 449-461.

Pearson-Moment Correlation was used to examine the strength of relationship between the variables the NGOs activities and Poverty alleviation. The assumptions for this statistical tool were observed for data suitability.

Table 4 Pearson-Product Moment Correlation Coefficient Result

Variables	1	2	3	4
Poverty Alleviation	1			
Electricity Supply	.490**	1		
Borehole Provision	.197*	.349**	1	
Humanitarian Services	.441**	.181	.162	1

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed). * Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).
 Source: Authors' Field Study (2017).

Table 5.1 showed the correlation results with the individual effects evidence between the dependent variable (poverty alleviation) and independent variables : electricity supply (r =0.490**) and humanitarian services (r =0.441**) which are very significant at P<0.01, while borehole provision (r =0.197*) is significant at P<0.05. This showed that there exist a strong relationship between electricity provision, humanitarian services and poverty alleviation, while borehole provision possesses a weak relationship which implied that if NGOs invest on the electricity supply and provide humanitarian services would have great impact in alleviating poverty among the people in Bosso LGA and also provision of borehole.

5.2 Multiple Linear Regression Analysis Result

A linear multiple regression analysis was employed to test the multiple effect of NGOs activities on poverty alleviation. The regression model for the study is as follows:

$$PA = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + e \dots \dots \dots \text{(Cohen, 2008).}$$

$$PA = 8.518 + (5.071 \times X_1) + (.133 \times X_2) + (4.567 \times X_3) + 0.05$$

Where; PA = Dependent variable representing Poverty Alleviation

β_0 = Constant

$\beta_1 X_1$ = Electricity Supply

$\beta_2 X_2$ = Borehole Provision

$\beta_3 X_3$ = Humanitarian Services

e = Error term, (0, 1) normally distributed with mean 0 and variance 1.

Adeyeye, M.M., Obieguo, I.K. & Ogu-Egege, D.A. (2017). *Nigerian Journal of Management Technology & Development*. Vol.8 (2) 449-461.

Table 5: Multiple Linear Regression Analysis Result

Variable	Poverty Alleviation
Constant	8.518
Electricity Supply	.428 (5.071)**
Borehole Provision	.011 (.133)
Humanitarian Services	.366 (4.567) **
R	.607a
R Square	.369
Adjusted R Square	.350
F-value	20.052**

**P < 0.01, *P < 0.05, t-value in parenthesis

Source: Author, Field Study (2017).

Table 5.2 presents the regression analysis results between the dependent variable (poverty alleviation) and the independent variables (electricity supply, borehole provision and humanitarian services). The whole model indicated that there is a significant relationship between the independent variables and poverty alleviation ($r = 0.607$, Adjusted $r^2 = 0.350$, F value = 20.052). The whole model shows significant 60.7% at $P < 0.05$. Thus, this indicated that electricity supply, borehole provision and humanitarian service contributed 35% to the variations in poverty alleviation among rural dwellers in Nigeria, which is good enough while other variables outside this model will contribute 65%.

It is evident from the result of the analysis that when electricity is supplied and humanitarian services are offered to the dwellers of these communities, poverty will be reduced. Thus in answering the first research question, supply of electricity through the provision of transformers to boost public supply of electricity and provision and maintenance of industrial generators to supplement the national erratic power supply for the masses has significant impact on poverty alleviation. As such, if supply of electricity is made available and affordable, the rural dwellers will have the opportunity to listen to news on radio, watch television, and be exposed to information's nationally and internationally to acquire knowledge and improve their standard of living. This is in consonance with the findings of Hussein and Filho, (2012) who corroborated that electricity supply is prominent in achieving poverty alleviation and contribute directly by improving the quality of life through better lighting, access to technological facilities and so on. Contrary to expectation on boreholes provision, the result showed that there is no statistical significance between boreholes provision and poverty alleviation at $p < 0.05$. Thus, in answering the second research question, boreholes provision has not sufficiently contributed to poverty alleviation in these communities. This might be due to the stress involved in pumping the boreholes, a very long queue, and time wastage in contrast to quick fetch at the stream and river sides. Thus, children spent long time at borehole sites while parents wait indefinitely. Also, the findings showed that there is a statistical significance between humanitarian services such as schooling assistance and poverty alleviation at 5% level of significance. Therefore, in answering the third research question, humanitarian services have adequately contributed to poverty alleviation in these communities. This implied that the more the humanitarian services provided the less the rate of poverty in these rural areas. This result is in consonance with the findings of

Adeyeye, M.M., Obiegbo, I.K. & Ogu-Egege, D.A. (2017). *Nigerian Journal of Management Technology & Development*. Vol.8 (2) 449-461.

Morris et al, (2012) who revealed that humanitarian services catered for by social service providers who are motivated by humanitarian reason to donate tangible and intangible resources helps in the betterment of the needy group or community. Thus, NGOs should focus on the provision of the significant activities.

This study contributes to the literature of social entrepreneurship in developing economies, however, care should be taken in generalizing the result to other rural dwellers without similar background in developing economies.

6. 0 Conclusion and recommendations

Poverty is a fundamental and universal social phenomenon but Nigeria's rate of poverty ranks one of the highest globally. NGOs exist to complement the governmental failures to meet the basic needs of the masses in order to alleviate poverty. The study has examined the relationship between NGOs activities in terms of electricity supply, provision of borehole and humanitarian services and poverty alleviation in the context of the rural dwellers in three selected villages in Bosso LGA, Minna, Niger State, Nigeria. The result showed that electricity supply and humanitarian services are significantly associated to poverty alleviation and NGOs should focus more on these activities to ameliorate the lives of the members of these communities. In view of the finding and conclusion drawn from this study, the following recommendations are made:

- NGOs should ensure that there is a constant power supply in these communities by more providing transformers and generators to aid the electrification of the community to connect to the world beyond the settlement through technology towards poverty alleviation
- The borehole provided in these communities should be improved by simply providing tap water to lessen the stress of pumping and easy fetching and encourage the dwellers of this community to jettison stream fetching for the tap water.
- More investments should be made on humanitarian services such as scholarship, provision of school uniforms, shoes, foods, books and so others on a regular basis and not just on a once at a time basis in order to hasten the achievement of poverty alleviation in these communities.
- The government should promote friendly policies to encourage NGOs activities as well as design monitoring measures to deter the fake NGOs activities in Nigeria.

REFERENCES

- Adebayo, A. (2012). Poverty alleviation strategies by Non-Profit Organisations: Benefactors' Experience in the Riverine Area of Ondo State, Nigeria. *International Journal of Developing Societies*, Vol. 1 (2) Pp. 43-52.
- Adeyeye, M.M. (2016). Non-Governmental Organisations and social entrepreneurship growth in Niger state of Nigeria. *Journal of African Political Economy and Development* , Vol 1(1) Pp56-75.
- Adow, A. K. (2013). *Boreholes provision as a key factor in facilitating poverty reduction in rural communities: A study of the Atebubu and Afram plains districts of Ghana* . Kumasi.
- Adeyeye, M.M., Obieguo, I.K. & Ogu-Egege, D.A. (2017). *Nigerian Journal of Management Technology & Development*. Vol.8 (2) 449-461.

- Afred S.D.Y., Ewuola S.O., Afolabi A., & Mundi N.E. (2014). *Introduction to rural life*. Lagos: National Open University of Nigeria press.
- Ajiye, S., (2014). Achievements of Millennium Development Goals in Nigeria: A critical examination. *International Affairs and Global Strategy*, 25, pp.24-36.
- Akpan S. M. (2010). *Establishment of Non-Governmental Organisations*. The *de facto* reference resource for information and statistics on International NGOs (INGOs) (In Press).
- Andreas, E. (2005). *Non-Governmental Organisations in China*. Programme on NGOs and Civil Society Centre for Applied Studies in International Negotiations, Santarland.
- Anheier, H. (1990). *The Third Sector: Comparative studies of Non-Profit Organizations*. Berlin, New York: De Gruyter.
- Ball, C. & Dunn, L. (2013). *Non-Governmental Organisations: Guidelines for good policy and practice*. London: The Commonwealth Foundation .
- Bennett, F. & Daly, M. (2014). *Poverty through a gender lens: Evidence and policy review on gender and poverty*. Oxford : Univeristy of Oxford Press.
- Brad, B., Eric, G. & John, H. (2013). *Social entrepreneurship as a tool for poverty reduction: A sustainable approach to development*. UW-Madison and UW colleges study Abroad project.
- Carter, R.C, & Bevan, J.E. (2008). Groundwater development for poverty alleviation in Sub-Saharan Africa. In A. Adelana, & A. T. MacDonald A, *Applied Groundwater Studies in Africa* (pp. 25 - 42), Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Chimobi, U. (2010). Poverty in Nigeria: Some dimensions and contributing factors. *Global Majority E-Journal* , Vol. 1 (1) Pp46-56.
- Chinwuko, E., Mgbemena, C.O., Aguh, P.S., & Ebohta, H.S. (2011). Electricity generation and distribution in Nigeria: Technical issues and Solutions. *International Journal of engineering, Science and Technology*, Vol.3 (11) pp.7934-7941.
- Cohen, P. (2008). *Applied multiplied regression/correlation analysis for the behavioural science (3rd Ed.)* Mahwah NJ: Erlbaum.
- Collier, P. (2007). *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries are Failing and What can be Done About it*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Edmund, B. (2004). *Ambiguity and Change: Humanitarian NGOs Prepare for the Future* . USA: The feinstein international famine center Tufts University.
- Etikan I., Sulaiman A., & Rukayya S. (2016). Comparison of Convenience Sampling and Purposive Sampling. *American Journal of Theoretical and Applied Statistics* ,Vol.5 (1) Pp1-4.
- Adeyeye, M.M., Obiegbo, I.K. & Ogu-Egege, D.A. (2017). *Nigerian Journal of Management Technology & Development*. Vol.8 (2) 449-461.

- Ewetan, O. (2007). *The Challenges and Dividends of Poverty Alleviation in Developing Economies. The African Experience. International Conference Paper on Human Development*. Covenant University, Ota. Ogun State, Nigeria, (pp. 23-34).
- Ezuma, M. (2010). *The Role of Non-Governmental and Non-Profit Multinational Organisations in the Alleviation of Rural Poverty: The Nigerian Experience*. Enugu Campus: University of Nigeria Press.
- Fernand V. (2006) Non-Governmental Organization, Social Movement, External Funding and Dependency. Society for International Development 1011-6370/06 <http://www.sidint.org/development> access 3rd March, 2017
- Harvey, P. (2008). *Poverty Reduction Strategies: Opportunities and Threats for Sustainable Rural Water Service*. Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Hussein, M.A and Filho, W.L. (2012). Analysis of energy as a precondition for improvement of living conditions and poverty reduction in sub-Saharan Africa. *Scientific Research and Essays* , Pp2657-2666.
- Jide, I., Felix, C., & Ese, U. (2014). Poverty Alleviation and the Efficacy of Development Assistance Models in Nigeria: An appraisal. *International Journal of Humanities Social Sciences and Education* , Vol.1 (5) Pp1-8.
- Kehinde, O. (2006). Poverty Alleviation in Nigeria: Marketing Concept as Pathway to Better Quality Living. *International Journal of Economic & Development Issues*, Vol.6 (1) Development Universal Consortia. Pp.238-246
- Lekorwe, M. (2007), Managing Non-Governmental Organisations in Botswana. *The Public Sector Innovation Journal*, Volume 12(3), Pp.1-18
- Lerman, R. I. (2002). *Impacts of Marital Status and Parental Presence on the Material Hardship of Families with Children*. U.S.A: Urban Institute and American University.
- Lewis, D. (2007). *Non-governmental Organisations, Definition and History*. Routledge: London School of Economics and Political Science
- Lewis, H. (2009). *Bids, tenders and proposal: winning business through best practice*. London: Kogan page.
- Lotsmart, N. (2007). *The challenges of Non-Governmental Organization in Anglophone*. Cameroon: Nova Science Publishers Inc.
- Mary, W., Ana, P., Louise, W., Debajit P. & Rahul S.K. (2015). *Utilising electricity access for poverty reduction*. institute of Development Studies IDS.
- Mkondiwa, M., Charles, B.L, Jumbe, & Kenneth A.W. (2013). Poverty–Lack of Access to Adequate Safe Water Nexus: Evidence from. *African Development Review* , Pp 537-550.
- Adeyeye, M.M., Obieguo, I.K. & Ogu-Egege, D.A. (2017). *Nigerian Journal of Management Technology & Development*. Vol.8 (2) 449-461.

- Morris, M.H., Kuratko, D.F & Covin, J.G. (2012). *Corporate entrepreneurship and innovation*. south-western: Mason: Cengage/South-Western Publishers.
- Mostashari, A. (2005). *An introduction to Non-governmental Organization (NGO)*. Management, Iranian studies Group. MIT.
- National Bureau of Statistics (2017). Federal Government of Nigeria Press: Abuja
- Ngeh, D.B. (2013). Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) and rural development in Nigeria. *Mediterranean Journals of Social Sciences*, Vol.4 (5) Pp.1-7.
- Nwankwoala H.O. (2016). Groundwater and Poverty Reduction: Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Development in Nigeria. *International Research Journal of Geology and Mining*. Vol. 6(2) Pp028-037.
- Ogunyemi, I. & Fakolujo, A. (2012). Power quality assessment in Nigeria distribution network. *Financial Times Press*, 9(16) 32.
- Ojo, O., Okoronkwo, Patience, N., & Adewumi, E. (2016). The Impact of Foreign Aid on Poverty Reduction/Alleviation Programmes in Lagos State, Nigeria. *Journals of Research and Development* , Vol. 2(12) Pp40-49.
- Olatomide, W. (2012). Concept, Measurement and Causes of Poverty: Nigeria in Perspective . *American Journal of Economics* , Vol. 2(1) Pp 25-36.
- Owolabi, S. (2009). Poverty Alleviation and Reduction Strategies: The Role of Accountants. *Babcock Journal of Economics, Banking and Finance*. Maiden edition, Pp35-42.
- Peter N. (2010). *Off-grid electricity access and its impact on Micro-Enterprises: Evidence from rural Uganda*. University of Michigan publications.
- Prahalad, C. (2010). *The fortune at the bottom of the pyramid: Eradicating poverty through profits*. New Jersey: Pearson Education, Wharton School Publishing.
- Robson, P.J.A. & Obeng, B.A. (2008). The barriers to growth in Ghana. *Small Business Economics*, 30(4) 385-403
- Sarr, M. (2006). *Youth and Leadership in the 21st Century*. 5th African Development Forum-Addis Ababa: Ethiopia.
- Schiavo-Campo, S. & Sundaram, P.S.A. (2001). *To serve and to preserve: Improving Public Administration in a Competitive World*. Asian Development Bank. Manila.
- Stephenson, A. (2009). The potential for management development in Non-Governmental Organisations private sector partnership. *Journals of management development*. Vol 28(4). 326-343.
- Tallon, R., & McGregor, A. (2014). Pitying the third world: Towards more progressive emotional responses to development education in schools. *Third World Quarterly*. London.
- Adeyeye, M.M., Obieguo, I.K. & Ogu-Egege, D.A. (2017). *Nigerian Journal of Management Technology & Development*. Vol.8 (2) 449-461.

- Turary A. (2002) *Sustainability of Local Non-Governmental Organisations in Ghana*. Unpublished thesis of Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. Department of Planning.
- Uzuegbunam, A. (2013). Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Conflict and Peace Building in Nigeria. *Open Journal of Philosophy* , Vol.3(1A) 207-2012.
- Warner E. (2008). *Public Financing Mechanism and their Implications for NGO Sustainability*. The 2008 NGO Sustainability Index, International Center for Not-for-Profit Law.
- Weisbrod, B. (1975). *Towards a theory of Voluntary Non-profit Sector in a Three-Sector Economy in Altruism, Morality and Economic Theory*. Sage Foundation Russell.