

**OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (ODA), ITS
ACTIVITIES AND THE DEVELOPMENTAL
NEEDS OF RECIPIENT COUNTRIES.
A CASE STUDY OF NIGERIA.**

BY

ANZIGAH, JONAH

DECEMBER, 2000.

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**Being a thesis submitted to the Department of Political
Science, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria., in partial
fulfillment of the requirement for the award of Degree
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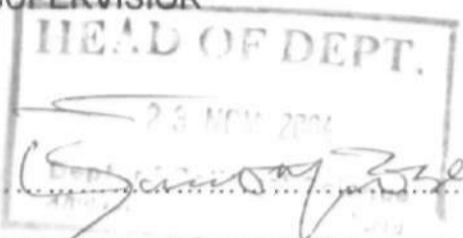
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CERTIFICATION

This thesis titled OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (ODA), ITS ACTIVITIES AND THE DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS OF RECIPIENT COUNTRIES. A CASE STUDY OF NIGERIA. "by ANZIGAH JONAH meets the regulations governing the award of the Degree of Masters in International Affairs and Diplomacy (MIAD) of Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) Zaria, and is approved for its contribution to knowledge and Literacy presentation.


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DEDICATION

THIS WORK IS DEDICATED TO MY BELOVED WIFE,
MRS. RIFKATU ANZIGAH JONAH, MY SON, MR.
ABRAHAM ANZIGAH, MY DAUGHTER, MISS MONICA
ANZIGAH JONAH AND MY NEPHEW, ANZIGAH
ZUBAIRU ANZIGAH FOR THEIR LOVE,
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MY PROFOUND GRATITUDE GOES TO MY PARENTS, LATE ANZIGAH DOGO – AKPRIZI AND MRS. VUNGA ANZIGAH DOGO AKPRIZI; AND OF - COURSE MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN THE PERSONS OF: LATE MRS. HAJARATU JOHN, MRS. TABITHA KIKULA, MR. DAVID ANZIGAH, LATE TITUS ANZIGAH AND ISHAKU ANZIGAH, FOR GIVING ME THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION IN LIFE AND WITHOUT WHOM THIS COURSE WOULD NOT HAVE COME ON BOARD.

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ABSTRACT

A society is divided into the public and private realms. The Private controlled sector is further divided into profit and non-profit making parts. Non-Government Organizations, (NGOS), which this research dwells on belong to the latter part.

Wherever they exist Non-Governmental Organizations, are products of self help efforts, geared towards the alleviation or eradication of a particular problem in a social system. They have been part of societal development problem in a social system. They have been part of societal development strategies right from the very time men consented to live under the famous "Social Contract".

In the past as well as in the present NGOs in Western countries have enjoyed considerable success, especially in the last three decades and it is now accepted they have an effective role to play in the field of development co-operation. These Omnipresent representatives of civil society are engaged in a variety of activities to combat poverty including emergency aid, financing of development programmes, sending volunteers into the field, development education and lobbying. Given the breadth of their operations NGOs have given a lot of thought, as too what their role ought to be.

This work is important for **three reasons**. **First** the work proposes to deal with an area on which very little work has been done at a comprehensive level. **Second** the work hopes to measure the linkages between the proliferation of NGOs in Nigeria and their claims to be Vanguard of grassroots development;

Thirdly, the work hopes to evaluate the motivations behind this proliferation. The work further assesses the operational styles of these organizations and then terminates with recommendations to guide future predictions and policies in the area of study.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

A society is divided into the public, government controlled and private controlled. The private controlled sector is further divided into profit and non profit making parts. Non government organizations, (NGOS), which this research dwells on belong to the latter part.

Wherever they exist non-governmental organizations, are products of self help efforts, geared towards the alleviation or eradication of a particular problem in a social system. They have been part of societal development strategies right from the very time men consented to live under the famous "social contract".

In the past as well as in the present NGOs in Western countries have enjoyed considerable success, especially in the last three decades and it is now accepted they have an effective role to play in the field of development cooperation. These Omnipresent representatives of civil society are engaged in a variety of activities to combat poverty including emergency aid, financing of development programmes, sending volunteers into the field, development education and lobbying. Given the breadth of their operations NGOs have given a lot of thought, as to what their role ought to be.

The title "NGOS and grassroots development in Nigeria, a case study of youth NGO's 1986 – 1998, is at once provocative for three reasons. First the work proposes to deal with an area on which very little work has been done at a comprehensive level. Second the work hopes to measure the linkages between the

proliferation of NGOS in Nigeria and their claims to be Vanguards of grassroots development.

Third, the work hopes to evaluate the motivations behind this proliferation and the contributions of the youth (the bed rock of any society) to this trend. The work further assesses the operational styles of these organizations and then terminates with recommendations to guide future predictions and policies in the area of study.

1.1. STATEMENT OF RESEARCH PROBLEM

In the past one and half decades, Nigeria has metamorphosed from a richly endowed country, that could take care of all its citizens to one of the economically distressed countries in Africa. It has witnessed urban as well as rural poverty. As this economic decline intensifies, both the citizens and nature itself, have come under great stress and impoverishment.

This process of deepening poverty in many sectors of the Economy and the failure of the state to provide a considerable assistance in terms of socio-economic and political needs of the people, led to the decision to intervene to help overcome one or other specific problems. We have thus seen a rapid increase in the establishment and proliferation in the country of civil development Associations (NGOS). This study is an attempt to measure whether the NGOS have actually been able to provide those needs and services which the state has failed to provide to citizens in Nigeria. The work also attempts to measure the linkages between the task of development at the grassroots and NGOs

proliferation in Nigeria, particularly their proliferation from 1980 onwards, and following the annulment of the June 12, 1993 presidential elections.

The adverse effects of the structural adjustment programme (SAP) on Nigerians, as a fallout of the crisis in which the state in Nigeria finds itself, beginning from 1986 and prolong military governance (which is also part of the crisis of the state) has also resulted in increasing proliferation of NGOS activities in Nigeria. These NGOS have however suffered severe criticisms from both government and the public. These accusations range from their external funding, which narrow their activities to serving as instruments of foreign agencies to the allegation that they are avenues for making money.

These catalogue of accusations, put to question the credibility of these organizations and the motives put forward for establishing them (to respond to the failure of the state in provision of certain needs and services). These catalogue of accusations further challenge the argument that NGOS are agents of grassroots and by extension national development. Are they money-making ventures? Have these organizations responded to the needs of the people, in the presence of denial by the state. This work hopes to unravel the motives for their formation and the factors responsible for their sudden upsurge and proliferation in Nigeria.

1.2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives of this work were derived from the fact that the significance of the area of study has been ignored by students of politics over time. They are as follows:

- (1) To measure the linkages between the failure of the state in providing for the socio-economic needs of the people and NGOs proliferation in Nigeria.
- (2) To assess the efficiency of NGO's to developmental efforts of the Third world, Particularly Nigeria.
- (3) To assess the effectiveness of Aid as a developmental tool.

1.3 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Data for this work shall be derived from both primary and secondary sources. Primary sources comprise of questionnaires and interviews. Respondents in this category shall comprise of specialist in the area of study as well as members of civil society. The work will also make use of information from tapes (audio and visual) on conferences and seminars in the area of study. It will also enjoy the initiative of the author as a specialist and participant observer in the area of study.

Secondary data would be sourced from national and international magazines, journals, newspapers and conference materials on the subject in Nigeria and by the United Nations agencies.

1.4 SIGNIFICANCE / RELEVANCE OF THE STUDY

The very first significance of this study is that it represents a radical departure from specific areas to which students of politics over the years have traditionally concentrated attention, to an area that has been given very little

or no attention. The work also hopes to conscientize the ordinary man on issues and concepts associated with the area of study.

- The work will highlight and explore the effects of the failure of the state to provide social, economic and political needs of the people, as well as the attendant consequences of its structural adjustment policies and prolong military governance on NGOS proliferation and other sectors of society.
- It is hoped that this research work will add to the scanty literature, available in the area of study, as well as stimulate further studies in the area.
- The work attempts to come up with a comprehensive typology and study on NGOS in Nigeria, which had hitherto been lacking except for one or two available literature.
- Finally, it is the hope of the researcher that this work will serve not only as a point of reference, but also serve as a guide for future policies and predictions in the area of study.

1.5 SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

The work shall give a background to the evolution of NGOS in Nigeria, from pre-colonial down into postcolonial Nigeria and then take on an analytical departure from 1986 – 1998, with particular focus on youth NGOS.

A major limitation of this work is the fact that NGOS are relatively new in Africa and their development still low and uncoordinated in Nigeria. Furthermore the dynamic and exploding number of NGOS, with new ones emerging daily in

Nigeria with hardly an identified aim or focus makes it difficult to categorise them or even have information about them.

Finally, very little or no comprehensive literature is available on the area of study to serve as guide or point of reference, except the data available from the NGO's in terms of activity profile and expenditure levels.

1.6 HYPOTHESIS FORMULATION

In line with the objectives of this study and a successful approach in the task of evaluating the relationship between NGOS and Grassroots development in Nigeria, the following hypothesis would be adopted as a guide:

- (1) NGO's provide the much needed assistance in the field of development
- (2) The level of increased or decreased NGO activity is indicative of state capacity in terms of development.
- (3) Increase in economic hardship will result in the proliferation of more NGOS.

This work hopes to validate or not the propositions of these hypothesis. A basic observation from the hypothesis is that the failure of the state to meet certain needs of the people, coupled with the attendant consequences of prolonged military governance and structural adjustment policies, led to the proliferation of more NGOS, as survival strategies to cope, by the citizenry.

Two main variables constitute the nucleus of these hypothesis; the independent variable development and the dependent variable – non governmental organizations (NGOS).

1.7 LITERATURE REVIEW

FORMS OF DEPENDENCE

There are different forms of dependence which is rooted in imperialism. It came into being on the basis of early conquest and developed on a global system in the last 19th century. By then capitalism had developed into monopoly capitalism and the subsequent division of the world among the capitalist powers.

The forms and nature of independence only served to intensify dependence of the newly independent states. The administrative and bureaucratic institutions established by the colonial presence ensured that these countries became dependent under a neocolonial arrangement.

(a) Direct Economic Dependence

Direct economic dependence means a situation in which the key positions of the economy that is the most important economic branches are in the hands of, or are controlled by foreign monopoly capital. A direct form of exploitation of most surplus produced by local labour force. Surplus realized by small commodity producers and a certain proportion income of the whole population, plus the existing branches of the processing industry were controlled by foreign monopolies¹.

For example, taking a close look at one of the underdeveloped countries in Asia, like India where British capital controlled almost every

branch of the India economy deposit the fact that, domestic India monopoly capital had already develop under colonial rule.

(a) **Trade Dependence**

On the one hand, trade dependence means dependence in trade relations on a few advanced capitalist countries with which most of the trade is transacted i.e. (relational dependence). On the other hand it is the overall dependence of the entire economy on the cyclical changes of the capitalist market.

Trade dependence came about and survived in Third World countries as a result of a relational dependence on the assumption of the fact that a country whose most important economic sectors are controlled by foreign capital will have access to trade on a large scale or exclusively with the metropolitan country of the originated capitalist country. This peculiar to Third World countries who emerged from colonialism.

Even if foreign trade is controlled by the state organs of foreign capital, as long as it holds key positions of the economy of the country, it would have many other ways and means to channel foreign trade in direction it wishes². Among which are the system of preference, which creates favourable conditions for the export from the underdeveloped country for supply of the metropolitan country with necessary primary commodities. Creating a monopoly position on market of underdeveloped countries presenting the development of Third World countries national industry.

The metropolitan country achieved its purpose of strengthening rational trade dependence through the credit financing of exports, the extension of loans

1.9 DEFINITION OF CONCEPTS

All conceptual definition here given apply to the context within

Which they were used in this work.

- (i) **GRASSROOTS:** It refers to the ordinary people in the society as opposed to those who make decisions, living amidst squalor and poverty. It consists of those category of individuals who subsist at the lowest socio-economic level within the Nigerian state. To this extent it encompass the poor, the ignorant, the disease ridden and those settled in miserable conditions, without regular occupation and income, who are routinely deprived of the very essentials of good life. politically they often exhibit negative and subordinate relationship with the state.
- (ii) **GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT:** It is here used to man any and very organized attempt to encourage, educate, influence or help people become actively involve in meeting some of their own needs. It also mean the capacity or tendency to empower people at the lowest socio-economic level of subsistence to harness and conquer their environment for the advancement of society. It encompasses the integration and participation of people at this level in National development policies, for development is a self propelling actively.
- (iii) **STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT PROGRAMME (SAP):** Structural adjustment refers to the series of socio-economic and political measures and programmes embarked upon by third world countries, as advocated by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, to address

issues of balance of payments deficits, Budget deficits, external debts and other related problems in the third world. It was a programme officially rationalized as series of "Measures aimed at promoting economic efficiency and long term growth with stabilization policies, designed to restore balance of payment equilibrium and price stability". It involves overall restructuring of society.

(iv) **YOUTH:** In this context it has been adopted to mean beyond the period of transition from teenage to maturity (18 – 35 years), it also connotes peoples who are the youth age, but who are young at heart and saddled themselves with the willingness to participate in grassroots development.

(v) **NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION (NGO):** It refers primarily to intermediary organizations, solidarity agencies, organization with restricted membership, networks, umbrella associations and professional associations, sharing origin as loose or formal bodies, which are composed of people working together outside government to address a need, advance a cause defend an interest or concerned with development or humanitarians work. It also comprise of organized efforts of people to develop socio-economically at the village or community level.

(vi) **POVERTY:** The concept of poverty has been given diverse meanings. Going by its dictionary definition, it means being poor "not having the means to procure comforts or necessities of life". The United Nations defined poverty as "a state of dispossession an deprivation in which

people are not just deprived of their income, but also of opportunity, empowerment and most important of all their dignity". In this work poverty is used to mean very low and deplorable socio-economic living standards, characterized by deficient and degraded human material condition, which inhibits the optimal realization of food, clothing, shelter, education and other higher social values, like self respect, opportunities for social mobility and participation in many forms of decision making.

1.10 ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK

Chapter one of this work outlines the design and focus of the Research, as well as what it hopes to achieve and how it hopes to achieve it. Chapter two covers the literature review and theoretical framework. Chapter three deals with the global and historical origins, of NGOS, first outside and then within Nigeria. In this chapter an attempt was also made to come up with a typology on NGOS in our area of study.

Chapter four comprises of data presentation and analysis and also attempt a measurement of the youth, NGOs and grassroots development in Nigeria; the operational strategies of NGOS, as well as a critique of these tendencies.

The concluding chapter visits a proposition to NGO financing options, before terminating with conclusions and recommendations by the researcher.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 THE STRUCTURE OF WESTERN AID PROGRAMME

2.1 Introduction: The Evolution of Western Aid Programme

Western aid has two origins:

- 1) U. S. fear of communist expansionism and European imperial politics. The U. S. aid programme effectively began with the marshal plan, which was directed to the reconstruction of Europe and Japan. The intention of the Marshal plan was to provide the United States with a first line defence against possible Russian aggression.
- 2) The only other significant "aid" programmes in this period immediately following World War II were those of France and Great Britain and, to a lesser extent, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Portugal. This European aid simply reflected the financial cost of maintaining empires in Africa, Asia and the Pacific and Caribbean regions. As the reconstructions of Europe and Japan progressed and the European countries' empires began to disintegrate, new independent political entities emerged and the western powers, especially the United States, began to shift the emphasis of their aid efforts.

The Size and Cost of the Aid Programme

Table 2.1 shows data on the size of total net Official Development Assistance (ODA) provided by DAC members in 1960, 1965, and 1970. An indicative but not strictly comparable figure for annual averages of the net flows of financial resources over the period of '1956-1959' is also shown. ODA is

defined as; concessionary flows of resources from donor government sources to less developed countries (loosely defined), and multilateral agencies. The figure in table 2.1 represents the budgetary allocations of ODA, which were actually disbursed (as against promised) in each of the years, net of repayments (but not interest) on past loans. While the data of table 2.1 illustrates the overall financial size and distribution of the aid programmes of DAC members, they say little or nothing about the size and distribution of the economic cost involved in maintaining them.

**Table 2.1: DISBURSEMENTS NET OF REPAYMENTS ON PAST
LOANS IN MILLIONS OF U. S. DOLLARS**

COUNTRY	1970		1965		1960		ANNUAL AVERAGE 1956-1959	
	AMOUNT	RANK	AMOUNT	RANK	AMOUNT	RANK	AMOUNT	RANK
United States	3050	1	3418	1	2702	1	2207	1
France	951	2	752	2	823	2	796	2
Germany	599	3	456	4	223	4	254	4
Japan	458	4	244	5	105	5	124	5
United Kingdom	477	5	472	3	407	3	273	3
Canada	346	6	96	8	75	8	58	7
Australia	203	7	119	6	59	9	43	8
Netherlands	196	8	70	9	35	11	36	9
Italy	147	9	60	10	77	7	91	6
Belgium	120	10	102	7	101	6	36	9
Sweden	117	11	38	11	7	12	9	11
Denmark	59	12	13	14	5	13	6	12
Norway	37	13	11	16	5	13	6	12
Switzerland	30	14	12	15	4	14	13	10
Portugal	29	15	22	13	37	10	6	12
Austria	19	16	31	12	na	-	2	13
Total Dac Member Countries Combined	6808		5916		4665		3959*	

Key:

Na = not available

* = the data for 1956-59 are not strictly comparable
with that for later years.

Source: DAC Review, 1971.

**Table 2.2: DISBURSEMENTS NET OF PAYMENTS ON PAST LOANS:
PERCENTAGES AND BANK**

COUNTRY	1970		1965		1960	
	SHARE OF GNP	RANK	SHARE OF GNP	RANK	SHARE OF GNP	RANK
France	0.65	1	0.75	2	1.38	2
Netherlands	0.63	2	0.36	8	0.31	8
Australia	0.59	3	0.52	4	0.88	6
Belgium	0.48	4	0.59	3	1.45	3
Portugal	0.45	5	1.59	1	0.19	1
Canada	0.43	6	0.19	11	0.19	11
Denmark	0.38	7	0.13	13	0.56	13
United Kingdom	0.37	8	0.47	6	0.05	4
Sweden	0.37	8	0.19	11	0.11	14
Norway	0.33	9	0.16	12	0.33	12
Germany	0.32	10	0.40	7	0.53	7
U.S	0.31	11	0.49	5	0.24	5
Japan	0.23	12	0.28	10	0.22	9
Italy	0.16	13	0.10	14	0.04	10
Switzerland	0.14	14	0.08	15	Na	15
Austria	0.13	15	0.34	9		-
Total Dac Countries	0.34	16	0.44		0.52	

Key:

Na = Not available

Source: DAC Review, 1971.

Table 2.2 shows the percentage of its GNP with each DAC members official development assistance programme constituted in the years 1960, 1965, and 1970 with the average for all DAC countries in these years. Comparing tables 2.1 and 2.2 we can see that although total aid has increased, the burden it has

placed on the donor has fallen substantially over the period. This is because the combined GNP of DAC countries has increased faster than their combined aid flows. This is clearly indicated by the fall in the figure for aid as a percentage of GNP from 0.52 percent in 1960 to 0.34 percent in 1970.

Table 2.3: GRANT ELEMENT OF OFFICIAL ASSISTANCE COMMITMENTS MADE IN 1970

COUNTRY	1 GRANTS AS A PERCENTAGE OF ODA	2 ODA COMMITMENTS AS PERCENTAGE OF GNP	3 GRANTS PERCENTAGE OF GNP (COLS 1X2)
Australia	91	0.68	0.62
Austria	41	0.16	0.07
Belgium	92	0.58	0.53
Canada	65	0.51	0.33
Denmark	92	0.40	0.37
France	73	0.84	0.61
Germany	54	0.44	0.24
Italy	54	0.21	0.11
Japan	39	0.30	0.12
Netherlands	64	0.60	0.42
Norway	99	0.37	0.37
Portugal	27	1.09	0.29
Sweden	82	0.69	0.57
Switzerland	82	0.18	0.15
United Kingdom	50	0.44	0.22
United States	64	0.34	0.22
Total DAC	63	0.41	0.26

Source: DAC Review, 1971.

Grants, Loans and the Term of Aid

Both the cost and the value of an aid programme depend to a large extent on the forms and terms on which it is offered. For this reason, the concept of burden on which table 2.2 is based is totally inadequate. It assumes that all components of the flows of ODA given in table 2.1 involve an equal sacrifice to the donors. This is not the case. The economic cost to a donor of giving aid which will never be repaid – i.e. a grant – is obviously greater than the economic cost of providing it in the form of loans which will be repaid.

The data for 1970 are shown in column one of table 2.3. We can see from this table that donors who gave most of their ODA in grant form were Norway (99 percent) and Belgium, while at the other end of the scale Portugal and Japan extended respectively, 27 percent and 39 percent of their ODA in the form of grants.

It can be argued that as loans are extended with the expectation of being repaid, only grants should be counted as real aid. In this case the cost of aid – or burden it imposes on the donors – should be measured by the proportion of GNP which is given away directly in the form of grants to poor countries.

The Distribution of Aid Among Recipients.

Finally, having discussed the amount involved in DAC members' aid programme (and the question of how much of a burden they represent to donors and how much of burden the servicing of the loan components is to the recipients), we turn to a brief account of the distribution of aid among recipients.

The questions of "who does" and "who should?" receive aid. Here, our concern is with the crude data on the existing pattern of distribution.

The only factor which approaches a common economic characteristic of the countries receiving most aid per capita is that for the most part they are relatively small in terms of population. A common political characteristic of most of the countries is that they were until recently colonies of one of the donor countries. This issue of the distribution of aid brings us, however the question of the motives of donors in giving aid at all.

2.2 MOTIVES FOR GIVEN AID

The existence of aid programme implied that a political decision has been taken to transfer, in one way or another, resources from taxpayers in rich countries to various groups of people in poor countries. Here, focus is on the question: on what grounds is such a decision taken?

The domestic politics of such decision taking is a separate issue, here I am concerned only with why donor governments think that their countries should maintain aid programmes.

Most people in rich countries, if asked why their countries maintain aid programmes, would reply that aid is intended to assist the countries of the Third World in their efforts to accelerate their rate of economic and social development. Most politicians would agree that this is the purpose of aid, although many would add that such development was sought as a means of securing some other objectives. It is not, however, generally agreed among those engaged in the study

of the problems of poor countries that aid can successfully generate accelerated development.

Growth and Development

Supporters of aid programmes frequently bolster their arguments by referring to abstract theoretical models of the economic process in poor countries.

Typical models hold that economic growth is constrained primarily by inadequate investment. In some models this results because the population of the country does not or cannot save enough of its income to pay for the investment. In others, savings may be adequate; but they cannot be converted into investment, as the necessary resources have to be imported, and there is not enough foreign exchange available. In such situation aid can add either to the level of savings the economy can sustain or to the supply of foreign exchange available to savings to use for buying investment goods.

Such simplistic models are deficient on two counts technically and in a public relations sense. They are technically deficient in that they over simplify the growth process to a level of absurdity. They are deficient in the public relations sense in that, unless increased flows of income can be shown to be closely linked to aid flows, critics of aids can argue that aid has not been successful.

Actual Purpose for Giving aid: The U.S. view

Taxpayers in rich countries are told by their governments that it is necessary for them to pay increased tax in order to provide aid tom poor

countries. Much of these aid, they are told, is to enable poor countries to attain higher levels of economic and social well-being, this being (directly or indirectly) in the interest of the donor countries. The politicians in rich countries believe that aid can serve their national interest.

President Nixon in a statement on September 15, 1970, said, "There are three interrelated purposes that the United States should pursue through our foreign assistance programme: promoting our national security by supporting the security of other nations; providing humanitarian relief; and furthering the long-run economic and social development of lower income countries".

It is clear then, that the U.S. administration sees the contribution of aid makes to the economic and social progress of poor countries as furthering U.S. interest in promoting world political conditions, which enhances its own security. Thus, real test of the effectiveness of an aid dollar, from the point of view of the United States, is how much security it buys for the United States.

Many people in donor countries have doubts about the arguments and motives of the pro-aid lobbies and questions the effectiveness of aid as a means of serving donor interests.

2.3 AID AND DEPENDENCE

Aid is a form of transaction between rich and poor. It is the most visible and obvious of what the North-South dialogue is about.

Aid is highly political but often mistaken for charity. It has a donor/recipient relationship. The donor nations, i.e. the rich countries of the

North, have surplus capital and know-how in form of trained personnel, which are made available at a price.

Willie Braudt a former chancellor of the defunct West Germany describes the North-South dialogues as the great social challenge our time. That is, aid is concerned with how to overcome world hunger of the mass misery resulting from many deprivations. In the developing world, this issue of overcoming poverty cannot be done in isolation, because of issues like international suspicion, confrontations and threat to peace.

Aid is simply a form of dependence because the recipient nation is at the mercy of the donor in most cases. Self-interest of the donor other than for altruism, charity or waste is paramount. It involves the commercial and political interest the donor wishes to pursue. This is in terms of capital and trained personnel. It gives out at a price, which involves bargaining between donor and the recipient. Humanitarianism is not left out here in order to dictate actions of government.

Aid given fall within the various reasons – helping allies, pursuing ex-cold war motives; strategic interest; safeguarding trade investment; and keeping up international joneses⁵.

NGO's Fall into Several Categories

- Churches and Missions – Their primary concern is proselytization.

- Large national organizations such as Ford Foundation and the Rock Feller Foundation in the USA.

National agencies such as OXFAM in Britain or NOVIB Holland were created to assist with problem in Third World, just like others.

It is widely believed that NGO's are institutional bodies involved with the people closely in both project planning and implementation while its subsidiaries and World Bank group increasingly channel funds through NGO's because of the desire to make this aid either in terms of funds more responsive to the people in actual need or partly because of the desire to scrape well as bureaucratic bottlenecks in SSA⁶.

The structural positions of NGO's vis-à-vis other official institutions engaged in development activities. They are better able to deliver results at a comparatively lower cost. An OECA 1985 noted that.

It is widely believed that the unequal features of NGO's or their comparative advantages, are their ability to deliver emerging relief or development service at low cost to many; their rapid, innovative and flexible response to emerging financial and technical assistance need at the grassroots level; their longstanding familiarity with the social sector development and poverty alleviation and their experience with small-scale development projects as well as with those requiring a high degree of involving and familiarity with the concerned target groups⁷.

Although these are common disadvantages – some NGO's are motivated more by goodwill than anything else. They sometimes lack any professionalism, they can create more problems than they can solve. There is often duplication of efforts for example, at the height of the flood disaster in Bangladesh in the early 1970s the head of a major British agency when questioned about the effectiveness of the aid being supplied, replied "it doesn't matter what we give them as long as we are seen to be doing something"⁸.

More often than not these NGO's or other voluntary agencies may be more useful in their home countries than in the field. In Britain, for example, they perform functions like, fund raising, bringing development problem to the attention of the general public, acting as pressure groups upon government for better performance in the aid field.

Although these functions vary, it has been widely believed that the most powerful functions of the NGO's is to act as pressure groups for a change of attitudes in an advanced economy towards relating to North-South dialogue. Some NGO's have played this role effectively by being cost effective and imaginative. Some have lived up to expectations. They are more concerned with cosmetic appearance other than performing their functions.

From records – the official British aid programme meets ninety percent (90%) of the cost of British overseas volunteers sent abroad by the four key agencies – CHR, IVS, UNA and USO. In 1982 these agencies between them had 909 volunteers overseas. It shows that the government tends to be ambivalent about NGO's. They support them with funds and ask them to undertake activities,

which the government is unable or willing to do. But this government funds NGO's embarrassing at times when they act as pressure groups, because of the attitude towards showing or expressing government deficiency in official aid programmes. This has made government NGO's relationship an uneasy one⁹.

2.4 THE ODA AS AN NGO

Non-governmental organizations as earlier stated in the preceding topic are voluntary organizations/volunteer movement, who re involved to some extent in North-South dialogue.

The Overseas Development Agency is a typical example of an NGO. The ODA is responsible for the assistance programmes. The overseas Aid Budget (which combines the previous separate programmes for overseas aid for developing countries and assistance to Central and Eastern Europe and former Soviet Union).

- Global Environment Assistance: The ODA here is responsible for exploitative programmes as overseas super-annotating total planned expenditure voted and non-voted which will rise from 2268 million pounds in 1993/94 to 2363 pounds in 1996/97. this extremely covers the two external assistance programmes and overseas super-annotation. This planned provision for the two external assistance programmes will increase from 2144 million pounds in 1993/94 to 2400 million pounds in 1996/97¹⁰.

The Overseas Development Agency (ODA) is quite abreast of the various problem and crises situation that befall the south (the Third World and those unforeseen crises and disaster, mishaps that might occur in future on the dynamic changes pertinent in the existing world order)

Therefore, the ODA as an NGO has the following seven (7) objectives supporting its agenda twenty-one (21):

- To promote economic reform
- To enhance production capacity
- To promote good government
- To undertake direct poverty reduction activities programmes
- To promote human development, including better education, health and children by choice
- To promote the status of women
- To help developing countries tackle international environmental problems¹¹.

Promotion of Economic Reforms

Sustainable development, which requires sound economic policies, which provides *MACROECONOMICS* stability and a *competitive environment* for economic efficiency, freedom from unnecessary controls and cost effective provision of essential public services, such policies create confidence and encourage the savings and investments needed to promote sustainable growth and raise the living standards.

Promotion of Productive Capacity

ODA policies in this area encourage more efficient and effective public expenditure programmes. With priority given to basic economic services provide aid to rehabilitate or improve public infrastructure and utilities as well as contribute to the acquisition of skills, know-how, research and training capabilities by managers staff engaged in productive activities in both public and private sectors.

Promotion of Good Governance

ODA policy here is to enhance the legitimacy of government, through support for democratic process and broader participation of society members in decision, which affect them.

They hereby encourage more transparent and better decision making in the allocation of a country's scarce resources, including reduced consumption and however military spending; which may help to strengthen competence of institutions to make and implement appropriate policies, which promote economic and social development as well as adhere to rule of law.

Poverty Reduction Activities and Programmes

By this policy, the ODA is simply in a bid to assist recipient countries define and design poverty reduction strategy by giving support for the collection of accurate information on the poor, and encouraging them to design their

economic reforms and other developmental policies; to promote growth particularly in labour-using the employment creating activities.

To Promote Human Development, Including Better Education, Health and Children by Choice

Policy

Here the ODA combines the basic social good to demographic convenience of the people. The ODA has always improved numbers of new project to promote quality education, increase bilateral support for education by providing quality basic primary education, for all including ideas aimed at improving an awareness of ODA staff to include women literacy programmes in relevant projects in population priority countries carrying forward the "children by choice approach".

ODA strives to increase the numbers to new population projects in population priority countries carrying forward the "children by choice approach".

Policy

ODA has laid emphasis on conducting dialogue with developing countries' institution on way to improve women status and help develop policies in areas where women are particularly affected, such as health, family planning, education, environment and development of small scale enterprises.

ODA takes time to strengthen links with other NGO's active in the field of women in development (WID) and assists these NGO's develop their own

capacity and coordinate effort with other donors, particularly through the OECD development assistance committee by supporting the work of international bodies and conference which seek to achieve changes; and meet home needs.

To Help Developing Countries Tackle National Environmental Problems

Policy

In the Early summit in Rio Brazil in June, 1992; which sets out in Agenda 21, what all countries should do to promote and practise sustainable development. ODA's responsibility was to see that (our) aid programmes help developing countries to address level.

ODA, giant strives to carry out its strategies for forest conservation, non-diversity and energy efficiency in addition to population planning and sustainable agriculture, under the objective four (4) and eleven (11) of agenda 21 – was to put forward the sentiments of principle on the world forests, agreed at Rio, by joint *planning with India and International workshops to prepare for the review of the policy by the commission on sustainable development (CSD).*

ODAs have always assisted developing countries, through aid projects, research and studies to meet their commitments under the bio-diversity and *climatic change convention through which a wider range of research activities and studies on environment issues in developing countries were billed for commissioning¹².*

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CHAPTER THREE

3.0 CATEGORIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

Non-governmental organizations tend to fall into several categories. The first category is the Churches and missions whose primary concern is proselytization. In recent time however, they have also become involved in aspect of development sometimes providing a wide range of services especially in education and health.

The second category is in the form of large national organizations such as the Ford Foundation Rockefeller Foundation in the (USA), they have funds but only a part of their country is directed towards Third World development.

In the third category are large national agencies such as Oxford famine Relief (Organization).

The fourth category comes as international organizations not originally designed for the Third World operations at all, although in recent years they have become increasingly involved in this developmental problems. These include the international Red Cross, the Planned Parenthood federation, World University Service or the World Council of Churches.

The fifth and last category consists of voluntary organizations created by Western countries. These rely on government funds to carry out their functions¹.

3.1 THE ODA AND ITS AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The (ODA) is responsible for Two External Assistance Programmes

- i. The overseas Aid budget, which combines the previously separated programme for overseas aid for developing countries and assistance to Central and Eastern Europe and former Soviet Union.
- ii. Global Environment Assistance. The ODA is also responsible for the expenditure programmes on Overseas super-annuation.

3.2 HOW ODA BILATERAL AID ARE DEVELOPED

Under the bilateral aid programme the ODA is directly responsible for setting policies and priority for identifying and designing projects and programmes for monitoring, implementation and evaluation of.

The Range of Its Instrument Involve Include Transfer of Know-How.

- Provided through consultancy, advice, training, technical cooperation and other contract officer, research and development.

Capital Investment

- To enhance productive capacity in specified projects and programmes including use of the aid.

Humanitarian Assistance and Food Aid

- To alleviate sufferings in disaster and emergency situations.

To achieve the bulk of these aid programmes, promotion of sustainable economic and social development, the following 7 priority objectives supporting agenda 21 of the ODA as follows:

- To provide economic reform
- To enhance productive capacity
- To promote good governance
- To undertake direct poverty reduction activities and programmes
- To promote human development, including better education and health and children by choice
- To promote the status of Women
- To help developing countries tackle national development problem⁴.

ODA helps to promote private sector, through the commonwealth development co- operations programmes of loans, and equity financing and management support, to productive enterprises (some 228 million in new investment each year).

Through programmes of technical and financial support for small and micro enterprises, often provided through U.K. based or local NGO's and specialized financial consultancies which enhances the productive capacities with training extension, advisory services and financial support.

3.3 CRITIQUE OF AID AS A DEVELOPMENTAL POLICY

Perhaps it is not difficult to believe that aid recipients and their donor counterparts engage in this relationship (donor/recipient) because they have to do what soothes them at that particular time.

Despite the criticism against aid nations i.e. (Third World Countries still continue to receive it of course this argument is a complex one). The political and economic manipulations involved are a substantial part of the process, and this provides the clearest reasons for the argument against aid⁹.

Economically, most of the foreign aid in form of loans are tied up. Specifically, the donor dictates how and when the aid is spent, which invariably leaves the recipient nation and the decisions of the use of these loans.

Such loans are given to nations, for the purchase of goods in the donor economy, to the most foreign aids are directly linked to the activities of multinational corporation/enterprises, since they participate in the running of this world economy.

Indeed, aid is a significant boost in the economies of the developed capitalist countries. Too often than not aid is used to either resuscitate a collapsing MNC's or foster the sphere of influence of a particular state in a particular region of the world. For example – British products in Nigerian markets are as a result of colonial affiliation with Britain while French products in market of countries like Niger, Chad and other French speaking of Francophone countries is as a result of colonial affiliation.

Economically, aid is also intended to win new markets for the products of the capitalist economies for example in the mid 1970s, British aid were directed towards Latin America with the sole aim of competing with the United States. Perhaps the most important functions of foreign aid is that it is used to correct the balance of payment problems of most capitalist economies¹⁰.

On the political level, most of the aids given to Third World countries are politically motivated. It is either used to influence the behavior of one state by another; for that former state to behave in a particular way or be compelled to accept certain policy guidelines of the donor nation. (Latter state) for instance British aid towards its ex-colonies is to maintain the sphere of influence. Aid at times are used to associate with new friendly nations, or punish deviant states for example the immediate aftermath of the second world war, when communism was gaining new grounds and weak western nations, billions of dollars were invested into western Europe to prevent them falling under the communist influence.

Apart from the Marshall plan of the 1940s whose ideas was simply that of massive injection of American capital into the economies of Europe, which enables it to get back on her feet again. Although there was other factors that helped it work. Even at that such aid provision never suffered again. No country (i.e. Third World) has reached the stage when it no longer needs aid.

The two major arguments against aid are as follows:

Principles of Administration of Aid and Fundamental Principle

Administratively, aid could be said to poorly manage because it is either given for wrong reasons or not targeted towards the right groups. Aid administration therefore needs to be reformed, so that implementation could touch on broader scopes.

Fundamental Principles

Aid is fundamentally conceived is not focused. That is, it is incapable of doing the job it is meant for, there are little or no development results from it. Aid to large extent saps self increasingly frequent international gatherings, and or other concessions always come high on the agenda. Poor countries are made to parade their poverty, "we are a poor country and we desire aid"¹¹.

Foreign aid attempts to create an ultimately destructive sense of dependence and undermines genuine attempts to achieve self-reliance.

Aid is an instrument of neocolonialism, that is, it is a weapon to influence the policies of small states or Third World nations to ensure that they remain economically and politically within the spheres of control of the donor. Thereby prolonging the relationship of the recipient.

Aid in most cases has political undertone to promoting development, therefore it is often suggested that donor should be more selective in their choice sound development project of support.

Furthermore, Professor Bauer posits that the Third World itself is the creation of foreign aid, without foreign aid; there is no Third World¹².

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CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 ODA AND ITS ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

4.1 A REAPPRAISAL

There are various forms of aid in which ODA partakes in.

These are as follows:

- Balance Aid: These are aids given by one country to another through a non-governmental organization, like OPDA, OXFAM etc. for example British aid to Nigerian is a form of bilateral aid.
- Multilateral Aid: These are aids provided by organizations consisting of several countries. For example, I.M.F, the World Bank, Paris Club. These kinds of aid are given in form of loans, grants, technical personnel that go to several countries and organizations.

Under These Two Types of Aid we have:

Programme Aid: These are assistance given in form of aid for the actualization of a national development plan; whatever its objectives may be in terms of development.

Project Aid: These are aids given for specific projects. That is, capital projects that involve research or funding that are conceived.

1. In 1992/93 some 160 million pounds, 26% of bilateral aid was granted on economic reform. Most of ODA bilateral aid (financial support for

reforms went to eight low countries in the world bank, led special programme of assistance for African countries, like Tanzania, Ghana, Uganda, Gambia, Malawi, Kenya, Mozambique, Zambia¹.

Quite a lot has been embarked upon to improve the scope of sustainable development in the Third World as well as in sub-Sahara Africa. This chapter takes a reappraisal of the performance and activities/achievements of ODA in aid programme and activities/achievements of ODA in aid pronouncement and executions.

It is necessary to note that, bilateral and multilateral aid donors have achieved success within their own specific areas of concentration. In addition to this, government irrespective of S.S.A. countries has also made their own contributions.

Since NGO's have emerged as institution where basic leadership and mobilization skill are thought among the people in the S.S.A. such NGO's like AFRICARE and ODA work in conjunction with local NGO's in Africa, which help to nurture and develop leadership, transparency and enhanced organizational capacity. So that the NGO could attract foreign donors' attention on their own².

2. In 1992/93 some 242 million pounds, 40% of ODA bilateral aid which could be numbered among ODA's priority objectives was targeted on enhancing productive capacity.

The ODA in 1990 have built up small enterprises development funds, for example the supporting and establishment of a business and advisory service in

Zimbabwe aided the development of a training programme at the Entrepreneur Development Institute in India³.

ODA is not confined to the development of manufacturing and service industry alone, but to the finance of sustainable agriculture such as the farming project in India, Aghia-Khan, etc. ODA embarked on the policy of promoting good governance for the easy execution of these projects.

3. In the same 1993/93, some 56 million pounds, 9% of ODA bilateral aid, which could be analyzed against ODA priority objectives, targeted towards good government⁴. This policy was run by ODA on 3 levels international – where active role is being played both globally and at country level.

AT Country/Project Level

Especially our democracy and human rights examples over the past years are Kenya, Malawi and Nigeria. In conjunction with efforts of other has encouraged improvements in adherence to good government.

Project Level

ODA increasingly seeks opportunity to assist positively in promoting good government. The support recently provided include: assistance to meet the cost of electronics, e.g. provisions of transparent democracy, ballot papers, etc. The support for at community level and other non-governmental institutions concerned to promote the participation of local people and encourage them to play a more prominent role in the democratic process. They are mostly supported by

NGO's through the joint funding scheme. ODA expenditure is classified under the direct poverty reduction objectives that are targeted on the poor⁵.

4. In 1992/93, just like the other projects, some 58 million pounds or 10% of our bilateral aid which could be analyzed as ODA, priority objectives was targeted on direct poverty reduction.

E.g. Fig. 2 below shows the distribution redistribution regions committee ton the POVERTY OBJECTIVE IN 1992/93 in million of pounds.

ODA is therefore, concerned with contributing to the design and implementation of nine poverty assessment studies that the world bank is undertaking in Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean⁶.

In Africa, the largest share of poverty reduction projects have been aimed at ameliorating rural poverty through increasing the good security and also the cash Zimbabwe, small enterprises initiatives of low-income households, have also been financed by the ODA⁷.

For example, in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, the major aid recipients in Asia, direct poverty reduction projects include rural development initiatives targeted towards the poor, urban slum were up grade and the provision of health, population and educational services for the people. Most of these projects are possible in partnership with NGO's directly from country programmes or through the Joint Funding Ventures.

5. In 1992/93 some 157 million pounds, 26% of our bilateral aid which could be analyzed as:

ODA POVERTY OBJECTIVES WAS TARGETED ON THIS REDUCTION
OBJECTIVES AS FOLLOWS: (Although some are targeted on more than one
objective).

	Million pounds	%
EDUCATION	106	17
Health	71	12
Children Choice	31	5

ODA aims to improve the capacity of educational ministries and other institutions, to carry out their programmes in cost effective and efficient ways. ODA have supported scholarship schemes for overseas students from developing countries, under two schemes. The commonwealth scholarship and fellowship plan; which gulped (11.162) million pounds in 1992/93⁸.

The ODA shared scholarship scheme 1.881 million pounds in 1992/93. Total cost in 1992/93 was 130 million pounds⁹.

6. In 1992/93, 47 million pounds, 8% of ODA bilateral aid on ODA priority objectives was targeted on promoting the status of women. Increased commitments in major country programmes were feasible, by setting objectives in all ODA major countries. ODA has encouraged women economic participation i.e. producing members of the female gender with additional skills to give them access to credit and enable them develop small-scale enterprises. ODA multilateral agencies and Britain NGOs played active role in supporting the 1995 Earth World, Conference of women in Banjoing, China.

Example of areas of bilateral assistance are support from women literacy in Ghana, a project to establish women business club in Moscow, a link project to promote women legal rights in Bangladesh¹⁰.

7. In 1992/93, some 126 millions pounds, 21% of ODA bilateral aid which could be analyzed against ODA's priority objective targeted on helping recipient deal with their national environmental problems¹¹

Fig. 2 below shows/explains the distribution by region of funds committed to the priority objectives of ODA in 1992/93 in million pounds as discussed above.

Fig. 3(a) and 3(a) below show/explain 5th priority on ODA agenda as it distributes funds among these 3 sub-poverty objectives. Education, health and Children by choice.

In environmental field the personnel manager of ODA identified at UNCED, six key (Agenda 12) sectors that have a direct bearing on how developing countries tackle environmental issues, aid sustainable agriculture.

ODA have prepared strategies for aid programme in each of these areas.

Examples of ODA Projects In Third World Countries

1. India, 25 million pounds for western charts forestry and environment.
2. Nepal 6.6 million pounds for community forestry.
3. Indonesia 8.8 million pounds for tropical forestry management
4. China 0.5 million pounds for air pollution control aid, 1.1 million pounds for improved methods of coal used to reduce air pollution and increase energy efficiency¹².

5. Brazil 2.7 million pounds to investigate the relationship between forest deformation and climate.
6. Chile 0.25 million pounds for an evaluation of the environment impact of gaseous emissions from industrial source in the winter's region. ODA have also appointed through the Joint Funding Scheme, 160 NGO projects with environmental components costing approximately 4.2 million pounds¹³.

In Nigeria the issue of environment degradation was addressed in ODA planned project aimed at clearing up the polluted lagoon, by water hyacinth.

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CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 SUMMMARY

The idea of Overseas Development Agency embraced by the world countries as an NGO has seriously negated the philosophy of development itself. This is largely due to the mismanagement, which was increased in economic, socio-political and other developmental projects.

It is therefore a fallacy and a contradiction on the part of various governments of these Third World Countries. Unless this contradiction is recognized and resolved urgently, the much toted benefit in terms of development recorded against ODA achievement shall remain unattainable or false.

ODA cannot pursue the various policies on its (Agenda 21) and implement them in various Third World countries without any invisible gain. Just as we argued in our theoretical aspect of this work, aid as we know it, has political, social and economic implication especially on the recipient country.

5.2 CONCLUSION

The activity of government of the Third World to embrace ODA policies in their domain needs much to be desired. For instance ODA programme are based on the premises that certain type of technology cannot be transferred.

By this for ODA to really be developmentally helpful in the Third World, it needs to increase more employment opportunities, for the unemployed to be rehabilitated and trained by given them loans or employment benefits to make them useful to their society. They ought to try to fund educational training more

on the basis of "Each one teach another one" for continuous learning, maintenance and servicing of technological structures erected in the Third World.

Finally, the ODA should also make the type of aid given to Third World countries have little or no political, social and economic undertones, in order to prevent the future deepening dependence of the Third World on the western countries, so as to shift these "Third World nations", from their position as Third World to probably "second" or equating them with the advanced countries in terms of development.

5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

The overseas development agency as an NGO need to increased the size and scope of their activities in the Third World in order to make greater impact and have much effect on the lives of the inhabitants of the SSA.

1. In order to achieve this, greater correspondence and information between the aid donor and national governments and international community needs to be strengthened and maintained in order to make more funds available to ODA.
2. There should be annual or bi-annual for a in form of meetings where international and national dialogue between ODA government and the aid donor, with emphasis on how to improve on a wider range as well as to iron out pending issues of aid.
3. The ODA and national government of every Third World country should work in close collaboration, these national governments should erect some institutional structure of their officials without unwarranted intervention in the affairs of these bodies.

4. In future the ODA should cooperate to finance more developmental venture, by bringing together the separated many self help groups and equip them technologically and give organizational skills, since they have the potentials of becoming agent for the acceleration of development in the Third World. Some of these self-help groups have demonstrated their worth in countries like Burkina Faso and Ghana where ODA have trained them by making them skillful; thereby they have now become partners in development.
5. Also the World Bank NGOs liaison office and other ODA liaison office should be more facilitated so that the views and opinions of this NGO (ODA) are taken into consideration while projects are being planned, so they are not left out.
6. The ODA on their part needs to make most of their projects self sustainable, because it is simply not enough to install what was being termed appropriate technology, but to ensure that these technology turns lives of the people at least for the better. That is the basic technical know-how to repair the machines in case of breakdown should be imparted. All these are inevitable and necessary in order to make such projects more viable, self-sustaining and regenerating.

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