THE CONTRIBUTION OF YOUTH CORPS MEMBERS IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN KATSINA STATE.

BY

ABDULLAHI, LAWAL FASKARI.

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THE CONTRIBUTION OF YOUTH CORPS MEMBERS IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN KATSINA STATE.

ABDULLAHI, LAWAL FASKARI

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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY
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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis is a product of my own research work and that it has not been submitted elsewhere for the award of any degree. All sources of Information have been duly acknowledged by means of reference.

Abdullahi, Lawal Faskari
August, 1997.

CERTIFICATION

This thesis entitled " The Contribution of Youth Corps Members in Rural Development in Katsina State" by Abdullahi, Lawal Faskari meets the regulations governing the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (sociology) of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and is approved for its contribution to knowledge and literary presentation.

Prof. Are Kolawole
Chairman, supervisory committee — Date 16/11/98

Dr. S. A. Nkom
Member, superviory committee — Date 14.4.98

Dr. J.E. Gyong
Head of Department — Date 14-4-98

Dean,
Postgraduate School — Date 2/11/98

DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my Parents.

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ABSTRACT

The present research examined in details the contribution of the Youth Corps Members in the transformation of the rural areas of Katsina State. Previous efforts of the three tiers of government in agricultural and rural development have been examined. The causes of the failure of those efforts have been identified and the linkage of the NYSC to rural development has been made.

The total study population for this research was eight hundred and seventy seven (877) respondents. This was formed by four categories that includes, 16 senior NYSC officials at Katsina State secretariat, 460 Youth Corps members of 1993/94 service year who served in the 13 selected local government areas, 297 villages and district heads representing community members and 104 most senior local government officials in the selected local government areas. Eight (8) local government officials were derived from each of the 13 Local governments.

Out of the total study population of 877, 450 samples were drawn. These formed the respondents for the research. The number included 237 Youth Corps members, 152 community members, 8 NYSC officials and 53 local government officials.The result derived from the questionnaire administration was supplemented by oral interview. The samples for oral interview were selected from the four categories of the questionnaire respondents. A 25 percent proportion to size of each category of the samples was selected except for the NYSC officials, where a 50 percent sample was drawn because they were directly responsible for deployment of the Youth Corps Members, as well as monitoring and co-ordinating their rural development projects. A total of 104 respondents were interviewed. The total was made up of 59 Youth Corps Members, 38 Community members, 13 Government officials and 4 NYSC officials. In

all however, the research had the following findings.

It was found that the NYSC scheme was highly recognized and the presence of Youth Corps members was felt. This was largely due to the contribution of the Corps members in developing the rural Katsina.

The contribution of the Youth Corps members was found to be mainly in the provision of infrastructural facilities that included construction of drainages, bridges, culvers. Town Halls, toilets and other public facilities. This was followed by provision of rural welfare services such as provision of medical and health services; mass enlightenment and fabrication of machines,

The success of the NYSC members in rural development in Katsina state was another major finding of the research. The recorded success was attributed to the sufficiency of Youth Corps members deployed to Katsina state. Although most of these Corps members were deployed to Urban Centres, rural development projects were found to be adequately facilitated.

One of the major findings that contributed to the facilitation of Youth Corps members projects in Katsina state was continuity. The research has found that Youth Corps members do continue with uncompleted projects inherited from their predecessors.

In executing their rural development projects, Youth Corps members depend highly on the support received from community members. The assistance from community members was well utilised. This induced more support to Corps members by community members. These factors were the bedrocks of the schemes overall success in Katsina state.

CHAPTER ONE

THE CONTRIBUTION OF NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS MEMBERS IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN KATSINA STATE.

1.1 Introduction

The contribution of Youths in the development of their societies is highly recognised. nowadays, Youths constitute the productive force of nations all over the world. In view of this, their role in agriculture, manufacturing, trade and commerce, industrialisation, health and sanitation, education, politics and government, water supply, construction and design, amongothers can never be over- emphasised.

Until recently, these roles were greatly played in urban centres. However, with the realisation of the need to transform the life style of rural people through improvement of their standard of living, various programmes of action were evolved. In Nigeria for instance, such programmes include Farm Settlement Schemes, to Agricultural Development Programmes, River Basin Development Authorities and Integrated Rural Development Projects. The aim of all, however,is to develop the rural economy whose population of more than one third of the population of the world constitutes the majority among other occupants of the globe. It should be stated that the participants in these programmes are mostly youths.

In recognition of the role of youths in developing the rural world, Governments, Organisations and International non- Governmental Organisations (NGOs) hold conferences, workshops and seminars as a complementary move and in a bid to encourage youths to sustain, if not to double their efforts in development activities. As a bi- product of these

seminars, many youth mobilisation programmes evolve in different countries, in different forms but with a common aim of boosting development efforts.

In Nigeria, like in other parts of the worlds such as the United States of America, Britain, Nepal, Botswana, Kenya, India, Guinea, Tanzania, Cote d' ivoire among others, a progamme of National Integration and Rural Development was set in motion. The aim of this research is to identify the significant roles played by youths in developing the rural economy of Nigeria via the National Youths Service Corps Scheme.

1.2 The research problem

There has been a radical shift from the urban bias in development policies and straregies to a rural based development plan not only in Nigeria in particular, but the world in general. Prior to this "break through", rural areas had largely been neglected. The new emphasis however is aimed at transforming the rural areas via improvements of the standard of living of the rural poor and increased income of the commities, majority of whom are farmers.

Since farming is the main occupation of most rural dwellers in Nigeria and Katsina State in particular, the emphasis of earlier rural development strategies were the transformation of the agricultural sector. Many agricultural programmes were established in an effort to boost agricultural production. These included the various farm settlement schemes of the 1960's, National Accellerated Food Production Programme (NAFPP), Operation Feed the Nation of the 1970's, the Green Revolution of the 1980's and the many agencies created to see to the success of the programmes.

The Agricultural Development Programmes (ADPs) established jointly by the Federal and state government of various selected state governments and the world Bank is one of such agencies. Initially, the ADPs were limited to 5 zones of Funtua (in former Kaduna state), Gusau (in former Sokoto state), Gombe, (in former Bauchi state), Ayangba, (in former Benue state) and Ilorin, Kwara state. Later, they spread to all states of the federation. With the upliftment of the programmes to specifically include rural development such that they were redesignated Integrated Agricultural Development Projects instead of Agricultural Development Projects.

In the same way, the Federal Government had also established eleven (11) River Basin Development Authorities to complement the activities of the state Integrated Rural Development Projects. The basic aim of establishing the River Basin authorities was to enhance agricultural and rural development programmes in their catchment areas.

In Katsina State, the agencies responsible for multi-faceted rural development activities include the following :

a. Katsina State Agricultural and Rural Development Authority (KTARDA).

b. Ministry of Water Resources and Rural Development .

c. Ministry of Agriculture (State and Federal)

d. Ministry of Works and Transport

e. Ministry of Health

f. Agency for Mass Education

g. Traditional Rulers

h. Community Associations

l. Local government councils and their respective departments

j. Nigeria Agricultural Land Development Authority.

k. Sokoto Rima River Basin Development Authority.

l. National Orientation Agency

m. The National Youth Service Corps scheme.

However, these agencies have continuously come under severe criticisms for their failure to achieve the aims for which they are established. These criticisms include those of Wallace, 1979, Filani 1981, Ayoade, 1985, Kolawole, 1986, Ogunnika, 1987, and Famoriyo, 1988. For instance, Filani (1981) observed that "one of the major characteristics of development programmes in developing countries is the failure of their planning both past and present, to fulfil stated objectives and bring about desired development". Ayoade (1985) noted the improper delienation of RBDA projects boundaries such that the boundaries were "defined in terms of political and administrative boundaries rather than hydrological boundaries." Similarly, Kolawole (1986) noted that "the proliferation of RBDA's can not be justified socially, environmentally, commercially and economically", but perhaps politically.

The rural development agencies have also been criticised for their over- lapping functional nature where some of them perform the functions of others. For instance, looking at RBDAs, according to Kolawole (1992) agro-service and extension service functions were already being performed by the State Ministry of Agriculture, ditto the Fishery department, while the provision of electricity was under NEPA."

The plans of most of the agencies of rural development programmes do not take into

account the need for the participation of both the project implementers and the target or recipient population. This, invariably is responsible for the failure of most rural development projects initiated by Youth Corps members who, although need the assistance of the community in terms of fund and work tools, isolate the later at the idea conception and plan formulation stages. In the same way, Youth Corps members are isolated in projects initiated by the community. However, both Nkom (1984) and Kolawole (1982) have all stated the need to involve the recipient population and the executors in any development programme at all stages. Such is achievable via the effective use of the rural development activities in rural Katsina to have their impact felt very well. This in most cases depends largely on the recognition of the NYSC scheme and presence of Youth Corps members in the state.

According to Singh and Kaltho (1986) past rural development efforts have failed in so many ways due to some, any or all of the following reasons:

a. The efforts at rural development had been sectoral in approach thus, they were ineffective for lack of inter-sectoral conditions.

b. The plans for rural development were not detailed out to reach the grassroot level meaningfully.

c. The efforts and plans were not conceived within the framework of wider perspective and a long range spatial planning.

d. The plans and programmes were establishments than goal oriented and were laden with lofty and complex alien ideas.

e. Community participation in the plan programmes formulation as well as implementation were either absent or very inadequate.

Since most parts of the country and Katsina state in particular are rural and lack basic infrastructures such as roads, bridges, hospitals, culverts, clinics, schools and safe potable water, the need for agencies such as the NYSC to participate in the provision of these infrastructures is certainly a welcome development. Participation of such agencies will in addition to the above, assist a great deal in ameliorating the causes of failure of rural development presented above.

The general trend of development plans in Nigeria had until recently been aimed at achieving economic growth measured by an increase in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the economy, the gains of which benefitted the smaller urban population most to the detriment of the neglected rural majority. The rural development strategies of the 70's achievements via such agencies as ADPs, RBDAs, and NYSC marked a shift from the former orientation to an increased search for both human and material resources needed for development.

Unfortunately, however, rural development projects of all the agencies depend largely on either capital based materials or imported technology. And as stated earlier, the projects were in most cases planned, designed and implemented without the participation of the recipients whom they were meant to serve. So in most cases, the priorities of the local people and the resources available in the areas of project implementation are not taken into account in plan formulation and execution.

This is one of the factors responsible for abandoned projects initiated by Youth Corps members in the State. Another reason could be the non-continuity of projects begun by

preceeding sets of Youth Corps members by earlier sets who prefer to initiate new ones with the hope of executing them before the end of their service year.

The need for evaluation and monitoring of development projects can never be over-emphasised. Often times, evaluation of rural development projects by government officials is based on the large sums of money sunk into them rather than real physical structures actually executed. So while local governments and community members claim to be sinking large sums of money in projects initiated by the NYSC in assistance not many tangible projects are available for the NYSC to show as its contribution to rural development.

This has led to growing scepticism about low level accountability, large scale corruption, waste of funds and under achievement and low level of performance of intended objectives on the part of the NYSC scheme. This, according to Newswatch(1987) apart from the gross inequalities between rural and urban areas, is another indicator of the shortcomings of Nigeria's rural development strategies. These inequality and failure of the NYSC to achieve rural development are enhanced by the urban bias in development of Youth Corps members after orientation courses.

In the light of the above, this study intends to examine the impact of the NYSC in rural development in Katsina state in view of the collosal sums of money pumped into its projects .

The degree of acceptance and support which the National Youth Service Corps scheme has received in Nigeria since its inception has been the major factor making it

possible for its continued existence. However, despite that, there is an increasing scepticism on the success of the scheme in rural development among various categories of Nigerians including the literate elites. To them, the scheme has so far been a wasteful venture unworthy of the investment into it.

In fact, the efforts of the scheme in achieving its overall objectives as stated in the Decree establishing it are doubted. How far has the NYSC scheme achieved its objective is a question that calls for empirical studies like this one in as much as authentic data are to be gathered and accurate result realised. A critical examination of the objectives indicate that not much has been achieved by the scheme. Adesina (1976) for instance, noted that the scheme is not making much impact in the area of movement of labour because most of the "Young graduates now prefer to stay in their areas" for fear of insecurity. Aina (1993) adds that although one of the cardinal objectives of the NYSC with respect to post National Service Labour mobility is encouraging Corps members to accept career employment in states other than their own and by inducing employers, partly through their experiences with Corps members to employ more readily qualified Nigerians irrespective of their states of origin, it is unfortunate that most Corps members prefer to work in their states of origin or at least nearby. This accounts for the rejection of employment by Corps members after service in the states they served.

The Corps members feel that no efforts are made by authorities in the states to make them feel so wanted as to encourage them to stay on at the expiration of their service year. They claim that at the end of the service year, state governments adopt overtly or covertly a "Son - of - the - Soil" policy in matters of employment so much so that even if they wish

to stay, they are not employed. And the few employed are employed on contract. Owing this, some scholars argue that the scheme has contradicted itself in terms of employment.

According to Patrick (1993) the scheme is one of the major causes of unemployment in the country because employers make use of the young graduates who provide cheap labour rather than employing permanent staff. Nowadays, vacant positions for young graduates are no longer advertised since organisations can use the cheap services of Corps members who are as qualified as the personnel they employ. The worst of it being failure to retain some of them after the one year of national service.

The objective of inculcating discipline through industry at work for instance is negated by the fact that most Corps members desert their places of primary assignment at will. Some may be in their places of primary assignment but do not perform effectively. And the secondary assignment that should bring corps members to work as a group is shunned by most of them because of the distance between their stations and the site for the projects so as to save cost. In addition, Corps members become discouraged by nonavailability of work tools, equipment and other materials necessary for execution of selected projects.

The most likely area that the scheme could have achieved much is in the area of youth mobilisation in times of future exigencies as stated among its objectives. This is because the youths at orientation camps are more amenable to being molded to meet a particular need. The orientation entails training for the one year period of compulsory service which in actual fact, most Corpers do not take serious. Besides, the training is haarphazard

owing to the limited time available for the officials to implement the programmes designed for the orientation.

Perhaps the only area the scheme has achieved much is in the promotion of unity of the country. But even then some loopholes are noted. Most Youth Corp members are not interested in the culture of the communities they serve. They despise some of the ways of life of their hosts. They are not interested in admiring them, of borrowing a leaf from them. The idea of assigning jobs to a group highly represented by members from all parts of the country is a myth because most Corps members bribe the NYSC officials so as not to be assigned to any odd job.

The posting of Corps members from the orientation camps to places of primary assignment is also characterised by favouritism, as some postings are not based on the relevance of the Corps members' field of specialisation but on the influence of the highly placed. In fact, even the initial call-up and subsequent deployment to various states for national service is influenced by such acts that are inimical to the goal of the NYSC. This view is supported by Patrick (1993) when he noted how some influential people in the society who do not want their children to face the rigours of the service year influence the posting of their wards to favourable places sometimes even to their states of origin - a complete negation of the main objectives of the scheme. Such postings are mostly made on the cover of the enabling Decree's provision for exempting the sick and over-aged as well as giving concession to married women.

The age bracket considered by the NYSC decree for active participants is itself

questionable. In line with this, Solarin (1974) argues for total exclusion of university graduates from the scheme giving way for secondary school leavers because they are the right category to participate in the scheme.

Agreeing with Solarin, Adesina (1976) adds that indeed it is doubtful that the age of 30 years and below is the age within which discipline could be inculcated in Nigerian youths or for acquiring the "spirit - of - self - reliance" or whether, in fact, the university graduate is the proper person to attain these goals. Invariably, by the time they leave their universities, prospective Corps members have become set in their mode of life and thinking, have fully developed their prejudices, and would probably be unreceptive to such 'new' patriotism. Twenty years seems late for citizens to be imbued with the spirit of national consciousness or sense of belonging - and in the case of Nigeria, the inappropriate age for citizens to be told that they are Nigerians and not Yoruba, Ibo or Hausa. Because of such arguments, there is pressure from educationists for the extension of the eligibility for participation in order to make room for all who truly qualify as youths (Renaissance,1974).

In order to achieve the laudable objectives of the NYSC in rural development, the participants need to be encouraged through motivation. The initial intake of the Corps members in the case of Nigeria, were psychologically unprepared for the task they were called upon to perform in view of the earlier protests, riots, subsequent closure of universities and suspicion of the government's aim of introducing the programme.

This psychological unpreparedness accounts for large number of "dodgers"; deferment and exemption requests, and the proliferation of judicial actions against the

scheme. Infact, in the first year alone, about 1,000 (or one-third of the total output of university graduates) applied for exemption and 536 were indeed exempted (Daily Times, April, 1974). Even while Corps members were serving in the field, they were still sending applications for exemption or deferment or taking judicial actions against the scheme. The problem was so acute that in June, 1974, the federal government had to amend the original Decree establishing the NYSC to the extent that no court could entertain any civil matter instituted for determination of any question or issue relating to the NYSC (Nigeria, 1973).

The Psychological unpreparedness of the Corps members makes some of them so home-sick that they eventually abscond. In addition, their services are not effectively employed so much so that most of them feel under-employed. According to Ojo (1974) most of the Corps members claim that they do nothing most of the time not because they have nothing to do but because they are not allowed to do anything in places of primary assignment. In most cases, Corps members are not seen as workers and as such are not allowed free hand to participate and acquire the necessary training on the job during the service year. This kill their morale calling for high motivation.

The Youth Corps members motivation is an important factor in determining their performance during the service year. The motivation could be in terms of the welfare of Corps members. According to Adesina (1976) "although the idea of the NYSC is a lofty one, the welfare of the Corps members has not been properly addressed most especially in terms of monthly allowances. Okonkwo (1993) adds that "the stipend given them is very low such that most of them especially medical doctors, pharmacists, engineers and science graduates feel coerced to participate in the service, depriving them of opportunities to take

up employment positions that offer better financial rewards. With this in mind, the Corps members put very little effort towards achieving the basic aims of the NYSC.

Achieving the NYSC objectives in rural development calls for the cooperation and support of both the Youth Corps, local population, the officials of the NYSC and various tiers of government. In the area of community development, for instance, lack of working materials and equipment needed in the execution of projects calls for the cooperation of all the agencies aforementioned. The lack of cooperation among these agencies is typified by the one noted by Adesina (1976) that whereas Corps members blame the authorities of the NYSC, the State and Local Governments for this, government officials charge Corps members with lack of enthusiasm and resentment to manual and menial jobs.

On the other hand, Corps members note such constraints as inadequate planning by some NYSC secretariats and community development ministries, the failure of state ministries to specify projects for which Corps members are desired, the inferiority complex that comes about when less educated officials in rural communities are made to handle Corps members, and the inability of certain state departments to cope with the demands of the scheme.

It is unfortunate that although the National Directorate of the NYSC is aware of most of these problems, it can only do little to help the situation because it receives little grant to enable it meet the needs of its state offices in terms of required facilities to execute such costly projects as the All-Year-Round Community Development programme. This, coupled with acute shortage of transport facilities not even supervision of Corps members receives

attention. The problem of supervision is however common with all youth service programmes in the world. This is supported by Herby (1938) when he noted that supervision even in the Americas Civil Conservation Corps is very weak. The administrative structure of most youth programmes does not provide adequately for supervisors and consequently almost no check is made on the quality of work being performed by Youth Corps members.

In view of this, the need for an empirical study on the role and performance of the NYSC in rural development from inception to date, can not be overemphasised. This research will, therefore, examine the role of the NYSC in developing the rural areas of Katsina State through the provision of infrastructures such as bridges, dams, roads, medical care, education, and mass enlightenment specifically mentioned in the Decree establishing the scheme with a view to determining the degree of success or otherwise of the programme.

1.3 Research Questions

The specific questions that were addressed by the research are:

a. What is the degree of acceptance of the Corps members in the host community?

b. Are Corps members involved in all rural development programmes in the area of deployment?

c. What are the reasons for immobility of labour and Corps members' unwillingness to accept employment in the community of service?

d. Why are community development projects undertaken by Corps members highly dependent on the assistance of the host community?

e. What is responsible for the failure of Corps members in continuing with development projects earlier started by their predecessors?

f. Why are Corps members not willing to effectively serve with all patriotism?

g. Is the performance of Corps members in rural development dependent on the number of Corps members deployed to an area within a service year?

1.4 Research aim and objectives

The aim of this research is to examine the significant impact of the National Youth Service Corps Scheme in rural development with specific reference to Katsina State within the twenty years of its existence. To achieve this, the following objectives will be the main focus of the research:

(a) To examine the contribution of NYSC members in rural development in Katsina State.

(b) To assess the degree of impact made by the NYSC members in rural development with specific reference to Katsina State.

(c) To identify areas of weakness(es) of the scheme with respect to rural development programmes.

(d) To identify way(s) through which such shortcoming(s) could be overcome to enable the NYSC Directorate effectively enhance rural development in Nigeria.

1.5 Justification for the research

Although the increasing efforts of the various governments in the Federation in rural development is recognised, it must be stated that the impact of some of the agencies involved in the implementation of rural development projects most especially in rural based states like Katsina has not been very encouraging. This accounts for why some of the agencies are seen not to perform well while some do not even perform at all.

The NYSC scheme, for instance, coming into rural development scene as a participating agency, has been seen as a venture unworthy of its being established. While its participation in rural development is reduced to the minimum, some see the scheme as not capable of achieving its major objectives. This growing criticism on the programme is the main motivating factor in carrying out this research which is aimed at confirming or falsifying the claim by determining the degree of impact or otherwise of the scheme in rural development in Katsina State.

Although the impact of youths in community and rural development is tremendous the important role played by youths in the development of their societies is not given the recognition it deserves.

It should be pointed out that youths through the NYSC scheme are contributing in no small measure to the transformation of the rural areas. Such include rural medicare, rural water supply, education, construction of bridges, culverts, town halls, primary school classes, and mass enlightenment. Unfortunately, however, there are no enough published data to substantiate this. The lack of reliable data has led to doubts on the impact of the NYSC since its inception. Besides, adequate information needed for an efficient rural development planning will thus be provided by the present research for current and retrospective use.

Most plans of rural development are a bi-product of failure to discern between theory and practice. Through this research, rural development planners will understand the practical application of each through the annual experiments by Youth Corps members.

In Nigeria, implementation of rural development programmes after plan formulation, has not been given the attention it deserves. The study will, therefore, be of tremendous benefit to rural development planners so that they will redirect their efforts towards formulating appropriate rural development plans and policies for effective implementation.

There is indeed much to learn from the technology and experiences of other peoples of the world. The experiences of other countries in youths service and rural development programmes will be highlighted by this research. It is the conviction of the researcher that a lot can be learnt from such experiences by the National Directorate of the NYSC in its efforts of making impact in rural development.

There is also a need for greater involvement of rural population in planning for development activities that affect them. This research will point out the need for planners and rural development implementers to allow rural population to actively participate in the rural development planning process right from the conception of an idea through plan formulation, to execution stages.

This research, the first of its kind conducted on the NYSC, is therefore, an effort to examine the role of the scheme in achieving rural development in the country. As the basis, it will be carried out with a view to stimulating further researches on the problem.

The research will also point out the areas of weakness(es) of the NYSC scheme in achieving its aims with the hope that the NYSC Directorate will take note of them in its reorganisation of the scheme.

It is also hoped that the research will make an invaluable contribution to the growth and development of knowledge not only in Nigeria in particular but the world in general.

By focussing on the role of the NYSC in rural development, this study breaks away from previous existing literature in which emphasis was more on the administrative setting of the scheme, national integration and expectations on what the scheme should achieve or ought to have achieved from its inception to date. Of particular note are Sanda (1980), Sanda (1984), Emaneko (1986), Patrick (1993) and Aina (1993) whose focus had mainly been national integration, welfare of Corps members and the administrative structure of the NYSC. Moreso, while most of those literatures except for Sanda (1980) were not based on field research, the present study depends highly on data collected through field work in the study area.

1.6 Scope and limitations

The study was intended to have a national outlook taking samples from the nook and crannies of Nigeria. Unfortunately, however, owing to some limitations, the study had to be confined to only Katsina State.

The choice of the study area was largely determined by the fact that Katsina State is one of the disadvantaged states in virtually all aspects of development in Nigeria.The state is rural based even when compared to its neighbours like Kaduna state, Kano state or Sokoto state. Also, up to 70% of the population of the State live in rural areas. The rural population suffers more from under-development than its urban counterparts. This in actual sense accounts for rural development in Katsina State being the focus of the research.

The most important limitations for the research are resources most especially fund which is not at the disposal of the researcher, and the time available for the research did not allow for a wider scope to cover the entire country. In the same way, this accounts for why a sample of 13 local government areas had to be selected from the 26 existing in the state.

The selected local governments provide adequate representation since they constitute half or 50% of the total local government areas in the state. Moreso, the procedure for implementing any rural development project by the NYSC members in all the local government areas is expected to be the same such that the number chosen is representative enough.

However, due to long period (1973-1993) covered by the research, adequate data were collected and authentic results deduced. This is hoped to cover the need for a wide scope and extensive study. The results available provide a very good basis for sound and logical conclusions based on which generalizations could be made.

1.7 Field problems and limitations

Although most of the respondents for this research cooperated a great deal, there were a number of problems encountered most especially in questionnaire administration and particularly oral interviews.

One of the problems was the non-challant attitude of some of the respondents who adopted a "come-today-come-tomorrow" policy whenever attempt was made to collect back their espouses to the questionnaires. This is largely responsible for why eleven

questionnaires were lost. And in the process, a lot of time and money was wasted in travelling in an effort to get back the qestionnaires.

Also, during the oral interviews, most of the respondents did not hit the nail on the head, instead they narrated other pieces of information some of which were not relevant to the research topic. Although attempts were made to let them go straight to the point, most of them especially community members, felt the interview was an opportunity for them to air their views on other national issues. Although the enumerators had been very cautious in taking down the relevant responses, this negative behaviour extended to the time of completion and collection of the oral information required to support the data gathered with questionnaires or falsify them.

Another problem encountered with respect to oral interviews was the issue of "appointment". Most respondents particularly community members and government officials could not be interviewed on the spot. Majority of them gave appointments for a much later date and in some cases they were not found despite the appointment. This called for several repeated visits to some of them before the interview could hold. This has also delayed the process of the oral interviews and consequently the analysis. In the process too, a lot of resources was expanded.

Furhter still some respondents mostly government officials refused to answer some questions that required details especially when the questions sought to confirm a negative response to the questionnaires. This was mainly due to the fear of being quoted. Although assurance was given to them, they shied away from answering such questions. Yet some of

them who answered decided not to express anything against government policies.

Since the area covered by this research is rural, a problem of lack of medical cover was experienced in Batsari where the researcher contacted cholera from drinking the only available pond water in the area, since that is the only source around on which people rely for their water needs. And although even Youth Corps members use the same source, the researcher had to contact the disease despite the claimed boiling of the water by the Youth Corps member who offered the glass-full in hospitality. Due to lack of adequate medical care in the area, not much was done as first-aid except to rush to the nearest medical centre, the state general hospital in Katsina which is about 95 kilometres away.

The need for transportation in research can never be underestimated. It is noted that to enable the researcher and enumerators travel to all the selected local government areas, transportation was necessary. There was also the need for local running because most of the respondents spread in various parts even though in the same area. Therefore, to move from point `A' to `B' was not found to be very easy. Although some local government area councils assisted with vehicles for local running, a lot of money was spent on transportation.

1.8 The Concept "YOUTH"

The term "Youth" has been defined as a period of being young especially the time between childhood and maturity. However, since the age of maturity differs from one society to another, the criteria for defining the concept "Youth" differs from ones Society to another. According to Kultygin (1987), the major criterion is the individual's mastering of

knowledge, skills and activities for competent labour, socio-political and other forms of activity. Education process is the main social function of young people. So, the point marking the end of youth was often seen in the past as the time of life when the individual had completed his general education and vocational training and got his first job.

At different times and in different societies, the criteria indicating the end of Youth have included such land marks as accrued of political and civil rights, attainment of material independence from one's parents, marriage, birth of a first child, completion of active service in the army and so on. But the importance of these events differs from one society to another. In general, however, youth usually lies between the ages of 14 - 16 years and 25 - 30 years.

In view of the varied definitions of "Youth" from society to society, the concept will herein be used to mean "a period when an individual attains the age of maturity. This ranges from 15 to 35 years". The definition has incorporated most of the definitions of "Youth" based on age. In line with this, the definition has also taken note of the age limits of participating in Youth Service Corps schemes in most African Countries such as Uganda, Tanzania, and Nigeria.

1.9 The National Youth Service Corps Scheme in Nigeria.

The idea of mobilising, training and utilising the energy and talent of youths has a lot of history in African and other societies. These include youth programmes called the Ballila of Mussolini's Italy, the Young Pioneers of the Soviet Union, the Red Guards of Mainland China, the Hitlerjugend of Nazi Germany, the Voluntary Service Overseas of

Britain, the Civil Conservation Corps of USA, the United Arab Emirate's Serve your Village scheme, the Kenya National Youth Service, the Ethiopia's Students one year Rural Service, the Ghanaian Pioneers, the Malawi Young Pioneers, the Zambian Youth Service, the Ugandan National Union of Youth Organisations, the Tanzanian National Service, the Projects Random of Brazil, the National Service of India, Service des jeunes Cote d'ivoire, the "Butsi" of Indonesia, the National Service Corps of Jamaica and the Kibbutz of Israel etc.

In Nigeria, there were many agitations for the creation of a youth service scheme as far back as 1966, when Nigerian students in USA at a conference in Montreal, Canada suggested a National Youth Service scheme for Nigerian University graduates. In the same vein, in 1971, the committee of Vice Chancellors of Nigerian Universities had also suggested a one year compulsory national service for university students scheduled to take-off the same year.

At the occasion of the12th Independence anniversary celebrations on October 1, 1972, the then Head of state, General Gowon announced the government decision to establish a National Youth Service Corps scheme that would be mandatory for all graduates of Nigerian universities below the age of 31 years. According to Gowon, (1973) "the Federal Government recognizes that the future of this country lies in the hands of the youths of today. It is therefore, prepared to ensure that it provides the physical, mental and spritual environments in which these young persons can grow up to be worthy citizens of this nation."

The NYSC scheme was established by the promulgation of Decree No 24 of May 22,

1973. The objectives of the scheme as outlined in section 1, sub-section (3) of the decree are to:

a) inculcate discipline in youths by instilling in them a tradition of industry at work and of patriotic and loyal service to the nation in any situation whatsoever they find themselves.

b) raise the moral tone of the Nigerian Youths by giving them the opportunity to learn about higher ideals of national achievement, social and cultural improvement.

c) develop in the Nigerian Youths the attitudes of mind, acquired through shared experiences and suitable training, which will make them more amenable to mobilization in the national interest.

d) develop common ties among the Nigerian Youths and promote national unity and integration.

e) enable Nigerian Youths acquire the spirit of self-reliance by encouraging them to develop skills for self-employment.

f) encourage members of the Corps to seek, at the end of their service year, career employment oppotunities all over the country, thus promoting free movement of labour.

g) induce employers of labour, partly through their experience with Corps members, to employ more readily qualified Nigerians irrespective of their states of origin.

These objectives are to be pursued by a body called the NYSC Directorate under the office of the Head of state. The participants in the scheme are to serve for a period of once

year except for erring ones whose services could be extended. A discharge certificate is issued at the end of the service without which employers of labour can not employ fresh university graduates. All exempted graduates are also given exemption certificates to *substitute discharge certificates*.

The NYSC enabling Decree has undergone some ammendments. These include the NYSC (ammendment No2) Decree, 1974, which prohibits any civil action against the government in implementation of the NYSC scheme. Decree 11,1994 provides for exemption based on age. In 1977 age bracket was removed but reintroduced in Aaugust 1985. A subsequent Decree No 51 of June 1993 standardised all previous Decrees on the NYSC. All the Do's and Don't's by participants in the scheme are published in a publication titled the "NYSC Bye-laws."

1.91 <u>The linkage of National Youth Service Corps scheme with rural development</u>

Although the main objective of the NYSC scheme as stipulated by the Decree establishing it emphasises more on national integration, free movement of labour and reduction of unemployment, the Decree stated that rural areas should the principal areas the youths should be deployed to serve. In fact, the Second National Development Plan, 1970-74 was very categorical on this.

According to Chapter 26, section 2 sub-section C of the National Development Plan, the NYSC "will be project oriented and (participants) will be deployed on projects in the rural communities involving the building of roads, bridges, schools and dispensaries. In the process, various skills will be acquired in the areas of carpentry, welding, shoe-making,

pottery, electrical works, motor and tractor driving, automobile repair and bricklaying". This is the basic premise on which linkage is established between the NYSC and rural development.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction.

In recent times, both the governments, non-governmental organisations and academicians alike have turned their attention to the rapid development of rural areas and thier dwellers. This has led to the increasing number of literature produced daily on the multifaceted nature of the rural development question. The much available for this research are reviewed and presented in this chapter. Also, although there is no much literature on the youth services worldwide and Nigeria's National Youth Service in particular, the few found to be very relevant to this work are herein reviewed and presented appropriately.

2.2 The Concept of development

The concept of development seems a relative term which has been used to describe and in some cases, compare the degree of change or progress based on some agreed characteristics. The term development connotes a process or state of change in some definable attributes such as size, organisation, complexity, etcetera of a phenomenon. The term is relative, because it has as many definitions and usages as there are social science disciplines and scientists. It is also relative in usage as it is often used synonymously with economic growth etcetera.

The Websters New Collegiate Dictionary defines development as the act, process or result of developing, where to develop means, among other things, "to go through the process of natural growth, differentiation or evolution by successive changes."The emphasis in this definition is the evolutionary growth of a phenomenon undergoing changes. Development processes are not sequential. 'A' doesn't become 'B' but through certain procedures, actions or activities.

2.3 Development as economic growth

Hillorst (1981) disagrees with the welfarist approach to the definition of development. According to him, societal welfare and economic growth are complementary with each other. He looked at development as incorporating economic growth and structural transformation resulting in the reduction of economic and social gap between the poor and the rich on one hand, and between the rural and urban communities on the other.

In the first decade after the Second World War, conceived as economic growth, development was defined as a rapid and sustained rise in real output per head and attendant shifts in technological, economic and demographic characteristics of a society. Development is also regarded as the capacity of a national economy to generate an annual increase in its Gross National Product (GNP) (Keynes, 1936; Nurske, 1953; Myrdal, 1956 and Rostow, 1962). Consequently, the commonest criteria adopted for measuring economic progress

is an increase in per capita income which is seen as inadequate.

This conceptualization of development as economic growth gives premium in the development process to increased commodity output rather than to the people involved in the production. This conceptualization was propounded by classical and neo-classical economists. Notable ones among them were Adam Smith (1776) and David Richardo (1817) who concluded that specialisation in production enables increased production most especially through the efficient use of different resources including capital. Sustaining this mode of development would, therefore, need a regular supply of capital through high level of savings by the people. Specialization of labour and suitable market conditions with a minimum government intervention are other criteria.

According to these theorists, a self-sustaining development begins with the combination of these factors. The 20th Century saw the emergence of neo-classical economists typified by the writings of Marshal (1930) and Keynes (1936) who suggested that savings for investment could be consistent through appropriate interest rates. To sustain the system, therefore, only capitalists would have to keep reinvesting their profits in order to boost production and the income level within the society.

In a more general sense, the term economic growth according to Novack

(1964) may be defined as continuous, substantial increases in per capita consumption of goods and services. He added that growth generally depends upon the size and quality of the labour force, the natural resources available, character and rate of accumulation of capital. It is the combination in any economy of these productive resources which decides the size and the nature of real output. Zimmerman (mimeograph;undated)sees development in terms of increase in total output by percentage (per capita) but added that such increase overtime should be by a percentage equal to the percentage increase in population.

On the contrary, El-Imam (1963) saw economic growth as "outcome of a certain process in a system of forces working in such a manner as to bring about growth." He added that the general character of current theories of economic growth is that they concentrate on investment. First, they are concerned with the size of the investment programme necessary to lift the economy to a self-generating level. Secondly, they are concerned with the pattern of allocation, whether new investments have to be concentrated in special fields (as more or less leading sectors), thus bring about large imbalances and calling forth development as a corrective process, or whether care should be taken to achieve balance from the very beginning.

In a critique, Todaro (1977) observed that development conceived as economic growth means that the goal to be achieved is capital accumulation or

increasing the wealth of nations. Development goes beyond that, he added. It includes the utilization of that wealth for the betterment of the people generating it.

2.4 Development as modernisation

For the modernization school, the emphasis in the evaluation of development focusses mainly on such interconnected factors as level of material production and consumption and the associated technological, cultural as well as political transformation of a pre-modern society.

Modernization has been defined by many social scientists to mean a process of change from what use to obtain and what is obtainable. Learner (1958), for instance, has defined modernization as the process of social change in which development is the economic component. Modernisation produces the societal environment in which rising output per head is effectively incorporated. This incorporation entails nothing short of reshaping and resharing of all social values, such as power, respect, rectitude, attention, well-being, skill and enlightenment. The emphasis in modernization is in changing the society to allow for increased production and consequently increase in per capita.

In the same vein, Schultz (1964) suggested the high-input pay-off model as a strategy for developing countries. This is necessary for them due to the

dominance of the rural sector in their economies, characterized by low productivity and use of low technology. However, Essang (1975) noted that this model emphasizes the provision of new high-yielding varieties and educated rural labour as well as more sophisticated technology and packages of incentives to induce their adoption by farmers. The erroneous conception of this approach and indeed modernization school is that the low productivity and the low incomes which characterise traditional agriculture are due to the use of static traditional technology and inputs by ruralites. And to develop according to them is to change from acts or behaviours seen as traditional to those seen as modern.

Moore (1980) restated that modernization is the process whereby societies or social institutions change or move from traditional less-developed ones to those that characterize the developed ones. The emphasis in the acquisition of traits of developed societies by underdeveloped ones by modernization theorists has been noted. According to him, "Modernization theory, in its undisguised formulations, sees the process of development as the business of the acquisition by the under-developed countries of the traits and characteristics of the developed countries."

By these definitions, it is evidently clear that modernization theorists view modernity and tradition as two polar extremes. Thus, they concluded that in order to modernize, societies of the third world must overcome their traditionalism. However, there are cases of societies that have highly advanced as well as

retaining their traditionalism. The Peoples Republic of China is one, Japan is another. The reasons can not be far from the fact that societies develop at different rates, given resources available to them. This is supported by Rodney (1974) when he noted that "while all societies have experienced development, it is equally true that the rate of development differ from continent to continent and within each continent different parts increased their command over nature at different rates." Inside Africa, he observes that "Egyptians were capable of producing wealth in abundance twenty-five centuries ago, because of mastery of many scientific natural laws and their invention of technology to irrigate, grow food, and extract minerals from the subsoil. At that time, hunting with bows and arrows was what people depended on for survival in most parts of African continent and in various other places such as the British Isles.

In many countries also, modernisation saw a new conceptualization in dimension. The emphasis is in what modern innovations are introduced. Aina (1985) identified such innovations as building of schools and colleges and their attendant expansion, extension of mass media coverage through the Radio and Television, growth in the number of health centres and medical establishments, provision of better housing and recreational facilities and new interests in youth and youth activities. But the question is that have the receiving traditional societies rejected traditional ways of life due to the introduction of these modern facilities?

Ideologically, therefore, development conceived as modernization does not differ from growth theories supported by economists. Modernization which was obviously in vogue by the 1950s subscribes to the core-periphery trickle-down model of development which explains the complementary relationship between the centre and periphery or the developed and developing societies.

Development seen from the core-periphery perspective however differs in its emphasis on the scientific methods in the production process. The belief was that if the emphasis on these methods, were realised, development and consequently the trickle down process, would be accelerated, thus boosing the morale of the centre as well as the periphery. In addition, modernization has introduced spatial element in development studies by pointing out that regions could be compared in terms of how 'modern' or how 'traditional' they are.

2.5 Development as social justice and progress

There is need to recognise that serious attempts have been made to redefine development beyond mere economic performance. El-Imam (1963) for instance, asked why indicators such as total or per capita income are used to account for growth, progress or development? He argued that what is generally looked for from this process is that it should bring about a rise in the level of living. It is possible to think of numerous indicators of this level, of which life expectancy, infant mortality rate, national average food supplies in terms of calories,

proportion of school going pupils, percentage of literate population, proportion of economically unemployed active population, percentage active population by principal industrial and occupations, personal income as percentage of national income were abridged from one drawn by United Nations experts. Seers (1969) looks at development in the context of societal welfare as against economic phenomenon. He summed up development in three questions:

1. What is happening to poverty?
2. What is happening to inequality?
3. What is happening to unemployment?

Everett (1969) sees development as "a type of social change in which new ideas are introduced into a social system in order to produce higher per capita incomes and levels of living through more modern production methods and improved social organisation."

Johnson (1972) defined development as the coincidence of structural change in a society. They however, added that such a change must include "liberation of men from exploitation and oppression" perpetrated by international capitalist bourgeoisie and their collaborators among the members of the communities. They, therefore, added that real development involves a structural transformation of the economy, society, polity and culture of the satellite that permits the self-generating and self-perpetuating use and development of the

people's potential.

Todaro (1972) also argued that development should be seen as going beyond economic phenomenon. He suggested that economic development goals, economic growth being one of such goals. He then defined development as "a multi-dimensional process which involves the reorganisation and reorientation of the economic and social systems. Emphasis should, therefore, be placed not only on income and output but should include radical changes in institutional, social and administrative structures as well as in popular attitudes, customs and beliefs.

Rodney (1974) adds that development as a many sided process and at different levels of human growth. He argued that development is rather an over all social process which is dependent upon the outcome of man's efforts to deal with his natural environment.

The emphasis in this definition is the improvement of the standard of living of the populace. Rodney (1974) also took a welfarist approach to the use of the term development. The term `development' according to him is more often than not used in an exclusive economic sense. But according to him, a society develops economically if its members increase jointly their capacity for dealing with the environment. Dealing with the environment is the harnessing of all resources together for the betterment of members of the society.

Aziz (1978) also noted that it is perhaps commonly accepted now that the first objective of development should be to meet everyone's basic needs (food, clothing, shelter, education, health, sanitation, clean drinking water and some public transport). Similarly, Nkom (1984) noted that one of the breakthroughs in development studies in the 1970s is the recognition that the fundamental essence of development lies in the improvement of the human person through the provision of his basic needs and not merely the realization of rapid economic growth measurements in terms of a rising Gross National Product (GNP).

In what seems a middle-range stance, Datong (1988) stated that economic development is necessary to achieve most social goals and social development, on the other hand, is essential to achieve most economic goals. Indeed, social factors are the real deriving force behind development. The purpose of development is then to permit people to lead economically productive and socially satisfying lives. Only when the people have an acceptable level of physical and mental health can individuals, families and communities enjoy the other benefits of life.

Taking a critical look at development in terms of social justice and equity or from the welfare point of view, the first noticeable deviation from the purely economic model of development came from Karl Marx (1813 - 1919). He was of the view that the capitalist goal of maximizing profits through the exploitation of the poorer working class countries would systematically impoverish further the

already poorer consumer population who were also the poor countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America to the colonial exploitation by the capitalist nations. He argued for the transfer of the means of production to the masses.

By the beginning of the second half of the 20th Century issues of regional inequalities and rural poverty had increased to such a magnitude that had attracted several calls by scholars for a change in development theory and practice. Notable among them were Meir (1964), Myrdal (1968), Seers (1969),and (1977), Todaro (1977), Mabogunje (1980) and Filani (1981). They argued that measurement of a country's growth by its GNP alone would not necessarily reflect the standard of living of the generality of its people. They contended that a reformation of a newer development concept should deal, not only with questions of output, but also its distribution and the general impact on poverty. This would mean radical changes in institutional, social and administrative structures as well as popular attitudes, customs and beliefs in anticipation of a change which would lead to a visible improvement in the quality of life of the people.

Due to the failure of modernisation and economic growth models which become obvious in the 1960s, it is now believed that development efforts should endeavour to create equal economic opportunities for all citizens and deal with their welfare issues too. Development in this context is conceived as having to deal with several issues such as economic growth, modernisation and the question

of the distribution of the benefits of growth in a manner to all citizens. In this sense, Todaro (1977) conceives development as really a multi-dimensional process which involves the reorganisation and reorientation of the economic and social system. Similarly, Oni and Bello (1987) saw development as "the continuous process of positive indicators in the quality and span of life of people which include: ability to feed, cloth and shelter oneself resulting from income earned from one's occupations and from provision of infrastructural facilities (roads, water, electricity, telecommunication and improvements in other factors of production) ability to live longer life as a result of provision of health and medical facilities, prevention of diseases through better sanitation and other preventive measures, ability to read, write and understand forces surrounding one through provision of formal education, ability to participate meaningfully in political activities and in policy making at governmental and a redefinition of a country's dependence to that of self-reliance."

There is cost consideration in development too, because to provide those infrastructural facilities is by no means an easy task. This is supported by Okoli (1989) who stressed that "development involves cost sacrifices and sometimes complete disorganisation of a people's way of life. Any way of development must, therefore, be rooted in the people themselves and must derive from their own environment.

However, the problem common to all these development approaches is their lack of agreement about a general accepted model of development. While Drownoski suggested welfare indicators for evaluating development which include some value judgement about human needs and distribution. Adopting a welfarist approach, too, Seers argued that development is synonymous with improvement, concerned with the fulfilment of the necessary conditions for the realization of human personality. Development should be measured in terms of its final aim; that is in terms of the improvement of levels of living or welfare.

The United Nations (1961) defined levels of living to refer to the satisfaction of needs or wants in certain well-defined and quantifiable aspects of the total life situation. The internally recommended components include health, food consumption and nutrition, education, employment and condition of work, housing, social security, clothing, recreation, human freedom together with a number of background conditions, aggregate consumption and savings, transportation and communication.

The final aim of development has been summarized by De Souza and Porter (1974) to cover at least nine components including achieving high nutritional standards, wealth status, employment, educational attainment, freedom of religion, sanitary environment, and a production that is balanced with the environment.

For a genuine development, Etzioni (1968) argued that the population must be involved in the planning and execution of development programmes. According to him "genuine development can only be achieved when the population can participate in an administrative structure which is responsive to their needs, which is of a size and scale accessible to all." Such a structure will allow the people to delineate for themselves their critical needs and to identify the remedial steps that the people are willing to take in solving them.

Development, therefore, must be an all round, well balanced progress, self-sustaining that all individual aspects must be multi-sectoral, multi-disciplinary and multi-dimensional (Koinyan, 1990). Generally, development is viewed as a form of progress in equity, social justice and modernisation of all sectors of an economy including both its urban and rural areas alike.

2.6 The Functionalist approach

The main theoretical premise upon which the present thesis rests is the functionalist theory. Functionalism is a bi-product of structural functionalism postulated by Malinowski, Radcliffe-Brown and later Firth and their followers. Structural-functionalism reafirmed the early evolutionary conception of society as a system with interdependent parts, each of which performs specific functions to ensure the continuity or survival of the whole system. A dys-function by any of the parts leads to the struggle by the rest to change for sustenance of the whole system.

The society as a system has the political, economic, social, cultural sub-systems each working towards the survival of the society. Thus, the NYSC, an organ of the government was established to perform certain functions for the improvement of the standard of living of the members of the society. For instance, its role in rural development improves the well-being of the rural poor. This no doubt has a concomittant effect on the society in general.

In putting structural-functionalism into its present form of functionslism, Durkheim(1933)argues that the determination of function is necessary for the complete explanation of social phenomena. According to him "It is not enough to show the course on which it (social system) depends, we must also show the functions in the establishd social order." Agreeing with this, Brown(1933) argues that the function of any phenomena should be perceived in terms of the contribution of these phenomena to the maintenance of the social order.

In another development, Mertons(1957) added some concepts to the functionalists theory viz "Manifest" and Latent" functions. According to him, every social phenomena performs two main functions. Those functions whose consequences are so intended are the "manifest functions" whereas those whose consequences are unintended and unexpected are the "Latent functions".

In his explanation of functionalism, Aberle(1950) explained nine

functional pre-requisites of a society. They include provision for adequate relationship to the environment and for sexual requirement, role differentiation and role assignment; comunication, shared cogitive orientations, shared articulated set of goal, the normative regulation of means, the regulation of effective expression; socialisation and the effective control of disruptive forms of behaviour.

According to Ekeh(1974),while Aberle identified nine functional pre-rrequisites of a society, Talcott persons (using the concept of social system) named four functional requisites Viz: Integration, pattern maintenance, goal attainment and adaptation.

The functionalist theorists postuiate four tenents that society is a system; the system has parts; each part functions for the survival of the whole system and that the parts are interdependent with one another so that a malfunction by one of the parts affect the effectiveness of other parts or sub-system. In essence, should one of the parts fail, the other parts struggles to bring it back to normal in seeing the survival of the whole system.

2.7 The Rural -Urban question

An attempt to delineate between rural and urban areas is here seen in order. The Oxford illustrated Dictionary defines the term "rural" as "in, of, suggesting,

the country, pastoral or agricultural." The officially implied definition in Nigeria according to Uyanga (1980) restricts urban to clustered settlements with populations of 20,000 and over. This suggests that before any area is seen as an urban centre, it must have a population of 20,000 people. This is however, not strictly followed as so many settlements of less population have been granted urban status for political reasons. Uyanga observed that "Ogoja with a population of 13,694 (1963) was a town in the Cross River State as is Oyo (112,349) in Oyo State." However, Lawal and Adeniyi (1987) avoiding the use of population parameter, agreed with Uyanga that the word 'rural' means belong to, of, or in a village or countryside." In this definition, by their omission of the population parameter, Lawal and Adeniyi ought but did not state how an area can be delineated urban, rural or hamlet.

In what seems a clear cut demarcation between rural and urban areas, attempts have been made by scholars to identify the characteristics of rural areas. According to Ogundana (1972) "rural areas are characterised by a population, with low mobility." Most of the inhabitants, who lack any means of mechanical transport, depend on head loading, which is not only energy-sapping but expensive. More basic is the isolation of a large proportion of the population who are not served by roads of any sort of why rely on locally constructed roads which are constantly subjected to flooding, especially during the wet season. Although Ogundana concentrated on a single item in the general characteristics of the rural

sector - transportation, he has succeeded in exposing how undeveloped the rural sector is calling for the need for intensive integrated rural development efforts. But according to Olatunbosun (1975), "the dominant characteristics of the rural areas include inequality in income, poverty, under-employment and lacking basic social amenities such as good educational facilities, health services, water supply, good roads and industries." With these problems in mind, one may not be wrong to say that although living conditions in the developing countries of the world are generally poor, yet those in the rural areas are poorer.

Despite the insufficiency of the basic social infrastructural facilities characterising the rural sector, occupations such as agriculture and crafts flourish although at a low level of productivity. Uyanga noted that this low level of productivity adds to the characteristics of rural areas.

According to him, low productivity of the farmers and craftsmen is due to their continued use of obsolete technology. He added that this low productivity accounts for the ruralites' low purchasing power for the products of industries needed either for his personal consumption or for investment in his enterprise whether farm or workshop. It is only when he produces over his needs that the surplus can be converted into purchasing power for non-agricultural commodities."

The cumulative effect of low productivity resulting in low incomes of agricultural and other rural enterprises is that the majority of the rural population finds it difficult to meet even their basic needs. This added to lack of public services in the rural areas, especially community facilities such as roads, water, housing, education, health, electricity and sewage, the living conditions of the rural people can not be described as anything but poor. In addition, Uyanga also noted that rural dwellers constitute small-scale farmers, tenants, share-croppers, landless workers and a growing number of young persons entering the labour market for whom no prospects of gainful employment are available in the stagnant rural economy." The lack of social facilities and employment to the teaming number of youths in the rural areas promotes to a very large extent the plight of ruralites to urban centres.

Luning (1961) confirmed in his study of three village areas in the former Katsina Province (now Katsina State) that agriculture is not the only occupation of the ruralites. According to him, all the farmers are occupied in some craft, trade, or service occupation during the dry season, while some continue their activities through the wet season." He observed that many adult males have two, three or even more such occupations. The women are also engaged in earning cash especially by spinning and the preparation of foodstuffs and ingredients for sale. Even the children collect grass on the farms and sell it in the villages to the owners of sheep and goats. Most members of the household are, therefore,

occupied in making some money in one way or another." Although Luning's studies is of great substance, he has not however, examined whether any effort has been made to improve on the methods the ruralites follow to increase productivity in the various occupations they engage in. Such efforts by either the individuals as a group, the government or non-governmental organisations would have aided the development of the rural areas.

This unfortunate absence of development in the rural areas distinguish the rural person from the urbanite. Other factors considered range from level of economic development, density of population, size, differences in social differentiation, social stratification, social control, social interaction to rural-urban migration. According to Mabogunje (1965) in terms of level of economic development, quality of life, access to opportunities, facilities and amenities, standard of living, the gap between the urban and rural areas in Nigeria is very wide.

Chitamber (1973) adds that the gap between urban and rural dwellers "stem from basic differences in their environments that have had consequent impact on their personalities and their lives. He identified thirteen differences between the rural and urban people. These are:

(a) General environment and orientation;

(b) Occupation;

(c) Size of community;

(d) Density of population;

(e) Homogeneity in rural and heterogeneity in urban areas;

(f) Social differences in social differentiation - relative independence of segments of rural society;

(g) Social stratification;

(h) Social mobility;

(i) Social interaction;

(j) Social control;

(k) Leadership pattern;

(l) Standard of living and social solidarity.

On the whole, urbanites are seen to be more reserved, highly stratified and have free movement of labour unlike the ruralites that are more controlled, have relative independence of segments, have limited chances of interaction, are very homogeneous in way of life and high social solidarity.

Teriba (1977) also noted that using economic activity as a basis, the rural sector can be distinguished from the urban sector in terms of the type of output of goods and services and employment generated within the two sectors. Economic activity in the rural sector depends directly or indirectly on the exploitation of land conceived as natural resources; it centres principally around farming, animal

husbandry, dairying, poultry, fishing, forestry, food processing and cottage manufacturing.

It is interesting to note that the lagging behind of rural areas when compared to urban centres has been recognised by the government. The government has in the third National Development Plan stated that "in the past, the rural areas have lagged behind the urban areas in development resulting in increasing disparity between the standards of living in the rural and urban areas and in mass migration of population from the former to the latter." The plan aimed at checking migration by promoting the development of ural areas.

In another attempt at delineating rural areas from urban centres, Todaro (1972) pointed out that "using population settlement as a basis it is usual to refer to settlements of 20,000 and above as urban settlements and by implication, those below 20,000 as rural settlements. In this case, Nigeria's urban population, as estimated by the 1963 census, is 10.7m or 19.3 percent of the country's total population. Correspondingly, its rural population would be 44.9m or 80.7 percent of the total population. Thus, majority of Nigerians live in the rural areas.

Using the 1963 census figures, Ayoade (1977) also agreed with Todaro with respect to the figures and percentages of rural dwellers driving at a same conclusion that Nigerian's majority population lives in the rural area. He, unlike

Todaro, however, added that the rural population is engaged in agricultural and pastoral activities although many rural people do combine farming with some non-farming activities in varying degrees.

The rural majority issue is a global one and not restricted to Nigeria alone. The World Bank (1979) has estimated that about 60 percent of people of the world live in the rural areas. Some countries even have much more than the average. For instance, according to Kapoor (1979), Ethiopia has 93 percent of the total population in the country to be rural, while it is 90.8, 92.9 and 92.8 percents in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, respectively.

In comparism of the 1952/53 with 1963 population census, Uyanga (1980) found that the rural population in Nigeria has been steadily declining. There were only seven towns with more than 100,000 people in 1952, or about 4% of the total population in Nigeria. But in a later development, the 1970 - 74 development plan confirmed the rural population at 80% of the total. This suggests that Nigeria's rural population has declined from about 96% in 1952 to about 80% in the 1970s. In support of Uyanga that the rural population is declining considerably, Idachaba (1981) presented an estimate distribution of the percentage of total population that are rural for some selected states as:

(a) Anambra (80.95%);

(b) Kano (69.6%);

(c) Ogun (68,3%);

(d) Kwara (52.0%);

(e) Plateau (69.6%);

(f) Sokoto (38.3%); and

(g) Gongola (71.5%).

However, according to Olayide (1972), the estimate of the rural population statewise at 1972 revealed that:

(a) Benue-Plateau (87.12%)

(b) East Central (83.84%);

(c) Kano (90.04%);

(d) Kwara (76.28%);

(e) Lagos (23.84%);

(f) Mid-Western (84.80%);

(g) North Central (84.14%);

(h) North-Eastern (84.67%);

(i) North-Western (85.88);

(j) Rivers (79.88%);

(k) South-Eastern (88.19%); and

(l) Western (44.96%)

with a national average of 76.78%.

Taking Kano and Kwara States as our yardsticks of measurements, it is evidently clear that rural population in Nigeria is declining because while Kano and Kwara States had 90.04% and 76.28% respectively in 1972, the populations dropped to 69.9% and 52.0% respectively in 1981.

The World Bank (1984), however claimed that about 79 percent of the population live and work in the rural areas as at 1984. This has been agreed with by Okoli (1989) when he confirmed that the rural population in Nigeria constitute about 80% of the entire populations and produce over 80% of its food requirements but enjoy less than 30% of the fruits of their labour.

Although the rural population is the majority in the world, they are also the worst hit by the agony of poor planning and development for they have been neglected for too long. The World Bank (1975) estimated that about 150 million people suffered from absolute poverty in the rural areas of the less developed countries in mid 1970s. In the same year, Lele (1975) found that of the 2,000 million people in the World Bank's developing member countries, roughly 1,500m live in the land and nearly half of those are entrapped in what can only be described as absolute poverty. Adefolalu (1977) identified poverty as one of the sufferings of the rural poor. He however, added that the rural areas of this country suffer from various disabilities in varying degrees of intensity. Such includes remoteness, inaccessibility, relative isolation, backwash effects of development

resulting largely from the preceeding conditions, poverty, dullness and drabness and therefore unbroken monotony of daily life, ignorance and the attendant conservatism, loss of population through emigration, malnutrition, disease and relative lethergy."

Mensah and Ojowu(1987) also noted the multiplicity of problems that require development attention whether this be in the supply of fertilizer or improved seeds, construction of earth dams and feeder roads. Ikoikwak (1989) also noted that "misery aptly describes the living conditions prevailing in most of Nigeria's rural communities.

2.8 Recognition of the role and concern for the rural sector

The role of the rural sector of the world economy can not be understated. According to Anthonio (1972) "the rural sector has a role to play both in the formulation of economic, social and political policies and objectives and in the effective execution and operation of the objectives." The issue raised in the definition is that the rural people have a role in the plan formulation of all social objectives that will later affect them. Unfortunately, however, they are not involved in that. Besides, the sector has not even benefitted fully from the expressed social objectives of the economy formulated by the urban elites. This was due to the bias of development effort in favour of the urban areas to the utter

neglect of the rural sector.

Mensah and Ojowu (1987) argued that the rural sector has not been neglected and has been benefitting from government development programmes. According to them "since political independence, one of the major problems with which most third world countries (TWCs) have had to grapple with, is the transformation of the rural sector." Contrary to this, Chitamber (1973) argued that it is evidently clear that the rural sector despite its abundant resources do not benefit like its urban counterparts in third world countries. Instead, it is the resources of the rural areas that are tapped for the benefit of the urban centres. He identified rural resources as natural, human and man-made resources.

Famoriyo (1988) also observed that "it is usual to roughly equate the rural sector of the Nigerian economy to the agricultural sector. It is realised however that the rural area also consists of non-agricultural occupations such as crafts, trading and so on.

There is an increasing recognition of the role of the rural areas in total development and growth by individuals, governments and international bodies. Uyanga (1980) noted that the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) has engaged for over 25 years in promoting rural development. It is currently giving special attention to the problems of integrating agriculture in the total efforts to

develop rural areas.

The United Nations has also been involved in rural community development and welfare as well as in integrated approach to rural development in an effort to raise the standard of living of the rural populace. The role of the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNESCO in rural Health care and in rural education, both formal and informal, is worthy of note. The World Bank has also been supporting rural development most especially in less developed countries. Such include the setting up of the ADPS in Nigeria. All these are done with the awareness that rural areas are vital to the aggregate national development.

In Nigeria, the general concern for "rural sector" emanates from observation of serious imbalance in development and distribution of infrastructural facilities among the urban and rural areas of the country with the urban centre having upper hand. On the other hand, the rural sector who has been the major employer of the labour force of the country as well as producer of the countries needs in terms of food. Thus, it makes the country both self-sustaining in food production as well as a foreign exchange earner via the production of export commodities such as cotton, rubber, groundnut, cocoa and palm kernel by the ruralites has been neglected. Uyanga (1980) noted that hitherto, governments have been concerned with development of the agricultural sector of the rural economy, the infrastructure - transport, markets and marketing organisations or cooperative

systems and provision of rural infrastructure. Uyanga further noted that some aspects of rural development seem to have been largely neglected or are barely mentioned. Such aspects include rural settlements organisations (or organisation) along the lines of the model villages, in order to create a progressive rural structure; the development of housing and sanitation, and the solution of capital and management problems."

Similarly, Voh and Atala (1987) observed that the rural sector of Nigeria is increasingly being recognised as the key sector in the country's development plans and its rapid development and modernization, have, in the recent times assumed a priority objective of the national and state governments as well as international agencies. With this recognition is the realisation that past development efforts have not succeeded in narrowing the gap between the urban and rural sectors of the country.

The main concern of rural developers however is not only the gap between rural and urban centres, but that of improvement of the living condition of the rural dwellers. Dogo (1987) noted that the concern in improvement of the living standard is necessitated by the fact that majority of the people of the world particularly "those in developing countries still live in rural areas and it is likely that many more will live in future. Secondly, quality of life in rural area is seriously deplorable." Ayoade (1977) noted that due to the neglect the rural sector

has received, it has continued "to lag behind the urban areas in terms of development.

2.9 The concept of rural development

Despite the problems of the rural areas, noted Uyanga, there is an immense potential for development. It has only been neglected. The need for some form of development in the rural areas call for changes in the entire way of life of the rural people. In support of this, Watsun (1969) argued that "almost everybody requires changes of some sort in life and situation - more money, better health and more freedom for instance. If the rural people do not change, therefore, it may be held in check by existing strategies, which may have created some countervailing forces. In support of this, Hayer (1981) went to the extent of defining rural development as planned change by public agencies based outside the rural areas. These agencies include national governments, acting alone, and international organisations acting in association with them. However, AllahMagani (1986) noted that ruralites don't only require changes in life situation but also respond favourably to change that is locally meaningful and rational be it initiated by internal sources or public agencies based outside the rural communities as noted by Hayer.

It seems a general view, therefore, that rural dwellers welcome any development effort that will improve on their life situation. Such development,

is what is referred to as rural development. Many attempts have been made to define the term rural development by rural sociologists, socio-geographers, government agencies and international non-governmental bodies using various technologies but expressing the same meaning.

The United Nations (1971) for instance, has defined rural development as the outcome of a series of quantitative and qualitative changes occurring among a given rural population whose converging effects indicate, in time, a rise in the standards of living and favourable changes in the way of life of the people concerned." The emphasis in this definition is the transformation of the rural life for an improved standard of living of the rural people. In the same way, the UN Commission for Africa (1971) has defined rural development as "a process of not only increasing the level of per capita income in the rural sector, but also the standard of living of the rural population." The standard of living according to the Commission depends on a complex of factors such as food and nutrition levels, health, education, housing, recreation, security among others. A point to note in this definition is the introduction of a new concept into the rural development scene - the level of per capita income through which the rural economy can grow.

Richardson (1973) saw rural development as "a means by which natural resources and human skills of rural communities are induced to grow." This definition takes care of all rural activities in an effort to exploit the abundant

natural resources at their disposal through the various skills they have. Such skills may be in agriculture, pottery, spinning and other crafts. The belief is that the welfare of the rural population will improve through the effective exploitation of these resources. Lele (1975) also saw rural development in line with improvement of standard of living. According to him, rural development is "a means of improving the living standards of the mass of the low income population residing in rural areas and making the process of development self-sustaining.

Hunter (1975) noted that in its widest sense rural development implies nothing less than improvement in the quality of the whole way of life in rural areas; this in turn implies a huge range of activities - not merely agricultural production but roads, water supplies, large scale finance and commerce, food technology and nutrition, health education and social organisation.

The identification of all these aspects of rural development vary by virtue of a number of factors from country to country. Williams (1978) also noted that the ambit of rural development is very wide that it entails interaction of many factors such as generation of employment, more equitable access to land, equitable distribution of income among the inhabitants, wide spread improvements in health, nutrition and housing, maintenance of law and order, creation of incentives and opportunities for credits for the rural areas to have advantage of having access to enough funds to expand their business activities; it also involves creating wider

opportunities for individuals to realise their fullest potential through functional education and sharing or participating fully in the decisions and actions which affect their life. On the whole, however, the factors put together aim at improving the living standard of the rural population.

Mabogunje (1980) defined rural development as a means of improving the living standard of the rural population. According to him, the term rural development is concerned with "the improvement of the living standard of the low income population living in the rural areas on a self-sustaining basis, through transforming the socio-spatial structures of their production activities."

Rural development has also been defined in terms of mass mobilisation and participation of the masses in development activities. For instance, Oladosun (1981) saw rural development as "involving a thorough going transformation of social structure and extensive mobilisation and motivation of the masses." Rural development can be encouraged through mobilisation and motivation of the ruralites to initiate and participate in development projects in their areas. Lowdermik and Laitos (1981) also defined rural development as "a continuous process of planned social, political and economic change in rural social structures and organisations which provides for adequate incentives, production possibilities and services to help rural people achieve higher levels of living, knowledge and skills." They added that rural development helps to modify their physical and

social environment and maintain sustained progress toward desired goals which the rural poor help establish and implement over time."

Stohr (1981) suggested that in addition to capacity for exploitation, the resources should be induced to grow and develop fully in all respects, with the main objective of initially satisfying the basic needs of all people within the region and later for other development objectives.

Famoriyo (1985) defined rural development as a process by which a set of technical, social, cultural and institutional measures are implemented with and for the inhabitants of the rural areas with the aim of improving their socio-economic conditions.

In support of this definition, Singh and Kaltho (1986) saw rural development as "a process of providing a viable and strong economic base, amenities for human fulfilment in living, working, recreation and movement in the rural areas." This definition also sees rural development as aiming at improving the living standard of the rural population.

Akinbode (1986) offered a simple but comprehensive definition of rural development as that stage when the people in his village and other villages in Nigeria can turn on their tap and get clean water, inside or near their houses, have

medical facilities, roads and mobility, banks, electricity, comfortable houses, functional educational opportunities for adults, good clothes to wear, balanced nutrition, efficient sewage system, participation in decision making that affects their lives, with inner satisfaction and prefer to remain in their villages. A point of departure from the definitions of Lele and others with Akinbode's is his addition of participation of the rural population in the decision making process on issues that affect their lives which in itself psychologically encourages them never to migrate at no season.

The general lack of social facilities and poor living condition in the rural areas causes the drift of rural population to urban centres. Onyemelukwe (1977) noted that the pipe-borne water, electricity, health, postal and transport services have hardly been seen or provided as the basic entitlements of every tax paying household. Partly because of their absence or gross inadequacy, the rural environment has remained very unattractive, if not repulsive, to young people in particular, and the rural economy has continued to be inviting and undiversified. All these help to stimulate the ever increasing rural-urban migration thereby deplating rural labour.

In recognition of this, Faniran (1988) noted that rural development deals with the details of the process of improving the living conditions of rural communities and their counterparts and so make rural economies self-sustaining

and retentive of its population which has been drifting steadily to urban centres. The main emphasis in the definition is raising the standard of living in the rural areas so that rural-urban drift would be discouraged. However, on a critical note, one wonders whether the definition is on rural development alone because an idea on urban centres has also been raised.

In general, Campbell (1976) stated that rural development is taken to mean "not only economic improvement in the rural areas but also social and political factors, government services and environmental aspects. There are a number of social and political factors that have a common relevance throughout the region to a greater or lesser degree."

However, Dogo (1987) has identified three issues as the central focus of all the definitions and which have a substantial implication for the design and implementation of rural development programmes. These are:

1. Improvement in the living standards of the rural population involves mobilization and allocation of resources so as to reach a desirable balance overtime between welfare and productive services available to the rural sector.
2. Mass participation requires that resources be allocated to low incomes regions and classes and that the productive and social services actually reach them.
3. Making the process self-sustaining requires development of appropriate skills and implementing capacity and the pressure of institutions at the local,

regional and national levels to ensure the effective use of existing resources and to foster the mobilization of additional financial and human resources for continued development of the rural labour.

In addition to the issues identified by Dogo, Leogans (1974) noted that in every definition of rural development emphasis is placed on people and their vocationally, economically, physically and socially acceptable levels of living as the dependent variable. In the same way, Olayide (1975) noted that rural development involves effectively tinkering with variables such as rural population, employment, income, resource inputs, productivity, landscape etcetera to effect a continual maximization of welfare. The only observable difference between Leogans and Olayide's variables is that while Leogans grouped them in terms of whether they are economic, social or political, Olayide itemised them. Marsah and Ojowo (1987) noted that the indices of rural development to include accessibility of medical care, good drinking water, education, opportunities for human development and employment, as well as food quality.

Olajuyin (1989) restated that rural development recognises that improved food supplies and nutrition, together with basic service such as health, education and housing and transportation can not only directly improve the physical well-being and quality of life of the rural poor but can also indirectly enhance their productivity and their ability to contribute to the national economy.

In Nigeria, this was not realised until very recently. Prior to that, the emphasis was purely on agricultural development. Emphasis was then placed on the setting up of demonstration farms, rubber plantation programmes sponsored by the Food and Agricultural Organisation in the then Northern and Western States. This was to educate farmers on how to increase productivity on their farms. However, rural development goes beyond that. Uyanga (1980) added that rural development goes beyond agriculture and includes "the problem of the rational distribution of population over space. Besides, with a predominantly rural sector, Nigeria's rural development efforts virtually coincide with the sum total of her economic development efforts."

In what seems a concluding remark on the various contributions, Osunade (1977) maintains that "whatever the view point, rural development refers to any activity which contributes to the establishment of improved rural welfare. The ultimate goal of rural development is therefore, to achieve optimum utilization of all available resources."

2.91 Approaches to rural development:the experiences of other countries

Just as there is no consensus on the definition of rural development, so there is none in the approaches to rural development. Different countries all over the world take a different approach to the transformation of their rural areas. The

literature available for review are on Africa, Asia, Latin America and pacific countries, namely China, Fiji, Cuba, Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Niger, Nigeria, etc. For instance, in analysing some case studies of rural development programmes in Asia, Coombs (1980) noted the importance of mass participation in rural development. He identified five different ways by which members of a community can participate actively in the development of their rural communities. These include participation as local specialist, contributors of money or labour and materials, creators of broader community wide mechanism for selecting priorities and for planning and implementing local development projects, including identification of specific kinds of assistance required from outside sources to supplement local inputs.

2.91.1 The Chinese Experience

Aziz (1978) has presented a comprehensive record of rural development approaches in China. These approaches illustrate that "conceptually, the acceptance of a basic needs approach to development can be regarded as something of a break-through but, that by itself does not provide a practical development strategy and a set of workable policies." He further noted that the Chinese approach to rural development was based on a socialist ideology with emphasis placed on equality of opportunity granted under the "State or collective ownership of means of production." In this approach, mutual aid teams were formed by households which pooled their labour, animals, and farm implements

while retaining individual ownership of land. Other formations are the elementary cooperatives, advanced cooperatives and the people communes. Unlike the individual ownership of land in the mutual aid teams, land was to be owned collectively in the cooperatives. There is, however, the recognition that income is to be distributed according to the land and labour contributed by members. The advanced cooperatives were formed by merging about twenty elementary cooperatives. Unlike in elementary cooperatives, here, land contributed is not the determining factor of income distribution but labour. Aziz finally noted that the ultimate rural transformation in China came with the formation of the Peoples Commune. The countries were much bigger units which were to engage not only in agriculture but also serve as administrative political units. Peoples Communes were formed through the merging of advanced cooperatives, with the smallest unit of administration called Hsiang.

The responsibility of each commune was to organise and mobilize the rural population, to develop their lands and other resources so as to meet their basic needs on a self-reliance basis. It is also responsible for overseeing resource use with the view to reducing social inequalities and create a rural society based on justice and equality. The scheme has succeeded in transforming rural China.

Although China has only 8 percent of world's cultivable land but 20 percent of the world's population, yet it provides food for its 800 million people.

It has also met their basic needs of clothing, housing, medicine, and education. In economic terms, between 1952 and 1974, it has maintained an average growth rate of over 6 percent in Gross Domestic Product, 3.2 percent in agriculture and 9.7 percent in industry. It has succeeded in eliminating absolute poverty and solving the problems of unemployment and inflation - the most serious problems facing almost all developing countries.

Although the Chinese experience was a success, it was a programme involving all household irrespective of whether they are youths or not. The present research will examine the role of youths through the NYSC in transforming rural Nigeria with a view to identifying areas of success and failure.

2.91.2 The Cuban Example

The Cuban rural development experience is worthy of mention. Times International (1988) noted the rural transformation of Cuba shortly after the 1959 revolution in the country. It pointed out that areas of priority in developing rural Cuba were construction of feeder roads, provision of electricity to about 85 percent of the rural areas, polyclinics, medical posts and schools. The country has the highest health indices in the world. At least all the endemic diseases have been wiped out completely in both the rural and urban areas. Statistically, at 1988, Cuba has 57 rural hospitals, 281 medical posts and 108 maternity centres. A total number of 3,111 beds were supplied for the rural inhabitants. In addition, a family

doctor scheme was introduced in January, 1984 in which a doctor is assigned to 600 citizens particularly in rural areas.

The transformation of rural service scheme for graduates who have just completed their university education. They are posted to serve in rural areas for a period of two years offering their services such as educating the people on various skills and how to keep their environment clean. A notable weakness of this, however, is its failure to examine how the youths rural service scheme operates most especially in terms of training, deployment and re-deployment, means of acquiring tools and equipments used by the youths, why was the duration lengthy etcetera.

2.91.3 The Case of Fiji

In a study of the role of youths in rural development in Fiji, Delailomaloma (1976) noted that although Fiji's Sixth Development Plan emphasized the development of the economy in the rural areas, any programme for rural youths should aim at the overall development of the individual youth in the belief that if it succeeded it would have a snowball effect and later envelope the village community, the district, the province, and finally the nation. He further observed the idea of a national youth service scheme approach may be an efficient way of producing skilled people in a short period, many do not believe that it is the best way of training youths for rural works such as agricultural works. He found out

that training of youth in Fiji for agricultural works away from their own environs tend to produce a social and economic orientation away from farming more than if the training is carried out on the trainees own land using implements etcetera that he is familiar with.

In addition, Delailomaloma noted the formation of clubs and societies by the youth with the aim of transforming the rural Fiji. He observed that some of these clubs provide trucks for transporting produce to markets, while others have built village community centres for use as day care centres and for other social programmes. Some of these clubs have tried in supplying pipe-borne water for their villages while others with assistance from the government have established small-scale industries producing scented joss-sticks used in Indian religious ceremonies or for burning in the house.

It is worth noting that the youth programme in Fiji is purely agrarian although it creates other social and economic orientations apart from farming. These orientations and deployment outside own environment could be developmental in terms of promoting social interaction by all parts of the country. However, the study did not state the impact of the national youths service even in agriculture neither did it state the operationality of the programme.

2.91.4 The Israeli Experience

The Israeli experience of rural development started as a cooperative settlement which served as a basic production unit. The experiment was sustained by the strong determination of the Jewish people to settle and live in the home of their ancestors when they were forced to return to Palestine for various political and historical reasons. The intensive search for a new social organisation pattern to promote land settlement yielded the Kibbutz.

The Kibbutz provided the stimulus for government to organise and distribute rural development inputs as agricultural inputs and to continue the settlement programme based on its communal principles and the force of its organisation. As a development strategy, it is important to appreciate the fact that certain exceptional circumstances had coaleased to shape the Israel rural development experience. These include the immigrants, most of whom had not farming experience, to easily adopt agricultural innovations. Second, there was the strong sense of nationalism which evoked cooperation, discipline and respect for one another. There was also the structural flexibility to accommodate all persons such that men and women, too, were made equal both at work and in the decision making process of the Kibbutz.

The experience of Israel in rural development, like the Fiji's is also agrarian. However, unlike the Cuba case where the role of youths was specified,

in the Israeli experience like Fiji's, it was not.

2.91.5 The Tanzanian Model

The Tanzanian model of rural development was coined as Ujamaa Vijinini or rural socialism from the writings of Julius Nyerere, Essays on socialism. The concept was crystallised at the Arusha declaration of 1967. The basis of the Ujamaa village policy lies in a synthesis of old and new styles of life. Nyerere's thesis (1968) is that, "the traditional African family lived according to the basic principles of Ujamaa.They lived together and worked together because this was how they understood life and how they reinforced each other against the difficulties they had to contend with.....The results of their effort were divided unequally between them, but according to well understood customs."

The concept of Ujamaa was based on the following sound principles:

1. The belief that the traditional African extended family represents an indigenous form of socialism;

2. Free enterprise and private property are seen as foreign institution that are without deep roots in Tanzania;

3. Faith that Tanzania can be developed along socialist lines within the framework of its unique social and cultural heritage.

The goal of Ujamaa is thus, an evolution of a nation of communal farm

units based on equality, cooperation and non-exploitation. Development plans were to be initiated at the very bottom of the administrative structure (the Ujamaa village) passed through the district and regional organs, and brought up to the central political authority for approval.

Tanzania's strong commitment to broad based rural development appears to be warranted, given the overwhelming number of rural residents and the generally low levels of incomes and services available to them. "Ujamaa Vijinini" is an innovative and effective means of realizing broad participation of rural population in rural development programmes and improving the welfare of the rural masses.

In a criticism, however, writing on the Tanzanian approach to rural development, Omari (1976) clearly observed that the villagisation scheme has not achieved a comparable result because of a "weak ideological standard of the leaders. The program has also suffered from too little farmer participation and too much bureaucratic control. The so called improvement approach to development, which implied a continuation of conventional extension methods, was perceived as leading to the creation of a rural bourgeoisie, instead of benefitting the peasant masses and restructuring their society.

The Tanzanian approach to rural development like that of Cuba and Fiji

is also agrarian in nature. However, unlike in the former where the role of youths were at least mentioned, it wasn't so in Tanzania's case. The programme for the entire rural population to participate in which they refuse to because of too much bureaucratic bottlenecks.

2.91.6 The Kenya Study

In a study, Lele (1975) has examined the hierarchical structure of the rural development programmes in Kenya where field staff, committees and sub-committees organised to coordinate rural development activities. Each committee works on orders from a superior committee. However, this approach results in most decision having been made in Nairobi and passed down to the field staff in the project areas. As a result, much of the rural development planning has been based on inadequate knowledge of local constraints by the rural development department in Nairobi.

The study has presented the operationality of rural development programmes in Kenya but did not examine the role played by youths who constitute most of the field officers in the programme.

2.91.7 Rural Development in Zimbabwe

Unlike rural development programmes elsewhere which have tended to benefit the wealthier rural classes, in a study of policies in the African farming

areas of Zimbabwe, Zinyama (1986) noted that preference is given to the poorest in Zimbabwe's resettlement programme. The government, according to him has stated its determination to ensure that the programme will not become a mere transfer of land and the extension of subsistence farming into new areas. It, therefore, provides extension services to settlers at the rate of one extension worker per 400 families, social and economic infrastructure, marketing facilities and agricultural credit facilities for the purchase of inputs, implements and livestock. A major weakness of this study is its failure to see the role youths can play in rural transformation of Zimbabwe.

2.91.8 The Case of Niger Republic

In a study of rural development in Niger, Roberts (1981) noted that the first efforts of the government to devise a rural development strategy which would both increase productivity and appeal to the masses failed. The programme initiated by the government of Hammani Dioris failed because even the government had little national support.

In general, the most important aspect of the above literature review is the question of borrowing a leaf from the experiences of those countries. These experiences, it is believed when applied to Nigeria would greatly impact in youth development programmes especially those initiated and or executed by National Youth Corps members.

2.92 Impact of rural development

There is a wide acceptance of the impact of rural development in the transformation of the living condition of people in the rural areas as the overall objective of rural development amongst scholars and international organisations. Such transformation must be multi-sectoral. McNamara (1975) pointed out that the objectives of rural development extend beyond anyone particular sector because rural problems are also diverse. According to him, rural poverty, for example, is reflected in poor nutrition, inadequate shelter and low health standards. These in turn, affect the productivity of the rural poor and their quality of life. What are required are production improvements and mutually reinforcing programmes of better nutrition, preventive health, improved water supply, basic sanitation and practical education.

Olayide (1975), taking an economic analysis, noted that the goals of rural development have been discussed as the efficient utilisation of productive resources, increased output/productivity of rural enterprises, the provision of sufficient food fibre of adequate quality and quantity, the liquidation of rural underemployment and unemployment, the enhancement of rural incomes, and the reduction of rural-urban drift of able-bodied youths.

The World Bank (1975a) in support of McNamara and Olayide is of the view that since rural development is intended to reduce poverty, it must be clearly

designed to increase production and raise productivity. Rural development recognises that improved food supplies and nutrition together with basic services, such as health and education, not only directly improve physical well-being and quality of life of the rural poor but can also indirectly enhance their productivity and their ability to contribute to the national economy. In the same vein Lele (1975) Palmer (1979) and Roberts (1979) have noted that rural development may offer a package of inputs and welfare services as its basic aim in order to solicit increased production. These services include rural water supplies, improved housing, health services, nutrition and child-care advice and even programmes to `integrate' women into development, whereas inputs provided include new technologies which are heavily reliant upon seed, chemical, fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides, tractor services and hired labour ,all of which must be purchased or obtained on credit.

In his study of 851 rural settlements in Ife/Ijesa area in Oyo State, Adejuyigbe (1977) noted that an important aim in regional development is the provision of essential service centres (educational, medical, religious, commercial, judicial and administrative centres) for the rural population. However, some of the discrediting points of the research are failure to state the methodology used as well as failure to itomise the number of essential services so provided and whether they have made any impact on the study area or not, since the ultimate aim of any development effort is to improve on the target population/area. This is as

Ogundana (1973) and Baba (1989) noted that the ultimate goal of rural development is increase in productivity and improvement in the standard of living of the rural population. In addition, Baba added that "improvement in the standard of living is achieved by generation of financial and material resources to support rural development programmes.

In Nigeria, the government has recognised the importance of majority of its population, the rural people and stated the need to improve their standard of living as its main goal of rural development. This is evident in most of the country's development plans. Onibokun (1983) noted that the first, second, third and fourth National Development Plans (1962 - 68; 1970 - 75; 1975 - 80; and 1980 - 85 respectively) stated the government's aim to bridge the gap between the rural and urban areas through the provision of basic facilities essential for the improvement of the standard of living in its rural areas.

Hahn (1986) studied the prospects for improved rice production in Nigeria and its implications to rural development among farmers in Iwaraja and Omu-Ijesa, Ilesa, in Obokun Local Government Area of Oyo State. He took a sample of 150 farmers through systematic sampling procedure using linear programme and partial budgeting in his analysis where he found out that although 40% of the cropped area is rice, majority of the farm operators were elderly with an average of 51 years and little or no formal education, because the bulk of the youths have

fled to the urban centres where social facilities are available for them. He, therefore, argued that the "ultimate aim of rural development should be the achievement of a fuller utilisation of available physical and human resources with a view to achieving higher income and better living conditions for the rural population. Mosher (1987) agreed with the view that the services provided as the ultimate goal of rural development. He, however, added increasing opportunities of rural population to participate with constructively and pleasurably in activities of their culture to their indices.

In Nigeria, like other developing countries, priority is highly accorded rural development. Dogo (1987) stated that in view of the experiences gained from past efforts at rural development, the government has identified the following as its aims of rural development in the country:

1. To improve the quality of life and standard of living of the rural population by:

(a) Substantially improving the quality, value and nutritional balance of their food intake;

(b) Raising the quality of rural housing as well as the general living and working environment in the rural areas;

(c) Improving the health conditions of the people in rural areas;

(d) Creating greater opportunities for human development and employment, thereby raising rural income levels;

(e) Making it possible to have a progressively wider range of goods and services available to rural consumers,

2. To use the enormous resources of the rural areas to lay a solid foundation for national development.

In general, Anker (1973) observed that rural development is concerned with the problems of growth and improvements in the rural areas. It involves strategies, policies and programmes for the development of the rural areas and the promotion of the activities carried out in such areas."

Campbell (1976) observed that in real terms, however, the accomplishments of rural development may not be so much in terms of tons produced, jobs created or deaths prevented, but in new capabilities, attitudes and momentum generated among rural people.

2.93 A critique of rural development:

As a critique, Williams (1981) observed that the purpose of the programmes is self-evident namely, increase in agricultural production and improvement in living standards. He however, noted that historical record shows that rural development at least in Africa has often failed to achieve any of its desired ends. The reason for the failure of rural development to achieve its aims is the political weakness of the unorganised and illiterate rural dwellers, coupled

with the apparent determination of policy makers to exploit this situation. Other weaknesses identified include "lack of political will by the rural masses, a result of poor rural leadership and the absence of organisations which are committed to the task of protecting the interest of rural inhabitants." These weaknesses account for the large spendings on rural projects that end up benefitting urban elites more than the rural poor.

2.94 Approaches to rural development :the adopted models

There are many models through which rural development is accomplished. These vary from country to country and from discipline to discipline. The approach that is applied in Nigeria may not be practically applicable in the United States of America or even another less developed country. In the same way, sociologists may have preference on a model over another that may be preferred by geographers. In support of this, Baster (1972) adds that "while there is no shortage of models or partial models at the present time (economic, social and political) there is no agreement (and perhaps never can be), about a general model of development. Nkom (1984) identified the top-down model of rural development which assumes that "the poverty and underdevelopment of the rural areas emanates from the ignorance, conservatism and technological backwardness of the rural inhabitants." This model is a product of the modernisation theorists as it believes that the rural areas can only develop by adopting the `modern' technology, improved methods of production and `modern' institution and values

of the west or developed nations. But, rural development can be initiated by the rural population without any reference to the 'top.'

Lyam (1990) observed that an ideal development model is the "development-from-below model which stresses the importance of community mobilisation and participation in all aspects of rural development process.

2.95 Classification of rural development projects

Based on these models, Ajaegbu (1976) classified rural development into two categories. According to him, there are those undertaken by various governments through their ministries and agencies, and those undertaken by individuals and local communities on their own behalf often spontaneously." However, it is worthy of note that at times rural development projects can take the feature of being initiated by local communities and later taken over or supported by governments. Uyanga (1980) classified rural development projects in the same way as Ajaegbu'. He however, added that direct government attempts at rural development takes the form of:

1. Actual participation in the establishment of rural projects such as the oil palm, rubber and cocoa plantations in the Cross River Basin, Farm Settlements in the Western and Eastern Nigeria, Agricultural Research and Extension Programmes, demonstration and model farms, poultry, horticulture and fishing projects in Ibadan, panyan ? Abeokuta and Calabar.

2. Financial and technical advice and assistance at rural development projects, whereby subsidies and free rehabilitation schemes have been provided to farmers. Under this category also is the Groundnut Seed Multiplication Scheme in parts of Northern States, rice and rubber projects in parts of Western and Lagos States.

3. The government provides basic infrastructure, tools and agro-industrial inputs such as raw materials, roads and markets needed for rural development.

2.96 Participants in rural development

Dogo (1987) has identified four groups of participants in rural development. These, according to him are "the local people, local leaders, government personnel and foreign personnel." For any meaningful development effort all the agencies must collaborate and work as a team even though contributing in various capacities.

The present research will examine the role played by the NYSC, a Federal Government agency in rural development from its inception to date in a bid to evaluate its achievements and shortcomings in the study area.

2.97 Strategies in rural development

The increasing recognition of rural areas, and the need to develop them, call for the adoption of various strategies in achieving rural development. The

microeconomic strategy, the directional strategy, exemplary strategy, the transformation strategy and the improvement approach are the strategies of rural development.

Under the microeconomic strategy, four approaches outlined in the economic literature are considered. These are conservation approach, urban-industrial impact, diffusion approach and the high-pay-off input models of development.

The directional strategy refers to the direction in which a society is moving or supposed to be moving. It focusses on the goals of policy. In line with this, Griffin (1974) identified three broad strategies which he terms "technocratic", "reformists" and "radical."

The exemplary strategy on the other hand, consists of the example a given nation refers by its particular selection policies, e.g agrarian socialism in China, Ujamma Villages in Tanzania, Educational reform in Cuba, Small-holder farming in Taiwan or National Orientation in Nigeria. However,it was observed that in this approach to development, one must be prepared to find disparities between what is claimed and what has been achieved.

The transformation strategy is seen as emphasizing physical infrastructure and

mechanising farming accompanied by an exodus of rural population to the urban centre. The transformation strategy therefore, sees existing peasantries as a problem, occupying valuable land and refusing to accept technocratic recommendations. It stresses the futility of incremental change, a sharp break with the past is necessary. In support of this, the improvement strategy aims at evolving a framework of cooperation that meets the need of modern, high volume marketing but which leaves the individual on his land and in control of his resources. The major features of this strategy include land reform, farm planning, cash crop development, supervised production, small farm credit, marketing cooperatives, youth clubs, farmer training, input supply scheme and agricultural extension.

The improvement strategy sees peasant small holdings as an emergent farming system capable of continuing to support rural populations. It argues that under hand cultivation with perennial crops even very small farms of say 2 hectares (5 acres) can support a family, while 5 hectares constitutes a profitable holding. It stresses the necessity of incremental change. It sees progressive farmers as a key link whose assistance is necessary to accelerate the "diffusion of innovations."

In the same vein, Lele (1975) also identified fivefold programmes in relation to achieving rural development and each of the programmes fit into the

different strategies for rural development in Nigeria. These programmes are commodity programmes, regional rural development programme, functional programme, miscellaneous or sub-sector programme and spontaneous or rehabilitation programme. The commodity, functional and sub-sector programmes fit into the sectoral strategy for rural development. Rural development strategies are aimed at transforming the citizen in the rural area from being a victim of poverty, ignorance and disease into a contented human being able to earn an income capable of sustaining a reasonable standard of living for himself and his family.

The recent trend in all development efforts is to emphasize on the development of the rural population via improving their standard of living. Vital components of rural transformation involves programmes of seeing to the upliftment of the rural majority. Oladosun (1981) observed that no realistic talk or serious search for a strategy of development in Nigeria and indeed the developing world that will fail to focus attention on the rural areas where the bulk of the population reside not only because the third world is a rural world where any talk of rural development really means talking of overall national development but also it is in the rural areas that the problem of inequitable distribution of resources and a marked lack of purchasing power and growing poverty abound. However, there is no strategy for rural development that is uncommon to all rural areas. Dogo (1987) noted that although rural areas are easy to describe because

of the basic features they share in common, "there is no one strategy for rural development that is applicable to all of them." The implication of this therefore, is that different cultural areas need to evolve their own strategies for rural development.

2.98 Rural Development Strategies in Nigeria:

In Nigeria, like in many other parts of the developing world, rural development strategies often emphasize aspects which bear on productivity of agriculture. Thus projects such as the early farm settlements schemes of the former Western and Eastern Regions and the relatively more recent River Basin Development Authorities (RBDAs) can be, and are, in fact often listed as rural development programmes. Faniran (1988) noted that the main strategy of rural development in Nigeria from the early 1960s up to 1980s saw rural development especially in terms of agricultural programmes such as farm settlements, Operation Feed the Nation, Green Revolution and Agricultural Development Projects (ADPs).

The problem of rural Nigeria is multifarious, hence the strategies for solving the problem cut across several policy "spaces" namely health space, agricultural space, industrial space, public works space, educational space, etcetera.

In a study of morbidity pattern in Bodinga Local Government,it was found that multi-sectoral attack on problems of rural areas brought a heavy reduction of health problems in the area. According to the study, the most critical problem prioritized, that is measles, is envisaged to be reduced by 30% with emphasis on the target population - the pre-school children. Others such as pneumonia will be reduced by 20 - 25%, malnutrition is to reduce by 15% while malaria, considering its magnitude and distribution is to be reduced by 2 - 5% and Gastroentritis by 30% by the year 1990. The study recommended the integration of health workers and the local community in terms of social interaction through which health education could be imparted to the local population.The study did not however state the role of youth organisations such as the NYSC in a bid to achieving this objective. How far the projections have been realised calls for other empirical studies.

As a development strategy, rural development varies both in its conception as well as in the approaches adopted by the various countries. Campbell (1976) has however, noted existing methods of rural development to include departmental extension activities, local government activities such as provision of infrastructural and technical operations, markets, communication, health, education facilities, water supply and minor public works, community development programmes, cooperative societies, task forces, informal organisations, missions, commercial companies, village clubs, social and

economic development groups etcetera. Thus, Campbell recognises the role of organisations such as the NYSC in rural development not only in Nigeria but the world in general.

2.99 Factors influencing rural development

No matter the method of rural development, many factors collaborate in influencing its success or otherwise. The UN (1971) has identified the factors influencing rural development as geography and geology such as climate of an area, healthy drinking water, transportation facilities et cetera; economic and technological factors such as production technologies, prices, conditions of storage, processing, marketing etc; sociological and psychological factors such as customs, social status, role of women etcetera; institutional factors such as credit and cooperative organisations, power structure, and factors of innovation such as change agents within and outside the system etcetera. However, Leighfield, Kettle and Whitbread (1975) added problem identification as one of the processes. Famoriyo (1981) also noted social structure, customs, politics, economics and finance, social overhead capital, land tenure and land reforms as the factors in rural development.

In a contribution, Aboyade (1976) noted the influence of ecology among the factors in rural development. Allahmagani (1986) regrouped the factors into the ecological, cultural, economic, administrative/political, technological and

community participation factors. The only notable difference between the UN, (Famoriyo's classification and that of Allahmagani's) is the specific mention of community participation in rural development as one of the factors. This participation entails involving the rural population in all processes of rural development programmes from decision making in the planning stage to implementation of the programmes. Allahmagani (1986) identified the processes involved in rural development as the problem identification and decision to develop the rural areas, rural development policy including approach and planning strategy, identification of goals and objectives, plan formulation, implementation and review of action stage.

In Nigeria, while other stages of the process are treated fairly well, there has always been poor handling of the implementation stage which is the most vital of the processes. This accounts for the failure of most rural development programmes in the country. The implementation stage where the rural development has greater role consists of the following:

i. Selection of priority areas based on social need, economic and political reasons, for immediate action;

ii. Programming of actions into projects and definition of projects by time schedules;

iii. Classifying identified projects on the basis of the expected role of the private sector and government;

iv. Budgeting - successful implementation of a plan depends on the availability of financial resources. Thus, budgeting involves allocating money at the right time for plan implementation;

v. Project assignment - this involves assigning or tendering the project to the operators for further detailing and designing for implementation;

vi. Action - the plan document is translated into physical reality.

2.991 Rural development planning in Nigeria

Since the social goal of rural development is to improve the level of living of the people, Onyemelukwe (1977) noted that development plans should specify what the government wishes to achieve in meaningful practical terms. Onokerhoraye (1977) also noted that "one of the main objectives of planning for rural development in Nigeria in the next few decades should be the overcoming of the shortage of social facilities and the moderation of the discrepancy between rural and urban areas so as to enable the population of the rural area to share the progress of the urban centres. But contrary to Onokerhoraye, Aziz (1978) noted that development strategies have failed in transforming rural economies.

In Nigeria, for instance, the Federal Government (Nigeria, 1975) has observed that "in the past, the rural areas have lagged behind the urban areas in development resulting in increasing disparity between standard of living in the rural and urban areas and in mass migration of population from the former to the

latter. In view of that, the government stated as its main objective of development policy, the increase in rural productivity and income, diversify rural economy and generally enhance the quality of life in rural areas. The most important instruments for achieving these objectives have been agricultural programmes which cover such issues as expansion of cultivated area and increase in yield per hectare. Related to this also is the dissemination of improved inputs, techniques, seedlings and encouragement of cooperatives. The government in its rural policy aims at incorporating the provision of electricity, pipe-borne water and feeder roads in the rural area.

As a contribution to rural development plan in Nigeria, for the government to achieve its objectives, it should take steps to increase the quantity and quality of manpower, import or manufacture fertilizers which will be distributed free of charge or cheaply to farmers, may evolve propaganda programmes designed to infuse new attitudes into people so that they can receive new ideas and agree to try out new methods of production. It may develop financial institutions, such as banks and thus stimulate savings and investments. In addition to a recognition of the many sided aspects of rural development, the planners must take into account:

a. The overall amount of change to be achieved;

b. The distribution of these changes among various people and places;

c. The speed at which these changes take place;

d. A recognition and identification for whose benefit programmes were to be carried out.

There were so many attempts made at development planning in Nigeria even before independence. The first attempt was made in 1945 when the then colonial office requested the local administrators to submit a 10 year development plan to guide in the allocation of colonial development and welfare funds. This resulted into the "Ten Year Plan of development and welfare for Nigeria, 1946." This plan (1946 - 1956) represents the first attempt in national development planning (Nigeria, 1946). A significant proportion of the country's wealth during the plan period was devoted to the development and improvement of social infrastructure in both the urban and rural areas. A sizeable amount was spent on the opening up of the country through the building of railway, feeder roads and communication facilities. Although the plan has succeeded in providing some of the facilities, they were meant to aid the success of colonialism in the country.

The National Development Plan of 1962 - 68 was the first after the country gained independence. It emphasized the agricultural, industrial, health and educational sectors. The main feature of the plan was to promote growth so as to make the country self-sustaining. There was emphasis on setting up of agricultural research institutes to make knowledge needed on fertilizers, improved seedlings and farm practices available.

The priority of the Second Development Plan however, was not strictly on agriculture.It was first on the provision of industry, transportation, education and manpower development in addition to agriculture. Other areas are social services and utilities such as electricity, communication, water supply, defence and security investments.

The first mention specifically of provision of rural infrastructure by the Federal Government was in the third National Development where the government aimed at spending the sum of N428.826 million on rural infrastructure alone. This, added to expenditure of state governments on rural areas within the plan period amounted to N707.878 million. The plan according to Uyanga (1980) regards the rural sector as a prerequisite rather than a permissive factor in economic development.

The fourth National Development Plan also has agriculture as its priority and by implication rural transformation (Nigeria, 1981). The plan provided for the emergence of the River Basin Development Authorities through which agriculture, most especially irrigation was promoted by providing agricultural inputs to the rural farmers.

According to Onibokun (1980), the main thrust of government rural development programmes can be discussed in three parts:

1. Programmes meant to raise farm output and rural incomes through intensive and extensive agriculture;

2. Programmes aimed at providing basic social amenities in the rural areas;

3. Fiscal policy measures, rural credit and rural industrialization efforts were also pursued as parts of the strategies for rural development;

2.992 Rural development efforts in Nigeria

Famoriyo (1979) noted that rural development efforts in Nigeria were based on those objectives. He identified such efforts as the farm settlements in the former Eastern Region established by the regional government in 1966 to embark on the encouragement of such projects as "co-operative community farms"; Western Nigeria in the late fifties school leavers' farms in the former Mid-Western Region of Nigeria; farm institutes in the Northern parts of the country, the Borno rural experiment set up in 1956 to encourage the use of fertilizers by farmers in the area, the Shendam rural development and resettlement scheme set up to resettle 8,500 settlers in 1960 with the objective of controlling the downhill migration of farmers from the southern slopes of the Jos-Plateau into the fertile but virtually uninhabited plain lying between the Shendam and Wase Rivers.

Other programmes included the Niger Agricultural Development Project launched in 1949. It was a capital intensive project which adopted agricultural mechanisation. The plan was for the project to clear 672,000 hectares of land

within the first ten years of its existence. Of this total, 1/3 of the land was for planting of groundnut, 1/3 for millet and the remaining 1/3 to be left to fallow. The farmers were organised into communities of 10 settlements of 80 families and each family was to cultivate 36 hectares to leave 12 hectares to fallow. The programme failed owing to poor demonstration on the part of field workers which made farmers to lose confidence in them.

The Bamenda-Cross-River-Calabar Scheme was another project. The scheme started as a way of redistributing population from the high populated area to low density zone. The clearing for the project started in 1947. At the beginning, 8 settlers were registered barely after two years of inception of the programme. Each farmer was given 6.8 hectares of land, 4 hectares was to be planted with food crops, 2 hectares for oil palm and the remaining 0.8 hectares was allotted for building their houses and compounds. The programme failed for inadequate planning. The Kontagora Land Settlement Scheme, the Uboma Rural Development Project and the Mokwa Settlement Scheme are other early development efforts in Nigeria.

Unfortunately, however, Famoriyo (1987) noted that most of those projects have failed to yield the desired results. After each failure, fresh attempts were usually made to embark on new ones which in turn repeated failures of earlier ones." Various attempts were made to find out reasons for the failure of such rural

development efforts. Previous rural development efforts in both the colonial and early independent Nigeria tend to be of ad-hoc and disjointed in nature with various 'schemes' scattered all over the country, e.g. the Anchau and Mokwa Schemes in the North and the various plantations and farm settlements in the South.

Perhaps the most significant effort towards evolving more systematic and concise rural development policies came with the creation of the Federal Department of Rural Development in 1976 which has the responsibility for formulating, coordinating and monitoring rural development programmes in the country.

The single most important set of programmes so far being coordinated by the department is the Integrated Agricultural Development Project (IADP) commonly referred to as the ADP. Since the inception of the first set in 1975 at Funtua, Gombe and Gusau, the ADPs have over the years emerged as the most noticeable agricultural and rural development programmes existing in almost all the states and taking over most of the functions of the ministries of agriculture. The most recent effort was the creation of Departments and Ministries of Rural Development and the Directorate of Foods, Roads and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI). The functions of DFRRI created in 1986 spelt out by Babangida (1987) are to:

1. Accelerate its efforts to build a network of rural feeder roads and add another 30,000 kilometres to its original target of 60,000 kilometres;

2. Implement a national rural water supply scheme;

3. Launch a national rural markets programme to be closely phased in with the rural feeder roads programme;

industrialization;

5. Generally implement its articulated programmes in the fields of crops, livestock, fruits, vegetables, rural housing, rural health, rural education and social organisation.

In addition to the creation of DFRRI and other agencies of rural development, Onoja, Famoriyo (1989) added that "notable also were efforts made to stimulate rural development in the Nigerian universities, particularly in Ibadan, Nsukka, Ife and Zaria, through setting up and financing of research bodies in agriculture and rural development.

Despite this however, Filani (1981) observed that the socio-economic problems confronting these countries continued to escalate and the general low level of well-being of the people still remained unchanged. Shaw (1972) has noted that the same problems of rising unemployment, growing numbers of illiterate, ill-housed, malnourished and sick people, increasing disparities of all

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kinds, growing external debts and worsening international terms of trade still remained issues for development planning to tackle. Ayoade (1985) agreed that the various attempts to raise the quality of rural life by the provision of social amenities like pipe-borne water, electricity, schools, health and transport facilities have also been unsuccessful.

The consequences for such failure among other things are a high death rate, low labour productivity, rural-urban migration of enterprising young men and high-level of underemployment, partly as a result of population pressure on the available limited resources as well as ineffective mobilisation of those resources. In view of all these, Nkom (1984) concluded that "the conception, planning and implementation of rural development programmes in Nigeria, has involved a great deal of paternalism, over-centralization and insensitivity to the needs and circumstances of rural communities. Rather than treating the rural population as agencies, other bodies involved in rural development have assumed that development is the product of unidirectional flow of investments, recommendations and scientific knowledge from modern change agencies to a domicile and passive production. This refusal to actively involve the rural population accounts for the failure of rural development programmes in most less developed countries like Nigeria.

2.993 Other Efforts of the Government in Rural Development:

Many scholars are of the view that several changes are occurring within the rural economy. These include the introduction of modern equipments and farm inputs as well as modern industrial plants. These have been due to activities of the public sector. For instance, as noted earlier, the Federal Government has established large scale irrigation and demonstration schemes and ranches in the rural area from which the rural families have derived direct benefits. The traditional agricultural sector has accommodated extension ideas and modern inputs. The non-farm sector has also changed through establishment of modern formal sector industries, both large and small scale. These and other facilities were provided via various agricultural programmes, such as farm settlements, OFN, Green Revolution, ADPs, River Basin Development Authorities et cetera, although the success or otherwise of most of them is still debatable.

Having conducted a study on land tenure as a factor of rural development in the middle belt (former provinces of Adamawa, Benue, Ilorin, Kabba, Niger and Plateau in former Northern Nigeria) it was found that the role of land tenure as a factor in rural economic development in Nigeria is well recognised via the land settlement schemes.

The failure of programmes such as the ADPs is due to a number of factors which include:

1. Lack of vertical integration of agricultural production and marketing.
2. Omission of income distribution and equity consideration.
3. Lack of integration of rain fed and irrigated farming systems.
4. Lack of functional and spatial integration: omission of social infrastructure.
5. Neglect of politically visible crops.
6. Failure to provide adequately for post project development.
7. The ADPs, as implemented, are neither integrated agricultural projects nor integrated rural development projects.

However, in a study of 4 local government areas of Ankpa, Bassa, Dekina and Idah in Kogi State,Baba (1983) examined the impact of the Ayangba Agricultural Development Project on the quality of rural life where they found it to be a "very effective way of mobilizing a rural population to adopt a profitable agricultural venture which would ultimately lead to self-sufficiency." The study found ADPs to be successful but did not however, examine the role of other participants in rural development programmes such as the youths to the success of the Ayangba project.

2.994 The integrated rural development strategy

Rural development is an integral part of a large complex problems which is out to eliminate the abject poverty facing the people in the countryside and to inculcate habit of judicious and more productive management of national

resources, having the interest of yet generation unborn in all their thinking, there should be room for enlarging productive employments that see to the enhancement of the quality of life.

The multi-faceted nature of rural development is noted according to him "the problem of rural development in Nigeria is a multi-faceted one, and it is an integrated programme of action, urged elsewhere, which can have a substantial impact on this worsening problem.

Olatunbosun (1975) also noted that rural development requires a multi-approach. He points out that, in order to improve the quality of life of the neglected rural majority in Nigeria, programme of agricultural production, health with a more efficient rural health delivery investment, in rural non-farm activities, nutrition, education and training, both formal and informal, rural electrification, cooperatives, water supply, rural credit, entertainment and road construction, should be planned and implemented in an integrated manner, with due consideration for projects that mutually support and interlock with another in an overall rural development plan.

At a meeting of commonwealth ministers concerned with food production and rural development held in London in March, 1975, it was agreed that the problems of rural development and food production should be attacked in an

integrated manner and should be given the highest priority in all international and national efforts in future (Martin, 1976). He added that "the integrated rural development approach has been widely prescribed for Nigeria." The Integrated Rural Development Strategy is perhaps the best approach to rural development because it tackles rural problems consecutively. Ukoje (1985) noted that the integrated strategy is comprehensive because it takes care of many problems almost at the same time." Famoriyi (1989) also noted that the Integrated Rural Development Strategy emphasizes interdependence between welfare and productivity and finds its fulfilment in the agricultural development projects (ADPs) in Nigeria. The United Nations (1971) in an explanation given at Moshi Conference of 1971 states that "the concept of the integrated approach in the context of rural development means an integral approach in the sense that it is a highly structural and systematic exercise in which all components of the system of development can be understood as important and appreciated for the part which they play individually and collectively. A one time President of the World Bank, McNamara (1975) agreed with the integrated approach to rural development. He, however, sees rural poverty as the most common feature in less developed countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America that needs an urgent attention.

Olatunbosun (1975) agreed with the integrated approach to the rural problems of not only rural poverty as stated by McNamara, but also aspects that will improve the quality of life of the neglected rural majority in Nigeria.

According to him, programmes of agricultural production, health with a more health efficient rural health delivery, involvement in rural non-farm activities, nutrition, education and training in both formal and non-formal, rural electrification, cooperative, water supply, rural credits, entertainment and road construction should be planned in an integrated manner, with due consideration for projects that are mutually supporting and interlocking with one another in an overall rural development plan."

In an attempt to define the concept of integrated rural development, Todaro (1977) sees the term to refer to "the broad spectrum of rural development activities encompassing the simultaneous fostering of small farmer agricultural progress, improvement of levels of living (incomes, employment, education, health and nutrition, housing and other social, reducing inequality in the distribution of rural incomes and urban-rural imbalances in incomes and economic opportunities, and the capacity of the rural sector to sustain and accelerate the pace of these improvements over time." Although this definition can be criticized for its breadth, yet it is not without focus. Its human centredness in terms of meeting the basic needs of the individuals with a rural community is worthy of note.

In the same manner, Uyanga (1980) defined rural development as "a series of mutually supporting, inter-related agricultural and non-agricultural activities oriented towards a stated objective which involves the improvements in the rural

system as a whole." The emphasis on broadening the rural economy and aiming at the involvement of the rural poor in the development process through which they should get a larger share of the benefits clearly shows that the objectives of integrated rural development must go beyond those of agricultural development because such factors as increased social justice, eradication of absolute poverty or changes in the power structure are not simply good things to be pursued after economic growth has been achieved, but they are basic requirements for setting economic development in motion. In view of this, therefore, Stohr (1981) argued that the term rural development would need to be seen as "an integral process of widening opportunities for individual, social groups, and territorially organised communities at small and intermediate scale and mobilizing the full range of their capabilities and resources for the common benefit in social, economic and political factors."

2.995 The Objectives of the Integrated Rural Development:

The primary objective of the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRD) is the mobilization of rural resources to cope with the complexity of rural problems. The strategy according to the World Bank (1975) emphasizes the fact that the economic base in rural areas has to be broadened through efforts to mobilize and better utilization of human and natural resources by giving the less privileged people (target population) assured access to the means of production and services as pointed out by McNamara. Food and Agricultural Organization

(FAO) (1978) expantiated the general objectives of Integrated Rural Development Programme as:

1. .....raise productivity in the rural sector of which agriculture may be the main activity in most developing countries at their initial state of development.

2. Ensure equitable income distribution and provide sufficient employment opportunities.

3. Establish better social, economic and physical infrastructure in the rural areas and ensure that the majority of the rural people benefit from them; and

4. Institutionalize political and administrative capability, including decisive participation of the rural people in decision making in community activities.

In agreeing with FAO, Uyanga (1980) also identified increased agricultural productivity, improved distribution of income and non-material benefits, improved consumption patterns and progress in social integration and improved basic conditions of living as a means to increased productivity as the main objectives of Integrated Rural Development. A point of emphasis common to both FAO and Uyanga is the need for mobilization and motivation of people, particularly at the local level, to achieve a wider participation in rural development programmes.

Although putting it in another language, Lea and Chaudhri (1983) have also identified four cardinal objectives of Integrated Rural Development Programme as:

1.Improving the living standard and well being of the masses of the peole.

2. To make rural areas more productive and less vulnerable to natural hazards, poverty and exploitation.

3. To ensure that any development is self-sustaining and involves the mass of the people; and

4. To ensure as much local autonomy as possible.

Taking a welfarist approach, Idachaba (1981) pointed out the objectives of Integrated Rural Development as enhanced income of rural people, reduction in inequalities in the distribution of wealth and personal incomes, a reduction in the level of rural poverty and rural unemployment, increase in rural value added product, enhanced good health and the reduction of ignorance through mass literacy and education and enhanced quality of life from the provision of potable water, electricity and other basic needs.

The notable difference between FAO, Uyanga and Lea and Chaudri's definition as compared to Idachaba is his failure to identify the need for political changes which his predecessors did. Idachaba can also be criticized on the grounds that all he presented can be grouped into two items of the objectives provided by FAO and Uyanga namely improvement in the standard of living and increased productivity of the rural populace. In fact, in consonance with this Aina (1985) summarized the objectives of Integrated Rural Development as "increase

agricultural productivity and income of the rural population and to improve the living standards in the rural areas.

However, Mensah and Ojowu (1987) maintain that "there is another aspect of integration which has not been given proper attention in the current rural development exercise. Integration should involve not only the physical planning aspects of rural development but also, and may be more critically, the decision making and management aspects." A comprehensive programme of rural development observes Mensah and Ojowo in its integrative sense "must spell out clearly strategies for formulation of skills needed to uplift the techniques of rural population. Such strategies have not been clearly spelt out in the present programme which is more toward rural urbanization than rural development.

There were so many attempts made at pursuing the integrated rural development programme in Nigeria. According to Abalu (1981) "the most significant attempt has been made through the World Bank financed Integrated Rural Development programme which begun in 1976 with the creation of the Department of Rural Department. The Department coordinated and monitors the progress of existing integrated rural development projects under the "package approach."

The integrated rural development strategy stems from the realization that

the bulk of the population in less developed countries (LDCs) particularly in Africa, South and East Asia, live in the rural areas where the basic activity is agriculture. It is the increasing awareness of the problem of rural poverty and growing economic, social and regional disparities that have stimulated the search for an integrated approach to rural development. He further pointed out that the strongest argument for adopting an integrated approach to agricultural and rural development as opposed to the more traditional selective approach lies in the fact that the integrated approach achieves long lasting results.

The varieties of approaches to Integrated Rural Development may be generalized into three basic principles whose individual importance may differ from country to country and from project to project. The following according to FAO are the principles of:

(a) Area development;

(b) Devolution of decision making and decentralization of bureaucracy;

(c) Self-reliance.

Area development in this context refers to the possibility of regionalising rural development through boundaries which may be determined by natural borders, political borders, traffic system and socio-cultural and economic homogeneities, etc. Such geographical delimitations, it has been argued enables the identification of basic inter-relationships between the different components of

Integrated Rural Development through intensive spatial planing and implementation procedures. Devolution of decision making as a basic principle of Integrated Rural Development, on the other hand, is a logical outcome of the area development principle. Such framework also implies a high level of local participation in respect of necessary inputs for planning and executing rural development. Self-reliance is promoted by increased rural income via increased productivity.

2.996 Elements of Integrated Rural Development:

In line with the principles stipulated by FAO, Idachaba (1981) has identified and characterised five elements of integrated rural development (IRD) as:

1. Integrated supply of farm inputs and marketing facilities;
2. Equitable integrated supply of farm inputs and marketing facilities;
3. Integrated farm (rural non-farm production and marketing);
4. Integrated supply of farm and rural non-farm inputs, marketing and social amenities; and
5. Integrated rural development and the political process.

2.997 Recorded Success of the Integrated Rural Development Programme

There is a considerable increase in the realization of the objectives of the Integrated Rural Development. For instance, Uyanga (1980) observed that an

integrated rural development programme of action directed at a particular rural area can be expected to have a radiation effect on the surrounding districts, yet the area selected for the initial impact can have important economic and political implications. Therefore, the more closely any given demarcation approaches the actual situation, the better the chances of putting through an integrated and effective rural development programme. Following a research, D'Silva and Raza (1980) found out that the Funtua ADP financed by the World Bank, former Kaduna State and the Federal Government had effects on the standard of living of the rural population in the area through the construction of feeder roads, farm service centres and provision of adequate farmer extension, credit and marketing services, including staff, vehicles and equipments. The study did not however, examine the extent of involvement of youths and youth organisations in the constructions and distribution of the provided feeder roads and other facilities.

The repercursions of policy misplacement on rural development taking Cross River Basin Development Authority as case study, the project has great impact on the area in terms of provision of infrastructure and increased agricultural production. The project can be criticized on its selfish concentration of infrastructural facilities to the project staff and placing priority on big-time farmers. He therefore, concluded that the project was a failure because the population of the basin farmers is not proportionate to the total population of the area covered by the research.

On the failure of most agricultural programmes in Nigeria, Ukoje (1985) noted that the integrated rural development programme launched in Western Nigeria in the 1960s to attract school leavers to farm was also not successful. He however, attributed its failure to politically motivated rush to achieve a dramatic result which brought strains to bear on staff and supplies and further resulted in inadequate planning and coordination of various activities taking place at the same time.

However, based on the experiences of China, Tanzania, Israel and India the success of such programmes can come from a precise combination of three factors. These include the provision of full employment through agriculture, labour intensive infrastructural development and light industry a self supporting agricultural programmes which will provide funds for social services and the foundation of the local self-reliance and self-help dedicated to make production self-sustaining.

2.998 A Critique of the Integrated Rural Development Strategy

In general, the integrated rural development strategy has attracted a number of comments and criticisms from scholars (Wallace, 1978 and 1979; D'Silva and Raza,1980; and Nkom, 1981. Interest generated in this strategy arise from the fact that it involves loans from an external agency (the World Bank). Further comments and criticisms have focussed on equity and income distribution aspects

of the strategy as indicating the extent to which the rural poor has benefitted from it. Mensah and Ojowu (1987) also contributed to criticism when they noted that the present official concept of rural development recognises the need for integration. And yet integration is defined in a very myopic "patial" sense instead of the "general" sense which is more meaningful in explaining the processes of rural development. Integration is seen narrowly as the bringing together and simultaneous development of various activities (agriculture, industries, tertiary activities, etc) all in the rural areas, with rural areas in one state completely isolated in their development programmes from rural areas in other states. Ironically, he added "there is no national integrated rural development programme" in Nigeria to date.

Whatever is the argument, Anthonio (1972) concluded that social facilities should be considerably improved in the rural sector and this is to be reviewed as instruments of indirect supplementation of the income of farmers. This measure, he added will also serve, at least in the short-term, to stem the tide of a too rapid rural to urban migration. When the youths stay in their communities, they will have amful chance of participating in all development activities in the area.

2.999 Local participation in Integrated Rural Development

There is widespread recognition, reflected in national development plans of the need for more integrated policies of rural improvement including the

promotion of non agricultural activities designed to generate incomes and employment, the development of rural towns as growth centres, the initiation and blossoming of infrastructural services, the provision of social services and amenities and a greater participation by the rural peoples in national development strategies. Filani (1981) also noted that "development planners and policy makers seem to have always assumed the role of technical experts capable of providing an objective assessment of the needs of the rural areas and their inhabitants." Quite often, however, these needs as perceived by the planners and policy makers vary with those of the rural dwellers, hence the apparent failures of projects meant for them.

Etzioni (1968) argues that "genuine development can only be achieved when the population can participate in an administrative structure which is responsible to their needs, which is of a size and scale accessible to all." Such a structure, according to him will allow the people to delineate for themselves their critical needs and to identify the remedial steps that the people are willing to take.

Olatunbosun (1975) stressed that "the ultimate success of any rural programme depends on the development of political institutions in which rural interests have a voice in national planning and policy making. That is the rural people must also have political power so that decision makers will no longer "neglect" rural interest while pursuing other political interest. This statement

highly places some emphasis on the participation of the rural people in the development programmes that affect them. Both Cohen and Uphoff (1977) and Monu (1980) have also observed that nowadays there is an increasing tendency especially in rural development studies to see local participation as a necessary prerequisite for successful mobilization of human and material resources for rural development. This participation however depends not only on the rural development project designed but also on the overall administrative and organisational setting, power structure, and resource base of the various social groups in the project area.

Participation and commitment are essential if organisational learning is to take place. Commitment and participation are costly and that people will only commit themselves if the rewards outweigh the costs of involvement. One way of reducing the costs is organising around felt needs since benefits that accrue to members are likely to be attractive. They examined the problem of participation among beneficiary personnel. They observed that participation at this level will be ensured when the change-agent organisation is designed around felt needs. They contend that people will participate in those organisations that are able to offer desirable and tangible benefits not available elsewhere at similar, costs time and risk.

Unlike before when participation of rural population in rural development

was not realised, there is now an increasing recognition of the need for it. In support of this, experience has shown that popular participation in rural development can only be achieved within an institutional framework organised by the people themselves in terms of cooperatives or self-help groups or where NGO's (Non-government organisations) have had a bigger role to play. The ultimate end of this increasing recognition is the transformation of the rural areas.

The idea of participation stems from the right of the individual to partake in the process of planning to execution of rural development programmes. This was seen as democratic processes by Nkom (1984) when he noted that democratic processes govern the struggle for, and use of political power, the extent to which the distinction of economic resources and benefits in the society is either skewed in favour of few elites or favours a broader spectrum of economic actors." The broader economic actors referred to by Nkom are the rural population, who constitute majority of the world's population.

For any meaningful rural development strategy, the rural population who are the recipients should be involved. According to Mensah and Ojowo, such could only be possible if "skills of rural dwellers are deliberately and systematically developed. In this regard, there are various kinds of skills. In particular, decision making, management and technical skills should be emphasized." These skills can be properly developed amongst rural dwellers

through a process of their active participation in project identification, selection and implementation. So far, it is not certain that the rural communities have been given adequate opportunity in the definition of rural problems.

2.9991 Role of Traditional Institutions in Integrated Rural Development

In the village, the traditional authorities, particularly the chief and the council of elders, constitute the primary mechanism for the maintenance of law and order. They plan and carry out elementary projects of development such as the building or the maintenance of roads around the village and across roads to the farms, et cetera. In the course, they began to take on greater social welfare projects under the prompting of the improvement unions. Although they were never given recognition in constitutional theory as a part of the political structure of the rural area, they have nevertheless been instrumental in facilitating the operations of the lengthy constituted local government institutions and agencies.

2.9992 Role of Self-Help Groups and Community Associations

No matter the status given to cooperatives or self-help groups by rural communities in their bid to participate in the development of their area and whether they play a great role in rural development with their participation. In this regard, Okoli (1989) observes the best form of rural development is that initiated by the communities themselves. According to him "Rural development can not be imposed from outside. It must develop from the communities themselves. The task of rural development should be to provide the atmosphere within which rural

population can realise their potentials. This calls for the direct involvement of the rural population in development programmes. In Nigeria, too, rural development could best be achieved by involving the rural population. This could be done through their self-help groups or cooperatives.

The involvement of the rural population in rural development referred to as mass participation, community participation or local participation has been defined by so many renowned scholars and organisations including the United Nations. As an internationally recognised body, the United Nations (1971) has defined mass participation as entailing the creation of opportunities that enable all members of a community and the larger society to actively contribute to and influence the development process and to share equitably in the fruits of development. Lele (1975) also saw local participation as involvement of the rural population in rural development programmes from planning stage to implementation. According to him, "even if people do not participate in planning, at the very minimum, they should be informed of the plans designed for their areas if they are expected to consent and cooperate with programme implementation. Participation in planning and implementation of programme can develop the self-reliance necessary among rural people for accelerated development.

Hampton (1977) also defined community participation as "the act of sharing in the formulation of policies and proposals." This definition can be

interpreted to mean the sharing of ideas between the rural population and other agencies of rural development in the plan formulation and implementation of rural development projects. Both Akinbode (1977) and Mbithi (1977) used a different language to restate community participation as implying more simply the interaction between people. This interaction involves working with others in making valuable judgement and determining courses of action within a social situation and structure." The most notable phrases in this definition are making valuable judgement which refers to implementation process and determining courses of action referred to as plan formulation. This, the definition refers to the involvement of the rural population in the plan formulation and implementation as in Lele and Humpston.

In the same way, in a study of the extent of local participation in rural development programmes in Kaduna State, Brown (1979) perceives community participation in rural development as "a means of involving the local people in planning, assessing of local needs and implementing rural development programmes in order to develop the necessary self-reliance and self-confidence needed." The basic difference between this definition and its predecessors is the addition of the concepts "self-reliance" and "self-confidence." It is noted that when the rural population is involved in development programmes affecting them, they tend to be more confident with the projects executed. In the same way, a sense of self-reliance is developed in them because they will later understand that

after all they can initiate and execute projects that benefit all of them.

Chekki (1979) defines community participation as "the ideal arena in which the individual may realize his freedom as an individual, who genuinely respects his neighbours as equal participants in the development process. The emphasis in this and other definitions of participation such as United Nations (1971) is the recognition of rural population as participants which by implication means the ruralites only give a helping hand probably in implementation process but not necessarily right from the planning stage. This prompted Heyer (1981) to see community participation as getting people to do what outsiders think is good for them." Thus, the peasants' conceptions of their own development is excluded in UN's definition. However, Kaltho (1985) defines community participation simply as the involvement of the community in development activities.

In general, Onyemelukwe (1977) concluded that "the element of social justice which must be present in any meaningful definition of; and approach to national development, demand that the rural communities should not be left to bear the burden of initiating the introduction of the basic amenities to which they have in many ways claims than their urban counterparts.

2.9993 Youths participation in rural development

There are many ways in which youths can participate in rural development

programmes. However, the nature of participation is determined by other factors such as the nature of the rural population, environmental factors, availability of working tools and equipments et cetera. Youth participation in rural development is relative over place, time and resources. Youths can participate in development and make impact in a particular year, given the required resources and fail to make impact in another year given same resources. The role of youths may have great impact in rural development programmes in Nigeria, but may fail in South Africa, Uganda, Tanzania or Ethiopia.

In a study of youth participation in Ethiopia's rural development, Wagaw (1976) identified two formal ways of youth involvement in rural development. The first was initiated by the national university as a requirement for graduation from undergraduate programmes. The second one of recent origin was established after the 1974 revolution by the Provisional Ruling Council. The programme involves all able-bodied university students, as well as upper-class secondary, technical, and vocational school students for the duration of at least twenty months. In the same way, youths in Nigeria partake in rural development through the government established National Youth Service Corps for university graduates not beyond the age of 30 years and through self-help groups, community development associations, cooperatives et cetera. In most less developed countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America, there exist one form of formal youths programme or another. The only problem with them is how effective they have

been in achieving their aims.

In determining how to achieve effective community participation in which youth programmes are incorporated, Idakwo (1982) noted that social organisations are the most practical and effective means of achieving community participation." Such social organisations include the government established NYSC, cooperatives and self-help groups et cetera. In agreeing with Idakwo,it was noted that experience has shown that popular participation in rural development can only be achieved within an institutional framework organised by the people themselves in terms of cooperatives or self-help groups or where NGOs (Non-governmental organisations) have had a bigger role to play." On the other hand, Gow and Vansant (1983) outlined some steps for creating effective community participation. These are:

1. That programmes should start with small relatively simple activities which respond to local needs and produce results quickly.

2.That potential beneficiaries should make resource commitment to the project to be implemented.

3. The programmes should try to work with existing organisations.

4. That where the environment is one of factionalism and conflict it may be necessary to work with different sub-groups having similar needs and interests, rather than directing all projects at the community as a whole.

5. A two-way information flow (both formal and informal) between

programme implementers and potential beneficiaries should be established at the beginning of a programme.

6. Local control is the key to any strategy designed to encourage participation.

The need for the involvement of the rural populations in development programmes is increasingly being recognisd. For instance, in a study of the participation of women in rural development in Kaduna state, Brown (1979) found that about 95.5% of the respondents indicated that local involvement was important in rural development programmes because a significant proportion of his respondents made some form of contribution both in kind and cash to local development programmes.

Kursiyy (1983) added that "one way of creating an awareness of specific problems (in this case rural development) with respect to an acknowledged problem is to involve members of the target population in the decision making process of change agencies." This involvement appears to produce greater commitment to change within the target group. Allahmagani (1986) also noted that a major factor in rural development efforts is the involvement of the people at large in the process of change and development. He pointed out that "several rural development programmes have failed because planners have proceeded without taking the time to involve the people directly concerned until at such a point when it is necessary to gain their consent." In Nigeria, community

participation has become part and parcel of the people's culture. Members of each community are used to contributing either money, materials, food and labour for the development of the community as a whole.

According to Lele (1975), local involvement and institutional development are likely to be very effective unless training is provided at three levels:

1. In its broadest sense, to sensitive rural people and, thus to increase the receptivity and ability of rural people to respond to development programmes as well as to encourage local initiative.
2. For the field staff, to improve technical and administrative performance.
3. For higher level administrative staff, to improve the quality of policy formulation, degree of coordination and overall effectiveness of implementation.

The overall effect of involving the people in the decision making process is that it ensures plans keep in touch with the people and also ensures that the peoples' interests are not traded-off with narrow individual and group interests or even national benefit. In line with this, Allahmagani (1986) noted that whenever interest of an entire community is reflected in a rural development programme, their participation is ensured and will subsequently lead to the success of the programmes.

Ikoiwak (1989) suggests that the purpose of citizen participation in rural development in Nigeria should then be to make the experience, ideas and needs of those who are to be affected by the programme available to the government. This necessitates the citizens' involvement in the agenda setting, policy formulation and implementation and the evaluation of the programmes.

2.9994 Constraints of Citizens' Participation in Rural Development

Mass participation in rural development in Nigeria is faced by many constraints. One of the extreme constraints is lack of trained manpower noted Lele (1975). Due to this problem, mass participation rarely seems feasible in Africa in the short-run through delivery systems oriented toward individual farmers. It seems therefore, that delegation of responsibility to the rural people is necessary. Past programmes indicate that if the process of rural development is to be viable, there is not only the need for expansion of administrative coverage, but also for emphasis on improvements in the performance of the indigenous administrative systems.

One of the key problems is failure to involve the rural populace in both planning and implementation stages of rural development programmes. Given an example of special rural development projects (SRDP) of Kenya, Lele (1975) noted that participation of the rural people in the planning and even in the implementation of programmes has been limited. Since SRDP evolved into

essentially an agricultural programme, its projects have been planned by technical government departments; only in the self-help schemes, such as construction of Cattle dips, and a few community development activities, such as women extension, have rural people participated at the stages of implementation. Even in these schemes, local participation doesn't appear to have been very effective.

In what seems a concluding remark, Ikoiwak (1989) observes that as long as the rural population in Nigeria remains the object of development rather than co-initiator in the process, and is therefore excluded from the dialogue of rulers and the ruled so long will governments attempts at rural transformation attain marginal effectiveness. The inequality in development between the urban and rural areas with the attendant economic and social effects will persist.

2.9995 The Local Government in Rural Development:

One of the most important identified agencies of rural development is the local government. This is not far from the fact that it is the government at the grassroots. Thus, it is seen to bring development very close to the people in the rural areas. And because it is a grassroot government, it has direct contact with the rural population whose participation in rural development programmes is highly subscribed.

The role of the local government in the upliftment of the living standard

of the rural population needs little or no emphasis. The developmental school posits that local governments should be concerned, inter alia with economic development and initiation and extension of programmes geared towards engendering social and economic advancement of the people." This is achievable through involvement of the local government in the implementation of "socio-economic programmes that attempt to reconstruct the infrastructure necessary for an improved way of life." For example, the provision of drinkable water, public transit system, health centres, feeder roads, schools and public parks and recreation centres. The local government can also awaken the interest of the citizens in agricultural development through the provision of extension service and modern technical inputs.

However, it is not clear whether the local governments actually realise these aspirations or not. This is supported by the fact that a secretary of a local government in Kwara State was once quoted to have stated that "the local governments are not involved in the rural development that is said to be taking place." According to him "we only hear on the television that we are involved" (The African Guardian, February 19, 1989, p.9).

There are many obstacles to the roles expected to be played by the local governments in Nigeria's drive to rural development. Some of them are the political and economic powerlessness of the local governments, insufficiency of

funds and reduction in state grants to local governments. According to Iyoha, even the recent Federal Government White Paper on the Dasuki Committee report on local government in Nigeria also confirmed that inadequate financial capacity, the reduction of local governments financial base by state governments and lack of the necessary technical manpower cripples the developmental efforts of local governments.

Reduction in state government grants to local governments and the poor administration of grants have also hampered the provision of water, roads, health centres and educational infrastructures in the rural areas. In Bendel State, for example, N30.1 million was disbursed to the local governments in 1977/79. This represented over 40% slash of the grants received by local governments in Bendel State and a loss of 30% of their total revenue in 1978/79 as compared with 1977/78.

However, with the local government reforms introduced in 1987 by the Federal Government following the change of revenue sharing formular, the local governments revenue has increased from the former 10% to 15% of the national total revenue and more powers were given to local government chairmen and their secretaries on the funding and supervision of all rural development projects in their respective areas. This has helped a great deal in enabling the local governments to implement rural development programmes.

2.9996 Factors inhibiting rural development

Despite its utmost importance, rural development is continuously being inhibited by many factors. Scholars are of the view that those inhibiting factors need to be tackled in an integrated manner in a drive to solving them. According to Olatunbosun (1975) "the major constraints on rural development in Nigeria are poverty, unemployment and inequality in income and social amenities compared to the urban areas. Government expenditure and tax policy have also been shown to be in favour of urban communities. He further noted that "although the rural sector accounts for 80.7% of Nigeria's population and contributes 50% of total output, government expenditure in this sector was only 20% of total expenditure for the period between 1960 - 1974.

In a more general approach, Campbell (1976) has identified about six limiting factors to rural development efforts. These according to him are:

1. Fragmentation of development in which developmental activity in rural areas are undertaken by a number of separate organisation, e.g community organisations, churches, local government, regional government, federal government et cetera.

2. Conflicting departmental interests: Here, departments of rural development agencies such as Administration and Finance Departments used to conflict with each other in a way that when administration department proposes a project, finance department provides insufficient fund for its complete execution.

attention is that the rural areas of the country have been trated as if they constitute a single homogeneous unit. In the same way, Okoli (1989) noted that " despite decades of rural development activities in Nigeria, the condition of the rural population has not improved."

This unfortunate situation has been attributed to inefficiency of development planners and implementers in Nigeria. Both Filani (1981) and Dogo (1987) have argued that international barriers to rural development relate to a wide range of facilities such as education, medical services, transport, water supply, extension services and the marketing system. The third National Development Plan (1975-80) in Nigeria, has as its main objectives " increased rural productivity and income diversity, rural economy and generally enhanced quality of life in rural areas. These are to be achieved through an enhanced integrated development effort by both federal and state governments.

The whole constraints of rural development have however, been attributed to ineffective management of the problems by programme implementers. Whereas good management has led to the success of the programmes as recorded in the Chinese and Israeli experiences, ineffective management on the other hand, has resulted in partial success or complete failure as in the cases of Tanzania and Nigeria.

2.9997 The role of Youth Service in Nation building.

In Nigeria, like in other countries of the Youths Constitute the most vital segmet of the productive poplation. Their role in the development of their respective countries can not be understated. In line with this, many Youths Clubs and organisations were formed to assist most

particulary in Rural development. In realisation of this role, the government estsblised the National Youth Service Corps Scheme in 1973 as a complementary Youth programme.

The objectives of the programme seek to point out the role of the NYSC in national integretion. However, the Second National Development plan (Nigeria, 1970) Stated the areas that Corps Members will be deployed as the construction of bridges, roads, dispensaries, dams, Water Schemest et cetera. These on the other hand, emphasise the NYSC members role in rural development. To achieve rural development, the Youth Corps Members drawn from the multiple ethnic groups in the country have to be brought together to work in a team most especially during Community Development (CD).

The role of the NYSC members in Rural development from inception to date has been seen to be commendable. According to Patrick et al (1993) " there is no gain saying that the NYSC programme within the 20 years of existence has been tackling the many prought about by the absence of National Integration and inadequate Manpower development. The availability of Manpower is one of the vital resources the country is blessed with.Both Ebenezer (1993) and Aina (1993) and Aina (1993) have also the NYSC in the light of its achievements. Ebenezer noted that the scheme has continued to expand in scope and horizon. Aina (1993) adds that the NYSC has become one of the most dynamic and vibrant organisations in the world worthy of emulation by developing countries, the scheme plays a great role in mobilising Youth in not only knowing about their country.

Despite the criticism that not much has been achieved by the NYSC, some of its blessings that could be counted include the benefit enjoyed by Corps Members materially and intellectually

as well as in proper life orientation, in terms of industry at work resourcefulness, initiative and drive, leadership and readiness to accept responsibilities, self- discipline, self - sacrifice as well as consideration of physical and spiritual development. According to Aina (1993), the NYSC has so far succeeded in:

a. Instilling in Corps Members the tradition of dignity of labour

b. Enduring members to their communities through tangible contributions to local development efforts.

c. Affording Corps members some insight into local traditions and customs of host communities.

The role of National Youth Services in national integration is stressed both Adesina (1976); and Callaway, (1976). National Youth Service according to them are aimed at contributing to a sense of National Unity mixing up Youth from different parts of the country as is the case with National Services of Central African Republic, Kenya, Congo-Brazzaville, Malawi, China, Tanazania and Guyana. The Corps members are able to know the vastness of their countries, experiment unity in diversity not only by learning about local cultures other than their own but also by increasing the geographical knowledge they have on their countries and the acquisition of basic knowldge of the different languages in the respective countries.

The Corps Members collected together in orientation camps are taught the love of their country, of work, of striving for the well-being of each and to develop a feeling of nationality, sense of responsibility, punctuality, courtesy and cleanliness. Right fron the orientation camps, corps members are trained to live and work together as a team.

Since its inception to date, the NYSC programme in Nigeria and deed other countries most especially of the developing world, has a great role to play in the rural development of their countries. Such a role cut accross all sectors of the economy. Rural development programmes by Youths are increasingly receiving greater attention over the years. In mid 1960s, the Food and Agriculture Organisation sponsored a seminar on Rural Youths in Africa in collaboration with the government of the Republic of Germany, FAO and Denmark (FAO, 1965, 1968, 1971b).

The UN, (1976) also noted the UNICEF's assistance to rural Youth Schemes in at least twenty- two countries. In half of these countries, support has gone for vocational training, agriculture, small-scale industries and village technology. Aids have also been given to

agricultural Youth Clubs in cooperation with the departments of agriculture or community development. Another package of Aids was granted to Youth's Centres in cooperation with UNESCO for Youth Centres, Youth leader training, non-formal education for girls and for the unschooled. In a bid to boost Youth welfare, an integrated programme for Youth Welfare, received great attention. Emphasis has been placed on preparing Youth for group community work.

By and large, the importance of rural development to the future of less developed countries need little underscouring. As the home of the vast majority of the population rural areas have great potentiality in terms of generating employment opportunities causing the broadest effect in income increase, promoting welfare and increasing demand for indigeneous products and commodities all of these aimed at ameliorating prevailing trends toward growing unemployment, income disparity and concentration of population in Urban areas (Betru, 1976).

The National Youth Service and Youth Organisations have made vital contributions to rural development. According to Gillette (1976), Tiberondwa (1976) and Aina (1993), Kenya's, Zambia's and Nigeria's YouthService programmes have contributed in projects that can usher in progress and development at the grassroots where majority of the population in the respective countries live.

In Kenya, noted Gillette, members of the National Youth Service have cleared land and built roads in the countryside launched five farms of its own totalling 4,869 hectrares. (Kenya National Youth Service, 1975). A similar situation exists in Zambia where the National Youth Service graduates with training in building and allied activities have generally sought and found employment (Zambia National Youth Service, 1975). In Nigeria, Aina (1993) noted that such grassroots

developments oriented with local inputs as well as substantial national backing not only by legislations but with adequate funding, careful and comprehensive planning and the elimination of wastes in human and financial outlays have a multiplier effect that facilitate and culminates in even development in all sectors countrywide.

The National Youth Service in Nigeria according to Adesina (1976) and in Ethiopia according to Wagaw (1976) have awakened in members of the community a realisation of the necessity for self-help projects other than complete reliance on government to provide all amenities. The Corps Members conducted adult literacy classes, advanced class for teachers, civil servants, military and police personnel, organise welfare programmes and fund raising activities to help needy students as well as other poor and elderly people living in the communities, organise scouting troops and photography, drama, language teaching and debating clubs in schools, built simple houses, cultivated gardens for the local infirm people, organised sports while Medical Doctors, serve as rural Doctors. This has led to eventual realisation of a national rural health scheme. It is necessary to state that the Doctor - patient ratio has become very high to the extent that medical Doctors must sacrifice to work in the rural areas.

In terms of physical structures developed by the NYSC, Betru (1976), Adesina (1976) and Aina (1993) observed that development projects actually undertaken include the forestation of land, prevention of forest fire, flood and soil erosion, construction of bridges, roads, market stalls, culverts, community Halls, and rural health centres. Since 1984 when the NYSC CDS was re-organised, a team of agriculturalists and professionals in other fields was set up in each State. It was aimed at boosting diverse agricultural production in a bid to feed the nation. In addition, NYSC farms were also cultivated by youth Corpers.

The practice in CDs of the NYSC is that recipient State will identify priority projects and provide the required materials and equipments for execution of the project by Youth Corpers with the aim of harnessing the skills, creativity and innovations of our Youths into an effective machinery for national development and progress of both Urban and most especially rural communities. Effective implementation of the community development programme by corps members ensures among other things:

a. On-the-job training in skills they had learned in their respective higher institutions of learning
b. Greater job opportunities for them after the service year.
c. Greater self- fulfilment for members themselves in terms of their hopes and dreams.
d. Greater opportunity for development and progress of the local communities where they serve.
e. Greater benefits for overall national development and progress of the country
f. Appreciable and improved quality of life of all Nigerians irrespective of status and wherever they happen to live, whether in the urban or rural areas of the country.

The impact of the National Youth Services in most especially developing countries is more visible in the educational sector. Tanzania (1976), Aina (1993) and Patrick et al (1993) confirmed this with respect to Youth Services in Tanzania and Nigeria where it is noted that within the last two decades, most schools depend on the services of corpers due to acute shortage of trained qualified teachers. A significant role is played by the Youth Corpers in mass literacy. The physical presence of Corps members in virtually all communities enable them to pursue a programme of grassroots education in form of organising evening classess for illiterate adults who never had opportunity to

attend formal schools and Youngsters who drop from schools prematurely. Through this the Corpers make such people functionally literate. Funtional literacy has been described as that which is of immediate use to the recipient, especially in his work, but it could also be useful to him in other ways, depending upon his predominant need. Such an education include learning of skills and knowledge by rural people which would be directly useful to them in their lives and villages. In fact, the essence of such form of education is to help farmers for instance, in adoption of innovations, increase in production and income, environmental sanitation and personal hygine. Corps Members organise sanitary teams headed by professionally qualified Medical Doctors who go round the community, organising seminare and talks on health and sanitation calling on the ruralities to take care of their health. In addition, Medical Doctors are posted to rural areas to man rural health centres. This in turn helps in not only the development of the rural areas but the country in general.

In view of these, therefore, it must be stressed that the record of National Youth Service Programmes in Africa and Nigeria in particular has not been very bleak. They are making great impacts in developing rural areas of their respective countries. Such achievements with respect to rural development include construction of market stalls, Town Halls, rural feeder roads, culverts, Bridges, concrete open wells, provision of Medical and Sanitary Services and organising Mass literacy Programmes through the Community Development Service (CDS).

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

As stated in Chapter One, the main aim of this research is to examine the contribution of the National Youth Service Corps member in rural development in Nigeria with specific reference to Katsina State. A study of this nature calls for the adoption of a very sound methodology for accuracy, broad perception and drawing of scientific and logical conclusions.

This section, therefore, deals with the methodology used in the study. The procedure used in determining the study population, the elements studied, research instruments used in data collection as well as statistical methods used in the analysis and interpretation of data are clearly described in this Chapter.

3.2 The Study Population.

The population for this study is made up of four categories of respondents. These are the National Youth Service Corps Officials in Katsina State, the first and second tier Corps members who served in Katsina State during the 1993/94 service year, Government Officials in selected local government areas and representatives of community members in the state.

In order to determine the study population, a sample frame of the four categories was obtained from the respective authorities concerned. The frame for NYSC officials and NYSC members was obtained from the NYSC Secretariat in Katsina, while that of Government officials was obtained from the local government inspectorate division of Governors Office, Katsina State. The district and village heads of the selected local governments areas used as

representatives of their communities. Their list was obtained from the Political Affairs Division, Governors Office, Katsina..

It should be stated here that before the frame was obtained, the local governments areas to studied had to be selected using systematic sampling method. Balloting technique was employed to determine the start number and an N_{th} number was picked thereafter. Since the NYSC has a zoning arrangement in which all local governments areas in the state are zoned into four, for addministrative convenience, the selection for this research was made on that basis. However, a 50% of the local governments areas in each zone is taken as the required sample thus 13 local governments areas representing 50% of the total are selected out of 26 in the states to provide our study population and samples. The four zones of NYSC and the local governments under each are as follows:

Table 3.1

NYSC Zones in Katsina state

S/No	Zone	Local Government Areas
1.	Daura	Mani, Mashi, daura, Mai'aidua, Zango,and Bandeau
2.	Katsina	Katsina, Jibia, Kaita, Batagarawa, and Rimi
3.	Dutsinma	Kurfi, Matazu, Dutsinma, Safana, Kankia, Batsari, Musawa and Ingawa.
4.	Funtua	Funtua, Malumfashi, Faskari, Bakori, Kafur, Danja and Kankara.

SOUCE: Field Work

The local governments selected from the zones for this study are:

Daura Zone:

Daura, Zango and Bindawa.

Katsina Zone:

Katsina, Kaita, and Batagarwa.

Dutsin-ma Zone:

Matazu, Kankia, Batsari, and Ingawa

Funtua Zone:

Funtua, Bakori and Danja.

As stated earlier, The study population is made up of frames of the eight most senior most local government officials, village and district heads, senior officials of the NYSC in Katsina State and participating Youth Corps members deployed to the selected local governments areas. In all, a total study population of eight hundred and seventy-seven (877) respondents were selectedt. It is out of this population, that the study. Sample was selected. The following is a breakdown of the study population:

Table 3.2 Study Population

CATEGORY	TOTAL NUMBER FROM THE FRAME
Senior NYSC Officials at State Secretariat, Katsina	16
Youth Corps Members in the selected local government areas	460
Village and District Heads representing Community members in the selected local government areas	297
Senior most local government officials in all the selected local government areas.	104
TOTAL	877

SOURCE: Field Work

It should be noted that the senior most NYSC officials are at State Secretariat only This consists of officers on salary grade level 07 and above, Federal Civil Service Scale the. The total shows that katsina local government- being the state capital has the largest number of 251 Corps members, followed by Daura, Funtua, Bakori and kankia with 41, 40, 29 and 27 respectively. But Daura local government with 55 has the highest number of community leaders. This is followed by kankia a with 33 and Funtua, Bakori, Zango, Bindawa, Batagarawa, Ingawa and Batsari with 22 each.

A point to note is the limitation of the number of village heads to 10 per district by the

Political Affairs Division of the Governors' Office. There are 8 senior most officers in each of the local government areas of Katsina State bringing the total in thirteen selected local government areas to 104.

3 3 Sampling Procedure and Sample Size

For a sound footing, a methodological triangulation was employed for this research. This focusses on documentary research, focussed groups and survey of the present workers. While Random sampling was used for the NYSC members, purposiv e was used for the focussed groups as well as for documents. The focussed groups are those who have been living in Katsina state since the inception of the NYSC scheme.

In order to determine the sample size in each of the four categories of expected respondents for this research, the probability proportionate to size, procedure was used. The procedure states that:

$S = a/n \times e$

Where `a' denotes sample elements in a category, `n' denotes the elements of all the categories put together, `e' denotes the expected sample size `a'/n denotes the proportion of `a' category in relation to the total number of elements in the population while `S' is the sample elements to be drawn from `a' category.

Using the formula, taking 450 as the expected samples for this research, the following table shows the elements drawn from each of the categories.

Table 3. 3 : Category and number in each category and samples drawn

S/NO	CATEGORY	NUMBER IN THE CATEGORY	SAMPLES DRAWN
1.	Youth Corps members	460	237
2.	Community members	297	152
3.	NYSC officials	16	8
4.	Local Government Officials	104	53
TOTAL		877	450

SOURCE: Field work

The total sample size for this research is 450 respondents out of a total study population of 877. The sample size was determined by elements drawn from our response categories. Sample elements while the elements in categories of NYSC and local government officials were drawn from their population frame using systematic sampling and balloting technique. The formula for probability proportionate to size procedure was used to determine the sample elements of Corps members and community members drawn from each local government area.

In the same way, of the Eight (8) Senior most officials in each local government, four (4) of them, representing 50% are selected as the sample elements except for Katsina local government area where five (5) elements were drawn being the local government housing state government headquarters.

In all, the study has a sample of 450 elements drawn from the four categories of respondents mentioned earlier. However, out of this number, a total of 439 responses representing 97.55% or 98% of the total sample and 50.057% or 50.1% of total study population, were collected while only 11 questionnaires or 2.45% of the total sample was lost. This is made up of 7 or 1.55% of the total sample of questionnaires of Youth Corps

members and 4 or 0.88% of the total sample of community members.

3.4 Samples for oral interviews

In order to supplement the results obtained from Questionnaires, Oral interviews were conducted. This enabled the collection of Data that couldn't be supplied in the questionnaires. Moreso, some of those interviewed were not questionnaire respondents at all.

The samples for oral interviews was selected from the four categories of our questionnaire respondents. A 25% proportion to size of each category of our sample was selected except for the NYSC officials. Where a 50% sample was drawn because they are directly responsible for the deployment of the Youth Corps members, and monitoring and co-ordination of all rural development projects of the Youth Corps members.

In view of the above, therefore, a total sample of 104 respondents were interviewed to confirm the results obtained from the Questionnaires or otherwise. This total is made up of the following:-

S/NO	CATEGORY	NUMBER OF SAMPLES
1.	Youth Corps Members	59
2.	Community members	38
3.	Government Officials	13
4.	NYSC Officials	4
TOTAL		104

SOURCE: Field work

3.5 Non- Participatory Observation:

In addition to ruestionnaire administration and oral interviews, non-participatory observation was employed to assess the projects executed by Youth Corps members.

3.6 Physical inspection:

Physical inspection of projects executed by Youth Corps members was carried out to make an on - the - spot assessment of the contributions of the Corps members.

3.7 Rural development indicators:

According to Bauer (1966) Social indicators are "statistical series, and all other forms of evidence that enable us to assess where we are and are going with respect to our values and goals, and to evaluate specific programmes and determine their impact." Sharing the same views, Land (1975) maintains that "Social indicators are statistics which measure social conditions and changes there-in over time for various segments of a poppulation".

In line with the above, therefore, the following indices of development as are shown by the table below, will be used to measure the role of the NYSC in rural development with particular reference to Katsina State.

Table 3.4: Indices of development and their indicators.

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Indices	Indicators
a. Educational Attainment	a. Number of schools in the area. b. Youth Corps members participation in Mass Literacy. c. Corps members Participation in Extra-rural classes. d. Teaching in educational institutions.
b. Health and Sanitation	a. Number of hospitals, clinics, health centres and dispensaries. b. Participation of Youth Corps doctor in health care. c. Corpers doctor Population ratio. d. Youth Corps members participation in health education.

c.	Agricultural development.	a. Participation of Corps members in agricultural extension services. b. Participation in food production and type participated in. c. Type of extension services provided. d. Ownership of farm(s) by Corps Members or NYSC secretariat.
d.	Water Supply.	a. Provision of Portable water. b. Construction of boreholes, concrete open wells, earth dams etc.
e.	Political participation and awareness.	a. Participation of Corps members in public awareness campaigns and

			programmes such as National Population census, elections, immunization, health and sanitation.
		b.	Participation in elections as electoral officers, in population census as enumerators.
f.	Power Supply.	a.	Participation of corps members in rural electrification either as an engineer, technician, supervisor or co-ordinator of local effort towards communal power supply.
g.	Public Utilities.	a.	Participation of Corps members in the construction of bridges, earth dams, roads, culverts, concrete open wells, boreholes. Town halls, dispensaries, hospitals, schools etc.
		b.	Co-ordination of public services such as rural post office.

In all, therefore, the research used a total number of 19 indicators of development to measure the role of the NYSC in rural development in Katsina state.

3.8 Sources of data:

The sources of data for this research are published, unpublished materials and oral information from respondents. These are generally classified into:

a. Primary sources

b. Secondary sources.

3.8.1 Primary Sources:

The primary sources of data for this research are basically questionnaires and oral interviews.

3.8.2 Secondary Sources:

These are materials publish ed and on the subject of the research or its related fields. Such publications are available in Textbooks, Magazines, Newspapers, Journals, Decrees, NYSC Publications, Manuscripts, Phamphlets and Seminar/Conference Papers. A very large deposits of them are stored in various libraries and information centres visited.

In the same way, Official files of Community Development projects by Youth Corps members wass examined and appropriate documentary evidence obtained.

3.9 The Research Instruments:

The instruments used for this research are questionnaires, oral interviews and direct

observation techniques in data collection. Extreme care was taken because some of the study population did not attend formal school system as such could neither read nor write. The interview was conducted as a supplement to questionnaires.

The questionnaires were administered by the researcher with the assistance of three (3) enumerators employed on part-time basis throughout the duration of the research. In addition, staff officers, community development officers and Youth Corps Members Liason Officers in each of the local government areas studied offered a great deal of assistance. Both the questionnaires and interviews conducted were by face-to-face interaction. The questionnaires administered was structured in a close-ended form.

The most, important advantage of a close-ended questionnaire is its being more susceptible to quantitative data analysis which is very important for drawing logical conclusions from the drawn research questions. In the same vein, the importance of face-to-face interviews according to Daramola (1992) include:-

i. It enables the enumerator gather required information from a large proportion of the sample than mailed questionnaire.

ii. Respondents tends to co-operate more readily when they are contacted face-to-face than when requested to complete questionnaires at their own time.

iii. Response rate is increased because of the on-the-spot dialogue between the investigator and the respondent.

iv. The quality of responses tend to improve when the interviewer is on the ground to clerify the misunderstood items on the questionnaire.

v. Falsification of responses tend to decrease when interviewer confront the

respondents.

In both questionnaires and interview schedules, the questions were chronologically arranged to avoid boredom and also to encourage respondents to continue responding.

The languages used by the researcher and enumerators were English and Hausa because the categories of respondents for the research understood either one of them or both. Hence, the problem of language barrier was not encountered at all.

3.91 Duration of data collection:

Although majority of the respondents cooperated greatly, a lot of time had to be spent on the data collection as some respondents had to be visited several times before filling the questionnaires, not for their lack of understanding of it but for what some claim to be too busy". However, the questionnaires were administered in 7 months from August, 1994 to February, 1995 whereas the interviews were conducted over a year.

The duration in interviews is longer than that taken for questionnaire administration, because most of the people interviewed were not be brief and straight to the point in answering the questions they were asked. The duration had to be longer also because the people interviewed spread to extreme distances in the study area in particular and the country in general.

3.92 Techniques of data analysis:

The descriptive statistic was used at data analysis stage of the research. The

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3.92 Techniques of data analysis:

The descriptive statistic was used at data analysis stage of the research. The

statistical method was used to allow for accuracy in analysis from which logical conclusions were drawn.

3.93 Location of the study area:

The study area for this research is Katsina State of Nigeria. The state, the twentieth (20th) in the country, was created out of the former Kaduna State by General Ibrahim Babangida's administration on Wednesday, 23rd September, 1987. Administratively, the province turned state is composed of Katsina and Daura emirates. Each of the emirates is headed by an emir enjoying the full paraphenaha and regalia of a first class traditional ruler.

Katsina State is geographically located on latitude B/W $11_0$07' 49N" $130_0$22'57" and longitude B/W $6_0$52' 03E" and $99_0$02' 40E". It covers an area of 24,192 square kilometres making up 2.6% of the country's total land area of 923,768 square kilometres. It ranks 22nd in size (Usman, 1994). The State also has a population of 3.878 million people as at 1991 (National Population Commission, NN April 4, 1992 p.5). It is the eigth largest state in Nigeria in terms of population. More than two-third of this population lives in rural areas.

Katsina State is selected as the study area of this research for its rural based nature. The state is rural when compared to others, particularly its neighbours like Sokoto, Kaduna and Kano.Consideration has also been made of convenience on the part of the researcher. As an indigene of Katsina state, the researcher had all the necessary cooperation required from respondents. Also, there was no problem of communication between the researcher

and the respondents. In the same way, the selected local governments are all rural-based. This is a manifestation of the larger society.

3.93.1 The Land:

Katsina State covers a land area of 24,192 square kilometers. It lies on the uplands of the rivers draining the northern part of great the plateau of Hausaland, to the plains of Zazzau by the south and the Gulbin Gari and Challawa to the western most part of the Chad basin and the Sokoto basin to the west (Usman, 1974). The state is thus formed by "Settlement[s] on the high plains lying between the Sokoto Rima and the Chad basins" (Usman, 1994).

Topographically, Katsina State shares a common border with Sokoto State to the West, Jigawa State to the East, Kaduna State to the South and the Republic of Niger to the North. The State can be divided into three zones - the Northern valleys, the central plains and the dissected plateau area.

The most distinctive feature of the northern valleys are the valleys of Kaita, Jibia, Maiadua and Zangon Daura. The area covered by this Valleys lies on an elevation of about 1400-1600 feet above sea level. The valleys are formed by cretaceous sedimentary rocks overlaid by sand with a light brown soil (Jigawa). Rivers in this area carry large quantity of water around August - Septemberwhich is the considered as peak of the rain season. At times, this comes with heavy flood and massive destruction of farmlands and houses.

The central plains are formed by crystalline rocks like gneiss, phylittes and

granites. The north-east section of this plain is overlaid by heavy mantle of cretaceous sediments while the rest of the zone is , the mantle in the form of coarse-sandy drifts which are in parts broken through by out crops of biotite granite. This accounts for the reddish-colour (Jarkasa) soil of northern Katsina starting from parts of Malumfashi, Kankara, Dutsinma, Safana, Kankia, Mani, Mashi, Daura, Mai'adua and Zango local government areas of the State. This area lies on an elevation of about 1600-1800 feet above sea level.

The dissected plateau covers the western and southern parts of the state. The area stretches from Dutsin-Pauwa in Kankara town south-west wards the hills of Magudiya and Birnin Kogo in Faskari local government area. The area covered by tthese plains lie on an elevation of about 1700-2000 feet above sea level. Its soil type varies from its northern most part to the South. While Jigawa (light-brown soil) dominates in the North, the dark clay loams (Laka) are found in the south. The Laka areas are the most fertile farming land in the state. The cultivated area is however limited by the existence of lateritic iron stones (an important source of iron ore) in the forms of strips and ranges of hills. Some of these hills exist, around Marke, Makurdi and Malumfash,i all in Malumfashi local government area, Kukasheka in Kankara local government area, Tandama in Danja local government area, and some parts of Bakori local government area.

3.94.2 The Climate:

The Climate of the State is semi-arid. It is subject to the movement of inter-tropical convergence zone. This is the movement of air masses that determines the rainfall and temperature of an area.

Although the weather varies according to the season of the year, it is generally cool in the mornings, hot in the afternoon, cool again in the evening through nights most especially in the northern most part of the state noticeable from Dutsinma local government to Zango local government area. However, in the period between November and February, a low temperature is recorded throughout the state due to harmattan with haze and dusty wind blowing especially in the mornings through noon. It becomes very cold in the evenings through the nights.

There is however no season when the temperature faills below 42_0F, the critical temperature for plant growth. Even during cold season, a temperature of up to 90_0F is recorded. This falls to below 55_0F at nights.

The dry season starts from January to April, while rains are always expected between April to September in the Northern most part of the state and between April and October in the Southern part. The rain gauges between 25 to 15 inches and 40 to 15 inches in the northern and southern parts of the state respectively.

3.94.3 <u>The Vegetation:</u>

The most dividing line in the State as to be claimed Southern and Northern Katsina is the change in vegetation noticeable from the Northern part of Kankara town stretching eastwards to Dutsinma, Kankia, Ingawa and Mani local government areas of the State.

The nature of vegetation is largely determined by the differentiation in the range of amount of rainfall and type of soil in the different parts of the State. The State falls into

the three Savannah zones of West Africa - the Northern Guinea savannah, the Sudan Savannah and the Sahel Savannah.

Since rain season and the length of growing season differ at either end of the State by about 8 weeks, the consequent transition in the vegetation from high Savannah woodland with tall trees and grasses in the South and South West into the dryland with a high proportion of thorny species and shorter ones in the Northern frontier. For examples, trees such as Kadanya (**bityrospernum parkii**), marke (**anoigeisus Schimperi**), Kalgo (**bauhinia reticulata**), Kirya (**Prosopis africana**), durimi (**ficus polita**) and hano (**bozwellia dalzielli**) are mostly found in the Southern parts of the State, gawo, Rimi (**Ceiba Pentandra**), Sabara (**guiera Senegalerisis**), geza (**Combretum Micranthum**), Kaba (**hyphaene thebaica**), thorn bushes (**acacia**), giginya (**borassus aethiopium**), goriba (**hyphaene thebaica**), Kurna (**Zizyphus Spina-Christi**) are mostly found in the Northern part of the State, others such as tsamiya, dorowa (parkil oliveri), bagaruwa (**acacia arabica**), Faru (**lannea**), Kuka, Cediya (**Ficus thonningii**), Doka (**isorberlinia doka**), and Madaci (Khaya Senegalensis) exists in the three Savannah Zones in the State. Most of these trees play one economic, religions or political importance or another.

3.94.4 Physical characteristics of the people

The people of Katsina State are mostly tall, slim and chocolate . There are also fair and dark complexioned particularly noticed at extreme ends of the State. Most inhabitants of northern Katsina, in areas of Daura, Zango, Mai'adua, Mani, Mashi, Ingawa and parts of Kaita, Jibia, Batagarawa and Katsina local government areas are fair in complexion while those of Danja, Matazu, Musawa, and Faskari are either dark or Chocolate.

This characteristic nature is determined by the early settlers of these communities and the later settlers among immigrants of Toureg, Kanuri, Bade, Fulbe, Nupe, Gwari, Mandinka, Wangarawa, Voltaic, and Arab farmers,p astoralists?, Craftsmen, traders, artisans, warriors, slaves and scholars who came to settle in different parts of the state since time immemorial. They were accommodated by the hospitable people of the host community.

3.94.5 Occupation

The predominant occupation of the people throughout the state, is farming. This is determined largely by the amount of rainfall and the soil type of the area one lives in the state. The major typeS of crops grown include maize, cotton, guinea corn which, are largely grown in the southern part of the state, Groundnut and millet are mostly grown in the northern part. Other products grown are yams, cassava and cowpea, while cattle, goats and sheep are extensively bred by almost all families in the state. In addition to private animal husbandry, there are government grazing centres at Tama, Rimi and Kukar aljannu (Ministry of Information, Katsina State, 1992). Alongside farming, other occupations such as pottery, weaving, dyeing, trading, masonry and Morocco leather production are practised.

3.94.6 Religion

Religion plays a very tremendous role in the life of the African society. This accounts for their practice of traditional religions long before the emergence of other religions.

A. Pre-Islamic Katsina:

Prior to the acceptance of Islam, majority of the people of Katsina State practised traditional religion. The mode of worship was to get a family attached to a deity to be worshipped by all members of the family. These dutes ranged from trees, birds, animals, stones, mountains ancestors to comunity heroes. Prominent birds and animals worshipped were doves, and pigeons and shrines.

A common reason offered for worshipping those birds and animals is that they were helpful to the family at one occassion or another. Dove and pigeons were used in communication between one family and another or even between villages. As time goes on, they became used to transmited messages to the extent that they acted alone. In the process, they transmit vital information never expected by the family. They were seen as very great birds which should never to be played with or eaten p but worshipped. So the whole family resolves not to eat or tame such a bird or animal but provide for all its needs. Infact, members of the family worshipping a particular bird or animal sets free any of such bird or animal whenever tamed or caught by persons of other families who do not take them for any value even if it is by means of paying compensation.

In the same way, tsamiya and kukoki, believed to be abodes of iskoki (spirits) occupy a place in the traditional religious beliefs of the people of the pre-islamic Katsina. Most shrines of Uwa (mother or earth deity) worshipped by the people were sited around Tsamiya trees. These trees also served some political purposes as traditional rites of installing a new Sarkin Katsina was performed by the Tsamiya trees in the Palace at Durbi-Takusheyi built by the first Sarkin Katsina, Korau.

Durbi-ta-Kusheyi, a former abode of giant hunters sometimes termed as `Adawa', used to be a religio-Political Centre. It accommodated many shrines for the ancestral figures that existed in the settlement. The shrines existed by a Cluster of Kukoki and Tsamiya trees. Two of these Kukoki are known as Kumayau and Katsina, his wife.

Kumayau are one of the grandsons of legendary Bayajidda who migrated to Takusheyi, settled there and probably became a reknown ancestor in the area. This debunks the claim of his being the founder of Katsina. Other names in the lineage along Kumayau were Rumba-Rumba, Bataretare, Tarwai, Jernanata and the others who appear on the kinglists before Jabdayaki Sanau, were those of these ancestral figures.

B. Orthordox religion and the People's life.

Until recently when Christianity was accepted by the Maguzawas in Matazu, Musawa and Malumfashi local government areas, Islam was the predominant religion practised by the people in the state.

The introduction of Islam into Katsina dates back to the period of the trans-saharan trade. One of the most influenctial figures associated with this propagation was sheikh Abu Abdullahi Muhammad b. Abd al Karim b. Muhammad al-Maghili (d.1503) who came to Katsina in the 1490's.

The belief system of the people of the state changed drastically with the acceptance of Islam. The religion dictates the way of life of the people in all facets including dressing,

music, eating habits, interaction, marital life, law and jurispudence etc. In fact, even the life of the Maguzawas is to a very large extent dictated by the Islamic culture. This is most particularly so in terms of their mode of dressing.

3.94.7. Marriage and Family System:

While an extended family system was maintained, a matured adult could get married to as many wives as he could in the pre-Islamic Katsina. This changed with the emergence of Islam in the state one is expected to have not more than four wives at a time.

In the culture of the people, a boy of 12 years is considered matured enough to take a first wife and a second one at convenience depending on his income accruing from farming and of recent petty-trading. On the other hand, girls of about 8 to 9 years are regarded matured enough for marriage. The reason for such a low age consideration in girls is the need for them to have a first experience of womanhood in their husband's houses Prior to this, they were to be under the training of the entire matured women of the society irrespective of individual families.

3.95 Rural development efforts of the state government

Although majority of the population of Katsina State is rural, it is inadequately catered for in terms of provision of good and safe water for domestic use. Rural dwellers rely on ponds and streams which are often located far away from their settlements and do not even last beyond the early period of the dry season. The state government has made efforts at improving the rural areas. According to Mukhtar (1988), "out of a total budgetary provision of two hundred and sixty-eight million Naira for Capital Projects in

1988, the sum of one hundred and forty-eight million naira was set aside for rural development projects". Some of the projects in various parts of the state executed include:

a) Construction of 150 open wells

b) Repairs of 112 Boreholes

c) Extension of water supply projects

d) Construction and rehabilitation of 21 earth dams and

e) Construction of 58 ventilated improved pit laterines.

Similarly, Onoja (1989) stated that "the State Government has given attention to the following rural development projects throughout the State:

1) Road Construction

2) Provision of electricity

3) Farming and agricultural programmes

4) Building hospitals and clinics

The output of these efforts are visibly seen in Karofi, Sandamu, Karkarku, Kankara, Safana, Jibia, Musawa and Matazu where rural electricity has been provided. About 1480 mono-motorised boreholes were constructed to drill water for the people and animals of the rural areas located in various parts of the state.

Despite these efforts, these facilities are still inadequate in the rural areas when compared to their population. This, therefore, calls for the concerted efforts of the State Government, Local Governments, Community Members and Youth Corps members in enhancing the provision aid maintenance of such facilities.

CHAPTER FOUR

NYSC AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN KATSINA STATE

4.1 Introduction

The data collected from the study samples for this research are presented and discussed in this chapter. The data gathered through questionnaires are supplemented by information collected through oral interviews. The chapter therefore discusses categorization and characterization of respondents, the NYSC in Katsina State, the NYSC in rural development in Katsina State, NYSC and the community, and community participation in rural development.

4.2 Distribution of respondents by local government /state secretariat of the NYSC

The study samples for this research were drawn from thirteen of the 26 local government areas in the state and the state secretariat of the NYSC. They include both male and female NYSC members, community members, NYSC officials and state secretariat and local government officials with various educational qualifications. Table 4.1 shows the distribution of the respondents.

Table 4.1

Distribution of respondents by local government areas and state secretariat of the NYSC.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT/ STATE NYSC SECRETARIAT	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS DRAWN	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL SAMPLE
Katsina	136	31.0
Daura	50	11.4
Funtua	35	8.0
Bakori	30	6.8
Zango	30	6.8
Bindawa	18	4.1
Kaita	14	3.2
Batagarawa	22	5.0
Danja	11	2.5
Ingawa	18	4.1
Batsari	19	4.3
Matazu	13	3,0
Kankia	35	8.0
State NYSC Secretariat	8	1.8
Total	439	100.0(439)

Source: Field Work

From the table, of the 439 respondents, Katsina local government alone produced the lion share of our respondents. It contributed 136 people or 31.0 percent of the total sample for this research. This was followed by Daura with 50 respondents or 11.4 percent of the total sample, Funtua and Kankia with 35 respondents or 8.0 percent respectively while Bakori and Zango had 30 respondents or 6.8 percent each. The NYSC secretariat in Katsina contributed only 8 respondents or 1.8 percent of the total study sample for this research.

The distribution of the respondents is governed by the total number of the NYSC members deployed to the local government, the number of community members and

government officials in the local government. Therefore, the large number of respondents drawn from Katsina local government was significantly determined by the large number of Youth Corps members deployed to the local government for their primary assignment. The local government, being the capital city of Katsina state, had the largest of the total number of Corps members deployed to Katsina state, as against other local governments such as Batsari with 8, Matazu, 6 or Danja with only 2 Corps members. Although the local government had few community members sampled, while 4 local government officials were sampled in other local governments, Katsina had 5 for its state capital status.

But, in the case of Daura, Funtua, Bakori and Kankia which had only 41, 40, 29 and 27 numbers were Youth Corps members deployed to serve in their respective areas, their numbers were increased by the high number of community members sampled from them to the tune of 55, 22, 22, 33 and 33 respectively. The low number in the case of Danja local government was owing to its low number of both Youth Corps members deployed to the local government and the presence of 11 (eleven) district and village heads representing community members in the local government. In the same way, the low number of senior NYSC officials of salary grade level 07 and above, of only 16, was responsible for the low number of samples of only 8 drawn from the total. However, the number not very low, as it represented exactly 50 percent of the total population of the NYSC officials.

4.3 Categorization of respondents

In all, the respondents for this research are classified into four categories. These are the NYSC officials, Youth Corps Members, Government Officials and Community Members. Table unit is a breakdown of the samples drawn from those categories.

Table 4.2

Showing categories of respondents

Category	Number of Respondents Drawn	Percentage of Total Sample
NYSC Officials	8	1.8
Youth Corps Members	230	52.4
Government Officials	53	12.1
Community Members	148	33.7
Total	439	100.0(439)

Source: Field Work

The table shows that our respondents consist of 230 Corps Members representing 52.4 percent of the entire sample.

4.4 Characterization of respondents.

The respondents for this research are characterized by sex, age, marital status, educational qualifications and length of stay in the various committees in the study area.

4.4.1 Sex:

The responses collected showed that the respondents for this research were made up of 377 male population or 85.9 percent of these sample. As table 4.3 indicates, majority of the category of respondents were males. Majority of the female population are either Corps members or NYSC officials because there were no female community members in the state. Also, females prefer to do other works in other sectors, such as banking, teaching in primary

and secondary schools or in State ministries to working in Local government areas. This is why there were only a few females among the local government officials. Another reason responsible for the low number of females is the nonchalant attitude of most families to sending their female children beyond primary schools. In the same way, those who go up to secondary schools or teachers colleges do not proceed beyond that level before getting married. Most husbands do not care to allow their wives to continue schooling, rather they prefer them being employed to teach in primary schools nearby. These reasons, taken on the aggregate total in the country, provide for low number of female gradients who participate in the NYSC programmes.

Table 4.3

Sex of respondents:

Sex	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Total Sample
Male	377	85.9
Female	62	14.1
Total	439	100.0(439)

Source: Field Work

Majority of the female population are either Corps members or NYSC officials because there were no female community members in the state. Also, females prefer to do other works in other sectors, such as banking, teaching in primary and secondary schools or in State ministries to working in local government areas. This is why there were only a few females among the local government officials. Another reason responsible for the low number of females is the nonchalant attitude of most families to sending their female

children beyond primary schools. In the same way, those who go up to secondary schools or teachers colleges do not proceed beyond that level before getting married. Most husbands do not care to allow their wives to continue schooling, rather they prefer them being employed to teach in primary schools nearby. These reasons, taken on the aggregate total in the country, provide for low number of female gradients who participate in the NSC programmes.

4.4.2 Age:

Taking age as another index characterising the respondents for this research, it was noted that majority of them was in the 25-30 years age bracket, while only those of age bracket of 15-20 years were the least.

Table 4.4

Age brackets of respondents

Age Bracket	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Total Sample
15-20	2	.5
20-25	100	22.8
25-30	206	46.9
30-35	57	13.0
35-40	40	9.1
40-45	22	5.0
45 years and above	12	2.7
Total	439	100.0(439)

Source : Field Work

Table 4.4 shows that 206 or 46.9 percent of our respondents fall within the age

bracket of 25-30 years. This is closely followed by those of the age brackets of 20-25 years who are 100 in number or 22.8 percent of the total, and the least is the age bracket of 15-20 years who are only 2, or constituting only 0.5 percent of the total. The high number of respondents in the 25-30 years age brackets is largely due to the cut-off age of the NYSC's participating age to 30 years. Most of the respondents, especially Youth Corps Members fell within that age bracket. This was closely followed by those within the age bracket of 20-25 years. A very large proportion of the number was formed by Youth Corps members. This also indicated that most respondents from the community members, officials of the NYSC and the local government officials were within the age range of 30 to 45 years.

4.4.3 Educational background

The data collected showed that our study sample consisted of respondents with various educational qualifications and background. As stated in chapter four, there was an initial rejection of Western education by the people of Katsina State. This explains why some of them, especially the community members, are literate only in Quranic education, while most of the local government officials and some community members are literate in both Western and Quranic education due to the later synchronization of the two forms of education by parents and the school curriculum. The educational qualifications of the respondents are summarised by table 4.5.

Table 4.5

Educational qualification of respondents

Educational Qualification	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Total
Quranic education	46	10.5
Primary School	27	6.2
Secondary School/TC II	43	9.8
Post Secondary	318	72.4
Others	5	1.1
Total	439	100.0(439)

Source: Field Work

Which shows that 318 or 72.4 percent of the respondents have post-secondary school education. This category included holders of National Certificate in Education, Ordinary and Higher National Diploma and First degree. All the respondents in the Youth Corps category fell in this class, since the minimum qualification required for participation in the scheme is either Higher National Diploma or First Degree and above. Some of the NSC officials and those of the local government who were graduates also belong to this class.

This is followed by 46 respondents, or 10.5 percent, with Quranic education. As stated earlier, most of the respondents in this class were community members who did not have the opportunity to undergo the formal education process. It should be noted that there was a very wide gap between the number of respondents with Quranic education and those with post-secondary education with 272 respondents or 61.9 percent. This explains the later acceptance of Western education in Katsina State. The number of primary and secondary school leavers further confirmed this acceptance particularly when added to the total number

of respondents in the Post-Secondary category.

4.4.4 Marital status

Table 4.6 which summarises the marital status of respondents shows that 229 or 52.2 percent of them are single while 205 or 46.7 percent are married. In the same way, 4 respondents or 0.9 percent of the population sample were widows, while only 1 or 0.2 percent was a widower. The Youth Corps members were mostly single. Most of them were not married because, according to most of them, they were just from the university and therefore needed time to settle down before taking wives or husbands, as the case might be. Also, of the singles among officials of the local government and the NYSC, some claimed that they had to settle down before taking wives and husbands.

The respondents were further characterised by their socio-cultural background with respect to marriage. The culture of the people of Katsina State encourages early marriage of both boys and girls, most especially in the rural areas. Although, nowadays, this prevails more in girls than in boys. This explains why a fairly large number of the respondents for this research were married as is shown in the following table:

Table 4.6

Marital status of respondents:

Marital Status	Number of Respondents	Percentage of total
Single	229	52.2
Married	205	46.7
Widow	4	0.9
Widower	1	0.2
Total	439	100.0(439)

Source: Field Work

The gap between the number of married respondents and that of the single ones was very narrow as 205 respondents or 46.7 percent were married. It is significant to note that although most of them were community members, local government officials and officials of the NYSC, some of them were youth Corps members. Such was the case because some of the female Youth Corps members in the state were those posted concessionally (for their marriage). However, there were few male Corps members who were married. While the female Youth Corps members mostly lived with their husbands in their home states, the married male Youth Corps members were free to make a choice: There were some who live with their families in their places of primary assignment and those who chose to leave them behind at home, but paid them visits occassionally.

4.4.5 Length of stay

The length of stay of the respondents in the community was one of the indices used to characterise the respondents. This also gave an insight as to whether the respondent was a Youth Corps member or NYSC official who participated in rural development of the area, a local government official or community member who was a recipient of the rural development projects or a Youth Corps member in the area. The length of stay also indicated whether the respondent among the community members and local government officials was capable of assessing the impact of the NYSC in rural development of the area within the period of its existence in the State. The length of stay of the respondents is as shown by the following table.

Table 4.7

Length of stay of respondents

Length of Stay	Number of Respondents	Percentage of total
Less than a year	212	48.3
1 - 2 years	7	1.6
3 - 5 years	16	3.6
6 - 8 years	5	1.1
9 - 11 years	3	0.7
12 years and above	196	44.6
Total	439	100.0(439)

Source : Field Work

The high number of those who had lived in the community for less than a year, 212 or 48.3 percent, was constituted by Youth Corps members whose tenure in the State lasted for only a year. This was followed by 196 (or 44.6 percent) respondents who lived for 11 years and above. Most of the respondents in this category were community members some of whom were offsprings of the founding fathers of their communities. Among these are some local government officials who were also indigenes of their areas.

4.5 **Micro-analysis of data**

A micro analysis of selected variables in the form of cross-tabulation is made, presented and discussed in this section. Some variables, namely the respondent category, sex, age, marital status and education, are selected and cross-tabulated against ten (10) other variables as community recognition of NYSC, level of performance of Corps members in the development of the country, community assistance, utilization of assistance, number of Youth Corps Members, continuity of projects, rural development activity of NYSC,

deployment, effect of urban posting and success of the NYSC scheme. Each of the five (5) variables would be cross-tabulated with the aforementioned ten (10). This is with a view to finding out the frequency in each of the five variables that respond in a particular way, to the ten (10) variables it is cross- tabulated with.

4.6 Recognition of NYSC Scheme by Category of Respondents

The recognition of the NYSC scheme via the presence of Youth Corps members in Katsina state is of paramount importance to the success of the scheme. This is particularly so, because it is the recognition the community accords the scheme that enables us appreciate its impact. The research has revealed that the success of the NYSC rural development programme depends on community's assistance for the scheme. This assistance is made more readily available when the scheme is recognised by the community. This research has found that the NSC Scheme is well recognised by communities in Katsina State as much as they do assist Corps members in execution of their rural development projects. The result is as confirmed by table 4.8 below:

Table 4.8

Cross-tabulation of recognition of the NYSC scheme by category of respondents

Category of Respondents	Recognition of the NYSC Scheme				
	Highly recognised	Just recognised	unrecognised	Highly unrecognised	TOTAL
NYSC Officials	4	4	0	0	8
Youth Corps Members	46	148	27	9	230
Government Officials	20	32	1	0	53
Community Members	76	66	2	4	148
T O T A L	146	250	30	13	439

Source: Field Work

The table shows that, 146 constituting, 33.3%, 250 or 56%, 30 or 6.8%, and 13 or 3.0% of the respondents stated that the NYSC was highly recognized, just recognised, unrecognised and highly unrecognised, respectively. This was made up of 8 NYSC officials, 230 Youth Corps members, 53 Government Officials and 148 community members.

In a micro-analysis, of the 8 NYSC officials, 4 respondents stated that the NYSC Scheme was highly recognised and just recognised respectively. In the same way, of the 230 Youth Corps members, 46, 148, 27 and 9 respondents stated that the NYSC Scheme was highly recognised, just recognised, unrecognised and highly unrecognised respectively.

Majority of those who stated that the NYSC was recognised were Youth Corps members and community members. This indicates that while the Youth Corps members were contented with the recognition accorded the scheme in recognition of their services,

the community members also expressed satisfaction with the services of the Youth Corps members.

4.7 Youth Corps Members' level of Performance in Rural development by Category of respondents

The NYSC has been playing a great role in the development of rural communities in Nigeria since its inception in 1973. This achievement is recorded through the participation of Youth Corps members in community development projects. According to the result of this research, the Youth Corps members have been actively participating in rural development project. The result summarised in table 4.9 shows that, 178 or 40.5%, 205 or 46.7%, 54 or 12.3%, and 2 or 0.5% of the respondents stated that the NYSC level of performance in rural development was very effective, just effective, not effective, and strongly not effective, respectively. Of the 8 NYSC officials, 2 and 6 respondents stated that the Youth Corps members level of performance in rural development was very effective and just effective, respectively. Also, of the 230 Youth Corps members category, 93, 93, 42, and 2 state that the NYSC participation in rural development had been very effective, just effective, not effective and strongly not effective, respectively.

Table 4.9

Youth Corps Members level of performance in rural development by category of respondents

Category of Respondents	Level of Performance				
	Very effective	Just effective	Not effective	Strongly not effective	TOTAL
NYSC Officials	2	6	0	0	0
Youth Corps Members	93	93	42	2	230
Government Officials	15	33	5	0	53
Community Members	68	73	7	0	148
T O T A L	178	205	54	2	439

Source : Field Work

4. 8 Community Support to Youth Corps members by category of respondents

The success of all NYSC rural development projects in Katsina state highly depends on the assistance of the community members, most particularly the local government authority. This research found that 70% of respondents asserted that communities in Katsina State assisted Youth Corps members in executing their rural development projects in the state while 132 30.0% of the respondents saw no assistance given to the Youth Corps members by the community.According to Nkom(1984), the community is made up of people who have a structure, people who have been living together in a society with a set of complex social relationships. He added that the involvement of the local people in development process is very critical. This is as shown in the following table 4.10.

Table 4.10

Community support to Youth Corps Members by category of respondents

Category of Respondents	Community Support to Youth Corp Members		
	Community Assistance	No Assistance	TOTAL
NYSC Officials	7	1	8
Youth Corps Members	122	108	230
Government Officials	48	5	53
Community Members	130	18	148
T O T A L	307	132	439

Source:Field Work

In a micro analysis, of the 8 NYSC Officials category of our respondents, 7 confirmed community assistance to the Youth Corps members as against only 1 who stated that communities in Katsina State did not support NYSC rural development projects. Of the 230 Youth Corps members category of respondents, 122 affirmed community's assistance to them in executing their rural development projects.

Majority of the no-assistance category of our respondents were from Batsari and Ingawa local government areas where Corps members' rural development projects were least recognized no to talk of being supported by either the local government or individuals. In local governments such as Zango, Daura, Katsina, Batagarawa, Bakori and Funtua, where supports are given, a lot of rural development projects have been executed by the Corps members. Such local governments assist the Youth Corps members in the particular projects they choose to execute with all the necessary working tools and, at times, skilled laborers. In Batagarawa local government, for instance, as a morale booster, even transport allowance

of ₦50 is paid to Youth Corps members who attend the weekly community development project.

4.9 Youth Corps Members Utilization of assistance by category of respondents

The support given to the Youth Corps members is a very essential aspect responsible for the success of the NYSC rural development programmes; and the effective utilization of assistance by Youth Corps members is another. It is this utilization of the assistance that motivates the community to continue with their assistance, because they feel that they do not waste their resources. The findings of this research show that the Youth Corps members in Katsina state do effectively utilize the assistance given them by the communities they serve. Thus, it is agreed that well- utilized support makes it possible to extend Youth Programmes to all villages far from the urban centers. The result is summarised in table 4.11 which shows that 209 or 47.6% of the respondents stated that utilization of assistance by Youth Corps members was very effective, 200 or 45.6% stated that the utilization was just effective, 27 or 6.2% stated that the assistance utilization was not effective, and 3 or 0.7% stated that the utilization was strongly not effective.

Table 4.11

Youth Corps Members utilization of assistance by category of respondents

Category of Respond-dents	Utilization of assistance				
	Very effective	Just effective	Not effective	Strongly not effective	TOTAL
NYSC Officials	8	0	0	0	8
Youth Corps Members	112	97	20	1	230
Government Officials	20	29	4	0	53
Community Members	69	74	3	2	148
TOTAL	209	200	27	3	439

Source: Field Work

In a micro-analysis, the result shows that all the 8 NYSC officials category of our respondents stated that the Youth Corps members utilized the assistance given them very effectively. And of the 230 Youth Corps members category, 112, 97, 20 and 1 stated that the Youth Corps members' utilization of assistance given them was very effective, just effective, not effective and strongly not effective, respectively. In general, however, effective utilization of assistance sustains community assistance to Youth Corps members and enhances the much needed rural development in Nigeria in general and in Katsina State in particular.

4.10 Sufficiency of Youth Corps Members in Katsina State by Category of Respondents

A successful execution of rural development project, especially construction works, depends highly on the sufficiency of the labor force handling it. The success of the NYSC in rural development in Katsina State is, to a very large extent, aided by sufficiency of the number of Youth Corps members posted to the State. The result of this research shown in table 4.12 indicates that there is a sufficiency of Youth Corps members handling NYSC rural development projects. 253 or 57.6% of the sampled respondents stated that the number of Youth Corps members in Katsina State was high enough to execute rural development projects in the State. What matters is the type of project selected. But according to those who felt that the number of Youth Corps members was not sufficient, if the number in a place at a time is not sufficient to meet the labor requirements for a project, it will not be executed very well. Moreover, all resources sunk into the project will be wasted while the projects become abandoned and thus become ghost projects with time.

A micro-analysis of the data shows that, out of the 8 NYSC Officials category of our respondents, 7 stated that the Youth Corps members in Katsina State were sufficient, and only 1 stated that they were not sufficient. And, of the 230 Youth Corps members category, 170 stated that the Youth Corps members in Katsina State were sufficient.

Table 4.12

Sufficiency of Youth Corps Members in Katsina state by category of respondents

Category of Respondents	Sufficiency of Youth Corps Members		
	Sufficient	Not Sufficient	TOTAL
NYSC Officials	7	1	8
Youth Corps Members	170	60	230
Government Officials	17	36	50
Community Members	59	89	148
T O T A L	253	186	439

Source: Field Work

4.11 Continuity of rural development projects of the NYSC by Category of respondents

The uncompleted rural development projects under execution by Youth Corps members in Katsina State are carried on by incoming sets instead of being left to become ghost projects. The findings of this research is confirmed by table 4.13 which indicates that 280 or 63.8% of the sampled respondents stated that there was continuity of NYSC projects in Katsina State, while 159 or 36.2% stated that the incoming set of Corps members did not continue with projects begun by their predecessors. Most of the NYSC projects in Katsina State are completed and commissioned. This is achieved through continuity of the projects. Such projects that are continued and completed by incoming set of Corps members include the wall-fencing of Batagarawa Health Center, a bus stop each at Kusada and Rimaye and a Half-bridge at Banja in Batagarawa, Kankia and Danja local governments. It has been observed that, for projects that are not completed, the fault mostly lies with the sponsoring agency, the local government authority. This is exemplified by the Sabuwar Kasuwa

Dispensary in Kankia, which had to be abandoned by Youth Corps members at a later stage, owing to lack of further support from the local government and the community.

In a micro-analysis, all the 8 NYSC officials category of our respondents affirmed that projects begun by a set of Youth Corps members was carried on by the succeeding set. Also, of the 230 Youth Corps members category, 148 stated that there was continuity of NYSC projects, while 82 stated non-continuity of NYSC projects. This was the case with government officials category of respondents. The findings show that, of the 53 government officials, 31 confirmed the Youth Corps members continuity of NYSC projects. And, of the 148 community members category, 93 stated that there was continuity of NYSC rural development projects. In general, therefore, the research shows that an overwhelming majority of respondents. 280 stated the continuity of NYSC rural development projects in Katsina State by succeeding sets of Youth Corps members.

Table 4.13

Youth Corps Members continuity of projects of their predecessors by category of respondents

Category of Respondents	Continuity of Projects		
	Continuity	Non-continuity	TOTAL
NYSC Officials	8	0	8
Youth Corps Members	148	82	230
Government Officials	31	22	53
Community Members	93	55	148
TOTAL	280	159	439

Source : Field Work

4.12 Youth Corps Members Rural Development activity by category of respondents

As Karl Marx (1904) has demonstrated, social life is determined by social production, what is produced, how it is produced, and how what is produced is distributed. This research reveals that the Youth Corps members undertake many rural development projects which are widely distributed throughout the nook and cranny of Katsina State. However, they concentrate on one type of rural development project more than others. Out of the five major groupings of rural development projects such as provision of rural welfare services, provision of rural infrastructure, mass enlightenment, establishment of factory and fabrication of machines and tools, the Youth Corps members concentrate more on the provision of rural infrastructure than on other aspects.

Involvement of Corps members in these activities as found by this research is in consonance with the provision of the National Development Plan that provides for deployment of Corps members to these rural development project areas (Nigeria, 1970). The result of the research as contained in table 4.14 shows that 123 or 28% of the sampled respondents stated that Youth Corps members concentrated on provision of rural welfare services in their rural development projects, 260 or 59.2% stated that the Youth Corps members provided rural infrastructure more than any other type of project, 48 or 10.9% stated that Youth Corps members provided mass enlightenment more than any other project, while 8 or 1.8% stated that Corps members concentrated on fabrication of machines as the rural development project they undertake mostly.

The rural welfare services include manning of rural medical and health care, rural

water supply and rural electricity, while provision of rural infrastructure is basically the construction of culverts, roads, drainage, bridges, Town Halls, etc. Mass enlightenment includes extra-mural classes, participation in general elections, public enlightenment on population census and Expanded Programme on Immunization, ORT and other Health related programmes, whereas fabrication of machines and tools in Youth Corps members' effort at deicing simple machines for use by the rural community majority of urban are farmers.

A micro-analysis of the result shows that of the 8 NYSC officials category of the respondents, 7 stated that the Youth Corps members participated more in provision of rural welfare services, while only 1 stated that they were more involved in mass enlightenment programmes. Again, of the 230 Youth Corps members, 63, 129, 31 and 7 stated that the Youth Corps members participate more in provision of rural welfare services, rural infrastructure, mass enlightenment and fabrication of machines and tools. A break-down shows that, of the 53 Government officials category of our respondents, 11, 37, and 5 stated that Youth Corps members participated more in rural welfare services, rural infrastructure, mass enlightenment and fabrication of machines respectively. Similarly, of the 48 community members category of our respondents, 42, 94, 11 and 1 stated that Youth Corps members are involved in rural welfare services, rural infrastructure, mass enlightenment and fabrication of machines, respectively. According to Patrick (1993), the health sector has gained much from the NYSC scheme, as many Youth Corps member doctors and paramedical are being posted to assist communities, thus contributing immensely to the Primary Health Care (PAC) Programme of the government

Table 4.14
Youth Corps Members rural development activity by category of respondents

Category of Respondents	NYSC Rural Development Projects				TOTAL
	Rural Welfare Service	Rural Infrastructure	Mass Enlightenment		
NYSC Officials	7	0	1	0	8
Youth Corps Members	63	129	31	7	230
Government Officials	11	37	5	0	53
Community Members	42	94	11	1	148
T O T A L	123	260	48	8	439

Source :Field Work

4.13 Deployment of Youth Corps Members by Category of Respondents

There is an urban bias in the deployment of Youth Corps members for primary assignment in Katsina State. Thus, the rural areas which form the majority of the population are relegated to a second position. The majority of the respondents stated that Youth Corps members in Katsina State are deployed to urban centers, rather than to the rural areas that need their services most. Thus, urban bias has been attributed to the lack of infra structural facilities required for the personal use of Corps members, as well as lack of establishments to employ them in the rural areas. The urban bias in deployment, according to Adelina (1976), presents inter-cultural exchange through interaction of the Corps members and the rural communities, thus preventing national cohesion and, subsequently, national integration. The urban bias is confirmed by 4.15 which indicates that 240 or 54.7% of the sampled respondents stated that most Youth Corps members were deployed to serve in urban centers in Katsina.

Table 4.15

Deployment of Youth Corps Members in Katsina state by category of respondents

Category of Respondents	Deployment of Youth Corps Members		
	Urban Centers	*Rural Areas*	TOTAL
NYSC Officials	7	1	8
Youth Corps Members	135	95	230
Government Officials	21	32	53
Community Members	77	71	148
T O T A L	240	199	439

Source: Field Work

A micro-analysis shows that, of the 8 NYSC Officials category of the respondents, 7 stated that most of the Corps members were deployed to urban centers. In the same vein, of the 230 Youth Corps members, 135 stated that the majority of the Youth Corps members are deployed to urban centers . Also, of the 53 Government Officials Category, 21 stated that most of the Youth Corps members were deployed to the urban centers. The research reveals that the majority of all the category of respondents, except for government officials, stated that most Youth Corps members in Katsina State were deployed to urban centers for their primary assignment. The urban bias has been defended with the use of the availability of establishments employing Youth Corps members and facilities for them in urban centers; this is against those in the rural areas that need their services most.

4.14 Negative effect of urban deployment of Corps members by category of respondents

The urban deployment of most Corps members in Katsina State is found to be detrimental to the rural development project of the NYSC. The most significant effect of

such bias in deployment is the neglect of the rural areas that need the services of the Youth Corps members most. The need for infra structural facilities and welfare services in the rural areas of Katsina State can never be overemphasized. The urban deployment also encourages rural isolation and, subsequently, fails to achieve national integration, according to Adesina (1976). This research has found that urban deployment has a very devastating effect on the rural areas of the state.

Table 4.16

Negative effect of urban deployment of Youth Corps Members by category of respondents

Category of Respondents	Effects of Urban Deployment			
	Negative effect	No Negative effect	Can't say	TOTAL
NYSC Officials	2	4	2	8
Youth Corps Members	100	45	85	230
Government Officials	45	2	6	53
Community Members	84	23	41	148
TOTAL	231	74	134	439

Source: Field Work

Table 4.16 shows that, of the 439 respondents for this research, 231 or 52.7% stated that there was a serious negative effect of deploying most Youth Corps members to urban centres. The effect of urban deployment is a negation of the objective of allowing the Corps members to know the nooks and corners of the country, through which national integration via intercultural contacts could be achieved. This is in addition to the utter neglect of the rural sector in favor of the urban centers in NYSC development projects. Section 1 (3)(f) of the NYSC Enabling Decree No. 51 of 1993 provides that one of the aims of the Youth Service is "to develop common ties among Nigerian Youths and promote

national unity and integration".

However, for the no negative effect category, if the government wants to enforce the rural development programmes of the Youth Corps members, it could do so through the NYSC Directorate Headquarters, a body that will make it compulsory for the Youth Corps members to leave their service stations irrespective of being urban centers or rural areas to execute rural development projects in selected rural areas. But, for the indifferent class, in most cases, rural development projects are executed by Youth Corps members, with the total backing of local government authorities. In view of this, if the Youth Corps members are deployed to urban centers, the local government authorities can use the resources to employ the services of other types of labor to execute rural development projects.

A micro-analysis shows that, of the 8 NYSC Officials category of our respondents, 2 stated that there was a negative effect of urban deployment. Another 2 were indifferent as to whether there was a negative effect or not. Similarly, out of the 230 Youth Corps members category, 100 saw the negative effect of urban deployment. In the same vein, of the 53 government officials, 45 stated that there was a negative effect while 6 were indifferent. Also, of the 148 community members category, 84 stated that there was a negative effect of urban deployment while 41 were indifferent .

4.15 The Success of the NYSC rural development programme by category of respondents

The rural development drive of the NYSC has proved successful in Katsina State. According to Adelina (1976) the scheme is also successful in making the Corps members know the vastness of their country, learn about local cultures other than their own, as well

as learn other Nigerian languages. The success is largely attributed to the willingness of the Corps members to serve with dedication, the encouragement from NYSC officials and high level of support by the community, especially the local government authorities in the state. The success of the NYSC is confirmed by table 4.17 which shows that 72 or 16.4% of the sampled respondents stated that the NYSC rural development programme was very successful, 211 or 48.1% stated that it was successful, 141 or 32.1% stated that the schemes rural development efforts was unsuccessful and only 15 or 3.4% stated that the schemes' rural development drive was very unsuccessful. The success of the programme is measured largely from the rural development activities it executes in rural communities of Katrina State. The projects range from provision of rural welfare services, rural infrastructure, mass enlightenment, to fabrication of simple machines and tools .

In support of the above presentation, according to Oladude G. John, the NYSC Community Development Officer in Katsina State "most of the activities undertaken by Corps members in the state are construction works. This is not to say that they do not do many other things, but construction works are more." According to him, the following table showing the various types of rural development activities actually executed by Youth Corps members, for instance, shows that in virtually all local governments, Corps members have undertaken one type of rural development activity or the other. Majority of these are construction works such as construction of culverts, bridges, wall fencing, buildings of dispensaries, wards in clinics and health centers, construction of drainage, public toilets, motor parks and bus stops. Others are tree planting, immunization campaigns, fabrication of machine tools, such as hand drilling anger and centrifugal machine etc.

Table 4.18 shows the type of rural development project executed by Corps members in Katsina State by location.

Table 4.17

Success of the NYSC rural development projects by category of respondents

Category of Respondents	Success of NYSC Rural Development				
	Very Successful	Successful	Unsuccessful	Very unsuccessful	TOTAL
NYSC Officials	2	6	0	0	8
Youth Corps Members	21	109	91	9	230
Government Officials	13	26	12	2	53
Youth Corps Members	36	70	38	4	148
TOTAL	72	211	141	15	439

Source: Field Work

Table 4.18

Type of rural development activity grouping, project executed and location of project.

Rural Development activity group	Type of Project executed by corps members	Location of Project Area of benefit.
Provision of rural welfare services e.g manning of rural medical centers, rural water supply etc.	Manning of Kankia General Hospital by Youth Corps Doctors	Kankia, Kankia Local Government
	Mobile Clinic run by Corps Doctors	Faskari, Faskari, Local Government.
	Batsari Health Center run by Corps Doctors.	Batsari, Batsari Local Government.
Provision of rural Infrastructure e.g Construction of culverts, bridges, Town Halls etc.	Postal agency - a block of two (2) rooms.	Kurfi, Kurfi Local Government.
	Drainage.	Malumfashi, Malumfashi Local Government.
	Two (2) Bus Stop	Batagarawa, Batagarawa Local Government.
	A Bus Stop	Kofar Kwaya Katsina.

	A Bus Stop	Kusada, Kankia Local Government.
	Two (2) Wards at Bandeau health Center.	Bindawa, Bindawa Local Government.
	Two blocks of male wards at Rimi Hospital.	Rimi, Rimi Local Government.
	Pit-laterite and Bathroom at Batsari garage.	Batsari, Batsari Local Government.
	Drainage of 1,005 ft.	Mani, Mani Local Government.
	Recreation Park.	Mani, Mani Local Government.
	Extension of Pipe borne-water.	Mani, Mani Local Government.
	Drainage at Bindawa Market.	Mashi, Mashi Local Government.
	Public Toilets in Katsina and Dankama Markets.	Bindawa, Bindawa Local Government.
	Two (2) Toilets and Bathrooms at Magama Motor Parks	Kaita and Dankama, of Kaita Local Government.
	Bus stop in Faskari Garage.	Magama, Jibia Local Government.
	House numbering and street naming.	Faskari, Faskari Local Government.
	Wall fencing of Batagarawa clinic.	Mai'aduwa, Mai'adua Local Government.
		Batagarawa, Batagarawa Local Government.

	A dispensary at Tsohuwar Kasuwa.	Kankia, Kankia Local Government.
	A Mosque at Daura Low Cost Housing Estate.	Daura, Daura Local Government.
	Two (2) blocks of classrooms at Kofar Kaura Primary School.	Katsina, Katsina Local Government.
	Drainage at Tudun Wada Daura.	Daura, Daura Local Government.
	A Town Hall.	Mai'adua, Mai'adua Local Government.
	Culverts at `Yandaki.	`Yandakin, Kaita Local Government.
	Wall fencing of Women Teachers College, Katsina.	Katsina, Katsina Local Government.
	Drainage at Arabic Teachers' College, Katsina.	Katsina, Katsina Local Government.
	Multipurpose Kiosk at Kofar Soro.	Katsina, Katsina Local Government.
	Two (2) Classrooms at Kofar Marusa Primary School.	Kofar Durbi, Katsina, Katsina Local Government.
	Two (2) Classrooms at Social Development Training Centre.	

Source: NYSC Secretariat, Katsina State.

A micro-analysis shows that, of the 8 NYSC Officials, 2 stated that the NYSC Scheme was very successful. The Youth Corps members category also responded in the

same way. Of the 230 in this category, 21, 109, 91 and 9 stated that the NYSC Scheme in rural development in Katsina State was very successful, successful, unsuccessful and very unsuccessful, respectively. Similarly, of the 53 Government Officials category of our respondents, 13, 26, 12 and 2 stated that the NYSC was very successful, successful, unsuccessful, and very unsuccessful respectively.

CHAPTER FIVE

NYSC IN KATSINA STATE: ASSESSMENT BY SEX AND AGE GRADES

5.1 Recognition of the NYSC Scheme by Sex of respondents

The NYSC Scheme is recognised in Katsina State. This recognition is given by both the male and female categories of the respondents for this research. The result is presented in the following table:

Table 5.1

Recognition of the NYSC scheme by sex of respondents

Sex	Recognition of the NYSC Scheme				
	Highly recognised	Just recognised	Unrecognised	Highly unrecognised	TOTAL
Male	137	200	28	12	377
Female	9	50	2	1	62
TOTAL	146	250	30	13	439

Source: Field Work

The table shows that, of the 439 respondents, 146 or 33.3% stated that the NYSC Scheme was highly recognised, 250 or 56.9% stated that the scheme was just recognised, 30 or 6.8% stated that the scheme was unrecognised while 13 or 3.0% stated that the scheme was highly unrecognised.

A micro-analysis shows that, of the 377 male respondents for this research, 137, 200, 28 and 12 stated that the NYSC Scheme was highly recognised, just recognised,

unrecognised and highly unrecognised respectively. In the same vein, of the 62 female respondents, 9, 50, 2 and 1 stated that the NYSC Scheme in Katsina State was highly recognised, just recognised, unrecognised and highly unrecognised, respectively.

The high response in the highly recognised class shows that the male respondents were 137 while the female were only 9. This is due to the fact that it is the males that have more access to the works of the NYSC members more than the females. Also, the highly unrecognised responses were also 12 males against 1 female. This shows a proportional response with the population proportion of the two respondents.

5.2 Level of performance of Youth Corps Members by sex of respondents

The level of performance of the Youth Corps Members is also assessed by the respondents for this research. The performance of Youth Corps Members is assessed by the effectiveness of their participation in, and execution of, rural development projects. The effectiveness of participation of Youth Corps Members in rural development project is fulfilling the cardinal objective of establishing the NYSC Scheme. This is supported by Martin (1976) who states that the establishment of National Youth Service Corps Scheme is to obtain greater youth participation in community development. The result of the research is as presented in the table below:

Table 5.2

The level of performance of Youth Corps Members by sex of respondents

Sex	Level of Performance of Youth Corps Members				
	Very effective	Just effective	Not effective	Strongly not effective	TOTAL
Male	161	175	39	2	377
Female	17	30	15	0	62
TOTAL	178	205	54	2	439

Source: Field Work

The table shows that, of the 439 respondents for this research, 178 or 40.5% stated that the level of performance of Youth Corps Members was very effective, 205 or 46.7% state that the performance was just effective, 54 or 12.3% stated that it was not effective and only 2 or 0.5% stated that the level of performance was strongly not effective.

A micro-analysis of the 377 male respondents for this research, 161, 175, 39 and only 2 stated that the level of performance of the Youth Corps Members was very effective, just effective, not effective and strongly not effective respectively. Similarly, of the 62 females 17, 30 and 15 stated that the NYSC performance in rural development in Katsina State was very effective, just effective, not effective and strongly not effective respectively.

5.3 Community assistance to Youth Corps Members by Sex of respondents

The need for community assistance to Youth Corps Members is stressed by Uyanga (1980). He also sees the need for the government to aid self-help projects under the community development programmes which are an integral part of rural transformation.

Table 5.3

Community assistance to Youth Corps members by sex of respondents

Sex	*Community assistance*		
	Assistance	No assistance	TOTAL
Male	273	104	377
Female	34	28	62
T O T A L	307	132	439

Source: Field Work

Table 5.3 shows that, of the 439 respondents, 307 or 70% stated that the communities in Katsina State assisted the Youth Corps Members in executing their rural development projects, while 132 or 30% state that the communities did not assist the Youth Corps Members.

In a micro-analysis, the table shows that, of the 377 male respondents, 273 stated the community assistance to Youths Corps members. This is against 34 of the 62 female respondents who stated that the communities in Katsina state did assist. The assistance given to Youth Corps members is mostly in terms of financial backing. Skilled labour and work materials needed are also provided by the community, especially the local government authorities.

5.4 Youth Corps Members utilisation of assistance by Sex Respondents

The utilisation of the assistance received from the community and the local government by Youth Corps members has been made by both male and female categories

of the respondents for this research. The result is as presented in the table below:

Table 5.4

Youth Corps Members utilisation of assistance by sex of respondents

Sex	Effectiveness of utilisation of assistance				
	Very effective	Just effective	Not effective	Strongly not effective	TOTAL
Male	176	173	25	3	377
Female	339	27	2	0	62
TOTAL	209	200	27	3	439

Source: Field Work

According to the table, 209 or 47.6% respondents stated that the utilisation of assistance received from the community by the Youth Corps members was very effective. This confirms the effectiveness of Youth Corps members utilisation of assistance received from the community.

In a micro-analysis, the result shows that of the 377 male respondents, 176 stated that the utilisation of assistance received from the community by Youth Corps members was very effective. Similarly, out of the 62 female respondents 33 stated that the utilisation of assistance by the Youth Corps members was very effective.

5.5 Sufficiency of Youth Corps members in Katsina State by Sex

The research has found that there was a sufficiency of Youth Corps members in Katsina State. According to the result of the 439 respondents, 253 or 57.5% stated that

Youth Corps members in Katsina State were sufficient in number to execute tangible rural development projects. This is against 186 or 42.4% that stated that there was insufficiency of Youth Corps members in the State. The result is as presented in the following table.

Table 5.5

Sufficiency of Youth Corps Members in Katsina state by sex of respondents

Sex	Sufficiency of Youth Corps Members		
	Sufficient	Insufficient	TOTAL
Male	206	171	377
Female	47	15	62
TOTAL	253	186	439

Source: Field Work

A micro-analysis shows that, 206 male respondents stated that the number of Youth Corps members in Katsina State was sufficient to execute a tangible rural development project. This was against 47 of the 62 female respondents who stated that the number was just sufficient .

A very large proportion of respondents who stated that the number of Youth Corps members was sufficient to execute rural development projects was of the view that a high number was not very necessary for Youth Corps members to execute tangible development projects. The most important factor is the determination to undertake a rural development project.

5.6 Continuity of NYSC Projects by Sex of respondents

The NYSC rural development projects are carried on by succeeding sets of Youth Corps members. Thus projects initiated but uncompleted by a set of Youth Corps members are continued by the large number of rural development projects executed by Youth Corps members from inception of the NYSC Scheme to date. The result is as shown in the table below.

Table 5.6

Continuity of NYSC rural development by sex of respondents

Sex	Continuity of NYSC rural development project		
	Continuity	Non-continuity	TOTAL
Male	237	140	377
Female	43	19	62
TOTAL	280	159	439

Source: Field Work

The table shows that, of the 439 respondents for this research, 280 or 63.8% respandents stated that the NYSC rural development projects were continued, while 159 or 36.2% state the opposite. According to them, the NYSC projects are not continued by the incoming set of Youth Corps members.

In a micro-analysis, of the 377 male respondents for this research, 237made respandents stated that Youth Corps members continued with projects begun by their predecessors. Of the 62 female respondents, 43 state that projects of the NYSC were

continued, while only 19 stated that NYSC projects were not continued by incoming sets of Youth Corps members. The result further shows that both the male and female respondents agree that there is continuity of NYSC rural development projects, a factor responsible for the absence of ghost projects in NYSC rural development projects.

5.7 Type of rural development activity undertaken by Corps members by Sex of respondents

Table 5.7

Type of rural development activity undertaken by Youth Corps Members by sex of respondents

Sex	Type of rural development activity				
	Provision of rural welfare services	Provision of rural infrastructure	Mass enlightenment	Fabrication of Machines	TOTAL
Male	102	227	42	6	377
Female	21	33	6	2	62
T O T A L	123	260	48	8	439

Source: Field Work

The table shows that, of the 439 respondents, 123 or 28.0% respandents stated that the Youth Corps members participated more in the provision of rural welfare services in their rural development drive. This was however superseded by the 260 or 59.2% who stated that the Youth Corps members participated more in the provision of rural infrastructure. The table also shows that 48 or 10.9% of the respondents participated more in mass enlightenment, while only 8 or 1.8% concentrated more on fabrication of machines and tools.

A micro-analysis reveals that, of the 377 male respondents for this research 102, 227, 42 and 6 repandents stated that Youth Corps members participated more in provision of rural welfare services, provision of rural infrastructure, mass enlightenment and fabrication of machines and tools respectively. Similarly, of the 62 female respondents for the research, 21, 33, 6 and 2 stated that the Youth Corps members took part more in provision of rural welfare services, provision of rural infrastructure, mass enlightenment and fabrication of machines and tools respectively. The record finding has agreed with Wagaw (1976), Aina (1993), Patrick (1993), Gillette (1976), Adesina (1970) and Griffin (1976) who believe that the Corps members mass enlightenment programmes in Nigeria, Kenya and other African countries are worthy of note in the same way as their provision of rural infrastructure in the form of construction of drainage, bridges etc.

5.8 Deployment of Youth Corps members by Sex of respondents

The type of rural development activity undertaken most by Youth Corps members is largely dependent on where they are deployed for primary assignment. Most rural development projects are executed by Youth Corps members deployed to the rural areas for their primary assignment. The result of this research shows that majority of the respondents see Corps members as posted mostly to urban centres to the detriment of rural areas.In result shown by table 5.8

Table 5.8

Development of Youth Corps Members by sex of respondents

Sex	Deployment of Youth Corps Members		
	Urban Centres	Rural Areas	TOTAL
Male	210	167	377
Female	30	32	62
TOTAL	240	199	439

Source: Field Work

According to the table, of the 439 respondents, 240 or 54.7% respandents stated that most Youth Corps members are deployed to urban centres for their Youth Services, while 199 or 45.1% state that most Youth Corps members are deployed to rural areas for their primary assignment. The urban bias in deployment accounts for the neglect of rural areas in community development projects of the NYSC. Urban deployment also alienates Youth Corps members from the rural population which is the largest in the country, thus widening the level of unawareness of the NYSC Program in the State.

However, a micro-analysis shows that, of the 377 male respondents for the research, 210 state that most Youth Corps members are deployed to urban centres. Similarly, of the 62 female respondents for the research, 30 state that the Youth Corps members are mostly deployed to the urban centres. It is however noted that in the case of the female respondents, the number of respondents whose view it is that most Youth Corps members are posted to the rural areas is higher than those who see urban deployment of Youth Corps members. According to these respondents, most Youth Corps members are posted to the rural areas because the only towns that could qualify for urban centres in Katsina State are Katsina,

Daura, Funtua and, to some extent, Malumfashi, and the number of Youth Corps members posted to these local governments are shared to rural areas within the mentioned local governments.

5.9 Negative effect of deployment of Youth Corps members to urban centres by sex of respondents

The deployment of most Corps members to urban centres as is done in Katsina State and confirmed by the results of this research, is highly detrimental to the success of the NYSC rural development programme. While the rural areas are neglected, the interaction of Youth Corps members is restricted to only urbanites to the isolation of the ruralites. Consequently, the national integration objective of the NYSC as enshrined in Section 3(1) (a) of the NYSC Decree 51 of 1993 (Nigeria, 1993) is not achieved, while the rural areas go without any NYSC rural development project. This negative effect of urban deployment is confirmed by the result of this research, as is shown by the table below:

Table 5.9

Negative effect of urban posting of Youth Corps Members by sex of respondents.

Sex	Effect of urban deployment			
	Negative effect	No negative effect	Can't say	TOTAL
Male	199	64	114	377
Female	32	10	20	62
T O T A L	231	74	134	439

Source: Field Work

The table shows that, of the 439 respondents for this research, 231 or 52.7%respandents stated that the urban deployment of Youth Corps members had negative effects.

In a micro-analysis, of the 377 male respondents for this research, 199 stated that urban deployment has a negative effect, 64 state that there is no negative effect and 114 were indifferent. Similarly, of the 62 female respondents, 32 stated that deployment of most Corps members to urban centres had a negative effect.

The result of the research therefore shows that there is an attendant negative consequence of deployment of most Youth Corps members to urban centres, because of the 439 respondents, 231 stated that there was a negative effect of such a deployment, while only 208 of the no negative effect and indifferent class of respondents put together saw see no negative effect of urban deployment.

5.10 Success of the NYSC programme by sex of respondents

The NYSC programme in general and its rural development drive in particular is a success in Katsina State. This agrees with Adesina (1976) who thinks that the NYSC Programme has been successful in terms of what it has done so far. The success of the programme is largely owing to the willingness of the Corps members to perform, the recognition and acceptance of the Youth Corps members by the community, members particularly the local government authorities. The success of the research is confirmed by the result of this research, as is presented in the following Table:5.10

Table 5.10

Success of the NYSC programme by sex of respondents

Sex	Success of the NYSC Programme				
	Very successful	Successful	Unsuccessful	Very unsuccessful	TOTAL
Male	68	180	116	13	377
Female	4	31	25	2	62
TOTAL	72	211	141	15	439

Source: Field Work

According to the table, of the 439 respondents for the research, 72 or 16.4%, respandents 211 or 48.1%, 141 or 32.1% and 15 or 3.4% stated that the NYSC Programme in Katsina State was very successful, successful, unsuccessful and very unsuccessful, respectively. Of the 377 male respondents for the research, 68, 180, 116 and 13 stated that the NYSC Scheme is very successful, successful, unsuccessful and very unsuccessful respectively. Similarly, of the 62 female respondents, 4, 31, 25 and 2 stated that the NYSC Scheme is very successful, successful, unsuccessful, and very unsuccessful, respectively.

The results of the Very Successful and Successful put together show that 283 of the respondents confirmed the success of the NYSC Programme. Of this number, 248 were male respondents while 35 were female.

The Unsuccessful and the Very Unsuccessful categories saw no success of the NYSC Programme, as they did not see any tangible projects executed by the Youth Corps members. In fact, for most respondents in this category, the NYSC Programme was one of the wasteful ventures of the Federal Government. The non success of the NYSC, according to Patrick (1993) and Adesina (1976), is largely owing to the under- employment of Corps members.

The service year has been seen as year of in- activity (Ojo, 1974) by Corps members who see themselves as having done nothing, not because they have nothing to do, but because they are not allowed to do it.

5.11Recognition of the NYSC Scheme by Age of the respondents

The NYSC Scheme has been recognised by various age groups of the respondents for this research. The recognition of the scheme cuts across all ages from 15 to 45 years and above. However, a very large proportion is from the 20-25, 25-30 and 30-35 years of age. There is a group of able bodied youths whose age grades are the most productive force in the country. General Gowon (1973) also sees youths as constituting the dominant force for national mobilisation and growth, and thus have crucial role to play in nation building.

More so, all the Youth Corps members belong to this group as the maximum age for a graduate to serve as a Corps member is 30 years. Their responses were supported most especially by respondents of 35-40 years of age who form another age grade considered as a youth age grade. The result is as shown in the following table:

Table 5.11

Recognition of the NYSC scheme by Age grade of respondents

Age grades (in years)	Recognition of the NYSC Scheme				
	Highly recognised	Just recognised	Unrecognised	Highly recognised	TOTAL
15-20	0	1	0	0	2
20-25	23	64	9	4	100
25-30	64	116	19	7	206
30-35	22	32	1	2	57
35-40	19	21	0	0	40
40-45	13	8	1	0	22
45 years and above	5	7	0	0	12
TOTAL	146	250	30	13	439

Source: Field Work

The above table shows that of the 439 respondents for this research, 146 or 33.3%, 250 or 56.9%, 30 or 6.8%, 13 or 3.0% stated that the NYSC Scheme was highly recognised, just recognised, unrecognised and highly unrecognised respectively.

In a micro-analysis, of the 206 respondents in the 25-30 years of age group 116 stated that the NYSC Scheme was just recognised . Out of the 57 respondents in 30-35 years age grades 22 state that the NYSC is highly recognised. In the same vein, of the 40 respondents in the 35-40 years age grade, 19 and 21 stated that the NYSC is highly recognised and just recognised respectively. And of the 22 respondents in the 40-45 years age group, 13 stated that the NYSC Scheme was highly recognised. Of the 12 respondents

in the 45 years and above age group, 5 and 7 stated that the NYSC Scheme was highly recognised and just recognised respectively.

In confirming the recognition of the NYSC, the result shows that the responses in the highly recognised and just recognised put together, an overwhelming majority of 396 respondents or 90.2% confirm that the NYSC is recognised in Katsina State.

In all, however, the highest number of respondents who thought NYSC had recognition is drawn from the age group of 25-30 years with 64 and 116 respectively, followed by age group of 20-25 years with 23 and 64 highly recognised and just recognised scores respectively. The recognition of the NYSC Scheme, the interest of the community, thereby attracting all the necessary support required for the success of the scheme.

5.12 Level of Performance of Youth Corps Members by Age of respondents

The level of performance of the Youth Corps members is assessed by all age groups of our respondents. The assessment is made on the basis of low effective the Corps Members perform in their primary assignment. The result of the research is as presented in the table below:

Table 5.12

Level of performance by age grade of respondents

Age grades (in years)	Level of Performance				
	Very effective	Just effective	Not effective	Strongly not effective	TOTAL
15-20	1	0	1	0	2
20-25	34	44	22	0	100
25-30	94	87	23	2	206
30-35	18	36	2	0	57
35-40	18	19	3	0	40
40-45	10	9	3	0	22
45 years and above	2	10	0	0	12
TOTAL	178	205	54	2	439

Source: Field Work

According to the table, of the 439 respondents for this research, 178 or 40.5%, 205 or 46.7%, 54 or 12.3% and 2 or 0.5% stated that the level of performance of the Youth Corps Members was very effective, just effective, not effective and strongly not effective, respectively. In the same vein, of the 2 respondents in the 15-20 years age group, 1 each stated that the level of performance was very effective and not effective respectively. Also, of 100 respondents in the 20-25 years age group 33 stated that the level of performance was very effective. Similarly, out of the 206 respondents of the 25-30 years age group, 94 stated that the level of performance of Youth Corps members was very effective. In addition of the of the 57 respondents of the age 30-35 years, 19 stated that the level of performance of the NYSC was very effective. Of the 40 respondents of 35-40 years of age, 18 saw the level of performance of the NYSC as very effective. Out of the 40-45 years age group also, 10

state that the level of performance of the NYSC is very effective, while 2 and 10 of the 12 respondents of the highest age grade of 45 years and above, stated that the level of performance of the NYSC was very effective and just effective respectively. According to this age grade, the NYSC was a scheme that has achieved what was not thought to be achieved within the short period of twenty (20) years of its existence. The programme was laudable as its performance is very effective.

5.13 Community assistance to Youth Corps members by age grade of respondents

The rural development programme of the NYSC certainly needs support from the community members, particularly the local government authorities, in order to succeed. Kaltho (1985) sees community participation as the involvement of the community in development activities. Since the support is given as complementary measure to the youths' hardwork, some communities in Nigeria do not assist. The result of this research, however, shows that communities in Katsina State do support all the rural development programmes of the NYSC. The result is as presented in the following table:

Table 5.13

Community assistance to Youth Corps Members by age grade of respondents

Age Grade (in years)	Community assistance		
	Assistance	No assistance	TOTAL
15-20	0	2	2
20-25	58	42	100
25-30	132	74	206
30-35	51	6	57
35-40	40	0	40
40-45	17	5	22
45 years and above	9	3	12
T O T A L	307	132	439

Source: Field Work

From the table, of the 439 respondents for this research, an overwhelming majority of 307 or 70% agree respandents that the communities in Katsina State did assist the Youth Corps members in executing their rural development projects. This number far outweighed the 132 or 30% who stated that they saw no community assistance to Youth Corps members.

A micro-analysis indicates that all the 2 respondents in the 15-20 years age group state that communities in Katsina State did not assist the Youth Corps members in rural development programmes. This response could be attributed to their age, and partly because they are adolescents. However, out of the 100 respondents in the 20-25 years age group, 58 stated that the Youth Corps members were assisted by the communities in Katsina State. Also, of the 206 respondents, 132 stated that the Youth Corps members were assisted by the community, while 74 stated that there was no assistance given to the youths by the community.

In further more, out of the 57 respondents of 30-35 years, 51 stated that communities in Katsina State do assist Youth Corps members. This class was have up of youths had either served or were appreciating the assistance based on the situation in other parts of the country. The response of the 40-45 years age grade was in the same manner. Of the 22 respondents, 17 stated that the communities in Katsina Stated did assist the Youth Corps members . Also, of the 12 respondents of 45 years and above category, 9 state that communities in Katsina State do assist Youth Corps members in their rural development projects, while only 3 saw no community assistance to Youth Corps members in Katsina State.

The assistance given to Youth Corps members is mostly in terms of financial backing and in materials needed to execute a project. The bulk of the assistance comes from the local government authorities in addition to individual assistance from individual community members in Katsina State.

5.14 Utilization of assistance to Youth Corps Members

The assistance given the Youth Corps members in executing their rural development projects is utilised judiciously. This fact was affirmed by the various age groups of our respondents as is presented in the following table 5.14:

Table 5.14

Youth Corps Members' utilisation of assistance by age grade of respondents

Age grades (in years)	Utilisation of assistance				
	Very effective	Just effective	Not effective	Strongly not effective	TOTAL
15-20	0	2	0	0	2
20-25	48	42	8	2	100
25-30	99	93	14	0	206
30-35	29	26	1	1	57
35-40	25	13	2	0	40
40-45	6	15	1	0	22
45 years and above	2	9	1	0	12
TOTAL	208	200	27	3	439

Source:Field Work

The table shows that of the 439 respondents for this research, 209 or 47.6%, 203 or 45.6%, 27 or 6.2% and 3 or 0.7% stated that the assistance given to Youth Corps members by communities in Katsina State in support of their rural development programmes was very effective, just effective, not effective, and strongly not effective respectively. The table also shows that the result of the very effective and just effective responses gives an overwhelming majority of 409 respondents, as against only 39 for the not effective and strongly not effective responses. This indicates the satisfaction of the community with the rural development programmes of the Youth Corps members.

A further analysis shows that all the 2 respondents of the 15-20 years category

confirmed that the utilisation of assistance by the Youth Corps members was just effective. However, of the 100 respondents in the 20-25 years age groups, 48 stated that the utilisation of assistance by Youths Corps members was very effective. Similarly, of the 206 respondents in the 25-30 years age group, 99 stated that the utilisation of assistance by Youth Corps members in Katsina State was very effective. Of the 30-35 years age group also, 28 stated that the utilisation of assistance was very effective . In the same vein, of the 40 respondents in the 35-40 years age group, 25 respandents stated that the Youth Corps members' utilisation of assistance given them is very effective. Also, of the 22 respondents of 40-45 years age group, 6 stated that the utilisation of assistance was very effective, and of the 12 respondents of 45 years and above category, 2 stated that the Youth Corps members' utilisation of assistance is very effective.

5.15 Sufficiency of Youth Corps members by age grades of respondents

The various age grades of the respondents assessed the sufficiency of Youth Corps members. The result is as shown in the table below:

Table 5.15

Sufficiency of Youth Corps Members by age grade of respondents

Age Grade (in years)	Sufficiency of Youth Corps members		
	Sufficient	Insufficient	TOTAL
15-20	1	1	2
20-25	68	32	100
25-30	127	77	206
30-35	18	39	57
35-40	22	18	40
40-45	9	13	22
45 years and above	6	6	12
T O T A L	253	186	439

Source:Field Work

According to the table, of the 439 respondents for the research, 253 or 59.6% stated that the number of youth-corps members deployed to Katsina State was enough to execute a tangibe rural development project.

A micro-analysis shows that of the 2 respondents of 15-20 years age grade, 1 each stated that the number is sufficient and insufficient, respectively. And, of the 100 respondents of 20-25 years age grade, 68 stated that the number of Corps members posted to Katsina State was sufficient.

In the same vein, of the 206 respondents in the 25-30 years of age, 129 stated that the

number of Corps members was enough to execute a tangible development project . Similarly, of the 57 respondents of 30-35 years of age grade, 18 stated that there was sufficient number of Corps members take rural development project. Out of the 40 respondents of the 35-40 years, 22 stated that the Corps members deployed to Katsins State were sufficient in number to execute tangible development projects . Of 22respondents of 40-45 years age grade, 9 stated that corps members is sufficient to execute rural development projects in Katsina State.

5.16 Youth Corps members continuity of projects by age grade of respondents

This research has revealed that there is continuity in NYSC rural development projects. Thus, projects begun by a set of Youth Corps members are continued by an incoming set. In some cases, the projects are continued to finishing stage. Also, for gigantic projects, that are not completed the set that inherits it at the initial stage, their successors do continue it. It is through continuity that most NYSC rural development projects are executed. The continuity of projects is assessed by the various age grades of respondents for this research. The result is as shown in the table below:

Table 5.16

Continuity of NYSC projects by age grade of respondents

Age Grade (in years)	Continuity of NYSC rural development projects		
	Continuity	No continuity	TOTAL
15-20	1	1	2
20-25	67	33	100
25-30	122	84	206
30-35	38	19	57
35-40	31	9	40
40-45	16	6	22
45 years and above	5	7	12
T O T A L	280	159	439

Source: Field Work

According to the table, of the 438 respondents, 280 or 63.8% statedthat there was ontinuity of NYSC rural development projects. In a micro-analysis, 1 each of the two respondents of 15-20 years age grade states that there is, and there is no, continuity in NYSC rural development projects. Out of the 100 respondents of 20-25 years age group, 67 statedthat there was continuity. In the same way, of the 206 respondents of 25-30 years age group, 122 stated that there has continuity.. In the same the 57 respondents of the 30-35 years age grade, 38 stated that there was, and there was no, continuity in NYSC rural development projects respentenly, Out there is continuity of NYSC rural development projects.

In the same vein, of the 22 respondents of 40-45 years age grade, 16 stated the NYSC projects not continued by a succeeding set of Youth Corps members. And, of the 12 respondents of 45 years and above, 5 each statedthat there is continuity in NYSC rural development projects.

In all, therefore, the research has found out that virtually all the age grades of our respondents have confirmed that Youth Corps members continue with projects begun by their predecessors. This is how most of the NYSC rural development projects are executed by the Corps members.

5.17 Type of rural development project executed by Youth Corps Members by age grade of respondents

The type of rural development projects executed by Youth Corps members in Katsina State has been assessed by the various age grades of our respondents. The type of projects executed is in line with the provision of the second National Development Plan that provides for the deployment of Corps Members on projects such as provision of rural infrastructure (Nigeria, 1970). The result is as shown by the following table:

Table 5.17

Type of NYSC rural development projects by age grade of respondents

Age grades (in years)	Type of Rural Development Projects				
	Provision of rural service	Provision of rural infra-structure	Mass enlightenment	Fabrication of machines	TOTAL
15-20	0	0	0	0	2
20-25	33	56	9	2	100
25-30	49	119	32	6	206
30-35	15	39	3	0	57
35-40	9	27	4	0	40
40-45	10	12	0	0	22
45 years and above	5	7	0	0	12
T O T A L	123	250	48	8	439

Source: Field Work

The table shows that of the 439 respondents for the research, 123 or 28.0%, respandents 2% 48 or 10.9% and 8 or 1.8% stated that the Youth Corps members undertook development projects life provision of Rural Welfare Service , Rural Infrastructure, Mass Enlightenment and fabrication of machines . However, they participate in the provision of rural infrastructure more than all other types of rural development projects.l development projects.

The result also shows that all the 2 respondentd of the 15-20 years age group participate more in the provision of rural welfare services than in any other type of projects.

Out of the 100 respondents of the 20-25 years age grade, 33 stated that the Youth Corps participated in the provision of rural welfare services . Also , of the 206 respondents of the 25-30 years grade, 49 state that the Youth Corps members in Katsina State provide rural welfare services. In the same vein, of the 57 respondents of 30-35 years age grade, 15, 39 and 3 stated that the Youth Corps members in Katsina State provided rural welfare service. Also of the 57 respondents of 30-35 years age grade, 15, 39, and 3 stated hat the Youth Corps members participated in the provision of rural welfare service, rural infrastructure and mass enlightement . In the 35- 40 yeasrs, 9 stated that the Corps members participate d more in the provision of rural welfare services while of the 22 respondents of 40-45 years age grade 10 stated that the Youth Corps members participated more in the provision of rural welfare services. And , of the 12 respondents of 45 years and above , 5 and 7 stated that the Youth Corps members participate more in the provision of rural welfare servives and rural infrastructure respectively.

In general, while more responses were recorded in the provision of rural infrastructure in all age grades of our respondents except for those of `15 -20 years age grade, a low response way recorded in the fabrication works undertaken by Youth Corps members. A figure as low as 8 or 1.8% was recordded. This is composed of respondents of the age grade 20-25 and 25-30 years All other age grades see no fabrication works undertaken by Youth Corps members. In another development, the 40-45 years and 45 years and above age grades stated that the Youth Corps members did not participate in mass enlightenment and fabrication works but provision of rural welfare services and rural infrastructure. The total result shows a concentration in the provision of rural infrastructure by Youth Corps members more than in any other type of rural development project.

5.18 Youth Corps Members development for Primary Assignment of age grades of respondents

The deployment of Youth Corps members for their primary assignment has been assessed by the various age grade of the respondents for this research. As against the provision of the scheme and, specifically, the Second National Development Plan (Nigeria, 1970) and the NYSC enabling Decree (Nigeria, 1973) that provides for the deployment of Youth Corps Members to rural areas, most Corps members are deployed to Urban Centres in Katsina State. The result is as presented in the following table:

Table 5.18

Youth Corps Members deployment by age grade of respondents

Age Grade (in years)	Deployment of Youth Corps Members		
	Urban Centre	Rural Area	TOTAL
15-20	1	1	2
20-25	56	44	100
25-30	113	93	206
30-35	29	28	57
35-40	24	16	40
40-45	11	11	22
45 years and above	6	6	12
TOTAL	240	199	439

Source: Field Work

According to the table, of the 439 respondents, 240 or 54.7% stated that most Corps members were deployed to urban centres for their primary assignment. The table also shows

that, of the 2 respondents of 15-20 years age grade, 1 each stated that the Youth Corps members were deployed to urban centres and rural areas respectively for primary assignment. Also, out of the 100 respondents of 20-25 years age grade, 56 stated that most corps members were posted to the urban centres for their primary assignment. Of the 206 in the 25-30 years age grade, 113 stated that the Youth Corps members were deployed to urban centres.

Further more, of the 59 respondents in the 30-35 years age grade, 29 stated that the Youth Corps members are deployed to urban centres for their primary assignment. Of the 40 respondents in the 35-40 years age grade, 24 stated that Youth Corps members were deployed to urban centres. Also, of the 22 respondents of 40-45 years of age, 11 each stated that the corps members were deployed mostly to both urban and rural areas in an equity distribution. Similarly, of the 12 respondents of 45 years and above age grades, 6 each supported the claim by respondents of 40-45 years age grade that Corps members were shared among urban and rural areas in an equal manner.

5.19 Negative effect of urban deployment of Corps Members by age of respondents

The deployment of most Corps members has adverse consequences on the development of rural areas of Katsina State. This is confirmed by the present research. The negative effect has further been examined by the various age grades for this research, as is presented in the following table:

Table 5.19

Negative effect of urban deployment of Corps Members by age grade of respondents

Age Grade (in years)	Negative effect of urban deployment			
	Negative effect	No negative effect	Can't say Area	TOTAL
15-20	2	0	0	2
20-25	49	18	33	100
25-30	99	33	74	206
30-35	34	12	11	57
35-40	25	6	9	40
40-45	12	4	6	22
45 years and above	10	1	1	12
TOTAL	231	74	134	439

Source: Field Work

The table shows that, 231 or 52.7% respondents stated that the deployment of most Youth Corps members to urban centres had negative consequences on the development of rural areas of Katsina State . The indifferent category could not state whether there was a negative effect of urban deployment or not.

A further analysis shows that all the 2 respondents of 15-20 years age grade stated that there was an adverse effect on the development of rural areas of Katsina State if most Corps members were concentrated in the urban centres. But of the 100 respondents of the 20-25 years age grade, 49 stated that there was a negative effect. In the same way, of the 206 respondents of the 25-30 years age grade, 99 stated that there was a negative effect of urban deployment. Out of the 57 respondents in the 30-35 years age grade, 34 stated that

deployment of most Corps members to urban centres had a negative consequence, 12 stated that there was no effect and 11 remained indifferent. In the same way, of the 40 of 35-40 years age grade, 25 stated that there was negative effect of posting most Corps members to urban centres. Of the 12 respondents of 45 years and above age grade, 10 stated that there was a negative effect of urban deployment, 1 stated that there was no negative effect in that, while another 1 remained indifferent.

5.20 Measurement of Success of the NYSC rural development programme by age grades of the respondents

The NYSC Programme has been successful in Katsina State particularly in rural development programme. Both Gillette (1976), Tiberondwa (1976) and Aina (1993) have noted Youth Corps members' role in ushering in progress and development at the grassroots where the majority of the population live. This is confirmed by various age grades of the respondents for this research. The result is as shown in the table below:

Table 5.20

Success of the NYSC programme by age grade of respondents

Age grades (in years)	Success of the NYSC Programme				
	Very successful	Successful	Unsuccessful	Very unsuccessful	TOTAL
15-20	0	1	1	0	2
20-25	13	45	389	4	100
25-30	35	94	69	8	206
30-35	6	35	14	2	57
35-40	12	22	6	0	40
40-45	4	10	8	0	22
45 years and above	2	4	5	1	12
TOTAL	72	211	141	15	439

Source: Field Work

According to the table, of the 439 respondents , 72 or 16.4%, 211 or 48.1%, 141 or 32.1% and 15 or 3.5% stated that the NYSC Scheme in Katsina State particularly rural development programme, had been very successful, successful, unsuccessful, and very unsuccessful respectively.

In a micro analysis, of the 2 respondents in the 15-20 years age grade, 1 each states that the NYSC programme had been successful and unsuccessful respectively. In the same vein, of the 100 respondents of the 20-25 years, 13 stated that the NYSC Programme was very successful. Also, of the 206 respondents in the 25-30 years age grade, 94 stated that the NYSC Programme had been successful.

Similarly, of the 57 respondents in the 30-35 years age grade, 35 stated that the NYSC Programme was successful. And, of the 40 respondents of 35-40 years age grade, 12 stated that the NYSC Programme has been successful in Katsina State. In the same way, of the 22 respondents of 40-45 years age group, 10 stated that the NYSC had been successful, while of the 12 respondents of the 45 year and above, 4 stated that the NYSC Programme had been successful in developing the rural Katsina.

CHAPTER SIX

NYSC IN KATSINA STATE: ASSESSMENT BY MARITAL STATUS AND LITERACY ATTAINMENT

6.1 Recognition of NYSC Scheme by marital status of respondents

The various categories of the respondents for this research have been further classified, based on their marital status. Each of the status groups has assessed the recognition of the NYSC Scheme in Katsina State. The results agreed with Patrick's (1993) assertion that, in some places in Nigeria, Youth Corps members are seen as government children who should be catered for. The result is as shown by the table below:

Table 6.1

Recognition of NYSC scheme by marital status of respondents

Marital Status	Recognition of NYSC Scheme				
	Highly recognised	Not recognised	Unrecognised	Highly unrecognised	TOTAL
Single	52	142	26	9	229
Married	93	104	4	4	205
Widow	1	3	0	0	4
Widower	0	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	146	250	30	13	439

Source: Field Work

From the table, of the 439 respondents for the research, 146 or 33.3%, 250 or 56.9%,

30 or 6.8% and 13 or 3.0% stated that the NYSC Scheme was highly recognised, just recognised, unrecognised and highly unrecognised, respectively.

A further analysis shows that, of the 229 single respondents for the research, 142 stated that the NYSC Scheme was recognised. Similarly, of the 205 married respondents, 104 stated that the NYSC Scheme is recognised. And of the 4 widows responding, 1 and 3 stated that the NYSC was highly recognised and just recognised, respectively, while the only widower respondent stated that the NYSC Scheme was just recognised.

The result of the highly recognised and just recognised put together shows that the scheme was highly recognised in Katsina State. This was confirmed by the total of 396 respondents. These totals are made up of 194, 197, 4 and 1 single, married, widow and widower respondents.

The research found out that, of the 395 respondents who confirm recognition of NYSC, 194 were single, 197 are married, 4 are widows, and only 1 was a widower. In the same vein, of the 43 who state that the NYSC was unrecognised in Katsina State, 35 were single respondents and 8 are married. This also indicates that all the widow and widower respondents, for this research confirmed the recognition of NYSC Scheme in Katsina State, while the majority of the respondents confirmed the recognition of NYSC Scheme are married with 197 followed by single respondents with 194. This is largely because the married are seen as more responsible, considerate and appreciative of world affairs than, particularly, the single, the widow and widower.

6.2 Youth Corps Members' Level of Performance in rural development by marital status of respondents.

The participation of Youth Corps members in rural development programmes in Katsina State has been measured by the respondents for this research by their marital status. The result is as shown by the following table.

Table 6.2

Youths Corps Members level of performance in rural development by marital status of respondents

Marital Status	Participation of rural development				
	Very effective	Just effective	Not effective	Strongly not effective	TOTAL
Single	93	98	36	2	229
Married	83	105	17	0	205
Widow	1	2	1	0	4
Widower	1	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	178	205	54	2	439

Source: Field Work

The table shows that, of the 439 respondents for this research, 178 or 40.5%, 205 or 46.7%, 54 or 12.3% and 2 or 0.5% stated that the NYSC participation in rural development programs programmes was very effective, just effective, not effective and strongly not effective respectively.

The table also shows that, of the 229 single respondents, 98 stated that the NYSC

participation is effective. Also, of the 205 married respondents 105 respondents stated that the participation of the Youth Corps members was just effective . Of the widow respondents for the research, 1, 2, and another 1 stated that the NYSC participation was very effective, just effective, and not effective, respectively, while the only widower respondent for the research stated that the participation of Youth Corps members in rural development in Katsina State was very effective.

A micro analysis of the results confirms that the NYSC participation in rural development has been very effective in Katsina State. The result of the very effective and just effective respondents shows an overwhelming majority of 383 as against only 56, the total of not effective and strongly not effective responses.

The table shows that, of the 229 single respondents, 98 stated that the NYSC participation in rural development was effective. In the same vein, of the 205 married respondents for the research, 105 stated that the NYSC participation was effective. Also, of the 4 widow respondents, 2 stated that the NYSC participation has been effective, while the only widower respondent states that the participation of the Youth Corps members in rural development was very effective.

6.3 Community Support to Youth Corps Members by marital status of respondents

The various marital status groups of the respondents for this research have assessed the community assistance to Youth Corps members in their execution of rural development projects. Aina (1993) noted that the governments' backing of Corps members projects with adequate funding, careful planning and provision of effective manpower for proper

execution of their projects. The result is as presented in the table below:

Table 6.3

Community support to Youths Corps Members by marital status of respondents

Marital Status	Community assistance to Youth Corps Members		
	Assistance	No assistance	TOTAL
Single	171	98	229
Married	173	32	205
Widow	3	1	4
Widower	0	1	1
T O T A L	307	132	439

Source: Field Work

According to the table, of the 438 respondents for the research, 307 or 70% and 132 or 30% stated that the community assists the Youth Corps members in executing their rural development activities respectively. Out of the 229 single respondents, 131 stated that communities in Katsina State did assist Youth Corps members in executing their rural development projects. In the same vein, of the 205 married respondents, 173 state that communities assist Corps members while the only widower respondent stated that the Youth Corps members in Katsina State were not assisted in rural development projects at all.

The table further shows that the married respondents confirmed the community assistance to Youth Corps members more than the single and the widows, with 173, against 131 and only 3 respectively.

assistance was just effective.

6.5 Sufficiency of Youth Corps members by marital status of respondents

The sufficiency of Youth Corps members deployed to Katsina State for their Youth Corps service has been assessed by the various status groups of the respondents for this research. The result is presented in the table below:

Table 6.5

Sufficiency of Corps Members by marital status of respondents

Marital Status	Sufficiency of Youth Corps Members		
	Sufficiency	Insufficient	TOTAL
Single	160	69	229
Married	90	115	205
Widow	2	2	4
Widower	1	0	1
TOTAL	253	186	439

Source: Field Work

The table shows that, of the 439 respondents, 253 or 57.6% state that the Youth Corps members deployed to Katsina State were sufficient to execute rural development projects, as against 186 or 42.4% that see insufficiency in the number of Youth Corps members deployed to the state.

A micro-analysis shows that of the 229 single respondent, 160 stated that the number was sufficient. In the same vein, of the 205 married respondents, 115 saw the insufficiency

in the number. Also, of the 4 widow respondents, 2 each stated the sufficiency and insufficiency in the number of respondents, while the only widower respondent stated that the number of Youth Corps members was sufficient in Katsina State. This, therefore, shows that the single respondents saw the sufficiency of Corps members more than the marital status groups. This is largely so because most of them feel that it is not the number of Corps members that matters most in rural development, but determination on the part of Youth Corps members and the support they receive from the community. The married respondents, however, confirmed the insufficiency of the Corps members in the State rather than all other status groups. According to the married ones, the number of Corps members deployed matters in rural development, particularly for effectiveness and speed of execution of projects. Besides, two heads are better than one; as such, the brains of many corps members put together are better than that of a few.

6.6 Youth Corps members continuity of rural development projects by marital status of respondents

The research has found that the rural development projects begun by a set of Youth Corps members is carried on by the in-coming set. This is confirmed by the result of the research presented in the table below:

Table 6.6

Continuity of rural development projects of Youth Corps Members by marital status of respondents

Marital Status	Continuity of Projects		
	Sufficiency	Insufficient	TOTAL
Single	147	82	229
Married	130	75	205
Widow	2	2	4
Widower	1	0	1
TOTAL	280	159	439

Source: Field Work

The table shows that, of the 439 respondents for the research, 280 or 63.8%, confirmed that there was continuity of Youth Corps members rural development projects, and 159 or 36.2% saw no continuity of Youth Corps members rural development projects. Of the 229 single respondents, 147 saw the continuity of NYSC projects. Similarly, of the 205 married respondents, 130 confirmed continuity of NYSC projects. Also, 2 each of the 4 widow respondents confirmed continuity and non-continuity respectively, while the only widower respondent states that the in-coming Youth Corps members did continue with rural development projects begun by their predecessors. Thus, the single respondents confirm continuity of NYSC projects with 147 respondents more than other status groups, such as married status group with 130 respondents, widow respondents with 2 and only 1 widower. This is confirmed by the fact that the single respondents move about more than other categories and see for themselves all the development activities of Youth Corps members.

6.7 Type of rural development project by marital status of respondents

There is increasing recognition of the type of rural development carried out by Youth Corps members. Betru (1976) noted that the major emphasis on the provision of employment opportunities for the unemployed was founded on a pressing need for the construction, maintenance and of work of a public nature, which are characteristic of rural development efforts in most countries today. The type of rural development activity undertaken by Youth Corps members in Katsina State was assessed by the various status groups of our respondents. The result is as presented in the table below:

Table 6.7

Type of rural development project undertaken most by Youth Corps Members by marital status of respondents

Marital Status	Type of rural development project				
	Rural welfare services	Rural infrastructure	Mass enlightenment	Fabrication of machine and tools	TOTAL
Single	54	131	36	8	229
Married	66	127	126	0	205
Widow	2	2	0	0	4
Widower	1	0	0	0	1
T O T A L	123	260	48	8	439

Source: Field Work

The table above shows that, of the 439 respondents for this research, 123 or 28.0%, 260 or 59.2%, 48 or 10.9% and 8 or 1.8% stated that the Youth Corps members mostly undertake the provision of rural welfare services, provision of rural infrastructure, mass

enlightenment and fabrication of machines and tools respectively.

The table further shows that, of the 229 single respondents, 131 stated that the Youth Corps members mostly undertake the provision of infrastructure. Similarly, of the 205 married respondents, 127 stated that the Youth Corps members undertake the provision of rural infrastructure. Also, of the 4 widow respondents, 2 each stated that the Youth Corps members mostly undertake the provision of rural welfare services and provision of rural infrastructure, respectively, while the only widower respondent stated that the Youth Corps members undertake the provision of rural welfare services most.

6.8 Deployment of Youth Corps Members by marital status of respondents

From the following table, of the 439 respondents for the research, 240 or 54.7% stated that more Youth Corps members were deployed to urban centres than to rural areas, for their primary assignment. This was against 199 or 45.3% who stated that the bulk of Youth Corps Members was deployed to the rural areas for their primary assignment. The result is as presented in the table below:

Table 6.8
Deployment of Youth Corps Members by marital status of respondents

Marital Status	Deployment of Youth Corps Members		
	Urban Centres	Rural Areas	TOTAL
Single	147	96	229
Married	130	101	205
Widow	2	1	4
Widower	1	1	1
TOTAL	240	199	439

Source: Field Work

The table further showed that, of the 229 single respondents of the marital status groups, 133 stated that the Youth Corps members were deployed to urban centres, as against 96 who were Corps members mostly deployed to rural areas. In the same vein, of the 205 married respondents, 104 and 101 stated that the Youth Corps members were mostly deployed to urban centres and rural areas respectively. And of the 4 widow respondents, 3 state that Youth Corps Members are deployed mostly to urban centres, and 1 stated that they are mostly deployed to rural areas, while the only widower respondent saw the deployment of most Youth Corps members to rural areas.

6.9 Negative effect or urban deployment of Youth Corps Members by marital status of respondents

The deployment of more Corps members to urban centres than rural areas has been found to be of seriously negative consequence by this research. This has, therefore, agreed with Adesina (1976) who states that most Corps members feel isolated from the grassroots but converged in the urban centres. The rural dwellers, however, are those who need the services of Youth Corps members most. The various marital status groups of our respondents have confirmed this as is presented by the following table:

Table 6.9

Negative effect of urban deployment of Youth Corps Members by marital status of respondents

Marital Status	Negative effect of urban deployment			
	Negative effect	No negative effect	Can't say	TOTAL
Single	100	50	79	229
Married	128	23	54	205
Widow	2	1	1	4
Widower	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	231	74	134	439

Source: Field Work

According to the table, , 231 or 52.7%,respondents 74 or 16.9% and 134 or 30.5%respectively stated that the deployment of most Youth Corps members to urban centres is of negative consequence, no negative effect, and indifferent as to whether it has negative effect or not.

A micro-analysis shows that, of the 229 single respondents for the research, 100 stated that urban deployment had a negative effect in rural development, 50 stated that it had no effect, while 79 are indifferent. Similarly, of the 205 married respondents, 128 state that it has a negative effect, 23 stated that it does not have any negative effect, and 54 remain indifferent. Also, of the 4 widow respondents, 2 stated urban deployment of most Youth Corps members as having a negative effect, 1 stated that it does not have any negative effect,

and another 1 remained indifferent, while the only widower stated that urban deployment of most Corps members had a serious negative effect on rural development.

The table shows that, of those who saw negative effects of urban deployment, married respondents were more than other status groups. According to them, posting most Corps members to urban centres means neglecting the rural areas and consequently retarding their development. This was followed by single, widow and widower respondents. But single respondents were in the majority of respondents, most of them were Youth Corps members themselves and prefer to serve in urban centres where infrastructural facilities abound.

6.10 Success of NYSC Scheme in rural development by marital status of respondents

The NYSC Scheme has been seen to be very successful in Katsina State, as is shown by this research. This fact is further confirmed by the various marital status groups of the respondents for this research. The result is shown in the table below:

Table 6.10
Success of NYSC scheme in rural development by marital status of respondents

Marital Status	Success of the NYSC Scheme				
	Very Successful	Successful	Unsuccessful	Very unsuccessful	TOTAL
Single	29	111	78	11	229
Married	42	98	61	4	205
Widow	1	1	2	0	4
Widower	0	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	72	211	141	15	439

Source: Field Work

which recognition of the NYSC was assessed by the various respondents. They are presented in the following table:

Table 6.11

Recognition of NYSC scheme by educational attainment of respondents

Level of educational attainment	Recognition of NYSC Scheme				
	Highly recognised	Just recognised	Unrecognised	Highly unrecognised	TOTAL
Quranic Education	24	20	0	2	46
Primary School Certificate	10	16	0	1	27
Secondary School Cert/TCII	20	22	1	0	43
Post-Secondary	92	187	29	10	318
Others	0	5	0	0	5
TOTAL	146	250	30	13	439

Source: Field Work

According to the table, of the 439 respondents for the research, 146 or 33.3%, 250 or 56.9%, 30 or 6.8% and 13 or 3.0% stated that the NYSC Scheme in Katsina State was highly recognised, just recognised, unrecognised and highly unrecognised respectively. This shows that 396 or 90.2% of the respondents stated that the NYSC was recognised in Katsina State. This is against only 43 or 9.8% who see the scheme as unrecognised in Katsina State.

The NYSC recognition cuts across all categories of respondents with various levels

Table 6.12

Youth Corps Members level of performance in rural development by educational qualification

Level of educational attainment	Level of Performance				
	Very effective	Just effective	Not effective	Strongly not effective	TOTAL
Quranic Education	26	16	4	0	46
Primary School Certificate	8	18	1	0	27
Secondary School Cert/TCII	14	28	1	0	43
Post-Secondary	127	141	48	2	318
Others	3	2	0	0	5
T O T A L	178	205	54	2	439

Source: Field Work

The table shows that of the 439 respondents for the research, 178 or 40.5%, 205 or 46.7%, 54 or 12.3% and 2 or 0.5% stated that the NYSC participation in rural development was very effective, just effective, not effective, and strongly not effective respectively. The distribution of the respondents shows that, of the total, 46, 27, 43, 318 and 5 have Quranic education, primary school certificate, secondary school certificate/TC II, post secondary school certificates/Degrees and others, respectively. The 'others' category did not state their level of education.

The result of the very effective and just effective put together therefore shows a total of 367 or 83.6% confirming the effectiveness of the Youth Corps members participation in rural development, as against only 72 or 16.4% of the not effective and strongly not effective categories of responses put together. The result further shows that all the respondents to item on the educational levels have confirmed that the participation of Youth Corps member in rural development of Katsina State was effective.

The Youth Corps members' participation is encouraged by the communitys motivation in the form of support given the Corps members in execution of their rural development projects. Participation is also partly achieved by the willingness of the Youth Corps members themselves to partake in the development projects they initiate or in those initiated by the local governments.

6.13 Sufficiency of Youth Corps Members by educational qualification of respondents

The number of Corps members deployed to a particular state for primary assignment is largely responsible for the success of the NYSC Scheme in rural development in the state. Thus, the sufficiency of the Youth Corps members in Katsina state is by no means an important yardstick for the success of the scheme in rural development in the State. This research has revealed that the number of Corps members deployed to Katsina State was sufficient enough to execute tangible rural development projects in the State. The assessment was by the various categories of respondents with different levels of education. The result is as shown in the following table.

Table 6.13

Sufficiency of Youth Corps Members by educational qualification of respondents

Level of education	Sufficiency of Youth Corps Members		
	Sufficient	Insufficient	TOTAL
Quranic Education	22	24	46
Primary School Certificate	10	17	27
Secondary School Cert/TCII	20	23	43
Post-Secondary	197	121	318
Others	4	1	5
TOTAL	253	186	439

Source: Field Work

According to the table, of the 439 respondents for this research, 253 or 57.6% stated that the number of Youth Corps members in Katsina State was enough to execute tangible rural development projects. This is against 186 or 42.4% who saw the number of Youth Corps members as grossly insufficient in Katsina State. Of the 46 respondents with Quranic education, 22 stated that the number was sufficient while 24 saw insufficiency in the number of Youth Corps members deployed to Katsina State. Similarly, 10 and 17 of the 27 respondents with primary school certificate state that the number was sufficient and insufficient, respectively. In the same vein, of the 43 respondents with secondary school certificate, 20 stated that the number of Corps members deployed to Katsina State was sufficient to execute tangible rural development projects. This is against 23 who saw the number as insufficient. And of the 318 respondents with Post-secondary school certificates and degrees to which all Corps members, some government officials and NYSC officials belong, 197 respondents state that the number of Corps members deployed to Katsina Stated

was enough to execute tangible rural development projects. This is against 121 who saw insufficiency in the number. Also, of the 5 respondents of the 'others' educational group, 4 stated that the number was enough, while only 1 sees insufficiency in the number deployed to Katsina State.

6.14 Continuity of NYSC Projects by educational qualification of respondents

The Youth Corps members initiate projects and at times are invited to participate in the projects initiated by local government authorities and for the community members via communal associations. Some of the projects started were not completed within a service year. Thus the in-coming Youth Corps members had to continue with them, as soon as they reported to their places of primary assignments. Although this may not be the case with other States of the federation, this research has found that in Katsina State, there was continuity of projects initiated by preceding sets of Corps members to completion stage. The assessment has made by the various categories of respondents with various levels of educational attainment. The result is as shown in the table below:

Table 6.14

Continuity of NYSC projects by educational qualifications of respondents

Level of education	Continuity of Projects		
	Continuity	No continuity	TOTAL
Quranic Education	32	14	46
Primary School Certificate	13	14	27
Secondary School Cert/TCII	24	19	43
Post-Secondary	207	111	318
Others	4	1	5
T O T A L	280	159	439

Source: Field Work

From the table, of the 439 respondents, 280 or 63.8% stated that the Youth Corps members continue with projects begun by their predecessors. This is against 159 or 36.2% who see no continuity of NYSC projects by a succeeding set of Youth Corps members. According to this category of respondents, most NYSC projects are left uncompleted at times only to be completed by the local government council or the community members.

In a micro analysis, of the 46 respondents with Quranic education, 32 stated that there is continuity of NYSC projects, while 14 see no continuity in those projects. Also, of the 27 respondents with primary school certificate, 13, saw that there was the continuity in NYSC projects while 14 saw no continuity of the projects begun by preceding sets of Youth Corps members. Similarly, of the 43 respondents with secondary school certificate, 24 saw the continuity of NYSC projects by succeeding set of Youth Corps members, while 19 saw no continuity in the projects. In the same vein, of the 38 respondents with post-secondary school certificate, 207 stated that projects of Youth Corps members were carried on to completion by an incoming set of Youth Corps members. This is against 111 respondents who saw no continuity in those projects. And, of the 5 'others' respondents, 4 stated that the projects begun by a set of Youth Corps members were continued by incoming set, while only 1 stated that the incoming set of Youth Corps members did not continue with projects begun by a preceding set.

6.15 Youth Corps Members rural development activity by educational qualification of respondents

The Youth Corps members undertake many rural development projects. However, they participate in some more than in others. The research has shown that Youth Corps

members participated in provision of rural infrastructure more than in any other type of rural development activities. This finding has agreed with both Betru (1976), Adesina (1976) and Aina (1993) who noted that rural development projects undertaken by Youth Corps members include the forestation of land, prevention of forest fires, flood and soil erosion, construction of bridges, roads, culverts, market stalls, community halls and rural health centres. In the same vein, Tanzania (1976), Aina (1993) and Patrick (1993) stressed the role of Youth Corps members in educational development when he stated that most schools in Nigeria and Tanzania depend on the services of Youth Corps members for their teacher-requirements. This is supported by Emaneko (1986) who states that since inception of the NYSC Scheme, an average of 65% of Youth Corps members have been deployed to teach in schools.

The assessment of the type of rural development activities undertaken by the Youth Corps members was by the various categories of respondents with varying educational qualifications. The result is as shown in the following table:

Table 6.15

Youth Corps Members rural development activity by educational qualification of respondents

Level of education	NYSC rural development projects				
	Rural welfare services	Rural infrastructure	Mass enlightenment	Fabrication of machine tools	TOTAL
Quranic Education	14	29	3	0	46
Primary School Certificate	9	16	2	0	27
Secondary School Cert/TCII	12	27	3	1	43
Post-Secondary	85	186	40	7	318
Others	3	2	0	0	5
TOTAL	123	260	48	8	439

Source: Field Work

According to the table, of the 439 respondents, 123 or 28%, 260 or 59.2%, 48 or 10.9% and 8 or 1.8% stated that most Youth Corps members participated in the provision of rural welfare services, rural infrastructure, mass enlightenment and fabrication of machines and tools, respectively. The result shows that 260 or 59.2% under- take the provision of rural infrastructure such as construction of bridges, culverts, drainage, Town Halls, dispensaries, bus stops etc., as their rural development projects. Thus, the research disagrees with Sanda (1980) who is of the opinion that Youth Corps members participated more in mass enlightenment and, specifically, teaching in schools.

In a micro-analysis, however, of the 123 respondents who state that most Youth Corps members participate in provision of rural welfare services, 14, 9, 12 and 85 have Quranic education, primary school certificates, secondary school certificates, post-secondary school certificates and degrees and 3 'others' who did not state their educational qualification. In the same way, of the 260 respondents who state the provision of rural infrastructure as the rural development activity undertaken by most corps members, 29, 16, 27 and 186 have Quranic education, primary school certificate, secondary school certificate and post-secondary school certificate and Degrees,respectively while 2 'others' did not state their educational qualifications. Similarly, of the 48 respondents who see the mass enlightenment as the rural development activity undertaken most by Youth Corps members, 3, 2, 3 and 40 have Quranic education, primary school certificate, secondary school certificate and post-secondary school certificate and degreesrespectively . And, of the 8 respondents who saw fabrication of machines and tools as the activity undertaken by most Youth Corps members, 1 had secondary school certificate, while 7 have post-secondary school qualifications and Degrees.

This further shows that of the 46 respondents with Quranic education, 14, 29 and 3 stated that most Youth Corps members undertake the provision of rural welfare services, rural infrastructure and mass enlightenment respectively. Also of the 27 respondents with primary school certificate, 9, 16, and 2 stated that most Youth Corps members partake in the provision of rural welfare services, rural infrastructure and mass enlightenment, respectively. In the same vein, of the 43 respondents with secondary school certificates, 12, 27, 3 and 1 stated that most Youth Corps members undertake the provision of rural welfare services, rural infrastructure, mass enlightenment and fabrication of machines and tools, respectively.

Similarly, out of the 318 respondents with post-secondary school certificates and degrees, 85, 186, 40 and 7 stated that most Youth Corps members participated more in the provision of rural welfare services, rural infrastructure, mass enlightenment and fabrication of machines and tools, respectively, while of the 5 'others' category i.e those who did not state their educational qualifications, 3 and 2 state that most Youth Corps members undertake the provision of rural welfare services and rural infrastructure as the rural development project they undertake most.

6.16 Deployment of Youth Corps Members for primary assignment by educational qualification of respondents

The deployment of most Youth Corps members for primary assignment in Katsina State has been found to be urban biased as is also noted by Patrick (1993). Most Corps members weree deployed to urban centres to the detriment of the rural majority who need the services of the youth most. This fact was confirmed by the majority of the respondents for the research who have different educational qualifications. Their result is as shown by the following table:

Table 6.16
Deployment of Youth Corps Members by educational qualification of respondents

Level of education	Deployment of Youth Corps Members		
	Urban Centres	Rural areas	TOTAL
Quranic Education	28	18	46
Primary School Certificate	13	14	27
Secondary School Cert/TCII	20	23	43
Post-Secondary	177	141	318
Others	2	3	5
T O T A L	240	199	439

Source: Field Work

The table shows that, of the 439 respondents for the research, 240 or 54.7% state that most Youth Corps members were deployed to urban centres. This was made up of 28, 13, 20, 177 and 2 who had Quranic education, primary school certificates, secondary school certificates, post-secondary school certificates and Degrees and 'others' who did not state their qualifications respectively. This is against 199 or 45.3% who stated that most Youth Corps members were deployed to rural areas. This total is made up of 18, 14, 23, 141, and 3 respondents who have Quranic education, primary school certificate, Secondary School Certificates/TC II, Post-Secondary School Certificates and Degrees, and 'others' who did not state their educational qualification.

In a micro-analysis, of the 46 respondents with Quranic education, 28 saw most Youth Corps members as deployed to urban centres, while 18 saw most Corps members as deployed to rural areas for primary assignment. Also, of the 27 respondents with primary school certificates, 13 stated that most Youth Corps members were deployed to urban centres for primary assignment while 14 state that the majority of Youth Corps members were deployed to rural areas. Similarly, of the 43 respondents with secondary school certificates, 20 stated that the majority of Youth Corps members were deployed to urban centres for primary assignment, while 23 saw the deployment of most Youth Corps members to rural areas. In the same vein, of the 318 respondents with Post-secondary School certificates and above, 177 stated that most Youth Corps members were deployed to urban centres, while 141 saw most Youth Corps members as deployed to rural areas for their national service. And, of the 5 respondents of 'others' qualifications, 2 stated that most Corps members were deployed to urban centres for primary assignment, while 3 saw most of them as deployed to rural areas.

6.17 Negative effect of urban deployment of Corps members by educational qualification of respondents

The urban bias in deployment of most Youth Corps members in Katsina State has been seen to be detrimental to the rural areas of the state. This has agreed with Adesina (1976) who saw the effect as prevention of inter-cultural interaction which consequently prevents national integration. This was further been confirmed by the various respondents of various educational levels. The result is as shown in the following table:

Table 6.17

Negative effect of urban deployment of most Youth Corps Members by educational qualification

Level of education	Negative effect of urban deployment			
	Negative effect	No negative effect	Can't say	TOTAL
Quranic Education	29	8	9	46
Primary School Certificate	12	6	9	27
Secondary School Cert/TCII	31	2	10	43
Post-Secondary	155	58	105	318
Others	4	0	1	5
T O T A L	231	74	134	439

Source: Field Work

From the table, of the 439 respondents for the research, 231 or 52.7% and 74 or 16.9% stated that there is negative effect and no negative effect in urban deployment of most Corps members respectively, while 134 or 30.5% could not state whether urban deployment had any negative effect or not. Out of the 46 who have Quranic education, 29,

8 and 9 stated respectively that there was negative effect, no effect and can not say whether there was any effect or not. Similarly, of the 27 respondents who have primary school certificates, 12, 6 and 9 stated that there was a negative effect of urban deployment, no effect and can not state whether there was any effect or not, respectively. In the same vein, 31, 2 and 10 of the 43 respondents with secondary school certificate, stated that the urban deployment of most corps members had a negative effect, no effect and can not say respectively. The category of Respondents with post-secondary school certificates and degrees, to which most Corps members belong, states the negative effect of urban deployment of most Corps members. Out of the 318 in this class, 155, 58, and 105 respectively stated that there was a negative effect, no effect and could not say whether urban deployment was of any negative effect. And, of the 5 respondents who did not state their educational qualifications, 4 stated that there was negative effect of urban deployment, while only 1 could not state whether there was such effect or not.

In general, majority of the respondents saw the negative effect of urban deployment. This was followed by those who could not state whether there was any effect or not, while the least were those who saw no negative effect of deploying most Corps members to urban areas. Of the total, 240 stated that there was negative effect of urban deployment.

6.18 The Success of NYSC Scheme in rural development by educational qualification of respondents

The present research has agreed with Adesina (1976), Tanzania (1976), Aina (1993) and Patrick (1993) that the NYSC Scheme is very successful in rural development, particularly in Nigeria. The success of the NYSC Scheme largely results from the support received by Corps members from the community, particularly the local government councils.

It also partly results from the willingness of Youth Corps members to work towards achieving the objectives of the Scheme. As expected, however, some of the respondents did not see the NYSC Scheme as successful in Katsina State. The success or otherwise of the NYSC in Katsina State was confirmed by the result of this research, as is shown in the table below:

Table 6.18

Table showing success of NYSC scheme in rural development by educational qualification of respondents

Level of education	Success of the NYSC rural development programme				
	Very successful	Just successful	Unsuccessful	Very unsuccessful	TOTAL
Quranic Education	11	21	13	1	46
Primary School Certificate	4	16	6	1	27
Secondary School Cert/TCII	11	19	11	2	43
Post-Secondary	46	154	107	11	318
Others	0	1	4	0	5
TOTAL	72	211	141	15	439

Source: Field Work

According to the table, of the 439 respondents for the research, 72 or 16.4%, 211 or 43.1%, 141 or 32.1% and 15 or 3.4% stated that the NYSC Scheme in rural development in Katsina State was very successful, successful, unsuccessful and very unsuccessful,

respectively. Of the 46 respondents with Quranic education, 21 stated that the NYSC Scheme was successful in developing the rural Katsina. In the same vein, of the 27 respondents with primary school certificate, 16 stated that the scheme was successful. Also, of the 43 respondents with secondary school certificates, 19 stated that the NYSC Scheme in rural development has been successful. Similarly, 46, 154, 107 and 11 out of the 318 respondents with post-secondary school certificates stated that the scheme has been very successful, successful, unsuccessful, and very unsuccessful, respectively. And of the 5 who did not state their educational qualifications, 1 and 4 state that the NYSC Scheme has been successful and unsuccessful respectively.

CHAPTER SEVEN

SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

7.1 Summary

In the foregoing presentation, an attempt has been made to examine the contribution of Youth Corps Members in rural development in Katsina State. The linkage of the NYSC and rural development has been made. It was traced to the Second National Development Plan (Nigeria, 1970) that provided for areas where Youth Corps members could be deployed as the rural areas. The main theoretical approach was functionalists.

Prior to the NYSC participation in rural development in Katsina State, some of the rural development agencies responsible for multifaceted rural development activities included Katsina State Agricultural and Rural Development Authority (KTARDA),Ministry of Water Resources and Rural Development, Federal and State Ministries of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Agency for Mass Education, Traditional Rulers, Community associations, Local government councils and their respective departments, Nigerian Agricultural Land Development Authority, Sokoto Rima River Basin Development Authority; and National Orientation Agency.

However, these agencies have continuously been brought under severe criticism by distinguished scholars. For instance, Wallace (1979), Filani (1981), Ayoade (1985), Kolawole (1986), Ogunika (1987) and Famoriyo (1988) have seen the failure of these programmes right at their planning stages. According to them, the programmes are poorly planned a

consequence of which is a concomitant poor implementation and execution of the desired rural development programmes. To worsen the situation, proliferation of these agencies led to the duplication of their functions. For instance, Kolawole (1986) noted that the agro-service and extension service functions of the RBDA'S were already being performed by the state Ministry of Agriculture, ditto the fishery development, while the provision of electricity was under NEPA.

In summary, the thesis was introduced in chapter one. The major items discussed include the reseach problem, research questions, aims and objectives, significance of the study, scope and limitations, justifications of the study and field problems. The historical evolution and later developments of the National Youth Service Corps scheme in Nigeria was traced to the Federal Governments Promulgation of the NYSC Enabling Decree No 24 of May, 1973.

In chapter 2, entitled Literature Review and Theoretical Frame-work the concept of development, Rural Development and the impact of the NYSC in rural development in Katsina State have been examined. Development has been seen as economic growth, modernization and economic justice and social progress. In general, however, the development is a multi-dimentional process of transforming all sectors of life. These include, socio-economic, political and technological sectors of the nation's development. This definition is in line with the definitions postulated by Keynes (1936), Nurske, 1953, Myrdal (1956), Rostow, 1962, Novack (1964), Learner (1958), Schultz (1964),Essag (1975), Moore (1980), Aina (1985), El-Iman (1963), Johnson (1972), Rodney (1974), Aziz(1978) and Nkom

(1984) et cetera.

Literature on the strategies in rural development in Nigeria that include the Farm Settlements, Operation Feed the Nation, Green Revolution, Agricultural Development Projects and River Basin Development Authorities has been reviewed. These include Faniran (1988) Campbell (1976), Famoriyo (1987) Filani (1981), Shaw (1972) Ayoade (1985) and Baba (1983). The modern concept in rural development, the Integrated Rural Development Projects (IRDP), its successes and the general fractors that influence rural development were also reviewed. The Literatures of Leighfield, Kettle and Whitbread (1975), Famoriyi, (1981) and Allahmagani (1986) et cetera were reviewed, and presented.

The success in all the rural development programmes and strategies adopted in Nigeria has been attributed largely to the contribution of youths in the programmes. According to Wagaw (1976), Idakwo (1982), Gow and Vansant (1983), Brown (1979), Kursiyy (1983), Lele (1975) and Allahmagani (1986), youth participation in rural development is an essential factor in the success of the programmes.

The emergence of National Youth Service Corps Scheme and their successes in National development has been stressed by Adesina (1976), Betru (1976), Ebenener (1993), Aina (1993) and Patrick (1993) and the UN (1976). The records of the various Youth Service Programmes have not been very bleak. They make great impact in developing rural areas of their countries particularly in construction of market stalls, town halls, rural feeder roads, culverts, bridges, concrete open wells, provision of medical and sanitary services and

organising mass literacy programmes through the Community Development Service(CDS).

The methodology used in the course of data collecting and analysis as well as the location of the study area has been presented in chapter three. The study population was derived from four categories of respondents. These are the senior NYSC officials at NYSC secretariat, Katsina, Youth Corps members in the selected local government areas, Village and District Heads representing community members in the selected local government areas and senior most local government officials in all the selected local government areas. The data was collected in seven (7) months from August, 1994 to February, 1995

Chapter 4 titled NYSC and Rural Development in Katsina State dealt with the categorisation and characterisation of respondents, the NYSC in Katsina State, NYSC in rural development, NYSC and the community and community participation in rural development. A total number of 439 respondents were drawn from the NYSC secretariat and 13 from the 26 local government areas of Katsina State. These included 377 males and 62 female respondents. All the major projects executed by Youth Corps members in Katsina State were also presented as discovered in the course of the research.

The contribution of Youth Corps Members has been assessed by sex and age grades of respondents. The result of those categories of respondents was presented in chapter 5. Similarly, in chapter 6 an assessment of youths' contribution has been made based on the respondents marital status and literacy attainment.

In all, however, the major finding of the research is the identification of the high recognition accorded the NYSC progarmme by communities in Katsina State. This is largely responsible for the support given the Youth Corps members in the course of executing their rural development projects. The research also found out that the assistance was well utilised. This indeed was one of the reasons for the high level of performance and success of the NYSC programme in general and the rural development projects of Youth Corps members in Katsina State. Another reason for this success is the sufficiency of Youth Corps members in Katsina state.

The research found out that there is a sufficient number of Youth Corps members undertaking rural development project in Katsina State. It has also been found out that the Youth Corps Members continue with projects tracted by their preceeding sets for continuity.

Although, the contribution of Youth Corps members in Rural development in Katsina State is a success, the research found that there is an urban bias in Corps members development for primary assigment. This bias has a serious effect on the needed rapid socio--economic development of the rural areas of Katsina State.

In general, the Youth Corps members in Katsina State have succeeded in participating in the fabrication of machines, tools and equipment, mass enlightenment and mobilisation, provision of infrastructural facilities as well medical care through out the nooks and corners of Katsina State.

7.2 Recommendations

In view of the research findings, field work problems and suggestions received, the following recommendations are hereby made with a view to arouse the attention of the authorities concerned towards ameliorating them. It is hope that the recommendations would go along way in making some impacts in policy making as they affect the NYSC scheme:

7.2.1 Stipend. Majority of the respondents for this research have complained about the current global economic recession and high inflationary rate, the N1,050.00 monthly allowance given the youth corps members is insufficient. Thus, there is the need for an upward review.

7.2.2 Kitting: In recent years, Youth Corps members are often not fully and properly kitted. It was discovered that some Youth Corps members are issued with shirts, peak cap and boot while others are issued with peak cap, vest and boots and others go with only nickers. There is a need for a proper kitting of all Youth Corpers in order to restore the scheme's lost glory.

7.2.3 Administration: The entire administrative setting of the NYSC needs to be overhauled. In the course of field work, it has been observed that there exists an in adequate supervision of Youth Corps members. Some Youth Corps members serving in the rural areas claim not to have seen their supervisor in their place of primary assignments at

all. The zonal inspector and local government liaison officers system needs to be reviewed. While it would be necessary to continue with the liaison officer's appointment, there should also be at least an NYSC official at each local government headquarters to coordinate for the zonal inspector.

Similary, the local government chairmen who also doubles as chairmen of their various NYSC committees should be properly educated on their additional responsibility. It was found out that some chairmen developed cold feet on the Youth Corps members such that they feel that they are not responsible for their welfare even when it comes to community development projects.

7.2.4 Deployment: This research has found out that there is an urban bias in the deployment of the Youth Corps members. If the NYSC rural development programme is to be concretised, there is the need for a balanced deployment. In fact, if there should be any bias deployment, the rural areas should be favoured since they have developmental needs more than the already developed urban communities. The excuses of lack of establishment to employ the Youth Corps members in rural areas is not tenable because the local government authorities can engage the Youth Corps members on projects designated for the rural areas.

The NYSC Director would also propose to the government, a policy plan to deploy all Youth Corps members to the rural areas for a compulsory rural deployment project for a period of at least 6 months. This practice, as is the case with Israel and Tanzania would

go a long way in transforming rural areas, bring about the required social interaction, a catalyst to national integration as well as reduce neglect of the rural populace who form the majority of Nigeria's population.

7.2.5 Community-Corps members relation: The present level of relationship between Youth Corps members and their host communities need to be improved. It is gratifying that in some local governments of Katsina state such as Batagarawa and Kaita, this relationship is superb; but in some other local governments, Youth Corps members are despised. This was attributed to socio-cultural and religious differences, isolated accommodation system and class-differences between members of the community and the Youth Corps members. However, these are factors which should be seriously discouraged that the scheme fights. Youth Corps members should be accommodated within the community settlements. If possible, some members of the community should be made to host the Youh Corps members throughout their service year. In the same way, all rural development projects in the communities should be jointly initiated and executed by the Youth Corps members and members of the communities especially clubs and cooperative societies.

One salient area of community - corps members relationship that has received poor attention in recent times is the payment of homage to community leaders. It has been gathered that this aspect of relationship encourages recognition and acceptance of the entire NYSC scheme. According to some community leaders, they are not happy when Youth Corps members come to their territory, complete their service year without paying a single visit to them which is unlike when the scheme was introduced in 1973. These visits to

community leaders enable the leaders to know the problems of the Youth Corps members and offer soltuions to them.

7.2.6 Funding: The key factor in the success of all programmes in Nigeria, particularly rural- based programmes, is funding. Adequate funds are required in order to execute the entire NYSC programme and its rural development projects in particular. Unlike the provision that NYSC Projects should be funded jointly by the NYSC Director, State and Local Govenments in the Second National Development plan, most NYSC rural development projects are funded solely by the various local councils while the Youth Corps members in conjunction with community members collaborate in initiating the projects, It is, therefore, recommended that for an effective execution of NYSC rural development projects, the authorities of the NYSC Scheme, and state governments and communities should all beinvolved in executing rural development projects.

7.2.7 Field Problems: The problems of poor medical care, lack of transportation and non-challant attitude on the part of some respondents were encountered. It is recommended that adequate publicity in terms of mass enlightenment is required to re-awaken would be respondents on the importance of researches. This would go a long way in changing their behavioural attitudes toward answering research questions whether in questionnaire or oral interviews.

There is also the need for researchers to make adequate medical or at least first-aid provisions for themselves before going to the field. This is necessary in view of the

inadequate or total lackof such facilities in some fields particularly rural areas. As a recommendation, also, the government should provide medical facilities to the nook and crannies of the country especially the rural areas.

It was also observed that there is an increasing cost of transportation.Considering the utmost importance of transportation in research, researchers should make adequate arrangements for transportation and that of their enumerators. This could be in the form of car hiring, or soliciting for assistance from authorities involved in the research.

7.3 NYSC Integrated Rural Development Project

The proper and effective execution of rural development projects in Katsina State by Youth Corps members is best achieved through extending development to rural areas. This is as confirmed by Corps members of Batagarawa local government who complained of insufficiency of manpower in execution of their wall - fencing of Batagarawa health centre. In order to alleviate this problem, result of this research shows that 30 respondents or 6.8 percent stated that the best way to propel rural development programme of the NYSC was by deploying more Youths Corps members to rural rather than urban centres.

In fact , another group of 13 respondents or 3.0 percent buttressed this assertion by stating that the problem of lack of manpower would be alleviated if a policy is made by NYSC directorate to deploy all Youths Corps members irrespective of disciplines or fields of specialisation to serve a compulsory term of service in the rural areas before possibly being

reposted to urban centres.

According to some NYSC officials interviewed, this is achievable if backing is given to the NYSC Directorate by a Decree of the Federal Government. According to them, "if the policy is made, all Youth Corps members can be deployed to rural areas for a period of six months after which certificate of rural service is issued. The certificate can also be given the legal backing for employers of labour not to employ any graduate without it". The NYSC Directorate must make sure that the Youth Corps member is not issued his final discharge certificate without the certificate of compulsory rural service. Through this, while more rural development programmes would be executed in the state and the country at large, the aim of the NYSC in National integration would also properly be achieved since youths would be exposed to rural environments in which they must learn to adapt.

In support of the presentation by the above respondents, another 148 respondents or 33.7 per cent of the total population suggested the adoption and full implementation of all the three suggestions by the 241, 30, and 13 respondents given above respectively. According to them, while Youth Corps members are forced to serve an initial term of their service year in the rural areas, majority of them should be retained in the rural areas with propably chances of being transferred from one rural part of the state to another rather than concentrating them in the urban centres.

In the same vein, rural development projects initiated the Corps member should be enhanced, encouraged, fully financed and monitored by the various governments in the state,

the local community members and their associations, as well as the NYSC secretariat. According to some local government officials and community members interviewed in Bakori and Matazu local government areas, the Federal department of rural development, Katsina State Ministry of rural development and water resources, Katsina State agricultural and rural development authority should also be incorporated into the NYSC rural development projects for effective performance as well as effective funding "monitoring and subsequently, evaluation".

Another group of respondents suggested a more radical way of improving NYSC participation in rural development. According to this group, the Youth Corps members should, immediatly after graduation from their universities, be called-up to designated Youth service camps where they will be orientated and distributed to sub-camps in all the local government areas of the state where they will be accomodated for the period of the service year. In this case the Corps members will be involved in only rural development project initiated and executed by them in collaboration with the various governments and the local community, while the NYSC secretariat oversees the projects. The Youth Corps members will be shared in groups of multi-sectoral areas of specialisation such that an inter-disciplinary learning process between the Corps members themselves would be set in motion. The groups will choose project sites in villages in the local government areas they serve. They will be transported from camp-to-site of work.

Although only 2, or 0.5 percent of our respondents opted for the camp-to-site system, it will provide a radical break-away from the present from the Youth service seen as urban-

bias backed by favouritism in deployment, Although, the new arrangement would be capital intensive, it will however be result oriented. It will require available transportation, construction of permanent orientation camps and sub-camps for accommodation, more manpower and other logistics such as feeding. However, it is result oriented because the youths, being grouped can be made to compete in areas such as qualitative and fast executed projects.

The new system will also provide for many vacancies for employment in generally two main ways. First, manpower must be employed to man the Permanent Camps and Sub-Camps from cleaners to camp Directorate. Second, there will be employment opportunities in ministries, departments and institutions in both private and public sectors that engage the services of Corps members all year through and replacing them with the subsequent tier to the detriment of employing full-time workers. These vacancies can be filled on permanent basis by the Youth Corps members after service.

The camp-to-site system also alleviates the fear of most Corps members of living in the communities they are posted to serve under the present system thereby leading to increase productivity from the psychologically comfortable youths. In the same way, problems of welfare of Corps members encountered in the state, particularly in terms of accommodation, would cease to exist.

In the categories of our respondents, however, only 5 or 1.1 percent did not offer any suggestion on how rural development programmes of the NYSC can be improved upon. In

this category were some community leaders and local government officials who in an interview stated that they did not see what the Youth service scheme had achieved since inception talk less of suggesting how one aspect of its programme could be refined. According to them "the scheme should be scrapped rather than being an avenue of wasting government funds and talents of young graduates who could have gone straight away to the productive sector than wasting a whole year doing nothing".

7.4 Conclusion

In conclusion, an attempt has been made in the above presentation to examine in a very critical manner, the concept of "Youth", the emergence of youth services all over the globe and the varied role they play in the overall socio-economic, political and technological development of less developed countries especially of the third world such as Nigeria. The youth service in rural development programme in the United State of America, Britain, Zimbabwe, India, Isreal, and Tanzania were discussed. A thorough presentation of facts as found in the present research has also been made. For instance, it has been found that the NYSC scheme in Katsina State is highly recognised by members of the society. This led to the host community's overwhelming support to Youth Corps members in their rural development programme. In the same way, it was found that there is continuity of projects initiated by a preceeding set of Youths Corps members in Katsina State. In the whole, the NYSC Scheme in Nigeria, particularly in Katsina State is very successful in all its rural development efforts. In fact, the scheme's Integrated Rural development has radically transformed the hitherto rural Katsina to a more modern one particularly in provision of health

care, rural water supply, rural electrification, roads, bridges, community halls and desertification.

NYSC ANTHEM

Youths obey the clarion call
Let us lift our nation high
Under the sun or in the rain
With dedication, and selflessness
Nigeria is ours, Nigeria we serve.

Members, take the great salute
Put the Nation first in all
With service and humility
NYSC For the noble Youths
Make Nigeria a great nation.

Far and near we come to serve
And to build our Fatherland
With oneness and loyalty
NYSC for unity
Hail Nigeria our great nation.

NYSC - THE PLEDGE

In pursuance of our aspiration to build a united, peaceful, prosperous, hate-free, egalitarian *society and a great nation and our motto "Service and Humility".*

I,

.....

(Name of Member)

Member of the National Youth Service Corps 19..... hereby pledge to follow at all times the

leadership of those in authority irrespective of their social and educational background and in particular I shall:-

(a) At all times and in all places think, act, regard myself and speak first as a Nigerian before anything else;

(b) Be proud of the fatherland, appreciate and cherish the culture, traditions, arts and languages of the nation;

(C)Be prepared to serve honestly, faithfully and, if need be, pay the resources of Nigeria;

(d) Be well-informed about the history, geography, economy and the resources of Nigeria;

(e) Regard fellow Nigerians as my brothers and sisters and myself as my 'Brother's keeper';

(f) Have a healthy attitude to work and play. I shall not only be ready to work in any part of the country to which I am deployed, but also genuinely identify myself with the problems and aspirations of the people of the areas in which I work;

(g) Tackle difficulties and challenges in a disciplined and self - reliant manner, constitutionally pursuing grievances and properly channeling such for redress;

(h) See myself always as a leader who must give effective leadership by my transparent honesty and selfless service;

(i) Detest and shun bribery and all forms of corruption and nepotism;

(j) Be courteous and polite to all and sundry;

(k) Be obedient without being slavish, and

(l) Always remember the motto and strive continuously to live up to the ideals of the National Youth Service Corps during and after my service year.

So help me God.

.....

Corps Member

NYSC Call Up No of Corps Member.....

State Registration No. Of Corps Member.....

Date.....

Sworn to at the National Youth Service Corps Orientation Camp.

This.....day of.....19.....

BEFORE ME

.....

CHIEF JUDGE

NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS DECREE 1993

Decree No. 51

[16th June 1993} Commencement.

THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT hereby decrees as follows:-

1. (1) There is hereby established a scheme to be known as the National Youth Service Corps (in this Decree referred to as "the Service Corps"). Establishment and objectives of the National Youth Service Corps.

2. The service corps shall with a view to -

(a) the proper encouragement and development of common ties among the youths of Nigeria;
(b) the promotion of national unity; and
(c) the development of the youths of Nigeria and Nigeria into a great and dynamic economy,

be charged with the functions as pertain to the objectives of the service corps set out in subsection (3) of this section.

(3) The objectives of the service corps shall be -

(a) to inculcate discipline in Nigerian youths by instilling in them a tradition of industry at work, and of patriotic and loyal service tc Nigeria in any situation they may find themselves;
(b) to raise the moraf tone of the Nigerian youths by giving them the opportunity to

learn about higher ideals of national achievement, social and cultural improvement;

(c) to develop in the Nigerian youths the attitudes of mind, acquired through shared experience and suitable training, which will make them more amenable to mobilisation in the national interest;

(d) to enable Nigerian youths acquire the spirit of self reliance by encouraging them to develop skills for self employment;

(e) to contribute to the accelerated growth of the national economy;

(f) to develop common ties among the Nigerian youths and promote national unity and integration;

(g) to remove prejudices, eliminate ignorance and confirm at first hand the many similarities among Nigerians of all ethnic groups; and

(h) to develop a sense of corporate existence and commom destiny of the people of Nigeria.

(4) In order to achieve the objectives in subsection (3) of this section, the service corps shall ensure -

(a) the equitable distribution of members of the service corps and the effective utilization of their skills in areas of national needs;

(b) that as far as possible, youths are assigned to jobs in States other than their States of origin;

(c) that such group of youths assigned to

work together is as representative of Nigeria as far as possible;

(d) that the Nigerian youths are exposed to the modes of living of the people in different parts of Nigeria;

(e) that the Nigerian youths are encouraged to eschew religious intolerance by accommodating religious defferences;

(f) that members of the service corps are encouraged to seek at the end of their one year national service, career employment all over Nigeria, thus promoting the free movement of labour;

(g) that employers are induced partly through their experience with members of the service corps to employ more readily and on a permanent basis, qualified Nigerians, irrespective of their States of origin.

Calling-up of members of service corps.

2. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Decree, every Nigerian shall -

(a) if, at the end of the academic year 1972-73 or, as the case may be, at the end of any subsequent academic year, he shall have graduated at any university in Nigeria; or

(b) if, at the end of the academic year 1974-75 or, as the case may be, at the end of any subsequent year, he shall have graduated at any university outside Nigeria; or

(c) if, at the end of the academic year 1975-76 or, as the case may be, at the end of any subsequent year, he shall have obtained the Higher National Diploma, or such other professional qualification as may be prescribed; or

(d) if, at the end of the academic year 1975-76 or, as the case may be, at the end of any subsequent academic year up to the end of the 1983-84 academic year, he shall have obtained the National Certificate of Education,

be under an obligation, unless exempted under subsection (2) of this section or section 17 of this Decree, to make himself available for service for a continuous period of one year from the date specified in the call-up instrument served upon him.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, with effect from 1st August, 1985, a person shall not be called upon to serve in the service corps if, at the date of his graduation or obtaining his diploma or other professional qualification -

(a) he is over the age of thirty; or
(b) he has served in the armed forces of the Federation or the Nigeria Police Force for a period of more than nine months; or
(c) he is member of staff of any of the following, that is -

(i) the Nigerian Security Organisation, or
(ii) the State Security Service, or
(iii) the National Intelligence Agency, or
(iv) the Defence Intelligence Service, or

(d) he has been conferred with any National Honour.

(3) A person liable to be called upon to serve in the service corps shall serve for a continuous period of one year as from the date specified in the call-up instrument served upon him or, as the case may be, if a general or special notice to that effect is given in the prescribed manner, and when so called upon, such person shall make himself available for service and shall present himself at such place and time and to such person or authority as may be specified in the instrument or notice.

(4) The President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces may, by Order published in the *Gazette*, extend the application of the provisions of subsection (1) of this section to other categories of Nigerians who shall have obtained such diplomas, certificates or other qualifications as may be prescribed in the Order from universities, colleges and other institutions of higher learning within or outside Nigeria, and the Order may specify different dates for call-up in relation to different categories of those affected or to be affected by the Order.

Establishment and constitution of the National Directorate

3.-(1) There shall be established, a National Directorate in the Presidency, (in this Decree referred to as "the Directorate") which shall be the governing body of the service corps

(2) The Directorate shall have a Governing Board which shall comprise the following ten members, to be appointed by the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, that is -

(a) a Chairman,

(b) one representative of the committee of Vice-Chancellors,

(c) one representative of the committee of Rectors of Polytechnics;

(d) one representative of the Chief of Army Staff;

(e) one representative of the Inspector-General of Police;

(f) one representative of the Nigerian Employers Consultative Association;

(g) three other persons, one of whom shall be a woman; and

(h) the Director-General.

(3) A member of the Directorate other than an *ex-officio* member shall hold office for a term of three years from the date of his appointment and shall be eligible for re-appointment for one further term only.

Principal functions of the Directorate.

4.-(1) the Directorate shall -

(a) draw up detailed programmes of training and schedules which shall be designed for achieving the objects of the service corps;

(b) ensure that such programmes and schedules are strictly adhered to;

(c) maintain regular contacts with all universities, polytechnics and colleges in Nigeria and abroad where applicable;

(d) assign members of the service corps to the programmed work in the States as provided by the Directorate;

(e) co-ordinate the work of the State Governing Boards in furtherance of the objects of this Decree;

(f) assess and review, from time to time, the progress of the service corps;

(g) make and submit all statutory and other reports as may be required of it to the Presidency.

(2) The Directorate may delegate any of its foregoing functions to a State Governing Board:

Provided that such delegation shall not prevent the Directorate from exercising the functions so delegated.

(3) Service in the Directorate is hereby declared as approved service within the meaning of the Pensions Act. Cap 346 LFN.

(4) The Directorate shall have power to appoint, (including power to appoint on promotion and transfer and of confirmation of appointments) advance, terminate and discipline employees holding or acting in any office in the Directorate.

Director-General of the service corps.

5.-(1) There shall be for the service corps, a Director-General who shall be appointed by the President, Commander-in Chief of the Armed Forces.

(2) The Director-General shall be the chief executive and shall be charged with general responsibility for matters affecting the day-to-day running of the service corps.

(3) The Director-General shall be assisted by Directors at the National Directorate Headquarters and State Co-ordinators at the State Headquarters.

Establishment and, functions of the State Governing Boards.

6.-(1) There is hereby established for each State, a National Youth Service Corps Governing Board with its office in the Office of the State Governor (in this Decree referred to as "the State Governing Board")

(2) The State Governing Board shall be responsible for -

(a) arranging and providing accommodation, boarding, transportation, and providing other facilities which are essential for the welfare of members of the service corps and for the success of the scheme in the State;

(b) assembling reports on members of the service corps and transmitting them to the Directorate;

(c) arranging the provision of facilities for orientation courses and winding-up exercises;

(d) compiling information on such opportunities as there may be for employment in the State;

(e) deploying members of the service corps within the State.

(3) The State Governing Board may delegate any of its functions specified in subsection (2) of this section to the National Youth Service Corps Local Government Committee established under section 8 of this Decree:

Provided that such delegation shall not prevent the State Governing Board from exercising the functions so delegated.

Membership of the State Governing Board

7.-(1) The State Governing Board in each State Shall consist of the following members, that is-

(a) a Chairman who shall be appointed by the State Governor;

(b) a member of the armed forces of the Federation;

(c) a member of the Nigeria Police Force;

(d) five other persons who shall be appointed from among persons concerned with the following sectors of the Nigerian economy at least one of whom shall represent-

(i) commerce and industry,

(ii) agriculture and natural resources

(iii) local government,

(iv) education; and

(e) the State Co-ordinator of the service corps.

(2) All members of the State Governing Board, with the exception of the State Co-ordinator, shall be appointed by the State Governor.

(3) The Governor of a State and the Chairman of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja shall be required to give to the State Governing Board a minimun annual subvention of N500,000 to enable it cater adequately for the welfare needs of corps members deployed to the State and such minimum subvention shall be provided before the commencement of the service year for which it is intended.

(4) Every State Government shall be required to provide such other facilities and contribute to the

implementation and achievement of the programmes and projects of the service corps in the State including but not limited to land for agriculture, orientation camps and transportation facilities.

Establishment and functions of the National Youth Service Corps Local Government Committee and the State Zonal Offices etc.

8.-(1) There is hereby established in each Local Government Area of a State, a National Youth Service Corps Local Government Committee (in this Decree referred to as "the Committee") with its office in the office of the Chairman of the Local Government.

(2) The members of the Committee shall comprise -

(a) the Chairman of the Local Government as the Chairman;

(b) a traditional ruler;

(c) a representative of the Nigeria Police Force;

(d) a representative each of the following Ministries, that is -

(i) education,

(ii) health,

(iii) social welfare and community department;

(iv) the private sector, and

(e) the National Youth Service Corps Zonal Inspector.

(3) The Committee established by subsection (1) of this section shall have responsibility to-

(a) provide for the welfare needs of corps members deployed to the Local Government Area;

(b) arrange for the collection of corps members at the end of the orientation

course and return them for purpose of the winding up exercise;

(c) assist in the selection of the National Youth Service corps Honours Award Winners at the Local Government level;

(d) ensure the security of corps members deployed to the Local Government Area;

(e) guide and ensure the effective cultural integration of corps members deployed to the Local Government Area; and

(f) develop and execute integrated programmes for the development and transformation of the Local Government Area through various community development projects.

(4) A Local Government shall be required to-

(a) make financial provisions in its annual budget for disbursement to the Committee in its area of jurisdiction for purposes of the effective discharge of its functions as specified in this section; and

(b) through the Committee, provide the following, that is-

(i) welfare facilities including transport for the inspection of corps members,

(ii) adequate accommodation; and

(iii) material resources for community development services.

(5) Notwithstanding the establishment of the Committee there is hereby established the State Zonal Offices (in this Decree referred to as "Zonal Office") and shall-

(a) comprise a number of Local Government Areas as may be determined from time to time;

(b) be headed by a member of Staff of the Directorate to be known as the Zonal Inspector; and

(c) co-ordinate the activities of the service corps in the zone.

Placing of members of the service corps.

9.-(1) The Directorate shall determine the place and time each person qualified to be registered under the provisions of this Decree shall be deployed.

(2) The Directorate shall register each member of the service corps and shall deploy him for national service in the following undertakings and projects, that is, in -

(a) hospitals;
(b) road construction;
(c) farming;
(d) water schemes;
(e) surveying and mapping;
(f) Social and economic services;
(g) teaching;
(h) food storage and eradication of pest;
(i) rehabilitation of destitutes and the disabled;
(j) development of sports;
(k) all government departments and statutory corporations suitable for new graduates;
(l) development projects of local councils;
(m) the private sector of the Nigerian economy; and
(n) such other undertakings and projects as the President, Commander-in-Chief

of the Armed Forces may, by order, determine.

(3) For the purposes of this section, priority shall be given to service in any of the undertakings or projects mentioned in subsection (2) of this section situated within such appropriate urban or rural areas of the Federation as may be selected by the Directorate.

(4) Before placing any member of the service corps in any of the undertakings or projects aforementioned, the Directorate shall take into consideration the qualifications of each member, vacancies then existing, and priorities of national needs.

(5) In the discharge of its functions under this section, the Directorate shall not be compelled in any manner whatsoever to deploy a member of the service corps to any particular undertaking or project.

(6) An employer of corps members, whether in the private or public sector, pursuant to the provisions of this section, shall be required to expose the corps members to gainful working experience.

Evaluation and report on members of the service Corps.

10.-(1) The Directorate shall cause quarterly returns and reports on each member of the service corps to be compiled by such officers including training officers as it may designate.

(2) The quarterly reports of each member of the service corps shall show -

(a) the extent of his interest in the undertaking or project;

(b) the degree of comradeship he engenders

amongst his fellow corps members and the people within the community he is serving or has served;

(c) industry at work, resourcefulness and initiative;

(d) character, address, temperament and integrity;

(e) leadership and readiness to accept responsibility;

(f) special contributions to the host community; and

(g) any other information which may assist in evaluating the character of each member of the service corps.

Certificate of National Service

11. The Directorate shall, on completion of the service of a member of the service corps unless such person is exempted under section 17 of this Decree, issue him with a Certificate of National Service which shall contain such particulars as may be prescribed.

Production of Certificate for employment purposes

12.-(1) For the purposes of employment anywhere in the Federation and before employment, it shall be the duty of every prospective employer to demand and obtained from any person who claims to have obtained his first degree at the end of the academic year 1973-74 or, as the case may be, at the end of any subsequent academic year the following -

(a) a copy of the Certificate of National Service of such person issued pursuant to section 11 of this Decree;

(b) a copy of any exemption certificate issued to such person pursuant to section 17 of this Decree; and

(c) such other particulars relevant thereto as may be prescribed by or under this Decree.

(2) It shall also be the duty of every employer to produce on demand to police officer, not below the rank of an Assistant Superintendent of Police, any such certificate and particulars or copies thereof.

Offences and penalties, etc.

13.-(1) Any person -

(a) who fails to report for service in the service corps in the manner directed by the Directorate or as the case may be, prescribed pursuant to the provisions of this Decree; or

(b) who refuses to make himself available for service in the service corps continuously for the period specified in subsection (2) of this section,

is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of N2,000 or to imprisonment for a term of 12 months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(2) Any person who -

(a) under the provisions of this Decree is not eligible to participate in the service corps so participates or attempts to so participate is guilty of an offence; or

(b) having served in the service corps and has been duly issued with a Certificate of National Service or Certificate of Exemption as the case may be and is not

eligible to serve under the same service corps so participates or attempts to so participate is guilty of an offence,

and liable on conviction to a fine of N4,000 or to imprisonment for a term of 2 yeas or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(3) Any person who fails to comply with or who contravenes or causes or aids or abets another to contravene any provision of this Decree (not being a provision relating to the calling up of members of the service corps) is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of N5,000 or imprisonment for a term of three years or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(4) Any person who -

(a) in giving any information for the purposes of this Decree, knowingly or recklessly makes a statement which is false; or

(b) forges or uses or lends to or allows to be used other than in the manner provided by this Decree by any other person any certificate issued pursuant to the provision of this Decree; or

(c) makes, or has in his possession any document so closely resembling any certificate so issued as to be calculated to deceive,

is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of N5,000 or to imprisonment for a term of three years or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(5) Where an offence under subsection (3) of this section which has been committed by a body corporate is

proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of, any director, manager, secretary or other official of the body corporate, or any person purporting to act in such capacity, he as well as the body corporate shall be deemed to be guilty of that offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

Illegal wearing of Service corps uniform

14. Any person who not being a person serving in the service corps or duly authorised so to do, wears the uniform or any part of the uniform of the service corps is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of N1,000 or to imprisonment for a term of six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Annual reports and accounts.

15.-(1) The Directorate shall prepare and submit to the Presidency not later than 31st December in every year an estimate of its expenditure and income during the next succeeding year.

(2) The Directorate shall keep proper accounts in respect of each year, and proper records in relation to those accounts and shall cause the accounts to be audited as soon as may be after the end of the year to which the accounts relate by a firm of auditors appointed from the list of auditors and in accordance with guideline supplied by the Auditor-General of the Federation.

(3) The Directorate shall prepare and submit to the Presidency not later than 30th June in each year, a report in such form as the Presidency may direct on the activities of the Directorate during the previous year, and shall include in the report, a copy of the audited accounts of the Directorate for the previous year and of the auditor's report on those accounts.

(4) The Presidency shall cause a copy of the report made under this section to be laid before the National Defence and Security Council.

Regulations

16.-(1) The President, Commander-in-Chief may make such regulations as may be necessary or expedient for the purposes of achieving the objects of this Decree, and in particular, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provisions -

(a) for the proper functioning and conduct of the work of the service corps;

(b) setting out the programmes and schedules for the training of the members of the service corps;

(c) specifying the procedure for call-up and the manner in which notification of call-up shall be made to members and prospective members thereof;

(d) for providing funds for the use of the Directorate;

(e) for the procedure for determining the medical fitness or otherwise of persons to be called up and the manner in which such matter shall be determined; and

(f) other matters (unless it is otherwise provided expressly) required to be prescribed by this Decree.

(2) The Directorate, may with the approval of the President, Commander-in-Chief make bye-laws for the proper administration of the service corps, and in particular -

(a) governing th pa neration, allowances an nts and expenses of tl aff d; and

(b) in relation to the general discipline, control and welfare to members of the service corps.

Exemptions from and deferment of service, etc.

17.-(1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the Directorate may, with the prior approval of the National Defence and Security Council, by an order published in the *Gazette* exempt any person from all or any of the provisions of this Decree, and may subject thereto and with such approval impose, in relation to any exemption, such conditions as it may think fit.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1) of this section and with the approval of the National Defence and Security Council, the Directorate may, on being satisfied that there is reasonable cause for so doing by an order, defer the calling-up of any person or category of persons liable to be called up for service in the service corps for such period as may be specified in the order, and may subject to such approval reduce or extend the period of service specified in section 2 of this Decree in relation to the service of any person category of persons liable to be called up.

(3) Where an order is made for an exemption of any person it shall be the duty of the Directorate to issue to that person a Certificate of Exemption in the prescribed form, and for the purposes of this section, where the service of any person in the service corps is deferred or where the period of service is extended or reduced, as the case may be, pursuant to subsection (2) of this section , a Certificate of Exemption setting out such particulars or the prescribed particulars shall be issued to such person.

Employer to take account of period of service in the service corps.

18.-(1) An employer of corps members shall, in determining the seniority of and the salary or other remuneration, pension and gratuity payable to a graduate who has completed a period of service corps and been duly discharged therefrom, take account of that period of service, and such salary or other remuneration, pension and gratuity shall not be less than that normally due to a graduate in comparable employment for the same period as the duration of the first mentioned graduate's service in the service corps.

(2) An employer of corps members shall provide the following, that is -

(a) basic accommodation and where it is not available, pay the minimum sum of N250 per month *in lieu* of accommodation;

(b) all welfare facilities normally provided for the regular staff including medical service; and

(c) transport or where it is not available, pay the minimum sum of N150 per month *in lieu* of transport.

Protection of members, etc. Cap 379 LFN.

19. The Public Officers Protection Act shall apply to every member of the service corps and to any other person employed under any undertaking or project for the duration of his service in the service corps.

Appeals 1979 No. 17

20. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 19 of this Decree any person aggrieved by any decision of the Directorate or by the exercise by the Directorate of any power under this Decree shall have the right of appeal to the Presidency in the first instance and the Presidency may, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this

Decree and subject to the approval of the National Defence and Security Council, confirm or reverse the decision of the Directorate or take such further measures in relation to the appeal as he may think just before any action may be commenced in any court of law in Nigeria.

Repeal and savings, Cap. 285 LFN.

21.-(1) The National Youth Service Corps Act is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section -

(a) all the amendments to the repealed enactment and all the subsidiary instruments made thereunder shall be deemed to have been made under this Decree; and

(b) any call up letter, register kept, registration effected, certificate issued, notice given, return made or thing done under the repealed enactment which immediately before the date of commencement of this Decree was in force or effect shall continue in force and have effect as if made, kept, effected, issued, given, made or done under the corresponding provisions of this Decree; and

(c) any form used and the requirement as to the particulars to be entered in any form for the purposes of the repealed enactment which was in force or effect immediately before the date of commencement of this Decree shall continue in force and have effect as things prescribed under this Decree with forms or particulars are so prescribed.

22. In this Decree unless the context otherwise requires - Interpretation.

"academic year" means the year of graduation;

"Chairman of the Federal Capital Territory" includes the Mayor of the Federal Capital Territory;

"Committee" means the National Youth Service Corps Local Government Committee established by section 8 of this Decree;

"Directorate" means the body established by section 3 of this Decree;

"membership of the Directorate" means the membership as provided for by section 3 of this Decree;

"member of the service corps" means a person registered as a member of the service corps;

"service corps" means the National Youth Service Corps established by section 1 of this Decree;

"State Governing Board" means the National Youth Service Corps Governing Board established by section 6 of this Decree;

"State Committee" means a National Youth Service Corps Local Government Committee set up under section 6 of this Decree;

"Presidency" means the office of the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

(2) For the purposes of this Decree, the reference to a "member of the service corps" includes, unless the context otherwise requires or it is otherwise expressly provided, a prospective member of the service corps or any person who is registered as a member.

23. This Decree may be cited as the National Youth Service Corps Decree 1993. Citation.

MADE at Abuja this 16th day of June 1993

GENERAL I. B. BABANGIDA,
President, Commander-in-Chief
of the Armed Forces,
Federal Republic of Nigeria.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note does not form part of the above Decree but is intended to explain its purport)

The Decree, among other things -

(a) repeals the National Youth Service Corps Act;
(b) specifies other objectives of the service corps; and
(c) specifies better conditions of service for corps members.

APPENDIX C

Department of Sociology
Ahmadu Bello University
Zaria.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Respondent,

I am a Ph D Student conducting a research on the Role of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) scheme in Rural Development in Katsina State, 1973-1993. Although the research is purely an academic exercise, it may help in future policy formulation by the government and/or the National Directorate of the NYSC.

As part of your contribution to the success of the research, you are please requested to answer the following questions by making a tick ( ) against the appropriate answer.

While I assure you that the information you will supply will be handled in strict confidence, your cooperation will highly be appreciated.

Thanking you in anticipation of your cooperation.

Abdullahi, Lawal Faskari.

1. Local Government Area.....
2. Town/Place/Waard.....
3. Which category do you belong to:
   a. NYSC official
   b. Youth Corps Member
   c. Government Official
   d. Community member
4. Sex
   a. Male
   e. Female
5. What is your age bracket?

a. 15 - 20 years
b. 20 - 25 years
c. 25 -30 years
d. 30 - 35 years
e. 35 - 40 years
f. 40 - 45 years
g. 45 years and above

6. What is your marital status?
a. Single
b. Married
c. Widow
d. Widower
e. Divorced

7. What is your educational qualification?
a. Quaranic education
b. Primary School
c. Secondary School/TC II
Post- Secondary
e. Others(please specify)

8. For how long have you lived in this Community?
a. Less than a year
b. 1-2 years
c. 2-5 years
d. 5-8 years
e. 8-11 years
f. 11 years and above

9. Are you aware of the presence of NYSC members in your community?
a. Yes
b. No.

10. Where are you deployed for your Primary assignment?
a. Rural
b. Urban centre

11. How do your Community recognise and assess the importance of Youth Corps members in your area?
a. Highly recognised
b. Just recognised
c. Unrecognised
d. Highly unrecognised

12. Are corps members involved in all rural development programme in your area?
a. Yes
b. Not always
c. No.

13. Do you participate in any development activity in this community?
a. Yes
b. Not always
c. No.

14. If your answer to question 13 is 'Yes', who initiate the development project you participate in?

a. Government b. Community members

c. Youth Corps members

15. If your answer to question No is "No", are you aware of such development activities being carried out in your community?

a. Yes b. No.

16. If your answer to question 15 is 'Yes', who undertakes them?

a. Youth Corps members in junction with the government and Community associations

b. Youth Corps members c. Communuty Associations

17. In which type of these activities do you participate in most?

a. Provision of Public Utilities such as Culverts, Dams, Town Halls, Post Office, Schools, Dispensaries etc.

b. Maintenace of Public Utilities such as Power Supply Units, Boreholes, Wells etc.

c. Health and Sanitation Services

d. Literacy Campaign

e. Agricultural development programme

f. Mass enligtement (political education, awareness and citizen participation campaigns such as National Census, Elections, Immunization etc

g. Establishment of Factories

h. Fabrication of tools

I All of the above

18. How effective are corps members participation in the development of the comunity?

a. Very effective b. Just effective

c. Not effective d. Strongly not effective

19. Do the community assist Youth Corps members in executing development activities in your area?

a. Yes b. No.

20. How effective do Youth Corps members utilise the assistance given them by the

Community?

a. Very effective
b. Just effective
c. Not effective
d. Strongly not effective

21. Is the numbeer of Youth Corps Members posted to the area you serve sufficient enough to execute a tangible development activity?

a. Yes.
b. No

22. Do second -tier Youth Corps members continue with development projects initiated by their predecessors in your area?

a. Yes.
b. No.

23. What type of rural development activity is undertaken most by Youth Corps Members in your area?

a. Provision of rural welfare services e.g
   i. Manninf of rural Medical and Health Care
   ii Manning of rural Water Supply
   iii Manning of rural Electricity
b. Provision of rural infrastructure e.g Construction of culvert, Roads, Bridges, Town Halls, Rural Houses etc.
c. Mass enlightenment e.g
   i Extra-mural classes
   ii Participation in general elections
   iii Public enlightenment on Population census
   iv Expanded programme on Immunization, ORT and Health -related programmes
d. Establishment of Fatories.
e. Fabrication of Machines and Tools.

24. Where are most Corps Members serving in this State deployed for Primary assignment?

a. Rural area
b. Urban Centres

25. Dose the posting of most Corps members to Urban Centres have any negative effect on the success of the NYSC Scheme in rural development?

a Yes
b. No.

c. Can't say

26 How successful is the NYSC programme in your Community?

a. Very successful b. Successful

c. Unsuccessful d Very unsuccessful

27. If the NYSC is not successful, what is responsible for the failure?

a. Development of Corps members to Urban Centres

b Insufficiency of assistance and encouragement given to Corps Members by the Community and local government.

c. Insufficient number of Corps Members in the area.

d. Corps Members non-Performance

e. None Utilisation of assistance received from local community by Corps members

f. All of the above

g. Others, please specify.

28. What do you suggest to overcome the problem?

a. Communities should improve their assistance and encouragements to Youth Corps Members

b. More Youth Corps Members to be posted to the rural areas

c. Youth Corps members should double up their efforts.

d. Youth Corps Members should make maximum use of assistance given to them.

e. All of the above.

29. What are your your suggestions for improving the NYSC participation in rural development?

a. Both the government, NYSC officials and the local community must integrate and improve their assistance to Corps Members to enable them perform better.

b. More Youth Corps Members to be deployed to rural areas rather than Urban Centres.

c. All youth Corps Members to server an initial term of service in rural areas.

d. All of the above.

e. Others, please specify.....

30. Please comment fully on any issue you may wish to on the research topic.

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