ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF WARD DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ON GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT IN KONTAGORA AND MAGAMA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS, NIGER STATE

BY

Ibrahim, HAYATU
P16ADPA8013

A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF A MASTERS OF SCIENCE (M.SC) DEGREE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION,
FACULTY OF ADMINISTRATION
AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY,
ZARIA, NIGERIA

MARCH, 2021

DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this dissertation entitled "**ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF WARD DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ON GRASSROOTS DEVELOMENT IN KONTAGORA AND MAGAMA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS OF NIGER STATE**" has been carried out by me in the Department of Public Administration. The information derived from the literature has been dully acknowledged in the text and a list of references provided. No part of this dissertation was previously presented for another degree or diploma at this or any other institution.

_____ _____ _____

IBRAHIM Hayatu Signature Date

CERTIFICATION

This dissertation entitled "**ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF WARD DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ON GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT IN KONTAGORA AND MAGAMA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS OF NIGER STATE**" meets the regulations governing the award of the degree of M.Sc. Public Administration of the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and is approved for its contribution to knowledge and literary presentation.

Professor Ibrahim Adamu _____ _____
Chairman Supervisory Committee Signature Date

Dr. Idris Ahmed Jamo _____ _____
Member Supervisory Committee Signature Date

Dr. Musa Idris _____ _____
Head of Department Signature Date

Professor A.Z Abubakar _____ _____
Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies Signature Date

DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to Almighty Allah-the Beneficent, the most Merciful, master of the universe and all that exist on it and also to my lovely parents late Alhaji Hayatu and Malama Daibat.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My utmost gratitude goes to God Almighty for His love, grace, mercy, favour, protection and provision at the course of my programme in Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

I earnestly acknowledge my able supervisors Professor Ibrahim Adamu and Dr. Idris Ahmed Jamo for their intellectual contributions and dedication of time towards the success of this research work. I also appreciate the efforts of all the lecturers in the Department- Prof. A.A. Anyebe, Professor S.B. Abdulkarim, Professor Hamza A. Yusuf, Dr. Musa Idris (HOD), Dr. Lawal Saleh , Dr. Faruk Abubakar, Dr. Dalhatu Dan Jos, Dr. Abdulrazak Madu, Mal. Mubashir Salisu, Mal. Bashir Yusuf, Mal. Abubakar Danja and other lecturers in the Department for their dedication, commitment and for the knowledge well imparted, i am forever proud of you all, may God bless and increase you in all your endavours.

I really want to appreciate my loving parents late Alhaji Hayatu (May his soul rest in peace) and Malama Daibat for her prayers, moral, material and financial supports towards the success of my programme. I also extend my profound gratitude to all my brothers and sisters for their prayers, love and supports.

My special gratitude goes to my wife and children for their perseverance and patient they exercised while I was away from them in the course of this study

I sincerely appreciate all special friends of mine both in school and at home- I salute you all and wish you the very best in life. Cheers!

My profound gratitude goes to my External Examiner Prof. Shehu Dalhatu (Bayero University Kano) and also to my Internal Examiners: Dr. Dalhatu Jumare and Dr Aminu Ladan Shasrehu for their intellectual examination and contributions which have added value to the quality of this research.

Finally I want to appreciate all my course mates- Abubakar Hassan, Mohammed Sani Hassan, Bashir Hamma dama, Sulaiman Idris, Abubakar Tafida, Nuhu Tukur Ibrahim, Amanda Paul, Jude Obi Chibuzur, Titus Ajimbe, Abubakar Mode Namakka, Salamatu Tafida Umar, Amina Raji, Salamatu Abdulkadir, Zainab Mahmud, Aisha Oyiza Yusuf,Zainab Kasim and our only Mummy in the Class- Madam Salami for their enviable and true sense of "Studentship".

ABSTRACT

The study examined the extent to which Ward Development Projects impacted on grassroots development in the two areas under study. The study made use of interviews, observations, questionnaire and official documents of government relating to the ward development policy to obtain primary data necessary for the study. Secondary data were derived from text books, annual reports, journals, and newspapers, published and unpublished articles. Evaluation Theory of Edward Suchman was used as a theoretical framework to provide us with the baseline discussion for the theme of the study. As a result of the study, we found out that ward development projects recorded very little success in the area of enhancing community participation especially as a result of inadequate representation of the wards and absence of democratic principle in the process of constituting ward development projects committee members though significantly improved the provision of infrastructural facilities such as feeder roads, dispensaries, primary education facilities, water supply and electricity. It further revealed that the policy was not able to sustain local development projects especially as a result of failure to incorporate community members at the planning stage as well as lacked of self-sustain structures within the communities. We recommended that Ward Development Projects Committee members should be increased to commensurate with the number of polling units in each ward and that people should be given free hands to choose the Ward Committee members of their choices. Furthermore, Niger state government should continue with the ward development projects policy and that members of the community should be incorporated in planning along with the creation of self-sustain structure for the maintenance of local development projects.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page - - - - - - - - - - - i

Declaration - - - - - - - - - - - ii

Certification - - - - - - - - - - - iii

Dedication - - - - - - - - - - - iv

Acknowledgements - - - - - - - - - - v

Abstract - - - - - - - - - - - vi

Table of Contents - - - - - - - - - - vii

List of Tables - - - - - - - - - - - xii

Abbreviation - - - - - - - - - - - xiv

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study - - - - - - - - 1

1.2 Statement of the Problem - - - - - - - - 4

1.3 Research Questions - - - - - - - - - 7

1.4 Objectives of the Study - - - - - - - - 8

1.5 Research Hypotheses- - - - - - - - - 8

1.6 Significance of the Study - - - - - - - - 9

1.7 The Scope and Limitations of the Study - - - - - 10

1.8 Conceptual/Operational Definition of Concepts - - - - - 11

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction - - - - - - - - - - 13

2.2 Meaning of Development - - - - - - - - 13

2.2.1 Meaning and Nature of Grassroots Development - - - - - 18

2.2.2 Meaning and Nature of Community Participation - - - - - 24

2.2.3 Concept of Sustainability - - - - - - - - 29

2.2.4 Participatory Development - - - - - - - - 37

2.2.5 Meaning and the Nature of Ward Development Projects, Niger State - - 40

2.2.6 Ward Development Fund Projects in Kenya - - - - - - 47

2.2.7 Ward Committees System in South Africa - - - - - - 51

2.2.8 Review of Empirical Studies - - - - - - - - 54

2.3 Theoretical Framework - - - - - - - - 62

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction - - - - - - - - - - 66

3.2 Design of the Study - - - - - - - - - 66

3.3 Population of the Study - - - - - - - - 66

3.4 Sampling Size and Sampling Technique - - - - - - 68

3.5 Sources of Data - - - - - - - - - 69

3.6 Instrument of Data Collection- - - - - - - - 69

3.7 Administration of Questionnaire - - - - - - - 70

3.8 Method of Data Presentation and Analysis- - - - - - 71

CHAPTER FOUR: AN OVERVIEW OF WARD DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN KONTAGORA AND MAGAMA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS OF NIGER STATE

4.1 **Introduction** - - - - - - - - - 72

4.2 **Brief history of Niger State** - - - - - - - 72

4.3 **Organization and Management Structure of Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas** - - - - - - - - - 76

4.4 **Meaning and the Nature of Ward Development Projects, Niger State** - - 91

CHAPTER FIVE: DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

5.1 **Introduction** - - - - - - - - - - 85

5.2 **Presentation of Data and Analysis** - - - - - - - - 85

5.3 Presentation of regression results and Hypothesis Testing - - - 104

5.4 **Major Findings** - - - - - - - - - 111

CHAPTER SIX: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 **Introduction** - - - - - - - - - 114

6.2 **Summary** - - - - - - - - - - 114

6.3 **Conclusion** - - - - - - - - - - 115

6.4 **Recommendations** - - - - - - - - - 115

6.5 **Contribution to Knowledge and Suggestion for Further Studies** - - - 116

References - - - - - - - - - - 117

Appendices - - - - - - - - - - 126

LIST OF TABLES

Table 3.1: Population of Kontagora and Magama local government areas - 67

Table 3.2: List of Wards in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Area - 67

Table 3.3: Questionnaire Administrations - - - - - 70

Table 4.1: Achievements of Ward Development Projects between 2008 and 2014 in Kontagora Local Government Area - - - - 81

Table: 4. 2: Achievements of Ward Development Projects in Magama Local Government Area between 2008-2014 - - - - - - 82

Table 5.1: Summary of Response Rate - - - - - - 85

Table 5.2: Ward development project committee was constituted as a result of Ward development project - - - - - - 86

Table 5.3: The constitution of ward development project committee was based on democratic principle. - - - - - - - 87

Table 5.4: Ward development project committee was responsible for project identification after due consultation with the People of your ward - 88

Table 5.5: Membership of ward development project committee was opened to everyone irrespective of political party affiliation in your ward - 89

Table 5.6: Ward development project committee members were adequate for the representation of your ward- - - - - - 90

Table 5.7: As a result of the implementation of ward development project, feeder roads have been constructed in your ward - - - - 93

Table 5.8: The implementation of ward development project has led to the provision of primary health care facilities in your ward - - 95

Table 5.9: Primary education facilities have been provided due to the ward development project implementation in your community - - 96

Table 5.10: Ward development project led to the provision of portable drinking Water in your ward - - - - - - - 99

Table 5.11: Electrification projects were executed in your ward as a result of ward development projects - - - - - - 101

Table 5.12: The community members were not involved in planning for the introduction of ward development projects - - - - - - 105

Table 5.13: The community members were not involved in the execution of the projects. - - - - - - - - 106

Table 5.14: The community members were not made to contribute part of the fund for project ownership. - - - - - - - 107

Table 5.15: Self-sustain structure was not created for the maintenance of local development projects - - - - - - - - 108

Table 5.16: Ward development projects did not make provision for the empowerment of community members in your ward - - - - - 109

ABBREVIATIONS

BNA	-	Basic Needs Approach
CBD	-	Community Based Development
CDD	-	Community Driven Development
CDF	-	Constituency Development Fund
CIDP	-	County Integrated Development Plan
CL	-	Community Leaders
DPLG	-	Department of Provincial Local Government
DWDP	-	Directorate Ward Development Projects
GDP	-	Gross Domestic Products
IAF	-	Inter-American Foundation
IDP	-	Integrated Development Plan
KEYODA	-	Kontagora Emirate Youths Development Association
LGPAMC	-	Local Government Project Advisory and Monitoring Committee
MCAs	-	Members County Assemblies
OCOB	-	Office of the Controller of Budget
PRA	-	Participatory Rural Appraisal

RSA	-	Republic of South Africa
SPSS	-	Statistical Package of Social Sciences
SWDPC	-	State Ward Development Project Committee
UN	-	United Nations
WCS	-	Ward Committees System
WDF	-	Ward Development Fund
WDFP	-	Ward Development Fund Project
WDP	-	Ward Development Project
WDPC	-	Ward Development Project Committee

CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

One of the major characteristics of the developing countries is the increasing disparity between the urban and rural areas. Thus, the gap according to Akpomuvie and Benedict (2010) has its roots in the neo-classical economic theories which presumed that "development can be accelerated by concentrating investments in the cities and that the rural underdevelopment will be reduced as a result of the investment benefits from the urban industrial growth". With the so called growth-centered strategy, developing countries have continued to witness imbalances in the living conditions between the urban and rural dwellers. Consequently, development theories over the years have been searching for alternative strategies that would not only accelerate growth, but also spread the benefits of development to the grassroots level particularly the rural areas. This therefore led to a paradigm shift from holistic theorization of development towards local participation and empowerment.

Participation and other related concepts like sustainability and empowerment are the center of development discourse (Blackman, 2003) and may be argued that participation is as old as democracy itself. The people at grassroots level especially the rural dwellers are the most deprived and neglected, in that they have least access to essential services such as health, education, housing and other services. In essence, infrastructural and institutional arrangements are deficient at the local level where most people who need them live (Laah, Adefila and Yusuf, 2014).

Participatory approaches to development have been adopted by most governmental and non-governmental development partners, as a solution to the failed top-down approach to development in the last century (Kwena, 2013). African countries, for instance, have gradually ratified laws and policies that encourage the citizenry to participate fully in their development programmes (OXFAM-GB, 2009).

In Kenya, the onset of devolution as a model of governance is hoping to produce tangible benefits regarding redefining development process. Resource allocation now entails grassroots stakeholders' participation through elected representatives such as Members of County Assemblies (MCAs) and Governors in respective counties (Council of governors, 2014). Wards are therefore the frontiers of devolution. The majority of the devolved governments are now creating Ward Development Fund (WDF) as a means to spur development at the grassroots level.

In South Africa, however, South African Government Departments and Local Government structures presently use the participatory approach to realize development at grassroots level particularly in the rural villages. In the enhancement of the approach, some legislative regulations have been promulgated to provide for the fostering of participation of people in programmes such as Local Governments Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and Ward Committees System (Tshabalala, 2007).

In Nigeria, the creation of Local Government was deliberately designed to bring government closer to the people and to ensure maximum participation of the citizens in the development process, promote balanced development so that third tier of government will be more responsive to the developmental aspirations of local communities. In essence, local

government institutions have been established to accelerate the pace of development. Development whether social, political or economic becomes meaningful and real only when it stems from the lowest level or grassroots level. Local Governments therefore have been created as a deliberate attempt to introduce a decentralized approach towards national integration, efficient and effective governance and creating a sense of belonging at the grassroots. Thus, local government system was designed to be a means or strategy of bringing development at the grassroots level.

However, Niger State Government under Mu'azu administration, came up with the idea of Ward Development Projects Policy in 2008- a participatory policy aimed at avoiding the inherent contradiction that is associated with the traditional management approach (top-down). And the objective of the policy was to address the problem of underdevelopment in the state especially in terms of infrastructure building which has been an issue in the state for decades. Other objectives of ward development projects included among others; actualization of participatory democracy through people's popular participation in project executions after need assessment; enthronement of bottom-up approach to community development; actualization of participatory decision making by the people on matters concerning them and to let the people decide what they need for themselves and actively participate in its execution, ownership and sustainability (Directorate of Ward Development Project Document, 2009).

During this plan period, each of the 274 wards in the state used to be given five hundred thousand naira and later reviewed to one million naira from the State-Local Governments' Joint Account every month to execute any project of its choice. It was obvious that the program was one of the best grassroots oriented development program introduced in recent

time. It was a bottom-up approach to development which made it more integrative and promotes good governance.

The program was no doubt participatory and it really raised the hope of the people about the performance of the immediate past administration of Niger state under the leadership of Mu'azu Babangida Aliyu. In fact, Ward Development Projects (WDP) was designed to engage the local people in the development of their communities.

It is against this background that this study was conducted with a view to assessing the impact of Ward Development Projects on grassroots development in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The desire to stimulate development at the grassroots level is not only a concern for Niger state but Nigeria at large. This is so because injecting development into the grassroots is seen as imperative mechanism of achieving sustainable national development. Thus, Niger state government adopted in February, 2008 Community Driven Development (CDD) version of participatory development projects execution in order to efficiently and effectively solve the problem of infrastructure decay in rural and urban settlements of the state. A document published in 2009 by project describes the new policy thrust as" a new bottom-up paradigm shift in grassroots development".

It is not an exaggeration that Ward Development Projects policy was a participatory development strategy where community people were involved in the identification and implementation of projects of their choices. United Nations (2005) viewed participation as the

creation of opportunities to enable all members of a community to actively contribute to and influence the development process and to share equitably in the fruits of development. Thus, community involvement is needed in the process of project identification and implementation, as it is through people's involvement throughout the process that project executed could provide solution to people's felt-need and acceptance. It is therefore not only important but necessary that people are involved to avoid people disassociation with the projects. However, in order to ensure that community members were participating actively in the process of Ward Development Projects policy implementation, Ward Development Projects Committees (WDPC) were established across the entire 274 wards in the state to serve as a mechanism for people's involvement in the identification and implementation of the projects that have direct bearing in their lives. This committee was to serve as a link between the government and the people. They were to collectively discuss issues or matters that were of paramount importance, after which they communicated the stand of the community members (i.e. the projects they needed) to Local Government Project Advisory and Monitoring Committee (LGPAMC) for approval and final implementation. In spite of this strategy put in place to ensure active participation of the Community people and or target beneficiaries of the policy, the issue of community participation is still at its lowest ebb.

Development at the grassroots has long been neglected; investments in infrastructures have been focused largely in the cities. As a result, the rural population has extremely limited access to services such as schools and health care centers and about half of the population lack access to portable drinking water, a situation that led to massive migration to the urban areas by the rural dwellers in search of greener pastures for better living conditions (UNDP, 2010).

These negative indicators suggest a huge performance lapse on the side of government at all levels; but then, since about 70% of the population live in the rural communities, local government with the aid of state government have huge responsibilities of ensuring that development has reached the grassroots so as to engender the much needed socio-economic turn around that the people so desire.

However, the introduction of ward development projects in Niger state had gone a long way in providing these services that are not only vital, but necessary for human survival. During the course of the policy implementation, bridges, feeder roads, dispensaries, rural electrification, class rooms and educational materials were provided in various wards across the state.

Although in the course of the implementation of the policy, Niger State Government had expended billions of naira to these projects, yet complains ensued the people that its impact was not felt compared to the resources committed. There was also complains of diversion of funds by various committees from Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, community/ward level, while in some situation the government did not even released such funds as at when due (Hussaini, 2013). To put it succinctly, between 2008 and 2014, Niger State Government expended six billion, one hundred and sixty five million (6, 165, 000000) across the 274 wards in the state in order to provide the basic infrastructural facilities that are capable of injecting development at the grassroots level. However, of these amounts, five hundred and thirty four million naira (534, 000000) had been expended in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas between 2008 and 2014 for infrastructural building with very little to show (Directorate of Ward Development Projects Document, 2009-2014)

Without any gain saying, the ward development projects initiative was one geared towards the sustainability of less endowed areas with attendant advantages of reducing maternal mortality, providing accesses to markets and outlaying communities, reducing water borne diseases and generally making life more meaningful for those not privileged to live in areas where these amenities are easily accessible. More so, because of its attendant positive implications in addressing various problems related to services and projects that are considered as basics for human survival, Dr. Mu'azu Babangida Aliyu's administration through the State House of Assembly members enacted a sustainability law (WDPCL, 2009) with a view to ensuring the continuity of the policy beyond his administration.

Meanwhile, since the return of democratic government, Niger State Government had committed a significant portion of its resources with a view to addressing the problem of infrastructural decay particularly in the areas of water, health, electricity and rural township roads. But in spite of these efforts and enormous financial resources expended by Niger State Government, the issue of infrastructure remains a course for concern in the state (Gimba, 2007).

It is against this background that this study was conducted with a view to determining the impact of ward development projects on grassroots development in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger state through enhanced community participation, improvement in the provision of infrastructural facilities and sustainability of local development projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State.

1.3 Research Questions

The following research questions are posed for this study

1. To what extent has the Ward Development Projects affect community participation in project identification in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State?
2. To what extent has the Ward Development Projects affect the provision of infrastructural facilities in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State?
3. How sustainable are Ward Development Projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The general objective of this study is to assess the impacts of Ward Development Projects on grassroots development in Kontagora and Magama local government areas, Niger state. However, the specific objectives of this study are as follow;

i. To examine the extent to which Ward Development Projects affect community participation in project identification in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State.
ii. To find out how Ward Development Projects affect the provision of infrastructural facilities in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State.
iii. To ascertain how sustainable are Ward Development Projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State.
iv.

1.5 Research Hypotheses

The following hypotheses are formulated to guide this study:

$H0_1$: Ward Development Projects has not significantly affect community participation in project identification in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas.

$H0_2$: Ward Development Projects has not significantly affect the provision of infrastructural facilities in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas.

$H0_3$: Ward Development Projects has not significantly guarantee the sustainability of the local development projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas.

1.6 Significance of the Study

This study assessed the impacts of Ward Development Projects on grassroots development in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas, Niger State. Thus, the study has provided to the policy actors the feasible recommendations on the importance of the implementation of Ward Development Projects and its contributions to the grassroots development particularly in Niger State. In addition, the study also provided to the policy actors knowledge of the measures needed to put in place to improve the participation of the local people in development processes.

At theoretical level, however, the findings of the study provided us with a new knowledge and the basis for further research. Otinche [2015] examined how Ward Development Projects enhance state-community relations in Niger state (2009-2010). The methodology adopted for the study was not specified and the data he used were all obtained from secondary source. In his major finding, the policy has failed to yield the desired result because of inconsistency in financing the program, thus, he recommended that the Niger state government should

sustainably fund the program as this will enhance its legitimacy. However his finding was only limited to Lapai Local Government and as such the result could not be generalized.

Shehu [2013] also examined the constraints on sustainability of Ward Development Projects policy in Niger state, Nigeria (2009-2010). The paper uses qualitative research methodology and non-statistical tool was employed in his data analysis and presentation. The study discovered that policy instrument succeeded in gradual transformation of the community infrastructure in the state despite the unnecessary interference of the politicians at the local government and ward levels in the process of policy execution and committee constitution. The study also discovered that funding had never been regular which poses a serious threat to the sustainability of the new policy thrust. In his recommendations, funding should be regularized and that people should be given free hands to select their Ward Development execution committee members, be allowed to define and identify their needs and execute them themselves without the unnecessary interference from the local officials or party men. However, his study concentrated only on Bida local government and did not look at ward development projects from the angle of grassroots development hence his findings could not be generalized to the entire local governments of the state. Thus, this study was embarked upon that covered the areas of Kontagora and Magama local government areas, Niger state; hence the study is of paramount importance to the people of these localities. The research also identified period of coverage as one of the important gaps that this research has filled.

1.7 The Scope and Limitations of the Study

The study assessed the impact of ward development projects on grassroots development in Niger state with a specific emphasis on Kontagora and Magama local government areas of the

state; and the justification for selecting these two study areas was on urban-rural basis. The study covered the period of seven years (7) between. The period was selected to cover the implementation period of ward development projects between 2008 and 2014.

Meanwhilethe researcher encountered some of the following limitations in the course of this study:

1. Accessing information from the officials about the policy was not easy because they were probably being suspicious that this might be used against them.
2. Quality and quantity of data generated may fall short of certain expectations because the study is a post-mortem examination of a policy that had been implemented almost five years earlier.
3. Employing the persons that would be of honest with us to serve as our research assistants was also a task that we found daunting.

Despite the limitations of the study mentioned above, the researcher is confident enough that lessons drawn from the study serve as a point of departure for other related research topics.

1.8 Conceptual/Operational Definition of the Terms

The following terms were defined both conceptually and operationally as they were applied within the context of the study. These are community participation, provision of infrastructural facilities and sustainability.

Community Participation: Jope (2005) defines community participation to mean government involving people in identifying local problems and come up with positive solutions. Contextually however, community participation refers to the level of involvement of target beneficiaries in the process of identifying the projects to be executed and the

implementation of the identified projects. This was to be accomplished where community members meet with the ward development projects committee members on frequent basis to discuss their pressing needs and the projects that need to be executed as they were prioritized by the community members.

Provision of Infrastructural Facilities: Fulmer (2009) sees infrastructural facilities as the physical components of interrelated systems providing commodities and services essential to enable, sustain or enhance societal living conditions. Operationally, infrastructural facilities are social amenities capable of serving the needs of the general masses. They are provision of roads, health care centres, schools, electricity and water.

Sustainability: The concept of sustainability focuses on meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their need. From our operational discussion is referring to the continuity of ward development projects beyond the period of the government that initiated it and through the effort of community members

Ward Development Projects: Ward development project is a programme of grassroots development whereby the will of the people is united with the resources of government to improve the living standard of the communities through the provision of basic necessities such as water supply, feeder roads, drainages, primary and secondary school classrooms and clinics (DWDP, 2009).

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction

In this chapter, the researcher extensively reviewed the relevant literatures for the study. Concept of development, some development theories, development planning, participatory development, community participation, sustainability, grassroots development, ward development projects, Ward development fund project in Kenya and ward committee system in South Africa have all been reviewed in greater details. Empirical review of literatures and relevant theory for this study have also been discussed and reviewed.

2.2 Meaning of Development

The concept of development means different things to different people. This is so because development as a concept is multi-dimensional and thus appears elusive. Development is "both physical reality and a state of mind in which a society has secured the means for obtaining a better life" (Todaro and Smith, 2006). Through this process the society ensures growth in wealth acquisition and mental enrichment and the betterment of the quality living conditions of all the people. The society uses a combination of social, economic and institutional processes as the means to acquire better living conditions. This definition of development generated the following development objectives:

a) To increase the availability and widen this distribution of basic life – sustaining goods such as food, shelter, health and security.
b) To improve the level of living standard including higher incomes, the provision of more jobs, better education and greater attention to cultural and humanistic values all

of which will serve to enhance material well-being as well as generate greater individual and national self-esteem.

c) To expand the range of economic and social goods available to individual and nations so as to make them self-reliant, which limit external dependency syndrome

Development is therefore less concerned about human wealth and more of a well-being to the general masses as its ultimate end, the basic to which are livelihood, security and sustainability (Coetzee, 2001). This is also dependent on what people are capable of doing. The emphasis is that wealth is not the same as well-being. Swanepoel and De Beer (2006) agree that poverty is a suffering from ill-being and development is well-being which encompasses material, bodily and social well-being on one hand, and security and freedom of choice and action on the other. This means that development is about people.

Jumare (2008) sees development to certainly include growth, but it should lead to a significant and continuing improvement in the quality of life of the people particularly the poor. It is growth accompanied with change in the condition of living of people in general.

Whether rich or poor, all human beings are constantly engaged in the search for means and opportunities to better condition of life. He argues that government has significant role to play not only by providing services in such areas like health and education but also in laying the infrastructure for promoting of agriculture, small scale manufacturing industries, transportation and rural development.

Okoli (2010) 0pined that development involves greater human dignity, security, justice, equity, transparency and accountability on the part of the government to achieve the desirable economic, social and political growth and development.

Put in a simplistic parlance, development is described as a process by which a system moves from one point, say point A to another point B which is more desired and preferable. The term thus connotes a movement away from the existing unwanted situation. Hence development must in all respects represent a process of improving man's ailing conditions. Development thus encompasses both material and psychological as well as quantitative and qualitative aspect of life (Shehu, 2015).

According to Burkey (2017) development is seen as a process by which an individual develops self-respect and becomes more self-confident, self-reliant, cooperative and tolerant to one another via becoming aware of his/her short-comings as well as his/her potential for positive change. This takes place through working with others, acquiring new knowledge and active participation in the economic, social and political development of their communities.

This means that development is a process through which people become aware of their capabilities, acquire knowledge and work collectively to meet their abstract needs (Swanepoel and De Beer, 2006). People work to develop themselves.

Development is not only about realizing human potential, but also about increasing human potential as well as increasing institutional capacity to control resources. The emphasis is that the decision on development of a society has to be in the hands of the community members themselves with little or no prescription from an outsider. The phenomenon may be a long process to allow the participating parties to develop such capacity to manage and mobilize the resources for their own benefits (De Beer, 1997). Development as an empowering process is not only about empowerment, but also about building institutional capacity towards sustainable improvement of living standard of the people addressing this problem of

conceptual confusion that have for long misdirected development planning and management, some scholars realistically contend that development should be viewed as a normative phenomenon, which is multi-dimensional in character championing this perspective, Seers, (1969) asserted that development is broader than economic growth and its derivative strategy termed modernization. He contends that the meaning of development depends on the values and priorities of the society in question. Seer's new view of development Ushered in the basic human need perspective on development, Seers asserted that to know if a country has developed or not, the fundamental questions to ask are; "what has been happening to poverty? What has been happening to unemployment? What has been happening to inequality? If all these have declined from high level, then beyond doubt, there has been a period of development for the country concerned. If one or two of these central problems have been growing worse, especially if the entire three have, it would be strange to call the result "development", even if per capital income doubled". (Seers, 1969).

Thus, Seers has posited other crucial dimensions of measuring national development, which has been hitherto neglected in preference to Gross National Products (GNP) and per capital income. Emphasizing on quantitative indices of per capital income increases led to adoption of massive productive ventures in forms of large scale industrial manufacturing to stimulate mass production for export at the expense of local consumers who were left to wallow in abject poverty amidst plenty-hence the emergence of growth without development phenomena that characterizes developing economies of Africa, Latin America and Asia. Akpan (2012) in an article titled "growth without development in Nigeria" analyzed Nigeria's bizarre growth without development situation.

"In 2007, the country's GDP grew by 6%. Even in the heat of global economic crisis in 2008, the economy registered a growth rate of almost 6.4%. The major challenge to these increasing growth rates is that they are non-employment generating: they are jobless growth rates.

In 2007, the rate of unemployment was 14%, jumping to 19.7% in 2009 and skyrocketed to 23.9% in 2011. In 2011, about 16 million Nigerians who were able and willing to work could not find employment. With rising rates of inflation, is growth rate of 7.6% worth celebrating? ...The rising incidence of poverty in the country further confirms that growth in the economy has not translated into economic development. (Akpan, 2012).

No doubt preponderance of the type of economic scenario pointed above in most developing countries encouraged paradigm Shift in conceptualization of the term "development". Instead of focusing on GNP and per capital income as central indicators of development, emphasis are shifted to social indicators as measuring instrument for societal development (Akpan, 2012).

Social indicators are often referred to as basic needs for development and operational strategies involve alleviation of poverty by providing the basic human needs to the poor, the direct provision of such basic needs as health care facilities, food, water sanitation and housing. The strategy aimed at increasing productivity and income of the poor automatically in the long run. It also involves human development in the form of educated and healthy people (Jhingan, 2013).

According to Anyebe (2010) Development is seen as the coincidence of structural change and liberation of men from exploitation and oppression perpetrated by international capitalist bourgeoisie and their internal collaborators. Thus, real development involves a structural

transformation of the economy, society, polity and culture of the satellite that permits the self-generating and self-perpetuating use of development of the people's potential.

Another approach to defining development by (Jide, 2013) is to see it as a process of change plus growth. However, such change and growth should manifest in socio-economic progress and transformation of the society.

However, within the context of this study, development implies the improvement of the people through the availability of adequate and functional essential facilities to improve welfare and living standard of the people and also make them more productive in the society

2.2.1 Meaning and Nature of Grassroots Development

Grassroots development according to Odo (2014) is viewed as a self-generating process of socio-economic and political development in which the rural inhabitants themselves are actively involved and share in the cost and benefits of such development. The essential elements of grassroots development include poverty reduction rising incomes, increase in health and nutrition status of the people, provision of quantitative and qualitative basic of education, improved, agricultural activities, provision of infrastructural facilities, among others. Grassroots development is the responsibility of the local government with the active cooperation of the state and federal governments, aimed at improving the welfare of the masses within its areas of jurisdiction.

Ibrahim (1980) defined grassroots development as the process by which the standard of living at the grassroots level is enhanced politically, socially and economically. This definition views grassroots development as a multi-dimensional process involving important changes in social structures; conditions of life, as well as the involvement of the rural dwellers in decisions that

affect their lives. Grassroots development in this wise, is regarded as an effective strategy of addressing the basic needs of the local population. Adegboye (1973) cited in Egwemi and Odo (2013) sees grassroots development as the development of local people particularly those at the rural areas in such a continuous manner as to enable them to effectively and efficiently utilize their intellect, technology and other resources for further development of themselves and others.

Grassroots development is a process of bringing improved level of living to the inhabitants with notable and reasonable changes in all ramifications. According to Gana (1990) cited in Egwemi and Odo (2013), grassroots development is the restructuring of the rural economy in order to grow it from a dependent peasant and largely agricultural economy to one capable of sustaining an improved quality of life at the local level.

Njideka (2012) sees grassroots development as a process whereby the government of a country through its third tier, which is the local government, ensures that standard of living of the people in a particular locality and their economic status are improved through various means including the extension of credit facilities to encourage the establishment of small and medium enterprises. In a democratic dispensation, the local government system is conceived as embodying the desire and effort to bring development to the grassroots. Apart from the hope of participation for all citizens on how they are governed grassroots development aspirations convey the expectation that the people, no matter their social or geographical distance from the hub of power matter. In effect, grassroots development implies efforts aimed at improving the quality of life of people in all nooks and crannies of a given society. There is no doubt that the lofty aim of development here entails both the acquisition and utilization of financial resources in prudent and goal oriented manner [Njideka,2012].

Within the context of this study however, grassroots development implies the improvement in the quality of life of people particularly at the local level through the provision of important basic amenities such as primary health care facilities, portable drinking water, rural electrification, primary education facilities and feeder roads

i. Local Government and Grassroots Development

It is obvious fact that local government system is best positioned to enhance development at the grassroots. As defined in the 1976 local government reform, it is the Government at the local level exercised through representative council established by law to exercise specific powers within defined areas. These powers should give the councils substantial control over local affairs as well as the staff, the institutional and financial powers to initiate and direct the provision and implement projects so as to complement the activities of the state and Federal government in their areas and ensure through active participation of the people and their traditional institutions that local initiatives and resources to local needs are maximized (Njideka, 2012)

This implies that local government at the grassroots has legal existence enshrined in the constitution. Its existence is further strengthened by section 7 (1) of the 1979 constitution of the Federal republic of Nigeria which states that the system of local government by democratically elected government council is under this constitution guaranteed and accordingly, the government of every state shall ensure their existence under a law which provides for the establishment of structure, composition and finance and function of such council (Njideka, 2012)

Local government or government at the grassroots level plays a crucial role in the development of the grassroots. The local government system, as third tier of government, has various functions that are constitutionally assigned to it. These include:

a. The formulation of economic plans and development schemes for the local government

b. Establishment and maintenance of cemeteries, burial ground and homes for the destitute or infirm
c. Establishment, maintenance and regulating of slaughter houses, slaughter slabs, markets, motor parks and public conveniences
d. Construction and maintenance of public conveniences, sewage and refuse disposal

Meanwhile, local governments need funds to effectively perform their constitutional functions. Their revenue pattern consists of:

a. Statutory revenue grants through the federation account and through the state local government joint account
b. Projects grants and non-statutory receipts from state governments and agencies
c. Internally generated revenue which includes taxes and rates, licenses and fees, earning and sales, rent on local government property and interest, payments and dividends

In spite of this seemingly uniform flow of revenue pattern to local governments, the problems of inadequate revenue differ from place to place. These differences are related to size, structure and varied attitudes of state governments. In some urban local governments, their financial problems are related to inadequate exploitation of the available channels. In the case

of rural local governments, it is usually lack of adequate financial resources to explore (Njideka, 2012)

ii. Fiscal Management and Grassroots Development

Fiscal management and Grassroots Development implies judicious combination and utilization of financial resources (internal and external) available to a nation, state or local government to attain set goals by designated authorities with the managerial tools of planning, organizing, directing and controlling, for the benefit and development of the people. It is the process of ensuring that money is available at the right time, at the least cost and that it is most effectively utilized in the public interest.

In the light of the above discussions, effective and efficient fiscal management for grassroots development means the art of working with people for the attainment of goals as stipulated in the constitution of the Federal Republic on Nigeria, the financial memoranda/instructions, Acts and regulations guiding both generation and utilization of financial resources. Thus, the basic tools for achieving these are the human beings, the designated fiscal authorities and all the ancillary workers needed to carry out fiscal responsibilities. Their guide is the regulations provided by the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the financial Memoranda and various Acts and financial guidelines. Their schedule, among others, is to ensure effective and judicious utilization of public resources. (Njideka, 2012)

Their duty is to carry out their constitutional responsibilities by blocking any loopholes which could be exploited to fritter away or misappropriate available resources. It is the position of this discourse that if procedures and processes of effective fiscal management are thoroughly understood, with needed innovations to be made, along with factors underlying their effective

application, the existing trend of abuses and ineffectiveness will be reversed in favour of careful implementation and prudent fiscal management, thereby resulting in optimized programme/project delivery and accountability. The end result will improve the standard of living for Nigerians and enhance development at the grassroots.

iii. Grassroots Development as a Strategy for Sustainable Development

The Inter-American Foundation (2011) defines grassroots development as a participatory process that addresses a wide range of social, economic and environmental problems or needs within a given geographical territory (municipality, province, district, region etc) for the sake of improving the residents' quality of life. Grassroots leaders include institutions and organizations acting systematically within a territory to address priority community needs. Examples include local governments, non-governmental organizations, community associations, foundations, educational institutions and other civil society entities, such as representatives from the private commercial sector and other public or private institutions having presence in a given location (Moore, 1998)

The Niger state government under Muazu's dispensation realized the need to apply the grassroots development strategy as an effective strategy for carrying out sustainable, long term activities to improve the quality of life of low income populations and community in general. It is a means of mobilizing local and national resources while strengthening democratic practices and local solidarity. Moreover, local development offers citizens the opportunity to create a common vision and determine priorities for public investment in their community. Local development depends on state reforms or policies that ensure decentralization, open and direct elections of local authorities and respect for the rule of law. It was in line with this idea

that ward development project was initiated in Niger state with a view to making people become active partners with the state and local governments so that development could reach grassroots level and the community will have sense of ownership for the projects executed and consequently the new participatory policy could be sustained.

2.2.2 Meaning and Nature of Community Participation

One of the cornerstone of democracy is the participatory decision making process which is required by those in government (Tshabalala, 2006). Aref and Redzuan (2009) asserted that community participation requires the voluntary and democratic involvement of people in contributing to the development effort; sharing equitably in the benefits derived there from and decision making in respect of setting goals, formulating policies and planning and implanting economic and social development programs.

Reid (2000) views community participation in terms of power sharing and organized efforts to increase control over resources and regulative institutions. In this sense, community participation is seen as an active process in which the participants take initiatives and actions that are stimulated by their own thinking and deliberations over which they exert effective control.

Raniga and Simpson (2002) remark that community participation might mean that communities are allowed direct and ultimate control in taking decision concerning their affairs. The involvement of people in electing people of their choice into political power, attending public meetings and contributing money to community development projects-form parts of community participation.

Community participation is one of the key ingredients of an empowered community (Reid, 2000). Community participation occurs when a community organizes itself and takes full responsibility for managing its problems. Theron (2005) pointed out that there are different shades of opinion on either citizen or public participation and it relates to the process of giving people more opportunities to participate effectively in development activities by empowering them to mobilize their own creative potentials, manage the resources, make decisions and control the activities that affect their lives.

Jope (2005) argues that community participation is about government involving people in identifying local problems and come up with positive solutions. This definition is in line with the context of this research, because WDP provides the local people with the opportunity to identify the problem bedeviling their communities with the government providing the financial resources for the identified problem to be addressed.

Contextually however, community participation refers to the level of involvement of target beneficiaries in the process of identifying the projects to be executed and the implementation of the identified projects especially by the community members in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State.

i. Importance of Community Participation

The common believe is that involving community in grassroots development programmes and empowering them, have the potential to boost their livelihood and foster development (Kakumba and Nsingo, 2008)

Community participation empowers the primary beneficiary of development programmes or projects by helping them to break away from a dependency mentality (Burkey, 2017).

Creighton (2009) also states that community participation promotes self-confidence and self-awareness. Cooke and Khothari (2011) maintain that participation approaches can generally be viewed as having two broad objectives. First, the efficiency arguments that participation will yield better project outcomes; and second, the equity or empowerment arguments that participation is a process of promoting the capacity of people to improve their own lives.

Another importance of community participation is sustainability (Kumar, 2012), who further stated that, through participation, resources available for development projects will be used more efficiently and fewer cost will be incurred if the people themselves are responsible for the project (Kumar, 2012). Similarly, Hodinott, et al (2011), basing their reasoning on their case study in South Africa, assert that participation of the beneficiaries is important because use of locally available information, unknown to outsiders, reduces the costs of intervention. Ghai and Vivian (1992) argue that even in sustainable development, participation is a key to the successful implementation of projects, because it may result in the sustainable management of local resources by the people.

According to Nampila (2005), through participation, the community will be able to assess their own situation, organize themselves as a powerful group and work creatively towards changing society and building up a new world. Due to a diversity of opinions and perspectives from different role players, community participation helps to obtain a balanced perspective of key issues and to identify creative solutions to problems like for example, the partnership in planning approach.

Community participation can be seen as either an integral component of empowerment or as both a cause and an effect of empowerment. Empowerment is a process through which people

become strong enough to participate within, share in control of and influence events and institutions affecting their lives (Torres, 1986). It helps to achieve greater citizen's satisfaction with their communities and development at large and ensures sustainable development and continuity of the development processes.

ii. Challenges of Participation in Grassroots Development Projects

Participation is a costly exercise and a time consuming process. It may necessitate the commitment of a wide range of an organization's staff members over a long period of time (Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, 2001). The International Institute for Sustainable Development (2000) notes that participatory approaches usually fail to sustain community participation after the implementation organization has withdrawn. This means that empowerment of the poor to the point where they can continue on their own is a big challenge.

Kumar (2012) mentions that community participation may lead to delay and slow progress in initial stages of the field work, thereby delaying the achievement of physical as well as financial targets. However, it should be remembered that obstacles to community participation are directly related to one's perspective of community participation (Oakley and Marsden, 1984). Kok and Gelderbloem (1994) state that community participation can bring latent conflicts to the surface and it can delay projects start up, while increasing the demands on project personnel and managers. Illiteracy is an inhibiting factor in community participation. This is because illiterate people may be marginalized by professional and technical communication during the community participation process (Theron, 2005)

Guber and Tickett (cited in Laverack, 2001) argue that participation without a formal leader who takes responsibility for getting things done, dealing with conflict and providing a direction for the group often results in disorganization.

Lack of accountability by the community-in the light of encouraging communities to participate in decision making process, Paul (in Houston et al, 2000) states that this could create an "unfair" situation in that the community members cannot be held liable for the wrong decisions that they take.

The weak socio-economic position of the people at grassroots level particularly the rural poor obstruct them from meaningful participation (Kakumba and Nsingo, 2008). Gama (2010) and Hussein (2013) support this statement and point out that socio-economic factors such as lack of effective civic education, illiteracy and poverty which culminate in a tendency towards apathy, hamper community participation in development processes.

Musukwa (2011) and Hussein (2013) point out that citizens are reluctant to participate if they are frustrated by the rising cost of living and economic conditions that rob them of their peace of mind and desire to effectively participate. The weak financial position of local communities not only reduces the capacity of communities to participate in development projects, but also affect the whole process of grassroots development (Kakumba and Nsingo, 2008). Having inadequate resources negatively impacts the communities at the grassroots level to effectively influence and develop policy compared to other players in the policy making process.

Due to unpredictability of human behavior, problems may develop at any time despite good planning and good intentions. Stakeholders may use community participation as a platform to further their own agendas; they may raise old, unresolved issues that are extended to the

current initiatives. The outcome of participation process cannot be predetermined because people are unpredictable. The process must be flexible in order to adapt to unforeseen circumstances. It is not always possible to satisfy everyone, which could result to some people not approving of the initiatives (Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, 2001)

Everatt (2011) indicates that "one of the principles of community participation is to involve the target group in the design and location of projects intended to benefit them". Where the community feel that they are not part of the design, they are likely to lose interest and not assume ownership of the project.

The above discussed challenges should be taken into account whenever development project is to be implemented in a particular community. This can contribute to the sustainability of the project. Project members not working in unity pose a serious threat to the success and sustainability of the project. Being aware of the challenges could help people to find ways to deal with such challenges and to minimize them in future. Furthermore, if these challenges are not considered, this might lead to development project failure in a participatory approach.

2.2.3 Concept and Nature of Infrastructure

Infrastructure investment is an important driving force to achieve rapid and sustained economic growth. The presence of sufficient infrastructure will require for the modernization and commercialization of agriculture and the achievement of income surpluses for capital accumulation. It can provide a basis for the expansion of local manufacturing industries, as well as enlarging markets for the outputs of these industries. Many studies have found positive relationship between the level of economic development (measured by per capita income and

other indicators), and quality of housing and access to basic amenities like electricity, safe drinking water, toilets (Human Development Report of India, 2011).

The term infrastructure has come to refer to the technical structures that support society, such as roads, bridges, water supply, sewers, electricity, grids, telecommunications etc. (Shehu, 2015). In view of Fulmer (2009) infrastructure is define as the physical components of interrelated systems providing commodities and services essential to enable, sustain or enhance societal living conditions.

Infrastructure is generally regarded as the basic physical and organizational structure needed for the operation of a society or enterprise or the service and facilities necessary for an economy to functions. In other words, it is the set of inter connected structural elements that provide framework supporting an entire structure of development. Its availability in good condition or otherwise could be used to judge a nation's development condition and prospects.

However, it has been emphasized by Shehu (2015) that proper conceptualization of infrastructure spans beyond public works facilities and embodies also operating procedure, management practices and development policies that interact together with societal demand and physical world to facilitate the transport of people and goods, provision of water for drinking and a variety of other uses, safe disposal of society's waste products, provision of energy and transmission of information within and between communities.

Infrastructural facilities within the contextual framework of this study are social amenities capable of serving the needs of the general masses. They are roads, health care centres, schools, electricity and water projects executed in both Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State.

a. Classification of Infrastructure

Infrastructures are traditionally classified into two basic forms; namely. “Hard” and “Soft” infrastructures.

i. Hard infrastructure refers to the large physical networks of facilities necessary to run or operate a modern nation aspiring industrialization. Whereas

ii. Soft infrastructure refers to all institutions (paraphernalia or apparatus) which are required to institute or establish the economic, health, cultural and social standards of a country, such as the financial system, the education system, the health care system, the system of government and law enforcement as well as emergency services entailing Ambulance, fire service, disasters such as flood, storms and earthquake curtailing (Shehu, 2015).

b. Hard Infrastructure

Hard infrastructures are capital or fixed assets, control system and software required to operate, manage and monitor all system as well as many accessory part of the system. They encompass mass transit business, garbage collection, basic energy generation, communication facilities such as radio, television broadcasting facilities, mines, refineries etc. Specific major areas of focus are:

i. **Transport Infrastructure:** This implies mass transit facilities, railways, canals, seaports, airports, walkways ferries involving wide structures.

ii. **Energy Infrastructure:** This involves electrical power facilities, gas pipelines, petroleum, specialized coal handling facilities as well as solar energy resources, hydro terminal facilities etc.

iii. **Water Management Infrastructure:** It entails drinking water supply facilities, sewage collection, disposal of waste water, drainage systems, irrigation system, dams, flood control etc.

iv. **Solid Waste Management Infrastructure:** This refers to the provision of facilities for municipal garbage, solid waste, landfills, solid waste incinerators, and hazard waste disposal facilities.

v. **Communication Infrastructure:** This entails provision of vital communication gadgets such as postal services, telephone networks, mobile phone networks and landlines, television and radio transmission stations, cable televisions, internet, communication satellites and undersea cables.

vi. **Earth Monitoring and Measurement Infrastructure:** This includes the provision of metrological monitoring networks, tidal monitoring network steam gauge, earth observation satellites, spatial data infrastructure etc. (Shehu, 2015).

c. Types of Soft Infrastructure

Soft infrastructure refers to both physical assets such as highly specialized buildings and equipment as well as non-physical assets such as body of rules and regulations governing the various systems, the financing of the various systems as well as systems and organizations by which highly skilled and specialized professionals are trained, advance in their careers by acquiring experience and disciplined if required by professional associations-professional training, accreditations and discipline.

The main objectives of soft infrastructure is to institutionalize the delivery of specialized services to the people, they operate through large specialized facilities which have

resemblance with the hard infrastructure facilities. The major types of soft infrastructure to be considered are:

i. **Governance Infrastructure:** This is the instrument abilities for public administration and they include the array of governmental structures such as the political, legislature, law enforcement, justice institutions; ramification of governance infrastructure include;

   Emergency services facilities such as policing, ambulance and specialized information dissemination system.

   Military infrastructure entailing military bases, deports, training, communication weapons and arms manufacturing outfits.

ii. **Economic Infrastructure:** This could be seen from different perspectives as follows;

   Financial systems such as banking system, financial institutions, exchanges, financial regulations and accounting standard.

   Business logistic facilities and systems involving warehouses, shipping and management systems.

   Manufacturing infrastructures including industrial zones, mines, processing plant and industrial safety and standard organization.

   Agricultural, forestry and fisheries infrastructures such as specialized feed, livestock transportation and food inspection etc.

iii. **Social Infrastructure:** These are facilities to promote health care delivery, education and research promotion and national social welfare system.

iv. **Cultural, Sport and Recreational Infrastructures:** These are sub-sectoral development and enhancement which encompass sport facilities, cultural amenities like concert halls, museums, libraries, theatres, studios, business travels and tourism infrastructures like hotels etc.

The development of all these range of facilities by the central government through long term infrastructure investment has become strategic concern in fast developing nations, so much that nations like Singapore, Mainland China, Latin America and Europe have devised an effective funding mechanism for the policy thrust through public-private partnership arrangements, which Nigeria also claims to adopt in recent times but the result of the policy is yet to be appreciated. Niger state housing experiment with PPP arrangement has not been impressive. (Shehu, 2015).

However, the main focus of this study is on the hard infrastructure in which those projects executed in the areas of rural electrification, water supply, primary education facilities such as building of block of class rooms and provision of chairs and desks, primary health care facilities especially in area of construction of dispensaries and feeder roads were critically analyzed.

d. Impact of Infrastructure on Development

In conventional economics perspective, investment in infrastructure is part of the capital accumulation required for economic development and this has been assumed to have impact on socio-economic development even though the causality of infrastructure and economic growth has been an issue of debate.

In a developing nation experiencing weak structural framework for socio-economic productions and delivery, expansions in electric grids, road networks, and railways would show marked growth in economic development. That is why during the great depression of the 1930s many governments undertook public works project to create jobs with a view to stimulating the economy to develop. John Mynard Keynes provided theoretical justification for this policy in the general theory of employment, interest and money published in 1936. (Shehu, 2015).

Theoretical framework for infrastructure as instrument of development derived impetus from the idea of rooserveltian progressive, traditional and neo-keynesian economics in the United States. It is at the center mind of France's Gaullist and neo-calbertist- centralized economic planning, the Scandinavian social democracy as well as Singaporean and Chinese's state capitalism (Peter, 2010).

Today, infrastructure development has become a much-debated topic since scholars from various countries have utilized aspect of infrastructure development as a parameter and index to measure the ability of each country to compete globally. (Opawole, Jagboo, Bababola and Babatunde, 2012). This is mainly because, access to basic, adequate facilities is viewed as strongly related to the wellbeing of general population in the country.

Infrastructure development is also a key aspect that is used to measure leader's performance in a country (Oyedele, 2012). The concept is referring to the provision of fundamental infrastructure facilities such as the construction of roads and highways, availability of transportation, bridges, health care facilities, adequate power supply and ports and telecommunication systems (Manggat, Zain and Jamaluddin, 2018). The basic physical

development mentioned is considered important as it serves as an indicator to the progress and developmental process of a particular country. Lack of basic facilities show that the country or region can be categorized as underdeveloped and is left behind by progress and modernization.

In fact, some European and Asian economists have attributed the dramatic emergence of Asian countries out of Asian economic crisis of "1997-1998" to adoption of pragmatic development path based on sustained, large-scale, government funded investment in infrastructure projects. The nations abandoned the "Washington Consensus" and the harsh structural adjustment mechanism imposed on them by the IMF and World Bank and within ten years of massive investment in infrastructure projects, the nations emerged successful. Such successful countries include Singapore, Indonesia and South Korea. (Nichola and Vicent, 2011).

Heavy investment in infrastructure is also accountable for Chinese unprecedented growth rate that surpassed EU countries and the US. While China invested about 9% of its GDP in infrastructure in 1990s and 2000s, most western and non- Asian emerging economies invested 2% to 4% of their GDP in infrastructure assets. It is alleged that the considerable investment gap allowed the Chinese economy to grow at near optima conditions while many South American, South Asian and African economies suffered from various development bottlenecks, poor infrastructure networks, aging power grids and mediocre schools among others.

Thus, the significant role of infrastructure in national development cannot be overstressed and it is the centrality of infrastructure in development bids that made the western European

countries to apply the notion of pension fund investment in infrastructure, which began in nations like Australia, Canada, Ontario and Quebec in the 1990s. Others include Netherlands, UK and the states of California and New York in US. America for instance, used the new theoretical framework of rooserveltian economic policies to save the nation from the great recession in 2007 to apply certain degree of federal stimulus spending across public infrastructure and social service that would benefit the nation as a whole and put America back on the path to long term growth. (Wong, 2013).

From the foregoing discussions, the development of basic amenities is essential for a better quality of life. The inefficiencies in the provision of basic infrastructures such as roads, clean water supply, electricity supply, health care facilities, education facilities and communication systems can affect the quality of life of the people at local level particularly the rural dwellers. It is therefore pertinent to develop the network of basic amenities at the grassroots level, in particular rural areas in order to reduce the gap between rural and urban communities. In addition, it is necessary to reduce the gap in order to maintain the quality of life in general.

2.2.4 Concept of Sustainability

The concept of sustainability is broadly acknowledged as being multi-dimensional and its various dimensions have brought to light different discourses over time and have often been treated separately. In some cases, this separation has limited the actual implementation of sustainability to its mere rhetoric. By its meaning, sustainability is a concept that focuses on meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. The concept of sustainability is composed of three pillars; economic sustainability, environmental sustainability and social sustainability (Giovannoni and Fabietti, 2013)

Economic sustainability is one that is able to produce goods and services optimally on continuing basis without jeopardizing sectoral balances and maintaining qualitative environment. Unlike in the traditional economic development theory where growth characterized by productivity maximization is measured in aggregate GDP and per capital income for new producers, in sustainable development the economic development goals is improvement in the quality of life for many and this will necessitate a decrease in resources consumption. (Shehu, 2015)

Thus, economic development in the perspective of sustainable development known as ecological economics is to Faber (2009), defined by its focus on nature, justice and time. And he went on to say that the issues of intergenerational equity, irreversibility of environmental change, uncertainty of long term outcomes and sustainable development guide ecological economic analysis and evaluation.

Some of the defining elements or aspects of economic sustainability are business or corporate sustainability, sustainable agriculture, sustainable energy, sustainable transportation, sustainable technology and other new areas of endeavours that are being developed. This is in contrast with the traditional (conventional) economic development paradigm that lay more emphasis in economic growth measured principally in terms of gross domestic product, industrialization, capital formation, infrastructure building (such as roads, telephone and electricity) strong balance of payments as economic efficiency- Pareto efficiency. And very recently, the traditional paradigm has been modified to suit the exploitative motive of the Western European and US capitalist who have induced the developing countries to accept the compelling ideology of globalization. And under the perceptions of the globalization, ideology, economic development is to be achieved through economic policies that support the

free market, reduced state control and participation in the economy and expansion in private ownership of productivity and service delivery agencies, enhanced liberalization of the economy and foreign trade and preponderance of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), multinational corporation dominance of the economy and diverse availability of foreign finance capital in an open economy (Shehu, 2015).

Environment sustainability refers to maintenance, preservation and protection of natural environment so that it endures, improves to remain diverse and productive for present and future generation use. Environmental sustainability requires man to ensure that as he exploits the natural environment to meet his socio-economic needs, the life support system of the planet is preserved and is not allowed to degrade. This involves using natural resources such as water, energy sustainability, ensuring that as he depletes, he replenishes

Unsustainable environmental condition occurs when natural capitals are used up than it can be replenished. The practice of sustainable environmental use requires that resources are replenished as fast as they are used-up. If the environment is so much degraded, it will reach a level it cannot sustain human life which may threaten human existence and survival. Thus, a situation where man's consumption of renewable resources is more than nature's ability to replenish will lead to environmental degradation and such situation is not sustainable. Also a situation where consumption of renewable resources is equal to nature's ability to replenish is called environmental equilibrium, which is referred to as steady state economy. When the consumption of renewable resources is less than nature's ability to replenish, it is called environmental renewal and this situation is considered an environmentally sustainable (Shehu, 2015).

Social sustainability (Human Capital Development). For development of human society to be sustainable, it has to be such that it endeavours to improve the socio-economic condition of the majority of the people living and working within the operational milieu of the productive endeavor- such as labour, the people in the local regions and the consumers or beneficiary of the service being provided (Shehu,2015)

For development efforts to be sustainable, it has to be such that make concerted efforts to improve the economic productivity of the society and simultaneously under take wide ranging social improvement in the form of;

i. Divers social services provisions such as health care, general welfare for the disables and the vulnerable groups
ii. Education and human capital development and citizens' empowerment.
iii. Poverty alleviation and employment generation.
iv. Equity or distributive justice in access to resources and opportunities.
v. Citizen involvement (inclusiveness) and participation in local development decisions.
vi. Political development (good governance).
vii. Cultural revival, development and diversity and advocating cultural dimension in all public policies.
viii. The universal declaration on cultural diversity (Shehu, 2015).

2.2.5 Participatory Development

Participation has been variedly described as a means and an end, as essential within agencies as it is in the field and as an educational and empowering process necessary to correct power imbalances between rich and poor. It has been broadly conceived to embrace the idea that all

"stakeholders" should take part in decision making and it has been more narrowly described as the extraction of local knowledge to design programmes off site. (Jennings, 2000)

In view of (Osmani, 2009) participatory development has been defined as a process of equitable and active involvement of all stakeholders in the formulation of development policies and strategies and in the analysis, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development activities.

However, for participatory approach to record significant success, people's participation should be viewed as an active process in which people take initiative and action that is stimulated by their own thinking and deliberations and which they can effectively influence. By this process, participation is more than an instrument of implementing government projects. People's participation is by implication a new development approach which recognizes the need to involve disadvantaged segments of the rural population in the design and implementation of policies concerning their well-being (Shehu, 2013).

i. Rationale or Motives for Participation

Three basic rationales have been explained as motivating factors for adopting participatory development approach. These motives are functional motive by which participation is seen as a means to achieve efficiency and effectiveness of development efforts. The second motive of participation is empowerment – this empowerment of the beneficiaries of participation and thirdly, participation is seen as a means of encouraging utilization of indigenous knowledge, ideas and process to carry out development activities. (Shehu, 2015).

Functional Motives

It has been recognized that beneficiary participation in development process can improve their efficiency, outputs as well as effectiveness and sustainability of the development process. If these benefits are the reasons for encouraging participation, the rationale and motive can be described as functional. Chambers (1995) outlined the following functional reasons that have motivated growing interest in greater participation;

1) That the imposition of standard "top-down interventions on diverse local realities have failed to address local needs.
2) The greater involvement of local people may have positive cost implications.
3) The more local people are involved in development initiatives, the more likely – they are to shoulder the on-going cost of maintaining such initiatives.

Shehu (2015) observed that participation for functional reasons is generally passive and is usually seen as a managerial input to an externally defined process of development. In practice, a project is designed (pre-cooked) and implementation work plan are predetermined and the intended beneficiaries are encouraged to participate (induced involvement) in its activities and obtain implementation experience (benefits). In some projects, people are invited to make contribution of labour or other resources which is also seen as a form of cost-sharing device.

Essentially, efficiency and effectiveness reasons (functional motives) have progressively influenced a more fundamental shift (paradigm shift) from top-down approach towards people led development (participatory approach). This development made Chambers (1995) to

observe that; “Arguably, the big shift of the past two decades has from a professional paradigm centered on things to one centered on people”.

Empowerment Motive

Participation as empowerment device is seen as a process which is both a means (efficiency and effectiveness mechanism) and an end-decentralization, democratization of development management process – access, power, decision making, prioritization; agenda setting, distributive equity among beneficiary of development projects and programmes which eventually lead to self-development and self-reliance which is the outcome of participation, capacity and institution building (Self-created and self-managed groups). Participative development is seen here as a driving force of the development process and not just a factor for improving the efficiency and effectiveness (productivity) by active involvement of the beneficiary poor who assume ownership of development process. This form of participation has transferred development decision, powers and initiatives to the poor and disadvantaged people. Participation here is a reaction against centralization, bureaucratization, rigidity and remoteness of the state. (Shehu, 2015).

Philosophical Motives

The new decentralized approach to development (participatory development) is being advocated to give eminence to local ideas, value, knowledge and culture in the development process. The new development management advocates a philosophy of “people change their own environment” as a powerful force for development. And as against the centralized approach, the model is based on the argument that; “the possession of specialized knowledge

does not confer on the administrators and planners the right to decide on behalf of the allegedly less knowledgeable men".

This rationale has led to a gradual recognition of indigenous knowledge and their self-created and self-managed groups to have added-values to development process and outcome (Shehu, 2015).

ii. Types or Levels of Participation

According Shehu (2015) people's participation in development transformation (develops) over a period of time along a continuum of passive involvement, increased involvement, active involvement and ownership or empowerment stages and the emerged stages give us typology of participation as follows:

a. Passive Involvement (Participation)

The involvement of the beneficiary community in development is not active but partial, uncommitted participation. A project proposal has been officially pre-planned and the local community is required to take part in certain implementation activities. The people may welcome the project but they may be suspicious of the officials. It is the induced community involvement in the implementation of development project.

b. Increased Involvement

Participation of beneficiary at this level of participation has significantly increased. May be because the local people have built confidence in the project. People have begun to take responsibilities.

c. Active Participation

The beneficiaries have assumed higher degree of responsibility in project implementation activities. There is high motivation and commitment to the project but there is no self-created structure for sustained involvement.

d. Ownership and Empowerment

This is the highest level of involvement along the participation continuum. This is the full participation stages and it is characterized with full commitment of the beneficiaries to the project. The beneficiaries have taken over the ownership of the project. To take full possession of the project, self-formed and self-run groups through which the rural poor can gain access to production resources, inputs and services are formed. The full participation enhances capacity building within the created group structure so that empowerment results. This participatory involvement can be sustained because the self-run groups will institute self-reliance because the beneficiaries have been empowered by the new capabilities to do things themselves (Shehu, 2015).

The participatory nature of Ward Development Projects however was in line with the active participation style where beneficiaries assumed higher degree of responsibility in project execution activities. There was high motivation and community members were fully committed to the projects, though self-created structure for the sustainability of the local development projects was lacking in the two areas of the study.

iii. Methods of Participatory Development

Participatory development literatures are filled with different methods of involving beneficiary community in development management. However, the four (4) most popular

methods are the community development, participatory rural appraisal, community based development and community driven development methods (Mohan, 2009). Each of these methodologies relies on the value of stimulating and educating the people on how to actively participate in development process.

The community development approach is essentially self-help induced project coupled with the top-down provision of felt-need of the people. This is usually organized for community infrastructure building which are largely small scale projects.

Community based development method is generally for top-down projects that does not promote active beneficiary participation in project management because the projects are largely complex construction of macro-economic plan execution nature.

Participatory Rural Appraisal (P.R.A.) is a gradual not rapid process of learning technique designed to educate the beneficiary local communities through the use of local graphic representations created by the community that legitimize local knowledge and promote empowerment.

Community Driven Development (C.D.D.) is a development strategy (initiative) that provides control of the development process, resources and decision making authority directly to community group. According to Chamber (1997) the underlying assumption of CDD projects are that communities are the best judges of how their lives and livelihood can be improved and, if provided with adequate resources and information, they can organize themselves to provide for their immediate needs. World Bank field practitioners of CDD (2002) cited in Shehu (2015) have denoted five key components or elements that characterize CDD and it is

viewed as one of researcher's theoretical framework to determine whether the ward development project in Niger state complies with CDD operational element or not.

The basic characteristics of CDD include;

1. A CDD operation primarily targets a community based organization or representative of the local community just as Niger State has created 274 ward development committee across the state.
2. These local based representatives of the communities are responsible for designing, planning and executing the sub-projects in participatory manner.
3. The defining characteristics of CDD are that transfer of resources to the community occurs and control of such financial resources is delegated to the community members. This is in compliance with commissioners and director – generals, citizens of each ward or local government supervising and monitoring policy.
4. Communities are responsible for sub-project execution.
5. An element of community based monitoring and evaluation as a central characteristics-development is the responsibility of the local government with the active cooperation of the state and federal governments, aimed at improving the welfare of the masses within its areas of jurisdiction.

2.2.6 Overview of Ward Development Fund Projects in Kenya

Ward Development Fund Projects are projects funded by the devolved unit at the ward level. The project may include health projects, infrastructure projects or health projects. The project depends on the need of the ward residents.

In Kenya, there has been growing need to devolve functions that can foster development at the grassroots levels. One such effort is the Constituency Development Fund (CDF). Initiated in 2003, the fund aim was to supplement Constituency level development by spurring equitable distribution of development across the country. The fund was established in 2003 under the Constituency Development Fund Act 2003, Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 107 (Acts No. 11) to correct years of regional underdevelopment as a result of politics of patronage by devolving funds directly to parliamentary Constituencies. CDF plans are initiatives which allocate capital from national government budget to regions, for development projects in an attempt to address specific society needs (Mwangi, 2015)

The CDF from where WDF model was borrowed has been beset by monumental hiccups due to its political nature. The CDF was later renamed National Government Constituency Development Fund (NG-CDF) through the amendment of the CDF Act (2013), intending to align the fund with the 2010 constitution.

i. Ward Development fund project Identification in Kenya

As with most community development initiatives, WDF Project starts with the conception whereby the needs of people to be fulfilled is established. Accordingly, Nyandama County WDF Act (2015) provides guidelines on how to identify WDF Projects. This facilitates sharing of objectives by way of need assessment and thorough discussion analysis (Nyaguthii and Oyugi, 2013).

According to Gujarati (2017), the first stage of a formal participatory process for project identification is the needs assessment. The situational analysis has to be carried out by an independent agent, with the aims of describing the current situation within the community.

Needs assessment on the other hand, looks at the needs of various groups within the community. It is critical to the conduct of feasibility study before a project is initiated (Otieno, 2007)

The initiation phase helps to define the business or identify the opportunity, suggest a feasible solution by formulating a project proposal. Participation of target beneficiaries is important at the identification stage since the local people know the nature of their problem and can suggest the ideas; evaluation and approval take place after authorization by project managers. Given the technical nature of this stage, the participation of the people may be minimal (Muhammad, 2010).

ii. Ward Development Fund Project implementation in Kenya

Implementation is one of the most critical stages of the project management cycle as it entails the procurement of resources, setting up of team and allocation of task among other things. Following the project implementation plan, fund are sourced, chores determined and control mechanism detailed so that the project input can give expected outputs for the achievement of the project goals (Muhammad, 2010). Participation of the people at this stage is crucial to the success of the WDF Projects.

The implementation phase of the project management process entails turning inputs into outputs. According to Stefano and Vrinda (2003), implementation is the stage in which the layout formulated in the preceding levels of the project life cycle is initiated. The community as the beneficiaries must be adequately involved to build a sense of "ownership" by the community. This could entail participation by members of the stakeholders in launching the project, coordination of activities, monitoring and taking care of contingencies.

iii. Ward Development Fund Project Monitoring and Evaluation in Kenya

The process of WDF Projects implementation should be monitored by the project teams and independent monitors, relying on the logical guidelines in the project document; project teams carry out planning to define activities, results and milestones that may develop during implementation. Evaluation involves systematic and non-biased evaluation of an ongoing or finalized project. The purpose is to establish suitability, effectiveness, efficiency and attainment of objectives, sustainability and impact (Paul, 2010)

Evidence shows that WDF Project should include participatory oversight and evaluation elements to enhance results with a view to sealing loopholes observed in the other models. The final stage in the project cycle is assessment, which is enhanced by follow up action. External agencies are necessary to assess the performances of the project to see whether its stated objectives are achieved. Evaluation investigates the reasons why certain aspects of a project or programme have or have not been implemented as planned (Zarinpoush, 2006). Monitoring and evaluation are functions that assist the project management in understanding the attainment of the objectives, the areas that need correction measures to deal with current issues, in an attempt to comply with the environment standards as well as assessing employees' efficiency (Zarinpoush, 2006). The meaning and definitions of monitoring and evaluation are often contentious because the two events often overlap (Hall, et al, 2013).

v. Legislative Framework of Ward Development Fund Project in Kenya

Counties around the country established the WDF in 2014, whereby many counties developed and passed the bills actualizing the fund. The Public Finance Management Act (2012)-section 116, under the principle of separation of powers, empowers MCAs to participate in

prioritizing projects while the executive is mandated to execute the CIDP. Further, the office of the controller of Budget (OCOB) released the Ward Development Fund guidelines through the circular NO.26 of 2014. The WDF guidelines should help the counties to actualize and operationalize the Fund. The fund is intended to enable the counties to finance projects at the ward level. The WDF guidelines aided the counties in establishing the fund to adhere to the established laws. The WDF process has three stages during formulation; namely, initiation, acceptance execution and administration.

According to Public Finance Management Act (2012), first, relevant department identifies the need to establish the WDF. The proposal then is forwarded to the county executive member for finance, who then submits the same to the county executive committee for approval. Upon approval, the County executive member for finance drafts a county bill governing the Fund's application that operationalizes the use of resources.

2.2.7 Overview of Ward Committees System in South Africa

The Ward Committee system in South Africa was introduced in 2000. The introduction of ward committees is expected to serve as an inextricable link between the Municipality through the ward councilors and the local communities as represented by ward committee members. This particular link is important, as it has a potential to render Municipalities effective, in a sense that it provides mechanism to promote local democracy and consequently, to ensure public participation in Municipal decision making and service delivery, through integrated development plan. In essence, Ward Committees in South Africa are vehicles for public participation and agents of grassroots development (Ward Committee Resource Book, 2005). In terms of National Policy Framework on Public Participation in South Africa (2005) Ward

Committees are forums for deliberative democracy. The Committees are set up to promote self-management, awareness building and ownership of local development and to enable faster access to information from government. (Tshabalala, 2007)

i. Purposes of Ward Committees in South Africa

Ward Committees are established in South Africa for the following purposes:

a. To get better participation from the community to inform council decisions
b. To make sure that there is more effective communication between the council and the community
c. To assist the ward councilors with consultation and report back to the community
d. To give the community peoples the chance to identify the projects of their choice for execution through the ward committee members. (Tshabalala, 2007)

ii. The Mandate of Ward Committees

The constitution of South Africa (Act No 108 of 1996) places a duty on local government to create invited spaces for public participation to ensure a democratic and accountable local government and encourage the participation of communities and community organizations in the matters of local government. However, there is huge difference between authentic and empowering public participation and other "mechanisms" which equate involvement and consultation. This difference is however not clearly articulated in South African legislation and academic writing. Local government legislation must make a provision for local authorities to establish a system of participatory democracy at the local level in the form of Ward Committees (Houston et al., 2001).

iii. Ward Committees as Communication Channels

The primary duty of ward committees is to represent interests of communities through effective communication with the municipality on matters of IDP (Department of Provincial and Local Government, 2005). This entails ensuring that concerns from communities are heard and taken into consideration when planning development for those communities (RSA, 2000;RSA, 1998;Department of Provincial and Local Government, 2005). Therefore, for a ward committee to represent the interests of its community without political bias, the process of nomination and election ward committee members must be addressed objectively (Department of Provincial and Local Government, 2005)

Objectivity in the election of ward committee members is also critical in that ward committees must also receive process and consider concerns and complaints lodged by community members (Department of Provincial and Local Government, 2005). This suggests that they may be required to seek answers from ward councilors and their municipality to ensure accountability and efficient delivery of basic services. The effectiveness of ward committees in holding ward councilors accountable is underlined by the fact that some ward councilors may not deliver once they have been elected. Ward committee members are expected to have reasonable understanding of development planning processes and the associated principles. Without this understanding, ward committee members may be unable to effectively fulfill their role as an effective interface between the community and municipality (Afeesis-corplan, 2013).

iv. Role of Ward Committees in Facilitating the Integrated Development Plan

Integrated Development Plan (IDP), as explained in the white Paper on Local Government (RSA, 1998), is a process through which a municipality goes about putting together a plan for development with and for the people that it serves. The IDP is a key mechanism for "hearing the voices" of communities and creating invited spaces for them to participate in IDP processes (Everatt et.al. , 2010).

The role of ward committees in the IDP process is to work with municipalities to identify priorities for their communities and to formulate the most appropriate strategies for implementing and sustaining such development. For the IDP process to be participative, ward committees must mobilize community members to attend IDP meetings to input the development plan for their municipality (Mbhele, 2017).

2.2.8 Review of Empirical Studies

Empirical literatures on ward development policy, grassroots development, community participation on development process and infrastructural facilities were reviewed.

Otinche(2015) examined how ward development projects enhances state-community relations in Niger state. He adopted Basic Needs Approach (BNA) to provide the baseline discussion for the theme of the paper. Data for the study were obtained from secondary source. In his findings, the ward development program has failed to yield the desired result because of the political orbiting that results in inconsistency in financing the program and more so from the lean and subservient financial relations of the local governments with state government. He recommended that Niger state government should sustainably fund the ward development program as this will enhance its legitimacy. Also the ward development policy should be

reviewed to make it all inclusive by building in human capacity development, entrepreneurship development and agricultural development as basic components. However, the study was only limited to Lapai and as such its findings may lack the quality for generalization.

Shehu(2013) examined the constraint on sustainability of ward development project policy in Niger state, Nigeria. The paper adopted the qualitative research methodology and non-statistical tool was used in the presentation and analysis of his data. The study discovered that policy instrument succeeded in gradual transformation of the community infrastructures in the state. In addition, it also discovered that funding has never been irregular, portending a gloom for the new policy thrust. In his recommendations, funding should be regularized and that people should be given free hands to select their ward development execution committee members, allow to define and identify their needs and execute them themselves without unnecessary interference from the local officials or party men. Meanwhile this study adopted both quantitative and qualitative methodologies and that statistical analysis was employed for the analysis and presentation of data that made the study more scientific. More so, his study was only specific to Bida local government area and only covered a period between 2009-2010; but this research was embarked upon to cover the areas of Kontagora angd Magama local government areas, Niger state and the period coverage is between 2008-2014, hence, the study is of paramount importance to the people of these localities.

Oni (2015) examined community participation in rural development. The study revealed that despite significant portion of resources that were committed for the development of rural areas, the condition of rural people is worsening and rural urban migration is taking unprecedented dimension because of the failure on the part of government to involve the local

people on issues that affect their lives. He recommended that by improving participation of community members in the development process, then development projects will succeed in rural communities and poverty will subsequently be alleviated. However, the study failed to reveal the methodology adopted and it was carried out in Osun state, Nigeria.

Adesida and Okunlola (2015) analyzed the effects of community participation on the sustainability of rural infrastructure in Ondo state, Nigeria. A structured interview was used to elicit information from 144 respondents, randomly selected from 12 communities that benefitted from IFAD/Niger Delta Development Commission community based project. The study revealed that majority of the respondents were adequately informed and participated in the implementation of the projects carried out by IFAD/NDDC in their various communities. In their recommendation, community involvement and participation in the design, planning, implementation and monitoring of community project should be encouraged in community projects to ensure its sustainability. However, the study was carried out in Ondo state and was not on ward development project in Niger state.

Odo, L.U. (2014) examined the local government and the challenges of grassroots development in Nigeria. Integrated Rural Development Theory (IRDT) was adopted for the study. The study revealed that there is poor performance of the local government at the grassroots level. He still believed that local government remain the best suited to engender development at the local level despite the poor performance of the local government that the study discovered; hence he recommended for the urgent and compelling need to fix the local government system in order to enhance its service delivery capacity. However the emphasis of the study is local government role on grassroots development rather than ward development project policy.

Chris (2017) examined the local government administration and grassroots development in Nigeria. The data for the study were obtained from both primary and secondary sources. The study revealed that the objective of 1976 local government reform has become a mirage as the local governments in Nigeria remain appendages of state governments. He therefore recommended that local government should be made development-oriented through the application of democratic etiquette and good government. But the emphasis of the study is on local government and grassroots development rather than ward development projects and grassroots development.

Daniel (2014) examined the role of local government in grassroots development particularly in the area of the provision and advancement of education, good road networks and market development. Data for the study were obtained from both primary and secondary sources. The study adopted system theory of David Easton as a baseline for the discussion. The study from its finding revealed that local governments were unable to meet these expectations due to inadequate fund and that bulk of local government expenditures were mostly recurrent. He recommended that internally generated revenue should be improved as this will go a long way in improving the local government effectiveness.

Thwala(2010) examined that community participation is a necessity for project success. A study of rural water supply project in Jeppes Reefs, South Africa. Data were collected via interview. The study discovered that the slow pace of transformation and skills transfer to communities hinder project community participation. In his recommendation, community needs a planner who should be a spokesperson for the community in development projects; and by so doing, the planner will assist the community to properly articulate their needs from

the problem identification to project implementation. But the study was carried out in South Africa and restricted the participation of people only in rural water supply project.

Phologane(2014) embarked on study for evaluating community participation in rural development projects. The study south both quantitative and qualitative information, hence a combination of both quantitative and qualitative methodologies were adopted. The study discovered that community members do not authentically participate in their own development because they are not included in the projects from the beginning of the process. He recommended that government should support the community to ensure strong commitment to participation in development projects; and that community not the officials should own the projects so that they can take responsibility in terms of sustaining the project and ensuring participation. But the study was carried out in South-Africa and the finding may not have effect on Nigerian society.

Sibanda (2011) examined the role of community participation in development initiatives. A study of the Danga ecological sanitation project in the Zvishavane district, Zimbabwe. Both quantitative and qualitative methods were used to gather relevant information. The study reveals that the community was fully involve in the ecological sanitation project, hence the project had a poor performance record. He recommended for the full involvement of target communities i.e the community members should be involve from the inception of the project. That careful planning for projects needs to be done with community so that it fully understands what is taking place and will consequently take ownership. However, the study was carried out in Zimbabwe and it had specific emphasis on ecological sanitation projects.

Ofuoku, (2011) analyzed the effects of community participation of on sustainability of rural water project in Delta Central Agricultural Zone of Delta State, Nigeria. Purposive sampling was use in selecting communities, while systematic sampling was use in selecting respondents for the study. The study discovered that while there was a positive relationship between participation and sustainability of the water projects, the level of participation of the citizens was very low. In his recommendation, the level of participation of community in project should be increase so as to attain high level of sustainability of such projects. But this study was carried out in Delta state with special focus on rural water projects.

Nkwake, Trandafili & Hughey (2013) examined the relationship between community participation on programme outcomes in a metaevaluation. The data for this study were obtained from World Vision's Documents which is publish only internally and the organisation's data base. The study discovered that participation of vulnerable groups like children and women had a stronger relationship with programme outcomes than the other forms of participation that did not involve vulnerable groups. They recommended that participation of vulnerable groups like children and women needs strengthening in both programme implementation and DME. However, the study was carried out in United States of America and had emphasis specifically on the participation of children and women for their well beings.

Kadurange, Nyonje, Onguko and Nduge(2016) analyzed the evolving nature of community participation in public development projects in Kenya. The collection of data was done by document review; content analysis technique was employed for analysis of data. The study revealed that there is enhanced community participation in public development projects. They recommended that governments, development agencies and sponsors should accord local

communities more space to participate and contribute to public development projects in order to foster sustainable development. But study was carried out in Kenya and the finding of the study theoretical; hence, it lacks the needed quality for generalization.

Saliu(2014) evaluated self-help community development projects in Zungeru, Niger state, Nigeria . Data were collected through primary and secondary sources and simple analytical statistical frequency methods were utilized. The study revealed that various community based projects were found to have been executed by both private organizations and the government but with little impact. He recommended that Federal government should encourage and assist the states, local government areas and communities in infrastructural development drives. Though the study was carried out in Niger state, it covers only Zungeru town and was not in reference with ward development projects.

Njunwa (2010) examined community participation as a tool for development: Local community's participation in primary education development in Morogoro, Tanzania. Qualitative methodology was adopted by this study. The study discovered that community participates in the development of their schools such as building classrooms, teachers' houses, toilets etc.; though the level of participation was very low. He recommended for the improvement of the participation of local people via educating them and creating awareness for them to understand the importance of their participation in the development of their schools. But the study took place in Tanzania and the study was only restricted on primary education development.

Utuk (2014) examined the role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in participatory and sustainable rural economic development in Nigeria. Survey research methodology was

used in the conduct of the study. The study discovered that the role played by government has failed at addressing the key issues in rural economic development. He recommended that non-governmental organizations should be given the responsibility to penetrate the rural communities to engage them in participatory development process for the rapid development of the rural areas. However, the study was not empirical; hence its findings could not be generalized

Laah, Adefila, and Yusuf (2014) examined the community participation in sustainable rural infrastructural development in Riyom Area, Plateau state, Nigeria. Data were generated from both primary and secondary sources. The study made used of 174 sampled population through the administration of questionnaire which constituted the major research instrument for the study by adopting multi-stage sampling technique. The study revealed that community participation is confined to receiving information and some consultations thereby showing low level of participation. The study recommended that there should be an increased level of awareness and enlightenment about communal participation through mass media and regular meetings with traditional authorities. But the study was carried out in Plateau state.

Opafunso and Okhankhuele (2014) analyzed the impact of government intervention projects on poverty alleviation/reduction in Ekiti state, Nigeria. The study adopted survey design and judgmental sampling technique; questionnaire and interview were used for data collection. The study revealed that some poverty alleviation projects such as education, health services, water provision, electricity supply etc. had some impact on the lives of the masses especially those in different communities of the study area. They recommended that community members should be involved in the conceptualization and implementation of the projects in order to identify the exact projects required to raise the standard of living of the masses.

Nour (2011) analyzed challenges and advantages of community participation as an approach for sustainable urban development in Egypt. The study discovered that participatory development processes have no predetermined outcomes; that they can lead to transformation and change in the political and social patterns, but sometimes they do not really affect the way decisions are taken and implemented and the relation of powers among various stakeholders. Additionally, participation is always associated with empowerment of the participants. He recommended that participation should be justified on the basis of its contribution towards the objectives of housing and urban development management. While the focus of this study is more on how participation led to urban development and housing provisions, ward development project focuses on stimulating development at the grassroots level.

Adeoye, Yusuf, Balogun and Carim-sanni (2011) examined the importance of infrastructure for rural areas. They revealed that lack of basic amenities is the main factor that can affect the quality of life of rural communities as well as the factor that can undermine the effort in enhancing the rural communities' economic transformation which generally rely on agricultural resources.

Aziz (2015) studied the relationship between the infrastructure and the economic growth in India. He revealed that the basic infrastructure is essential for a good quality of life especially in the socio-economic aspect. The lack of basic amenities in the rural areas has direct negative impacts on the village residents such as increase in the rate of poverty, declining the agricultural products and hindering the ability to continue living good life. All these negative impacts will definitely affect health services and halt access to education for village communities.

Shariff Abd Kadir (2013) examined the impact of land transport infrastructure development on Malaysia's economic growth. He found out that the investments in the land infrastructure give a significant impact on the country's long term economic growth. The study also emphasized the importance of development in infrastructure in thriving several important sectors in the country such as manufacturing, service, international trade, production and agricultural sectors.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

Evaluation Theory

The theoretical framework for this study can best be captured within the realm of Evaluation Theory by Suchmann in 1967. He suggested five criteria for performance evaluation which include efforts, performance, adequacy of performance, efficiency and process. These five criteria are explained below.

-Efforts: Refers to concerned measures taken to attain goal, entailing beautiful objectives and appropriate institutional framework.

-Performance: This implies quality and quantity of input is the result of effort made to attain goal. Its components entails quantum of the effect (impact) made, the degree of change obtained in relation to goal set.

-Adequacy of Performance: This criterion measures success in relation to the total amount of need; if the policy (WDP) is effective in building infrastructures capable of stimulating development at the grassroots level.

-Efficiency: Measures the correlation between the worth or cost of input (efforts) put into the system and the worth or amount of output produced. It is often defined as the capacity of an

individual, organization, facility, operation or activity to produce results in proportion to the efforts expanded.

-Process: This criterion examines the attribute or nature of program, the peculiarity of the program, context that made it successful or fails as well as analysis of operational attitude that negates the impact of the program.

Application of the Theory

The relevance of Evaluation Theory to this study has been explained below.

i. **-Efforts:** This implies efforts made to establish the program. Niger State government in February 2008 adopted a policy of (WDP) in order to achieve efficiency and effectiveness in infrastructure building in both urban and rural areas of the state experiencing infrastructural deficit. Another element of efforts in the policy was the devising of relevant institutional framework (LGPAMC and WDPC) to work within the confines of operational objectives. The next important attribute of effort was the statement about the mandate of WDP policy. The document outlines the following objectives of the WDP as:

ii. Actualization of participatory democracy through people's popular participation in project executions after need assessment.

iii. Enthronement of bottom-up approach to community development.

iv. Actualization of participatory decision making by the people on matters concerning them.

v. Let them (people) decide what they need by themselves and actively participate in its execution, ownership and sustainability (DWDP,2009).

These are broad goals for popular participation in development but the objectives had no measurement target quantitatively or qualitatively defined. The essential value sought was institutionalization of popular participation in project identification, execution and monitoring. And finally under efforts criterion was the legislative authorization. Concerted efforts were made by the government to institutionalized the program legally through series of legislation to ensure its sustainability.

-Performance: This implies that measuring performance of WDP in infrastructure building in Niger State entails ascertaining the number and the quality of projects executed by the program and the impacts the projects have made with a view to stimulating development at the grassroots level.

-Adequacy of Performance: This examines the quantity, quality and relevance of the projects executed through WDP. Since participatory development strategy hinges on the needs of the people; people need good education on how to identify and prioritize their needs.

-Efficiency: Measuring efficiency of WDP would require an examination of input-output relationship to determine value for money spent and the degree of appropriateness of the projects execution method used as well as distributive equity issues.

-Process: This is the most defining element of participatory approach to community development management. The process analysis involves determination of how popular or democratic is the process of constituting WDPC and how democratic is the committee in carrying out her operational functions of project identification, location, execution and evaluation.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter has provided us with the detailed information regarding the methodology that was adopted in the conduct of the study. Specifically, the chapter has provided us with the information about the research design, population of the study, sampling size and sampling techniques, data collection sources, instruments of data collection, Questionnaires administration and method of data analysis.

3.2 Design of the Study

This study has adopted survey method. This allowed the researcher to collect the data from the sampled population via administration of Questionnaires, interview and observation. The sample has been selected to represent the characteristics of the population and sample size was chosen using Taro Yamane's formula. This provided the researcher with the opportunity to generalize the findings for the whole population. This is therefore design to assessing the impact of ward development projects on grassroots development in Kontagora and Magama local government areas, Niger state.

3.3 Population of the Study

The population of this research is made up of the people living in the thirteenth and eleventh wards of Kontagora and Magama local government areas respectively.

The population figures of the two local government areas according to 2016 projection by National Population Commission are as presented in the table below:

Table 3.1: Population of Kontagora and Magama local government areas

LGA	Headquarters	Population
Kontagora	Kontagora	255,000
Magama	Nasko	213,500
Total		**468,500**

Source: National Population Commission, 2016

Table 3.2: List of Wards in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas

S/N	LGA	Wards	S/N	LGA	Wards
1.	Kontagora	Arewa	**2**	Magama	Anaba
		Central			Auna
		Gabas			Ibelu
		Kudu			Kawo
		Madara			Kura
		Magajiya			Magaman Daji
		Masuga			Nasko
		Nagwamatse			Nassarawa
		Rafin gora			Salka
		Tungan kawo			Tungan jika
		Tungan wawa			Yangalu
		Usalle			
		Yamma			
Total		**13**	**Total**		**11**

Source: Field survey, 2018

3.4 Sampling Size and Sampling Technique

The study areas have human population of 468,500 according to the 2016 projected population by the National population commission. Out of which 400 people were selected as a sample size of the study. Taro Yamane's formula was adopted which helps the researcher to arrive at 400 as a sample size. The application of Yamane formula is explained below:

N = $N/1+N(e)^2$

n = sample size

N = population size

1 = constant

E = Error limit

$$\frac{468500}{1+468500(0.05)^2}$$

$$= \frac{468500}{468501(0.0025)}$$

$$\frac{8500}{1171.2525}$$

= 399.9

Sample size = 400

Meanwhile a purposive sampling was adopted to enable the researcher identify stakeholders and representatives of service beneficiaries to constitute the research sample for the administration of Questionnaires and interview. This sampling technique is considered appropriate because the research question was addressed to the people who have adequate knowledge about the ward development projects policy and its implementation activities.

More so, the people constituted into study frame represent the various socio-economic groups across the two local government areas for the study and groups are; Community leaders, Local government Project Advisory and monitoring committee, Ward development projects committee, Youth representatives, Women representatives and political Parties executives.

3.5 Sources of Data

The study used both primary and secondary sources to generate the data needed for this study.

3.5.1 Primary sources

The primary sources of data were collected through administration of questionnaires, conducting of interviews and observations.

3.5.2 Secondary Sources

The secondary sources of data for this study were obtained from the official documents of ward development projects policy, annual reports, journals, newspapers, published and unpublished articles, books and on line materials.

3.6 Instrument of data collection

The researcher used Questionnaires, interview and observation as the most appropriate tools for collecting data for this study.

3.6.1 Questionnaire

Questionnaire was structured using closed-ended Likert's scale of strongly agreed, agreed, undecided, disagreed, strongly disagreed to recognize the degree of intensity in the respondents' feelings and perceptions. This is for easy coding, tabulation and analysis.

3.6.2 Interview

The interview was conducted to the representatives of target beneficiaries in particular Ward Development Committee Members and Local Government Project Advisory and Monitoring Mommittee.

3.6.3 Observation

This was another source of data the study utilized. We visited locations where projects via ward development projects policy were executed in the two local governments selected for the study.

3.7 Administration of Questionnaire

This study covered Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas, Niger State, as already mentioned above. The sample size of the population for the two local government areas is 400 which were generated from the overall population of the two study areas after adopting Yamanse's formula. Three Research assistants were employed to aid the researcher in the administration of questionnaires. Besides, 40 questionnaires which constitute 10 percent of 400 questionnaires were added in case if some questionnaires are not return. More so, the administration of questionnaire to these study areas was done proportionally i.e. on the basis of population that form part the two study areas. The table below has given us a brief and precise analysis of the questionnaires' administration.

Table: 3.3 Questionnaire Administrations

S/N	LGA	Population Size	% of the Population	Sample Size
1.	Kontagora	255, 000	54.4	240
2.	Magama	213, 500	45.6	200
Total		468500	100%	440

Source: National Population Commission, 2016 and our field survey, 2018.

3.8 Method of Data Presentation and Analysis

The study used both descriptive and inferential (analytical) statistical tools for data analysis and testing of hypotheses respectively. Descriptive tools include the use of frequency distribution tables and percentages. The frequency distribution tables showed the number of different responses to a particular question, while percentages show the portion of each response group.

Inferential statistical tool used for the testing of hypotheses was simple linear regression at 0.05 (5%) level of significance. However, the statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) program was used for processing and analysis of data.

Decision Rule

The decision rule on the formulated hypotheses for this study states that if P-value is less than alpha (P-value<α), we reject-null hypothesis, whereas if the P-value is greater than alpha (P-value>α) we accept null hypothesis.

CHAPTER FOUR

AN OVERVIEW OF WARD DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN KONTAGORA AND MAGAMA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS OF NIGER STATE

4.1 Introduction

This chapter has provided us with the knowledge of an overview of ward development projects in Kontagora and Magama local government areas of Niger state. Thus, we have briefly discussed the history of Niger state, history of Kontagora local government, history of Magama local government, meaning of ward development projects, objectives of Ward development projects, characteristics of WDP, the institutional framework of ward development projects, strategy of the implementation of ward development projects as well as achievements of ward development projects in Kontagora and Magama local government areas of Niger state.

4.2 Brief history of Niger State

Niger state is located between latitudes 8° 20 'N and 11°30' N and longitude 3° 30'E and 7°20'E. The state is situated in the North Central geo-political zone and shares its borders with the Republic of Benin (West), Zamfara State (North), Kebbi (North-West), Kogi (South), Kwara (South-West), Kaduna (North-East) and the Federal Capital Territory FCT (South-East) (Niger State Government, 2012). The state covers a total land area of about 76,000sq.km, or about 9 percent of Nigeria‟s total land area. This makes the state the largest in the country (Baba, 1993, Online Nigeria, 2003.). At inception in 1976, the state had only eight Local Government Areas (LGAs), however, with the series of state and local government creation exercises and boundary adjustments between 1979 and 1996; the number of LGAs in the state has increased to twenty-five.

In terms of human settlements, the majority of the people of the State reside in rural areas. According to Baba (1993) for example, 90 percent of the state population were rural residents. Similarly, following 1991 population census Morenikeji, et al (2000) reported that there were 2,371 rural settlements with a total population of 1,868,939 and eight urban settlements with a combined population of 552,642 in the state making the state essentially rural. According to Baba (1993), the characteristic rural settlements in the Nupe cultural area are of the nucleated type in which each settlement consists of many compounds built in close quarters and each compound houses a family which is an in pendent production/consumption unit. On the other hand, outside Nupe territory, dispersed rural settlements predominate in northern local government areas of Mariga, Magama, Borgu and Mashegu in which the residents commonly form one unit of production/consumption. Some of the major urban settlements in the state include Minna the State Capital, Bida, Suleja and Kontagora.

i. Brief History Kontagora Local Government

Kontagora is a local government area in Niger state, with headquarters in the town of Kontagora. Kontagora local government area is in the northern senatorial district of Niger state otherwise known as Niger North Senatorial Zone alongside Borgu, Agwara, Mariga, Rijau, Wushishi, Mashegu and Magama local government areas. Kontagora local government also forms a Federal Constituency alongside Wushishi, Mashegu and Mariga local government areas.

Kontagora local government covers an area of 2,081 km. The local government area is bounded to the north and east by Mariga local government area, to the south by Mashegu local government area and to the west by Magama local government area.

Wards in Kontagora local government area

There are 13 wards in Kontagora local government area of Niger state. These wards are:

-Arewa ward

-Central ward

-Gabas ward

-Kudu ward

-Madara ward

-Magajiya ward

-Masuga ward

-Nagwamatse ward

-Rafin Gora ward

-Tungan Kawo ward

-Tungan wawa ward

-Usalle and,

-Yamma ward

Population of Kontagora

The projected population of 2016 by National Population Commission put the population of Kontagora local government area at 255,000.

ii. Brief History of Magama Local Government

Magama is a local government area in Niger state, with its administrative headquarters in the town of Nasko. Magama local government area is also in Niger North Senatorial Zone alongside Borgu, Agwara, Kontagora, Mariga, Rijau, Wushishi andMashegu local government areas. Magama local government area also forms a Federal Constituency alongside Rijau local government area.

Magama local government area covers an area of 4,107 km. The local government area has boundary with Rijau local government area from the north, Mariga and Kontagora local government areas from the east, Mashegu local government area from the soth-east, Borgu local government area from the south-west and Kebbi state from the west.

Wards in Magama local government area

There are 11 electoral wards in Magama local government areas of Niger state. These wards are:

-Anaba ward

-Auna ward

-Ibelu ward

-Kawo ward

-Kura ward

-Magaman daji ward

-Nasko ward

-Nassarawa ward

-Salka ward

-Tungan Jika ward

-Yangalu ward

Population of Magama local government

The projected population of 2016 by National Population Commission put the population of Magama local government area at 213,500.

4.3 Meaning and the Nature of Ward Development Projects, Niger State

Niger state government adopted in February 2008 community driven development version of participatory development execution in order to achieve efficiency and effectiveness in infrastructure building in both urban and rural areas of the state experiencing crumbling infrastructures [Shehu,2013].A document published in 2009 by Niger state Directorate of ward development projects describes the new policy thrust as ”a new bottom-up paradigm shift in grassroots development”. Talking about the conceptual motivation for the policy, the document says “it was conceived as a result of the underdevelopment he (the governor) observed across the state during his election campaign in 2007”

Ward development project is a programme of grassroots development whereby the will of the people is united with the resources of government to improve the living standard of the communities through the provision of basic necessities such as water supply, feeder roads, drainages, primary and secondary school classrooms and clinics (DWDP,2009).

As a statutory with all development policies, the Niger state government established a Ward Development Fund (WDF) for financing of the various projects in the 274 ward in the 25 local

government councils in Niger state. The fund was managed by the Directorate for Ward Development. To ensure there is transparency and accountability in the management of WDF, the commissioner of finance, the local government chairmen, Director of finance and secretaries to the local governments were made signatories to the WD account. The initial start-up capital for each ward was five hundred thousand (500,000) naira monthly. This amount was subsequently increased to one million naira (1000,000) and was to progressively increased to two million naira (Otinche,2015)

The funds were disbursed to the local government committee by the ministry for local government and monitoring committees at the local government in turn do same to the ward committees through their various Ward Committee Account (DWDP,2009)

The predetermine goals of Ward Development Project are:

- Actualization of participatory democracy through people's popular participation in project executions after need assessment.
- Enthronement of bottom-up approach to community development.
- Actualization of participatory decision making by the people on matters concerning them.
- Let them (people) decide what they need by themselves and actively participate in its execution, ownership and sustainability (DWDP,2009).

i. Characteristics of Ward Development Projects in Niger State

The following are the characteristics of ward development programmes:

a. Ward development projects committees work through Ministry for Local government, community Development and Chieftaincy Affairs

b The Communities appoint members of the projects Committees. These are made up of one female, a village representative and an experienced retired civil servant. Political party membership should not influence such a choice

1. The Communities determine the nature, growth and physical completion of the projects.
2. The Ministry also constitutes Implementation Committees headed by the highest political office holders and seasoned administrators(Monitoring Committees)
3. The Local Government Monitoring Committees meet with the Honourable Commissioner once every month to review the projects. They also attend meetings to deliberate on official reports of expenditures and bills of quantities.
4. Separate bank accounts have been opened for the ward projects, different from the accounts of the Local Government Councils. This is to make for accountability. Local government Coordinators are signatories to the Ward development accounts, as well as treasurers and directors of personnel of the local governments (Mid-term reports, 2007-2009)

ii. Institutional Platform for the Ward Development Programme

The Niger state government established administrative structures in each of the 25 local government Councils of Niger state to oversee the effective implementation of the programme. The Directorate of Ward Development Projects (DWDP) headed by an Executive Secretary appointed by the Executive Governor to hold office for a renewable term of three (3) years. The Directorate has four departments namely Administration and Finance, Technical (Project Engineering Section) and Management and Information System

(monitoring and evaluation) departments. The State Ward Development Project Committee (SWDPC) has the Executive Governor as chairman, chairmen of the 25 Local Government Projects Advisory and Monitoring Committee, chairmen of the 25 local government councils, the Co-coordinator Local Government Project Advisory and Monitoring Committee and the Executive Secretary of the Directorate of Ward Development projects as Secretary. The State Ward Development Project Committee ensures that the ward projects are in consonance with the goals of the development policies of the Niger state government. It ensures that need-based quality projects are executed. It reviews the 274 ward development projects and to ensure that funds are judiciously.

The Ward Development Projects Committee (WDPC) consists of 7 members and the Local Government Project Advisory and Monitoring Committee (LGPAMC). The membership of the former consists of a woman of high integrity, a Councilor representing the ward irrespective of political affiliations, a retired civil servant, private sector businessmen and women, a retired military, a Police or Para-military officer or a religious leader as chairman. The Councilor of the ward served as Secretary. The primary responsibility of the WDPC is to prepare bills of quantities for projects to be executed as contained in the annual ward development plans and forward same to the Director of Works of each LGPAMC for consideration and approval. On the other hand, the Local Government Project Advisory and Monitoring Committee (LGPAMC) consisting of 7 members oversee project management at the local government level. Membership of the committee comprise a Commissioner, Special Adviser, Executive Secretary or Director General as chairman, a senior state civil servant on GL. 12 and above as the Coordinator, Community Development Officer, Principal Women Development Officer, Directors of Finance and Works as members. The Executive Chairman

of the Local Government council is the Secretary to the LGPAMC. The primary responsibilities of the LGPAMC are:

To review and approve projects in consultation with the ward development committee; Prepare annual ward development projects; Prepare annual ward development projects implementation plan detailing out priorities and time lines; Perform oversight functions on projects implementation; and Ensure that projects are fully executed before the release of funds to the ward development committees for new projects (EWDPC Law 2012).

iii. Strategy for the Policy Implementation of Ward Development Projects

As statutory with all development policies, the Niger state government established a Ward Development Fund (WDF) for the financing of the various projects in the 274 ward in the 25 local government councils in Niger state. The fund is managed by the Directorate for Ward Development. At the local government level is the Local Government Advisory and Monitoring Committee Account established to warehouse the funds. To ensure there is transparency and accountability in the management of the WDF, the Commissioner of Finance, the Local Government Chairman, Director of Finance and Secretary to the Local Government are made signatory to the WD account. The initial start-up capital for each ward was five hundred thousand (N500, 000.00) naira. This amount was subsequently increased to one million (N1, 000,000.00) naira was to be progressively increased to two billion naira. Cumulatively, the sum of 12 million naira was allocated to each ward annually for ward development (Niger State Government n.d). For efficiency and routine administration, 0.5% of the total sum disbursed in the state is allocated to the Office of the Project Implementation Coordinator and 2% disbursed to the Directorate as operational cost.

iv. Achievements of Ward Development Projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State

The ward development project was introduced as a pilot scheme for three months to ascertain its political and operational feasibility. It is obvious that the programme is one of the best grassroots oriented development programme introduced in recent time. Its bottom-up approach to development makes it more integrative and promotes good governance. The enabling law streamlines the goals of the programme thus:

The actualization of participatory democracy through people's popular participation in project executions after need assessment; enthronement of bottom-up approach to community development; actualization of participatory decision-making by the people on matters concerning them; and let them decide what they need by themselves and actively participate in its execution, ownership and sustainability (Niger State Government Law No. 24, 2009).

The programme was no doubt participatory and it raises people's hope about the performance of Niger State government. Official records have shown that about 0ne hundred and eighty five ward development projects were executed in the 24 wards across the two local government areas of our study from the five hundred thousand (N500, 000. 00) naira that was later reviewed upward to one million (1000,0000.00) naira disbursement between 2008 and 2014. Below were the successes recorded in the two local government areas under study:

Table 4.1: Achievements of Ward Development Projects between 2008 and 2014 in Kontagora Local Government Area

S/No	TYPES OF PROJECTS	Number of projects
1	Boreholes	23
2	Renovation/construction of culverts and drainage	16
3	Renovation/construction of clinics and dispensaries	06
4	Electrification projects	16
5	Renovation/construction of religious places of worship	14
6	Renovation/construction of district village head residence	01
7	Fencing of cemeteries	02
8	Construction of concrete feeder roads	20
9	Renovation/construction of Islamic schools	13
10	Renovation/construction of schools	03
	Total	**114**

Source: Local government works department 2018 and Directorate for Ward Dev. Projects 2009.

Table: 4. 2 Achievements of Ward Development Projects in Magama Local Government Area between 2008-2014

S/N0	Types of projects	Number of projects
1	Renovation/construction of schools	22
2	Renovation/construction of clinics	06
3	Renovation/construction of culverts and drainage	07
4	Construction of open market stall	06
5	Construction of sets of desk and chairs	11
6	Renovation/construction of religious places for worship	02
7	Electrification projects	07
8	Boreholes	03
9	Fencing of cemeteries	01
10	Roads rehabilitation/grading of feeder roads	03
11	Renovation/construction Islamic schools	02
12	Construction of micro shopping complex	01
	Total	**71**

Source: Local government works department 2018 and Directorate for Ward Dev. Projects 2009

Challenges of Ward Development Projects

The implementation of ward development projects did not go smoothly without some challenges or problems. Most of the issues raised are generated in the course of discussions with some agents of the state government in Kontagora and Magama local governments who were involved in the implementation of the scheme. One of such problems was the contradiction between the political interest of the state government and the realist social expectations of the programme to the people. This contradiction manifested in poor funding of the policy programme.

Another defect of the policy had to do with the structural alignment of local government finance with the financial structure of the state government. In Nigeria, local government councils are appendages of the state governments. The fund federally allocated to local government councils are managed by the state government through State-Local Government Joint Account against the tenet of fiscal federalism. This form of insubordination leads to political alienation and underdevelopment of local communities particularly the rural areas.

The policy also faced with serious predicament of not regularly receiving funds for the execution of the identified projects. Regrettably, seventeen months into second tenure of Mu'azu's administration, no amount was disbursed to any ward for the execution of the policy due to political profligacy. The policy was also narrow minded due to the non-inclusion of entrepreneurship development programmes in the policy blueprint (Otinche, 2015).

What was also not clear was if the one million naira used in funding the ward development projects by Niger state government was part of local government funds surreptitiously withheld by the state government or not. This principal-agent relationship is the bane of grassroots underdevelopment in Nigeria today, Niger state inclusive.

Executive positions at the local government have been transformed into personal estates by state governors who run the local government councils on master-servant basis. They finance the elections of local government chairmen or run the local government council on care-taker committee basis (a committee that lacked the statutory powers to implement capital projects) and create a principal-agent relationship with absolute control over local government finances. Naturally, political agents rarely questioned the authority of their political godfathers and this has given room for the diversion of funds meant for development to servicing political interests at the expense of providing health care facilities, access roads, water supply, rural electrification, primary education facilities among others.

In the light of the above mentioned challenges, ward development projects couldn't achieved much successes as expected and eventually the policy was not sustained by the present Niger state government.

CHAPTER FIVE

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter presented, analyzed and interpreted the results on data collected. The data analysis was done using regression analysis. The chapter presents the responses rate, respondents' profile in terms of their Local government, gender, age, educational qualification, and the status of the respondents. The hypotheses were tested and findings of the research were also discussed. Meanwhile, the responses from the two local governments under study were merged because the study was not comparative and that two local governments were chosen with a view to expanding the scope of our investigation so that our findings could possess quality for generalization.

5.2 Presentation of Data and Analysis

5.2.1 Response Rate

Table 5.1 Summary of Response Rate

Item	Copies/Rate	Kontagora	Magama
No of Questionnaires distributed	440	240	200
No of Questionnaires Returned	415	225	190
No of questionnaire not returned	25	15	10
No of Questionnaires dully filled	405	220	185
Response Rate	92.04%	50%	42.04%

Table 5.1 revealed that numbers of questionnaire distributed by the researcher to the respondents' sum to 440 questionnaires. Among which 415 questionnaires were returned by the respondents while 25 questionnaires were not returned. And among the 415 that were

returned, only 405 were dully filled. Thus, the 405 questionnaires form the basis of analysis for our study which account for total response rate to 92%

5.3 Bio Data of the Respondents

The table below presents the demographic characteristics of the sampled respondents. It includes gender, level of education, marital status, and local government of the respondents and status of the respondents in their respective local governments and wards.

Table 5.2: Local Government of the Respondents

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Kontagora	220	54.3	54.3	54.3
	Magama	185	45.7	45.7	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

Table 5.2 above revealed that 220 respondents representing 54.3% are from Kontagora while 185 respondents representing 45.7% are Magama. This indicates that Kontagora local government has the highest population.

Table 5.3: Gender of the respondents

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	303	74.8	74.8	74.8
	Female	102	25.2	25.2	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

Table 5.3 above showed that 303 respondents representing 74.8% are males, while 185 respondents representing 25.2% are females. This therefore, shows that males constitute largest respondents.

Table 5.4: Age of the respondents

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	18-28	3	.7	.7	.7
	29-39	208	51.4	51.4	52.1
	40-50	177	43.7	43.7	95.8
	51 Above	17	4.2	4.2	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

The table 5.4 above showed that only 3(.7%) of the respondents are within the age 18-28, 51.4% are within 29-39, 43.7% are within 40-50 and 4.2% are within 51 and above. It table further revealed that respondents within 29-39 constitute the highest responses. They also represent an active population.

Table 5.5: Marital Status of the respondent

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Single	49	12.1	12.1	12.1
	Married	343	84.7	84.7	96.8
	Widowed	13	3.2	3.2	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

Table 5.5 above showed that majority of the population are married with a responses rate of 84.7% (343) , followed by the single with 12.1% (49) and widowed with a responses rate of 3.2%(13).

Table 5.6: Educational Qualifications of the respondents

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Secondary Education	44	10.9	10.9	10.9
	Tertiary Education	361	89.1	89.1	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

Educational qualifications of the respondents from Kontagora and Magama local government area as shown in table 5.6 above reveals that 10.9% of the respondents have secondary education while 89.1% (361) have tertiary education It can be observed that the majority of the sampled respondent have tertiary education such as NCE, OND, HND and BS.C and others..

Table 5.7: Status of the Respondents

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Political Party Official	67	16.5	16.5	16.5
	Women Representatives	66	16.3	16.3	32.8
	Youth Representatives	68	16.8	16.8	49.6
	Community Leaders	68	16.8	16.8	66.4
	WDP Committee	129	31.9	31.9	98.3
	LGPA and Monitoring Committee	07	1.7	1.7	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

In respective to status of respondents in the ward, table 5.7 above showed that 16.5% (67) of the respondents are political parties officials, 16.3%(66) of the respondents are women representatives, 16.8% (68) of the respondents are youth representative, 16.8% (68) are community leaders, 31.9% (129) are WDP committee members and 1.7%(07) are LGPA and monitoring committee .

5.2.2 Ward Development Projects Committee and Community Participation

This section presents and analysis data on ward development project committee and community participation.

Table 5.8: Ward development project committee was constituted as a result of ward development project

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	Agree	57	14.1	14.1	14.1
	Strongly Agree	348	85.9	85.9	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

Results shown in table 5.2 revealed that 85.9% of the respondents from Kontagora and Magama strongly agreed that ward development project committee was constituted as a result of ward development project, whilst 14.1% of the respondents agreed to the statement that ward development project committee were constituted as a result of ward development project. All of the respondents which constituted 100% of the respondents were positive that ward development project committee was constituted as a result of ward development projects.

The result of the interview conducted was in line with the information obtained via questionnaire administration as the whole 25 people that were interviewed believe that Ward Development Project Committees were established in all the wards of the two Local Government Areas of our study.

Table 5.9: The constitution of ward development project committee was based on democratic principle.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	105	25.9	25.9	25.9
	Disagree	176	43.5	43.5	69.4
	Undecided	72	17.8	17.8	87.2
	Agree	31	7.7	7.7	94.9
	Strongly Agree	21	5.2	5.2	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

The results in table 5.3 indicated that 5.2 % of the respondents strongly agree that the constitution of ward development project committee was based on democratic principles .Whereas 7.7% of the respondents agree. The results also revealed that 17.8% of the respondents were undecided about the claim. Further the table revealed that 43.5% of the respondents from Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas disagree that the constitution of ward development project committee was based on democratic principle and 25.9% strongly disagree with the claim. Majority of the respondents were negative indicating that the constitution of ward development project committee was not based on democratic principles.

The result of the interview conducted indicated that the constitution of WDPC in all the wards of the two Local Government Areas was not strictly in line with democratic principle as the policy document entrusted the power of selecting the committee members only to executive governor and the elected councilors of the wards. The only committee members whose memberships are usually in line with people popular consent were the councilors of the wards who must have been elected by the people during the local government election.

Table 5.10: Ward development project committee was responsible for project identification after due consultation with the people of your ward.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	42	10.4	10.4	10.4
	Disagree	47	11.6	11.6	22.0
	Undecided	37	9.1	9.1	31.1
	Agree	153	37.8	37.8	68.9
	Strongly Agree	126	31.1	31.1	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

The results in table 5.4 revealed that 31.1% of the respondents strongly agreed that ward development project committee was responsible for project identification after due

consultation with the people of your ward.Whereas 37.8% of the respondents agreed. The results also revealed that 9.1% of the respondents were undecided about the claim. Further the table revealed that 11.6% of the respondents from disagreed that ward development project committee was responsible for project identification after due consultation with the people of your ward and 10.4% strongly disagree. Majority of the respondents were affirmative that ward development project committee was responsible for project identification after due consultation with the community members.

The interview conducted was in line with the responses obtained from the respondents via questionnaire administration as 18 out of 25 interviewees believed that WDPC usually consult the people of the ward for the identification of projects of their choices before the final implementation. Meanwhile only 7 of the 25 interviewees were of the opinion that people of the ward were not always consulted by the WDPC for project identification.

Table 5.11: Membership of ward development project committee was opened to everyone irrespective of political party affiliation in your ward.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	90	22.2	22.2	22.2
	Disagree	187	46.2	46.2	68.4
	Undecided	42	10.4	10.4	78.8
	Agree	51	12.6	12.6	91.4
	Strongly Agree	35	8.6	8.6	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

The result in table 5.5 revealed that 8.6 % of the respondents strongly agree that membership of ward development project committee was opened to everyone irrespective of political party affiliation in their ward whilst 12.6% of the respondents agreed. The results also revealed that 10.4% are uncertain whether membership of ward development project committee was opened

to everyone irrespective of political party affiliation in their ward and equally 46.2% of the respondents disagreed. The remaining 22.2 % strongly disagreed. A collective (68.4%) of the respondents were negative to the claim that membership of ward development project committee was opened to everyone irrespective of political party affiliation in their wards.

The result of the interview conducted was strongly in line with the responses obtained from the respondents via questionnaire administration because 22 of the 25 interviewees were of the view that not every member of the ward could have a chance to form part of the committee membership, that the only way through which an opposition party members could be represented in the committee was when the elected councilor of the ward came from the opposition part; while the remaining 3 interviewees believe that the membership was opened to everyone irrespective of his/her party affiliation.

Table 5.12: The Ward Development Committee Members were adequate for the representation of your ward

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	162	40.0	40.0	40.0
	Disagree	97	24.0	24.0	64.0
	Undecided	47	11.6	11.6	75.6
	Agree	43	10.6	10.6	82.6
	Strongly Agree	56	13.8	13.8	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

The result in table 5.6 revealed that 13.8 % of the respondents strongly agreed that ward development committee members were adequate for the representation of their respective wards whilst 10.6% of the respondents agreed. The results also revealed that 11.6% were undecided whether ward development project committee members were adequate for the representation of their wards and equally 24% of the respondents disagreed and 40% strongly

disagreed. A collective 64% of the respondents were negative to the claim that ward development project committee members were sufficient to be the representatives of their respective wards.

The result of the interview conducted has really shown that the WDPC members were not adequate to be the representatives of their respective wards as claimed by the 22 of the 25 interviewees. Meanwhile only 3 of the 25 interviewees had contrary opinions.

5.3.1 Ward development project development and community participation

5.22 : Model Summary[b]

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson
1	.139[a]	.091	.071	.76002909252	1.179

a. Predictors: (Constant), ward development project

b. Dependent Variable: community participation

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

From the regression analysis in table 5.22 model summary, the empirical finding indicated that R, the coefficient of correlation stood at 0.139 which explained a very weak correlation. R square, the coefficient of determination stood at 0.091 indicating that about 9.1% of the total variation on community participation was explained by variations in Ward Development Projects. The adjusted r square which stood at 0.071 also signified that the Ward Development Projects had still explained 7.1% of the variations on community participation even if other variable were added to the study.

5.23: ANOVA[a]

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	1.910	1	1.910	2.307	.171[b]
	Residual	97.044	168	.578		
	Total	98.954	169			

a. Dependent Variable: community participation

b. Predictors: (Constant), ward development project

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

The anova table 5.23 revealed that the result from the simple regression analysis, which tests the impact of Ward Development Projects on community participation, is shown. The f-statistic which measures the adequacy and fitness of the model used in the study stood at 2.307 with a probability value of 0.171 which is also significant at 5%. Being a simple regression, this indicated that the coefficient of Ward Development Projects is insignificant in affecting community participation in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State.

Hypothesis one

Ho_1 The ward development projects has not significantly affected community participation in project identification in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State.

5.24: Coefficients

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	1.745	.286		6.096	.000
	Ward development project	.173	.095	.139	1.818	.171

a. Dependent Variable: community participation

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

Table 5.24 indicates the outcome of Ward Development Projects as its affected community participation in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas.

The coefficient of "Ward Development Projects" stood at 0.173 which is positive. This also implies that improvement in the implementation of Ward Development Projects would lead to an improvement in community participation in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas. However, the significance of this can be judged from the t statistics and its significance.

The t statistics of "Ward Development Projects" stood at 1.818 with a p-value of 0.171. The p-value is greater than 0.05, indicating that the relationship depicted in the regression model is insignificant at 95% confidence level. This implies that the study does not have enough statistical evidence to reject the null hypothesis; hence the study accepts the null hypothesis which states that Ward Development Projects had not significantly affected community participation in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State.

5.2.4 Ward Development Projects and Provision of Infrastructural Facilities

Table 5.13: As a result of the implementation of ward development projects, feeder roads were constructed in your ward

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	48	11.9	11.9	11.9
	Disagree	55	13.6	13.6	25.4
	Undecided	47	11.6	11.6	37.0
	Agree	173	42.7	42.7	79.8
	Strongly Agree	82	20.2	20.2	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

Table 5.7 above indicated that 20.2% of the respondents strongly agreed thatas a result of the implementation of ward development project, feeder roads had been constructed in their wards while that 42.7% agreed.The results also revealed that 11.6% of the respondents were undecided whether as a result of the implementation of ward development project, feeder roads were constructed in their wards.The other 13.6% of the respondent disagreed that as a result of the implementation of ward development project, feeder roads had been constructed in their wardswhilst the remaining 11.9% strongly disagreed.

The result of the interview conducted revealed that 19 of the 25 interviewees were of the opinion that WDP implementation has really led to the construction of feeder roads in the two local government areas of the study, while 6 of the remaining 25 interviewees were of the view that the WDP has done very little in the area of feeder roads construction in Kontagora and Magama local government areas.

However, from our observations, feeder roads were constructed in the two local governments under study particularly in Kontagora local government area. At Magajiya ward, in Kofar Ubandoma and Balanbala unit, one kilometre concrete road and one and half kilometres

concrete roads were constructed respectively; another one kilometer concrete road was constructed from Sarkin Bindiga house to Shehu Salami house within the same Magajiya ward. At Masuga ward, there was a grading of feeder road (4 kilometres length) at Dogon Fadama village. At Arewa ward, one hundred and fifteenth metres of concrete road was constructed at Yan Kaji old market Kontagora; another concrete road (one kilometre) was constructed at Turaki A and B units. At Central ward, concrete roads were constructed at Unguwan Galadima 2 (269 metres), Unguwan Galadima 1 (130 metres), Bunu unit (250 metres), Alera unit (203 metres) and Aliyara unit (180 metres). At Yamma ward, concrete roads were constructed along Sarkin Pawa house (101 metres), Tanimu Mai Kilishi to Alhaji Najumai house (one and half kilometre), Matawalle unit (306 metres) and Ibrahim Pigzy house to Maidubu primary school (two kilometres). At Gabas ward, concrete roads were constructed from Gidan Y S to kofar gidan Fodiyo (one kilometre); from main road to gidan Dan kani down to late Tanko Tela house (two kilometres). At Kudu ward, concrete road was constructed at unguwan Nasidi (one and half kilometre). Meanwhile in Magama local government at Nasko ward, feeder road was rehabilitated from Nasko town to Libele village (seven kilometres), grading of feeder road at Tungan Mangoro (three kilometres) and another grading of feeder road at Magaman Daji ward in Magaman Daji village (three kilometres). From the foregoing analysis, it could be deduced that the construction of feeder roads received greater attention in Kontagora than in Magama Local Government Area.

Table 5.14: The implementation of ward development project has led to the provision of primary health care facilities especially in the area of building dispensaries in your wards.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	34	8.4	8.4	8.4
	Disagree	36	8.9	8.9	17.3
	Undecided	32	7.9	7.9	25.2
	Agree	157	38.8	38.8	64.0
	Strongly Agree	146	36.0	36.0	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

Table 5.8 revealed that a 36%` of the respondents strongly agreed that the implementation of ward development project has led to the provision of primary health care facilities especially in the form of construction of dispensaries/clinics in their wards.On the other hand, 38.8% of the respondents agreed whilst 7.9% of the respondents were undecided whether the implementation of ward development project has led to the provision of primary health care facilities in the area of construction or building of dispensaries/clinics in their wards. 8.9% of the respondents disagreed whilst the remaining 4.6% strongly disagreed thatthe implementation of ward development project has led to the provision of health care facilities particularly the construction of dispensaries/clinics in their wards. Majority of the respondent were positive responses the implementation of ward development project has led to the provision of primary health care facilities particularly the construction of dispensaries/clinics in their wards in Kontagora and Magama local government area, Niger state.

The result of the interview conducted indicated that 17 of the 25 interviewees were of the view that WDP led to the provision of primary health care facilities particularly in the area of building dispensaries/clinics in Kontagora and Magama local government areas, while the remaining 8 of the 25 interviewees were of the believed that WDP had done very little in the

provision of primary health care facilities in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas. From our observations, 12 dispensaries were built six from each local government area under study. In Kontagora, dispensaries were constructed at Usalle ward at Usalle village, Madara ward at Masaha village, Masuga ward at Baturen Noma village, Kawo ward at Usubu village, Nagwamatse ward at Rijiyan Nagwamatse village and Magajiya ward at Unguwan Magajiya. Meanwhile, in Magama local government area, dispensaries were built at Anaba ward at Isana village, Auna ward at Kwada village, Ibelu ward at Ibeto town, Salka ward ward at Bussura village, Tungan Jika at Janga and Yangalu at Ashuwa village. Furthermore, it was observed that while the quality of the structures put in place was of standard quality because the buildings were in line with the guidelines and specification from the Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, drugs supplied to these dispensaries were not always adequate and health personnel redeployed to manage these dispensaries were not adequate. In addition to these challenges, two dispensaries built in Kontagora Local Government at Baturen Noma village and Masaha village from Masuga and Madara wards respectively received neither drugs nor competent health personnel to manage them.

Table 5.15: Primary education facilities have been provided due to the ward development project implementation in your community

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	40	9.9	9.9	9.9
	Disagree	44	10.9	10.9	20.7
	Undecided	41	10.1	10.1	30.9
	Agree	199	49.1	49.1	80.0
	Strongly Agree	81	20.0	20.0	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

Table 5.9 revealed that 20%` of the respondents strongly agreed that ward development projects led to the provision of primary education facilities in their communities on the other hand, 49.1% agreed. The result also revealed that 10.1% were undecided and it equally revealed that 10.9% disagree while 9.9% strongly disagree that WDP led to the provision of primary education facilities in their communities. These findings suggested that majority of the respondents were of the opinion that primary education facilities have been provided due to the ward development project implementation in Kontagora and Magama local government area, Niger state.

The result of the interview conducted indicated that 22 of the 25 interviewees were of the opinion that WDP has really done well in the provision of primary education facilities, while 3 of the 25 interviewees believed that WDP has not done much in the area of providing primary education facilities. However, we observed that several educational facilities were provided in these two local government areas under study particularly at Magama local government. In Kontagora at Kawo ward, a block of two classrooms were constructed at Tungan Kawo primary school, at Nagwamatse ward, a block of two classrooms was constructed and 60 metal composite desks were supplied at Nagwamatse primary school. Meanwhile, in Magama local government area at Anaba ward, a block of two classrooms with office and store were constructed at Kampanin Jibrin primary school and that 22 metal composite desks, 3 executive tables, 3 chairs were also supplied to the same primary school at Kampanin Jibrin; a block of two classrooms were renovated at Central primary school Libele; another block of two classrooms with office and store had been renovated at Tungan Maje. At Auna ward, a block of two classrooms had been constructed at Tungan Bako primary school at Tungan Bako village. At Kawo ward, a block of two classrooms had been constructed at Kokolo primary

school and 22 metal composite desks, executive table, 3 extra chairs were supplied to the same Kokolo primary school; a block of two classrooms with office and store had been constructed at Sarkipa primary school and also 22 metal composite desks, executive table and 3 extra chairs were supplied to the same primary school; a block of two classrooms with office and store at Sabon Gari primary school village and also 42 metal composite desks, executive table, 3 chairs were supplied; a block of two classroom with office and store had been constructed at Makwari village in Makwari primary school. In Kura ward, a block of three classrooms with office and store at Raba/Majinga and 91 metal composite desks, executive table, 3 extra chairs were also supplied at Raba/Majinga. Furthermore, 51 metal composite desks, executive table and 3 chairs were supplied at Tungan Kade primary school. Also constructed were a block of two classrooms with office and store at Majeme and 32 metal composite desks, executive and 3 extra chairs were supplied at Majeme primary school; at Wando village, a block of two classrooms with office and store had been constructed and 40 metal composite desks, executive table and 3 extra chairs were supplied to the same primary school at Wando village.

At Magaman Daji Ward, a block of two classrooms with office and store had been constructed at Pambo village and 84 metal composite desks, 2 executive table and 6 extra chairs were supplied at Pambo primary school and Mahilo primary school; a block of 2 classrooms with office and store had been renovated at Magaman Daji; also constructed had been a block of 2 classrooms with office and store at Jonga village. At Nasko Ward, desks and chairs were supplied at Nasko primary school. At Salka ward, desks and chairs were supplied at Busara Salika and Sara villages; a block of 3 classrooms with office and store had been constructed at Salka town. At Tungan Jika ward, a block of 3 classrooms with office and store had been constructed at Maikwando village; another block of 2 classrooms with office and store had

been constructed at Tungan Jika village and 40 metal composite desks, executive table and 3 chairs were supplied at Tungan Jika primary school. At Yangalu ward, a block of 2 classrooms with office and store had been constructed both at Matandi village and Yangalu village. From the foregoing analysis, provision of primary education facilities received much priority in Magama Local Government than what was obtainable in Kontagora Local Government Area. However, this was not unconnected with the fact that Magama is a rural Local Government where primary education more or less suffered serious neglect.

Table 5.16: Ward development project led to the provision of portable drinking water in your ward.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	40	9.9	9.9	9.9
	Disagree	44	10.9	10.9	20.7
	Undecided	41	10.1	10.1	30.9
	Agree	199	49.1	49.1	80.0
	Strongly Agree	81	20.0	20.0	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

The results in table 5.10 indicated that 20% of the respondents strongly agreed thatward development project policy resulted in the provision of portable drinking water in their ward.Whereas 49.1% of the respondents agreed. The results also revealed that 10.1% of the respondents were undecided and equally the table revealed that 10.9% of the respondents disagreed that ward development project resulted in the provision of portable drinking water in their wards and 9.9%strongly disagreed which is the least percentage. Majority of the respondents were positive indicating that ward development project policy had actually resulted in the provision of portable drinking water in their wards.

The result of the interview conducted shown that 18 of the 25 interviewees believed that WDP implementation had made a positive effort in the provision of portable drinking water in Kontagora and Magama local government areas, while the remaining 7 of the 25 interviewees claimed that WDP had not done much in the provision of portable drinking water in our two study areas. However, from our observations, in Kontagora local government, at Usalle ward at Kamfnin Waya village, a motorized borehole and overhead tank was drilled. At Masuga ward, motorized borehole and overhead tank was also drilled at Baturen Noma village.

At Kawo ward, hand pump borehole was drilled at Kawo village. At Nagwamatse ward motorized and hand pump boreholes were drilled at Farin Shinge village. At Arewa ward, motorized borehole and overhead tank was drilled at Mai unguwa residence. At Rafin Gora ward, open well was renovated and a motorized borehole and overhead tank was constructed at Rafin Gora village. At Central ward, motorized borehole and overhead tank was drilled at Galadima unit (Kontagora main garage), another motorized borehole and overhead tank was drilled at Gariya Waye's residence, at Bashari unit, another motorized borehole and overhead tank was drilled. At Yamma ward, hand pump borehole was drilled at Kofar Gidan Babu, a motorized borehole and overhead tank was drilled at Mai unguwa Datti, furthermore, a motorized borehole and overhead tank was drilled at late Alhaji Hamisu Gombe residence. At Gabas ward, a motorized borehole and overhead tank was drilled at late Alhaji Mohammed Dala's house, unguwan Gwari. At Kudu ward, a hand pump borehole and a motorized borehole and overhead tank were drilled at Filin Kwallo and Sarkin Gobir's residence respectively. At Tungan Wawa ward, a motorized borehole and overhead tank was drilled at Tungan Wawa village. Meanwhile, in Magama local government area, at Magaman Daji ward, hand pump borehole was drilled at Magaman Daji village. At Salka ward, another hand

pump borehole was drilled at Salka town and at Ibelu ward in Ibeto town a motorized borehole and overhead tank was drilled. From the above analysis, the provision of portable drinking water received greater attention in Kontagora than in Magama Local Government Area. Notwithstanding the accessibility to adequate drinking water to inhabitants of both Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas remain one their greatest challenges as the majority of the community members had to buy water on daily basis for consumption purpose and other domestic usages

Table 5.17: Electrification Projects were executed in your ward as a result of ward development projects

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	44	10.9	10.9	10.9
	Disagree	46	11.4	11.4	22.2
	Undecided	52	12.8	12.8	35.1
	Agree	186	45.9	45.9	81.0
	Strongly Agree	77	19.0	19.0	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

Table 5.11 revealed that a 19% of the responses strongly agreed that ward development project led to the execution of electrification projects in their ward; On the other hand, 45.9% of the respondents agreed whilst 12.8% of the respondents were undecided whether ward development project resulted in the execution of electrification projects in their wards.11.4% of the respondents disagreed whilst the remaining 10.9% strongly disagreed that ward development project resulted the execution of electrification projects in their wards.

The result of the interview conducted indicated that 15 of the 25 interviewees believed that the implementation of WDP resulted to various electrification projects' execution in Kontagora and Magama local government areas; whereas the remaining 10 interviewees claimed that

they could not see much that WDP did in the area of electrification projects in Kontagora and Magama local government areas. We observed that there were several electrification projects in the two local governments under study especially in Kontagora local government area. At Usalle ward 500 KVA and 300 KVA transformers were purchased at Kamfanin Waya and Babban Lamba respectively. At Nagwamatse ward, there was an extension of electrification at Rafin Karma village, 500 KVA transformer was also repaired at Rafin Karma village.

At Arewa ward, there was an extension of electricity with 10 wooden poles and8 span from Government Day Bridge to Government Day Secondary School Kontagora premises; there was another extension of electricity with 20 poles and 18 spans from Alhaji Yusuf Mai Gadaje house to Mamman Tafado house. At Rafin Gora ward, there was restoration of power supply at Rafin Gora village. At Yamma ward, 20 electric poles were provided from late Attah double house to Gangaren Mayanka. At Magajiya ward, new transformer (500 KVA) was purchased and installed at Unguwan Majiya 'A'. At Gabas ward, new transformer (500KVA) was purchased and installed at Unguwan Barrack. At Tungan Wawa ward, new transformer (300KVA) was purchased and installed at Dappo village. Meanwhile, in Magama local government area at Salka ward, there was a purchase and installation of 300KVA transformer at Salka town. At Nasko ward and in Nasko town, 500 KVA transformer was purchased and installed. At Ibelu ward, transformer (300 KVA) was purchased and installed at Ibeto town. At Yangalu ward, another 300 KVA transformer was purchased and installed at Yangalu village. More so, in the course of our observations, we noticed two rural wards in Kontagora Local Government (Madara and Tungan Wawa wards) had identified lack of electricity in their rural villages as their major area of concern during the implementation of WDP (2008-2014). Electrification project was on going with a view to connecting these two rural wards with

electricity through the WDF allocated to them on monthly basis. Unfortunately the projects were left uncompleted to date.

5.3.2 Ward Development Projects and Infrastructural Facilities

5.2.5:Model Summary[b]

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson
1	.785[a]	.616	.615	.49336	2.098

a. Predictors: (Constant), ward development project

b. Dependent Variable: infrastructural facilities

From the regression analysis in table 5.25 model summary, the adjusted r square on the Ward Development Projects and provision of infrastructural facilities is 61.5%. this suggested that the implementation of ward development project is able to explain variation by improving the provision of infrastructural facilities in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Niger State to a 61.5% while remaining percentage is explain by others variable not capture in the study.

5.26:ANOVA[a]

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	157.230	1	157.230	645.953	.000[b]
	Residual	98.093	403	.243		
	Total	255.323	404			

a. Dependent Variable: infrastructural facilities

b. Predictors: (Constant), ward development project

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

The anova showed that f- statistic has a chi square of 645.953 with a probability value of 0.000 which is less than 5% level of significance indicating that the models for the study is fit and adequate.

5.27: Coefficients[a]

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	.503	.135		3.726	.000
	Ward development project	.857	.034	.785	25.416	.000

a. Dependent Variable: infrastructural facilities

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

Hypothesis two

Ho_2 The Ward Development Projects have not significantly affected the provision of infrastructural facilities in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State.

The result from table 5.27 showed that implementation of ward development projects was positive and significantly affected the provision of infrastructural facilities in Kontagora and Magama local government areas with p-value of 0.000 at 5% level of significance. Thus, the study rejects the null hypothesis that ward development projects had not significantly affected the provision of infrastructural facilities in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas.

5.2.5 Ward Development Projects and Sustainability of Local Development Projects

Table 5.18: The community members were not involved in planning for the introduction of Ward Development Projects in your ward

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	29	7.2	7.2	7.2
	Disagree	30	7.4	7.4	14.6
	Undecided	22	5.4	5.4	20.0
	Agree	113	27.9	27.9	47.9
	Strongly Agree	211	52.1	52.1	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

Results shown in table 5.12 revealed that 52.1% of the respondents strongly agreed that the community members were not involved in planning when Ward Development Projects policy was introduced in their respective wards and 27.9% of the respondents agreed to the statement whilst 5.4% were undecided on the claim thatthe Ward Development Projects policy involved community members in planning. 7.4% disagreed while 7.2% strongly disagreed. This revealed that the community members were not really involved in planning for the introduction of Ward Development Projects policy in their respective wards.

The result of the interview indicated that 20 of the interviewees claimed that the community members were really not involved in planning regarding the introduction of Ward Development Projects policy, while 5 of the interviewees were of the opinion that the community members were really involved in planning for Ward Development Projects policy introduction.

Table 5.19: Community members were not involved in projects execution in your ward

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	201	49.5	49.5	49.5
	Disagree	71	17.5	17.5	67
	Undecided	53	13.2	13.2	80.2
	Agree	37	9.2	9.2	89.4
	Strongly Agree	43	10.6	10.6	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

The result in table 5.14 indicated that 10.6% (43) of the respondents strongly agreed that community members were not involved in the execution of WDP in their wards,while 9.2% (37) of the respondents agreed. The results also revealed that 13.2% (53) of the respondents were undecided and equally the table reveals that 17.5% (71) of the respondents disagreed that the community members were not involved in execution of WDP and 49.5% (201) strongly disagreed with the statement that the members of the community were not involved in the execution of WDP in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas. Majority of the respondents were in disagreement that the community members were not involved in the execution of WDP policy. This suggested that the execution of Ward Development Project policy has done enough in involving community members in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas, Niger State; hence this did not constitute part of the problems that affected the sustainability of local development projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State.

The result of the interview conducted was in line with the responses obtained from the respondents who filled our questionnaires; because 18 of the 25 interviewees were of the view that WDP had involved community members in projects execution in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas, while 7 of the remaining interviewees believed that the community

members were not involved in the execution of Ward Development Projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas.

Table 5.20: The community members were not made to contribute part of the fund for projects ownership in your ward

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	19	4.7	4.7	4.7
	Disagree	21	5.2	5.2	9.9
	Undecided	15	3.7	3.7	13.6
	Agree	123	30.4	30.4	44.0
	Strongly Agree	227	56.0	56.0	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

The results in table 5.13 revealed that 56% of the respondents strongly agreed that the community members were not made to contribute part of the fund for projects ownership in their respective wards, While 30.4% of the respondents agreed. The results also revealed that 3.7% of the respondents were undecided and equally the table revealed that 5.2% of the respondents disagreed that the community members were not made to contribute part of the fund for the execution of local development projects for projects ownership and 4.7%strongly disagreed which is the least percentage. Majority of the respondents which constituted 86.4% of the respondents were of the opinion that community members were not made to contribute part of the fund for the execution of identified project for projects ownership. This suggested that all fund available for the execution of WDP came from the government, thus, constituted part of the problems that affected the sustainability of local development projects as people were not made to have the feeling of projects ownership for not committing them to contribute part of the fund for the execution of local development projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State.

The result of the interview conducted revealed that all the 25 interviewees were of the view that implementation of WDP did not require the contribution of part of the fund from the community members for the execution of local development projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State. This was also what was obtainable in policy document that led to the introduction of Ward Development Projects policy.

Table 5.21: Self-sustain structure was not created for the maintenance of local development projects in your ward

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	10	2.5	2.5	2.5
	Disagree	18	4.4	4.4	6.9
	Undecided	65	16.0	16.0	23.0
	Agree	211	52.1	52.1	75.1
	Strongly Agree	101	24.9	24.9	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

The result in table 5.15 revealed that 24.9% of the respondents strongly agreed that no self-sustain structure was created by the community members for the maintenance of local development projects whereas 52.1% of the respondents agreed. The results also revealed that 16% of the respondents were undecided and equally the table revealed that 4.4% of the respondents disagreed that there was no self-sustain structure for the maintenance of local development projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas and 2.5% strongly disagreed which is the least percentage. Majority of the respondents were of the opinion that no self-sustain structure was put in place by the community members for the maintenance of local development projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State, hence, this really constituted part of the problems that affected the sustainability of Ward Development Projects in the two local governments under study.

The result of the interview further revealed that all the 25 interviewees were of the opinion that no self-sustain structure was put in place in all the wards for the maintenance of local development projects executed via WDP policy in the two local governments under study.

Table 5.22: The Ward Development Projects did not make provision for the empowerment of community members in your ward

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	10	2.5	2.5	2.5
	Disagree	18	4.4	4.4	6.9
	Undecided	65	16.0	16.0	23.0
	Agree	101	24.9	52.1	75.1
	Strongly Agree	211	52.1	24.9	100.0
	Total	405	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

The result in table 5.16 revealed that 52.1% of the respondents strongly agreed that the policy (WDP) did not make provision for the empowerment of community members in their respective wards whereas 24.9% of the respondents agreed. The results also revealed that 16% of the respondents were undecided and equally the table revealed that 4.4% of the respondents disagreed that the policy did not make provision for empowerment of community members in their respective wards in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas and 2.5% strongly disagreed which is the least percentage. Majority of the respondents were of the opinion that the policy (WDP) did not make provision for the empowerment of community members in various wards across the two Local Governments under study, thereby; constituting part of the problems that affected the sustainability of Local Development Projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State. The result of the interview further revealed that all the 25 interviewees were of the opinion that no provision was made by the policy for the empowerment of community members in all the wards across the two Local Governments under study.

5.3.3 Ward Development Projects and the Sustainability of Local Development Projects

5.28:Model Summary[b]

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson
1	.647[a]	.419	.417	.55555	1.574

With respect to hypothesis three the table showed an r square of .417, this revealed that the Ward Development Projects is able to account for 41.7% variation in the sustainability of local development projects in Kontagora and Magama local government areas of Niger state.

5.29 : ANOVA[a]

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	89.592	1	89.592	290.289	.000[b]
	Residual	124.379	403	.309		
	Total	213.971	404			

a. Dependent Variable: sustainability

b. Predictors: (Constant), Ward Development Projects

Source: Field Survey, 2018.

sThe f-statistic showed a chi-square of 290.289 and a p-value of the f-statistic is .000 which is significant indicating that the model is fit

5.30: Coefficients[a]

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	1.669	.136		12.270	.000
	challenges	.572	.034	.647	17.038	.000

a. Dependent Variable: sustainability

b. Source: Field Survey, 2018.

Hypothesis Three

Ho_3 The Ward Development Projects had not significantly affected the sustainability of Local development projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State.

The result from table 5.29 and 5.30 showed that the Ward Development Projects have not significantly affected the sustainability of local development projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas. The table revealed a p- value of 0.000 at 5% level of significance. Thus, the study rejected the null hypothesis that the Ward Development Projects have not significantly affected the sustainability of local development projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas.

5.5 Major Findings

From our data presentation, analysis and test of hypotheses, the study found out the following:

a. The study found out that there is positive but weak or insignificant relationship between the Ward Development Projects and community participation in projects identification in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State. It also implies that despite the democratic nature of the Ward Development Projects, the policy has done very little to increase the community members participation and activeness in the area of identifying projects to be executed. As the ward development programme geared to allow citizen choice of projects, citizens of Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas had continued to struggle to voice their opinion on important and needed projects that could satisfied them. However, the problem was as a result of the fact that the number of ward development projects committees were not adequate for better representation of various wards across the two Local Governments under study, the constitution of Ward

Development Projects Committees were not on democratic principle and the membership of the committee was not open to everyone except for the people who affiliated themselves with the ruling party

b. The study revealed that Ward Development of Projects had positive and significant relationship in the provision of infrastructural facilities. This finding signified that implementation of Ward Development Projects had improved the provision of infrastructural facilities in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State. It further suggested that through the implementation of the programme, citizens at the grassroots level (Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State) have access to road. Also there has been provision of primary health care facilities, primary educations facilities, portable drinking water, electrification projects in the wards located in the Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State since the government came up with Ward Development Projects policy. However, the provision of these facilities differed in the two Local Governments under study. In Kontagora, there were more adequate provision of feeder roads, portable drinking water and electrification projects compare to the number of these facilities available in Magama Local Government Area; while the provision of primary education facilities and primary health care facilities received better attention in Magama Local Government Area compare to similar facilities obtainable in Kontagora Local Government Area. Though both the two Local Governments have six dispensaries each, all the six dispensaries in Magama Local Government are functional while only four of the six dispensaries in Kontagora Local Government are functional as the remaining two dispensaries located at Baturen noma village in Masuga ward and Masaha village in Madara ward were left as mere structures

because no competent health personnel were deployed to manage the dispensaries and also drugs were not supplied to them. Furthermore, the other dispensaries where health personnel were deployed to manage them had not been in sufficient quantity and the drugs were not adequate and are not always available. The study also revealed that there were two rural electrifications projects at Madara ward and Tungan Wawa ward (Dappo village) all in Kontagora Local Government that have not been completed to date.

c. The study also established that Ward Development Projects have affected the guarantee of sustainability of local development projects in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas. This implies that Ward Development Projects policy implementation in wards located in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State had been characterised with the problem of not involving the community members in planning from the inception of the policy; self-sustain structure was also not put in place for the maintenance of local development projects; community members were not made to contribute certain fund for the execution of the local projects which could give them sense of project ownership and the policy failed to consider the empowerment of community members in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas.

CHAPTER SIX

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

6.1 Introduction

This chapter consists of the summary of the work, conclusion and recommendations of the study. The summary is a recap of the major work, the conclusion represents the inferences drawn from the findings of this research and recommendations constitute set of suggested course of action resulting from the finding of this research work.

6.2 Summary

The major objective of this study assessed the impact of ward development projects on grassroots development in Kontagora and Magama local government areas,Niger state. In order to achieve this goal, three specific objectives were set which are: to determine the extent to which ward development projects affected community participation in project identification in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State, to find out how the Ward Development Projects affected the provision of infrastructural facilities in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State as well as to examine the extent to which Ward Development Projects affected the sustainability of local development project in Kontagora and Magama Local Government Areas of Niger State. Conceptual definition of the proxies for the variables, review of related empirical studies and theoretical underpinning the studies were taken into consideration. Survey instrument was adapted and administered to 440 respondents Through the use of the survey instruments adapted for this study, data were collected which addressed the research problem posed in the first chapter of this dissertation. The hypotheses of the study were tested using a simple regression analysis with the aid of SPSS 20.

6.3 Conclusion

The Ward Development Project (WDP) was an initiative of the Niger State Government between 2008 and 2014 designed to take democracy and development to the citizen living at the grassroots. This study drew conclusion based on the data collected via the questionnaire administration, observations during the field work as well as the submissions from the oral interview. Consequently, we have offered recommendations designed to influence policy actors in Niger state to embrace the policy of ward development project (WDP) as it is an effective mechanism geared towards stimulating development at the grassroots level. The findings, conclusions and recommendations are based on the outcome of questionnaire administration, oral interview and of course field work observations. The performance of ward development projects (WDP) was carefully examined bearing in mind the tenets of Evaluation Theory of Suchmann (1967) which identified five stages or criteria of policy evaluation as a guide for our discussions.

6.4 Recommendations

In conformity with the conclusion, the following recommendations were made:

i. The number of ward development committee members should be increased to commensurate with the number of polling units in each ward and the people (irrespective of their party affiliation) should be given free hands to select the people of their choices, be allowed to define and identify their needs and execute them themselves without unnecessary interference from the local officials.

ii. Grassroots development is a vital instrument of achieving sustainable development; hence, Niger State government should embrace the policy of Ward Development Projects because of its potentiality of addressing different problems that are peculiar to different

communities within the same state. Furthermore, more competent health personnel should be deployed to the dispensaries along with the supply of adequate drugs to carter for the health needs of the people across the two Local Governments under study. In addition, drugs should be supplied and competent health personnel should be deployed for the management of the dispensaries at Baturen Noma village in Masuga ward and Masaha village in Madara ward both in Kontagora Local Government Area. Meanwhile, the two abandoned rural electrification projects should also be completed.

iii. Niger State Government for the sustainability of local development projects executed via Ward Development Projects policy should ensure that community members or target beneficiaries are involved in planning and are also empowered so that they should be made to contribute part of the resources (fund) for executing the identified projects which will give them the feeling or sense of projects ownership. Furthermore, self-sustain structure should be established or put in place among the target beneficiaries or community members for the maintenance of the existing local development projects.

6.5 Contribution to Knowledge and Suggestion for Further Studies

From Literature and empirical studies reviewed, little or no efforts have been made to carry out a research with a dynamic dimension as this by breaking down the variables of Ward Development Projects and Grassroots Development for clear understanding of the concepts and for easy collection and analysis of relevant data. These therefore made this research relevant and have contributed to existing stock of knowledge. We therefore suggested further studies to focus on issues like" Ward Development Projects and Good Governance".

References

Adeoye, A., Yusuf, S.A., Balogun, O.L., and Carim-Sanni, A.(2011). *Rural Infrastructure Development and Profitability of Farmer under Fadama ii Project in Oyo State, Nigeria*. World Rural Observation. Science Publication, 3(2), 1-10

Adesida, I and Okunlola, J.O. (2015). Effects of Community Participation on the Sustainability of Rural Infrastructure in Ondo state, Nigeria: *Asian Journal of Agricultural Extension, Economics and Sociology*, 7(1), 1-9.

Afesis, C. (2013). *"Municipal Governance*": Working of Ward Committees: Report for Hologram. East London: No publisher

Akpan, H.E. (2012). Tell Magazine *BroadstreetJournal* (www.bsjournal.com).

Anyebe, A.A (2010). *Development Administration*: A perspective on the challenge in Nigeria. Shareef Salam Nigeria ltd.

Aref, F. and Redzuan, M. (2009). Assessing the level of Community Participation as a component of Community Capacity Building for Tourism Development. *Journal of scientific research*, 28(3); 443-450.Available online http://www.eurojournals.com/ ejsr.htm.

Aziz, A. (2015). Infrastructure for Economic Development in Rural India. *The International Journal Research Publications*, 5(1), 15-21.

Aziz, S. (1978), *"Rural Development: Learning from China",* Macmillan London.

Blackman, R. (2003) *Community Base and Driven Development*: The World Bank Research Observer. Vol. 19 No. 1.The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Burkey, S. (2017). *Putting People First*: A guide to Self-Reliant, Participatory Rural Development (Book Review). Third World Planning Review, 15(3), pp315, Liverpool University Press.

Chambers, R (1994). *Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)*: Analysis of Experience. World Development: 22(9)

Chambers, R. (1995):" Poverty and Livelihood; Whose Reality Counts?"

Chambers, R. (1997) *"Whose Reality Counts"* Putting the First Last, London: Immediate Technology Publication.

Chris, E.A. (2017). Local Government Administration and Grassroots Development in Nigeria: A Theoretical Appraisal. *Journal of political science and leadership Research*. Vol. 8 No. 2

Coetzee, J.K. (2011). *A Micro Foundation For Development Thinking, in Development Theory, Policy and Practice*; edited by J.K. Coetzee, J. Graaff, F. Hendricks and G. Wood. Cape Town: Oxford University Press.

Cohen, R. and Kennedy, P. (2010). *Global Sociology*. Basin Stoke UK. Palgrave Macmillan.

Cooke, B. and Khothari, U. (2011). *Participation*: The New Tyranny? London and New York: Zed Books.

Creigton, T.L. (2009). *The Public Participation Handbook*. Making better decisions through citizen movement. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass

Daniel, U.I (2014). The Role of Local Government in Grassroots Development. *World Journal of Management and Behavioral Studies*. IDOSI Publications. 2(1);01-05

De Beer, F. (1997). *Participation and Community Capacity Building in Participatory Development Management and RDP*; edited by S. Liebenbery and P.Stewart. Kenwyn: Juta.

Department of Provincial and Local Government (2005). *National Policy Framework for Public Participation*: South Africa: Infrastructure Branch.

Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (2001). Generic Public Participation Guidelines. DWRF. Pretoria: Government Printers.

Douglas, R. (1981). *Basic Needs and the Origin of Development Ethos*: Deputy Director, Center of West African Studies, University of Birming-ham.

Edwards, M. (2007). *The irrelevance of Development Studies*: Published online. P. 116-135. www.tandfonline.com

Egwemi, V. and Odo, L. U. (2013). Rural Development and Poverty Eradication in Nigeria: *A Journal of Research in National Development* Vol. 11(1)

Everatti, D., Marais, H. and Dube, N. (2010). *Participation*: for what purpose? Analysing the depth and quality of public participation in the integrated development planning process in Ganteng. Politikon, 37 (2-3): 223-249

Fulmer, J. (2009). *"What in the World Infrastructure is"*? PE- Infrastructure Investor (July/August), 30-32

Gama, K. (2010). *Voter Apathy Characterizes by Elections*. UDF News, 27 May.

Ghai, D. and Vivian, J.M. (1992). *Foundation for Sustainable Development*: Participation, Empowerment and Local Resources Management. London: Routledge

Giovannoni, E. and Fabietti, G. (2013). *What is sustainability*? A review of concept and its applications.

Gujarati, D.U. (2017). *Basic Econometrics*: McGraw-Hill, New york, p. 220-221

Haladu, A. (1987). *Public Finance and Budgetary Process in Nigeria*; Zaria, ABU (Unpublished Monograph).

Harriman, M. and Midgteyg J. (1982), *"The Social Dimension of Development",* John

Wiley and Son, London.

Hoddinot, J., Haddad, L.J., Besley, T. and Adata, M. (2011). *Participation and Poverty reduction*: Issues, Theory and New Evidence from South Africa. FRND Discussion Paper No. 98

Hoogvelt, A. (1982). *Third World in Global Development.* London: Macmillan

Houston, G., Humphries, R. and Liebenberg, I. (2007). *Public participation in the integrated development planning of local government in Pretoria*. In Houston G. and Humphries, R. (Eds.), public participationin democrtatic governance in South Africa. Pretoria: HSR

Hussein, M.K. (2013). *The Role of Malawian Local Government in Community Development*. Africa, 20(2): 271-282

Ibrahim, U.I. (1980). *Local government and Rural Development in Kumo*, S et al(ed). The Report of the Conference on Local Government Reforms in Nigeria held at the Institute of Administration, ABU, Zaria; 14-17th May, 1979.

Indian Human Development Report (2011). *Towards Social Inclusion*; page no. 208.

Inter-American Foundation (2011). *Annual Report*, Retrieved from www.1af.gov/index.asp on January 11th 2011.

International Institute for Sustainable Development (2000). *Appreciative Enquiry and Community Development*.

Jennngs, R. (2000). *Participatory Development as a New Paradigm:* Prepared for the 'Community Based Registration and Rehabilitation in Post Conflict Settings', Conference; Washington DC.

Jhingan, M.L. (2013). *The Economic Development and Planning*. (Vikas Publishing House PVT Ltd), 40th Edition.

Jide, I. (2013). Conceptual Issues in Development Administration: *International Journal of Innovative Education Research* 2(2): 19-31

John, N.W. (2017). *Factors influencing stakeholder's participation in Ward Development Fund projects*: A case of Ndaragwa sub-county, Nyandarua county, Kenya. A research project report in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in project planning and management, University of Nairobi.

Jope, S. (2005). *The Theory and Practice of Community Participation*: Engagement the First Step; Paper Presented at Australian Social Policy Conference; University of New South Wales, Sydney; Social Action and Research, Brotherhood of St Laurence

Jumare, B. (2008). *Local Government Causality Finance*: Between Revenue Expenditure and Development (1994-2004). Ph.D. Dissertation Submitted to the Department of Local Government and Development Studies, ABU, Zaria-Nigeria.

Kadurange, B.M., Nyonje, R.O., Onguko, B.B. and Ndunge, D.K. (2016). The Evolving Nature of Community Participation in Public Development Projects in Kenya. A Literature Review.*International Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*.Vol. 6, No. 9.

Kakumba, U. and Nsingo, S. (2008) Citizen Participation in Local Government and the Process of Rural Development, the Rhetoric and Reality of Uganda. *Journal of Public Administraton*, vol. 43. No. 2, pp 107-123

Kok, P. and Gelderbloem, D. (1994). *Planning and People's Participation*. Urbanization: South Africa's Challenge. Pretoria: HRS

Kontagora Emirate Youths Development Association (2012). The Strategy and Working Methods for the Development of Kontagora Emirate.

Kumar, S. (2012). *Methods for Community Participation*. A Complete Guide for Practitioners. London:ITDG Publishers

Kwena, G.N. (2013). *Factors affecting community participation in the management of Development projects through Local Authority Service Delivery Action Plans*: A case study of Kilgoris Constituency, Narok County-Management University of Africa, Dakhar.

Laah,E.D.,Adefila, J.O. and Yusuf, R.O. (2014). Community Participation in Sustainable Rural Infrastructural Development in Riyom area, Plateau state, Nigeria. *Journal of Economic and Sustainable Development*.Vol. 5, No. 4.

Laverack, G. (2001). An Identification and Interpretation of the Organizational Aspects of Community Empowerment. Community *Development Journal*, 36 (1) 134-145.

Manggat, I., Zain, R., and Jamaluddin, Z. (2018). The Impact of Infrastructure Development on Rural Communities: A Literature Review. *International Journal of Academic Research in Business and Social Sciences*, 8(1), 647-658

Mbhele, Z. (2017) *Assessing the Ward Committee System*: The case of Greater Kokstad Municipality. Thesis presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Masters in Public Administration in the Faculty of Economics and Management Sciences at Stellenbosch University.

Mid-Term Report (2007-2009). *Strategy and Methods of Dr. Mu'azu Babangida Aliyu's Administration*. Office of the Director- General Media and Publicity, Governor' Office, Government House, Minna, Niger State.

Mohan, G. and Stokke, K. (2000). *Participatory Development and Empowerment*. Third World Quarterly, 21(2)

Mohan, G. (2009) *Participatory Development*: The Companion to Development Studies, Hodder Education, pp. 46.

Morenikeji, W., Sanusi, Y.A. and Jinadu, A.M. (2000). The Role of Voluntary Organizations in Community and Settlement Development in Niger State. Center for Research and Documentation; Kano.

Muhammad, S.N. (2010). *People's participation in Development Projects at Grass-Root Level*. A case study of Alampur and Jagannathpur Union Parishad- Unpublished Thesis.

Musukwa, H. (2011). Assemblies Lack Plans. The Nation; 8(208): 1-2

Mwangi, K. (2015). Efficiency and efficacy of Kenya's Constituency Development Fund: Theory and evidence. Working paper Number 42, Department of Economics, University of Connecticut, USA.

Nampila, T. (2005). *Assessing Community Participation*: The Huidare informal settlement. Master of Arts Thesis: Department of Social Work: University of Stellenbosch. Available at: http://.google.co.za/search?hl=hp&9= Assessing+ Community+ Participation & Meta. (Accessed on 20/008/2013)

Niger State Government (2009.Niger state of Nigeria Gazette No. 24: A Law Amend Local Government Establishment of Ward Development Projects Committee-Law 2009 and for Connected Purposes, Minna.

Niger State Government (2012). *Guidelines on Administration Procedures for Local Government Councils in Niger State*. By Inspectorate Division, Ministry of Local Government Community Development and Chieftaincy Affairs, Minna, 2012, Restricted.

Njideka, C.O. (2012). Fiscal Management and Grassroots Development: Issues and Concerns in Nigerian Context: An Inaugural Lecture of the University of Nigeria, delivered on Nov., 29, 2012. Published by University of Nigeria Senate Ceremonial Committee.

Njunwa, K.M. (2010). *Community Participation as a tool for Development.* Local Community Participation in Primary Education Development in Morogoro, Tanzania. Published Master's thesis in Development Management , University of Agder.

Nkwake, A.M., Trandafili, H. and Hughey, J. (2013). Examining the Relationship between Community Participation and Program Outcomes in a Metaevaluation. *Journal of Multi-Disciplinary Evaluation*; Vol. 9 http://www.jimde.com.

Nour, A.M. (2011). *Challenges and advantages of community participation as an Approach for Sustainable Development*. Vol. 4. No. 1

Nyaguthii, E., and Oyugi, L.A. (2013). *Influence of community participation on successful implementation of Constituency Development Fund Projects in Kenya*. Case study of Mwea Constituency. *International Journal of Education and Research*, 1(8), 99-123

Oakley, P. and Marsden, D. (1984). *Approaches to Participation in Rural Geneva*: International Labour Office Publications.

Obanure, T.O. (1988), "*Mobilizing National Development*: Problems Nigerians and Prospect"

Presented a Paper at the1988 General Assembly.

Odo, L.U. (2014). Local Government and the Challenges of Grassroots Development in Nigeria. Review of Public Administration and Management.Vol. 3, No. 6; Department of Public Administration, Nnamdi Azikwe University, Awka, Nigeria.

Ofuoku, A.U. (2011). Effect of Community Participation on Sustainability of Rural Water Supply Projects in Delta state, Nigeria. *Journal of Agricultural Extension and Rural Development,* Vol. 3(7), pp. 130-136. Available online http://academicjournals.org/JAERD

Okoli, F.C. (2010). *Development Administration*: Nature and Principles Enugu: Education Promotion Agency

Oni, S.S. (2015). Community Participation in Rural Development: Catalyst for Sustainable Development Efforts. *International Conference on Education and Social Sciences.* Istanbul, Turkey.

Opawole, A., Jagboo u., Bababola, O., and Babatunde, S.O. (2012). Evaluation of the Contribution of Construction Professionals in Budgeting for Infrastructure Development in Nigeria. International Journal of Sustainable Construction Engineering and Technolo, 3(2), 83-95

Osman, S. (2009). *Participatory Governance:* An overview of Issues and Evidences in United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), Participatory Governance and the Millenium Development Goals (MDGs), United Nations p. 3.

Otinche, S.I. (2015). Enhancing State-Community Relations through the Ward Development Projects in Niger State. *International Journal of Basic, Applied and Innovative Research*. IJBAIR, 4(4),PP.115-119

Oxfam GB (2009). *Urban poverty and Vulnerability in Kenya*: Background analysis for the preparation of an Oxfam GB Urban programme focused on Nairobi.

Oyedele, O.A. (2012). *The Challenges of Infrastructure Development in Democratic Governance*. Proceedings of the Construction Economics and Management, 1, 1-15. Retrieved from https://www.fig.net/resources/proceedings/fig_proceedings/fig2012/papers/ts01c/TSO 1C_Oyedele_6119.pdf

Paul, C. (2010). "S*trategies and Techniques for enhancing participation in Rural perspective*", Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development, Comilla.

Peter, M.C.C. (2010). *Infrastructure Policy in Developing Countries*. Asian Pacific Economic Literature, Bangkok.

Phologane, L.S. (2014). *Evaluating Community Participation in Rural Development Projects*: The case of Mokglwaneng Village. Published M. A. thesis in Development Studies at the University of South Africa.

Raniga, T and Simpson, B. (2002). Community Participation: Rhetoric or Reality; Social Work: *A Professional Journal for the Social Worker*. 38(2):182-190

Reid, J.N. (2000). *Community Participation*: How People power brings Sustainable Benefits to Communities. USDA Rural Development Office of Community Development.

Republic South Africa (1998). White Paper of Local Government. Pretoria. Government Printers

Republic of South Africa (2000). Local Government Municipal Systems Act 32.Pretoria: Government Printers

Saliu, S.I. (2014). Evaluation of Self Help Community Development Projects in Zungeru, Niger state, Nigeria. *Greener Journal of Social Sciences*. Vol. 4(3) pp. 093-107

Seers, D. (1969). *The Meaning of Development*; International Development; International Development Review, 11(4),3-4.

Shariff Abd Kadir, S.U. (2013). *Impact of Land Transport Infrastructure Development on Malaysia's Economic Growth*. Prosiding Persidangan Kebangsaan Ekonomi Melayu Malaysia PERKEM, 8(3), 1536-1545.

Shehu, A. (2013). Constraints on Sustainability of Ward Development Projects Policy in Niger State, Nigeria. *A Journal of Public Administration, ABU, Zaria*. Vol. 2, pp97-118

Shehu, A. (2015). *An Introduction to Development Administration in Nigeria*. Bida ,Jube Evans Books and Publications.

Sibanda, D. (2011). *The Role of Community Participation in Development Initiatives*: The Case of Danga Ecological Sanitation Project in the Zvishavane District, Zimbabwe.

Stefano, D.S. and Vrinda, D. (2003). Development corporation Handbook, Wikemedia Foundation, St. Petersburg, Florida, USA.

Suchman, E.A. (1967) Evaluation Research New York, Russel, Sage

Swanepoel, H. and De Beer, F. (2006). *Community Development*: Breaking the Cycle of Poverty. Kenwyn: Juta

Theron, F. (2005). *Public Participation as a Micro Development Strategy*; Participatory Development in South Africa. A Development Management Perspective; Pretoria: Van Chaik Publishers.

Thwala, W. (2010). Community Participation is a Necessity for Project Success. *African Journal of Agricultural Research*; Vol. 5(10), pp.970-979.http://www.academicjournals.org/ajar/PDF/pdf

Todaro, M.P. and Smith, S.C (2006). *Participatory Development and Empowerment*. 9thEdition; Harlow: Pearson Addison Wesley.

Torres, D. A. (1986) *Empowerment*: Structured Conceptualization and Instrument of Development. The Cornell University. Ithaca: New York.

Tshabalala, E.L. (2006). The Role of Community Participation in the Integrated Rural Development Plan of Govan, Mbeki Municipality. Department of Social Work and Criminology: University of Pretoria.http://www.up.acza/dspace/bitstream/2263/12247/1/Tshabalala community%28200%29.pdf (July, 2009)

Tshabalala, M.J.P. (2007). Ward Committees as mechanism for public participation on local government level. The case of Emfuleni local municipality. A mini-dissertation in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Magister Artium in Development and management degree within the school of Basic Science at the North West University.

Ujo, A.A. (1980), *Development Administration in Nigeria*, Being Monograph Produced For Scholars of Development Administration.

United Nations (2005). *A Division for Sustainable Development*. Indicators for Sustainable Development. Review and Assessment, Background Paper, New York.

United Nations Development Prgramme (2010). *Human Development Report*, Retrieved from http://hdr.undp.org/en/ on 2nd August, 2010.

Utuk, I.O. (2014). The Role of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Participatory and Sustainable Rural Economic Development in Nigeria. IOSR. *Journal of Economic and Finance* (IOSR-JEF) Vol. 4, pp.22-30

Webster, A. (1984). *Introduction to the Sociology of Development*. Basingstoke: Macmillan

Wong, F. (2013). "Fighting *the Great Recessions*; why America Needs Reservation Resolved". Revenue Analysis Financierd World Pensions Council, RAF/WPC Special Report on US Economy No 46 18-19 January.

World Bank (2003). *Reaching the Rural Poor*. A Renewed Strategy for Rural Development; Washington DC.

World Bank (2004). World Development Report: Making Services Work for Poor People; Washington DC.

Zarinpoush, F. (2006). Project Evaluation Guide for Non-profit Organizations: Fundamental Methods and steps for conducting project Evaluation. Imagine Canada. Available at: www.imaginecanada.ca

APPENDIX I

RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE

Department of Public Administration,
Faculty of Administration,
Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

Dear Respondent,

I am a postgraduate student of the above mentioned institution conducting a research work on a dissertation titled" The impact assessment of ward development projects on grassroots development in Kontagora and Magama local government areas of Niger state". The dissertation is in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of Master of Science (M.sc) degree in public administration.

However, the researcher will appreciate if given relevant and reliable information required of you as this could also make the conclusion drawn from your response valid and reliable.

Finally, be rest assured that your response shall only be used for academic purpose and will be treated with utmost confidentiality.

Thank you

Yours faithfully

Ibrahim Hayatu

INSTRUCTION: Please tick [✓] the appropriate answer

SECTION A: RESPONDENT PERSONAL PROFILE

1. Your local government area_____

2. Gender: (A) Male [ ] (B) Female [ ]

3. Age: (a) 18-28 [ ] (b) 29-39 [ ] (c) 40-50 [ ] (d) 51-Above [ ]

4. Marital Status: (a) Single [ ] (b) Married [ ] (c) Widowed

5. Educational qualification: (a) No formal education [ ] (b) Primary education [ ] (c) Secondary education [ ] (d) Tertiary education

SECTION B: Ward Development Project and community participation

6. As a result of Ward Development Projects, Ward Development Project Committee was constituted in your ward.

(a) Strongly Agree [ ] (b) Agree [ ] (c) Undecided [ ] (d) Disagree [ ] (e) Strongly Disagree

7. The constitution of Ward Development Project committee was based on democratic principle where people of a ward were given free hands to choosing the members themselves

(a) Strongly Agree [ ] (b) Agree [ ] (c) Undecided [ ] (d) Disagree [ ] (e) Strongly Disagree

8. Ward Development Project Committee was responsible for project identification after due consultation with the people of your Ward

(a) Strongly Agree [ ] (b) Agree [ ] (c) Undecided [ ] (d) Disagree [ ] (e) Strongly Disagree

9. Membership of Ward Development Project Committee was opened to everyone irrespective of political party affiliation in your Ward.

(a) Strongly Agree [ ] (b) Agree [ ] (c) Undecided [ ] (d) Disagree [ ] (e) Strongly Disagree

10. Ward Development Projects Committee members were adequate for the representation of your Ward.

(a) Strongly Agree [ ] (b) Agree [ ] (c) Undecided [ ] (d) Disagree [ ] (e) Strongly Disagree

SECTION C: Ward Development Project and Infrastructural Facilities

11. As a result of the implementation of Ward Development Project, feeder roads have been constructed in your ward.

(a) Strongly Agree [ ] (b) Agree [ ] (c) Undecided [ ] (d) Disagree [ ] (e) Strongly Disagree

12. The implementation of Ward Development Project has led to the provision of primary health care facilities in your Ward.

(a) Strongly Agree [ ] (b) Agree [ ] (c) Undecided [ ] (d) Disagree [ ] (e) Strongly Disagree

13. Primary education facilities have been provided due to the Ward Development Project implementation in your community.

(a) Strongly Agree [ ] (b) Agree [ ] (c) Undecided [ ] (d) Disagree [ ] (e) Strongly Disagree

14. Ward Development Project led to the adequate provision of portable drinking water in your ward.

(a) Strongly Agree [ ] (b) Agree [ ] (c) Undecided [ ] (d) Disagree [ ] (e) Strongly Disagree

15. Electrification projects were executed in your ward as a result of ward development projects

(a) Strongly Agree [ ] (b) Agree [ ] (c) Undecided [ ] (d) Disagree [ ] (e) Strongly Disagree

SECTION D: Ward Development Projects and the Sustainability of Local Development Projects

16. The community members were not involved in planning for the introduction of wad development projects in your ward

(a) Strongly Agree [ ] (b) Agree [ ] (c) Undecided [ ] (d) Disagree [ ] (e) Strongly Disagree

17. The community members were not involved in projects execution

(a) Strongly Agree [ ] (b) Agree [ ] (c) Undecided [ ] (d) Disagree [ ] (e) Strongly Disagree

18. Community members were not made to contribute part of the fund for project ownership

. (a) Strongly Agree [ ] (b) Agree [ ] (c) Undecided [ ] (d) Disagree [ ] (e) Strongly Disagree

19. Self-sustain structure was not created for the maintenance of local development projects

(a) Strongly Agree [ ] (b) Agree [ ] (c) Undecided [ ] (d) Disagree [ ] (e) Strongly Disagree

20. Ward development projects did not make provision for the empowerment of community members.

(a) Strongly Agree [ ] (b) Agree [ ] (c) Undecided [ ] (d) Disagree [ ] (e) Strongly Disagree

APPENDIX II

Interview Checklists

1. What was the procedure of selecting WDPC members in your Ward?
2. How did the committee use to meet the people of the ward for identification of projects of their choices?
3. Were the actual people of the ward involved in projects implementation?
4. How will you assess the contribution of WDP towards the provision of primary health care facilities in your ward?
5. How had the implementation of WDP contributed to the construction of feeder roads in your ward?
6. In what ways had WDP policy led to the provision of primary education facilities in your community?
7. How do you assess the role of WDP towards the provision of portable drinking water in your ward?
8. Which type of electrification projects executed in your ward as a result of the policy of WDP if any?
9. Were there any provisions for the sustainability of local development projects?

APPENDIX III

Observation Checklists

1. Availability of feeder roads constructed or rehabilitated via ward development projects across the two local government areas of study
2. Availability of water projects executed through ward development projects
3. Availability of primary health care facilities provided through ward development policy
4. Availability of facilities provided on primary education
5. Availability of projects on electrification

APPEDIX IV

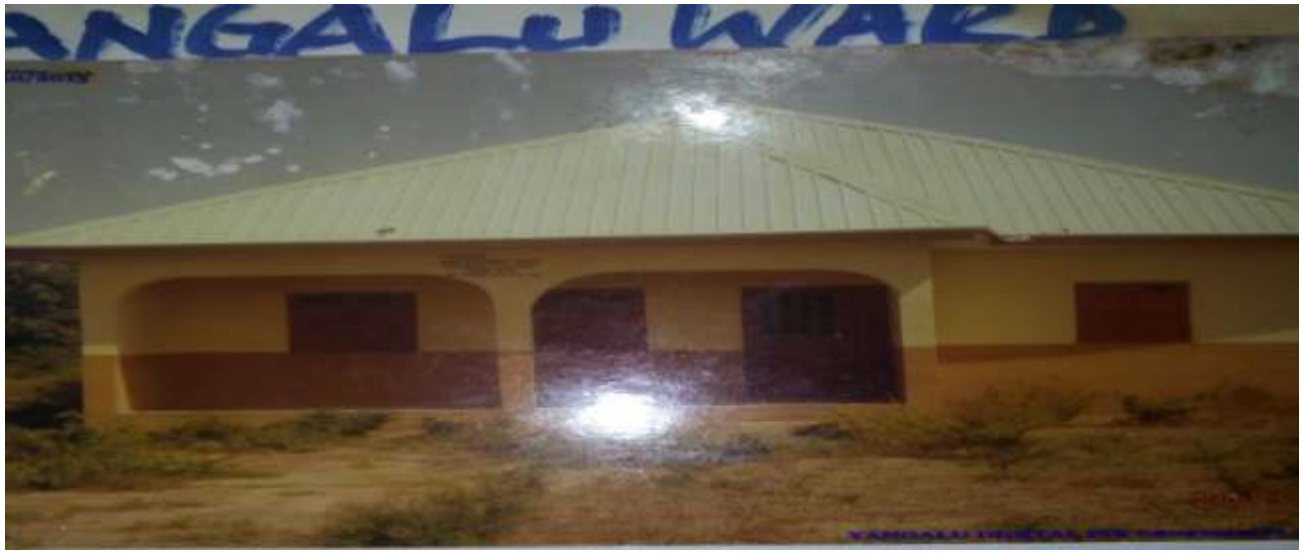
Some Pictures of Projects Executed via WDP Policy



Concrete road constructed during WDP in Kontagora Local Government Area.



Concrete road constructed during WDP in Kontagora Local Government Area.



Dispensary constructed in Magama Local Government Area.



Dispensary constructed in Kontagora Local Government area.



Primary School project in Magama Local Government.



Water project in Kudu Ward, Kontagora.



Electrification project in Magiya Ward, Kontagora.