THE IMPACT OF EXPENDITURE PATTERN OF NASARAWA STATE GOVERNMENT ON EMPOWERMENT: AN ASSESSMENT OF HEALTH AND EDUCATION SECTORS (1999-2012)

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Abstract
This study attempts an evaluation of the impact of expenditure pattern of Nasarawa state government on empowerment. Its premise is to measure the influence of expenditure pattern on empowerment within the context of the developments in Health and Education sectors. The study adopted the Capability theory as its theoretical framework, because, it emphasized the creation and the enhancement of opportunity and freedom that are necessary for an individual to function effectively in the society; in this analysis both descriptive and inferential statistics were used; it however employed both the chi-square and multiple regression models using the ordinary least square method to measure the influence of expenditure pattern on empowerment. Hence, data were generated from both primary and secondary sources. The study found that the recurrent expenditure of the state tends to be more consistent and significant in empowerment of the people. However, the chi-square test and the regression technique established that expenditure pattern of the state has impacted on empowerment of the people in the state. Apart from these, the outcome of the interview and personal observation of government institutions and agencies revealed that the state government embarked on massive construction of infrastructure and renovation of existing infrastructures in the Health and Education sectors in the state within the years under review. IT also showed some improvement in the sectoral work plans with a

well designed system setup, as well as the provision of technical skills to the teeming youth in the state and provision of adequate drugs supply to the expanded network of hospitals in the state through its performance enhancement scheme sponsored by World Bank and UNESCO. Therefore, the study posits that the state expenditure has improved the health and education situation in the state within the year under review, and it therefore, improved the productive capacity of the people in the state. However, the state should increase its expenditure to the health and education sectors, especially its releases to institutions in these sectors so as to increase the momentum of empowerment in the state.

Introduction

The recent revival of interest in growth theory has arose curisity among researchers in verifying and understanding the linkages between government spending and empowerment especially in a developing country like Nigeria. Over the past decades, the public sector spending has been increasing in geometric term through government various activities and interactions with its Ministries, Departments and Agencies (Niloy et al, 2003). Although, the general view is that public expenditure either recurrent or capital expenditure, notably on social and economic infrastructure can be growth-enhancing, the financing of such expenditure to provide essential threshold of capabilities such as, infrastructural facilities, including transport, electricity, telecommunications, water and sanitation, waste disposal, education and health, can be growth-retarding (for example, the negative effect associated with taxation and excessive debt).

The size and structure of public expenditure will determine the pattern and form of growth in output of the economy (Muritala, and Taiwo, 2012). The structure, pattern or composition of Nigerian public expenditure can broadly be categorized into capital and recurrent expenditure. The recurrent expenditure are government expenses on administration such as

wages, salaries, interest on loans, maintenance etc., whereas expenses on capital projects like roads, airports, education, telecommunication, electricity generation etc., are referred to as capital expenditure. One of the main purposes of government spending is to provide infrastructures.

The effect of government spending on economic growth is still an unresolved issue theoretically as well as empirically. Although the theoretical positions on the subject are quite diverse, the conventional wisdom is that a large government spending is a source of economic instability or stagnation. Empirical research, however, does not conclusively support the conventional wisdom (Mitchel, (2013). A few studies, such that of (Diamond, 1990), as well as Rainey and Shapiro (1998) Cooray, (2009), reported positive and significant relation between government spending and economic growth while others like Sylwyn (1971), and Root (2010), find significantly negative or no relation between an increase in government spending and growth in real output.

The dynamics of Public expenditure management seems to move around the judicious use of economic resource, such that Public expenditure policy with its attendant socio-economic and political implications is intended to transform the economy into a more accommodating entity that is capable of providing not only the basic essential to citizens but also provides them with the opportunity to function as citizens. Government expenditure has an expansionary effect on the economy such that it enhances the productivity of the economy. It increases the size of the economic activities which raises the level of G.D.P, of the nation.

Expenditure is closely associated with the policy direction of government hence, whenever resources are allocated to support such policy it tends to impact meaningfully on the people. Essentially government expenditure is directed towards meeting the needs of the citizens. These needs such as the provision of infrastructures, Health services, Education among other things, generate employment opportunities and create enabling condition for the citizens to participate in both economic

and political activities as well as influencing the general price level. Therefore the intervention of government through its spending has the capacity to provide the citizens the enabling environment such that they can contribute to the economic and political condition of their communities through the engagement in economic and political activities (Drydyk, 2013).

Diamond (1990), and Ekpo (1996), are of the opinion that increase government expenditure on socio-economic and physical infrastructure encourages economic growth. Government expenditure on health and education is said to raise the productivity of labor and increase the growth of national output. Central Bank of Nigeria CBN (2007), reported that the Nigerian government expenditure on education and health stood at N107, 529 billion and N72, 209b respectively. This figure has resulted in G.D.P of N595, 821 billion. Similarly expenditures on infrastructures such as roads, communication, power etc is said to reduce production cost, and increase private sector investment.

Conversely, Solow (1956), cited in Sylwyn (1971), and Root (2010), opined that higher government expenditure may slow the overall performance of the economy. They opined that in the attempt to finance rising government expenditure, government may increase taxes and borrowing. Higher income tax reduces the purchasing power of potential consumers and discourages people from working for long hours which reduces income and aggregate demand. Similarly, higher profit tax tends to increase production cost and reduce investment expenditures as well as profitability of firms. If government increases borrowing (especially from banks) to finance its expenditure, it will compete (or crowd out) with the private sector thus reducing investment. This brings us to the issue of fiscal adjustment which governments use to balance between the positive effect of public expenditure and the perceived negative effect of taxation to meet expenditure.

The standard approach to fiscal adjustment is to either increase revenue by raising tax or reduce expenditure. If

governments raise tax, disposable income declines and consequently private spending will reduce. However, the standard Keynesian argument is that, all things being equal, a decrease in government expenditure will have contractionary effect on the economy. This will also reduce income and employment (Drydyk, 2013). The most commonly proposed solution is to either balance the situation or to reduce expenditure rather than increase revenue. This method is influenced by a number of economic and political events and considerations, such as the inability of the supply side Economists to curb the growth of fiscal deficit in the 1980s. They believed in the use of macroeconomic incentives to change the level of employment and potential benefit that stem from reducing marginal rate of income taxes. Adherents therefore contend that economic recovery can be achieved by encouraging firms and individuals to lead in increasing demand through reducing taxes. As economic growth picks up, revenue from tax increase thereby eliminating the deficit despite cut, thus shifting attention to the control of deficit through expenditure restraint.

It is politically more expedient for government to reduce fiscal deficit through expenditure restraints instead of increasing personal tax. The idea of expenditure restraint as long as it is not on salary or pensions, is less visible to voters than increase tax. Public expenditure affects private sector productivity through the accumulation of infrastructure and human capital, therefore, the structure of expenditure has implications for economic growth. Hence it is clear that the prerequisite for a sustainable fiscal policy is an improvement in government expenditure. This improvement involves higher expenditure in productive sectors such as Education, Health, and Agriculture while reducing expenditures such as ostentations consumption bills. Therefore, the use of expenditure restraints to achieve the goals of fiscal adjustment requires that expenditure be reduced in a way that does not affect or compromise the growth of the economy, given the fact that some components of government expenditure are more productive than others.

In 1981, for instance, capital expenditure in Nigeria was put at N6, 567m, while the recurrent expenditure was put at N4, 846m, implying that the economy had its expenditure tended towards productive sector and hence economic growth, but as at 2010, capital expenditure was put at N883, 874b and the recurrent expenditure at N3, 310, 343b. This reflects that there has been a shift in the total expenditure from capital to the recurrent side over the years, (CBN, annual report December, 2010).

In Nigeria, government expenditure encapsulated in the annual budget of a nation is stratified into two broad categories, the capital expenditure and the recurrent expenditure. Capital expenditure consists of expenses on capital projects such as roads, airports, education, telecommunication, electricity etc. Recurrent expenditure on the other hand consists of expenses on administration, defense, internal security, national assembly, wages/salaries social and communication services, economic services, transfers etc.

These expenditures have continued to rise due to the receipts from the production and sales of crude oil, and the increase demand for public (utilities) infrastructure like road, communication, power, education and health. Besides, there is increasing need to provide both internal and external security for the people and the nation. Available statistics indicates that total government expenditure (capital and recurrent) and its components have also continued to rise in the last three decades. For instance, government total recurrent expenditure increased from N2124, 491m in 1996 to N461, 600b in 2000 and N1, 223, 700b in 2005. It also rose from N2, 117 362b in 2008 to N310, 343b in 2010. Capital expenditure also rose from N212, 926m in 1996 to N239, 450b in the year 2000 and N519 5000b in 2005. It also rose from N1, 123, 458b in 2008 to N2, 883 874b in 2010. The various components of both the capital and the recurrent expenditures especially those of defense, internal security, Agriculture, transport, education health and communication have shown a rising trend, between 1990 and 2011, CBN, (2011) and NBS (2011).

In Nasarawa state for instance, recurrent expenditure also

rose from N1.8b in 1999 to N11.2b in 2005 and N32.9b in 2011, While capital expenditure rose from N2.6b in 1999 to N15, 3b in 2005 and N36.b in 2011 (Approve budgets 1999-2011).

One of the main purposes of government spending is to provide infrastructural facilities such as roads, hospitals; health care, education, transportation. The maintenance of these facilities also require money. Therefore the relationship between government expenditure and economic growth tends to be important analyses in developing countries in recent time. Most of these countries have experienced not only increase in government expenditure but changes in the pattern of the expenditure.

Even as the size of government expenditure is important for the growth of the economy, the pattern of the expenditure is just as important such that it help in the reduction of disparity within an economy. Expenditure pattern is the nature of flow in income and the allocation of government spending to various sectors of the economy. The population size of the economy, literacy rate, per capita income and infant mortality rate, are some of the factors that determine or influence expenditure pattern of an economy. The pattern expenditure of a country is articulated and executed through the two components of expenditure, (i.e. capital and recurrent expenditure).

In Nasarawa State, the releases tend towards recurrent expenditure even when the young economy needed the required capital project to boost its growth. Even so, a closer look at the expenditure reveals that, Health and ratio of the Education expenditure in absolute terms increased remarkably from 1999 to 2012, but as a total of government spending and social security services expenditure, in the state, it showed a decreasing trend.

The analysis of the expenditure pattern of the state suggests that the allocation of expenditure to Health and the Education tend to be determined by the flow of income to the state account and fiscal deficit, rather than literacy rate, infant mortality rate and the size of the population. .

The persistent increase in government spending and its associated changing patterns has not been translated into

meaningful growth and development in Nigeria. In Nasarawa State for instance, the infrastructure which these expenditure were meant for are scarcely provided and most of them are in a sorry state because of lack of maintenance. It is because of these and other related issues, such as the level of productive capacity of the people; the level of accessibility, the environment, and the quality of service in the state health and education sectors, that this work seeks to evaluate the impact of expenditure patterns of Nasarawa State government on empowerment and welfare of its citizens.

Theoretical Framework

Capability Theory

This work is anchored on human capability approach to development, because, it emphasized the creation and the enhancement of opportunity and freedom that are necessary for an individual to function effectively in the society. It posits that development can be achieved, if the state creates and enhances the individual's ability to transform resources into valuable activities. That is, the state should create functional capabilities or give "substantive freedom", to its people.

The approach was initially conceived in the 80s as a welfare approach. Amartya Sen brought together range of ideas that were hitherto excluded or inadequately formulated from the traditional welfare approach. The core focus of this approach is on what the individual is capable of doing. Initially, Sen, argued for five components in assessing capabilities.

(1) The importance of freedom in the assessment of a person's advantage.

(2) Individual differences in the ability to transform resources into valuable activities.

(3) The multi-variants nature of activities given rise to happiness.

(4) A balance of materialistic and non materialistic factors in evaluating human welfare

(5) Concern for distribution of opportunities within society

Subsequently, and in collaboration with political philosophy of Martha Nussbaum, development economist Sudhir Anand and economic theorist James Foster, Sen helped to make the capability approach predominant as a paradigm for policy debate in human development where it inspired the creation of the UNs Human Development index (a popular measure of human development capturing capabilities in health education and income).

The approach emphasizes functional capabilities ("Substantive freedom" such as the ability to live to old age, engage in economic transactions or participate in political activities); these are construed in terms of the "substantive freedoms" that people have reason to value instead of utility (happiness, desired-fulfillment or choice) or access to resource (income, commodities, asset) that have short life span without substantive freedom.

In this case, poverty is understood as capacity-deprivation. It is noteworthy that the emphasis is not only on how human beings actually function, but also on their having the capacity which is a practical choice, to function in important way if they so wish. Someone could be deprived of such capabilities in many ways, e.g., by ignorance, government oppression, lack of financial resources or false consciousness.

This approach to human well-being emphasizes the importance of freedom of choice, individual heterogeneity and the multi-dimensional nature of welfare. In significant respect, the approach is consistent with the handling of choice within conventional microeconomics consumer theory; although it's conceptual foundation enables it to acknowledge the existence of claims, like rights which normatively dominates utility-based claims (Sen., 1979).

The Expenditure Profile of Nasarawa State Government (1999-2012).

A closer study of the expenditure profile of Nasarawa State Government from 1999 to 2012 shows that, the approved estimates of the state grew from 2.9 billion in 1999 to 7.1 billion

2000; This sharp increase within one year is occasioned by the supplementary appropriation in that fiscal year. However the estimates continue to rise sharply, as it rose from 11 billion in 2002 to 23.8 billion in 2004 and 42.5 billion in 2007. The estimates also rose sharply from 58.4b to 104.9 billion within 3 years (i.e. 2012).

The actual expenditure rose from 2.23 billion in 1999 to 6.3 billion in the year 2000, and rose of sharply to 25 billion in 2007, even though the total estimate in 2007 was 42.5 billion, this indicates a drop in the budget performance from 80.12 percent to 58.47 percent. The budget performance also fell to 36 percent in 2012.

Table 1: The Actual Expenditure of Nasarawa State (1999- 2012)

S/NO	YEAR	Approved Budget	Recurrent Expenditures	Capital Expenditures	Supplementary Budget	Total Budget size	Actual Recurrent Expenditures	Actual Capital Expenditures	Actual total Expenditures	% Achieved
1	1999	2,581,195,624.00	1,577,331,624.00	1,203,864,000.00		2,581,195,624.00	1,555,335,537.00	822,231,911.00	2,377,567,448.00	92.12
2	2000	4,425,351,000.00	1,994,151,000.00	2,431,200,000.00	2,230,000,000.00	7,186,351,000.00	3,855,335,934.00	4,317,224,917.00	8,172,560,851.00	113.7
3	2001	9,832,000,000.00	4,500,000,000.00	5,332,000,000.00		9,832,000,000.00	4,117,555,557.00	3,997,881,442.00	7,115,437,299.00	72.35
4	2002	11,087,392,100.00	6,350,392,100.00	4,737,000,000.00		11,087,392,100.00	5,178,447,279.00	5,393,115,928.00	10,571,563,207.00	95.34
5	2003	15,576,391,220.00	7,638,875,520.00	8,937,515,700.00	671,055,000.00	16,247,706,220.00	7,098,542,144.00	11,148,660,910.00	18,247,203,054.00	78.23
6	2004	20,543,016,000.00	8,993,516,000.00	12,549,500,000.00	3,000,000,000.00	23,543,016,000.00	10,008,156,760.00	6,401,240,860.00	16,409,397,620.00	69.16
7	2005	25,418,497,182.00	11,241,063,257.00	14,177,434,025.00		25,418,497,182.00	10,237,252,000.00	7,238,182,711.00	17,475,434,711.00	68.74
8	2006	31,683,311,129.00	12,807,485,865.00	18,875,825,264.00		31,683,311,129.00	10,558,570,010.00	7,965,297,171.00	18,523,867,181.00	58.47
9	2007	35,499,477,046.00	14,931,582,430.00	20,567,894,616.00	7,015,910,816.00	42,515,387,862.00	12,182,699,776.00	13,787,573,440.00	25,970,273,216.00	58.88
10	2008	55,721,203,264.00	22,227,418,971.00	33,493,784,293.00		55,721,203,264.00	21,707,174,181.00	21,568,902,921.00	43,276,077,102.00	77.72
11	2009	58,478,340,311.00	23,744,040,311.00	34,734,300,000.00		58,478,340,311.00	29,900,737,661.00	14,933,340,111.00	44,834,077,672.00	76.74
12	2010	69,965,344,956.00	27,214,979,355.00	42,750,365,601.00		69,965,344,956.00	22,491,400,027.00	14,736,814,761.00	37,228,214,527.00	54.72
13	2011	80,017,974,931.00	32,930,974.00	36,420,441,431.00	12,180,513,526.00	81,360,954,131.00	35,910,954,981.00	14,444,041,505.05	50,425,640,085.05	61.17
14	2012	104,950,911,955.00	42,490,115,955.00	62,460,796,000.00		104,950,911,955.00	31,270,277,078.51	6,571,035,044.27	37,841,312,122.78	36.06

Source: Nasarawa State Budget Office Total Actual Expenditure (1999-2012) = 331,396,644,134.53

Base on the information in table 2.1 above, it is clear that the pattern of expenditure of the state tends towards recurrent spending, unlike the state expenditure pattern before the coming of democratic dispensation in the state, which tends towards capital spending to take care of the most needed capital projects for the young state. Even though the estimated expenditure shows that the intension of the state government is to have a capital expenditure from 1999 to 2012. However, the actual spending shows that it turned out to be a recurrent expenditure at the end of each fiscal year. This show clearly the composition and pattern of expenditure in the state.

Apart from this the expenditure to the sectors is determined only by the flow of income in to the state account and deficits instead of factors such as infant mortality rate, illiteracy, population size, etc.

4.3 The Revenue Profile of Nasarawa State Government (1999-2012).

Table 2.2 below shows a consistent growth in all the revenue channels of the states, such that it reviewed an average increase (in allocation from the federation account) of more than three billion annually. The state internally generated revenue also grew constituently indicating the persistent growth in the productive capacity of the state compares to the actually estimates. The state estimated 2.9 billion, in the 1999 fiscal year, but spent 1.6 billion. It however, generated 1.9 billion at the end of the fiscal year, leaving a surplus of about a hundred million.

Year	Total Allocation (Fed Acc).	State IGR	Total State Revenue	LGCs All.	Grand Total
1999	1,878,917,355.61.	46,276,524.51	1,925,193,880.12	560,775,036.31	4,411,162,796.55
2000	6,102,919,376.78	149,098,358.58	6,252,017,735.36	2,549,183,517.29	15,053,218,988.01
2001	7,688,743,134.97	237,666,840.89	7,961,409,976.86	2,912,001,457.36	18,799,821,410.08
2002	6,306,303,203.13	273,247,211.27	6,543,550,415.40	5,128,520,669.33	18,251,621,499 13
2003	9,190,610,113.18	332,017,729.75	9,522,627,841.93	6,404,889,369.83	25,450,145,054.69
2004	13,324,380,400.01	567,686,901 62	13,892,067,301.63	8,196,082,075.81	35,980,216,679.07
2005	16,475,998,575.72	433,559,580 09	16,909,558,155.81	10,010,765,119.46	43,829,881,431.08
2006	20,700,685,355.67	506,067,722.54	21,206,735,078.21	13,717,056,004.40	56,130,544,160.82
2007	24,925,172,145 62	468,189,569.25	25,393,361,664.87	17,443,346,889 34	68,230,070,269.08
2008	2,949,658,925.24	864,722,368.43	30,014,381,293.67	21,169,637,774 28	54,998,400,361.62
2009	33,374,145,704.86	1,244,317,816.86	34,618,463,521.04	24,895,928,659.22	94,132,855,701.98
2010	37,598,632,404.48	1,850,541,963.18	39,449,174,457.66	28,622,219,544.16	107,520,568,369.48
2011	41,823,119,264.10	2,973,833,906.97	44,796,953,171.07	32,448,510,429.10	122,042,416,771.24
2012	46,047,606,043.72	4,132,282,812.68	50,179,888,856.40	35,174,801,314.04	135,534,579,026.84
Total	268,386,892,003.09	14,079,509,306.62	308,665,383,350.03	209,233,717,859.93	800,365,502,519.67

Source: Nasarawa State Internal Revenue Board Lafia.

However in 2004 the state estimated 20.8 billion and spent 16.4 billion, but, the state generated only 13.8 billion paying a deficit of more than 3 billion, even though; this may not be unconnected with the supplementary budget of 3 billion in that fiscal year. In 2008, the state generated a little more than 30 billion but spent 43.3 billion and hence it was a deficit budget all the way not until 2012 when the state planed a deficit budget but end up with surplus because the state estimated 104.8 billion but spent only 37.8 billion and it realized 50.1 billion, Nasarawa state revenue services (20013).

Essentially the state internally generated revenue rose from 1.9 billion in 1999 to 50.1 billion in 2012. This feat is an indication of the speed of expansion in economic activities in the state. It is also an indication of increase in the productive capacity of the people in the state and hence the level of empowerment in the state

Presentation and Analysis of Primary Data

This study conducted a survey on the perception and the opinion of the people of Nasarawa State regarding the impact of government expenditure pattern on empowerment through the provision of Health care and Educational service in the state. The primary data were used to ascertain the level of accessibility to both Health and Educational services in the state (i.e. empowerment outlets in the health and education sectors,); the qualities of these services; as well as the environment under which these services are provided in the state. The pattern of questionnaire administration and the results obtained are as follows

Administration of Questionnaire

This work used the five federal constituencies in the state as sampling units and administered four hundred (400) questionnaires to each of the units, making a total of two thousand (2000) questionnaires.

The work targeted lecturers, teachers and students in the education sector; doctors, lecturers Nurses, and patients in the Health sector; and other residents of the state. In this respect, five hundred and ninety (590) questionnaires were distributed to lecturers, teacher and students in the educational sector. Five hundred and ninety (590) questionnaires were distributed to Doctors lecturers Nurses and patients in the health sector. The remaining eight hundred and twenty (820) questionnaires were distributed to other residents of the state. The questionnaire administration is presented as follows;

Table 3 Administration of Questionnaire

Sample units	No Administered	No admd to teacher and lectures.	No Returned	No admd to health personnel and patient.	No Returned	No admd to other residents	No. Returned	Total Adm.	Total Returned
Keffi	150	50	43	50	44	50	45	150	132
Karu	150	50	48	50	44	50	46	150	138
Kokona	100	30	25	30	27	40	38	100	090
Nasarawa	250	50	47	50	45	150	135	250	227
Toto	150	50	49	50	43	50	39	150	131
Akwanga	150	50	40	50	46	50	45	150	131
Nas. Eggon	150	50	41	50	43	50	41	150	125
Wamba	100	30	27	30	29	40	36	100	92
Lafia	250	50	44	50	47	150	124	250	215
Obi	150	50	45	50	45	50	49	150	139
Awe	150	50	43	50	46	50	47	150	136
Doma	150	50	46	50	45	50	46	150	137
Keana	100	30	26	30	28	40	37	100	91
Total	2000	590	526	590	534	820	725	2000	1784

Source: 2014. Survey

Table 3 above, shows that a total number of two thousand (2000) questionnaires were administered to respondents in the state, out of this number, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four (1784) were returned, indicating that the survey have achieved eighty-nine (89.2%) percent success. The survey covered all the local government areas of the state.

Base on the survey result on the level of accessibility of health and educational institution in the state, respondents established that the level of accessibility to health and education services in the state before 1999 was low, but it showed an improvement within the years under review. This is because; one thousand six hundred and thirty-two (1,632) respondents said that the accessibility to these services was low in the period before 1999. However, one thousand five hundred and twenty three respondents agreed that within the period 1999 to 2012, health services (Schools and Hospitals) and Education services (formal and non-formal) are highly accessible. This is an indication that the growth of expenditure from 1999-2012 has actually impacted on empowerment by making these services accessible to the people in the state.

The data on the quality of health and educational services, respondents established that the quality of health and education services in the state has not showed a considerable improvement from 1999-2012. This is because one thousand two hundred and nine (1209) respondents were of the view that the quality of health and education services in the state before 1999 was high. However, one thousand four hundred and sixty-six (1466) respondents believed that the quality of these services within 1999 – 2012 has not shown a considerable improvement. This is an indication that the growth of expenditure from 1999-2012 has not considerably improved the quality of health and education services in the state.

Based on the survey about the environment under which health and educational services were provided, respondents established that the environment under which health and education services are provided in the state has improved significantly, from 1999-2012. This is because, one thousand, two hundred and forty-four (1244) respondents think that the environment was not good enough in the state before 1999, however, one thousand two hundred and forty-three (1243) respondents agreed that there was a significant improvement in the environment under which health and education services are rendered in the state from 1999 – 2012. This is an indication that the growth of expenditure within the years under review has actually impacted on empowerment by improving the environment under which health and education services were provided in the state.

Analysis of secondary data

To evaluate the influence of expenditure pattern of Nasarawa State on empowerment this study estimated the following equations after all necessary data diagnoses.

$OED = \beta_0 + \beta_1 ARE + \beta_2 ACE + U_1$..... *(1)*

$OHS = \beta_0 + \beta_1 ARE + \beta_2 ACE + U_2$..... *(2)*

Where OED = Outputs of Education institutions in the state.

Where OHS = Outputs of Health sector in the state.

ARE = Actual Recurrent Expenditure

ACE = Actual capital Expenditure

β_o, β_1, β_2, and β_3, are parameters (magnitude of measurement).

On a priory (theoretical) basis, the results indicates that all the slopes of the coefficients (parameters) are in line with a priori predictions, and have conformed to their expectation because they are positive. Therefore, the study found that all the slopes of the coefficient in all the equations are in line with theoretical predictions. The Coefficients are positive and significant and the model is well specified, with no evidence autocorrelation. This indicates that the state expenditure pattern has significantly impacted on empowerment of the people.

Summary of Major Findings

i. The pattern of the state expenditure
   This study found that the pattern of the state expenditure is determined only by flow of income and deficits; other than public issues such as mortality rate, literacy rate, population size etc. it also found that recurrent expenditure is more effective in the enhancement of capability of the people in the state, as evident in the t-values.

ii. The study survey findings
   Base on the survey result the study found that the level accessibility to and the environment under which Health and Education service are provided in the state recorded a significant improvement within the years under review, however, the quality of these services have improved significantly.

iii. The policy and proximate elites interview findings
   Base on the result on data generate from the personal interviews with policy and proximate elites in the state, coupled with personal observation of government establishments in the state, this study found out that the state government embarked on massive construction of infrastructure and renovation of existing infrastructures

in the Health and Education sectors in the state. Apart from adding value to both sectors by improving the sector work plan with a well planned system setup, it also signed an MOU with Singaporean government, UNESCO and the World Bank to provide technical education/skill acquisition to the teaming youth in the state as well as provision of adequate drug supply to the expanded network of hospital in the state through its performance enhancement scheme.

iv. The regression findings

The student t-test results found that recurrent expenditure have significantly impact on empowerment in the state, while capital expenditure is not significant enough to impact on empowerment in the state within the years under review

In light of these findings, the questionnaire survey, the interview survey and the regression results established that the state expenditure has been able to impact on empowerment of the people in the state. Therefore, the study posits that that the state expenditure has improved the health and education situation in the state within the year under review, and it therefore, improved the productive capacity of the people in the state.

Recommendations

Although the state expenditure has been able to improve the health and education situation in the state, the level of empowerment is not consistent with the infant mortality rate, the level illiteracy, as well as the population size and the need for public services in the state. Therefore, this work recommends the following.

1. Public issues such as infant mortality rate, the level illiteracy, as well as the population size should be the guiding determinants of the structure, pattern and the composition of expenditure to health and education

sectors in the state rather than the flow of income and fiscal deficits.

2. The state should increase its expenditure to the health and education sectors, especially its releases to institutions in these sectors so as to increase the momentum of empowerment in the state.
3. The state government should be able to bridge the existing miss-match between the flow of income to these sectors and the spending on the agencies, schools and hospitals in the two ministries.
4. Government should upgrade infrastructure in the school of health technology, school nursing and speed up work in the mid-wifery school which is under construction, to take care of shortage of health care providers in the state.
5. Government should upgrade fertilities and increase funding to its schools of relevant technology and skills acquisition centers to further bust access to these centers and self employment in the state.
6. It appears that most people who attended secondary education in the state cannot access a much higher education; hence, the state government should be able to expand the capacity of its college of education and polytechnic and its university to accommodate more people.
7. Government should embark on massive employment of medical doctors to bridge the widening doctors-patients ratio in the state hospitals.

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