

**CHALLENGES OF POVERTY ERADICATION THROUGH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN WAMBA LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AREA OF NASARAWA STATE**

BY

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**BEING A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF
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ADMINISTRATION, NASARAWA STATE UNIVERSITY, KEFFI.**

NIGERIA

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this project entitled “**Challenges of Poverty Eradication Through Community Development in Wamba Local Government Area of Nasarawa State**” has been written by me and is a report of my research work. It has not been presented in any previous application for Postgraduate Diploma in Public Administration. All materials used outside the primary source have been fully acknowledged by means of references.

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this project titled **Challenges of Poverty Eradication Through Community Development in Wamba Local Government Area of Nasarawa State**” Meets the requirements governing the award of Postgraduate Diploma in Public Administration, Faculty of Administration Nasarawa State University, Keffi, for its contributions to knowledge and literary presentation.

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DEDICATION

This piece of work is specially dedicated to God Almighty, the Author and Finisher of my faith for seeing me through the period of my studies and the inspiration given to me to accomplish this project work. May his name alone be magnified.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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ABSTRACT

The work was designed to assess issues and challenges of poverty eradication through community development in Wamba Local Government. The work adopted a survey method, as the instrument of data collection; oral interview and research questionnaire were used. The analysis of the questionnaire was done using percentages. The study revealed that the various communities in Wamba do not participate in alleviation reduction of their area. The major causes of poverty in Wamba Local government are religious and economic crisis. Based on the findings, we suggest the various communities in Wamba should effectively participate in poverty reduction of their area as a strategy for it development in the Local Government Area.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

Community development is assumed in policy circles as the main channel for the active involvement of community members in shaping the outcomes of the development projects. For Kaufman and Alfonso (1997), effective community development may lead to social and personal empowerment, economic development, and socio-political transformation. The potential of community development in reversing power relations and providing the poor with agency and voice is well noted in the development literature. As such most development projects are expected to have some modicum of community development revealing the widespread appeal for community development in contemporary development thinking and practice. Community development is a widely used concept in development policy and practice (Cornwall, 2008). Contemporary development approaches perceive community development as one of the key ingredients for poverty reduction. Effort to stimulate community development through development is to address the increasing poverty and disempowerment that accompanied the modernistic development discourse (Bryld, 2001). The intention of community development in development policy and practice is to promote the

active engagement of individuals working in collectives to change problematic conditions as well as influence policies and programs that affect the quality of their lives or the lives of others (Mansuri and Rao, 2003). Community development in development practice puts emphasis on getting community members involved in the entire planning process from project initiation to closure Skidmore et. al., (2006). Structures of development create social capital for community engagement as well as motivate people to get involved in the affairs of their communities. The role of community members in shaping the outcomes of development projects is critical for the success of development intervention and possibly for poverty reduction. Community development has featured very prominently in development is poverty reduction and rural development. Cornwall and Coehlo (2007) writes that the concepts of development and poverty reduction carry the allure of optimism and purpose and has shaped development discourse and policy for some time now. A growing body of evidence confirms Cornwall and Brook assertion that community development in development projects leads to poverty reduction and sustainable development Hoddinott, (2002); Narayan, (1995). Specifically, community development empowers the poor by building their capacity through skills training to actively engage with the development process. Active empowerment in community activities often leads to the empowerment of local community members Buysse, Sparkman and Wesley, (2003).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

In Nigeria, government efforts at poverty reduction have not succeeded in reducing poverty. Some of the factors responsible for this lie in the nature of the socio-political and economic structures, which alienate and exclude the poor from decisions affecting their welfare. Programmes are imposed from the top, with huge overheads, which favour contractors, consultants and the cronies of those in power. The politicisation of policies aimed at poverty reduction and the interplay of corrupt practices have often led to the displacement of goals and the objectives of programmes designed to reduce the incidence of poverty. Coupled with this is the problem of political instability, the rapid turnover of programmes of action and office holders, leading to the truncation of programmes midstream and unnecessary duplication and waste.

This study therefore asks the crucial questions: What are the main causes of poverty in Wamba Local Government Area? In spite of the various community efforts, what are the factors militating against poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area?

1.3 Research questions

The research questions are to assess issues and challenges of poverty eradication through community development in Wamba Local Government. Thus the following research question are posed:

- i. What are the major causes of poverty in Wamba Local Government?
- ii. What are the major community development programmes in Wamba Local Government Area towards poverty eradication?
- iii. What are the factors militating against poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area?
- iv. How does community development affect poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study include the following:

- i. To examine and assess community development programmes undertaken in Wamba Local Government Area.
- ii. To examine the factors militating against poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area.
- iii. To examine the major causes of poverty in Wamba Local Government Area.

- iv. To determine if community development affect poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area.

1.5 Significance of the study

The study will guide organizations as well as individuals in assessing the challenges of poverty eradication through community development in Nasarawa State.

It will also assist the Nasarawa State in particular to appreciate the importance of community development for the purpose of eradication of poverty. The study will guide the communities in Wamba Local Government Area to focus on areas of improvement need in poverty eradication process towards community development.

1.6 Scope of the Study

The area of this study is Wamba Local Government Area of Nasarawa State which covers the period of 2015-2018.

1.7 Operational Definition of Terms

Community Development: This is the process by which individuals, families, or communities assume responsibility for their own welfare and develop a capacity to contribute to their own and the community's development by being involved in the

decision-making processes in determining goals and pursuing issues of importance to them for example, the direction of services and the allocation of funds.

Poverty: This is state or condition of people, who are incapable of providing food, cloth and shelter due to the lack of employment and basic amenities.

Community: This is a group of people living and interacting with one another in a particular environment.

Development: This is an accumulation of goods and capabilities that impact positively on the sustenance, freedom from servitude and self-esteem of members of a household

Sustainability: This is the ability of an implemented project of any kind to endure and be healthy beyond the project period.

Sustainable Development: This is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

The cornerstone of community-based development initiatives is the active involvement of a defined community in all aspects of project design and implementation which act as a catalyst for poverty reduction and economic development. Community development involves a proactive process in which the beneficiaries influenced the development and management of development projects, rather than receiving a share benefit. Community development creates an enabling environment for sustainability by allowing users to select the level of services for which they are willing to pay, to guide key investment and management decision and commit resources in support of these choices. When beneficiaries also make decisions, development becomes a self-initiated action, which is known as the exercise of voice and choice or empowerment.

The issue of poverty has received high priority in the context of cooperation to developing countries for a long time, leading to global efforts and initiatives for poverty reduction. In 2000, poverty-related issues were included in the Millennium Development Goals; thus reaffirmed as a common fundamental goal of development assistance among donor countries. Poverty reduction has been

recognized as an important development issue within Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and various efforts were made through community development projects. Up to the 1980s, poverty-related projects assisted by JICA were mainly based on two approaches: the direct problem solving approach applied for projects with specific village-level target groups and the technical transfer approach applied for projects designed to develop the capacity of civil servants such as administrative and technical staff. Characteristically, these two approaches provided development interventions at a single level, such as the government and the community level.

The direct problem solving approach was effective in providing quick development solutions as well as empowering the target population. However, the projects based on this approach often brought impacts to a specific target area, thus limiting the number of beneficiaries. This aspect raised certain questions regarding the post-project sustainability of the activities introduced as well as equity in the selection of target areas and populations.

The technical transfer approach was effective in strengthening the capacity of institutions involved in community development. However, the replication of cooperation activities to the local people was left to the discretion of the counterpart organization. It is difficult to assess local needs directly as well as evaluate the impact of activities conducted by the counterpart organization. As an

alternative to the above two approaches, JICA introduced a more comprehensive approach towards poverty reduction called the multi-level cooperation approach. In this approach, each project incorporated interventions at multiple levels, such as central and regional government, community, university, and NGO. Furthermore, this approach enhanced collaboration by creating linkages among above mentioned stakeholders. JICA-supported projects based on the ‘multi-level cooperation approach’ began to appear since early 1990s in various countries.

2.2 Conceptual Framework

Community driven development projects are usually implemented in delimited units referred to as community. Therefore, this project conceptualizes community development using the metaphor of space. The intention for using the concept of space is to understand the dynamics of community development and the associated notion of empowerment by exploring the issues of power and difference within participatory structures and practices. According to Cornwall (2002), conceptualizing development as a spatial practice reveals the issues of power effects that permeate these spaces highlighting. The theoretical literature on development evokes the ‘community’ as sites for public engagement where citizens are provided with opportunities to come together to deliberate and make decisions on issues that affect them Cornwall and Coehlo, (2007); Gaventa, (2006). The community in this sense can be perceived as a bounded entity, metaphorically

akin to a physical space' but not identical to a space conceived in terms of distance. Space is seen as one "which is colonized, reproduced and transformed by human societies" Sayer, (2000, p. 110). Sayer writes that space only exists through its constituents and embodies the social relations that permeate that space. For Cornwall (2002), attempts to engage development among different individuals within a community can be conceived as an effort to create space for them to be involved in the affairs of their locality. Getting the community to participate in collective action to solve some common problems then involves the reconfiguration of the space between citizens and the state to design and create new institutions. Cornwall uses the mode of emergence of participatory spaces to distinguish between development in invited and popular spaces which seems to have had considerable impact on debates on participatory governance. Invited spaces are often brought into existence by external resource bearing agents. Such spaces may be transient or more durable in nature. Invited spaces are conceived as arenas in which people are invited to participate. Forms of invited spaces include community development and citizen development. This form of development requires inviting all shades of people within a defined locality to participate within the space provided. Community members invited to the new spaces are assumed to be capable and willing to participate. Emphasis is on the community using the existing social capital to organize and get involved in the development of the

community. Often associated with community development is the assumption that these spaces are neutral and apolitical which simply allows for an open, all inclusive, equitable deliberation and negotiation among various actors irrespective of individual's social positioning and access to resources Kesby, (2006). Community development as based on the logics of the invited space fails to fully recognize the forms and functions of power operating in different segments of the community and its association with marginal and excluded groups. According to Kapoor (2004), micro power processes operating within the invited space affects the ability of marginal actors to actively participate in project intervention.

Critics also question the conception of the invited space as the site that offers the possibilities for meaningful social transformation since it fails to engage with issues of power and politics Cooke & Kothari, (2001). Unqualified invitation obscures local structures of economic and social power that are likely to affect the outcome of development Mansuri et al., (2004). The conceptions of power within the invited space fails to illuminate the underside of everyday aspects of power relation to understand ways in which power and difference define the participatory space, privileging certain voices and excluding others and reinforcing the power of the elites and reinforcing the status quo Brock et al., (2001); Kapoor, (2004). Kesby (2006) writes that participatory approaches are inseparable from the exercise of power hence the need to understand the workings of power within the

participatory arena. The way spaces for community development are organized and occupied reflects the workings of power. The issue of power is at the helm of community development and so development initiatives that seek to empower people must pay attention to addressing the existing unequal power relations that shape the possibilities for development. Power is conceptualized as a complex product working within the boundaries of the invited space before interrogating the literature on power and development to explore the links and highlight some of the gaps identified. Taking an in-depth look into the spaces of development enables us to understand more closely the dynamics of power, agency and knowledge in shaping the invited spaces. Aside the effects of power, within the participatory space, certain factors are noted in the literature as shaping community development in development interventions Cleaver, (2009); Davis & Negash, (2007). According to Cleaver and Toner (2005), three clear factors namely; wealth, gender and age explain individual's differential development in collective activity. Cleaver and Toner argue that there is a strong correlation between these factors and active development in community development activities. Davis & Negash, (2007), add educational level of the beneficiary to the three factors of wealth, gender and age. Wealth shapes the outcome of development for the well to do as compared to the poor even though it cannot be said that wealth and development have a direct relationship. Furthermore, in community development driven projects,

development is often noted to be gendered with women's development in village level organizations and leadership position being lower than men's. Another key factor patterning development in community interventions is age. The claim is that younger people participate in collective activities than the older but the older people tend to dominate in leadership. Central to community development is its language of empowerment. Hickey and Mohan (2004) assert that development can facilitate the poor with capabilities to maneuver within local power relations and hence bring those in positions of responsibility to account. Within mainstream development, the spaces generated as a result of community development are viewed as sites that empower people and widen their scope of action. Invited arenas of development become an appropriate space that provides the actors, who populate it with voice, skills and the resources to engage, and deliberate within these spaces. Experience garnered within the invited spaces can also transform participants into active citizens who can claim their rights Kabeer, (2002). Similarly, skills learnt can seep into other spaces helping to reconfigure such arenas of development Mohanty, (2004).

Many poverty reduction projects seek to reduce poverty through capacity building in the areas of financial literacy, rights based issues and governance. According to Mansuri and Rao (2013) an effective strategy for getting development to benefit beneficiaries is through skills training. The claim is that skills training provide

significant mechanisms for improving the livelihoods of poor people. Development in skill training and capacity building programs contributes to social and economic integration. Providing training in vocational skills plays an important role in equipping beneficiaries with the skills required for work and social integration. In a rapidly changing environment, strengthening the skills of project beneficiaries can reduce their vulnerability and help them to cope with new economic and social conditions. Therefore, skills development can certainly constitute a powerful tool for poverty reduction.

2.2.1 Concept of Poverty Eradication

To eradicate means to “get rid of, wipe out, destroy, exterminate, do away with, stamp out and remove”. Poverty means “a state of not having enough money to take care of basic needs such as food, clothing, and housing”, “It is the state of having little or no money and few or no material possessions”.

From these definitions, you will realize that: Poverty makes you powerless to provide for your basic needs for food, clothing and housing. You will lack money, if you don't have money making skills or due to shortage of jobs. To change this situation, get a skill and solve problem for others.

If you do not have a means of livelihood you will be poor. As you can see money flows to anyone who can solve problems for others. You receive payment for serving people. Keeping above definitions in view, you must solve the problem of lack of money which pays for food, clothing and housing to eradicate poverty.

Poverty generally may be difficult to define. This is as a result of how many people sees it in their different point of views or areas. This shows the fact that, what may be teemed poor may not be seen as poor by the other people. Onokerhoraye (2001), states two issues that have been constituted in the attempt to define poverty. These are the questions of;

- (a) Who are the poor?
- (b) At what level is poverty defined?

Conventional definitions in attempt to come to terms with these issues consistently conceive poverty as an economic issue. This is measured either as a minimum flow of real income per capita, or as a bundle of basic needs which may be qualified.

The Copenhagen Declaration of 1995 seems to shed more light on what really constitute poverty when it asserts:

Poverty has various manifestations, involving lack of income and productive resources sufficient to ensure sustainable livelihood; hunger and malnutrition, ill

health; limited or lack of access to education and other basic services, increase morbidity and mortality from illness, homeless and inadequate housing; unsafe environments, social discriminations and exclusion. It is also characterized by a lack of participation in decision and in civil, social and cultural life Edoh (2003: 68).

To Adejo (2006), poverty can be manifested in poverty of history, poverty of intellect and poverty of ideology. In any case the deprived are usually the poor. These are people of insufficient income, inadequate food intake, lack basic health care, shelter and safe drinking water, poor environmental cleanliness, lack access to basic education and skills, ignorant of fundamental human rights, and access to information.

Tonasend (1979), using the concept of relative deprivation says:

Individual families and groups in the population can be said to be in poverty line when they lack the resources to obtain the type diet, participate in activities and have the living condition and amenities which are customary, or at least widely encouraged or approved in the society which they belong. Their resources are so seriously below those commented by the average individual or families which are in effect, excluded from ordinary living pattern, customs and activities.

But in reality poverty may not be more of a relative consent. Aliyu also recognized the concept of poverty in absolute and relative terms. Aliyu (2003), explained absolute poverty to be “the condition where an individual or groups of people are unable to satisfy their basic requirement from human survival in terms of education, health, housing, feeding, unemployment and transportation”.

CBN (1999), views poverty as “a state where an individual is not able to cater adequately for his or her basic needs of food, clothing and shelter and is unable to meet social and economic obligation, lacks gainful employment skills access and self esteem and also has limited access to social and economic infrastructure such as education, health, portable water, and sanitation, has limited chance of advancing his or her welfare to the limit of his/her capabilities”.

By and large poverty can be seen as a condition or situation which people or society cannot adequately cater for the basic needs of food, shelter and clothing, the individual or society has limited access to gainful employ, good education, health service, good water, power and communication network, and the individual or society is also free from bad, corrupt and unstable government.

2.2.2 Concept of Community Development

Community development is a process where community members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to common problems. Community

wellbeing (economic, social, environmental and cultural) often evolves from this type of collective action being taken at a grassroots level.

Community development is a way of strengthening civil society by prioritising the actions of communities, and their perspectives in the development of social, economic and environmental policy. It seeks the empowerment of local communities, taken to mean both geographical communities, communities of interest or identity and communities organising around specific themes or policy initiatives. It strengthens the capacity of people as active citizens through their community groups, organisations and networks; and the capacity of institutions and agencies (public, private and non-governmental) to work in dialogue with citizens to shape and determine change in their communities. It plays a crucial role in supporting active democratic life by promoting the autonomous voice of disadvantaged and vulnerable communities. It has a set of core values/social principles covering human rights, social inclusion, equality and respect for diversity; and a specific skills and knowledge base.

Good community development is action that helps people to recognise and develop their ability and potential and organise themselves to respond to problems and needs which they share. It supports the establishment of strong communities that control and use assets to promote social justice and help improve the quality of

community life. It also enables community and public agencies to work together to improve the quality of government.

Community development includes intentional collective actions to improve social, economic, physical, and environmental well-being, while preserving valuable aspects of the culture of the particular geographic area. The U.S., Europe, and Canada especially emphasize, the durability and adaptability of the housing stock as a major topic of community development.

In some parts of the world, war, disease, famine, extreme poverty, and climate change may threaten human life and social organization at such a basic level that community development must focus primarily on helping people overcome those threats to stability.

Community development is a process where community members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to common problems. Community wellbeing (economic, social, environmental and cultural) often evolves from this type of collective action being taken at a grassroots level. Community development ranges from small initiatives within a small group to large initiatives that involve the broader community.

Effective community development should be: a long-term endeavor, well-planned, inclusive and equitable, holistic and integrated into the bigger picture, initiated and

supported by community members of benefit to the community grounded in experience that leads to best practices.

Community development is a grassroots process by which communities: become more responsible, organize and plan together, develop healthy lifestyle options to empower themselves, reduce poverty and suffering, create employment and economic opportunities achieve social, economic, cultural and environmental goals

Community development seeks to improve quality of life. Effective community development results in mutual benefit and shared responsibility among community members. Such development recognizes: the connection between social, cultural, environmental and economic matters the diversity of interests within a community its relationship to building capacity

Community development helps to build community capacity in order to address issues and take advantage of opportunities, find common ground and balance competing interests. It doesn't just happen – capacity building requires both a conscious and a conscientious effort to do something (or many things) to improve the community.

2.3 Effect of Poverty Eradication on Community Development

World Bank Report (2009) views poverty eradication in Nigeria as a no success. Government in the past years has performed vital roles in eradicating poverty in Nigerian communities. The following are key roles played by the government on eradication poverty towards community development:

- a. Government has played a vital role in distributing fertilizer to farmers at a lower rate.
- b. Improve women farmers through the level of consumable and fixed assets resources.
- c. It also help in Empowering the youth by initiating programme that will make the youth self reliant.
- d. Government played a role in the poverty alleviation in the area of controlling birth through family planning programme awareness.
- e. It also played a role in inviting the non-governmental organization (NGOs) to help in eradicating poverty.
- f. Government helps in the area of assisting small farmers by giving loans to farmers.
- g. It plays a key role in organizing awareness programme for farmers on how farmers should go about in protecting farm produce from pests through the use of certain insecticide.

2.4 Importance of Poverty Eradication on Community Development

It is very important we deal with poverty to reduce vices like armed robbery, drug abuse and prostitution. Individuals can eradicate poverty in Nigeria by getting education and learning a trade or vocation.

A little more explanation of how you can achieve this feat will do. So here we go.

1. Getting Education

I wish to state that having access to education is a way of escaping poverty.

How is this possible? When you are educated you get particular skills and potential power for earning money. But if you specialize in a particular field, it will increase your ability to earn money.

Education also influences how you think and behave. It enables you to:

- a. get a skill with which you can serve people,
- b. serve a purpose by solving problems in a particular line of work,
- c. serve more people so that you will earn more money,
- d. improve your ability by experience at work,
- e. develop your skill and get extra qualification to advance your career,
- f. plan your life, have a vision, pursue and achieve it,
- g. plan your family and have the number of children you can train,

h. get a good job to improve your standard of living,

From these points you can see how education potentially wipes out poverty.

Next, we will discuss how learning a trade makes it possible for you to eradicate poverty as well.

2. Learning a Trade

If you learn a trade and develop expertise, it can help you earn a good living. You can learn various skills from knowledgeable people which will position you to beat poverty.

For example, you may be uneducated but you can learn to work as a motor mechanic, brick layer, web designer, graphic designer, furniture making, laying tiles, and roofing a house and electrical repairs.

All these vocations are always in hot demand, so you can never be hungry if you get the necessary training or apprenticeship.

Two Additional Ways to Eradicate Poverty in Nigeria

Let us discuss two other ways for eradicating poverty in Nigeria. They include the government and international organizations.

3. Ways of Eradicating Poverty in Nigeria by the Government

Government must start programs like- Agricultural sector reform, to make sure Nigeria can feed itself.

This reform will bring about massive employment in the sector from increase in output, and many businesses will be set up to support the agric sector.

The agric sector reform can take place if government supports farmers by:

- a. providing infrastructure,
- b. giving farmers small loans,
- c. ensuring interest rate on agric loans is single digit,
- d. providing high yield seedlings for farmers,
- e. subsidizing sale of fertilizers to farmers,
- f. helping small farmers grow into big ones who use mechanized farming,
- g. discouraging subsistence farming,
- h. encouraging produce buyers to buy harvest by farmers,
- i. providing storage facilities for perishable goods like tomatoes, fruits and vegetables.
- j. Providing social safety nets to cater for poor Nigerians,
- k. Improving the ease of doing business in Nigeria.

After discussing government's role, the last group we will discuss is International organizations contribution to the eradication of poverty in Nigeria.

4. Ways to Eradicate Poverty in Nigeria by International Organizations

Many International Organizations such as World Bank and organs of United Nations help to eradicate poverty in developing nations and the world at large.

These organizations donate large sums of money and send volunteers to serve in Nigeria, and the other parts of the world. They offer food, healthy nutrition and medicine to fight diseases.

They also, grant large loans to governments, improve food production and distribution, provide health services and educational programs for women and children, and encourage democracy and good governance.

2.5 Challenges of Poverty Eradication on Community Development

The challenges include the following:

Corruption and Embezzlement

Corruption comes in different faces and differs from country. In Africa illegal takeover of government through military coup, embezzlement, nepotism, looting, bribery, vote buying and abuse of office are very common, for instance, it is common practice for top government jobs to be filled with chronic serve as

conduct pipes to siphon money to foreign account of some top government functionaries, such money are often kept in secrets accounts in Switzerland, Nigeria is ranked among the most corrupt countries in the world. Nigerian corrupt practices range from extortion by public functionaries to advance free fraud. At the National level these are hardly form of services that would be referred without giving or receiving undue favours or gratification. Access to public infrastructure such as high way, admission into tertiary institutions, and schools and even hospitals was possible only through corrupt practices, promotion in some work places is based on payment by reserving officers. The international trust fund has been put in place to help identifies the stock in trade of many Nigerians abroad. The sum of total effects is that corruption have wiped out the good will that usually sustain good business of patriotism accessory for development. A mechanism of entrusting public responsibility of Nigerian needs to be revolved Nemadia (2005). Although the recent administration in Nigeria has set up bodies like the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC) and Independent Corrupt Practice Commission to curtail the level of corruption in the country which is still increasing every day.

Lack of Comprehensive National Poverty Alleviation

Any programme that seeks to reduce poverty must be consistent, sustainable and comprehensive. These are necessary considering that poverty is multidimensional and deep seated in Nigeria society.

However, experience shows that many of these programmes as initiated in Nigeria society is characterized by lack of consistency, continuity and coordination of government policies. This scenario, results in poor programme performance and ineffectiveness. Apart from competing for the available resources, these programmes in most cases poorly are conceived and formulated but lack transparency in application of available funds. The lack of political will by successive governments to tackle poverty had long actions resources through usually misdirected, claimed to be committed to poverty reduction are not commensurate with verbal pronouncement to poverty alleviation Nemadia (2005).

Political Instability

Nigeria's politics is filled with instability reflected by a catalogue of military incursions into politics, it is a known fact that military rule is an aberration, just as it is unpopular. The incessant and protracted military incursions into politics results in policy distortion and economic mismanagement reflected in lack of transparency and accountability in fiscal operation. In most cases, no meaningful effort is made,

to address the scourge of poverty and where such effort is made, constant change of government through coups and counter coups truncate such programmes. Directorate of Foods, Roads and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI) initiated by the military government of General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida by the successive government is a pointer to this unwholesome scenario Aliyu (2002).

Lack of Basic Infrastructure

Infrastructure has traditionally been seen as a major contributor to growth and poverty alleviation. The link between infrastructure and growth has the object of economic studies. In a review of literature on the subject, Ahmed and Donovan (2006), group look at the impact of infrastructure at the aggregate level, at the village level, and at the farm level.

However, while there may be a clear link between infrastructure and growth, the link with poverty is neither automatic nor necessarily direct. Creating infrastructure on the blind hope that it will automatically and directly alleviate poverty is so simplistic. Infrastructure may not have an economic impact. Equally, its impact may go well beyond simple economic considerations.

Sustained long term growth depends critically upon increasing the access of poor people to qualitative social service and essential infrastructure. The main priorities are health, urban transport, rural roads, clean water supplies, electricity, and

sanitation. For example, increasing the supply of and providing access to portable water is an important poverty reducer, this is not only because of the health benefits but many household members spend time seeking for good water when they could engage in other gainful activities.

Shelter is also a good housing strategy aims redressing the situation of inadequate and poor housing, which is the scourge of the poor. The main objective would be to provide stable and healthy shelter for the poor .This could be achieved by using appropriate technology such as local building materials. Further to accelerate the process of housing production a review of the land decree is necessary. This is to ensure that land allocation and use promote mass housing. Rural electrification is also a good example of infrastructure that resulted in an increase in production as well job creation. The absence of power (electricity) cripple small and large production which resulted to extreme poverty. Poor rural roads discourage agriculture production; as farmers will shift from high value fruits orchards to low value cereals. These cereals yield low profit compare to higher orchards. Increase in crops perishing brought about as a result of poor roads, as well as poor quality and non- all year round operation of the roads Nemadia (2005).

Poor Agricultural Policy Implementation

Agriculture being the first and most important of all, though Nigeria is blessed with fertile land for food and raw material products, it lacks proper attention from the government or rather the government lacks the knowledge or actions of implementing and formulating such policies like, the strategic grains reserves programme, the programme for accelerated wheat production, and the programme for the development of artisan fishery, supply of farm inputs, services and credit extension to farmers among others, rather tends to focus on crude oil than agriculture. Whereas, agriculture helps sustain the initial efforts at industrialization through the demand for industrial products. It also provides savings for industrialization both by individuals and governments. Agriculture supplies food for consumption by workers in industries and households and thereby helping to conserve foreign exchange. However agriculture is only able to perform the above named functions if it is well organized and made efficient as sector Nemadia (2005).

Sectorial Problem

These are manifested in over dependence on petroleum as foreign exchange earner. Thus, converting the economy to a mono-product one with its all fluctuations, neglect of agricultural development and inadequate infrastructure. The neglect of

agriculture is a service problem consistency that the sector is the employer of labour especially in the rural areas that is predominant by a large population of the poor. This had led to low productivity or production in the sector, resulting in the low economic status of the farmers as well as accelerating poor living standard Aliyu (2002).

Rapid Population Growth

Explosion of population indirectly has put a great strain on Nigeria economy and, in tune, hit all programmes of alleviating poverty. The increased population devours all the resources and benefits of economic and social developments. Nigeria is said to be an agricultural economy though it is now no more fully true, yet about 70% the population still in rural areas. The major portion of this population are poor. It requires rapid and land reforms meaning a ceiling on landholdings and distribution of excess land among the landless Nemadia (2005).

Macro Economic Problem

These include high inflation, high unemployment level, foreign exchange rate instability (continent depreciation of the local currency in relation to major currency) and public debt burden especially huge external debt overhung. Inflation bun a major feature of Nigeria (2001). Unemployment youth is the absolute definition of the society Nemadia (2005).

Structural Adjustment Programme is also one of the proximate of causes of poverty in Nigeria because of its policies of trade liberalization, withdrawal of subsidies and currency distribution.

The above views given dwell so much on the causes of poverty and its effects which can be addressed through good governance and free and fair distribution of wealth and income to the society.

2.6 Prospect of Poverty Eradication on Community Development in Wamba Local Government Area

Eradicating extreme poverty and substantially reducing moderate poverty by 2030 requires major shifts in policy priorities. To ensure that no one is denied universal human rights and basic economic opportunities, any new development agenda should focus on ensuring inclusive economic growth and reducing inequalities.

Employment opportunities need to be generated, consistent with the decent work agenda. As the vast majority of poor people live in impoverished rural areas, the main focus must be on building more productive, diversified and resilient local rural economies with stronger rural-urban economic linkages, and through the accelerated adoption of climate-smart and sustainable production methods. The will require a transformative agenda:

- i. The majority of the rural poor are smallholder farmers, who are responsible for most global food production. Helping them to improve farm productivity through better access to resources, technologies, markets and organizations will be critical for both poverty eradication and food security. Compared to general growth in low-income developing countries, agricultural growth's impact on poverty reduction could be as much as five times greater;
- ii. Reducing poverty requires ecological and resource sustainability. Increased food production will exacerbate land degradation, greenhouse gas emissions and biodiversity loss unless production methods and consumption patterns become more sustainable. Smallholder farmers will need affordable access to technologies and infrastructure to sustainably transform food systems;
- iii. Diversification of employment into non-agricultural activities will be essential to accelerate both rural and urban poverty reduction. Growth of non-farm activities is often driven by agricultural growth and can stimulate local employment creation;
- iv. Closing the gender gaps in education and access to productive resources can substantially boost women's empowerment and incomes, particularly in agriculture and rural areas;

- v. Roads and electricity improve connectivity to markets, strengthen rural-urban linkages, increase agricultural and non-agricultural productivity and create employment;
- vi. Better social protection can help the poor better manage risks, improve their livelihoods, and enhance the health and education of their children. It will thus not only help accelerate the eradication of poverty and hunger, but also reduce disparities in life chances;
- vii. Early investments in education, health and nutrition in rural areas are essential. Many youth face bleak economic prospects whether they stay in the countryside or migrate to cities. Increasing gainful opportunities by enhancing the skills of rural youth, and upgrading and diversifying local economic activities is therefore essential for improving youth prospects;
- viii. Addressing undernutrition will also contribute to poverty reduction by enhancing economic capacity, human capability and earnings potential, through better physical and cognitive development and sufficient dietary energy to be productive.

2.7 Review of Empirical Studies

The empirical literature strongly suggests that more rapid GDP growth is associated with more rapid poverty reduction, i.e., “growth is good for the poor”.

Any shifts toward increased inequality have not been known to dominate the positive impact of more rapid growth on poverty reduction. Several studies are privy to this consensus. Roemer and Gugerty (1997) find that economic growth benefits the poor in almost all countries in which substantial growth takes place. They also find that open economies have been more successful at reducing poverty than countries that close themselves to international trade and exchange. Applying cross-country regression analysis to a data set that covers over four decades and for 80 countries, Dollar and Kraay (2000) show that, on average, incomes of the poor rise one-for-one with overall growth. In a later study, Dollar and Kraay (2001) examine the extent to which the poorest in society (i.e. those in the bottom fifth of the income distribution of a country) can benefit from economic growth. They empirically investigate the relationship between overall income growth and growth in the average incomes of the poor using a large sample of developed and developing countries. They find that incomes of the poor rise proportionately with (overall) average incomes, i.e. the general relationship between growth of the income of the poor and growth of the (overall) mean income is one-to-one. On a more detailed examination of this finding, they discover that it holds across regions, time periods, growth rates, and income levels; and is robust to controlling for possible reverse causation from incomes of the poor to (overall) average incomes.

These findings contradict a number of popular ideas about the poverty-growth nexus. In particular, growth of income of the poor does not appear to respond systematically to a number of supposedly “pro-poor” policies (including formal democratic institutions and public expenditure on health and education). They again affirm that although growth is not all that is needed to improve the lives of the poor, it generally does benefit the poor as much as everyone else.

Critics of the doctrine of a strict focus on growth promotion as a poverty reduction strategy contradict these findings. They claim that the benefits of growth tend to reach the poor with long lags. In that case, and notwithstanding possible negative impacts on growth, the government should intervene directly in improving the lives of the poor strata of the society. These have none or only very few productively useable resources apart from their usually unskilled labor which itself are often very adversely affected by hunger, malnutrition, and diseases. Experience shows that the poor, in general, do not have as much access to these public goods and services as other groups do (World Bank, 1990).

The conclusion that high growth rate is not a sufficient condition for poverty alleviation has become even more relevant as access to such necessities as health services and education, themselves critical factors in the poverty alleviation milieu, cannot be guaranteed merely by raising levels of personal income. El-laithy, Lokshhin and Barneji (2003) assess changes in poverty and inequality in Egypt

between 1995 and 2000 based on the 1995/96 and the 1999/2000 household expenditure survey data. Using household-specific poverty lines that account for the differences in regional prices as well as consumption preferences, size and age composition of poor households, they find the redistribution effect generally weak, and more than the growth effect. The pattern of distribution is also found to vary within regions, with the poorest households in Lower Egypt actually getting proportionately larger shares of expenditure growth. They observe that in spite of the positive relationship between economic growth and poverty in Egypt, many of the poor were not affected by the substantial growth of the preceding decade.

Aigbokhan (2000) investigates, among other things, changes in Nigeria's profiles of poverty and welfare as well as the causes of poverty among males and females. Based on national consumer survey data sets for 1985/1986, 1992/1993 and 1996/97 and a consumption-based poverty line (derived by the food energy intake method), he finds some evidence of increased poverty, in spite of some evidence of some positive real growth. His study suggests that the so-called "trickle-down" phenomenon, underlying the view that growth improves poverty (and inequality) is not borne out by the data sets used in the study. For this he suspects the nature of the growth pursued (oil and mining sub-sectors driven) and the macroeconomic policies that underlie it. He therefore recommends that attention be paid to such areas as policy consistency, rather than reversals; policy consciousness of the need

to ensure the use of the main assets owned by the poor (human capital); and the provision of socio-economic infrastructural facilities, in view of the widely acknowledged inverse relationship between educational achievement and poverty.

An Empirical Investigation conducted by Friday S. Ebong and Fidelis O. Ogwumike in 2013 on Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction in Nigeria revealed that Economic growth is said to be pro-poor if the poverty measure adopted falls with increased growth rate. Poverty researchers have investigated this phenomenon mainly in the context of income poverty. The fact that poverty goes beyond income has received little attention. This study appreciates the multidimensional nature of poverty. It sees poverty in its non-income dimension, highlights the concept of pro-poor growth, and also empirically analyzes if economic growth in Nigeria is, or could be, pro-poor. In our empirical analysis a vector autoregressive model was formulated and estimated within an error correction framework. Within this framework, we have analyzed annual time series data to capture, quantitatively, the effects on human-capital poverty of economic growth and other control variables, both in the short- and long-term. Results showed that in the medium-to-long term, agricultural development raised human capital poverty, while developing the other sectors of the economy reduced it. In the short-term, public capital expenditure on social services, including credit to the agricultural sector, and agricultural development generally, showed a potential to

reduce poverty. Public capital expenditure on economic services, growth in the non-agricultural sector of the economy, and increased urbanization intensified the incidence of human capital poverty. These results indicate that government expenditures on human capital development through the social services sector tend to reduce human-capital poverty. They underscore the desirability of adequate capital expenditures on education and health; and also suggest the need for enhancing the pace of rural transportation with a view to creating non-agricultural employment opportunities and minimize the rate of urban growth.

Misango & Ongiti in 2013 has examined the economic role of women entrepreneurs in poverty reduction in Kenya. A case study was carried out among women entrepreneurs at the Maasai market within Nairobi City's Central Business District. From the target population of 664, 15% were sampled for this study, through stratified and purposive sampling techniques. Quantitative and qualitative data were collected by use of questionnaires and interviews, hence analyzed concurrently. The study showed that the economic activities carried out by the respondents were similar in nature and included selling of African artifacts, clothing and ornaments. Most respondents (95%) used readily available raw materials to make their products for sale. Majority of the respondents (83%) agreed that the businesses had made them improve their economic status. The businesses contributed to the promotion of tourism, employment and export trade. The study

concludes that women entrepreneurs play a major role in poverty reduction in Kenya.

Jonathan E. Oghenekohwo in 2004 conducted a study on the Empirical Evidences of the Impact of community education and Social Development Projects on Rural Bayelsa, Nigeria and found out that community and social development projects (CSDP) is a conceived development intervention that builds on two existing poverty-reduction oriented programmes which are the poverty reduction project and local empowerment and environmental management project which came into effect in 2004. However, since the inception of the CSDP in many states of the federation, including Bayesla State, little or no empirical research has been carried out to determine the impact on community development in rural Bayelsa. This is the gap that this study filled as it among other things found, out that, CSDP has contributed to the development of community capacity to respond appropriately to their immediate but essential needs such as, water, health, sanitation, education through literacy promotion, and social integration of members.

2.8 Theoretical Framework

The theoretical underpinning for this study is systems theory, according to Ikelegbe (1991), a system is a whole that functions as a whole virtue of its several interrelated parts. David Easton is the first major political scientist who has

developed a systematic framework on the basis of the systems analysis approach for the study of politics instead of merely adapting it from anthropology or sociology. “The system theory sees development as an output of the local government.

Easton’s treatment of political system as both open and adaptive and his primary emphasis on the nature of the exchanges and transactions that take place between a political system and its environment naturally bring in the concept of systemic boundaries and boundary conditions. But a political scientist has to concentrate mainly on the processing and covering of a variety of influence which flow from the environment into the political system and of the way in which the system responds these influences what Easton calls “the life process of political system”, (Easton 1965, PP196- Easton has given the concept of systemic persistence the central placed in his analysis).

A system is any entity conceptual or physical which consists of interrelated, interacted or interdependent part. A system is also a set on entities, action in whose attribute affect the system and also this entities whose attributes are changed by behavior of the system.

A system review recognized the fact that the expected outcome is the result of the interactions that took place between the element therefore, the operational system

should be of the integration and independence that the dynamic nature of the system can operate. Moreover, operation of the further action of the system operation can be made when the interaction are fully understood.

Therefore, for the purpose of this research work, which center on poverty eradication through community development in Nasarawa State, system approach has been adopted because it deals with units and part of a system, so also with the Wamba Local Government which deals with community and wards, without the coming together of this various communities and wards, Wamba Local Government will not function and operate the way it should towards achievement of its goals in ensuring that poverty is reduce to the barest minimal. To this fact, system theory is seen by the researcher as the relevant theory to be used for this research work.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter discusses the research methodology covering of data collection and the statistical analysis.

3.2 Research Design

The method adopted is survey method. In management science research, the survey method is one of the most reliable research methods.

According to Kerlinger (1964), survey method is a “branch of social science investigation that studies large and small populations, by selecting and studying samples chosen from the population to discover the relative incidence, distribution and interrelations of sociological and psychological variables”.

3.3 Population, Sample Size and Sampling Techniques

The population of the study comprise of the entire wards in Wamba Local Government Area Council. The Local Government has the total of 10 wards. In order to arrive at a reliable result, 200 copies of the questionnaire were distributed in the ten (10) wards. The questionnaire was distributed in such a way that the entire wards will be represented and also based on the population.

According to Agburu (2001), “sample size” has to do with the magnitude of such portion of the population selected for the study. Sample also refers to the portion or part of the population that the researcher chooses for study.

The technique used in drawing the sample size is stratified random sampling. It categories the total number of persons in the ward, based on their population per ward. Respondent are chosen from the stratum for representation.

The sample size of 200 was chosen to effectively carry out the study, applying the proportionality formula as defined below: Propounded by **Eudoxus of Cnidus**, (352 BC).

$$Qa = \frac{A \times n}{N}$$

where

Qa = Sample size to be determined

A = Population

N = Total population of persons

3.4 Method of Data Collection

Data were collected from two main sources which are primary and secondary source of data.

Primary Sources

Primary data were sourced from the questionnaire administered to the respondents in the various wards while oral interviews were conducted with some of the residents of the wards.

Secondary Sources

Secondary data were sourced from different textbooks, newspapers, magazine, journal annual reports and seminar papers. Added to these were pamphlets gotten from the various ward of the Wamba Local Government which have some information on the topic of study. The secondary data therefore provided the data for review of literature and formation of the theoretical framework of the research.

3.5 Method of Data Analysis and Model Specification

The data collected were analysed by simple percentage and result narrated descriptively in frequency tables, according to the response area of the questionnaires collected.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.1 Introduction

This chapter is on the presentation, interpretation, and analysis of data collected during the investigation. It is the core of research investigation because it discusses the data collected from the respondents.

4.2 Presentation of Data

Table 4.2.1 Questionnaire Analysis

Questionnaire	Data of Respondent	Percentage (%)
Copies of Questionnaire returned	187	93.5
Copies of Questionnaire not returned	13	6.5
Copies of Questionnaire	200	100

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

The table shows that out of the total number of the questionnaire administered (two hundred), one hundred and eighty seven (187) or 93.5% were properly completed and returned, while thirteen (13) or 6.5% were not returned.

Table 4.2.2: Policy on the Reduction of Poverty within its Community

Option	Number of respondent	Percentage (%)
Yes	99	52.9
No	88	47.1
Total	187	100

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

A critical look from the table 4.2.2 above revealed that 99 respondents, representing 52.9% agree that Wamba Local Government have policy on the reduction of poverty within its community, while 88 respondents representing 47.1% said no that Wamba Local Government does not have any policy on the reduction of poverty within its community.

Table 4.2.3: Wamba community participatation in poverty reduction of their area

Option	Number of respondent	Percentage (%0
Yes	51	27.3
No	136	72.7
Total	187	100

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

From the Table 4.2.3 above, 51 respondents, representing 27.3% affirmed that various communities in Wamba do participate in poverty reduction of their area; whereas majority of the respondents, representing 72.7% said no that the various communities in Wamba do not participate in poverty reduction of their area.

Table 4.2.4: Causes of poverty in Wamba Local Government

Option	Number of respondent	Percentage (%)
Due to religious and economic crisis	59	31.5
Inadequate utilization of resources	58	30
Poor or lack of planning	27	14.5
Lack of employment	43	23
Total	187	100

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

From the Table 4.2.4, 31.5% of the respondents, which are made of 59 respondents are of the view that the major causes of poverty in Wamba Local Government is due to religious and economic crisis, 58 respondents, representing 30% said that poor allocation of financial resources is the challenge faced by the community members during the poverty alleviation process in Wamba Local Government Area. Similarly, 27 respondents, representing 14.5% of the sample population are of the different opinion that governmental regulations is the challenge faced by the

community members during the poverty alleviation process in Wamba Local Government Area, while 43 respondents, representing 23% said that poor grant and support by government has been the challenge face by the community.

Table 4.2.5: Factors militating against poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area

Option	Number of respondent	Percentage (%)
Lack or poor savings	59	31.5
Poor allocation of financial resources	58	30
Government regulations	27	14.5
Poor grant and support by government	43	23
Total	187	100

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

From the Table 4.2.5, 31.5% of the respondents, which are made of 59 respondents are of the view that lack or poor savings is the factor militating against poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area, 58 respondents, representing 30% said that poor allocation of financial resources is the factor militating against poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area. Similarly, 27 respondents, representing 14.5% of the sample population are of the different opinion that governmental regulations is the factor militating against poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area, while 43 respondents, representing 23% said that

poor grant and support by government has been the factor militating against poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area.

Table 4.2.6: Community development affect poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area

Option	Number of respondent	Percentage (%)
Positively	124	66.3
Negatively	63	33.7
Total	187	100

Source: Field survey, 2019.

Table 4.2.6 shows that 124 respondents, representing 66.3% said that community development affect poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area positively, while 63 respondents, representing 33.7% said no that community development affect poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area negatively.

Table 4.2.7: Major community development programmes in Wamba Local Government Area towards poverty eradication

Option	Number of respondent	Percentage (%)
Drilling of Boholes around communities	78	41.7
Constructions of drainages against erosion.	59	31.6
Electrification of the communities	50	26.7
Total	187	100

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

From the table 4.2.7 above, 78 respondents, representing 41.7% agreed that Drilling of Boholes around communities is the major community development programmes in Wamba Local Government Area towards poverty eradication, also, 59 respondents, representing 31.6% agreed that construction of drainages against erosion, while 50 respondents, representing 26.7% are of the view that electrification of the communities is the major community development programmes in Wamba Local Government Area towards poverty eradication.

4.3 Major Findings

From the analysis the following are the research findings are made.

- i. It was revealed by this study that Wamba Local Government have policy on the reduction of poverty within its community.
- ii. It was revealed by this study that the various communities in Wamba do not participate in poverty reduction of their area.
- iii. Also, this study revealed that the major causes of poverty in Wamba Local government is due to religious and economic crisis.
- iv. The study revealed that lack or poor savings is the factor militating against poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area.
- v. It was also revealed by this study that community development affect poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area positively.
- vi. It was also revealed that Drilling of Boholes around communities is the major community development programmes in Wamba Local Government Area towards poverty eradication.

4.5 Discussion of Findings

From the study so far it was revealed that Wamba Local Government have policy on the reduction of poverty within its community that is to say the people embarked on community effort towards the development of the local government. Also it was possible to see that various communities in Wamba do not participate in poverty reduction of their area which makes it difficult for the local government to achieved full development.

Similarly, the major causes of poverty in Wamba Local Government is due to religious and economic crisis also, lack or poor savings is the factor militating against poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Areas as well as poor allocation of financial resources.

However, community development affect poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area positively, as drilling of boholes around communities is the major community development programmes in Wamba Local Government Area towards poverty eradication.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Summary

Community development gives the community a voice which leads to better quality decision-making and programmes that are more closely tied to local need.

Development is expected to result in better design and execution of projects, better targeted benefits, more cost effective and timely delivery of projects inputs and more equitably distributed project benefits. Community Driven Development (CDD) approach contributes to building the capacity of rural communities to articulate their needs and to support a clearer and more constructive dialogue between the various actors, thus explicitly targeting improved local governance. Community development builds a long-term strategy for poverty reduction through infrastructural provisions. This provides the template for livelihood activities and changing the culture of dependency with quick technical fixes of community projects.

A growing body of evidence confirms that community development in development projects leads to poverty reduction and sustainable development in Wamba local government. Specifically in Wamba Local Government, community development empowers the poor by building their capacity through skills training

to actively engage with the development process. Active empowerment in community activities often leads to the empowerment of local community members which brings about development of that area.

Development and empowerment are mutually reinforcing as such it should be promoted for effective results. Empowerment is the process by which people gain control over the factors and decisions that shape their lives. The empowering effects of community development in poverty reduction manifest at the individual and collective levels. At the individual level, giving people the knowledge, skills and confidence to address their own needs and advocate on their own behalf improves their capacity for collective. Development in collective action gives individuals the resources to exercise agency through voice. Empowering people through capacity building increases the likelihood of their development in community activities. Increased levels of empowerment allow the community to have influence over things that matter and obtain power over decisions, enabling them to move from powerless non-participants active and effective citizens. Community empowerment goes beyond consultation and information sharing and offers the possibility for active involvement in the decision-making process.

5.2 Conclusion

Community development is one of the pre-requisites in most development and health programmes around the world. It remains a challenge that programme

planners and other actors in development continue to take up due to its scope and potential for success of such programmes. Community development has brought not only new solutions to problems in development programmes but has also generated new questions about and challenges to the way development is being perceived or addressed upon. It can be argued that though community development offers much scope for improving the chances of success of development and/or health programmes, it is unlikely to succeed unless planners and development professionals address the challenges associated with it through active engagement and in close confidence with the community. The constraints that exist in a community also lend their effect to the environmental and contextual characteristics that can define or shape the strategies of health programmes, and hence it would not be far fetched to emphasize the need for a holistic approach in policy and planning to ensure fuller community development and cooperation towards successful realization of programme goals and objectives.

5.3 Recommendations

This research work recommends that:

- i. Since Wamba Local Government has a policy on the reduction of poverty within its community, thus, the communities should see it as a means of

effecting true democracy in the area towards the betterment of the entire society.

- ii. The various communities in Wamba should participating in poverty reduction of their area as a strong initiative for it is the only way to promote equally and even development across the local government.
- iii. The issues of religious and economic crisis should be looked into seriously, as it has been the major causes of poverty in Wamba Local government as such peace and unity should be encourage as it is the sure way of promoting economic activities in the area.
- iv. Indigenes of Wamba communities should consider and device good and proper means of savings to make their economic strong and reliable as poor savings as been considers to be the major factor militating against poverty eradication in the Local Government Area.
- v. Community development should be taken very serious in the local government because when neglected, it affect poverty eradication in the.
- vi. Wamba Local Government Area should not only consider drilling of boholes around communities, as the major community development programmes, towards poverty eradication, but rather looked also into rural electrification and construction of roads, for when this is done, it will go a long way in boosting economic activities in the area.

5.4 Limitation of the Study

A study of this nature is inexhaustic considering some major constraint includes: finance, time, materials and scope. Consequently further research should be conducted to enrich the benefits.

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APPENDIX I

Department of Public Administration,
Faculty of Administration,
Nasarawa State University, Keffi,
Nasarawa State.
23th October, 2018.

Dear respondents,

QUESTIONNAIRE

I am a student of the above mentioned institution, carrying out a research on the topic “**Challenges of Poverty Eradication through Community Development in Wamba Local Government Area of Nasarawa State**”. This questionnaire is designed to assist me reach conclusion on the research topic and purely for academic purpose. Any information given shall be treated with utmost confidentiality.

Thanks

Yours faithfully,

Onye Chinelo

APPENDIX II

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

QUESTIONNAIRE

You are required to tick [] in the appropriate box.

RESEARCH QUESTION

1. Does Wamba Local Government have any policy on the reduction of poverty within its community?

Yes [] No []

2. Do the various communities in Wamba participate in poverty reduction of their area?

Yes [] No []

3. What are the major cause of poverty in Wamba Local Government?

Due to religious and economic crisis []

Inadequate utilization of resources []

Poor or lack of planning []

Lack of employment []

4. What are the factors militating against poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area?

Lack of poor savings []

Poor allocation of financial resources []

Government regulations []

Poor grant and support by government []

5. How does community development affect poverty eradication in Wamba Local Government Area?

Positively []

Negatively []

6. What are the major community development programmes in Wamba Local Government Area towards poverty eradication?

Drilling of Boholes around communities []

Constructions of drainages against erosion []

Electrification of the communities []