TITLE PAGE

EVALUATION OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATION (CBOs) TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITIES IN NIGERIA

(A Study of Offa Local Government Area, Kwara State)

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DECLARATION

I declare that the work in the thesis entitled "Evaluation of the Contributions of Community based Organisation to the Development of Committee in Nigeria, A Study of Offa Local Government Area", has been performed by me, in the Department of Local Government Studies under the supervision of Dr. Bello Ohiani and Bashir Jumare. The information derived from the literature has been duly acknowledged in the text and a list of references provided. No part of this thesis was previously presented for another degree or diploma in any other institution.

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CERTIFICATION

This thesis entitled "Evaluation of the Contributions of Community based Organisation to the Development of Committee in Nigeria" (A Study of Offa Local Government Area), written by Bashir Dere meets the regulations governing award of the degree of Master of Public Administration M.P.A (LG) of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria.

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my late father, Alhaji Gbadamosi Olateju Opadere, and the entire Opadere's family for their total commitment and support. May the Almighty Allah in His infinite mercy reward them abundantly. Amen.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am greatly indebted to many for ensuring the successful completion of this work. First and foremost the Almighty Allah (Subhanal Wata'alah), the Beneficent and the Most Merciful for giving me the strength to undergo this programme successfully.

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ABSTRACT

Evaluation of the Contribution of Community Based Organisation (CBOs) to the Development of Communities in Nigeria (A Study of Offa Local Government Area Kwara State), these CBOs provide socio-economic facilities for the common benefit of the community. This type of organization has been in existence in Offa Local Government Area even before the creation of the Local Government in 1991. In the past, these CBOs have contributed immensely to the socio-economic development of Offa LGA by the provision of schools, community health centres, feeder roads, market stalls, motor parks etc but of recent we have notice a decline in the performance of these organizations. Our research problem is therefore the poor performance of these CBO's. The objectives of this study among others therefore, are to find out the immediate and remote causes of this problem. In doing this, two assumptions were postulated. The study mostly used secondary data, and supplemented by primary data. Simple percentages were used to analyze data collected. Our major findings among others are that the poor performance of these CBOs is due to the poor working relationship between them and the local government particularly financial assistance. We recommend that Offa Local Government should assist these CBOs in order for them to perform and achieve their objectives.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The use of Community Based Organizations for development is a process of social action in which the people of a community will organize themselves for planning and action. They execute their plans with maximum reliance upon community resources and supplement these resources, with services and material from outside. However, CBOs approach to self-help involves the fullest participation of all members' in the decision making process. Participation of local people in Community Based Organizations (CBO's) activities is an act involving residents in a project which requires a democratic approach.

The belief is that, all members make their contributions to decisions which affect them. Indeed, people are more likely to be committed to a rural project, if they are involved in its planning and implementation because they are more likely to identify themselves with its use and regard it as their project, Ugal (1992:29). It is therefore usually observed that projects undertaken by CBOs are always successful especially as most members would not like to be associated with failure.

The activities of CBO's in Offa Local Government became so important because there seems to be a breakdown of public institutions that could cater for people's welfare in the area. The spirit of coming together to develop their community without waiting for government had been with the people for a very long time even before the creation of the state, a pointer to the above is the creation of Offa Descendent Union in 1936.

A weak state, and insensitivity to people's yarning and aspirations by the government had made the people to suffer a lot of neglect in terms of development. Politically, the people of this area are always in the opposition, they hardly vote for the party that controlled the state, therefore, successive civilian government apart from the military government had denied the local government one form of social facilities or the other. All the above, have strengthened the people's spirit of coming together for their own development, however, the good performance of the first community organization in the area as mentioned above, led to the proliferation of other CBO's.

In Offa Local Government, the performance of community organizations cannot be dismissed with mere wave of hand. The coming together of the people to form organizations is the bases of popular participation in

development. CBOs provided facilities like; roads, culverts, bridges, hall, water projects. Furthermore, they have engaged in democratic system of promoting community development activities this is because these organizations are closer to the majority of the people in the community and members of these organizations are also from the same community.

CBO's serve as channel of communication between the people and government. On the other hand, government also seeks the support of the people in its programmes and policies through community based organizations. This has been the case with CBOs in Offa LGA where the state and local government penetrate the community for support through Offa Descendent Union. Looking at the various areas mentioned above, one can see that the role of CBOs covers substantial aspects of socio-economic and physical development of Offa LGA. To start with, they are the founder of many of the primary and secondary schools in Offa e.g Iyeru Primary School, Ansar-un-deen Primary School, Offa Grammar School founded in 1943, Offa Community Girls Secondary in 1955, Saint Clares Girls Secondary School 1963. They also successfully agitated for the building of General Hospital in Offa. They are also the brain behind the construction of Owode market which is currently the major sources of income to the entire people of Offa Local Government and its environs. In line with the above, a

community Newspaper Ijakadi (2004:48) revealed that Offa Community has eighteen secondary schools and six primary schools built by Community Based Organizations and some private individuals. In the same vein, women in Offa came together to form Women Development Association with a view to uplifting the general condition of living of its members. From the foregoing, the activities and achievements of CBOs appear to be impressive.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Local governments were created and entrenched in our constitution as the third tier of government in order to bring government nearer to the people and provide the much needed social infrastructural to the rural areas where majority of Nigerian reside. But this dream cannot be achieved with the little resources available to the local government; coupled with the complexity and scope of responsibilities it has to perform. This therefore calls for intensive self help efforts to enhance the living condition of the people.

However, their efforts at developing the rural communities through self-help projects are facing some considerable setbacks. For example, despite their self commitment attitude towards project implementation, quite a lot of the projects have been abandoned due to lack of funds or other relevant resources. Some projects turned out to be completed useless to the community as a result of improper planning. Finally, it is a common

knowledge that self-help efforts are more effective in meeting the needs of certain communities than others.

Community based organization can rightly be called asset of the community; we observed that this asset is on the decline. We went round the local government and discovered that many of these organizations are mostly disconnected from any external, technical or financial assistance, they have invested their meager resources on projects their financial capacity cannot with stand, some built health clinics without drugs or health personnel, schools building without teaching materials, infact many uncompleted projects are found in the local government to the extent that one wonder what is actually wrong with these organizations. Therefore, this study was design to evaluate the contributions of CBOs in self-help projects in the study area.

As stated in the previous page that the spirit of coming together to form community organization/union or association has been with the people of Offa Local Government for a very long period even before the local government was created. In some societies, the formation of CBO's over the years is a response to the poor performance of state and local governments in terms of service delivery. To this end, various community based

organizations sprang up in Offa LGA. This is because people's reliance on government to provide all their needs is no longer tenable.

It is pertinent to mention at this juncture, that these organizations contributed to the development of Offa Community according to their felt need at one time or the other. It may be correct to say that all their contributions are geared towards the same goal that is improving the socio-economic conditions of the people.

Despite these accomplishments, many CBO's have rise and fall while some have no significant impact since their establishment. Indeed, one would expect an increase in the contributions of these CBO's to Offa LGA, alas, from year 2002, the situation changed for bad. Consequently, some of their projects cannot be completed due to depletion of financial resources to finish them. The little that they struggled to complete, could not be maintained due to poor planning and miscalculation of the needed resources for the implementation of the projects. In the course of our investigation, we discovered that many of these CBOs did not put the maintenance of some of these projects into consideration in their project planning.

It is pertinent to state here that many of these CBOs in Offa LGA more often than not failed to bring the local government into the picture when these

projects were being planned for execution. After the completion of these projects, it was then that they drew the attention of this local government to the maintenance aspect. On many occasions, the local government had been unable to measure up to this expectation due to their own limited financial resources.

People participation in the implementation of some of the CBO programmes has been very low. Their activities in the community no more attract public attention like before. Even within the CBOs, members have shown lukewarm attitude to the affairs and activities of some of these organizations, to the extent that very few members attend their weekly or monthly meetings.

Community based organizations are often the only organizations the poor feel they own, trust and rely upon. Most of these organizations differ in their access to opportunity and resources. CBOs in Offa LGA are responsive to local needs, but some of them have been dominated by the better off and ultimately exclude the poor in the community. While they gave assistance to some members, the track record of accountability of some of the officials of these organizations is not encouraging. Although they are known for providing social infrastructural development for the community, but most of

the facilities provided were not bringing any sustainable changes, for instances, Health centres were built without health personnel and medical drugs, the nutrition activities by these CBOs is of no use because people cannot afford it due to their level of poverty.

The poor financial situation of the country has even compounded the issue coupled with lack of financial assistance from the state and local government, CBOs in Offa LGA cannot continue with self-help projects. Many of them are no more in existence, while some of them now exist only on paper and premises. Infact, some have leaders without members, while some have members without leaders which suggest they are dead. The few that exist are inactive in terms of socio-economic activities. Therefore, the following research questions are pertinent to be stated thus:

a. To what extent have CBOs in Offa Local Government Area contributed to the development of the area?
b. To what extent does poor finding affects the CBO's contributions to the development of local government area?
c. What are the programmes and project put in place by CBOs for Offa Local Government Area development?
d. Does the CBOs in Offa Local Government Area have the capacity for community development?
e. What other factors hindered these CBOs towards community development?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

This study is intended to assess the contributions of community based organizations to the development of Offa Local Government Area of Kwara State, and why in recent time they have fallen below people's expectations. The specific objectives include:

i. To evaluate the contributions of CBO's to the development of Offa Community over the years.

ii. To identify the remote and immediate causes of their decline in performance as agent of change.

iii. To suggest new approaches to development in the local government, the state, and Nigeria generally.

1.4 Assumptions

There are two assumptions used in this study.

1. The poor performance of community based organizations in Offa LGA in terms of socio-economic facilities can partly be attributed to the poor working relationship between them and the local government.

2. That the level or extent of CBO achievements in contributing to the socio-economic development of Offa LGA is a function of members participation in the organizations activities.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

In this study, we shall examine the activities of these organizations in Offa LGA particularly their various contributions to the development of the area. We shall also examine continued reduction in their activities and possibly the reasons behind this. The study covers the period between 2002-2007. The whole five years was under a democratic dispensation. This period is also chosen because it was the period when many of the CBO's started disintegrating their impacts was no more felt. Indeed, many of these CBO's are on the verge of collapse.

Other specific issues addressed in this study are as follow:

a. Identification of community felt needs.

b. Preparation of development plan and annual budgets to provide for the felt needs.

c. Resource mobilization and management for budget/project implementation.

d. Physical implementation of projects in line with community plan/budget.

e. Impact of the projects on the socio-economic life of the people in the areas of:

   - Primary and secondary education

- Primary health care
- Water supply

f. Relationship between CBOs and Offa Local Government in terms of financial, material and technical support.

1.6 Significance of the Study

There have been many studies done on community based organizations, particularly on their role in the economic development of Nigeria. Albert (2009) "The Role of Community based Organization in Economic Development in Nigeria: The Case of Oshogbo Osun State, Nigeria has been descriptive with statistical analysis used to determine the relationship between capital bases of the CBO's and the number of members, and the amount that each CBO could loan to members respectively. His findings revealed among others, that all the CBO's generated their funds primarily from members contributions, and fund raised from public. Few of them acknowledge seeking additional funds from non-governmental organizations.

Specifically, the study emphasized the dependence of the CBOs on internal generated funds to finance their programmes, there was no mentioning of external existence, this study therefore is of the view that these CBO's

should not totally depend on financial contributions from members alone to finance their programmes, they should look outward for financial assistance from donor agencies, NGO's and the local government. The external financial assistance from the above organizations could go a long way in improving their financial base and there by improve their performance.

The conclusion one can immediately draw from these studies is that inspite of the proliferation of community based organizations in Nigeria, their contributions to the development of Nigeria has fallen short of expectation. In this study, we intend to examine their contributions and find out why they have been performing below people's expectations. Therefore, the study will be an invaluable contribution to knowledge in the field of development administration, and serve as a springboard or influence further research work in the area of community development.

Policy makers will appreciate this study from the point of view of using community based organization as a strategy for development. This will assist policy makers in the process of policy formulation for development i.e this study will serve as a useful literature for scholars who may wish to explore further into strategies for administration of development.

1.7 Definition of Concepts

From our analyses of the statement of the problem and the proposition mentioned in section 1.6 we need to operationally define some concepts that are used in the proposition. These are: evaluation, member participation, working relationship, performance, community based organization, social economic development and social economic facilities.

1.7.1 Evaluation

According to Soumails (1977), evaluation means the systematic and objective way of estimating the worth, quality, importance, relevance, performance of some things or someone or an activity with a view to pricing, rating, correcting, improving or changing it. In another word; Akin (1979) defined evaluation as the act of considering something, to decide how useful or valuable it is. In line with the above, Bamidele (1994:25) asserts that evaluation is a process of gathering information in order to aid judgment on the effectiveness of a programme or events. In the same development, Kolawole (1998:19) saw it as a way of giving value judgment on the worth of a programme, project, or event which has been in existence for some time, this can be further use to make a pronouncement or feedback on programme, project. For the purpose of this study, we shall be looking at evaluation of the contributions of CBOs to the development of communities

in Nigeria as effectiveness, success, or otherwise of a programme, project or activities. In this wise, we are concerned about the activities of community based organizations and ascertain if they are still active, this demand placing emphasis on the evaluation of their programmes.

1.7.2 **Members Participation**

To complement government effort and facilitates development in their area, people come together to form community based organizations. Otherwise known as grassroots organization the success or otherwise of these organizations depending largely on members participation in the day to day activities of their organizations. Samuel (1986:17) posit that in the context of development, members participation refers to an active process whereby members of an organization influence the direction and execution of development of project rather than merely receives a share of projects benefits. Active members participation in the activities of their organizations will improve the use of local knowledge, increase project acceptability, promote local resource mobilization, and ensure project sustainability. In his own contribution, Andrew (1996) assert that members participation makes the community members to harnest their opinions and work together toward the success of their organizations. This means that through direct members participation, important development projects can be initiated, planned and

executed as speedily as possible using the available human, material and other resource which are readily available in the community.

1.7.3 **Working Relationship**

Working relationship is a kind of relationship that two people, institutions, organizations or group have in the process of carrying out a function or activity. There are many working relationships which exist within organizations either formal or informal, how effective these relationships are can play a significant role in dictating the overall effectiveness of the organizations or business. According to Hilton (2000:21) working relationship can mean those between the company and its customers/suppliers, those between the manager and his workforce, those between colleagues in each department of an organization. Regardless of the nature of the relationship, there are a number of factors which can determine whether these relationships are healthy, productive ones or whether they will have a detrimental effect on the organization. Roland (1999:19) posit that there are all kinds of ideas about what working relationship should be, but the fact remains that it does influence quality, speed and satisfaction.

For the purpose of this study, we are looking at working relationship between community based organizations and the local government. The

effectiveness of relationship between the two can have a direct impact on the overall success of community based organizations in the local government.

1.7.4 **Performance**

MacDonald (1976:20) defined performance as an act of performing, or carrying out of something, something done, or a piece of work done. Performance is what we do to figure out what to do. John (2006:10) has various views on performance; performance is the result of activities of an individual or group in an organization. Good performance is the criterion whereby an organization determines its capability to prevail. We can measure a performance of an organization in order to know the parameters under which programs, investment, and acquisitions are reaching the targeted results. Mckenzie (1998) is of the opinion that definition of performance in so difficult that the further you research the more contradicting performance become to it previous definitions.

We define performance as something done, a piece of work, an act or action we shall be looking at performance not just a mere carrying out of something, but how effective and successful are the actions of these community organizations in the previous of social service to their people.

1.7.5 **Community Based Organization**

Community based organizations otherwise known as local organizations have been given different definitions. In line with this Agboola (1998:25) described them as associations, neighborhood councils and united communities among others. Similar to the above description of CBO's, Olowu (1990:17) added that community based organizations could also be known as community development association, union, club, voluntary association etc., He went further to say that they are organizations with the characteristics of being private as opposed to being public in orientation, independent of the state or government control but firmly attached to the society.

In similar contribution; Abegunde (2004;41) says community based organizations are set up by collective efforts of indigenous people of homo or heterogeneous attributes but living or working within the same environment. Their coming together creates conditions which broaden the base of self governance and diffusion of power through a wider circular of the population. To many, Adeyemo (1971:32) says, they are seen as voluntary, non-profit, non-governmental and highly localized or neighborhood institutions whose membership is placed on equal level and

whose main goal is the improvement of the social and economic well being of every member.

1.7.6 Social Economic Development

The term socio economic development does not lend itself to a single universal definition. It is popularly looked at from two main perspectives, some people regard it as increase in total goals and services produced by the people of a nation over a specific period of time.

According to Poston (1970:29) socio economic development is a multidimensional process which include reorganization, and reorientation of the entire social and economic systems of a given society for the improvement of the general living standard.

1.7.7 Social Economic Facilities

Social Economic Facilities means the provision of social infrastructures like; power, roads, water, security, good environment etc for the improvement of the general living standard of the people.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.0 Introduction

This chapter examines the various elements of community organizations. It attempts to review the various perspectives that tend to explain the relationship between the various actors in development. The chapter therefore covers the following areas:

i. Community based organization and physical development in Nigeria and other countries.

ii. Review of related issues on development.

iii. Government efforts towards community based organization.

iv. Community Based Organization (CBO) as distinct from Non-Governmental Organization (NGO).

v. Community based organization and local government: Actors in community development.

vi. Highlight of Paulo Friere community action theory-the theory we would use for our theoretical framework.

2.1 Community based Organizations and Physical Development in Nigeria and other Countries

Evidence from the literature reveals the activities of community based organizations in Nigeria Olowu et al., (1991:42); Olomola (2001:91); Oludimu (1990:84); Ugal (1992:82); Adejumobi (1991:33); Abegunde (2004:14). For instance, the study conducted by Olomola (2001:64) in Lagos state revealed that CBOs in the state solely relied on internally generated revenue with very little aid from the government. This was why the CBO that won best CBO award in 1988 emanated from Lagos state. The organization in 1998 built a primary school, bank, court hall, community hall, post office and opened up several roads for vehicular usage. A study conducted by Abegunde (2004:16) on the activities of the CBOs in Atiba local government area of Osun state reveled that there were about 160 CBOs in the area. About 40% of these CBOs provided social facilities worth 17.56 million naira to their immediate community.

Similarly, CBOs in Anambra state were said to be economically buoyant enough to have constructed access roads within neighbourhoods, built schools and health centres, provide water and see to the general welfare of their members without government assistance (Adejumobi, 1991:16). It was even recorded that the ultra modern maternity centre built by CBOs in Udi

Local Government Area of the state aroused no governments' interest, in that the maternity could not takeoff for over 10 years after construction because of lack of personnel and equipments from the government of that area Olomola, (2001:16). The experiences of CBOs in Kano State differed. Their government assisted them in discharging their responsibilities to the communities through fund provision Adejumobi, (1991:33). Their problems were the conflicts of interest, level of education of community development workers among the two tiers of government (state and local), low and poor public acceptance. Unlike in Oyo state, the people were receptive to CBOs activities but inadequate government support and economic status of members limited their operation Adejumobi, continued.

Similar economic problem afflicted CBOs in Cross River State. Ogah (1992:14) discovered that CBOs in the state were not properly organized, ineffective in performance, made decisions in isolation and wasted their meager resources. For instance it as recorded that they build schools and health centres without carrying the government along, thus the buildings lie idle without personnel and equipments from appropriate authorities.

In River state, Oludimu (1990:42) showed that it was local customs and traditions that guide operations of the CBOs. Their inefficiency was as a

result of irregular attendance at meetings. Unfortunately, it is in such meetings that they could generate funds and ideas, which are required for ensuring progress in CBOs activities. Despite shortcoming of CBOs in some of the states in Nigeria, the fact remains that significant efforts have been made by the people in contributing to the socio-economic development of their immediate vicinity. If social and economic problems that impede effective participation of people are addressed, CBOs in Nigeria can contribute towards poverty alleviation and physical development of Nigeria communities.

Community development is an age long social activity in our society. Even before the advent of the colonial administration, people had at different times employed communal resources to provide physical improvement and functional facilities in their respective localities. For example, communal labour was employed in constructing homesteads, clearing farmlands, roads and even some public utility buildings, such as “Obas” palace, market stalls and town halls.

Poor performance of government in meeting the socio economic guests of citizens since 1960, has been identified as one of the reasons behind the proliferation of community based organization in Nigeria. Along this line,

Wahab. (2000:19) observed that people in developing nations have until recently looked up to their government to meet their basic socio economic demands. In accordance with this, Abegunde (2003) observed, governments in African nations have evolved both top down and bottom up approaches to achieve sustainable development for their people. These includes establishment of cottage industries to create job opportunities, provide basic infrastructure and utilize regional natural and manmade resources to stimulate growth and economic development that would spread to lagging areas of the country. Beside this, Agboola (2003:18) noted that the failure of government top down approach and lack of involvement of the people at the grassroots in the bottom up strategy have weaken the confidence of the public. As a result of the above, communities seeks solace in indigenous institutions which pressurize government for attention to development of their communities and undertake development programmes and project that they observed are very needful to their immediate communities. Ogundipe (2003:31) believed that community based organizations constitutes the media resources mobilization to confront local challenges, these include the finance and execution of project, lobbying and nomination of representatives to government office to air their views and press their needs and developing of human resources against future developmental needs of their immediate

environment. Thus their impacts have been felt in the area of economic development, policy matters, health and infrastructure, environmental and physical development among others.

Some past attempts to achieve rural development in Nigeria failed due to the oil boom in the 1970s which gave people the erroneous impression that government should provide all their needs. Consequently, the spirit of self-help was relegated to the background. Olajide (1994:70). However, the present economic reality in the country has made the people find a lasting solution to the social economic problems of their communities, through Community Development Organization (CDOs). The CBOs exist under different names and varying sizes and are scattered all over the study areas. Members can be solely males or females, and sometimes mixed, depending on their predominant activities. The CBOs develop their rules and regulations themselves, plan and execute their programmes with very little or no interference from external bodies. Specifically, their activities involve holding meetings to discuss their programmes and project, identification of their felt needs, participation in their community development project activities through supplying of labour, contribution of money and building materials. They also accept donations to aid their project execution. Women's association in selected local government areas of Osun state

Nigerians are very virile, and active at the grassroots level, with their popular goals being financial assistance to members, supporting members during ceremonies, donating money and materials to the needy in the community. Deji (2005:28)

In Nigeria community based organizations are even more pronounced in some parts of the country. In Birnin Gwari Local Government of Kaduna State, people of this area adopted a more positive approach towards development, and they are more community conscious. A village known as Fallalu for instance has at least three active community organisations namely Himma Zumunta Development Associations, the Biyayya Matasa Social Club and Assayaya Social Club. According to Bello (1990:43) the first one has about 100 members, founded in 1987 with the main objectives of clearing weeds and repair of roads and well during the raining season. The second one was also formed in 1987 with the main objectives of assisting members and develop their community. The last one engaged more in community development activities than the above in 2000 to 2002, it has constructed two wells, developed a community farm, repair roads that lead to the village market and the house of the village Head.

Beside the experiences of the existence and performance of CBQs in the above mentioned areas, the people of Ayeitoro in Ondo State are not left out in this communal efforts towards self help. This is confirmed by Oyetunji (1991:9) Ayeitoro community development organisation formed in 1980 planned and execute their projects by the executive committee of the organisation. This committee place members on various forms of levies which members pay to enable the association execute planned projects. For instance it carried out a rehabilitation of a primary school classrooms at the cost of ₦250, 000 in 1987, construction of 8 wells at the cost of ₦15,000 each. It built a community health centre in the town in conjunction with the local government financial assistance. The people of Ayeitoro have been reported to have used their age long tradition of community organisation to develop their community to an enviable standard. Today Ayeitoro story of success in community organisation and mobilization for development is well noted and has been a location of numerous studies. United Nation (1993:38)

In Jama'are Local Government of Bauchi State people have been encouraged by the government to form community based organisations in order to carry out development activities, through such activities, some communities have been able to identify and provide solution to their felt needs. They have provided some basic services for themselves such as a

dispensary, market and feeder road to improve transport services necessary for movement of people and goods. Sarbon Kafi presented a much better picture of community based organisation activities, this is confirmed by Jumare (1988:71) Sabon Kafi people constitute a true community organisation with well perceived need and readiness to jointly execute planned projects. Among project planned and executed by this community are constructions of feeder roads to link their village to Garin Babani and to Jam'are local government headquarters, construction of a mosque, sinking of a well, and a community farm. Specifically, there are up to five community associations and clubs in this area; these are Sabon kafi farmers association, and Young farmers club etc. These associations share members and work together in harmony. It is only on few exceptions that they undertake different projects. The objectives of these associations include among others, mobilizations of the populace to be self-conscious and self-reliant.

In addition to the above, Nigerian communities have long recognized the formation of community based organisation for community development as a way of life. In Onisha in Anambra state, Women of different vocational and cultural background have formed themselves into societies and associations. According to Dahiru (1980) there are women associations for the promotion of religious beliefs, the care of the motherless and abandoned

children; the care of destitute. Day care centre and others. As mothers of the community, these categories of women are always willing to render their services in any form they are required. They assist extension workers of the local government to penetrate into the womenfolk of the community.

The activities of community based organization in Nigeria are important because there seems to be a break-down of the public institutions that formally catered for the people's welfare in rural communities. This might have been due to increased responsibility at the public institutions. Many CBOs, where they exit, have decided to have some social and economic development of the various communities as their major objectives. For instance, in the field of education, many CBOs are involved in building classrooms for primary and secondary schools which are eventually handed over to the government Adejumoh (1987:17). All these activities are important component of the overall rural development programmes of any government.

The account of the growth of community development from the point of view of community organization provides a special complement. Community development is itself rooted in economic development and community organization. Thus, it would be useful to recall how the first

World war, for example gingered up the need to mobilize communities to support the war efforts of their nations. Sandars (1970:17) reported how in the United State Liberty bands were told to help the war efforts, how people were requested to donate morale building materials for troops at the war fronts and how people in some instances took care of services men's families. All of these actions paved way for the strengthening of the hands of social scientists and in particular, social workers in community organization.

The use of community organization to boost active participation in community development is also stressed by Sanders (1988) the indigenous groups are important resources because of their cohesiveness and their reliance on mutual trust. Frequently these can neutralize the free rider problem. He cited Indonesia where community organization and leaders have been used as a basis for organizing people around irrigation system, and they have proved very effective in allocating water efficiently and in maintaining the canals. One of the most significant events that took place in many urban and rural areas in Indonesia has been the community organization participation or involvement in the physical, economic, social and political development of their areas. Suffice to say at this juncture, that the participation of these organizations in the development of their communities had been very competitive as one community organization

tried to outdo the other in another community in the provision of social services.

Similarly, Volunteers Around the World (VAW), a non-governmental organization, had shown to be devoted to improving the standard of living for those that live in some of the most poverty sticken communities of Guatemala Volunteers Around the World (2005:9). Their focus was to enhance community infrastructure through improved education, access to more advanced medical treatment, increased economic opportunities and myriads of small community development initiatives. Again, A Self Assistance Programme (ASAP) AFRICA is another non-profit charitable organization committed to working in partnership with rural communities in Zimbabwe, assisting people in the efforts to improve their own lives ASAP AFRICA (2006:14). Specifically, ASAP Africa's staff collaborates with the programme participants to create community-driven projects that empower the beneficiaries to break the cycle of poverty, strengthen local education and improve nutrition and health. The source stated further that the interaction resulted into thousands of self reliant individuals in Zimbabwe that experienced profound improvements in their daily lives. Also, the United States Agency International Development (USAID) organized a special self-help programme in Africa for Guinea through US embassy

USATD (2005:15). The special self-help projects approved for funding in 2004 include: construction of school latrines, classrooms, health posts, and training centres. The overall purpose of the special self-help programmes was to show that US cares for the welfare of the African people and is interested in the self-help endevours of local communities.

2.2 Review of Related Issues on Development

One of the major factors on the current concern about what has been achieved from many decades of central planning in many underdeveloped countries derives from the ambiguity surrounding the word “development”. Every nation strives after development. It used to be seen as synonymous with economic growth. It certainly includes growth but it should lead to a significant and continuing improvement in the quality of life of people particularly the poor whether rich or poor, all human being are constantly engaged in the search for means and opportunities to better condition of life in virtually all countries, this search for better condition takes place at community level, at individual level, and at national level. This quest for a better quality of life is what has come to be labeled as development and efforts to define it, and the condition under which it can be realized has been identified by a number of scholars. The various theories of these scholars have shed light on the causes of economic transformation in human society,

as well as spelling out what governments can do in order to stimulate the process of economic growth. Some of these scholars belong to the modernization theories, the famous stages of economic growth, by Rostow in the 1960, which major focus was on the role of savings in development. Gunder Frank (1967) on the dependency theory. Mthua Lewis's focus on what the called the "dual economy" writing about the "modern" and the "traditional sector". Lewis. (1955) advocated for shift from the traditional sector to a modern sector as a key activity that would increase savings and lead to growth.

Dudley seers, writing in the 1960, called into question the thinking of the time particularly concerning the link between growth and development. He was among the first to indicate that in order to understand whether development is indeed taking place in a country, attention must be paid to what has been happening to poverty, unemployment and inequality. He indicated that if these had been decreasing then we could say a country had indeed experienced development. Micheal Tadaro (2004:27) a renowened scholar on development, has attempted a reformation of the three central questions posed by seers. The World Bank has also been at the centre of prescribing what development should involve and how it can be realised.

Many of these theories of development, have come under a lot of attack from people like Escobar (1995) and also Roderick (1997:42).

The effects of these theories on developing countries and on Africa in particular has been widely criticized. Critiques such as Roderick (1997) for examples, have argued that these policies have pushed the poorest countries further into poverty. The task of formulating and implementing development policies mostly in Africa countries is believed to be the function of government.

2.3 Government's Effort towards Community Based Organisation

The developing countries of the world face major task of restructuring their economics towards development. They strive to eliminate all forms of backwardness and create the necessary conditions for forming new relations that will stimulate the development of productive forces. Major but complex problems of the community can only be solved if firm CBO's are created.

Furthermore, it is believed that political parties and trade unions in developing countries are weak and some are just being formed Maslenmkov (1983:21) the most wide spread form of association or union of the various strata of developing countries has for a long time been community based organisation; whose prestige began to grow once the colonies gained

independence. CBO's have gained considerable popularity among the peasants, craftsmen, artisans, and progressive minded intellectuals.

The idea of cooperation towards community development is very common and age long phenomenon, government in developing nations are aware of this but gave attention to it later than expected (Abegunde, 2004:51). The former approach toward development was by polarizing economic activities in cities leaving lagging regions to find for self existence till spread and multiplier effects of industrial establishments at poles would transform their local economy Chan and Ravallion (2004:38).

According to Onibokur (1972:39), available data revealed that 9 of the 12 states in Nigeria in 1986 expended ₦2,571,269 on community development programmes in the second national development plan. Another 9 states allocated ₦16,691.000 to similar projects during the third national development plan (Geldof 1998). In year 2000, Oyo state government alone devoted ₦16,162,000 for community development programmes. In Sokoto state, between 1991 and 1996, the government designed programmes for community development activities and increased budgetary allocation for such from ₦450,000 in 1991 to ₦2.5 million in 1996.

In the same vein, government and donor agencies have confidence in the ability of CBO's to provide the much needed good things of life including education and good health, road etc Government, according .to Olowu (1991:41) have taken the above initiative because the myriad of social, economic and political crises which confronted the developing countries including Nigeria in the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s have led to the need to undertake a serious re-examination of the role and ability of the state or national governments to manage development efforts and resources. For instance, these crises have resulted into declining economic performance; increased borrowing, heavy reliance on aids especially food and drugs, deteriorating economic and physical environment, political violence and instability, etc. These worrisome indices, no doubt call for urgent need to explore the possible contributions of other social organisations such as community based organisations or the non-governmental organisations (NGO's), Olowu (1989:43) also noted that most African countries including Nigeria have resolved in response to dictates of the New World Economic order, to reduce the scope of the public sector and strengthen the private sector activities. But where the private sector is not well developed as is the case with most of the African countries, then attention must be shifted to

local institutions as viable alternative and or complimentary institutions of development.

Furthermore, the use of community based organisation for grassroot mobilization is also confirmed by Bryant (1992:82) statements that policy makers and scholars in developing countries have realized that contrary to previous presumptions positions and misconceptions, local people, peasants, artisans and rural dwellers are rationale and progressive in their values and attitudes and hence through their local institutions are capable of embarking on sustained indigenous based development strategy.

The above is further buttressed by Ross (1981) the growing dissatisfaction with government planned and executed development plans and programmes which more often than not benefit the urban sector and others in the middle and upper income brackets while ignoring the endemic problems of illiteracy, poverty and disease at the grassroot level. Consequently, it is now being recognized that local government organizations are required to mobilize and get the people involved in the planning and execution of development plans and programmes.

The growing influence of community based organisations in their various localities has attracted government attention to them. In the opinion of

Adeniyi (1991:40), as practice has shown, CBO's in Nigeria are an important instrument that helps the government in attaining its goals in the area of agrarian reforms, grassroot communication, mobilization and cultural transformation.

Ohwona (1988:58) submitted that, although there is no definite legislation concerning CBO, but government has placed CBO under the local government to oversee their functions, principles behind their composition and activities, and created a particular department in the local government to see to the affairs of CBO's in Nigeria, government reach the community, and channel any form of assistance to the community through CBO's. All the above, are the methods for which government manage CBO's in Nigeria.

In addition to the above, Maslennikov (1983:62) revealed that the manifesto of the ruling democratic party in Botswana include local institutions cooperative movement as a major part of government development strategy. Likewise the adoption of CBO's as implementation strategy by the defunct Better Life Programme and Family Support Programme in Nigeria is not out of place. Because CBO's appears to be a potent instrument used in attaining rural development vis-á-vis its poverty alleviation. According to Pius (1998) it is the same thing with the Ministry of Social Development in Kenya where

community organisations are required to play an increasingly important role in implementation and support of projects and programmes associated especially with agricultural and overall rural development.

Having taken the road of progress, the government of many other countries saw a real opportunity towards development by means of community organisation. A broad network of various types of community organizations and the creation of favourable conditions for their activities are envisaged in the development plan of several countries like Algeria, Burma, Tanzania, Sir-Lanka, including Nigeria Kounyan (1988). In order to give support to community organisations, in the words of Okafor (1987:44) governments often grant these organisations credit, which assist these organisations financially.

The community organisations in Algeria, India, Kenya, Syria, Tanzania, Ethiopia and other counties have made use of credit granted to them by the government to strengthen their financial base. In Algeria and Mauritius any project or programme embarks upon by these organisations is tax tree. The government of a number of countries, Lawal (1992:29) revealed that non refundable funds are given to community organisations, the government of Ghana for example, annually allocated a sum of 205, 300 cedes to encourage

these organisations. In India, the government often gives soft loan to community organizations to assist their members in laying of roads to new enterprises. In other words, genuine political commitment in principle and practice exercised by government consistently over a period of time, is essential for any rural development strategy to succeed. Community/cooperative society is no longer new in India, with the highest population of rural poor. In the world Otto (1985:30) India has adopted community organisations into her economic development plan as a matter of state policy and has benefited substantially from this due to policy consistency.

The government of panama has started a local investment program (proyerto de inversion local) that assigns $25,000 to each district for a community project. In theory, the district's representative schedules a meeting with each community organisation to identify a project to be financed with the funds. In rural communities with high levels of associational life, the system is reported to work as planned, Panama (1998:52). In Mali researchers find that traditional associations are the main safety nets, each village generally has three community associations, or tons: the men's association, the women's association, and the young men's association. The purposes of these tons is 'to keep cultural traditions alive, strengthen community ties and, especially,

share labor both in communal fields and in the individuals fields of the members. Often the earning of the association are for consumptions, but they may also contribute to community development initiatives, such as building materials or digging wells, and to pay fines imposed by forester”s, Maliya (1993:60).

In his broadcast to the nation on 16 October, 2000 on the occasion of the World Food Day, former President Olusegun Obasanjo emphasized on the need for cooperative movement in Nigeria. He indicated that there is a strong need for viable cooperative and community associations whose activities can enhance food production, processing and living standard of the people. The Cross River State Better Life Programme (1983) noted that women of cross river state were organized into Women Associations, some of these women formed themselves into cooperative societies. It indicated that the number of the registered community associations had been small prior to the inception of Better Life Programme. The number increased considerably from 19 as of December, 1988 to 60 as of July 1990 Most, if not all of the registered associations, in the state embarked on farming, trading and craft production. Some of these associations became involved in providing facilities in community schools, such as building of introductory technology workshops, and provid classrooms, built Health centres, Nursery

schools and Town Hall. The above, we believed will have improved the living standard of the people. Similarly, the age groups (age cohorts tied together through ritual) of Nigeria undertake varied community tasks and often develop sophisticated institutional capacities:

The growing influence of indigenous associations in Nigeria is further elaborated by Narayan and Shah (2000) thus: the age groups in Nigeria undertake varied community task and often develop sophisticated institutional capacities. According to the district Head of Owokwu. Without age group in Igede, we cannot survive because of the general government neglect. They construct roads, culverts, schools, health centres, act as thrift and credit association. Actually, the age group also acts as a powerful tool of socialization and maintenance of law and order for the community in Nigeria.

In another dimension, Diso (1998:43) asserts that some local organisations have mostly benefited the prosperous, while not addressing the needs of the most deprived groups. In Nigeria the pictures is similar. “The main drawback noted with such bodies is that they tend to look after only their members, while a much broader section of the community is in need. In Cameroon, Ngeri (1973) added, despite the widespread view that community

solidarity is natural, those who have worked closely with association in Cameroon report that social tensions (Jealousy, Sorcery, and personal power struggles) can play a divisive role, and that general cooperation's is not automatic. Community-wide groups may be dominated by the interest of those who are better off and have more resources especially time to devote to group activities.

In other parts of the world like Tanzania, India and Venezuela, Naraya (2000:50) lamented, some CBO's have been taken over by political parties. In Venezuela the political parties appear particularly powerful in the life of CBO's. in line with the above, Tendler (1982) indicated that some projects embarked upon by CBO's, despite their efforts, do not or will not reach the poor majority, indeed some CBO's project turn out not to be participatory despites their rhetoric and involved "enlightened" top down control by the CBO'S themselves. However, despite the above, CBO have the potential to induce development, it is the contributions of these CBO's to the development of communities in Nigeria, the researcher intend to investigate.

2.4 Community Based Organisation (CBO) as Distinct from Non Governmental Organisation (NGO)

Distinctions have been made between Community Based Organisations (CBC) and Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO), Cassad (1992:53), Agboola (1998:29). However, both scholars agreed that CBO and NGO have common attributes and their differences are a matter of "scale and location". According to them, CBO suggest a simple institution that covers a relatively small area with local identity while NGO has a sophisticated and complex structure and covers a wider area and project. From the example made by one of them, the rotary international qualifies as NGO but the rotary club of a community qualifies as CBO. In essence, community development is the essence of CBO. Through community development, efforts of the people are United with those of government authorities to improve the economic, social and cultural conditions of communities, so as to integrate them into the life of the nations and to enable their people to contribute fully to national progress. (United Nations 1983:43). In line with this Fakoya, (1984:61) argued that community development provide avenue for people to organize themselves for planning action, define their common and individual plans to meet their needs and solve their problems, execute these plans with maximum reliance upon community resources and supplement these

resources when necessary with services and materials from government and non-governmental agencies outside their communities.

There is often confusion between the roles of the NGOs and those of the CBOs, an acronym for community based organizations. Kolawole (1982) stated that, CBOs are obviously a different type of organisation. They are important partners of NGOs at the community level but they do not have the same philosophical framework nor do they participate in the same kind of activities as the NGO's are not created to serve one specific community; they are organisations which help a community for a certain period of time. CBO's on the other hand are permanently based in the community, and are part of the community itself. Expressing his own views Affonzo (1993) asserts that in Africa and in Nigeria in particular, a common definition of what an NGO is and what it is not has not yet emerged. Until this is resolved, CBOs, sporting clubs, age groups, unions, professional associations, religious and even tribal organisations will continue calling themselves NGOs. Time will sort this out, as Nigerian NGOs became more exposed to the international NGO movement and as networking among local NGOs improves. In addition to the above, community based organisation as it stand for may not mean the same thing as Nongovernmental organisation, this is because CBOs cannot be lumped together with other organisations

just because they are not established by government. Makoba (2003:19) pointed out that NGOs are non membership support organisations involved in relief, rehabilitation, or community development work especially in developing countries. They are considered part of the civil area in society which also includes trade unions, people's associations, membership organisations, cooperative and religion based charities.

Indeed NGOs provide a third approach to development between market led and state led strategies. UNICEF (1993:64) is of the opinion that NGO's are voluntary, non political and nongovernmental organisations instrumental to development. NGOs are therefore intermediate organizations dealing with issues that are concerned with development through participation of the people and community involvement in decision making process.

In the light of the above, Affonso (1993:19) made clear the position of NGOs as distinct from CBOs thus, NGOs are different from other aid-giving groups, in that they areculturally heterogeneous and secular in their approach. He also emphasized that an NGO is not indeed to be a permanent structure in any community. In most cases, NGOs are partners in development; they strive to serve communities in order to strengthen CBOs

activities, infact they are not created for a particular community, but they assist community based organisation for a certain period of time.

However, we may continue to distinguish the difference between these two concepts on and on, but, whatsoever, it is the contention of this study that irrespective of the similarities and dissimilarities between NGOs and CBOs, they are actors and partners in the socio economic development of rural communities. Therefore, we see CBOs contributions to the development of communities not completely as NGOs but purely on what CBOs stand for in terms of services delivery or performance to their communities.

2.5 Community Based Organisation and Local Government:

Actors in Community Development

There is an intrinsic relationship between community organisation and local government. Dunmoye (1996:22) noted that the local governments have emerged as the veritable third tier of government in Nigeria federal system. The local government is important because it is the government that is closet to the qassroot or to the rural community, being the third tier government to the people, it is the most effective institution for community mobilization towards development. On account of the above, it becomes clear that the

local government and community based organisation have a crucial role to play if sustainable development is to be attained in our communities.

According to Robertson (1984:38) the two fundamental actors in local development are the local government and the local organisations, these could be Clubs, Age groups, Development Associations, Cultural Association etc. Robertson argued that in the interaction between these two actors, community organisations insert themselves not as a third and different/independent actor, but as an emanation and representation of the community. A school of thought, believed that community organisations are even more closer to the people because they engaged in projects that have direct bearing to the life and welfare of the people than the local government. On the other hand Goran (1983:45) argued that even if local government could become more efficient and effective in performing their duties, they cannot serve as universal dispersers of services and resources. Other institutions are needed to complement local government efforts. The above implied that community based organisation could be supplementary institutions to local government in terms of service provider.

In the views of Cheema (1998:28) the key question in the developing world is the degree of intervention and control that central government exercise

over development planning and administration. The power of the centre asserts itself ever more strongly over the peripheries, the need to decentralize has been strongly emphasized. In confirmation of the above statement Richard (1989) stated that decentralization takes several forms, and one of such forms is the devolution to local governments, and transfer of functions from public to local organisations or joint exercise of such functions. Against this background, it is clear that the natural evolution of the state and local government in the developing countries, creates room and indeed calls for increasing the role played by community organisations in local development, local planning, local services delivery and local administration.

In addition to the above, CBO's in developing countries have the organizational capacity for development. This is confirmed by Adeoye (1999), the most prominent and active actor in the rural areas are the local organisations, this is because they are more involved in community projects than the local government, they have multipurpose activities, elect their own leaders, collaborate with other developmental oriented groups in their environment, raised and manage funds, and most importantly, mediate and resolve conflict at the local level.

It is disheartening to note, and this is confirmed by Abubakar (1999:46) that there is a disconnect between community based organisation and local government, to be specific, community initiatives and institutions that are the basis of local organization capacity are not connected to government disbursement of resources and decision making.

According to him, many of the CBO's in the developing countries received little or no financial assistance from the government. However, the idea behind community organisation is the involvement of the would be beneficiaries in their own advancement such that they become agents of change while that of the local government is mobilizing human and material resources through the involvement of members of the public in their local development. It therefore become very necessary for both sides to have a good working relationship. However, one of the frequently debated issues in the social science is weather CBO's can actually perform without a good working relationship with local government. In the next section, we attempt to establish the theoretical framework community action model to justify the use of community based organisations to attain socio-economic development.

2.6 Theoretical Framework

The Community Action Model (Paulo Friere Theory)

Directly related to this study is community action models which originated from the theory of Paulo Freire (2004) He was a Brazilian educationist who through his concern for the oppressed argued that disparity between poor and prosperous residents, community based organisations or labourers in the society can be bridge through self determination from those in the low socio-economic class. According to him, awakening of peoples conscience to have self confidence assist them to attain desired goal collectively. In other words, enlightenment of mind through popular mobilization empowers the poor to collectively strive towards common goals and confront the oppressors. When this is achieved, the poor can easily develop their community to catch up with the rich class. These according to Paulo will give ability to involve in planning with the ruling class and over time, bridge the socio economic gap that separate residents or oganisations at grassroot from those in prosperous regions or state (Raphael et al, 1999:61).

Implicit in this theory is that residents in poor communities can team or come together to attain socio-economic development (Boreham 2004) This means that community action model involves participatory action research

approaches and is asset based (that is, it builds on the strengths of a community to create changes from within Racher (2007:25).

There are five (5) basic assumptions on which the community action model is based. According to Ryan and Racher (2004) first, it identifies inequality in the distribution of state resources. It also believes that inequality can be bridged through awakening of mind and self confidence of individual's in the community. That, it focuses on changing individuals lifestyles and behaviour to mobilizing community members and agencies to eliminate underserved conditions (Lavery 2005). Yet, it places the onus on the individual and does not challenges the social structures that shape residents choices and decisions (Caira 2003).

This means that the theory is designed to increase the capacity of communities and organisations to address the social and economic determinants that will positively influence their community toward development. However, we shall be concerned with the capacity of community based organisations to bring the much desired socio economic development to the community.

The community action model offers an understanding to the importance of CBO's as a strategy for development. In this study, community based

organisation is seen as a means in fulfilling this among residents in Offa LGA of Kwara State. The study recognized CBOs as vehicles towards economic development in lagging communities. In another development the "community action model" has attracted a lot of criticisms from several scholars but such criticism can be used to strengthen the theory and make it become more useful. For instance one of the principal defects of the community action model is that the theory neglected the need for these CBOs to come together and form a mega CBO in order to attract both local and international donors agencies. In this study, we adopt "community action model" that includes community based organisations in the process of development. Countries like India, Mali, Egypt as narrated in the literature review have applied this model in their efforts toward the development of their rural areas. Some of these governments have encouraged the establishment of community based organisation, they allocate non-refundable funds to them particularly their cooperative societies. India, for instance allocate $90,000 annually to these local organisations to enable them grow in strength and purpose. In line with the significance of this theoretical framework to our study, we shall concentrate on community based organisations contributions to the development of communities if well organized, funded, and encouraged by the local government.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

In this chapter, we would highlight the various techniques and methods used for the collection and analysis and the proposition stated in chapter one. Issues discussed include the population of the study, sampling technique, the method of data presentation and analysis.

1.2 Population of the Study

The population of the study is made up of all the Community Based organizations in the local government area, members of the public, and officials of the local government.

The first category of the population are the various Community Based Organization in the local government area, they consist of 22 CBOs out of which only eight (8) of them registered with the local government. The list of these CBOs is in Appendix IV, page 127. The second category of the population are members of the public i.e household heads, and artisan. The last category of the populations is the local government officials. This comprise of the members of the executive of the local government, legislative council members, and head of departments.

1.3 Sampling and Sampling Technique

The sample of this study is drawn from the population of the study, i.e community based organisations in the area of study, members of the public and local government functionaries. In the selected community based organisations, the leaders (officials) of these CBO's were selected as our respondents.

Another type of respondents are the member of the public in Offa Local Government Area, and the last type of respondents are the local government officials.

The reasons for the selection of CBO leaders as our respondents is that these CBOs leaders have served the CBOs for several years, infact, some of the leaders are the initiators or co-founder of these organizations. Another reason is that they have the records of performance and the creation of the organization.

Other part of the respondents are the local government officials, they were selected as our respondents because they have records of some of these CBOs, most especially those CBOs that registered with them. In some instance, they have participated in the activities of these organizations.

The study also selected the community dwellers, i.e. household heads, health and medical workers, traders, and artisan; in order to make use of their views and assessment of the performance of these organizations. This study covers many community dwellers as possible particularly those that are members of these organizations, including those that have benefited in one way or the other from the services of these CBOs.

We are restricting the study to Kwara state, and Offa Local Government Area in particular. In Offa Local Government, there are eleven wards; the study spread the selection of wards across the entire local government, specifically, five wards will be selected. These wards are Balogun Ward, Essa A Ward, Ojomu Central Ward, Shawo South East and Igbo-Idun Ward. These wards were selected because they are relatively active community based organizations. We also focus attention on:

1. The number of community based organizations in the local government area.
2. The number of these CBO's that registered with the local government
3. The various contributions made by these CBO's to the community.

Respondents from the community based organisations were sampled through purposive sampling. This enabled us to select officials from the selected community based organizations. Our respondents from the members of the

public were selected based on cluster sampling. Our selection of local government officials as our respondents, we used stratified sampling technique. The table below explained our population and sample size.

Other methods of generating primary data are discussion, observations, and inspections of facilities of these CBOs. The whole local government with its twelve electoral wards and thirty-two villages is the domin of our study. The first questionnaires goes to the CBO's officials selected from the eight registered CBO's in the local government, we selected five CBOs out of the registered CBO's. The selected CBO's were spread to all parts of the local government area. We have three CBO's from three wards in Offa town, while we have two CBO's from Igbo-Idun ward. Apart from the use of purposive technique, use the following criteria to pick the CBO' in the wards.

1. Urban nature of the area
2. Number of wards in the area
3. Number of compounds
4. Registered CBO's

There was also the problem of members of the public. For the purpose of this study, the members of the public are people residing in the wards benefiting from local public goods and services. Pay taxes and stakeholders

in local governance. The population of these people might not be accurately estimated (due to lack of sufficient data). The study therefore use cluster sampling, and identified five major stakeholders, Teachers, civil servants (local government staff). Traders, market women, businessmen as our respondents for interview and discussion. In this method of generating primary data, again we made use of research assistance who knows the background and understand the language of these people.

The cluster is the electoral wards, the local government area is made up of twelve electoral wards which give us twelve clusters. Ten household from each clusters were picked from where our respondents were selected. Five respondents, i.e teachers, civil servant (local government staff) traders, market women, businessmen from the household of each clusters. The table below explain the categories of respondents, population and sample size of the study.

Table 3.1: Categories of respondents, population and sample size

Categories	**Population**	**Sample size**
CBO officials	80	75
Members of the public	300	250
Local government officials	25	20
Total	**405**	**345**

Source: Author's Field Work, 2006.

The development of CBOs in Offa Local Government Area is as old time itself to the extent that it is difficult if not impossible to know the number of CBOs in the local government. In this study, we would make use of those CBOs that are active and registered with the local government of all the CBOs identified in the course of our investigation, five community based organizations were selected from four villages located as far apart as possible including Offa. These community based organizations are:

a. Okin Progressive Association, Offa

b. Offa Descendant Union

c. Igbo-dun Community Development Association

d. Ajelanwa Youth Club

e. Gamo-Oko Development Association.

The table below explained CBO's studied in this work, which explain the names of the CBO's, their objectives, year of establishment, and then location in the local government.

Table 3.2: Specific CBO's Studied in this work

S/N	Names of CBOs	Objective	Years of Establishment	Location in the L.G.A
1.	Offa Descendant Union	Unity, progress and improvement	13th Oct. 1936	Offa
2.	Okin Progressive Association	Unity and development	1985	Offa
3.	Ajelanwa Youth Club	Progress, peace and development	1981	Ajelanwa
4.	Igbo-Idun Community Development Association	Social consciousness unity and development	1980	Igbo-Idun
5.	Gamo Development Association	Peace, progress and development	1982	Gamo

Source: Author' Survey, 2006

3.4 Instrument for Data Collection

As we have mentioned in section 3.2, our major source of data collection is secondary source this was supplemented by the primary source. One of the instruments the study used to collect data is the questionnaire. Three sets of questionnaires were prepared and administered to three groups of respondents, the questionnaires are both structured and unstructured.

Section A of questionnaire 1 contain four questions mostly personal, the respondents information was sort. In section B, three questions were asked meant to measure the performance of CBO's in the local government area. The opinion of these officials would be collaborated with that of the members of the public in our subsequent analysis.

The questionnaire II was designed to elicit information from those members of the local communities that have either benefited directly or indirectly from services of these CBO's they would have their interests fairly articulated. The study therefore obtained information and the perceptions of the local people on issues affecting them and the CBO's. The structure of the questionnaire is made up of two main section. Section A has eight questions and mostly open-ended questions. The local people or members of the public are Teachers, Civil servants, market women, traders and businessmen.

The questionnaire III was prepared to elicit the opinion of local government officials, chairman of the local government/Director of Personnel, Treasurer, Senior Community development officer. There are basically two sections. Section A consist of questions on the personal data of respondents. Section B which has four questions deals with the relationship between the local government and the CBO's respondents, data from these sources were found useful for the proposition posited in chapter one.

3.5 **Administration of Questionnaire**

The study has administered three types of questionnaires to the various respondents mentioned above in this chapter. On the part of the CBO's officials, the study co-opted two research assistants to administer the

questionnaire on officials of the CBO's. The two assistance had general background of the activities of these CBO's, the wards and the main language spoken.

On the part of the members of the public the same assistants were used as well to administer the questionnaire II on the selected respondents based on their wealth of experience about the people and the area.

At the local government level, the local government area inspector assisted in administering questionnaire II meant for Chairman/Director of Personnel, Treasurer, Senior Community Development Officer. Area inspectors are staff of Ministry of Local Government, attached to each local government council to make sure for the full implementation of government policy, budget and projects implementation and to collect monthly revenue and expenditure figures of the various local government councils. The study therefore utilized their wealth of experience to collect data. All the research assistants had general background of their local government area, the wards and the language spoken. The interview method was used throughout the field exercise due to the fact that questionnaire cannot give us all the needed information.

Through the use of the local government inspector, and two assistants, most of the questionnaires were administered with maximum returns. We recorded more than 80% success return on the questionnaires in the following wards Igbo-Idun, Balogun, Ojomu South East, Ojomu North West, Essa A, Essa B, Essa C, Ojomu Central A, Ojomu Central B, Shawo Central, Shawo East wards.

3.6 **Methods of Data Collection**

In order to generate data, the researcher employed two methods of data collection. The primary and secondary methods however, the data relevant to the study are drawn mostly from the secondary sources while data from primary sources are to complement the secondary data.

3.6.1 **Secondary Source**

The secondary source of data collection is the use of written or printed materials like documents, newspaper, receipts, etc secondary sources of data for our purpose constitute the first and immediate information on the subject matter. Information are contained in diverse sources, the following documents have been found useful for our propositions and the general direction of the study. These include:

a. CBO's project plan records

b. CBO's budgets

c. Project implementation reports.

d. CBO's minutes of meetings

e. Local government record of CBO's registration

f. Annual budgets of the local government council for the period of 2002 to 2007

g. Report of investigation panel on the performance of Offa Local Government.

We generate data from the above source to know the performance of CBO's in this local government before 2002 and between 2002 to 2007, we made use of the projects plans and projects implementation reports as contained in their minutes of meetings. The relationship between the CBO's and the local government especially in the area of finance was determined by the Annual Budgets of the local government between 2002-2007. We have been able to know the performance of these CBO by looking at their Annual target in their project planning reports and the outcomes of the target in terms of implementation of projects.

3.6.2 **Primary Source**

As rich and useful as the secondary source are, primary data was also needed for the research. We derived data from primary source through the use of

questionnaire, observations and interview methods, constructed three sets of questionnaires: for leaders (officials) of CBO's, for members of the public (local people) and for local government officials.

Reconnaissance survey revealed that there were twenty-one community based organisations in Offa LGA, as seen in Appendix 1; but only eight (8) CBO were duly registered in the 12 wards of the local government. Contacts with these CBO's were first made by obtaining their addresses from their registered files in the community Development unit of the local government. The study targeted the officials of these CBO's for questions and interviews, and we equally observed some of their programmes.

A visit to these CBO's address revealed a different thing entirely as some of them have relocated to another area or they are no more in existence. Some have their signpost erected at the resident of one of their leaders. Some CBO's exist in name, no leader, no objective and no active members. In some instance, the people who are supposed to be its members were only thinking vaguely on reviving it which suggest that such CBO is dead.

CHAPTER FOUR

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF OFFA LGA IN KWARA STATE

4.1 Geographical Location of Offa LGA in Kwara State

The present day Offa LGA is located in the South-East of Ilorin, the capital of Kwara State of Nigeria. The town is situated on longitude 50°E and latitude 80°N. It is about 56 kilometers from the state capital. Offa is situated on a gentle Plateau, which is about 1429 feet (408.9m) above the sea level. It has indeed been aptly described as a watershed between the Ogun-Osun River Basin and Niger Basin. It is also situated on 21 miles (344km) on the South/North (SN) rail lines from Lagos. It is regarded geographically as a "gap town" and has always been a major railway depot station. Offa is regarded as a gateway to the old Northern Region of Nigeria. "The climate in Offa is divided into two seasons: the rainy season, characterized by heavy rainfalls which usually starts from April and ends in October. The dry season is characterized by excessive sunshine, loading to the hotness and dryness of the land. It usually starts in November and ends in March. Offa is bounded in the South by Ijagbo, in the North by Erin-Ile, in the East by Ira, and in the West by Ipee.

Historically the Oyun division, which was made up of Ipee, Erin, Irra, Ijagbo, Igbonna, Ilemona, Ojoku, Ikotun among others had Offa town as its

headquarters. It is pertinent to add here that the relentless struggles of Offa Decedent Union was to have a separate division to be known as Offa Local Government Area with Offa as the headquarters. This was to materialize in due course. (ODU, 2000).

Thus, the first civilian governor of Kwara state after the return to democracy in 1979 increased the number of local government councils in Kwara state from 12 to 23 in 1981. At this juncture, the former Oyun division was split into two with Offa as the headquarters. Buhari and Idiagbon regime reverted the existing local government councils back to 12 from 23, Offa was merged with the towns and villages in Oyun Division, Offa was made the Headquarter once again.

The agitation for Offa local government with Offa as the headquarter continued discreetly and genuinely unabated, until the opportunity avaded itself in 1991 when Gen. Babangida created more local government throughout the federation, the former Oyun local government was split into two with Offa as the headquarter of the newly created Offa LGA and Ilemona became the headquarter of the Old Oyun local government. Rahaman, (2005).

4.2 Population and Locational Spread within the LGA (Electoral Wards)

Offa LGA covers an area of about 14, 922 square kilometers with a population of about five hundred thousand people (local government handbook, 2004). The major ethnic groups in the local government are the Yoruba's of Ibolo Kingdom. The administrative headquarters of the local government is Offa, the local government is delineated into five districts and twelve electoral wards. The electoral wards are as follows:

i. Balogun ward
ii. Essa A Ward
iii. Essa B ward
iv. Essa C ward
v. Ojomu central A
vi. Ojomu central B
vii. Ojomu South East
viii. Ojomu North West
ix. Shawo Central
x. Shawo East ward
xi. Shawo South East
xii. Igbo- Idun Ward.

Offa is an amalgam town of eleven wards, i.e Balogun, Essa A, Essa B, Essa C, Wards, others are Ojomu central. A. Ojomu central B.Ojomu South East, Ojomu North West, Shawo Central, Shawo-East ward, Shawo South-East. These wards are made up of many compounds, and the compounds are made up of family units.

The above picture is different from what we have in Igbo-Idun ward which is the only ward outside Offa town. Igbo- Idun ward comprised of many villages, such as Alayin, Ga'a Odi, Bolorunduro, Kereaje, Ajelanwa, Gamo-Oko, Ajegunle, Olomitoro, Sekongba, Elesin Funfun, Gbosun, Kajola. Igbawere to mention but few. These are small villages and Hamlets, they all together formed what is known as Igbo-Idun ward.

Offa is made up of about 412 compounds the pioneers of these compounds migrated to Offa from their former settlements for political, economic, religious, and social reasons. Most of these compounds could trace their origin to other Yoruba towns and villages. For the purpose of this study some of these compounds are Essa, Shawo, Balogun, Aare-Onilu, Ojomu, Atagisoro compounds, other are Ile-Oloya, Ile Sango, Idi-Ogun, Ile-Aborisa, Ile Onira and Ile Elemona, Ile- Elerin etc. Rahman (2000).

4.3 Occupations and Per Capital Income of the People

The people of Offa local government area are mostly farmers, traders, great archers and hunters like their progenitors. Small percentage of the population are salary earners that work in government offices and private businesses. The local government is endowed with a soil that not only accommodate and cherished the growth of many types of crops and plants, like yam, maize, white and brown colored, millet and corn**.** The information collected during the field work, revealed that the vast majority of the people are small scale farmers. Farming is therefore the principle activity from which they derive food for subsistent and cash.

In the late 1950s, up to the mid 60s, Kano was a kind of agricultural "Mecca" visited by traders dealing in groundnut business. The groundnut "pyramid" were a beautiful sight to behold, like the then groundnut "pyramids" in Kano, there was an agricultural "pyramid" in Offa Local Government Area which have almost disappear now, that pyramid was the sweet potatoes (ANAMO) and cassava pyramids.

These two agricultural produce are the mainstay of the economy of Offa Local Government, which in the past rank the local government area among the high producers of quality and sweet potatoes in the country. According

to the Kwara state ministry of agriculture, (1980) Offa local government area has a total 1981 hectares of arable land that could be use for the production of sweet potatoes.

It is important to state at this point that people derive their income from the sale of this product, this is because people from the local governments e.g Oyun, Ifelodun, Irepodun local government areas. They are also loaded in lorries for onward movement to other states of the federation. No wonder Offa local government is referred to as the "home of sweet potatoes".

Cassava plantation is another major cash crop from which people derived their income. This crop is grown all over the local government especially areas like, Igbo-Idun, Onilamu, Ajegunle, Ikotun Igbawere etc. Kereaje village located over 20 kilometers from the local government headquarter is not too different from the above villages discussed, cassava is planted in large quantity but very little is sold for money. However, there are a few large scale farmers, who produced corn, guinea corn, yam for commercial purposes.

It is pertinent to mention here that people derive a lot of income from cassava processing. In Offa township, Ikotun, Gbolotu and Gamo, men and women are involved in the processing of cassava into Garri which is one of

the stable food in the local government area. Quality Garri are produced from this local government but only to be bagged and loaded in lorries for onward movement to the North in centres like, Kano, Kaduna. Funtua, and Zaria, the most unfortunate aspect of this cassava processing business is that up till this movement, there is no cassava processing industry in Offa local government area. Women who engaged in this business employed people in order to produce Garri locally in large quantity. Baffling though, is the realization that plenty man hours and finances are put into transporting these cassava from the farm to where they are being processed into finished goods.

Livestock farming as practiced by the people of the local government is another sources of income. Among the animals kept are goats, sheep, and most especially poultry keeping in Budo Irere, Idiape, Kereaje, Alayin villages. Our investigation revealed the same picture of mix farming in the villages. During the long dry season, people supplement income from agriculture with income in livestock farming. Sales of poultry products notably eggs, live chicken, and guinea fowls also add income to a few families having reasonable number of these birds. In addition to the above, some villages like, Kajola, Ikotun and Gbosun, the rearing of goats, sheep and other domestic animals is a source of income for the people especially during festival period when he-goats are taking to the market for sale.

On the other hand of the informal sector are the unregistered establishments. Apart from the primary activities (agricultural occupation) mentioned earlier on, we have the secondary activities (traditional and modern crafts e.g. weaving, tailoring, hair dressing, panel beater, vulcanizer, bricklayer, battery charger, barbing saloon, Block markers. Auto-mechanic etc). The other means by which people of the local government generate income is through small scale distribution, (hawking, petty trading, retailing etc) and tertiary activities (for instance transport operation within the local government or outside it, restaurant (local food) dry cleaning. In addition, some people get their income from activities that support internal economy of Offa L.G.A. for instance water supply, banks among others.

4.4 **Level of Education**

Education is considered as a major industry by the people. The decision of the people of Offa to embrace Western Education early has yielded positive dividends, so much so that there is no single households that cannot boast of a graduate. It can be said without mincing word, that the people of Offa have an insatiable quest for educational excellence. Offa Grammar School the first community grammar school in the defunct Northern Nigeria was established in 1943, while Adeola Model Nursery/Primary School was the first private primary school to be established. Many more primary and

secondary schools were later established by both the community and private individuals including the prestigious Adesoye College. In recognition of the contributions of Offa people to the educational development of Nigeria, the then Head of State, Gen. Ibrahim Babangida granted the request of Offa for the establishment of Federal Polytechnic in 1991. Offa now has more than 48 primary schools and 18 secondary schools. Recently the town has the Nigeria Navy School of Health Science owned by the Federal Government.

4.5 The Level of Political Awareness and Participation in Governance

The political history of Kwara State is incomplete without the mention of Offa. The Late Chief J. S. Olawoyin popularly known as J.S was the first politician who represented Offa in the Northern House of Assembly in the 50's and was in the Vanguard for the demand of Ilorin-Kabba West merger. Many prominent sons and daughters of Offa had participated in governance at the Federal, State and local government levels. Among them are former special adviser to Babangida, on political matters Dr. Olagunju, former Nigeria Navy Commandant, one time Military Governor of Kwara State during the Military regime Col. Olatinwo are all from this town. Other people from Offa have been appointed as state commissioners, General Managers or Secretary in some state parastatals, e.g. Kwara state water corporation, Herald Newspaper as Editor, the present Registrar University of

Ilorin hail from Offa Town, The Deputy speaker Kwara State House of Assembly just to mention but few. With the above, one can rightly say that the level of political awareness and participation in governance in all levels of government by the people of Offa cannot be dismiss with mere wave of hand. Samuel (1982).

4.6 Infrastructural Facilities for Development

The presence of Owode Market in Offa LGA is fast turning it into an emporium of trade and the commercial nerve centre of Kwara State. Aware of the compelling need to increase the revenue profile and economic activities of the town, the local government has expanded both the Owode and Ajegunle plank market by the construction of more shops and tarring of the roads within the market area. People from neighbouring states like Osun State, Oyo and Kogi state come to this market on every market day. The town can also boost of the long existing Oja Oba (King's Market) which is very close to the Olofa Palace, a tradition common to many Yoruba community.

The town has a two lane road known as the "Olofa" way which is the most popular and busy road in the area and connect the town with some neigbouring towns like Erin-Ile, Ijagbo, Ajasse-Ipo etc. There are other

feeder roads that link some villages in the local government with the Headquarters to make the transportation of farm produce to the town easier, these villages are Ikotun, Igbo Idun, Ojoku, Ilemona etc.

The motor parks are of various forms and could be easily located within the town. The oldest and most notable among these motor parks is the Owode Park very close to the popular Owode market. Other parks are Idi-Ogun, Offa-Irra motors parks, polytechnic park, etc.

In addition to the above, the town has what was formerly known as General Hospital but has now been upgraded to a Specialist Hospital, by the Kwara state government. There are other community health centres established and managed by the local government. Apart from the above, there are handfuls of private hospitals in the town, e.g Olalomi, Onome, Nana Aisha etc.

Many sons and daughters of Offa are very prominent in the commercial and industrial development of Offa. Adesoye blazed the trail of industrial development of the town with the establishment of Okin Biscuit Ltd., Okin Form, Okin Juice, Okin Malt, Okin Express. He was quickly followed by Amukude Technical Company, Olalomi Carpet and many other small scale industrialists.

Irrespective of the epileptic power supply in Nigeria, Offa Local Government have long been enjoying the presence of power supply, this development has contributed to the establishment of some industries in the local government, the availability of good drinkable water is not left out, the town is connected to the rest of the state in the supply of both domestic and industrial needs. The Oyun Dam along Ajasse-Ipo and Ijagbo boarder established and managed by the Kwara state government supply water to Offa and other neigbouring towns. ODU (2005).

4.7 Challenges Faced by CBOs

From the above, there is no doubt that people in Offa local government area have shown enough interest to the development of their area, but in the process of this, face some challenges. Some of these challenges are enumerated below.

(a) CBO's in Offa township were said to be economically buoyant enough to have constructed roads, built schools and health centre provided portable water for the people with little or no government assistance. It was even recorded that the maternity centre built by CBOs in Offa arouse no government interest. This is to say that in areas where these CBOs are active they have receive no assistance from the government.

(b) Some of the challenges faced by these CBO's is a reflection of the weakness of the local government in the area of community development. The local government lacks funds to finance community development projects. It also lacks enough staff to cover all the villages making up the local government.

(c) Another similar challenged that afflicted CBOs in Offa LGA is that the CBOs are not properly organized, ineffective in performance, made decision in isolation, without consultation with the local government. This may be the reason why some of their projects did not arouse government interest.

(d) To transform the desire and interest of the people in community development to reality they need money. Many of these CBQs finance their programmes through individual contributions or levies. Unfortunately, many of these members are affected by the economic hardship, all these limits the operations of these CBOs. Related to the above is the irregular attendance of meetings. Unfortunately it is in such meetings that CBOs could generate funds and ideas, which are required for ensuring progress in CBOs activities.

(e) Internal conflict: most of the CBOs in Offa LGA have either about to collapse, have collapsed or operating a skeletal service, because of

internal conflict. Some of them have leadership tussle, Petty jealousy among members, personal interest, corruption and many others are the causes of these conflicts. Infact, these problems have greatly affected the performance of many of these organizations to the extent that it makes them unable to undertake some important activities and projects which were intended.

(f) Another challenge faced by these organizations is lack of awareness and inadequate support from the people. Western civilization and capitalist idea of individualism is gradually wiping away the spirit of African communalism. People have showed non-challant attitude to the call to participate in self- help projects, some people are still having the believe that government is there to provide everything for them. The situation in Offa LGA is not different, the lack of awareness and inadequate support from the people has made some of these organisations to lost focus of the aims and objectives of community based organisation.

4.8 **Impact of CBO Activities on the Socio-Economic Life of the People**

It will be difficult to look at the entire local government and measure the impact of communities based organizations on each community. However, general observation can be made on the communities based on our

investigation and interview. The building of primary schools by these CBO's has .increased the number pupils in the local government. The decision of the people of Offa Local Government Area to embrace western education early has yielded positive dividends. This has been demonstrated by the activities of these CBOs particularly on education. Offa Grammar Schools, the first community grammar school in the defunct Northern Nigeria was established by a 00 in 1943, while Adeola Model Nursery/Primary School was the first private primary school to be established. Many more primary and secondary schools were later established in the local government area by some of these CBOs and private individual including the prestigious Adesoye College which is one its kind in Nigeria in recognition of the above contribution of the people of this Local Government Area in educational development of Nigeria, the then Head of State Gen. Ibrahim Babangida granted the request of Offa people for the establishment of a Federal Polytechnic in Offa in 1991. Offa township alone has over 48 primary schools and 18 secondary schools, most of them established by CBOs in the area. All the above have impacted positively on the people, these schools have produced prominent people in Nigeria today. For a very long time education has been the only industry in Offa L.G.A.

In addition, the activities of CBOs in the educational aspect has increased the enrolment of students in their secondary school. The holiday coach organized by one of the CBO for students preparing to sit for the West Africa Examination council, as a result of this, many indigenes of Offa LGA have passed out with good credit result and have been able to secure admission in to Universities and Tertiary Institutions. Related to the above is the impact of CBD's activities on the health of the people, although this cannot be compared to the impact on the growth of education discussed above, however, it has gone a long way by the increase in the number of patients who received medical attention in the rural clinics, cottage hospital and health centres established by some of these CBO's.

The impact of CBQs in the construction of feeder roads in some villages like Gamo, Igbodun, Ogbondoroko, Alayin, Ajelanwa etc cannot be over emphasized. This has reduced the hardship of transporting food item by the farmers to other parts of the state, and particularly to the popular Owode Market in Offa. The impact of road construction can also be seen in the number of private and commercial vehicles that use the road. In the provisions of peep wells or boreholes in some of these villages the COOs have help in preventing some of the water borne diseases and helps in personal cleanliness. People are also mobilised for environmental sanitation.

For instance, Okin Progressive Association in 2005 organized operation "Keep Offa Clean".

In another development, in the area of recreation some CBO's particularly in Offa have recreation centres e.g Okin Club, Offa Famous club, Railway Night club, etc. Although these centres are profit making ventures, however, they are avenue where people can go and relax and partake in some social activities. All the above point to the fact that the activities of CBO's in Offa L.G.A cannot be overemphasized.

CHAPTER FIVE

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

5.1 Introduction

In this chapter, we would present and analyze the data from both secondary and primary sources with the aim of confirming two assumptions already posited in chapter one of this thesis. To do this we made use of data from our secondary sources and observations for the first assumption. Data obtained from community development projects from all the registered CBO's from 2002- 2007 were used to confirm the performance of the CBO's in the local government. This is supported by our observation of some of the places and projects visited. In the same vein, we made use of several discussions made with the local people on the activities of CBO's. Therefore our data and analysis presentation is based on all of the above.

In addition, data obtained from our primary sources were used to determine the relationship between the CBO's and the local government. To do this we administered questionnaires to 345 respondents. Out of which 338 were returned. Forty six out of the 338 returned were not correctly filled and were therefore rejected. Data obtained from primary sources were used to confirm the second assumption in order to determine members participation in the activities of CBO's in the local government area. The analysis proceeds now

with the presentation of data from data collected from community development projects executed by CBO's in Offa LGA. Meanwhile, we made use of simple percentage in our data analysis. The table below show the number of questionnaires administered, returned and use for analysis.

Table 5.1: Total Number of Questionnaire Administered, Returned and used for Analysis.

S/N	Categories of Respondent	Population Size	Sample Size	Number Returned	Number Analyzed
1.	CBO's officials	80	75	73	72
2.	Members of the public	300	250	245	200
3.	Local government officials	25	20	20	20
Total		**405**	**345**	**338**	**292**

Sources: Authors Research (2006).

We administered questionnaire to 345 respondents as previously mention which is also the sample size of our population. However, 338 questionnaires were returned. Forty six (46) out of the 338 were not correctly filled and were therefore rejected. Therefore our data and their analysis are based on 292 copies of the questionnaires as shown in the table above. In addition, data from primary source, will assist us greatly in

confirming some previous findings in secondary sources. Meanwhile table 5.1 above shows the distribution of respondents for this study. Our assumptions which we mentioned in chapter one is further confirm below by the data obtained from both the primary and secondary sources.

5.2 **Assumption One**

The first assumptions of this study states that:

> *"The poor performance of community based organizations in Offa LGA in terms of socio-economic facilities can partly be attributed to the poor working relationship between them and the local government"*

In order to show the performance of C8O's and their working relationship with the local government, we constructed table 5.2., the table shows the number of projects planned versus the numbers successfully completed by the CBO's in the area from 2002-2007. The table also shows the amount projected for these projects by these C5O's and the amount generated. In addition, the table shows the level of financial assistance by the local government to the CBO's. However, the remark section of the table helped us greatly in our analysis. Meanwhile, the table 5.2 is presented below.

Table 5.2: Community Development Projects Executed by CBO's in Offa LGA (2002-2007).

S/N	Projects	Projects planned	Projects executed	Amount projected (₦000,000)	Amount Generated (N000,000)	Amount from state L/Govt. (₦000,000)	Remark
1.	Roads	15	6	8.50	0.80	-	Only 6 were completed between 2002-2007 (out of 15)
2.	Community halls	8	2	2.00	0.40	-	Only 2 were completed by 2006 (out of 8)
3.	Renovation of palace	5	1	2.00	0.40	-	Only 2 were completed by 2006 (out of 8)
4.	Community health centres	3	-	-	-	-	Community donated land expecting local government to build
5.	Market stalls	4	4	5.5	2.80	2.80	Both were completed between 2004-2007
6.	Water (peep well)	5	2	2.40	0.30	0.30	Only two were completed by the year 2005 (out of 5)
7.	Schools (primary)	6	3	4.50	1.20	1.20	Only three were executed and 2 have been completed in 2004
8.	School	3	2	5.20	0.80	0.80	One started

	(secondary)						in 2004 one in progress
9.	Electricity	2	2	1.00	0.20	0.20	Both of them in progress
10.	Motor parks	4	1	2.00	0.10	0.10	Only one was completed by 2005 (out of 4)
11.	Drainage	22-	-	1.00	0.0	0.0	None of the projects were executed
12.	Housings	2	1	3.00	0.20	0.20	Only one out of the 2 CBO embarked on housing unit and not completed since 2011-2007
Total		**59**	**24**	**13.60**	**7.90**	**7.90**	

Sources: Computed by the Researcher, (2007) and Adebayo (2007)

5.2.1 **Analysis of the Results**

Table 5.2 above shows the trends in the community development projects executed by CBO's in Offa LGA between 2002-2007. The table presents the number of projects embarked upon by these CBO's. Projects planned and projects executed. Amount projected for these projects and amount generated, also it presented the amount of the financial assistance received from the state and local government. The table shows the list of community projects these CBOs embarked upon in Offa LGA. These include constructions of roads (29.41%) community hall (22.41%) renovation of

king's palace (3.92%) community health centres (1.92%). Table 5.2 revealed that out of 59 projects planned by these CBO's only 24 projects were executed including those that were uncompleted in the period under review.

To further prove the performance of these CBO's the same table 5.2 look at the amount of the money projected for these projects, and the amount generated, the table reveals that out the total ₦13.60 million projected for these projects, only ₦7.9 million were generated internally.

In line with the above analysis, the first assumption which posits that there is poor performance of CBO's in the LGA could be upheld. The same table also reveals the financial relationship between the CBO's and the local government. From all indications, the local government gave meager financial assistance to the CBOs only once (0.75) when they embarked on the constructions of market stalls in 2004 -2007, perhaps this little assistance might have encouraged the CBO's to complete the projects, which is the only project the CBO's fully executed during the period, other projects remained uncompleted, according to the same table 5.2. The CBO's planned for 15 road projects only 6 were completed between 2002-2007, 8 community halls were planned for, but they were able to complete only 2 between 2002- 2006. 3 community health centres were planned but up till

today, the local government pledge to execute these projects but unable to meet up with this pledge despite the fact that the CBO's donated land for the projects.

In line with the above analysis, it become clear that very little or no assistance at all comes from the local government. In the course of this study we decided to find out again the local government financial assistance by looking at the local government budget 2002- 2007. The table below, indicated the local government budgets and the amount given to self-help projects in the area.

Table 5.3: Local government budgetary allocation to self-help projects (2002-2007).

Years	**Annual Budget (NM)**	**Amount allocated to Community Development (Self-help)**
2002	109.00.10	-
2003	130.010.08	-
2004	180.701.00	0.70
2005	188.301.00	-
2006	190.102.00	0.10
2007	193.201.85	-
Total	**991.316.03**	**0.80**

Sources: Computed from the local government budget (2002-2007).

The table above shows the local government budget to self help projects 2002-2007. According to the table, there was no financial assistance in 2002,

2003, 2005 and 2007, however, there was little assistance in 2004 and 2006 the total amount given to CBO's is 0.80m despite the fact that there was slight increase in the budget from 2002 -2007, the 0.10 that was meant for self-help project did not actually get to these CBO's. It was also made known to us that the said amount given to CBO's were given to only the CBO's in the local government headquarter which suggest that the CBO's in the rural areas were completely left without assistance by the local government.

To further confirm or explain the performance of the CBO's we embacked on investigations and observations of proposed projects by these CBOs and the actual size of projects completed our findings is stated in the table below.

Table 5.4: CBOs proposed projects and actual execution 2002- 2007

Year	**Project**	**Proposed sizes of projects**	**Description of actual sizes of projects executed**	**Remarks**
2002-2007	Feeder roads	28 kilometers	12 kilometers	The completed kilometer of roads have poor drainages
2006	Community halls	a. 1500 members b. 800 members	a. 100 members b. 500 members	A decline in CBOs activities
2004-2007	Market stalls	10/12	8/10	A major slump in the amount projected
2004	School (primary)	a. 6 classrooms b. 8 classrooms blocks	a. 4 classrooms b. 5 classrooms blocks	A decline in CBOs activities
2001-2007	Housing	6 units of 3 bed-rooms flat	3 units of 2 bed-room flat	The project is still in progress till today

Sources: Computed from CBO's project reports and observations. 2007.

The information contained in table 5.3, indicates that CBOs in Offa Local Government; particularly those in Offa town proposed to construct 28 kilometers of feeder roads, but were able to execute 12 kilometers, and the completed kilometers of roads based on our observation have poor drainage even though construction of good drainages, were included in the project plan properly follow project plan due to a slump in the amount projected for these projects. A number of these CBOs embark on the construction of community Halls with 1,500 member capacity and 800 members capacity, but due to lack of funds had to reduce the capacity of these halls to 500 and 100 members capacity.

CBO's in Gamo, and Igbo-Idun, proposed community healthy centres projects. No projects plan for Gamo's project, but the Igbo-Idun project plan reveals 50 bed capacity health centre. In our group discussion with some members of this community, we were made to understand that the CBO bought two plots of land for the project. In 2003, the then local government chairman paid a visit to the village and promised to take over the building of the health centre since land had already been acquired for it, when we visited the place in 2008 nothing is done on the land, regrettably, roadside mechanic and other small scale business have encroached on the land.

The same table, indicated that CBOs in Offa town embarked on the construction of market stalls beside Owode market, in the proposed project the project plan was shopping complex with 10/12 shop size, but had to change the plan to lock up shops with 10/8 shop size due to a major slump in the amount projected. In Gbosun and Ogbondoroko, two villages that are 9 kilometers to each other, the CBOs in these villages had a project plan of 6 classrooms and 8 classrooms but were able to execute 4 classrooms and 5 classrooms respectively. In the same analysis of the table, a CBOs in Ajegunle which is about 15 kilometers to the local government headquarter who according to the information we gathered have a project plan of building 5 units of 3 bedroom flat in order to generate revenue for the organization, but was able to execute 3 units of 2 bedroom flat, as at the time we visited the project in 2008, the projects is on its foundation stage due to lack of funds and outside assistance. The next table is meant to explain the location of CBO's projects and present level of completion.

Table 5.5: Major Activities of the CBO's before 2002

S/N	Names of CBO's	Activities	Location of projects in the LGA	Date	Present level of completion
1.	Offa Descent Union	- Offa Grammar School	Offa	1943	Completed
		- Offa Community Girls School	Offa	1953	Completed
		- Offa Teachers College	Offa	1957	Completed
		- Offa Community Secondary School	Offa	1980	Completed
		- General Hospital	Offa	1946	Completed
		- Owode Market	Offa	1957	Completed
2.	Okin Progressive Association	- Construction of drainages	Offa	1999	Completed
		- Donation of sets of computers to two secondary schools	Offa	2000	Completed
		- Donation of medical equipment to general hospital Offa etc	Offa	2000	Completed
3.	Ajelanwa Youth Club	- Construction of feeder road	Ajelanwa	1988	Completed
		- Construction of two blocks classrooms	Ajelanwa	1989	Completed
		- Construction of two peep wells	Ajelanwa	1990	Completed
		- Environmental sanitation etc	Ajelanwa	1990	Completed
4.	Igbo-Idun Community Development	- Market Stalls Construction Feeder Road	Igbo-Idun	1993	Completed
		- Construction of a Health Centre	Igbo-Idun	1994	Completed
		- Construction of a well, clearing of refuse	Igbo-Idun	1999	Completed
5.	Gamo Development Association	- Renovation of Primary School	Gamo	1994	Completed
		- Construct a cottage hospital	Gamo	1996	Completed
		- Construction of 10 prototypes shops	Gamo	1998	Completed
		- Launched Appeal Fund	Gamo	1998	Completed

Source: Author Survey, 2005

Some of the major activities of these CBO's before year 2002 is shown in the table above. This is followed by the infrastructural facilities provided by these CBO's in the period between 2002 and 2007. A close comparism between the two tables shows that CBO's in Offa L.G.A performed very well before year 2002 but declined in their performance between 2002 and 2007. The table below explain better.

Table 5.6: Infrastructural Facilities provided by these CBOS's in the LGA between 2002 and 2007

S/N	Facilities	Provided by which CBO's	Date	Location in the LGA	Present Condition
1.	**Education**				
	a. Primary Schools	None	-	-	-
	b. Secondary School	None	-	-	-
	c. Nigeria Naval Medical Training School	Donation of a permanent site by Offa descendent union for the school	2005	Offa	Completed
2.	**Health**				
	a. Community health centre	Igbo-Idun Community Development Association	2003	Igbo-Idun	Not completed
	b. Cottage Hospital	None	-	-	-
	c. General hospital	-	-	-	-
3.	**Roads**				
	a. Feeder roads	Ajelanwa youth club, gamo development	2003	Ajelanwa	Not completed
	b. Major road	-	-	-	-
4.	**Markets**				
	a. Market stalls	Gamo development	2005	Gamo	Not

		association			completed
	b. Shopping complex	None	-	-	-
5.	**Water supply**				
	a. Pipe borne water	None	-	-	-
	b. Boreholes water	None	-	-	-
	c. Well	Ajelanwa youth club	Not known	Ajelanwa	Completed
6.	**Recreation centres**	None	-	-	-
7.	**Bank**	None	-	-	-
8.	**Electricity**	None	-	-	-
9.	**Motor parks**	None	-	-	-

Source: Author's Survey, 2006

We went further to know the number of people meant to benefit from CBOs projects and the actual number of the people benefiting, in an attempt to do this, we realized that it is difficult to measure those who benefited from CBOs activities and those who did not, but general observations were conducted particularly on the few facilities provided by these CBOs and the people that are benefiting from these facilities. In the period under review, few kilometers of feeder roads were constructed by the CBOs while many bad roads could be found in the local government. We observed the number of vehicles that use these roads constructed by the CBOs and discovered that few people benefited from these roads, the number would have been much if the CBOs were able to execute their plan projects on road construction.

Our observations also revealed to us that due to shortage of community health centres in some villages in the local government, CBOs decided to have cottage hospitals in their area to benefit all the people, but this did not come to pass because the local government who pledged to build one of such hospital did not honour its pledge, this has denied many people the benefit. In another development, in areas like Ayekale, Bolorunduro and Alayin, they have only one primary school that served the three villages, the primary school cannot meet the community request for admission, CBOs in the area have in their projects plan on building more primary schools in order to take care of primary school enrolment, they were able to construct one, this project is yet to be completed. Therefore people in this area are unable to benefit from this project as originally planned.

It is the same story with secondary schools the people in villages like Kamamu, Idiape, Ayekale and Kolo, have no secondary schools the CBOs in these villages decided to come together and have one, in the course of our investigation, these villages agreed on a particular site where the school will benefit the three communities, and representatives of theses CBOs have on several occasions appealed for assistance both verbally and in written but no response from the local government.

In line with the above analysis, the first assumption which posits that the poor performance of community based organizations in Offa LGA in terms of socio-economic facilities can partly be attributed to the poor working relationship between them and the local government can be upheld.

5.3 **Assumption Two**

The second assumption of the study states that:

> *"The level or extent of CBOs achievements In contributing to the socio -economic development of Offa LGA is a function of members participation in the organizations activities.*

Data collected in respect of members and non members contributions to the activities of CBOs particularly fund raising programmes is contained in the table below.

Table 5.7: Contributions of Members to Fund Raising Activities by CBO's in Offa L.G.A (2002- 2007).

S/N	CBOs	Year	Initial amount needed (NM)	Members contributions	Non-members contributions	Location govt. contribution	Total amount collected
1.	Ajelanwa youth club	2002-2004	1.0m	150,000m	55,000	-	205,000
2.	Okin progressive association	2003	1.5m	210,000	45,000	Fund promised but not redeemed	255,000
3.	Igbodun community development association	2002-2004	2.5m	180,000	42,000	-	325,000
4.	Gamo	2005	2.0m	50,000	21,000	-	71,000

	developme nt association						
5.	Cooperativ e society alayin	2006	2.0m	62,000	31,000	-	93,000
6.	Offamajo developme nt association	2007	2.0m	180,000	26,000	-	206,000
	Total		**11.0m**	**832,000**	**220,000**	**None**	**11,550.00**

Sources: Computed from CBOs minute

With respect to the levels or extent of CBOs achievement in contributing to the Socio-economic development of Offa LGA is a function of members participation in the organizations activities. The information contained in table 5.4 above shows the low level of contributions by members to fund raising activities of CBOs in the local government. The table indicates that from 2002- 2007 the CBOs organized series of fund raising activities in order to raise funds for their various projects. During this period, according to our investigation, all the CBOs were looking for ₦11.0m. Members of these organizations contributed ₦832, 000 which is on the low side, non members donated 220, 000 altogether, local government promised to donate fund for one of the CBOs but did not keep their promise. Non-members are those who do not belong to these CBO's but are members of the communities where these CBO's exist. This also shows a very poor relationship between the CBOs and the local government. Mean while, the

total amount received from all members and non-members in all the fund raising activities is ₦11,550.00 which is 1.5%. This indicates that members participation in CBOs activities is on the low side which subsequently contributed to the low level of achievement in the socioeconomic development of the local government by the CBOs.

Furthermore, we went further to find out members participation in the activities of the CBOs by looking at attendance of meetings by members of these CBOs.

Table 5.8: Attendance of Meeting by CBOs Members in Offa LGA (January- December, 2006).

			Attendance of meetings on monthly based by CBOs members												
S/N	**CBOs**	**No of members**	**Jan**	**Feb**	**Mar**	**Apr**	**May**	**Jun**	**July**	**Aug**	**Sept**	**Oct**	**Nov**	**Dec**	**Remarks**
1.	Okin progressive association	55	30	15	22	17	19	17	20	22	30	16	23	20	Low attendance
2.	Ajelanwa youth club	60	22	18	-	20	28	24	22	30	20	15	17	26	Low attendance
3.	Igbodun community development association	48	40	21	18	28	29	30	42	43	39	30	38	42	Low attendance

4.	Gamo development association	30	15	10	16	12	20	28	16	13	19	20	19	11	Low attendance
5.	Cooperative society Alayin	57	20	18	25	28	32	36	15	19	22	30	32	21	Low attendance
6.	Offamajo development association	40	30	20	31	20	19	28	29	32	15	18	21	19	Low attendance

Sources: Computed by the researcher 2008

The low performance of CBOs could be attributed to irregular and poor attendance of meetings by members, unfortunately, that is where they normally generate ideas and funds.

From the data contained in table 5.5 above, the attendance of meetings by all the six CBOs investigated were very low apart from Igbo-Idun Development Association which attendance of meetings by members according to the table was relatively high in 2006. It is also the same story in 2007 as indicated by the table below. Attendance of meetings is one of the activities of CBO's where that is very important to them.

Table 5.9: Attendance of Meeting by CBO's Members in Offa LGA (January- December, 2007).

			Attendance of meetings on monthly based by CBOs members												
S/N	**CBOs**	**No of members**	**Jan**	**Feb**	**Mar**	**Apr**	**May**	**Jun**	**July**	**Aug**	**Sept**	**Oct**	**Nov**	**Dec**	**Remarks**
1.	Okin progressive association	55	22	17	19	30	22	32	30	16	23	20	25	18	Very low
2.	Ajelanwa youth club	60	28	30	15	20	18	31	38	15	21	29	15	23	Low
3.	Igbodun community development association	48	20	28	18	24	29	15	18	25	22	18	19	23	Low
4.	Gamo development association	30	15	20	18	22	13	19	20	11	10	14	20	17	Low
5.	Cooperative society Alayin	57	31	20	14	21	18	22	13	19	17	20	21	15	Low
6.	Offamajo development association	40	33	29	30	39	35	30	38	39	23	36	37	38	High

Sources: Computed by the researcher 2008

In this meetings, money are contributed and vital decisions taken. Many of them hold their meetings on the last Sunday of the month. The result as contained in table 5.6 indicates that attendance of meetings by all the member of all the CBOs under investigation were very low except Offa Majo Development Association.

To further confirm the assumption, we had discussions with some members of these organizations executive on members, based on the information we

gathered in the course of our discussions and observation, members hardly visits projects site.

In a follow up question to ascertain the reason why members participation in CBOs activities were very low, there were several reactions but majority of the respondents indicated that the low participation of members in CBO5 activities was as a result of lack of finance and lack of support from the local government. The table below contains the reactions of the respondents.

Table 5.10: Members Participation in CBO's Activities.

S/N	Reason	No. of Respondent
1.	Lack of cooperation from community members	27
2.	Lack of support from local government	40
3.	Poverty in the community	100
4.	Lack of finance	125
Total		**292**

Source: Author's field work, 2006.

Based on the information contained in the table above, lack of finance has been contributed as the main reason for low level participation in the activities of CBOs. Lack of finance is quickly .linked to poverty in the community. A cross section of them lamented that the poor economic

situations of the country is having its effects on them. It becomes clear therefore, that the assumption which states that the level or extent of CBO achievement in contributing to the socio-economic development of Offa LGA is a function of members participation in the organizations activities, is upheld.

The analysis so far generally shows that there is poor working relationship between the local government and the CBOs in the area this has been validated by the various data presented since the beginning of this chapter. In the same vein, the low level of members participations in all the activities of CBOs has negatively affected CBO's achievement in contributing to the socio-economic development of Offa L.G.A. However, we attempt to complement this assertion in the next section.

In this section the study present the respondents views on the contributions of CBOs to the socio-economic development of Offa LGA. The questionnaires (copies attached in Appendixes) were designed to elicit information from the following respondents as indicated in chapter three of this study. These are CBOs leaders, community dwellers, and local government staff; the table below explained further.

When we asked both the CBOs leaders and local government functionaries on the financial assistance rendered to the CBOs by the local government, their responses were summarized and presented in the table below.

Table 5.11: Frequency in the assistance of local government to CBOs.

S/N	Types of Assistance	V.S	S	F.S	N.S	Total
1.	Finance	20	32	30	40	122
2.	Material inputs	10	15	10	20	65
3.	Technical	10	10	10	30	45
4.	Mobilization	-	-	-	-	-
Total		**55**	**57**	**600**	**120**	**292**

Source: Field survey (2006).

The breakdown of the response in the table above, shows that a bulk of the respondents indicated that the assistance of the local government to CBOs were not satisfactory. This is because 41% (120) indicated that local government assistance to the CBOs was not satisfactory. Although 20.5% (60) indicated that local government assistance was fairly satisfactory. Whereas 19.5% (57) indicated that their assistance was satisfactory. With the above analysis it has further confirmed our previous analysis of secondary data which shows a low working relationship between the local government and the CBOs. In a follow up questions on why the local

government have over the years unable to assist the CBOs, there were several reactions but majority of the respondents indicated that the local government itself is not financially buoyant or strong to assist the local government. The table below contain the reactions of the respondents.

Table 5.12: Frequency of reasons for lack of assistance from Local Government Authority

S/N	Reason	No. of Respondent
1.	Lack of qualified staff	55
2.	Lack of commitment on the part of the staff	112
3.	Lack of finance and logistics	125
Total		**292**

Sources: Authors field work (2006).

An analysis of the above table indicates that the highest number of the respondents (125) agree that lack of finance and logistics has been responsible for the local government inability to assist the CBO's, in a discussion we had with a member of local government staff he said the local government cannot give what it does not have, 90% of the local government revenue goes to payment of salaries coupled with several deduction by the state government, little or nothing is left for development project. No wonder the outcry of zero allocation by the local governments.

Based on the information contained in the table above, we went further to find out the level of cooperation from members of the community with these CBO's since the local government cannot assist them, we received many reactions but majority of them indicates that the CBO's received a low cooperation from the members of the community. The table below contain the reactions of the respondents.

5.13: Level of Cooperation of Community Members with CBO's.

S/N	Types of Cooperation	Very high	High	Very low	Low	Total
1.	Direct labour	20	30	30	45	125
2.	Donation of inputs	15	10	10	20	55
3.	Finance	10	10	10	30	60
4.	Mobilization	-	10	12	30	52
Total		**45**	**60**	**62**	**125**	**292**

Sources: Author's field survey (2006)

The data contained in the above table 5.9.2 shows that 15.9% (45) of the total respondents indicated that the cooperation of members of the community with the CBO's was very high and 20.5% (60) of the total respondents indicated that community cooperation was high. However, 2l. 2% (62) of the total respondents indicated that the community cooperation was very low. In the same table, 42.8 (125) of the total respondents indicated

that the cooperation from the community to the CBOs was low, which is twice the number of those who indicated very low.

We went further to ascertain reasons for this low level of cooperation to the CBOs by members of the community, a cross section of these people who are civil servant, traders and artisan lamented lack of money, particularly the poor economic situation of the country is affecting members of the community.

In Offa L.G.A; the absence of the government (state and local) in community development and the widening gap between the people and the government in the area of policy formulation and implementation, people of this local government have for long decided to come together and formed development associations, clubs or unions in order to jointly provide infrastructures for the common benefits of the community. Meanwhile, the researcher intend to find out how adequate is the CBOs contributions to the development of community in Offa L.G.A., their reactions are contained in the table below.

Table 5.14: Level of Adequacy of CBOs Contributions to Community Development.

S/N	Types of Cooperation	High	Very low	Low	Total
1.	Education	20	30	35	135
2.	Health care	15	20	35	70
3.	Water supply	-	-	25	25
4.	Feeder roads	-	-	-	-
5.	Market & motor parks	15	17	30	62
Total		**60**	**62**	**125**	**292**

Source: Author's field survey (2006).

The contributions or activities of these CBO's to the development of the community were not adequate as indicated in table 5.9.2 above. Out of 292 respondents 59.9% (175) indicated that the contributions of CBO's to community development were not adequate. And 2.9% (67) indicated that their contributions were adequate, while 17.1% (50) indicated that they were very adequate. In a follow up question on how these services were not adequate, a bulk of these respondents said the number of primary school by the government is unable to take care of people demand for primary education, and the contributions of CBO's in this respect have not been able to solve the problem, in the area of health care services, the respondents said some of the cottage or community health care clinics established by these

CBO's are yet to be completed, while those completed have no drugs and health personnel. On feeder roads the few kilometers of feeder road constructed by some of these CBOs have developed pot-holes due to lack of regular maintenance.

Based on the analysis of the above table, we went further to ask a related question, since the services of these CBO's are not adequate, what problems/challenges does these CBOs face in carrying out its activities? There were several reactions but majority of the respondents indicated that lack of local government support is the main problem facing the CBO's. The table below contains the reactions of the respondents.

Table 5.15: The Challenges face by CBO's in Offa LGA.

S/N	Challenges	No. of Respondent
1.	Poverty	25
2.	Lack of finance	40
3.	Lack of people's cooperation	105
4.	Lack of local government support	122
Total		**292**

Sources: Author's field work (2006).

A cross section of the respondents said the local governments have failed on several occasions to come to the assistance of these CBOs even when invited

by these CBOs they don't come. It become clear therefore that the proposition which states that the poor performance of community based organization in Offa L.G.A in terms of socio-economic facilities can partly be attributed to the poor working relationship between them and the local government" is upheld.

However, in the process of carrying out their activities and programmes, they are faced with many challenges. In the course of our fact findings we had several discussions with our respondents on the challenges facing the CBO's. These challenges are lack of support or assistants, from the local government, lack of finance on the part of the CBO's to execute their projects, low level of participation by members of these CBO's coupled with lack of cooperation with the members of the community, this according to our study of the situation could be attributed to illiteracy and high rate of poverty in the community. All the above will be discussed in our findings below.

5.4 **Research Findings**

Our research findings emanating from the field reveals that community organizations had been in existence for a very long time in Offa LGA even before the creation of Kwara State and the Local Government. The people in

the local government had at different time organized themselves into groups and had employed communal resources to provide physical improvement and functional facilities in their respective localities.

In the light of our investigations and analysis, between 2002 to 2007 the performance of CBO's have declined this is because the number of projects executed within this period were far below the number planned.

Findings revealed that the amount of funds collected for the execution of projects was far less than the amount planned for project execution. As a result of this, CBOs were unable to complete or even execute some of their planned projects.

The result of our study also confirmed the lack of financial assistance to the CBOs by the local government. It is one thing to prepare a plan for community development projects, it is quite another to execute the projects. One of the most important determinants of success or failure of a plan is the availability of fund. The local governments have failed to assist the CBOs financially. The lack of financial assistance from the local government, according to our findings has also affected size and quality of some projects executed.

In essence, our results shows that CBO's predominantly rely upon their own self efforts and affordable resources to execute their projects. It is also confirmed from our findings that local government have given the CBO's adequate financial support for their local development projects. The inability of the government to do this our findings continue could be either due to the social, political and economic problems that have engulfed the country.

The achievement of CBO's in Offa LGA is also determined by members participations and cooperation in CBO's activities, members participation in the activities of CBO's have been a regular feature from time immemorial in the history of CBO's this is because people saw the need and usefulness of roads, dispensaries, schools, town halls etc they come together to provide them, our study test the levels of members corporation and the results revealed that the cooperation of members with the CBO's was low. Members cooperation is one of the prerequisites of suitability in CBO's programs, when this is lacking, CBO's cannot achieve their aims and objectives.

The contributions of CBO's to the socio-economic development of Offa LGA were well intended but the lack of cooperation from members and lack of support by local government have negatively affected the contributions of

these CBOs, our finding revealed that within the period under review, the overall contributions of CBO's were inadequate.

Another more appalling situation is the attendance of meetings by members, our finds revealed that in all the CBO's visited, there were generally poor attendance of meetings these are reflections of minutes of meetings on attendance. When members do not attend meetings where ideas and funds are generated it would be difficult to achieve anything by these CBOs. This is based on the fact that many of the member of these organizations are petty traders, businessmen and women, artisan, etc. these category of people depend largely on daily income from their business.

CHAPTER SIX

SUMMARY CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.0 Introduction

This section present the major summary of the study, from the analysis of our data, this is followed by the conclusion of the study and then recommendations.

6.1 Summary

This study examines the contributions of community based organizations to the development of communities in Nigeria, a study of Offa, LGA.

The research itself was prompted by the poor performance of community based organizations in the socio-political and economic development of the area between 2002 to 2007. Community development by community based organizations is an age long social activity in the area. Even before the creation of the local and state governments, people had at different time in history, organized themselves into groups and associations for instances Offa Descendant Union was founded by Offa indigenes in Lagos 1935. The heroic achievement of this organization has proven the foresightedness of the founding fathers.

According to Rahman (1998) Offa Descendant Union at home and the Diasporas conceived the idea of secondary school education and their efforts produced the community secondary school in the old Northern Region in 1943. ODU persistence agitation for Offa autonomy led to the creation of Oyun Division and Offa as its headquarters in 1968. ODU was able to regain for Olofa of Offa the second class status she lost in 1917, the union founded the Offa Community Girls School in 1955. Among other schools the unions founded are Ololami Comprehensive College, Iyeru Grammar School, Okin High School among others, ODU successfully agitated for the building of General Hospital in Offa in 1946, it was also the brain behind the construction of Owode Market. The defunct Offa Progressive Union was formed by some educated Offa indigenes, with the development of education as its main objectives.

The above achievements was an eye opener to the other parts of the local government, community associations clubs, and unions were also formed in Gamo-Oko, Alayin, Kereaje, Ajegunle, Gbosun, Ayekale, Asipa and they have contributed immensely to socio economic development of their various communities. On the basis of the above, Offa LGA became famous in community development between 1940 to 2000, All the above attracted the attention of the researcher. However, our worries stem from the fact that

from 2002 based on the researcher observations that performance and activities towards community development by these CBOs have been on the downward trend. It is important to note that since Nigeria got her independence in 1960, there had been persistent call by all levels of government on the people to come together and form association in order to attract government attention and assistance.

According to Andrew (1996) successive governments have stressed the need and their willingness to encourage mass participation in rural development, to this end, government has encourage the creation of community development association. The people of Offa LGA have answered this call they have formed many Associations and have executed many developmental projects on their own initiative, but-unfortunately have received little or no government assistance particularly from the local government. In this study, we examined the contributions of CBOs to socio-economic development of their communities and blamed the local government for the poor performance of these CBOs. The whole work is contained in six chapters as shall be summarized below.

In chapter one, we made clear the general background to the study taking cognizance of the problem that necessitated the research. Chapter one also

outlined the objectives of the study with a view to assess the contributions of CBOs to the development of Offa LGA, identify the remote and immediate causes of their decline in performance, proffered solution and suggest new approaches to development. Two proposition were postulated as a guide to carry out the research which had to be validated or refuted at the end of the study.

Our scope covers and examines the activities of the CBO's in Offa Local Government between 2002-2007 with a view to investigate reasons for their poor performance. Our study is restricted to CBOs in Offa LGA and their activities in the area of socio-economic development other specific issues addressed in this study are mobilization of resources for project implementation. Impact of these projects on the socio-economic life of the people in the area, and relationship between the CBO's and Offa LGA in terms of technical and material support. Also, few concepts that can be drawn from this study were given operational definition to enhance the real focus of the study.

Furthermore, chapter two centered on literature review, we explore several existing literatures on CBOs and their activities in socioeconomic development of communities in Nigeria and other parts of the world. We

made a comparism between Community Based Organization (CBO) and Non Governmental Organization (NGO) in this chapter as well, we identified the theory of Paulo Freire (2004) who introduced "Community action model" The community action model then became a suitable theoretical framework for this study. This theory emphasize the importance of people in a community to team together to attain socio-economic development it also builds on the strengths of community to create changes from within. In this study, CBO is seen as a means to fulfilling this among residents in Offa LGA.

In chapter three, research methodology was presented comprising the use of traditional research instruments such as questionnaires, group discussion, and observations methods. In most cases, we derived our data from secondary sources and this was complemented from primary sources in this study, as well our population is all the CBO's in Offa LGA, while the sample size were chosen from this population.

In chapter four, we presented an overview of the socio-economic profile of the people of Offa LGA; its historical background, geographical location and population, occupation of the people, level of education, the level of political awareness and participation in governance, infrastructural facilities, in this

chapter as well, we narrated the specific CBO's studied, and challenges faced by the CBO's.

The data collected from the field was presented in chapter five based on our assumptions. Percentages were used to analyze the data in order to illustrate the magnitude and differences in the result obtained. From these results, some logical conclusions were arrived at according to each assumption. In addition, we included observations and group discussions that were made in the course of our investigation, this is followed lastly in the chapter by research findings.

Chapter six of this work contained a summary of this work as narrated above, while conclusion and recommendations are stated below.

6.2 **Conclusion**

In the 21st century, CBO's hold a great promise to provide the much needed socio-economic infrastructure in the developing countries. They are increasingly making up for the shortcomings of the state, particularly in developing countries where the state is weak and conspicuously absence in the development of communities. They are considered part of the civil area in society, which exist in form of clubs, unions, people's associations, development or cooperative associations etc.

Our analysis so far shows that these CBO's in Offa LGA had been in existence for a very long time even before the creation of the local government. The proliferation of CBO's in this area is as a result of the fact that people recognized the need to come together and produce common social facilities that would benefit them particular[y in a situation where we have weak sate. These CBO's have performed relatively well in the past by the provision of socioeconomic facilities in the local government like schools (both primary and secondary) Health centers or cottage hospitals, feeders roads, peep well, drainages, market stalls and motor parks. These are facilities that are very important to the people, but unfortunately, the provisions of these vital facilities by the CBO's have declined or on the downward trend to the extent that they found it difficult or unable to embark on new project, and to the extent that the few projects provided in the past are now in a poor state or condition due to lack of regular maintenance.

The above in turn raises question about what Is actually wrong with these CBO's and why they have not been able to forge ahead on their past achievements. The above now become the subject matter and problem that attracted the researcher, some appalling problems were identified particularly the lack of local government assistance to these CBO's. It is the position of this research that CBO's cannot and should not be seen as an

institution that can solve all problems of developing countries but because of their role in the provision of social facilities for the people, they can be seen as supplementing government efforts in socio-economic development, base on the above, we proffered some recommendations.

6.3 Recommendations

From the analysis of our findings, results, as well as inferences drawn, the following recommendations are made.

1. Government at all levels should encourage the proliferation of and economically support the goals and objectives of CBO's in the study area, creating a common forum where both governmental and nongovernmental organizations could contribute their quota.
2. The advantages of fund raising from the community has been well recognized and utilized by CBO's in the study area, many of these CBO's have organized series of fund raising activities but have not been able o realize their targeted amount due to low turnout of members of the community. The government and the general public can complement the efforts of these CBO's by donating 'generously to these CBO's so that they can finance local projects for the people.
3. Related to the above is the members participation in CBO's activities particularly attendance of meetings and contribution of inputs for

project implementation. Members of these organizations have supported their organizations in the past but have not been able to continue with this gesture due to the poor economic situations of the county. The economy is the hub of the society; therefore government should take concrete measures to revamp the economy. If the economic is buoyant enough, members would be able to participate effectively and contribute financially to the activities of CBO's. This will go a long way in assisting the CBO's and make them to perform according to the "community action theory" which emphasized on self determination by people in a community to come together and develop their community from within rather than waiting or calling on the government to come and do it for them.

4. The politicization of giving assistance to CBO's in the LGA is a bane on the performance and efforts of these organizations, to eradicate this, the community development office of the local government should take it as its responsibility to mobilize and sensitize these community based organizations to explore the benefit of the assistance given by donor agencies so that they can execute development projects.

5. The study observed that there is the practice of doing it alone among these CBO's, many of them have little or nothing to do with each other, infact some of them are not aware of the existence of other organizations. Therefore, the study suggest a CBO's networking in inter-organization relations, this network can be use to form a mega organization in order to attract financial assistance from government and other agencies. Government, or international agencies can be catalyst, facilitators and organizers in this respects.

6. CBO's should know and understand the nature of the environment where they operate particularly the people. They should foaster good relationship and rapport with the people this will make people of the area to cooperate, participate, and contribute financially to the CBO's programmes.

7. More importantly at this juncture, this study suggest CBO's as an alternative approach to development in Nigeria as is done in India, Japan, Indonesia etc. The rapid growth and expansion of CBOs' in Kwara state attest to their critical role in the development process. We perceived CBO's as vehicles for providing democratization and economic development, this is in line with Wagona findings that CBO's are increasingly considered good substitutes for weak state and

market in the promotion of economic development and the provision of basic services to most people. This study equally perceived them as catalyst for societal changes because they are responsible to the needs and problems of their people particularly the poor.

8. The study also revealed that CBO's contributions in the local government have turned out to be "infrequent" and "unreliable" of recent, this is because beyond the problems of lack of support by the local government and lack of finance, there are organizational incapacity and report of insulting behavior, corruption, poor leadership, nepotism that undermined people's confidence in CBO's. These worrisome indices, no doubt call for urgent need to strengthen these local and grassroot institutions as viable alternatives or complementary institutions of development which can be use as a panacea to poverty alleviation. It is therefore our resolute, that CBO's if properly assisted and encouraged can adequately contribute to the socio-economic and physical developments of both members and their immediate communities.

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APPENDIX I

QUESTIONNAIRE 1: Community Based Organisations Leaders

Note: MAL. BASHIR DERE is a research student in Ahmadu Hello University Zaria. He is presently conducting a research project on "Evaluation of the contributions of community based organisations to the development of communities in Nigeria. A study of Offa local government area Kwara State? You are thus kindly required to respond as objectively and as exhaustively as possible to the questions in this questionnaire. The answer will be treated VERY CONFIDENTIALLY. Therefore your name is not needed, neither is your signature. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

SECTION "A": Personal Data

1. Name of Community
2. Name of CBO
3. Position Held
4. Since when?

SECTION "A": Issues Relating To CBO Activities

1. Project /Activities carried out by the CBOs between 2002-2007.

Project/Activities Between 2002-2007	**Location in the LGA**	**Year Started**	**Year Completed**

2. Assistance from Local Government and State Government

Nature of Assistance	**How much or Quantity**	**Year of the Assistance**	**For which Projects**
a. Finance			
b. Materials			
c. Tools/Equipment			
d. Technical Staff			

3. Challenges facing the CBO between 2002 and 2007

Which challenges did the CBO face between 2002 and 2007? Please briefly discuss the challenges. Example includes:

a. Finance

b. Lack of support from government

c. Lack of cooperation from community members

d. Poverty in the community

e. Illiteracy in the community

APPENDIX II

Questionnaire "II": For community dwellers (Household) heads, Teachers, Health and Medical Workers, Traders and Artisan.

Note: MAL. BASHIR DERE is a research student in Ahmadu Bello University Zaria. He is presently conducting a research project on "Evaluation of the contributions of community based organisations to the development of communities in Nigeria. A study of Offa local government area Kwara State? You are thus kindly required to respond as objectively and as exhaustively as possible to the questions in this questionnaire. The answer will be treated VERY CONFIDENTIALLY. Therefore your name is not needed, neither is your signature. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

SECTION "A"

1. Name of Community
2. For how long have you been living in this community?
3. Your Occupation
4. Martial status
5. Number of children: Male [ ] Female [ ]
6. Number of children in primary school: Male [ ] Female [ ]
7. Number of children in secondary: Male [ ] Female [ ]
8. Number of children working: Male [ ] Female [ ]

SECTION B

Issues relating to CBOs in the community

1. Do you have CBOs in the community?

2. Names of the CBOs

   a. _____

   b. _____

   c. _____

3. Are you a member of any CBO's?

4. Name of the CBO's

5. What activities/projects did your CBO engaged in between 2002- 2007

Activities/Project	**Year started**	**Year completed or stage of completion**	**Estimated cost**	**Actual cost**
i.				
ii.				
iii.				
iv.				
v.				

6. What is the level of cooperation from members of the community with these CBOs. Very high [ ] High [ ] very low
7. Give reasons for your answer.
8. In which ways have the CBO's project/activities contributed to the development of the community? e.g. Education, Health care Water supply, Feeder roads, please explain how.
9. What problems does the CBO face in carrying out its project/activities? E.g Finance, poverty, lack of people's cooperation, lack of local government support, e.t.c.

APPENDIX III

Questionnaire "IV": for Local Government Staff (C.D, Works, Health and LEA) Departments.

Note: MAL. BASHIR DERE is a research student in Ahmadu Bello University Zaria. He is presently conducting a research project on "Evaluation of the contributions of community based organisations to the development of communities in Nigeria. A study of Offa local government area Kwara State? You are thus kindly required to respond as objectively and as exhaustively as possible to the questions in this questionnaire. The answer will be treated VERY CONFIDENTIALLY. Therefore your name is not needed, neither is your signature. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

SECTION "A": Personal Data

1. Department
2. Designation
3. Length of services in the local government
4. Educational qualification
5. Your schedule of duties.

SECTION "B": Issues Relating to CBQs in the Local Government Area.

1. Number of CBOs registered with the local government

2. Names of S important CBOs registered with the local government.

   a. _____

   b. _____

   c. _____

   d. _____

3. Projects/Activities carried out by the 5 CBOs between 2002-2007

Names of CBOs	**Projects/Activities carried out**	**Location in the LGA**	**Year started**	**Year completed or stage or completion**
i.				
ii.				
iii.				
iv.				
v.				

4. Local Government and State Assistance to the 5 CBOs between 2002-2007

CBOs	**Nature of Assistance**	**How much or quantity**	**Years of the assistance**	**For which project**
i.				
ii.				
iii.				
iv.				
v.				

APPENDIX

List of Community Based Organizations in Offa LGA as at 2006

S/N	Name of CBOs	Town/Villages	Ward	No. of Members
1.	Standard Friendship Club	Offa	Essa A	50
2.	Diamond Elite Club	Offa	Balogun	80
3.	Ocean Royale Social Club	Offa	Shawo East	35
4.	Morning Star Youth Association	Offa	Essa "B"	35
5.	Anticipation Association	Offa	Balogun	80
6.	Famous Club	Ayekale	Igbo-Idun	50
7.	Premier Club	Igbawere	Igbodun	30
8.	Charity Friends Associations	Keraje	Igbodun	29
9.	Okin Social Club	Offa	Essa "C"	35
10.	Offamajo Development Association	Offa	Ojomu South	40
11.	Okin Progressive Association	Offa	Essa "C"	55
12.	Ajelanwa Youth Club	Ajelanwa	Igbodun	60
13.	Igbodun Community Dev. Association	Igbodun	Igbodun	48
14.	Gamo Oko Development Association	Gamo Oko	Igbodun	30
15.	Artisan Workers Union	Offa	Balogun	85
16.	Bricklayers Development Association	Offa	Ojomu Central	40
17.	Egbe Ilosiwaju Omo Ilu Offa	Offa	Ojomu North	38
18.	Alayan Cooperative Society	Alayin	Igbo-dun	57
19.	Ifesowopo Social Club	Gbosun	Igbo-dun	30
20.	Ifelodun Development Association	Kajola	Igbo-dun	18
21.	Farmers Cooperative Association		-	-
22.	Offa Descendent Union	Offa	Offa	-

Source: Community Development Unit Offa L.G.A, Secretariat (2006) and Field Survey Data, (2007).