



**African &
Diaspora
Discourse**



**A Journal of the Institute of African and Diaspora Studies,
University of Lagos**

A-DD Volume 2: September, 2020.

The African and Diaspora Discourse, A-DD, is a peer-reviewed, French-English bilingual academic journal that sets out to reconfigure African Studies through original and intellectually stimulating research papers that are capable of provoking new questions, theories and debates. The Journal is domiciled in the Institute of African and Diaspora Studies, University of Lagos, Nigeria.

Interested authors are requested to send in manuscripts with word count of 5,000-7,500 on, or before 30th of June every year. Submission in either English or French language is considered, but abstract must be written in both English and French.

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Printed by

Xcel Publishers, 14, WEMPCO Road, Ogba, Lagos.

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ISSN: 2705-4268-9-772715-426003

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ONE

A Study of Nigerian Diaspora's Contributions to Homeland Development Adu, Funmilayo Modupe, Ph.D.

Abstract

The harsh economic and political climate of the 1980s and 1990s Nigeria, characterized by poverty, unemployment and stunted economic growth and complicated by the global meltdown of the latter years, all created a continued wave of Nigerians' migration to the developed world. This study examines the efforts of government towards encouraging the diaspora for development interventions. It interrogates the thesis that availability of the internet and other technology has improved access to the Diasporas. The study relies on both primary and secondary data: the primary as interviews and the secondary as information from government officials. A minimum of three locations across the USA, UK as well as the six geo-political zones of Nigeria are used, and analysis is based on political economy approach and globalization theory for the explanation of several contextual frustrations that affect development interventions in the study areas. The study essentially notes that cross border transactions could be exploited for socio-political and economic development of Nigeria, despite available challenges to which it suggests some ways of overcoming. In the end, it is held that despite Nigeria's government's efforts to encourage the diaspora for development intervention, challenges provide the major reasons why good results are far-fetched.

Key Words: Analysis, Regression, Diaspora, Nigeria, National Development

Résumé

Le climat économique et politique difficile des années 80 et 90 au Nigéria, caractérisé par la pauvreté, le chômage et une croissance économique ralentie et compliqué par l'effondrement mondial de ces dernières années, a créé une vague continue de migration des Nigériens vers le monde développé. Cette étude examine les efforts du gouvernement en vue d'encourager la diaspora à intervenir dans les actions de développement. Elle interroge la thèse selon laquelle la disponibilité de l'internet et d'autres technologies a amélioré l'accès aux diasporas. L'étude s'appuie à la fois sur des données primaires et secondaires notamment les entretiens et les informations provenant des fonctionnaires. Un minimum de trois emplacements a été choisi aux États-Unis, au Royaume-Uni et dans les six zones géopolitiques du Nigéria pour les besoins de cette étude. L'analyse est basée sur l'approche de l'économie politique et la théorie de la mondialisation pour étayer plusieurs frustrations contextuelles qui affectent les interventions de développement dans les zones d'étude. Elle constate essentiellement que les transactions transfrontalières pourraient être exploitées pour le développement socio-politique et économique du Nigéria, malgré les défis disponibles auxquels elle suggère des solutions. En définitif, force est de constater que malgré les efforts d'encouragement de la diaspora par le gouvernement nigérian à participer au développement, les défis demeurent d'où les résultats irréalistes qui en découlent.

Mots clés: *analyse, régression, diaspora, Nigéria, développement national*

Introduction

Empirical research has provided evidence to support the fact that, skewed development and underdevelopment are pervasive among African states. In the Nigerian peculiar case, underdevelopment has manifested in negative socio- political and economic indices prevalent in the country; such indices include but are not limited to; little or lack of infrastructure, endemic poverty, (especially in the interior), corruption, political instability, economic mismanagement, and challenges to good governance (African Foundation for Development- AFD, 2000, African Diaspora Policy Centre-ADPC, 2011). From the 1980s scholarly research (Adepoju, Evan de Gaul, 2010, Abdullatif, 2011, Mohan, 2002)has noted that, African international migrants have been viewed as important resource for development in African countries in general and Nigeria in particular in terms of remittances. Yet the need for more work on the Diaspora Migration - Development index is acknowledged, mainly because social remittances are neglected and destination impacts of Diaspora's contributions are jettisoned. (AFD, 2000, ADPC, 2011).

Further, research has also provided ample evidence that from the 1980s, the global economic recessions coupled with military interventions and political dominance created a hostile socio-political cum economic atmosphere that intensified migrations (AFD, 2000, ADPC, 2011)(and has also continued into the nascent democracy). For example in Nigeria, so many anti-people policies were put in place by successive military governments such as; austerity measure, Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP), War Against Indiscipline (WAI) and others. The harsh economic policies of the 1980s and 1990s, such as the SAP further intensified unemployment and poverty amid stunted economic growth. This triggered the desire and actually forced so many young Nigerians to migrate to most European Countries and America in search of a better

life. These growing number of Diaspora citizens create a viable population that can be harnessed by the Nigerian peoples and government to benefit the country's development.

Also in the era of globalization, the porosity of state, state sovereignty and state survival cum development hinge on interventions beyond the borders of the state. Citizens of different countries reside outside the state and crisscross the borders of states at random. International citizenship has become the order of the day albeit with retained interest in the primary home state. The survival of the state, its development in different areas, cannot be isolated from the interventions of its citizens in the diaspora.

This study interrogates the idea that government effort to encourage the diaspora to assist in development is not paying visible dividend because of challenges. It examined the thesis that technology has promoted the intervention of the diaspora in Nigeria's development. This research therefore, seeks to find out how far, and if at all, Nigerians in the diaspora actually make contributions to national development?

An assessment of Diaspora contributions to development, in terms of quantitative and qualitative inputs, show that it is an important constituency outside developing world to be considered for poverty reduction and to contribute to development of the South. The World Bank (2000:18) notes that, cross-border migrations, combined with the "brain drain" from developing countries to industrialized countries, will be one of the major forces shaping the landscape of the 21st Century. These essentially are for three reasons: Migration is causing dramatic shifts in the demographic profiles of both industrial and developing countries; The movement of highly skilled people from the developing world affects low income countries and recipient countries alike; and, the international Diasporas has tremendous

business potential which as professionals and successful business magnates can be used to assist home and host countries alike (World Bank, 2000). This provides important reasons for an assessment of Diaspora, as investors in, welfare providers to, and knowledge communities about developing regions.

Statement of the Problem

Nigeria, like many other African countries face the challenge of underdevelopment. This particularly has manifested in negative socio-political and economic indices- such as lack of infrastructure, endemic poverty, corruption, political instability, economic mismanagement and challenges of good governance. The need for interventions to correct this malaise has involved government and citizens. The Nigerian diaspora constitute a viable crop of citizenry to assist socio-political and economic development. The African Diaspora Policy Centre (ADPC, 2011) noted that the Diaspora has emerged as a major development actor in an increasingly interdependent and globalized world. Between the 1980s and 1990s, the continued spate of migrations to the developed countries (consequent upon negative socio- political and economic climate in the country) increased the population of Nigerians outside the country. This growing population further increased with the introduction of the visa lottery which gave opportunity to migrants to emigrate with their relatives.

It is also noted that, by 1999, emerging new grounds of democratic reordering brought the administration of President Olusegun Obasanjo. Obasanjo identified the need to tap into the growing resource base of the Nigerian diaspora, a body of professionals, artisans, and students, who were interested in contributing to the development of the country. (Nworah, 2010 cited Obasanjo). To achieve these objectives, the Obasanjo administration went all out with projects and proposals to encourage the Nigerian diaspora to

participate in development.

At the opening ceremony of the Global Database of Nigerians in the Diaspora (NIDO) (Saturday 21st February, 2009) Rt. Honorable Dimeji Bankole declared the interest of the government to take advantage of professional diasporas, diaspora financial resources and network to assist development. The Nigerian High Commissioner to the UK (2009) Dalhatu Sarki Tafida also noted that, in the global economy of today, access to knowledge and to those who possess such knowledge serve as an ingredient to national economic development.

International institutions such as, the African Foundation for Development (AFFORD) has noted that there is an important need for the diaspora to contribute to the development of developing nations. AFFORD identified that remittances had played important roles in developing countries through the interventions, but social remittances AFFORD noted are not only jettisoned in diaspora studies but are sometimes totally neglected.

Importantly also, records have shown the growing population of diaspora Nigerians to amount to about 15million in 2009 (Hagher, 2009, Nworah, 2010). For most educated Nigerians, Nworah(2010) recorded; the United States of America and the United Kingdom have been the top destinations using 2003 data from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Presenting a similar picture, but with a breakdown by country that uses 2000-20001 census data, the University of Sussex's Global Migrant Origin Database reveals that nearly a quarter of Nigerians were in Sudan, with 14 percent in the United States, 9 percent in the United Kingdom, 8 percent in Cameroon, and 5 percent in Ghana, much smaller populations were scattered around Africa, Europe and Asia. Adepoju (2010) also corroborated the fact that the highest flow of Nigerian immigrant is to the United States and the United Kingdom.

Migration research, international discourse and policy circles have also identified African countries as being on the receiving end of concerns in the developed north (Oucho, 2008). Oucho further explained that in the 1970s and 1980s, with emigration of professionals and the best educated, there was outrageous deprivation of human resources very much needed by the upcoming independent countries. From the 1990s, African international migration was viewed as an important resource for development in African countries because of remittances, but Oucho noted that there is no unanimity of evidence and conclusions drawn from existing literature, insisting that more work is still required on the diaspora, migration and development index (ibid).

The Nigerian Diaspora Organization (NIDO) further noted that little research has been done on the Nigerian diaspora. This has belittled their potential contribution to the development and uplifting of their home communities. A better harness of diaspora advantage can only come through continuous research to open up channels and opportunities for the domestic environment and the diaspora population in host country (NIDO, 2013).

Arising from these substantive facts is the problematic of this study which are - The area is understudied to the advantage of extant macro studies. There is little or no visible impact of diaspora's contribution to Nigeria's development. (This is noted by The African Foundation for Development (AFFORD, 2000) and African Diaspora Policy Centre, 2011). Destination country assessment of Diaspora's contributions to national development is few and restricted to remittances and contributions of professionals.(ibid, Nworah, 2010).Another notable shortcoming in studies on Nigerian diaspora is the dearth of empirical studies to substantiate evidence that contrast diaspora contributions with recipient's perceptions and put on ground visibility of diaspora's

contributions to homeland development. Also, the availability of technology has intensified contact and increased activities across countries. It is also important to recognize that, challenges to diaspora intervention create an important bridge preventing the diaspora from contributing to the development of the state. Such challenges, after being identified need policy suggestions to overcome them. These then created the lacuna which this academic research intends to fill to assist Nigeria's development. Furthermore, the aim of this study is to increase the understanding of the importance of the diaspora as agent of development intervention. Therefore, from an informal position, policy options could be broadened to explore and exploit the advantages of the Nigerian Diaspora for development and its sustenance.

It is against this backdrop that the study will provide answers to the following pertinent questions: To what extent can the claim be verified that Nigerians in the diaspora have impacted positively on socio- political and economic development of their homeland? 2) Is government's effort to encourage Nigerians in the diaspora to contribute to development yielding visible dividends? 3) Can we find substantive evidence to validate the claim that Nigerians in the diaspora face challenges in their attempt to contribute to national development? 4) Has the use of technology made any significant impact on Diaspora's partnership in Homeland development? This is in order to examine the impact of technology and global interventions of the Nigerian Diaspora to homeland which in turn aimed to evaluate the advantages that could accrue to the country from its migrant citizens. In this wise, the research objectives are to examine the contributions of the Nigerians in the Diaspora to the socio -political and economic development of the country, investigate the Nigerian government's efforts at encouraging the Nigerian citizens in the diaspora to contribute to Nigeria's development, highlight and discuss the existing challenges of the Nigerian Diaspora in homeland

development interventions, and, interrogate the accruing advantages of using technology to enhance the efforts of the Diaspora in homeland development interventions.

The study is guided by the following basic assumptions: There is a significant influence of the activities of the Nigerian Diaspora on homeland socio-political and economic development. Governance structures positively influence the Diaspora contributions to homeland development. Challenges to the efforts of the Nigerians in the Diaspora have significant negative influence on their efforts to contribute to the development of their homeland. Modern technology significantly improve the linkage between diaspora Nigerians and the homeland in facilitating development interventions. These assumptions, questions and objectives are justified on the logic that the outcome of this study would provide information on the growing importance of the Diaspora and their contributions to homeland development with specific reference to Nigeria. The study would increase the awareness of the relevance of technology to transnational contact with important implications for the state and its development; Furthermore, the outcome of this research would provide suggested methods of interventions by which the country can further tap into the advantages of its Diaspora to assist in the development of the country. Finally, the study would complement existing literature on Diaspora relations, especially in the area of destination assessment of Diaspora contributions to the Nigerian development efforts.

Research Methodology

Primary and secondary data were used for this study. Primary data were collected through in-depth interview and the administration of questionnaire to Nigerians in the USA and England and some of their relatives' resident in Nigeria via internet questionnaire distribution and distribution through friends and associates. The study used both

quantitative and qualitative research design. Survey questionnaire was used along with in-depth interview and the key informant interview methods. There were two sets of questionnaires targeting two different research populations. This was in order to get concrete information about the objectives of this study viz-a-viz Diaspora population and their relatives in Nigeria.

A separate set of questionnaires were administered to Nigerians in the Diaspora either resident abroad or on short visit to Nigeria. The second set of questionnaire was administered to relatives or family members of Nigerians resident abroad. The second method was to complement the survey. Key informant and in-depth interview in addition to cluster sampling and participant observation which are types of qualitative methods were used in order to get more robust and further explanations to the data from the survey questionnaires. This was necessary in order to capture policy issues which include both formal and informal activities of government geared towards encouraging the diaspora to contribute towards national development. The target or universal population for this study consisted of diaspora Nigerians resident in the United States of America (USA) and the United Kingdom (UK). These two countries are chosen for this study because of the large population of Nigerian migrants' resident there. (The Corporate Council on Africa, Ekanem, 2013, Hagher, 2009, Mberu, undated, Udeh, 2011, Ogbebulu, undated, Nworah, 2010, Development Research Centre (DRC) Global Migrant Origin Database, 2007). From the USA, three states was purposively selected. Selected states in the USA included New York, Maryland and Texas. (Dodson et al (eds), 2005:53, identified these three states and California as housing the largest population of Africans). In the case of the United Kingdom, London and Scotland were selected. For the two countries however, the snowballing method was used to contact the respondents. The USA is recorded to have the largest Nigerian immigrant of about fourteen (14) million

people after Sudan. This is followed by the UK with about nine (9) million Nigerian immigrants. The study population also included relatives of diaspora citizens resident in Nigeria. Key informant interview was also used to interview fifteen (15) government officials. Internet questionnaires were administered and supplemented by official distribution through research representatives in the USA and UK. Visiting diaspora citizens were also targeted for interview using the snowballing method.

On the Nigerian side, the study conducted covered the six geopolitical zones. National Youth Service Corp (NYSC) members were interviewed through a visit to the Ekiti state NYSC orientation camp at Ise Emure Ekiti between 2008 and 2015. Selected youth corp members cut across the six geopolitical zones of Nigeria. Also, Using the Snowballing method, some ethnic associations located around the southwest (but from other parts of Nigeria) were identified and select members were interviewed to achieve good geopolitical representation. Further, some questionnaires were administered through NYSC Corp members serving with the Ekiti State University (EKSU) (This was by giving questionnaires to them to assist in distribution to family and friends who have relatives abroad while they are on festive visit to their homes of residence and this was very effective as they were usually very friendly and ready to assist)(this took the researcher a period of six years as this is an extract from the researchers Ph.D. Work).This assistance was possible due to their visit for Christmas and Easter holidays to their respective home states. Also the government officials for key informant interview were identified using the snowballing method.

Three sampling techniques were adopted in this work. Purposive, snowballing and cluster sampling techniques were adopted for the sake of convenience. This is because it is impossible to track the total population of Nigerians in the Diaspora but it is clearly purposive

because a contacted person for interview who indicated not having a relative abroad is automatically disqualified from going further for the interview. Therefore all respondents are those who have relatives abroad. The sampling process is equally accidental and snowballing because persons who volunteered to be part of the interview at the community level helped to identify another person who qualifies and are willing to be part of the interview. Overall, five hundred Nigerians in the diaspora took part in the first set of the interview and another five hundred for the Nigerian relatives of Diaspora citizens resident in Nigeria.

For the online questionnaires, the method was adopted to compliment the distribution of questionnaire by research representatives in the USA and the UK. Online questionnaire was posted to Diaspora citizens through the Facebook, twitter and other mediums and interested respondents voluntarily filled the questionnaires. There was a cluster and observer participant. The use of cluster sampling was to enrich this work through the participation of the researcher in the 24-25th August 2015 Diaspora Day Celebration at Abuja. At this conference, the researcher embarked on both the distribution of questionnaire and oral interview to enrich information gathering for this work. Participant observation was also employed in the participation at this conference as it gave the opportunity to observe the cross questioning processes and methods of solution finding (to challenges) by Nigerian in the Diaspora participants, government officials and policy makers.

Fifteen key informant interviews were conducted among government officials. They include (the Former Chair person, House Committee on Diaspora Affairs in the House of Representatives,(Documents employed) Executives of the National Volunteer Service (NNVS) and Nigerians in the Diaspora Organization (NIDO), Staff of the Ministry of External Affairs and some Special Advisers to state governments on

Diaspora matters. Also included are executives of the Association of Black and African Arts and Culture. To achieve the objectives of the study, the researcher used the instrument of questionnaire for the survey. One thousand questionnaires with two question prototypes of five hundred in each instance were used. (Specifically Diaspora citizens and counter wise their relatives in Nigeria). An additional fifteen (15) key informant interview was administered to government officials and others.

Method of Data Collection.

Two methods of data collection were used viz- survey questionnaire and key informant interview. A total of eight hundred and eighty seven (955) out of one thousand (1000) questionnaires given to respondents were retrieved from them. The key informant interviews were conducted amongst officials of government. For survey questionnaires, there were two (2) sets of survey questionnaires. One was meant for the Diaspora population and the second one for the Nigerian relatives' resident in Nigeria. The questionnaire for the Diaspora population contains 41 questions which are mostly open ended in order to give the respondents ample opportunity for self-expression. The questionnaire for the Nigerian relatives contains 45 questions which are also mostly open ended questions for the same advantage.

The questionnaires were administered online using email addresses of the respondents. Some were distributed by research officials at the USA and UK. Also some of the questions were administered through personal contacts during home visits of Nigerians abroad and during the 24-25th August 2015 Diaspora Day Celebration at Abuja, where more than five hundred (500) participants were on attendance for two days. The second set of questionnaires targeted relatives of Nigerians abroad. The structure of the questionnaire followed the same pattern as of the first set. That is mostly open ended and

administered through contacts and personally by the researcher. Overall 955 questionnaires were correctly admitted to be usable for the analysis after editing.

Key informants interview guide was wholly open ended questions or addressed to probe for further information focusing on the objectives of the study. Secondary data was collected from text books, academic journals, government gazettes, conference materials, press releases, Newspaper clippings, and periodicals, national broadcast of heads of state, and top government officials, and the internet and electronic news. Data was processed using correlation regression. The key informant interviews undertaken were analysed using content analysis process after due transcription of the recorded tape, and cleaning of the notes taken during the discussions. Relevant quotes were used to embellish the survey data in the interpretations and explanations. Above all, and in terms of ethical considerations, the principles of ethics involved in human research were strictly adhered to. It became very important to adhere to ethical standards by seeking the approval of all the respondents before data collection. Respondent's approvals were gotten after being made to know that they had the right to withdraw from research process anytime their rights were impinged upon.

Scope and Limitations of the Study

This work focuses on migrations with linkages from the era of the global economic recession of the 1980s, when migrations became intensified due to economic downturns, maladjustments and increasing poverty. This is based on the fact that this group (recent migrants from the 1980s) can still trace their specific place of origin. The use of technology also intensified external influence on the state. The nation's Diaspora therefore has better access to contribute to its development in the age of globalization. The end of the Cold War intensified easier access through networking across state boundaries.

The study however, to avoid unwieldiness selected the UK and the USA as case studies. These two cases are selected because of the high population of Nigeria migrants dwelling there. This research also attempted to find out how far, and what Nigerians in the Diaspora are contributing to the socio- political and economic development of the country. This research does not focus on problem of migrants and on those who siphon the country's money abroad and those who destroy the country's image; the work is not also restricted to the successful Diasporas. This research however fluidly focuses on law abiding Diasporas', who due to their success in their country of residence have interest to contribute to the development of their homeland (source of migration or origin).

In the course of this study, access to information and many official documents were restricted from the researcher. Some officials of government were also restricted to the researcher for some reasons. Such reasons include secrecy of government information due to strict confidentiality of bureaucracy and high security processes around top government functionaries. The few and available information was facilitated by personal and informal contacts. The high expense of travels to the case study areas was also a limitation to the researcher. The researcher however, participated in the 2015 Nigeria Diaspora Day Celebration, held at Abuja. Information sourcing was supplemented through internet questionnaire and assistance from research colleagues, relatives and willing associates' resident in the two selected case study countries and across Nigeria. In the case of Nigeria, the National Youth Service Corp members were employed to assist in information gathering across represented states in addition to visitations (for the purpose of questionnaire distribution) to the NYSC orientation camp at Ise –Ekiti, in Ekiti State. Others were randomly contacted as situation permitted across geo political zones within Nigeria. Sensitive respondents who were secretive and distrustful were assessed through friends and family members.

Supplement information was sifted through personal contact with people involved in governance and some relatives of the Diaspora citizens.

Theoretical Considerations

The adoption of political economy as a theoretical framework is predicated upon the socio political cum economic indices manifesting the impacts of the Diaspora contributions to the development of the state. Ajayi (2002, p. 81) argued that, "the concerns of the discipline are now seen in relation to changes in the nature of the socio-economic structure within which it is operating and the practical, material and intellectual problems that were thrown up within it". Globalization is also indicated in light of the implications of intensified contact due to technological inputs such as telephones, global media, telegraphs, transportation and the internet. It is important to note Pearson and Payaslian's (1999) emphasis on the relevance of the nation state perspective, in which importantly, they explain the centrality of science and technology in modern political economy as problematic.

The challenge of modernist paradigm in areas of diasporic history and political economy by Eric Williams et al (cited in Rupert, 1998) was instrumental in shaping the thrust of what later became the dependency perspective of the 1960s and 1970s. This perspective added another chapter to modern Marxist scholarship and popularized the study of the political economy of development.(ibid). Rodney's work emerges out of the critique of neo classical development theory popularized by Andre Gunder Frank and others (Gerald, 1974). Rodney assumes that processes of evolution were inhibited by "communal egalitarianism" and movement of development was taking place when contact with Europeans thwarted or redirected it. Rodney (1972, 1988) further asserts that, the gradual incorporation of Africa into an international economic

system within which the European powers were able to exploit their technological advantages to gain an increasing share of the African economic surplus redirected the process of African development i.e the accumulation of capital and development of industrial capacity in Europe. Rodney (ibid) stressed that, slave trade slowed development by causing depopulation, by redirecting African societies towards raiding (slaves) by creating conditions of insecurity and by discouraging technological and scientific progress within Africa. i.e. the relationship between the metropole (western Europe) and periphery which increasingly operated to the advantage of the rapidly evolving metropole and encouraged the stagnation of the peripheral societies (developing countries).

Unlike slavery and colonialism which was not based on consensus but on a monopoly of force, mass migration of Africans and Nigerians is based on self-will due to economic disquiet. In Rodney's definition of 'development' and 'underdevelopment', development is a shorthand term for the progress man has made both in bending nature to his will, and in the creation of an ability to regulate the internal and external relationships. Rodney affirms that, different people in all places and at all times have shown the capacity for development i.e. for independently increasing their ability to live a more satisfactory life through exploiting the resources of nature (Rodney, 1972, 1988). In explaining the current state of African political economy, Rodney's underdevelopment is theoretically and historically explained as 'poor', 'have not's (i.e. poverty through misfortune, backward, developing, underdevelopment.) Underdevelopment for Rodney and Gunder Frank (cited in Gerald, 1974) means the perversion of a development process. Why should this perversion be recognized as such, Rodney's answer is that, capitalist relations of production by their very nature have created a global political economy in which development for some (Europe) is under development for others (Africa) (ibid).

For Rodney, development is characterized by growth in economic production, equity in the distribution of the social product and autonomy in control over social processes (Rodney, 1988:9-10). Underdevelopment is not an original state but is a distorted structural condition actually generated by the effects of the deepening European hegemony imposed over the rest of the world since the 15th century. Underdevelopment is not a state overcome as backward societies improve in comparison with stages of advanced societies, but metropolitan capitalist development and peripheral underdevelopment are two sides of the same coin (ibid).

In the words of German American economist Andre Gunder Frank, historical research demonstrates that contemporary underdevelopment is in large part the historical product of past and continuing economies and other relations between the satellite underdeveloped and the new developed metropolitan countries. Furthermore, these relations are an essential part of the capitalist system on a world scale as a whole. (Cited in Development and Dependency pdf Reader). In the African crisis, Onimode argues that the contemporary crisis on the African continent goes beyond the eclectic observations of starvation, massive unemployment, growing deficits, debts and sluggish economic growth (Onimode, 1988). He contends that the current crisis has its root in the institution of slavery, colonialism, and racism and contemporary neo-colonial stage. The paradox of Africa it is contended is that, it is the richest continent in mineral wealth, and yet the poorest as far as living conditions are concerned (cited in Isabirye, 2015). To Onimode and other Africanist scholars this paradox exist because, for centuries Africa's wealth has benefited non Africans (ibid). Underdevelopment is a structural and historical, political, socio-economic and intellectual phenomenon. Intensifications of the contradictions of underdevelopment are visible in the food crisis, deplorable mass poverty, decimating diseases, pervasive illiteracy, technological

backwardness, prostrate external dependency and mounting foreign debts (ibid).

To Onimode “the social trauma is exhibited in the sharpening social divisions arising from widening distributional inequalities, ethno religious primordialities, rising crime and cultural degradation” (cited in Jones, 2015). Applying the Marxian analysis, Onimode emphasized that, structural roots of these contradictions of the African crisis are anchored primarily to the relations of exploitation, domestic class structures, prostrate external dependence, and the distortions of the dominant neo-colonial social formations in Africa (ibid). Onimode further criticizes neo-colonial capitalist development and planning and explain the socio political failures in Africa noting like Rodney that, a construction of scientific socialist revolution is the solution to underdevelopment of neo colonial capitalism in Africa. Onimode criticizing the western social science accused it of failing to pinpoint the root cause of Africa/third world problems, let alone problems of the western world where it emanates. His dogmatic Leninist tenets as being panacea to the continents overwhelming problems, puts a lot of strain on the socialist prescriptions (ibid). Jones (ibid) argues that it is a truism that, contemporary global setbacks on the socialist tenets of the erstwhile eastern bloc has antiquated this stand in light of the breakup of the Soviet Union and considering its current opportunistic ties with the west.(Capitalism) (Jones, 2015).

Akes perception of political economy laid emphasis on the class struggle between the pre-colonial social relations in Africa. The political economy approach treats social life and material existence in their relatedness (Ake, 1988, p. 20). Majekodunmi and Adejuwon (2012) argued that, it is relevant to assert that an examination of the socio economic and political development processes in Nigeria provides a useful background for the analysis of the Nigerian development crisis. It is consequentially obvious that, political

economy is a comprehensive interdisciplinary framework that involves the interrelatedness between the various levels of social interaction from the local through the national to the global. It is to know how societies are and can be transformed (ibid). Youngman's (2000, p. 3) analysis is relevant here; it states that, political economy approach deliberately moves the focus of analysis from individual choice and behaviour to a consideration of the historical and structural context within which individual actions takes place. Political economy seeks to explain the causes of the asymmetrical relations between developed and developing nations in the international division of labour and exchange. It located the root causes of third world underdevelopment on issues of imperialism, colonialism on one hand and also draws from the internal contradictions peculiar to the third world countries as fundamental causes of their underdevelopment (Majekodunmi and Adejuwon, 2012).

Majekodunmi and other (2012) further argued that, the term political economy is used advisedly because it has been used to describe a number of different things in political science and international relations, from the application of rational individualism to the study of politics, to debates over policy with an economic dimension and the changing relationship between political systems and economic forces i.e how policy makers are being affected by economic forces and how policy makers affect economic forces. In this study, the term political economy is used to describe the changing national (socio political and economic development) environment within the premise of external interventions of the diaspora. Touching on the classical tradition of political economy, the study also addresses an important aspect of the globalization agenda- i.e the impact of technology on interchange.

Adopting the Majekodunmi and Adejumo (2012) stance, this study evaluates the political economy approach to social life and material existence in their relatedness (Ake, 1988, p.20). Political economy underscores the central importance of the mode of production and relations of production as a major causal factor in all social phenomena (Onimode, 1985, p.27). The approach also highlights the need for studying state intervention in support of development. Thus an examination of the socio economic and political development processes in Nigeria provides a useful background for the analysis of the Nigerian development crises (i.e underdevelopment). Political economy involves the interrelationship between the various levels of social interaction, from the local through the national to the global. Majekodunmi and other argued that, the primary goal of political economy is to know how societies are, and can be transformed. Political economy approach has a growing relevance to interdisciplinary concepts, such as globalization, governance and development. As a lens for examining society, political economy can generate new insights, to assist in enlisting fundamental changes in the African and Nigerian economy which Adedeji (1993) insists is not improving in any fundamental sense.

Anyanwu et al (1997, p. 6) further explain that, the parallel existence and mutual interaction of state and market in the modern world creates political economy. That is, political economy indicates a set of questions to be examined by means of an eclectic mixture of analytic methods and theoretical perspectives, where these questions are generated by the interaction of the state and the market as the embodiment of politics and economics in the modern world. He further noted that such questions ask how the state and its associated political processes affect the production and distribution of wealth and, in particular , how political decisions and interests influence the location of economic activities and the distribution of the costs and benefits of this activities. Implying a series of legal and administrative

relationships established among units of government possessing varying degrees of real authority and juridical autonomy (ibid).

This research empirically explores how the contributions of the Nigerian Diaspora change/affect the development of homeland, consequent upon responses to government policies to lure the Diaspora to participate in development. The physical evidence of development, it is conjectured, is shaped by the social presence in which they exist. (i.e. presence of physical indices). Development theorists see development as consequent upon actions of government and civil societies, as arenas in which institutional and infrastructural reforms are implemented to improve the society. Success in this instance is dependent on and measured by the physical presence of development indices. The examination of the physical presence of development features is a function of the physical attributes of expected contributions of the Diaspora (as considered in this research) i.e. What difference did the contributions of the Diaspora make to the development of their Homeland?

The UNDP (1999) adopts the view that globalization is the growing interdependence of the worlds people through shrinking space, time and disappearing borders”. Globalization has also been defined as a process fuelled by, and resulting in, creating cross border flows of goods, services, money, people information and culture. . The new applicability of globalization has enabled Cuko and Traore (2011, p. 7) to express that globalization has allowed Diaspora communities to flourish partly due to increased ease of communications brought about by the new technologies, facilitation of financial flows which enabled the resources of Diaspora to be efficiently channelled , but also because of the reconfiguration of the world's geographical space with change of values for the emergence of a heterogeneous social fabrics in most countries. Cuko and Traore (2011) therefore concluded that in this global context it becomes reasonable to expect actors who

are not located within national frontiers to act upon home issues, impacting on aspects of states, decision and development. The Nigerian Diaspora with the advantages of technology is to influence happenings and advance development of the homeland.

Data Interpretations

A brief assessment of the high yearly remittances contributed by the Nigerian Diaspora portends the idea that the diaspora is a force to be reckoned with in Nigeria's development intervention. The low ebb in Nigerian economy, government pronouncements on the need for diaspora assistance, and the high poverty ratio is however a visible sign of a country in dire need of development assistance. This study attempted to find out if the Nigerian's in the Diaspora in the USA and England contribute to the country's development. It is also to find out if the use of technology has improved Diaspora access to homeland and increased contributions to development. Furthermore, it is to find out if the effort of government to encourage the Diaspora to contribute to development is yielding results and finally to identify the obstacles and challenges to Diaspora contributions. The findings from applied two questionnaire prototypes are compared to draw inferences. It is also to show a comparative importance in the percentages calculated from questionnaire survey administered on Nigerians in the Diaspora and their Nigerian relatives.

The report of findings in the analysis shows that there is no difference in the perception of the Nigerian Diasporas in relation to their relatives at home as it concerns the use of technology. This according to respondents is due to the availability of telecommunication advantages. Respondents (in Nigeria and the Diaspora) claim they are able to contact relatives at any hour of the day. The two groups agree that the availability of internet facilities such as face book, twitter, whatshapp and other applications have made contact easy and

worthwhile.(Diaspora Nigerians-Questions,4,8,9,) (Relatives-Questions,4,5,6,9,18).

Diaspora Question 4, Do you keep contact with Nigeria? (Your homeland) 91.52% said yes while 8.4% said no. Question 8, Do you source information on happenings and development in your home country? 305 were positive while 167 were negative. Question 9, what is your source of information? (a) Human contact (b) internet (c) others, internet 350, human contact 198, others 96, both 178, no response 30. Nigerian relatives- Questions, Q4.Do you keep contact with your relatives that stay abroad? 88.61% said yes, while 8.49% said no and 2.90% did not respond. Q5. Do you find contact easier now that technology has provided telephones and internet to assist you? 99.2% said yes and 5.8% made no response.Q6.Do you think you give adequate information when they do so? 94.2% said yes while 5.8% said no. Do you use the internet to contact your relative abroad or you use phone only? Phone 140, both 434, internet 16.

Further technology use by the Diasporas is perceived as higher than that of the relatives in Nigeria. In technology use, most Diasporas claim that the use of technology has improved access and information with their homeland. In response to questions such as, what is your source of information. a) Human contact b) internet c) others (specify) (Diaspora-Question 9). Most of the respondents noted that telephones, the internet applications such as twitters, Facebook, whatsapp, are easy and cheap methods of contacting relatives (with time management advantages).Other questions such as, Do you use the internet applications to contact your relatives abroad or you use phone only?(Relatives- Question, 6), elicited negative responses, in some instances where some Nigerian relatives noted they could only use the telephone, as they did not own a computer or could not use other phone applications. This could be attributed to illiteracy, poverty and lack of awareness on the part of Nigerian relatives, most

of whom do not possess the computer or computer compliant telephones.

Family contact and technology use had positive influence on economic contributions. Questionnaire respondents in the Diaspora and Nigeria, made claims to support the fact that Diaspora Nigerians contribute to the nation's economic development. Such are in the area of remittances, financial supports (i.e. scholarships, school fees, hospital bills, others) the establishment of small scale businesses and financing of Diaspora bonds (bonds are issued by a country to its own Diaspora). Other interventions include infrastructural development at some levels, e.g. construction of housing estate, building of palaces, town halls and bore holes amongst others (corroborated by series of respondents).

Diaspora Q12,30,34,36,40 and Relative Q8,10,14,34,39,45. Responses of Nigerian relatives as it concerns Diaspora economic participation recorded 67.2% as average and a lower percentage of 31.11 as high participation. While that of the Diaspora recorded 75.90% as strongly positive and 19.66% as positive while 6.34% is negative. This is to explain that, Diaspora Nigeria's believe they contribute more to economic development through remittances and sometime through other methods. The Nigeria relatives however believe their contributions are targeted more towards family members, rather than national development. It is of the opinion of the Nigerian relatives that more could be done given the right environment to tap into Diaspora assets in the destination country as an alternative to borrowing from the international capital market, multinational finance institutions or bilaterally from government (bonds are considered safer investment by the Diaspora because homeland economic information can be easily accessed through relatives).

Nigerian Relatives Questions 17, 18, 19,23,24,28, and 41 (see Questionnaire Appendix) deal with issues about political contributions of the Diaspora. Questionnaire analysis shows that there is a difference in the perceived contributions of the Diaspora to political development of Nigeria (Relatives: Question 28, 23, 41), Most Nigerian relatives' responded negative to these questions. They further explained that this is because Diaspora political contributions are not sufficiently impactful on occasional visits and that such efforts are little recognized by the local communities (grass root politics) and especially at the national level. Most Diaspora Nigerians responded negative to questions about political participation. Some Nigerian Diasporas however, insist they contribute to political development (Diaspora: Questions 7,15,18,20, 24, 45). This second group opines that, financing candidates and political parties, monitoring elections and acting as watchdogs of democracy, contributing to public opinion polls, and other fora are positive developments. This they note is relevant with a consideration of their contributions to the democratic reordering in the 1990s and beyond. A consideration of Diaspora Question 20, are you interested in Nigeria's politics and development? Show a higher percentage of a negative response i.e 73.52% and 26.48% positive response. This reflects the general opinion of Diaspora Nigerians (who are not interested but it does not remove the fact that some do show concern about the politics and contribute to development. Therefore family contact, technology use has positive influence on political contributions. Some respondents noted that their political contributions have increased considerably. For example, election monitoring and monitoring of governance are done from the Diaspora. It is noted that, the advancement in telecommunications i.e, telephone and internet facilities, which are made available to the public is to be lauded for this positive development.

Diaspora Question 45, do you think government make efforts to encourage the Diaspora to contribute to Nigeria's development? 82.40% said no while 14.91% said yes and 2.69% made no response. In this instance the Diasporas perceive government efforts as mere political activities. Political office holders are perceived as interested in pursuing personal gains and engaging in socialization visits (to the UK and the USA) than at making efforts to encourage the Diasporas to assist in national development. The Diaspora Day programmes are perceived as fora to lodge their complaints and sometimes berate the government on issues for criticisms. The government officials also perceive the Diasporas as more interested in lobbying for appointments and contracts, and as agents for money laundering.

Questions on social development reflect a similarity in the opinions of the Nigerian Diasporas as compared to their Relatives. The Diasporas in the USA and UK report a lack of interest in social contributions as reported through their questionnaire response, and the Nigerian relatives also noted little evidence of participation. This for instance is reflected in the respondent's answers to questions such as, Diaspora Q 37 and Q38, do you visit Nigeria for local festivals and other ceremonies and do you attend such festivals with family members? Most Diaspora Nigerians responded negative and explained further that family members also do not attend such functions as they could not afford the transportations.

Responding to Diaspora questions Q37, do you visit Nigeria for local festivals and other ceremonies? Q38, do you attend such festivals with members of your family (in the Diaspora?). 72.46% responded negative while 23.52% responded positive. 4.02% made no response. (38), 84.75% responded negative while 11.02% responded positive and 4.24% did not respond. (See also Diaspora questions: 13, 10). 13, Do you belong to any community union (parapo) representing your home community? 70.55% said no while 29.45% said yes. The

Nigerian relatives noted that such visits were few and far fetched. The Nigerian relatives further noted that the few Diaspora visitors to local festivals love to record the events and take such back for family viewing. Nigerian relative questions: Q43, Do your Diaspora relatives visit Nigeria to participate in festivals and other social functions? 54.24% made a negative response while 45.76% was positive, Q44, Do they attend such functions with their family members? 90.06% said no while 9.94% said yes. Q39. Are you aware of or have benefited from Diaspora financial or material assistance to your locality or nation? 44.31% said yes while 14.29% said no and 39.13% made no response.

Questionnaire respondents however, noted that the use of the social media, such as the twitter, Facebook, and other applications enable family members to chat and receive graphic images of people, festivals, and family functions across the cyber space. Attendances of social functions (i.e. burials, birthday parties, ethnic and religious festivals etc.) are thus sometimes replaced with internet chats. In the case of economic contributions, there is a perceived high significance of the economic contributions by the UK and USA Diaspora to Nigeria's development. This is also the case with that of the Nigerian relatives. Financial remittances and participation in bonds to facilitate development interventions is highly recognized by the Diaspora and the Nigerian relatives. Diaspora Questions 12, Do you send money to relatives in Nigeria? 76.48% said yes and 23.52% said no, Q30, Have you invested in the Nigerian economy? 64.62% said no while 24.48% said yes and 9.00% made no response. Q33, Do you think government policies favour return migration for development purposes? 78.48% said no, while 17.58% said yes and 5.93% made no response. Q36, Is there any government (Nigeria) plan or action to solicit external assistance of the Diaspora on project implementation and/or the national plan? 79.45% said no while 14.62% said yes and 5.93% made no response. Q39, Do government officials visit the Diaspora to solicit support for development intervention? 82.42% said yes and 11.23%

said no while 6.35% made no response. Interestingly, the answers reflect an awareness of visitations by government officials, most of which were criticized as political and self-seeking. Individual financial contributions were believed to be economic in nature and diaspora bond was favourably disposed to. Some interventions are visible with individual remittances and ethnic and old students' association's contributions to local development interventions, scholarship awards and donations amongst others.

Nigerian relatives, Q8, Do your Diaspora relatives send money home to Nigeria? 85.72% said yes while 11.59% said no and 2.69% made no response. Q14, Do you think the government can do more to encourage Diaspora investment? 96.69% said yes while 3.31% made no response. Q9, Are you aware of or have benefited from diaspora financial or material assistance to your locality or nation? 44.31% said yes while 34.37% said no and 24.33% made no response. These responses show that remittances are directed at family members and friends, and little towards investment and developmental purposes.

There is perceived significant number of challenges as noted by the Diasporas and the Nigerian relatives. But the Nigerian Diasporas perceive a higher number of challenges than the family members. Diaspora members complain about lack of trust of family members and contractors in handling money sent for infrastructural development. Lack of trust of government policies and programmes, corruption, lack of infrastructure, no source of good information and representation, insecurity, piracy, violence, and bad governance etc. While the Nigerian relatives perceive insecurity, corruption, lack of infrastructural development and little governmental encouragement as challenges to contributions. Diaspora Q41, Do you face challenges in your attempt to contribute to Nigeria's development? 89.22% said yes while 10.78% said no and 5.10% made no response.

Nigerian relative Q 38a, the level of poverty in Nigeria seems to be a major Challenge to Diaspora contribution to development in Nigeria, Do you agree? (See Previous paragraph) 51.55% said yes, while 22.15% said no and 26.29% made no response. Q38b. Could you mention other challenges? Lack of infrastructure 204, bad government policies 86, corruption 17, others 93. Other challenges listed by respondents include, lack of government ingenuity and bad governance etc.

Government efforts are not significant in relation to the Diaspora and also the Nigerian relatives. Importantly, the Diasporas perceive government officials as political visitors who are more interested in junketing round the globe in the name of visiting Nigerian Diasporas to solicit developmental support. The Diasporas complain that such visits are made to solicit political support and financial donations for election campaigns rather than to solicit development interventions. Other efforts in the area of policies and the establishment of Diaspora ministries and units are also seen as redundant and administration based. The visitors to the Diaspora Day 'celebrations see such efforts as an opportunity to curry government favours and sometimes criticize government. This for instance is reflected in the responses to such questions as, Diaspora Q39).Do government officials visit the Diaspora to solicit support for development interventions? 82.42% said yes while 11.23% said no and 6.35% made no response.

Diaspora Q24. In what ways have the Nigerian government involved the Nigerians in the Diaspora in your country of residence in decisions/policies? 365 made no response, 107, responded with no idea. Diaspora Q40. Are you aware of any government (Nigeria) establishment handling Diaspora matters/relations? Q40, Are you aware of any government (Nigerian) plan or action to solicit external assistance (of the Diaspora) on project implementation and/ or the national plan? If yes please explain further? 87.71% said no while

12.29% said yes. The Nigerian relatives also believe that government bureaucratic bottlenecks constitute a major hindrance to Diaspora contributions. This was further in the attempt to answer questions such as, Relative Q45 do you think government makes sufficient efforts to encourage the Diaspora to contribute to national development. 14.91% said yes while 82.40% said no and 2.69% made no response.

However, government efforts have negative influence on economic contributions. The impact level of perceived government efforts is considerably very low, this is probably due to low impacts of policies and lack of government ingenuity in pursuing policies to a logical end, poor economic policies and lack of policy continuity. Respondents answers to why the Diasporas do not positively perceive government efforts as encouraging contribution to economic development, note the untrustworthy pronouncements and attitudes of politicians and political office holders. Government effort is 74.36% unaware, 22.04% aware, and 3.60% no response.

From the analysis and research findings it can be concluded that remittances contributed by the Nigerian Diaspora portend the idea that the diaspora is a force to be reckoned with in Nigeria's development intervention. The low ebb in Nigerian economy, government pronouncements on the need for diaspora assistance, and the high poverty ratio is further a visible sign of a country in dire need of development assistance. This research discovered that Nigerian's in the Diaspora in the USA and England contribute to the country's development. This is substantiated with information on remittance quota recorded by AFFORD. (see reference). It also found out that the use of technology has improved Diaspora access to homeland and increased contributions to development emphasizing the impact of globalization (positive) in the area of technology usages.. Furthermore, it discovered that the effort of government to

encourage the Diaspora to contribute to development is yielding results and it identified the obstacles and challenges to Diaspora contributions. These listed obstacles that discourage diaspora Nigerians from returning home were identified as bad political climate, corruption and lack of transparency, lack of informal structure, no stable power supply, no arable and well-distributed water system, no good road network. The returnee Diasporas are inhibited by lack of touch with the system. There is no good source of information and representation, like India and China. The Nigerian government representation of diaspora is considered redundant and the diaspora groups are lousy with power struggle and the comfort of the Diaspora compared to Nigeria. Further, challenges to investment in homeland by diasporas include Bureaucratic bottleneck, lack of political consistency (noted by the vice president, Yemi Osinbajo, 2015), lack of trust, little or no infrastructural development, and lack of good representation, insecurity, corruption, piracy, violence, militias, bad governance and terrorism. (All these have led some to conclude that Nigeria is a failing state). In addition, respondents complained about the attitude of friends and relatives who believe Diasporas are money bags to be exploited (Engineer Ademola, 2014, Owoeye, 2015, Adikwu, 2014). Many noted how funds transferred home are embezzled or mismanaged by family members or friends and sometimes contractors.

Diaspora

Family contact reflected 52.12% positive and 2.75% negative while 45.13% recorded very often. Technology use was 66.95% positive while 29.66 was recorded for others and 3.39% recorded for negative. In political contributions 61.86% was negative while 33.47% was positive and 4.67% was strongly positive. Economic contributions recorded 75.90% as strongly positive and 19.66% as positive while 6.34% was negative. Challenge was 55.08% positive, 43.22% strongly positive and 1.70% negative. Government effort was

74.36%unaware, 22.04% aware and 3.60%was no response. Country of domicile is USA 61.23% and 38.77% for England.

Nigerian Relatives

Family contact reflected 57.56% as often, 39.75%as very often and 2.69% as no contact. In technology use, Phone was 73.08% while 24.23% was recorded as other contacts and 2.69% as no contacts. Political participation recorded 66.46%as none, 32.92%as average and 0.62% as high Social participation is 54.04% average, 9.73%none and 36.23%high. Economic participation is 67.29% average, 1.60% none and 31.11% high. Challenges recorded 81.37%, medium to little challenges and 10.56% high while 8.07% is recorded as no challenges. Government effort recorded 74.12% aware and 25.88% not aware.

The findings from applied two questionnaire prototypes are compared to draw inferences, it showed a comparative importance in the percentages calculated from questionnaire survey administered on Nigerians in the Diaspora and their Nigerian relatives. The research also established the fact of relationship and influence between politics and economy as the Nigerian government encourage the diaspora to contribute to development with positive and growing results. The availability of technology also positively impacted on contact and contributions. The summarized records corroborate the earlier records from individual questions of both the Diaspora and the Nigerian relatives. Any unmentioned explanation is easy to access in the analysis. The result of findings from oral interviews with government officials and others have been quoted as at when due.

Conclusion

The Nigerian immigrant population provides a viable pool of resources to fuel the much needed development. This study examined the efforts of government to encourage the diaspora to assist the country to develop. The study interrogates the thesis that availability of the internet and other technology has improved access

to the diaspora. It noted that cross border transactions could be exploited for the development of Nigeria despite available challenges. The research suggested ways of overcoming available challenges using the political economy approach to explore development interventions. As such it explores the interactions between the local, national and global, with Diasporas as important agents of developmental change (i.e Agents of change in the nature of the socio-economic and political structure within which it is operating). The research identified the relevance of technology to diaspora intervention. The application of these theories brought out the important need to further encourage the Diaspora to participate in national development.

Recommendations

The essence of research and scholarship is to provide solutions to observed problems. The harmonized recommendations of this research work therefore are: Establishing a special Diaspora Institute and Commission for research and cooperation. Creating Diaspora Immigration Policy on better immigration for non-resident Nigerians. Favourable Tax Policy for Diasporas on remittances. Policy Continuity by successive administrations. Infrastructural development to encourage industrial development. Extending the NIDO Template for Diaspora Professionals to promote better networking and collaboration. Transiting from Diaspora Remittances to Investment to maximize the benefits of remittances. Promoting National Culture. Enhancing the Diaspora Conference to implement decisions. Enhancing the Anti-Corruption War. Expanding Areas of Diaspora Contributions. Exploiting Business and Entrepreneurship Skills for National development. Diaspora Assistance in Medicine and Health.

DATA ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATIONS AND FINDINGS
ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM
QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY: RESPONSE PATTERN TO SPECIFIC
ISSUES.
TOTAL NUMBER = 472

SN	QUESTIONS	RESPONSE (NUMBER & %)		
		YES	NO	NO RESPONSE
3	Did you migrate with every member of your family?	292 61.86%	180 38.14%	- -
4	Do you keep contact with Nigeria (your homeland)?	432 91.53%	40 8.47%	- -
6	Do you wish to resettle in Nigeria at some point in the future?	236 50%	167 35.38%	69 14.62%
7	Do you show interest in the happenings and development of your home country (Nigeria)?	416 88.14%	56 11.86%	- -
10	Do you think your residence in this country (U.S.A. or Britain) has eroded your nationalistic feelings (Nigerianness)?	83 17.58%	389 82.42%	- -
12	Do you send money to relatives in Nigeria?	361 76.48%	111 23.52%	- -
13	Do you belong to any community union (parapo) representing your home country?	139 29.45%	333 70.55%	- -
15	Has your union (contributed) to the politics and development of your local community?	93 19.7%	39 8.26%	340 72.03%
17	Do you think your union and individuals within your group influence the choice of political candidates in Nigeria's elections?	92 19.49%	44 9.32%	336 71.19%
20	Are you interested Nigeria's politics and development?	125 26.48%	347 73.52%	- -
21	Has your residence in this community (U.S.A or Britain) created a bond with (a)	250 52.97%	222 47.03%	- -

	Nigerians from other tribes (b) Other Africans?			
22	Do you think that the Nigerians in the diaspora in America and Britain are influential in the relevant decisions/policies of the American/British government concerning Africa/Nigeria?	180 38.14%	292 61.86%	- -
26	Do you agree with the idea that the conflict in Nigeria is fuelled from outside the country?	37	359	76
27	Are you aware of any non-governmental organization (NGO) in your country of residence that is working on conflict resolution, peace building, politics or development of Nigeria?	36	114	322
29	In your opinion, have government administration in Nigeria showed interest and/or appreciated the relevance of the diaspora in the country's development as it was in obasanjo's administration?	153 32.42%	363 55.72%	57 12.08%
30	Have you invested in the Nigerian economy?	125 26.48%	305 64.62%	42 9.00%
33	Do you think government policies favor return migration for development purposes?	83 17.58%	361 76.48%	28 5.93%
34	An important reason for diaspora investment in home country has been identified as a sense of insecurity in host country resident?	328 69.49%	97 20.55%	47 9.96%
35	Have you ever had an opportunity to vote in Nigeria's elections from your country of residence?	- -	472 100%	- -
36	Is there any government (Nigerian) plan or action to solicit external assistance (of the diaspora) on project implementation and national plan?	69 14.62%	375 79.45%	28 5.93%
37	Do you visit Nigeria for local festivals and other ceremonies?	111 23.52%	342 72.46%	19 4.02%
38	Do you attend such festivals with members of your family (in the diaspora)?	52 11.02%	400 84.75%	20 4.24%

12.) Do you send money to relatives in Nigeria? How often? And through what medium?

Human	Bank	Others(western union)	None
99	28	296	49

19.) What has been the level of your participation and contribution to the development of your local community in Nigeria?

No Contribution	No Response	Contributed
197	171	104

24.) In what ways have the Nigerian government involved the Nigerians in the Diaspora in your country of residence in decisions/ policies etc.

No Response	No Idea
365	107

NIGERIA

QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY: RESPONSE PATTERN TO SPECIFIC ISSUES TOTAL

NUMBER=483

SN	QUESTIONS	RESPONSE (NUMBERS AND %)		
		YES	NO	NO RESPONSE
4	Do you keep contact with your relative(s) that stay abroad?	428 88.61%	41 8.49%	14 2.90%
5	Do you find contact easier now that technology has provided telephones and internet facilities to help you?	455 94.2%	-	28 5.8%
8	Do they send money home to Nigeria?	414 85.72%	56 11.59%	13 2.69%
12	As your diaspora (family abroad) relative(s) assisted your village or state in any way?	207 42.86%	235 48.65%	41 8.49%
13	Do you encourage your relatives abroad to assist your community?	386 79.92%	83 17.18%	14 2.90%
14	Do you think the government can do more to encourage diaspora investment?	467 96.69%	-	16 3.31%
16	Do you encourage your relative(s) abroad to resettle in Nigeria?	304 62.94%	179 37.06%	-
17	Does your relative abroad show interest and ask question about Nigerian politics and other happenings?	400 82.82%	833 17.18%	-

18	Do you think you give them adequate information when they do so?	455 94.2%	28 5.8%	- -
19	Do you think the government should encourage Nigerians abroad to vote in elections?	345 71.43%	97 20.08%	41 8.49%
22	Do you think the country has benefited its citizens abroad?	359 74.33%	105 21.74%	19 3.93%
25	Do you consider the population of Nigerians abroad a danger or benefit to the country's development efforts?	290 60.04%	119 24.64%	74 15.32%
32	Do you think that the diaspora contributed to the success/achievement made so far in the Niger Delta's struggle to date?	235 48.65%	145 30.02%	93 19.25%
34	Are you aware of diaspora intervention in the development of Nigeria and/or in the development of local communities in Nigeria?	221 45.76%	124 25.67%	138 28.57%
38	The level of poverty in Nigeria seems to be a major challenge to diasporas contribution to development in Nigeria?	249 51.55%	107 22.15%	127 26.29%
39	Are you aware of/or have benefited from diaspora financial or material assistance to your locality or nation?	214 44.31%	166 34.37%	103 21.33%
40	Do you think Nigeria is exploiting sufficient benefit from its diaspora?	225 46.58%	69 14.29%	189 39.13%
41	Do you think the diaspora can assist Nigeria to attain good governance?	304 62.94%	32 6.63%	147 30.43%
42	What do you consider an important factor that can mitigate the diaspora towards investing or financing investment in Nigeria?	317 65.63%	- -	166 34.34%
43	Do your diaspora relatives visit Nigeria to participate in festivals and other social functions?	221 45.76%	262 54.24%	- -
44	Do your diaspora relative(s) visit with their family members?	48 9.94%	435 90.06%	- -
45	Do you government make effort to encourage the diaspora to contribute to national development?	72 14.91%	398 82.40%	13 2.69%

Nigerian Relatives:

USA	UK	Others
249	159	75

How long has your relative(s) resided abroad?

1-10	11-20	20-above
236	156	91

Do you use the internet to contact your relative(s) abroad or you use phone only?

Internet only	Phone only	Both
16	140	434

How many relatives do you have abroad?

1-3	3-6	6-above
271	110	102

9.) What method do they use to send money home?

Friends and relatives	Western union	Bank transfer	All of the above	None
42	210	38	125	69

10.) Is the money for personal items or investments?

Personal use	Investment	Both	None
231	27	171	54

11.) If investment, what type?

Economic	Political	Social	None
133	36	97	217

27.) In your opinion, what factors predispose Nigerians to migration abroad e.g Green pasture

syndrome, political persecution, lack of infrastructure?

Political persécution	Green pasture	All of the above	None
16	323	98	46

38b).could you mention other challenges?

Corruption	Lack of infrastructure	Bad government policies	Others
17	204	86	93

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