TITLE PAGE

TOWN UNIONS AND COMMUNITY DEVLOPMENT IN NIGERIA: A STUDY OF NSUKKA L.G.A. IN ENUGU STATE, 1995-2010

Approval page

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The work embodied in thesis is original and has not been submitted in part or in full for degree of this or any other university, to the best of our knowledge.

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DEDICATION

This project is dedicated to the Almighty God my Creator and Provider and my Parents Onyishi Thomas Ugwuobayi and my late mother Nne Oma Theresa Ugwuobayi

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Abstract

In Nigeria, the philosophy of people's participation in community development is increasingly gaining acceptance as an important instrument for mobilizing resources and organizing the rural populace to have cogent interests in providing for their well being. Government at various levels such as the federal state and local government have come to terms with the fact that there is an inherent imperative in 'Democratic Village Republic" which advocates Town Union's active participation in the decision making and implementation of policies that affects and shapes their lives. In view of the above, this study interrogates the following questions: Have Town Unions acted as major instrument for community development in Nsukka Local Government Area? Does inadequate finance impede Town Unions from achieving their goals of community development? Does financial mismanagement pose constraint on the ability of the Town Unions to achieve community development? The study utilized survey method through self report technique of data collection which deals mostly with sourcing information from the primary sources and analytical induction sourcing information from secondary sources. Data collected were analyzed using quantitative methods. We discovered that Town Unions are real authorities in their various communities and have contributed to community development. We also discovered that inadequate finance has impeded Town Unions in Nsukka Local Government Area from achieving their goals of community development. Financial mismanagement was discovered as constraint and ability of Town Unions in achieving community development. We therefore recommended that First, the State and Local Government should incorporate the Town Unions in their decision making process and implementation. Secondly, Government at various levels should evolve a well-conditioned policy of direct financial assistance to Town Unions' for their Community development projects. Thirdly, Town Union leaders should be judicious in their use of funds collected for development.

TOWN UNIONS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA: A STUDY OF NSUKKA L.G.A IN ENUGU STATE, 1995-2010

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INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The Igbos were originally free from centralized and despotic institutions of governance. The colonial masters created the "warrant Chiefs" with the ordinance of 1916 in order to facilitate governance in Igbo land and to achieve uniformity with the rest of the country. With the attainment of independence the warrant Chiefs became anachronistic and irrelevant. Perhaps to achieve the same purpose as the colonial masters, the military government through the chieftaincy Edit of 1978 created autonomous communities and decreed that each community be placed under a traditional ruler (Igwe, Eze, or Obi,) the proliferation of predominant political organization was the "democratic village republic" in which the traditional local institution for governance has been Town union. The situation now is that there exist in most communities in Igbo land two dominant institutions for governance-the Town union which is at the apex of the system of unions/assemblies that are part of the democratic village republic and the Eze institution fostered by the government. (Nwosu 1999).

According to Eme et al, (2012) town unions represent an association formed by the people of the same town, local government or even district as the case may be. Town Union can also be seen as an agency of community through which innovations and development purposes are achieved for the community. Society and cultures are dynamic therefore social institutions grow with the society. The Town Union has continued to grow with the Igbo society and has acquired new names like central unions, group unions, progressive association, development union and Town Union. Thus, in developing Igbo society the Town Union has assumed the status of civil society organization with improved administrative structures. Apart from undertaking several development and infrastructural projects, it has continued to serve as the organ for local administration in Igbo land.

In 1940's, the British government first employed the term "community development" to mean a new programme of development being introduced to her former dependent colonies. The government encouraged her subjects to take united action to improve their lots.

According to existing literature in community development, the earliest recorded community development that was successful was in Udi in Enugu State (former - Eastern Nigeria) as early as 1943. It was in Udi that the British Administrative Officer Mr. E.R Chadwick organized the people of Ogwafia-Owa to construct access road to connect their communities within the area. This was photographed in 1949 under the title "Day break in Udi". This incidentally was regarded as the cradle of community development as a process for improving the living condition of the people (Chadwick 1947). This gesture of community self-help was filmed and placed in conspicuous places in Nigeria. This injected the spirit of competition among communities in Nigeria and beyond. Since these colonial times to this present day there has been increasing realization in communities that government alone cannot provide all their needs.

Disheartening as it may sound and seem, the rural areas are characterized by pervasive endemic poverty, made manifest by widespread hunger, malnutrition, poor health, general lack of access of formal education, modern housing and various forms of social and political solution compared with their urban counterparts. Thirdly, it is being recognized that the problems of our urban centres cannot be solved unless those of the rural areas are solved, or at least contained. Hence these problems emanated from the unprecedented rural – urban migration which in turn derives from rural area underdevelopment, poverty and unemployment (Akpomuvie 2010).

Similarly Ekekpe and Ekpe (2009) noted with pity the conditions of our rural areas when they averred that whether you are in the Northern part of the country or in the southern part, you will be struck by the very level of abject poverty, mass illiteracy, unsanitized environment lack of clean water supply, lack of access roads, unavailability of health care facilities, improper and inadequate housing poor lighting particularly at night, defeatist/fatalist attitude, small land parcel ownership, out-modeled ineffective farming implement etc. these conditions cannot be ameliorated by government alone.

The importance of the community development in contemporary Nigerian society cannot be overemphasized as much as it cannot be relegated to the background as its significance stems from its recognized role in the process of achieving the improvement of economic, social, political and cultural conditions of the communities. As a strategy, community development ensures rapid national development hence Ugwu's (2009:4) assertion "community development is one of the major planks upon which National developmental policies and their implementation are hinged".

Nsukka Local Government Area came into existence as a county council headed by a District officer under the colonial administration. The resident officers were in charge of the communities, (what is known today as autonomous communities or Towns) they were responsible to the District officer.

In 1970, the East Central State Government introduced the Divisional Administration Department which superintended over the councils known as Divisional Councils under the control of a Divisional Officer (DO) who was responsible to the Divisional Administration Department at Enugu.

Following the Introduction of the Local Government Reforms of 1976 the Military regime Under General Olusegun Obasanjo introduced the Local Government system. The new Local Government Reform triggered off the promulgation of decree of Anambra State Local Government Edict No 9 of 1976 with effect from 1st December which Nsukka Local was one.

This instruction of the new Local Government was also enshrined in the 1979 constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria Under section 7 (1)

The creation of States in Nigeria from 1991, 1996 did not affect Nsukka Local Government geographically. There were originally 16 autonomous communities (please see appendix I). In 2002 the administration of Dr. Chimaroke Nnamani the then Governor of Enugu State created additional twenty (20) autonomous communities (please see appendix II) bringing the number to 36 autonomous communities.

The Local Government is reach both in Agricultural and mineral resources, recently oil was discovered in Eha-Ndiagu in Nsukka Local Government. The Local Government produce both root and vegetables like yam, cassava, pepper, tomatoes, garden egg and cereals like maize.

Market is another major source of income, markets like Afo Opi, Afo Ikwei Eha-Alumona Ogige market which is on daily basis, Orie Ajuona Obimo, Afo Edem, Nkwo Okutu, Nkwo Lejja and Eke Ede just to mention a few serves all trading purposes.

There are many commercial banks located at the Local Government for safety transaction of business, they include First Bank Plc, United Bank for Africa, Eco Bank Plc, Access Bank Plc, Zenith bank Plc, Diamond bank Plc, First Monument Plc, Keystone Bank and so on and many community banks which includes Ogige Community bank, Nsukka Microfinance Bank, Kelechukwu Microfinance bank and so on.

Education is the greatest industry in the Local Government. This is true because of the interest shown by communities in providing educational institutions. There are 117 primary schools and 30 secondary schools and one Federal University, the University of Nigeria, Nsukka excluding other private primary, secondary and tertiary institutions. There is one technical college at Nkpunano community of the Local Government. Many of the Primary Schools were built by community effort.

Nsukka Local Government Area is one of the seventeen (17) Local Government Areas in Enugu State. In Nsukka Local Government Area, community development policy seeks to encourage the mobilization of communities as well as their resources for the development of rural areas. In each community within the Local Government, the structures of the executives are drawn from elected local leaders. Each Town union therefore has the chairman, the vice chairman, secretary, assistant Secretary the financial secretary, the treasurer, the public relations officers, the provost and the traditional ruler who by virtue of his office becomes the patron of the community development committee (C.D.C). These officers serve for three years term and unless if elected for a second term and may be voted out depending on performance (Adapted from Community Development Office Nsukka Local Government 2013).

We made use of this periodization from 1995-2010 because many projects undertaken by the Town unions have lasted for ten years and above. Again it intended to accommodate both the old and new autonomous communities.

This study therefore is centred on Town union and community development using Nsukka Local Government Area as a study.

1.2 Statement of Problem

There is a great acceptance today that the ultimate goal of development is to improve the well-being of people by identifying and solving the basic problems that can hinder community development. It is also axiomatic that one of the problems facing Nigeria and indeed other African nations in the postcolonial era is that of improving the living condition of her people. This is even more in the rural population for according to Eme et al (2012).

The call that rural development needs to be given priority attention have come. Several reasons for such urgency such as high and unacceptable rate of poverty, poor access to social and economic infrastructure and services such as access to safe drinking water supply and sanitation high rate of health indicator such as infant mortality rate, malnutrition and disease prevalence and lower enrolment of children in school has been the characteristics of our rural areas.

According to FAO (2010) about seventy five percent (75%) of the world's people live in rural areas and depend on agriculture and related activities for their livelihood. The solution to these problems can be achieved through involving the people in the community in development process as a social action and social change.

Successive governments in Nigeria have tried in various ways to alleviate poverty and improve living conditions of the people – hence community development programmes. These programmes include Obasanjo's Operation Feed the Nation (OFN), the Green Revolution of Shagari Civilian administration and Babangida's Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructures (DFRRI). These programmes no matter how appealing they were failed. Most often the people were not consulted before embarking on these projects.

Many scholars have written on Town Unions and community development like Honey et al (1998) citing Chinua Achebe highlighting the activities of "Umuofia Progressive Union" in Achebe's novel, No Longer at Ease. This featured prominently the assistance the Union gave to the promising son of Umuofia Obi Okonkwo. Eje (1988) cited in Nwosu (1990) has also emphasized the role Town Unions played in the massive reconstruction of facilities and infrastructures in Eastern Nigeria following the end of the Civil War.

Even though these scholars have tried to illuminate the role of Town Unions in Nigeria, they did not focus on the role of Town Unions in Nsukka Local Government and their community development efforts. It is therefore this gap in literature that this research work intends to fill.

Based on the above expositions these questions were posed.

- 1. Have Town unions acted as major instruments for community development in Nsukka Local Government Area?
- 2. Does inadequate finance impede Town Unions from achieving their goals of community development?
- 3. Does financial mismanagement pose constraint on the ability of the Town Unions to achieve community development?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

This study has two objectives viz. the broad objective and the specific objective. The broad objective therefore is to assess the roles of Town unions in Nsukka Local Government Area in community development. The specific objectives are as follows:

- 1. To ascertain whether Town unions in Nsukka Local Government Area have contributed to community development?
- To examine whether inadequate finance impeded town unions from achieving their goals of community development.
- 3. To determine whether financial mismanagement has posed constraint on the ability of Town Unions to achieve community development.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study has two levels of significance the theoretical or the academic significance and the practical significance. At the theoretical level, the study will add to the existing stock of scholarly literature on the subject. As such it will then serve as a reference material or data for scholars whose interest would eventually be aroused by the findings to undertake further research on the area.

The practical significance of the study is that government at various levels will come to terms with the fact that there is inherent imperative in "democratic village republic" which is Town Union's active participation in the decision making and implementation of policies that affects and shapes their lives. It will provide valuable data that will assist the government to articulate policies that will help to address the challenges facing Town Unions in Nigeria.

1.5 Hypotheses

- Town Unions have been major instrument for community development in Nsukka Local Government Area.
- 2. Inadequate finance has impeded Town Unions from achieving their goals of community development. `
- Financial mismanagement has posed constraint on the ability of Town Unions to achieve community development.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Literature Review

This section intends to review or critically examine previous studies done in the area or that is closely related to it.

Town Unions and Community Development

Modern face of Town union emerged during colonial rule especially after people have migrated to the colonial cities. The colonial government had no well-designed welfare for the teeming migrants that were flocking to the city and the city proved a difficult sphere of survival and a place of strangeness.

According to Eme et al (2012) the idea of having a Town union to look after the welfare of their members far from home was not new as could be deduced from Igbo axiom "Nwanne di na mba" which denotes the significance of Town unionism especially in a foreign land. In the spirit of the above stated axiom, many African migrants carried the various forms of social relations in their traditional societies into new area in which they moved to. They also had attachment to their homes and felt that they will come back to it.

Furthermore, they pointed out that various social amenities and services these Unions enjoyed in the city; they would want to have and enjoy in their home Towns. This nostalgic feeling may be regarded as the magic wand that rural and community development have utilized in making Town unions a veritable tool of self-help approach in community development in Nigeria since inception.

Escalating social and economic crisis have led to the questioning of the pre-eminent role of the state and state-based institutions in social and economic management, The persistence social and economic crisis is seen as an indication of poor performance of the state and state-based institutions. Since the Mid-1980s, scholars and policy analysts have taken increasing interest in the role of Town unions in the social and economical development and governance of communities in the developing world.

There is increasing awareness of the need to strengthen and in corporate indigenous organizations and administrative structures which have existed almost incognito, but have provided stability and fostered self-reliant development within local communities. African scholars and policy makers are beginning to realize that Town unions and local institutions appear to have proved more successful in engineering development within local communities than the state has done in economical and social management. (Richards, 1985 and Ake 1987) cited in Nwosu (1990) have also argued that in Nigeria, even the effort made in recent years to decentralize governance to the level of local government appears inadequate for effectively reaching the grass root.

Nwankwo (1996) opined that participation by the subordinates increase the probability that decisions will effectively be implemented. He pointed out that management scientists have come to understand that when target groups are involved in the process of development that they are satisfied with their development, again such group will feel a sense of belonging and their initiatives and potentialities are effectively utilized.

In many African communities in general and Nigeria in particular, especially among the Igbos in the South-East part of the country, Town unions through their Age grade associations have performed various tasks depending on the felt need of the people and what was assigned to them by the Town union. Today in many Igbo societies like Ohafia, Abriba etc. These age grades have accomplished important tasks and are still accomplishing various strides in community development. According to Eme et al (2012) in Okagwe Ohafia, the Okpatemba age grade built an ultra modern two storey building school hall for Isiama Secondary School situated in their community.

The role of Town unions in the developmental process of Igbo Towns is as old as the Igbo nation. Honey et al (1998) citing Chinua Achebe highlighting the activities of Umuofia progressive union in one of Achebe's novel, featuring prominently the assistance the union gave to a promising son of Umuofia Obi Okonkwo.

Eje (1988) cited in Nwosu (1990) has emphasized the crucial role which Town unions played in the massive reconstruction of facilities and infrastructure in Eastern Nigeria following the end of the civil war. Health institutions, roads, bridges market and other projects were constructed by the communities. The reconstruction of primary and post primary schools and the building and equipping of new ones were initiated by Town unions.

Town unions apart from under-taking several developmental and infrastructural projects, have continued to serve as organ for local administration in Igbo land.

An understanding of the concept of development however will give a clear picture of community development. Therefore the conceptualization will be brought to bare as Hornby (2000) defines development as the gradual growth of something so that it becomes more advanced and stronger. This implies that development implies a gradual or advancement through progressive change or changes which according to some scholars is seen as multidimensional involving changes in structures, attitudes and institutions as well as the acceleration of economic growth, the reduction of inequality and education of absolute poverty. Development involves change, improvement and vitality, a directed attempt to improve participation, flexibility, equity, attitudes, the function of institution and the quality of life. It is the creation of wealth – wealth here means the things people value. Not just dollar. It leads to a net addition to community assets, avoiding the zero sum solution where a job created "here" is a job lost "there". (Shaffer, 1989).

According to Todaro (1977) development is seen as multidimensional process involving major changes in the social structures, popular attitudes and

national institutions. He emphasized that development in all societies must have at least three major objectives

- (1) Must be to raise the living standard of the people.
- (2) To gender individual self-esteem and
- (3) To expand the range of economic, Social well being and choice of individual.

A measure of development is also expressed by the level of the citizens (men and women) involvement and participation in decision making process. Development involves a general re-orientation of value and restructuring towards improvement in quality of life. Development is a human issue and should revolve around men and women and their interaction among themselves and their environment. Supporting the above Wilden (1970) rather described community development as a process by which people in an area choose to think as a community, go about analyzing a situation, determining its needs and unfulfilled opportunities, deciding what can and should be done to improve the situation, and then move in the direction of achievement of the agreed goals and objectives. Community also has been described as a group of people with a shared identity.

Putting the two terms together, community development means that a community itself engages in the process aimed at improving the social, economic and environmental situation of the community. The community is both the means and the end of community development. The community identifies a need, takes action and participates together towards achieving that goal. It is through this action that the community becomes more vital, not just economically but as strong functioning community in itself.

According to Ogbazi (1995) community development is a strategy designed to improve the economic and social life of rural dwellers. This means that, it is a way of improving the living standard of the people through the involvement and mobilization of the people. He also adumbrated the objectives of community development. These objectives can be paraphrased to include:

- Promotion of social, cultural, educational and economic well being of the rural popular.
- Promotion of sustained and orderly development of vast resources in the rural areas for the benefit of the rural people.
- Increase in and diversification of job opportunities and improvement of income in the rural areas.
- Mobilization of the rural population for self help and self sustaining programme for development and
- ◆ Up-lifting of the technological based industries in the rural areas.

According to Bonsu (1983) community or town unions participation has been a rural development approach in Africa, for quite a long time. He maintains that this has led to development in many towns and villages. The initiation of development comes particularly from the people since it relates to their needs directly.

In the same vein Nwobi (2007) argues that community development is a concerted effort by community and local Government authority's effort made in order to facilitate significant increase in rural resources productivity with the overall objective of improving rural communities. Similarly Chukwuemeka (2000) posit that community development involves the process embarked by the people and the Local Government. It embraces development of economic and political lives of the people and improves the socio-economic status of rural dwellers. What Chukwuemeka was arguing is that community development is multi dimensional and touches all aspects of the individual and the society in general the rural populace are the target of the programme, it must be a programme that will touch the lives of the people no matter the differences in their social status. These programmes should include education and literacy programmes, health care, portable water for all, road construction and maintenance. This is what Nnoli (1981) referred to as man as the centerpiece of development. He referred to development as a process of actualizing man's inherent capacity to do something greater, freedom, self-confidence, creativity, self-discipline, responsibility and material well-being.

Williams (1978) in his own prospective asserts that community development entrails that, the people themselves will be involved in improving their economic, social and cultural condition. This is in line with the most desired approach to community development known as self-help approach where the people identifies a need and embark on the project with or without external assistance.

Community development is not just contract on Agriculture or business education, road rehabilitation or health alone but is a total transformational process that starts from the individual to the community, these may include to live a rightful life, good attitude, tolerance both ethnic and religious and other wise, being patriotic and above all living by example.

To make community development work (Nwobi 2007) conceives that the people of the localities are expected to play the role of managers and entrepreneurs of development, this is because having the ingredients of development such as land, capital and labour is not enough to enhance development until man try to act on the biophysical environment to eke out something out of it is when we start talking of development for example cultivating the land for food, using tree inform of timber to build houses and so on.

Lele (1979) captures the essence of community development when he says that it is the process of improving the standard of people residing in the rural areas and making the process of their development self-generating and self-sustaining level.

The World Bank (1975) defined community development as a strategy designed to improve the economic and social life of a specific group of peoplerural poor. However in 1996 it extended the objectives of community development beyond a particular sector they now encompass improved productivity, increase in employment as well as minimum acceptable levels of food, shelter, education and health. Humanitarian argument for these services is that improvement in health, water supply, diet and education can improve the welfare of the people. There are also sound economic reasons for these social services – better health, reduced domestic chores, and higher levels of education contributed to increase in quality and quantity of life.

According to Okoli (1985). Among the British colonial office, community

development meant:

A movement to promote better living for the whole community with the active participation and if possible on the community, but if this initiative is not forthcoming, by the use of technique for arousing and stimulating it in order to secure its active and enthusiastic response to the development. It includes the whole range of development activities in the district, whether they are undertaken by government or unofficial body.

He also noted that the United Nation in the concept of community development

sees it thus:

The term community development designates the utilization under one single programme of approach and technique, which relies upon local communities as units of action and which attempts to combine outside assistance with organized local selfdetermination and effort and which correspondingly seeks to stimulate local initiative and leadership as the primary instrument of change. (United Nations, 1971). Cavaye (2000:32) also asserted that:

Community development is a process conducted by community members. It is a process where local people can not only create more jobs; income and infrastructure, but also help their community become fundamentally better able to manage change. The 'concrete" benefits of community development, such as employment and infrastructure, come through local people changing attitudes, mobilizing existing skills, improving networks, thinking differently about problems, and using community assets in new ways. Community development improves the situation of a community, not just economically, but also as a strong functioning community in itself.

Community economic development is about identifying and harnessing local community resources and opportunities and stimulating sustainable economic and employment activity (Kenyon, 1994) supporting other scholars. Sanders (1958) saw community development as a process moving from stage to stage; a method of working towards a goal; a program of procedures and as a movement sweeping people up in emotion and belief.

Community development builds the five capitals of a community – physical, financial, human, social and environmental. It is through participation in their community that people rethink problems and expand contacts and networks; building social capital. They learn new skills, building human capital. They develop new economic options, building physical and financial capital. They also can improve their environment.

The common opinion of scholars is that any successful development programme must require a conveying or massive effort of the entire population, to bring about increase in conductive capacity. Participatory rural development does not only mean the increase in productive capacity but also change in attitude, replacing the sense of dependence on the natural environment by the desire and ability to manipulate such environment.

It can be adduced that community development is gradual and progressive towards perfection having a set standard in mind. This is why some scholars have referred to it as a process. Fundamentally, community development includes all strategies, interventions or coordinated activities at the community level aimed at bringing about social and economical development. It essentially improves the ability of communities to collectively make better decisions about the use of resources such as infrastructure labour and knowledge.

Inadequate Finance and Community Development by Town Unions

Finance has been identified as the sine-quo non in the successful performance of any establishment or organization. It is sometimes referred to as live wire of any organization.

Terry (1966) saw the word finance as a complex concept and defined it as consisting of, providing and utilizing money, capital rights, credits and funds of any kind which are employed in the operation of any kind of enterprise. The provision of money, credit etc and utilization of this money to achieve organizational goal is the primary concern of finance, finance can also be primarily concerned with decisions and actions which affect the position of the organization. From this view, it becomes imperative that the actions and decision of an organization depends largely on the amount of finance available for the organization, in this regard, finance covers planning, estimating, cash receipt and payment, raising funds and controlling the distribution of these funds.

Finance generally is the management of finance. It covers the procurement, disbursement and the method of control. The importance of finance cannot be overemphasized, the fact remains that success or failure of an organization becomes essentially financial concept. Finance influences the outcome of performances in an organization.

Mr. Lioyd George is reported to have once remarked that Government is finance. This is correct because everything the government does require money. Even the best conceived polices and plans will come to naught unless funds are available to pay the personnel, purchase equipment and material required (Sharma and Sadana 2010).

Inadequate finance on the other can be seen as not having enough money or fund to execute or carry out organizational goals. Inadequate financial resources have been major problems ploughing organizations, Town Unions not being exceptional. The financial crises have created a great deal of instability as many Town Unions have become less effective in the discharge of their functions to the people. According to Adedeji et.al (1969: 15)

"There has been a serious deterioration in recent years in financial position of many Local authorities in Nigeria. This has been partly due to their inadequate revenue, increasing expenditure resulting from such factors as rising expectation, growing population and greater urbanization."

The authors captured the position of not only the local authorities but also

Town Union in our local Government. As the authors noted, the inadequate finance has been attributed to poor revenue and rise in expectation etc. The rises in expectation and population growth have increased the demand for social and infrastructural projects in rural communities. This means that the increase in expectations of the people and its growth in number with poor revenue to Town Union actually led to inadequate finance.

Akpan (1967) expressing the need for local authorities to look for more

avenues to augment their financial resources has this to say.

Indeed the complexity, diversity and great expensiveness of modern need, local authorities anywhere in the world rely on their local resources to meet their responsibilities. They must depend on external sources, on the state and the loan market for a decisive position of their need to carrying out expensive capital projects.

This statement has also buttressed our earlier stand on inadequate finance. Success in the implementation of desired goals and objectives of our organizations depends to a large extent on the capability of increasing their revenue.

Financial Mismanagement and Community Development by Town Union

Community development and financial management according to Wikipedia Encyclopedia (2013) is the effective and efficient management of money (fund) in such a manner as to accomplish the objectives if the organization. It may also refer to a branch of finance concerned with monetary resource allocation. These two definitions of financial management capture the essence and function of financial management in any organization. It is first of all the prudent management of money, the tactical allocation of monetary resources to achieve organizational objectives.

Financial control is a critically important activity to help the organization ensure that the organization is meeting its objectives. (Wikipedia Encyclopedia 2013) The financial control addresses questions such as: Are assets being used efficiently? Are the organizations assets secure? etc. Financial mismanagement on the other hand according to Wikipedia (2013) is the kind of management that is careless, bad, incompetence and inefficient. Mismanagement can be deliberate or just unfortunate

Mismanagement of finance has been attributed to lack of control mechanism to the organization, over expenditure, alleged lack of coherence and focus to Objectives Town Union may embark on projects that are not felt need of the people or it could be that the approach may lead to over expenditure, inflation of claims or fraud generally. If organizations do not put up adequate financial control measure it will obviously lead to financial mismanagement. An internal accounting control measure can help facilitate the auditors to endeavour to find out whether the internal accounting control has proved effective, in the case that it has checked errors and fraud.

From the above exposition, it there means that if there is financial mismanagement in Town Unions, it will pose constraints to achieving community development goals. Without effective financial management, the policies adopted by Town Unions in a great variety of areas may not be capable of being implemented.

Gap in literature:

From the review of extant literature Scholars like Eme et al (2012) Nwanko (1996) Nwosu (1990), Todaro (1977) have written extensively on the role of Town Unions and community development, their accounts show that Town Unions have played remarkable roles in community development.

Scholars like Terry (1966) Sardana and Sharma (2010) Adedeji et al (1969) Akpan (1967) etc wrote on the challenges facing town Unions in community development. These include inadequate finance and financial mismanagement by Town Unions in trying to carry out their role in community development. Their accounts showed that finance is the sine-quo-non to any organization while its mismanagement will lead to incompetence and inefficiency.

These scholars however did not focus on the role of Town Unions in Nsukka Local Government Area. It is therefore this noticeable Lacuna in the views of scholars that this work intends to fill.

2.2 Theoretical framework

The theoretical framework adopted for this study is the Structural – Functional theory. It was adopted and adapted as a mode of analysis in Sociology/Anthropology by Emile Durkhein, Tallcott Parsons and Robert Merton (1910). It is the theoretical analysis intended to explain the basis or order or stability in the society and relevant arrangement within the society which maintains order and stability. It originated in the biological and mechanical science as part of system analysis. The proponent viewed the society as a system made up of certain arrangement of parts (structures) which behave (functions) in a coordinated and inter-dependent manner to achieve the objective intended for them by society, these being the only means by which equilibrium and peace can be maintained with it (Igwe 2007: 429).

The theory was developed for political analysis by Gabriel Almond. Almond holds that 2 (two) basic things are involved and these are the concepts of structures and functions. He also held that every political system has structure and that these are there to perform certain functions. Structures are composed of role which means that an individual can perform several roles such as a father, husband, lecturer, brother or son, some of these roles interact to form structure as the role of a husband, wife, son and daughter interact for a family (Nwaorgu 1998). These functions may be performed by different kinds of political structures and some times even by structures which are not overtly recognized as being primarily political such as Town unions, Trade unions, and Age grade.

There is no one to one correspondence between structures and functions. A particular function may be fulfilled by arrangement of structures just like any structural arrangement may perform functions which may have different types of consequence for the structure.

Political systems are then analyzed in terms of the manner in which structures perform the expected function in the society. The analysis focus not simply on political structures but on actual function performed, since the structures may not be performing the functions originally associated to them.

According Almond's structural-functional approach, there are two sets of functions which political systems performs and these are:

- 1. Input or political function and
- 2. Output or government function.

There are five input functions of the political system. They are

- 1. Political Socialization which is the inculcation of values and norms and pattern of behaviour appropriate for a political system.
- 2. Political Recruitment The process of filling up of political functions
- 3. Interest Articulation The process of formulation of demand.
- 4. Interest Aggregation Collation of demand.

 Communication – The channeling of demand through appropriate media for effective decision-making.

Almond also outlined output function of political system as follows:

- 1. Rule-making (Legislative function)
- 2. Rule-application (Executive function)
- 3. Rule-Adjudication (Judicial function)

While the output functions are governmental function, input functions are performed by non governmental sub-system of the political system such as the society, family, school, churches, religious groups, town unions, trade union, political parties, independent newspapers, mass media prints and electronics.

However, six years after these functions were advanced in Almond's and Coleman's celebrated books; Politics of Developing Areas (1960), Almond restructured and modified this approach considerably. By this modification, he now presents four function types, which are discussed below (Nwaorgu 1998: 148).

- 1. Capability functions
- 2. Conversion functions
- 3. Communication functions and
- 4. Pattern maintenance adoption function.

Capability Function:

Political system are brought under pressure by reason of the stresses they receive from their environment or from within them. How these are handled or

managed mean so much for the persistence of political system. The ability of a system to bring under control stress is known as capability and manifest in the following as: Extractive' Regulative, Distributive and symbolic, Responsive capabilities (Respond capability is how the system respond to the needs and demands of its citizens as well as stresses emanating from the environment) This capability can easily be assessed and if functional is a positive instrument in system maintenance and persistence.

Conversion functions

The second set of function is the conversion function. This is done, by and large through the input and output structures while the input structures communicate (demand, or and support) information to the system. The output structures do the same conveying information regarding policies and decisions.

Communication functions

This function is independent of the function of the input structures. It is concerned with gathering and transmission of information. It transmits input and output information in and output of the system.

Application of the theory

We have observed in Gabriel Almond's structural-functional theory that structural functional analysis is based on assumption that all systems have identifiable structures which performs functions within the system necessary for its persistence and stability. Systems are set of inter-related and inter-dependent parts that form a whole. These parts exist as sub-systems which can exist on their own or form with other sub-system to form a whole. These sub-systems are structures that perform functions for the existence and maintenance of the system.

Town unions are structures that exist in our political system which perform roles or functions in the political system. Town unions therefore based on the demand of the community for basic social amenities that will improve the living condition of the people perform the function of providing these basic social amenities. The community or members of the Town union are seen as performing the input functions of interest articulation and aggregation while the Town union executives perform the output function of making authoritative decisions, execution of these decisions for the general well-being of the people of Nsukka Local Government Area.

Communication here is important because both the members of the community and the Town union executive transform input information and output information for systems stability.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODS OF DATA RESEARCH

3.1 Methods of Data Collection:

The methods of data collection adopted for this study are survey through self-report technique using primary sources such as interviews, questionnaires and field observation and Analytical technique or logical induction using secondary sources such as books, Journals and internet materials. Data for this study were therefore elicited from the autonomous communities in Nsukka Local Government Area and documents.

According to Obasi (1999:132) "survey research refers to a process of eliciting data from a target population through either questionnaire or interview instrument and subjecting such data to statistical analysis for the purpose of drawing conclusions".

3.2 Research Design:

A design according to Nwana (1981) Cited in Obasi (1999:49) "is a term used to describe a number of decision which need to be taken regarding the collection of data before ever the data are collected. The investigator for instance needs to find satisfactory answers to such questions like:

- (a) Who or what constitutes the population to be studied?
- (b) Will every member of the population be studied, or will a sample of the members be studied?

(c) For studies in which the researcher intends to find the relationship between two variable, will the subjects be studied in their natural setting or will they be studied under experimental conditions? Studies in which the subjects are observed in their natural setting through eliciting information from them, is referred to as surveys in research technology. On the other hand studies in which the subjects are observed under controlled conditions are referred to as experiment".

This study therefore adopted the survey method since the subjects are observed in their natural setting and information elicited from them.

Population of the Study

The population for this study is the population of autonomous communities in Nsukka Local Government Area. The population of the Local Government is 309, 633 in 2006 census (NPC 2006). Ethnically the inhabitants of Nsukka Local Government area are Igbos widely known for their resourcefulness, enterprise and receptive to change. The Local Government is largely farmers, businessmen and women and civil servants while the youths are largely students and artisans.

Location:

Nsukka Local Government Area is located in the Northern part of Enugu State, South-Eastern Nigeria. It is boarded between Enugu State at the East, Anambra State at the south, Kogi State at the West and Benue State at the North.

Sample Size

The projected population of the Local Government according to 2006 population census is 309633. To obtain an optimal sample size for this study we used the Yaro Yamane (1968) specification (see Israel 1992) given as follows.

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where n = The estimated sample size

N = The population size

1 = Constant

e = The error margin

Allowing for an error margin of e = 0.05 or e = 5% which is 95% confidence level.

Our sample size therefore is $n = \frac{309633}{1+309633(0.05)^2}$

 $n = \frac{309633}{1+309633(0.0025)}$

 $n = \frac{309633}{1+774.0825}$

n = 398.48

This shows that our sample size is 398.48 which will be rounded up to 400.

The Likert style of question scaling was adopted since series of attitude statements are presented and respondents are required to endorse or reject them with in a framework of five-point-scale. (Obasi 1999). We therefore arranged the five-point scale as follows: Strongly Agreed (SA) = 5, Agreed (A) = (4), Undecided (U) = 3, Disagreed (D) = 2 and strongly disagreed (SD) = 1. with this system each question has five options which are graduated above to allow respondents the freedom to choose among the alternative answers provided.

Sampling Technique

The sampling technique used in this study is the stratified sampling technique. According to Obasi (1999:138) "when certain characteristics of a target population are known to a researcher and he feels that such characteristics are likely not to be adequately taken care of by a chance factor, then the need for stratified sampling technique arises". The stratified technique was used because the population has different strata then the simple random sampling were applied after population is divided in homogenous groups. Both techniques were drawn from Probability (random sampling methods).

3.3 Method of data analysis

We employed quantitative method of analysis using descriptive statistical technique in analyzing and interpreting our data. "The statistical technique helps us to summarize and describe our data in such a way that we would understand better their characteristics, similarities, variation and trends etc Obikeze (1986) cited in (Obasi, 1999:197). We shall therefore employ simple percentage and tables as tools for analyzing our data.

3.5 THE LOGICAL DATA FRAMEWORK

Research question	Hypothesis	Major variables X and Y	Indicators	Sources of data	Methods of data collection	Methods Data Analysis
Have Towns Unions acted as major instrument for community development in Nsukka Local Government Area?	Town Unions have acted as a major instrument for community development in Nsukka L.G.A	X Town Unions have acted as major instrument	X Maintenanc e of primary schools Roads Health post Secondary schools.	primary and Secondary sources	Survey-self report method and analytical method i.e. logical induction	Quantitati ve method of Analysis
		Y Community development in Nsukka L.G.A	Y Adult – education literacy. Scholarship awards Organizing seminars & workshops			
Does inadequate finance impede Town Unions in achieving their goals of community development?	Inadequate finance impeded Town Unions in achieving their goals of community development.	X Inadequate finance impeded Town Unions	X Lack of payment of levies Lack of Government grants Lack of payment of annual/mont hly dues by members			
		Y Town Unions and Community Development goals	Y Abandoned projects high rate of mortality. inaccessible community roads Mass illiteracy			

Does financial mismanagement pose a constraint on the ability of the Town Unions to achieve community Development?	Financial mismanagement has posed constraint on the ability of Town Unions to achieve community development goals	X Financial mismanagement by Town Union leaders		 	
	-	Y Community development goals	Y Lack of health post. Bad attitudes to life.	 	

CHAPTER FOUR

CONTRIBUTIONS OF TOWN UNIONS TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN NSUKKA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

This chapter assesses the contributions of town unions to community development in Nsukka Local Government Area. We shall in the light of analysis of relevant data accept or reject our first hypothesis. The activities, programmes or project here refer to those projects embarked by various Town Unions towards improving the living standard of their people. These programmes include roads constructed or rehabilitated by the Town Unions, water project, Educational programmes which include the establishment of primary, post primary schools and Adult education/literacy classes. These may take the form of building new school blocks or renovating, expanding existing ones, and equipping them with furniture and teaching aids

4.1 ROADS

The importance of road network in the rural areas cannot be over emphasized or relegated to the background. It is very crucial and occupies important position in the socio-economic lives of the people particularly where the people are largely farmers and traders as in the case of Nsukka Local Government Area. Road eases the transportation of goods and services and determines the cost of living in the area. Communities in Nsukka Local Government Area are fully aware of these aforementioned facts when they embarked on Road construction and rehabilitation of existing ones of various kilometers in the area.

Owuamalam (1981) supports this view when he posited that:

From the economic point of view roads link food producing areas with places or towns where adequate markets would be found for them. From Administrative point of view, they make the enforcement of law and order easier, because without roads linking village in local government, taxes and rates cannot be collected from the people, neither will crime and violence be easily checked.

Similarly Ikeme (1990) writing on the challenges of Agriculture in Nigeria development posit that farming villages are often located in remote places that are hardly accessible because of lack of motor able roads. Enormous difficulties are therefore encountered in evaluating Agricultural produce and great losses occur in transit. Farmers are often very ready to sell their product off the farm at rather low farm gate price.

Provision of motor able road network will help in timely evacuation of produce and consequently in the reduction of transit losses. An efficient distribution system which results from a good transport network will ensure a fairer price to the farmers and at the same time ensure that farm produce is made timely in areas of concentrated population where they are needed. Farming will be better off with good roads. It is in realization of this that most communities in Nsukka Local Government attempt to solve their road problems through community efforts.

The following road projects were embarked upon by Town Unions according to the period covered by this study.

Name of	Project	Kilometer	Date	Duration	Cost	Expenditure	State of
Community			Started	Taken	Estimate	N . K	Execution
					N . K		
Akpa Edem	Road	8 Kilos	2008	1 year	5 mil	5.200 mil	Completed
	maintenance						
Eziani	Road	3.5 Kilos	2009	1 year	2 mil	2.100 mil	Completed
	maintenance						
Uweani	Road	3 kilos	2008	2 years	1.800 mil	2.300 mil	Completed
Lejja	maintenance						
Lejja	Road	5 Kilos	2008	1 year	2.900 mil	2.900 mil	Completed
	maintenance						
Umabor	Road	6 Kilos	2000	2 years	3.4 mil	3.600 mil	Completed
	maintenance						
Ajuona	Road	4 Kilos	2002	1 year	3 mil	3.100 mil	Completed
Obimo	maintenance						
Agu	Water	3 Kilos	2006	1 year	500,000.00	550,000.00	Completed
Umabor	channels						
Eha-ndiagu	Road	8 Kilos	2003	1 year	4 mil	4.3 mil	Completed
	maintenance						
Breme	Road	2.5 Kilos	2004	6 months	150,000.00	200,000.00	Completed
	maintenance						
Utobolo	Road	3.5 Kilos	2005	1 year	800,000.00	800,000.00	Completed
	maintenance						
	Community Akpa Edem Eziani Uweani Lejja Lejja Umabor Ajuona Obimo Agu Umabor Eha-ndiagu Breme	CommunityAkpa EdemRoadAkpa EdemRoadEzianiRoadEzianiRoadUweaniRoadLejjaRoadLejjaRoadUmaborRoadAjuonaRoadAguRoadAguKaterImaintenanceAguRoadBremeRoadBremeRoadUtoboloRoad	CommunityNoAkpa EdemRoad8 KilosAkpa EdemRoad8 KilosmaintenanceEzianiRoad3.5 KilosuweaniRoad3 kilosLejjaMaintenanceLejjaRoad5 KilosLejjaRoad6 KilosMaintenanceUmaborRoad6 KilosAjuonaRoad4 KilosObimomaintenanceAguWater3 KilosUmaborchannelsEha-ndiaguRoad8 KilosBremeRoad2.5 KilosMaintenanceUtoboloRoad3.5 Kilos	CommunityStartedAkpa EdemRoad8 Kilos2008maintenance200911EzianiRoad3.5 Kilos2009maintenance3 kilos2008LejjaRoad3 kilos2008LejjaRoad5 Kilos2008LejjaRoad5 Kilos2008Maintenance11LejjaRoad5 Kilos2008Maintenance12008Maintenance20081Maintenance20001AjuonaRoad6 Kilos2002Obimomaintenance11AguWater3 Kilos2006Umaborchannels11Eha-ndiaguRoad8 Kilos2003BremeRoad2.5 Kilos2004Maintenance111UtoboloRoad3.5 Kilos2004	CommunityNoad maintenanceStartedTakenAkpa EdemRoad maintenance8 Kilos20081 yearEzianiRoad3.5 Kilos20091 yearImaintenance120082 yearsUweaniRoad3 kilos20082 yearsLejjamaintenance11LejjaRoad5 Kilos20081 yearLejjaRoad5 Kilos20081 yearUmaborRoad6 Kilos20002 yearsAjuonaRoad4 Kilos20021 yearObimomaintenance111AguWater3 Kilos20061 yearImaintenance111Eha-ndiaguRoad8 Kilos20031 yearBremeRoad2.5 Kilos20046 monthsIutoboloRoad3.5 Kilos20051 year	CommunityValueStartedTakenEstimateAkpa EdemRoad8 Kilos20081 year5 milAkpa EdemRoad3.5 Kilos20091 year2 milEzianiRoad3.5 Kilos20091 year2 milEdiaminenance3 kilos20082 years1.800 milUweaniRoad3 kilos20082 years1.800 milLejjaRoad5 Kilos20081 year2.900 milIbejjaRoad5 Kilos20081 year2.900 milIumaborRoad6 Kilos20002 years3.4 milMintenance20021 year3 mil1AjuonaRoad4 Kilos20021 year3 milObimomaintenance20061 year500,000.00Maintenance20061 year4 milAguWater3 Kilos20031 year4 milEha-ndiaguRoad8 Kilos20031 year4 milBremeRoad2.5 Kilos20046 months150,000.00IumaborCoad2.5 Kilos20051 year800,000.00	CommunityNameStartedTakenEstimateN.KAkpa EdemRoad maintenance8 Kilos20081 year5 mil5.200 milEzianiRoad maintenance3.5 Kilos20091 year2 mil2.100 milUweaniRoad maintenance3 kilos20082 years1.800 mil2.300 milLejjaRoad maintenance5 Kilos20081 year2.900 mil2.300 milLeijaRoad maintenance5 Kilos20081 year2.900 mil2.900 milLeijaRoad maintenance6 Kilos20082 years3.4 mil3.600 milUmaborRoad maintenance6 Kilos20021 year3 mil3.100 milAjuonaRoad maintenance4 Kilos20021 year3 mil3.100 milObimomaintenance2 Sundon1 year500,000.00500,000.00Umaborchannels2 Kilos20031 year4 mil4.3 milBremeRoad maintenance8 Kilos20046 months150,000.0020,000.00UnaborRoad maintenance2.5 Kilos20046 months150,000.0020,000.00UnaborRoad maintenance2.5 Kilos20051 year80,000.0080,000.00UnaborRoad maintenance3.5 Kilos20051 year80,000.0080,000.00

 Table 4.1 Town Unions Contribution to Community Development Through Road

On the whole total of 10 communities embarked on road rehabilitation covering a total 46.5 kilometers of roads at an estimated cost of 23,550,000 and expenditure 25,050,000 to date of 2010 For more details, we sought the opinion of respondents to elicite information on whether Town Unions in Nsukka Local Government have contributed to community development through roads

Out of the 400 questionnaires distributed, five (5) were incorrectly filled and therefore discarded; we were therefore left with 395 questionnaires correctly filled. Table 4.2 bellow present the opinion of respondents.

TABLE 4.2 HAVE TOWN UNIONS IN NSUKKA LOCAL GOVERNMENTCONTRIBUTED TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH ROADS?

	POSITIVE		NEUTRAL	NEGAT	IVE	TOTAL
	Agreed Strongly		Undecided	Disagreed	Strongly	
		Agreed			Disagreed	
Respon	106.65	213.3	15.8	39.5	19.75	395
se						
Total	319.5		15.8	59.25		395
%	8	1%	4%	1	5%	100

Source: Research Data 2013

The above data show that 15% or 59.25 out of the 395 respondents indicated that Town Unions in Nsukka Local Government Area have not contributed to Road project, while 4% or 15.8 respondents were undecided. A total of 81% or 319.95 respondents expressed positive attitude.

The above data therefore go to confirm our hypothesis I that Towns have contributed to Community development in Nsukka Local Government Area In the course of our interview, we directed our interview to the community development officer in Nsukka Local Government.

Researcher

Good morning Madam.

I believe you are the Community Development Officer of Nsukka Local Government?

Response

Yes I am (adjusting herself on her seat)

Researcher

Have Town Unions in Nsukka Local Government contributed to Community Development through roads?

Response

Some Town Unions in the Local Government have contributed to the community development through roads in the areas of clearing and maintaining their roads, creating water charnel more especially during the raining seasons. These roads are mainly in the hinterlands. (turning to her file) she named some of the towns. Utobolor, Breme, Agu Umabor and Eziani. The Local Government is also contributing by providing earth moving machines like grading of these local area (she quickly added)

Judging from the various expressions by our respondents and the interview conducted one will conclude that Town Unions in Nsukka Local Government Area contributed to community development through roads.

4.2 TOWN UNIONS CONTRIBUTION THROUGH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES

According to Wikipedia encyclopedia (2013) education can be seen as the act or process of imparting or gaining knowledge, judgment and a level of intellectual maturity. In this way education becomes a vital instrument in transforming people's lives for better, since it leads to a desired goal – intellectual maturity. It can also be seen as any experience that has positive effect on the way one thinks, feels and acts. The importance of education to any community cannot therefore be over-emphasized. Education has been given the priority from the first to fourth National development plan. Apart from this, National Polices on Education has been framed with the following objectives:

- The inculcation of right type of values and attitudes for the survival of individual and Nigeria society.
- 2. The inculcation of National consciousness and unity.
- 3. The training of mind in the understanding of the world around
- 4. The acquisition of appropriate skills ability and competence both mental and physical as equipment for individual to live in and contribute to the development of his society.

(Fourth National development plan 1980 – 1985)

To buttress the importance of education further, we must all learn that education remains the greatest legacy we should bequeath to our children. That is why, the late educationist and social critic, Dr. Tai Solarin wrote in 1970 that We define as a rogue the man who steals our money. We call him a highway man who way lays us at the point of a revolvery we call him a thief who cheats us by clever crookery. But these in each case, are Pygmean thieves. I consider a man, the greatest thief, or the arch brigand, or the wickedest rogue, the man who by accident or design, particularly if by design, contrives to and successfully or not, deprives a youth of his opportunity to be educated. He who stands between a young boy and his chance of education is the wickedest man any where.

Having explored the role of education in the country, one can conclude that it is not easy for Government to carryout these roles effectively singlehandedly. To this effect, Town Unions in Nsukka Local Government Area contributed in construction and renovating, existing structure in our primary and pos-primary institutions. They also helped in equipping the schools by providing some facilities like chair and tables for both teachers and pupils. In some communities, Town Unions contributed to repairing of leaking roofs of the schools and constructing of libraries which will inculcate the reading habit in the pupils. In this way Town Unions have contributed in improving the standard of living of the people.

TABLE 4.3: TOWN UNIONS CONTRIBUTION TO EDUCATIONSCHEME: PRIMARY SCHOOLS (1995 – 2010)

S/N	Name of	Primary	Date	Duration	Cost of	Expenditure	State of
	Autonomous	School	Started	Taken	Estimate	to Date	Execution
	Community	Project			N . K	₽.K	
1.	Nguru Nsukka	Community primary school Repairing of Leaking roofs	1998	6 months	40,000	40,000	completed
2.	Mkpunano Nsukka	Joint Primary School Umakashi/ Echara Renovation of the School floor	1995	1 year	150,000	170000	Completed
3.	Owerre Obukpa	Com. Primary school Owerre Renovation roof of the school	1996	2 years	350,000	380,000	Completed
4.	Ajuona Obukpa	Com. Primary School Ajuona Expansion of the classroom	1997	2 years	1.2 mil	1.2 mil	Completed

5.	Ogbuagu	Com.	2000	1 year	80,000	80,000	Completed
	Obukpa	Primary		2			
		school					
		Ogbuagu.					
		Repairing					
		leaking					
		roof and					
		provision					
		of tables					
6.	Nru	Central	1999	6 months	120,000	130,000	Completed
		school Nru					
		Repairing					
		of leaking					
		roof					
7.	Ihe-Owerre	Com.	1999	2 years	1 mil	1.2 mil	Completed
		Primary					
		school Ihe-					
		owere					
		Renovation					
		of					
		classroom					
0	NT	block	1000	1	00.000	100.000	
8.	Nru	Union	1998	1 year	90,000	100,000	Completed
		Primary					
		School Nru					
		Provision of tables					
9.	Ihe-Owerre	renovation Com.	2000	6 months	40,000	55,000	Completed
9.	Ine-Owerie	Primary	2000	0 11011115	40,000	55,000	Completed
		School					
		Onuiyi					
		Repairing					
		of leaking					
		roof					
10.	Mkpunano	Com.	2001	6 months	60,000	60,000	Completed
	I	Primary			,	,	I
		School					
		Agbani					
		Renovation					
		of					
		classroom					

11.	Mkpunano	Ogbagu primary school Nguru Expansion of classroom	2002	1 year	600,000	650,000	Complete
12.	Nru	Com. Primary School Nru II Repairing of leaking roof	1998	6 months	40,000	40,000	Complete
13.	Ihe-owerre	Central school onuiyi Renovation and repairing of tables, chair	2000	1 year	150,000	160,000	Completed
14.	Eziani Football field extension	Com. Primary school Eziani Repairing of leaking roof and repairing of tables/chairs	2010	6 months	300,000	300,00	Completed
15.	Ajuona- obimo	Hill-top primary school I Renovation of library	1997	2 years	400,000	500,000	Completed
16.	Obimo	Udoka primary school Akpotoro Renovation of classroom floor.	1998	5 months	120,000	120,000	Completed

17.	Obimo	Com. Primary school Obimo Provision of school toilet	1999		400,000	470,000	Completed
18.	Lejja	Central school Lejja Repairing of leaking roof and classroom floor.	2005		180,000	180,000	Completed
19.	Uwani Lejja	Com. Primary school Uwani Lejja Renovation of the school building	2004		120,000	130,000	Completed
20.	Lejja	Ugbelenab or primary school Constructio n of primary school block	1995	3 years	1.2 mil	1.3 mil	Completed
21.	Ede-Oballa	Com. Primary school. Provision of school toilet	1998	2 years	150,000	158,000	Completed

22.	Ede-Oballa	Ubabari primary school Ede- Oballa Renovation of classroom floor	2005	6 months	120,000	130,000	Completed
23.	Opi Agu	Com. Primary school Nkwo-Agu Repairing of leaking roof, Repairing of chair and tables	1999	1 year	80,000	85,000	Completed
24.	Opi	Com. Primary school Provision of school toilet and repairing of doors and windows	2003	1 year	170	185,000	Completed
25.	Breme	Central School Breme Renovation of the classroom	2005	1 year	180,000	195,000	Completed

26.	Eha-Azuebor	Com. Primary school Provision of school toilet and repairing of leaking roof	2004	1 year	150,000	170,000	Completed
27.	Umabor	Edem Umabor primary school Agu Umabor Re-roofing of the school building	2008	1 year	250,000	250,000	Completed
28.	Umabor	Com. Primary school Umuhu Umabor Provision of school toilet	2007	1 year	180,000	185,000	Completed
29.	Agbamere	Central school Isienu Re-roofing of the school building	2004	2 years	180,000	200,000	Completed
30.	Eha-Ndiagu	Amanator primary school Renovation of school classroom	2003	6 months	80,000	80,000	Completed

31.	Anuka	Com. Primary school Repairing of leaking roof	2005	6 months	40,000	40,000	Completed
32.	Alor-Uno	Central School Alor-Uno Provision of tables and repairing of leaking roof	1999	1 year	120,000	120,000	Completed
33.	Okutu	Central school Renovation of the classrooms	1998	6 months	100,000	120,000	Completed
34.	Okuje	Com. Primary school Constructio n of library and seats	2008	2 years	150,000	150,000	On-going
35.	Ibagwa-Ani	Com. Primary school Renovation of classroom block	2007	1 year	120,000	120,000	Completed
36.	Utobolo	Central school Utobolo- Agu Repairing of tables and chairs	2008	6 months	30,000	30,000	Completed

37.	Okpaligbo	Central school Okpaligbo Repairing of leaking roof and classroom floor	2007	1 year	50,000	60,000	Completed
38.	Ozzi Edem	Hill-top primary school Ozzi Provision of library and renovation	2009	1 year	160,000	170,000	Completed
39.	Akpa-Edem	Com. Primary school Expansion of classroom	2010	2 years	150,000	160,000	On-going
40.	Edem Ani	Com. Primary school Ugwunagb o Repairing of leaking roof	2008	6 months	30,000	30,000	Completed

Total Estimate = 9,130,000.00

Total Expenditure = 9,903,000.00

Source: Nsukka Local Government Education Authority.

File No. NSK/AD/120/40

TABLE 4.4TOWN UNIONS CONTRIBUTION TO EDUCATION:POST PRIMARY SCHOOL FROM 1995 – 2010

S/N	Name of	Primary	Date	Duration	Cost of	Expenditure	State of
	Autonomous	School	Started	Taken	Estimate	to Date	Execution
	Community	Project			<mark>₩</mark> . K	<mark>₩</mark> . K	
1.	Umabor	Com. High school Umabor Construction of additional classrooms	1995	4 years	1.6 mil	1.7 mil	Completed
2.	Ede-Oballa	Com. Secondary school Ede- Oballa Construction of additional classrooms	1998	3 years	1.3 mil	1.5 mil	Completed
3.	Ezebinagu	Com. Secondary school Re-roofing of the classroom and construction of laboratory block	2005	2 years	1.2 mil	1.2 mil	Completed
4.	Eha-Ndiagu	Com. Secondary School Eha- Ndiagu Construction of science laboratory block	2003	2 years	1.100 m	1.100 mil	Completed

5.	Opi-Agu	Com. Secondary school Opi Agu Renovation of classroom blocks	2000	1 year	800,000	850,000	Completed
6.	Agbamere	Com. Secondary school Isienu Agbamere Construction of library block	2005	2 years	500,000	500,000	Completed
7.	Idi Opi	Opi high school Repairing of leaking roof	2002	6 months	50,000	55,000	Completed
8.	Alor-Uno	Com. Secondary school Renovation of the classroom and toilets	1998	1 year	720.000	800,000	Completed
9.	Edem	Com. Secondary school Construction of additional classrooms	1996	2 years	880,000	1 mil	Completed
10.	Okpuje	Com. Secondary school Construction of library block and toilet	1995	3 years	1 mil	1.2 mil	Completed

11.	Ibagwa-Ani	Com.	1998	2 years	700,000	800,000	Completed
	C	Secondary			,		1
		school					
		Re-roofing					
		of the					
		classrooms					
12.	Lejja	Lejja high	2004	3 years	800,000	830,000	Completed
		school					
		Construction					
		of additional					
		classroom					
13.	Lejja	Com.	2005	1 year	80,000	80,000	Completed
		Secondary					
		school					
		Renovation					
		of the					
		classroom					
		block					
14.	Obimo	Com.	2005	3 years	1 mil	1.3 mil	Completed
		Secondary					
		school					
		Akpotoro					
		Construction					
		of new					
		school					
15.	Ajuona	Hill-top	2003	3 years	1.3 mil	1.3 mil	Completed
	Obimo	secondary					
		school					
		Construction					
		of new					
		classroom					
		building					
16.	Obimo	Com.	1996	2 years	800,000	85,000	Completed
		Secondary					
		school					
		Construction					
		of additional					
		classroom					

17.	Nru	Boys	2003	1 year	300,000	350,000	Completed
		secondary					
		school					
		Equipping					
		of science					
		laboratory					
18.	Obukpa	Com.	2008	2 years	250,000	300,000	Completed
		Secondary					
		school					
		Equipping					
		of the					
		science					
		laboratory					
19.	Opi	Girls	2004	2 years	850,000	850,000	Completed
		secondary					
		school					
		Addition of					
		the					
		classroom					
		block					

Total Estimate = 15,680,000 Total Expenditure = 15,800,000 Source: Nsukka Local Government Area Education Department. File No. NSK/AD/140/100

TOWN UNIONS CONTRIBUTION TO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES THROUGH ADULT AND NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

Adult Education is a generic term. It is referred to as any organized educational activity for people outside the regular formal school system. Such educational activity is specifically designed to address the peculiar needs of learning in order to improve their current levels of knowledge or performance of certain common skills or to change their prevailing attitude to a problem or issue of social values (Ngwu 2003). According to UNESCO Adult education is a process by which men and women seek to improve themselves or their society, increasing their skills, sensitiveness; any process by which individual groups or institutions try to help men and women improve in these ways.

Deducing from the above definition, one can conclude that Adult Education refers to all kinds of educational activities designed for Adults without any legal compulsion and without such effort becoming a major activity. It is more than literacy or remedial education to "fill the gap". It is something people need and want as long as they are alive and regardless of the amount of their previous education.

Obi (2003) defined literacy minimally as the ability to read and write, to decode and encode while maximally it is referred to as being well read or learned, hence well educated. There has been many approaches to literacy like traditional, (reading, writing and arithmetic) functional i.e. teaching of skill to rural people also known as skill acquisition, and Freirean literacy approach put forward by Paulo Freire which starts from the awakening the consciousness of illiterate about their exclusion, disadvantage and poverty and seeks to empower them to deal with their fundamental problems affecting their lives.

Our communities are full of illiterate and semi-literate men and women who need to be educated at least to acquire the skills of reading and writing. The approaches to literacy have been seen as eclectic (holistic) approach towards producing a holistic men and women. To achieve this feat the communities in Nsukka Local Government Area have not only established Adult Education classes but have also provided enabling environment for its survival and arousing the consciousness of literacy and disadvantage.

Table 4.5 Establishment of Adult Education and Literacy Classes by TownUnions

S/N	Name of	Name of centre	Location	Type of
	Community			Training
1.	Ede Oballa	NFE Ede Oballa	NFE Ede Oballa C.P.S Ede-Oballa	
2.	Okpuje	NFE Centre Okuje	Okpuje Village Hall	\checkmark
3.	Ihe-Owerre	Bishop Alex continuing education	Amaeze-Ani	1
4.	Ibagwa-Ani	NFE/Ibagwa Nsukka Centre	C.P.S Ibagwa	\checkmark
5.	Nkpunano	C.P.S Nursery school Nguru	C.P.S Nguru Nsukka.	\checkmark
6.	Okutu	NFE Centre Okutu	Okwutu Village hall	\checkmark
7.	Opi	Ogbuebo P.S AD. ED. Centre	Ogbuebo Pri.Opi-Uno	Skill Acquisition
8.	Ihe/Owerre	Ogochukwu hair dressing Centre	Umueze Obi lane	\checkmark
9.	Ihe/Owerre	Calistus Asogwa Radio mechanic	Ama ukwa road nsukka	\checkmark
10.	Ibeku	Emeka motorcycle mechanic	Eke Ibeku Market opi	\checkmark

11.	Nkpunano	Agu furniture	40 B Ofulonu Road	
		workshop	Nsk.	
12.	Ibeku	Sowing fashion	Eke Ibeku Opi uno	
		centre	market	

Source: Nsukka Local Government Area Adult/ Non formal unit. File No. NSK/ADED/Non formal unit

No. NSKLG/120/V/53

Having presented data from Nsukka Local Government Education Authority, the researcher turned to the respondents to know whether town unions in Nsukka Local Government Area have contributed to educational programmes.

Out of the 400 questionnaires distributed, five (5) were incorrectly filled and were therefore discarded. We were therefore left with 395 questionnaires correctly filled.

TABLE 4.6

HAVE TOWN UNIONS IN NSUKKA LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTED TO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES FROM 1995-2010

	POSITIVE	NEUTRAL	NEGATIVE			TOTAL
	Agreed	Strongly	Undecided	Disagreed	Strongly	
		Agreed			Disagreed	
Response	79	189.6	23.7	82.95	19.75	395
Total	268.6		23.7	10	2.7	395
%	68%		6%	20	6%	100

Source: Research data 2013

From the above analyzed data we found out that 237 respondents representing 6% of 395 respondents were undecided while 102.7 respondents

representing 26% of 395 respondents claim to have disagreed that Town Unions have contributed to community development through Educational programmes, while the greater number 268.6 respondents representing 68% of the total respondents confirmed that Town Unions in Nsukka Local Government have contributed to Educational programmes.

We also conducted oral interview with the Planning, Research and Statistics Officer of Local Education Authority of Nsukka Local Government Area.

Researcher

Good Morning Sir,

I believe you are the planning, Research and Statistics officer.

Good morning to you

I am, How may I help you?

Researcher

Have Town Unions in Nsukka L.G.A. Contributed community development through education,

Response

Yes, all the primary schools in the Local Government were either built by the communities and the missionaries or the community alone. They also contribute in maintaining and repairing the primary school like repairing leaking roofs, renovating the classrooms and provision of teachers table etc. From the opinions of our respondents and the interview conducted, one will conclude that Town Unions in Nsukka Local Government have contributed to Educational programmes.

We also conducted field observation to confirm whether actually these projects were carried out in these area, our report is that Town Unions in Nsukka Local Government have actually contributed to community development through Educational programmes as those projects lie bare for everyone to see.

CONTRIBUTION OF TOWN UNIONS TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH WATER PROJECT

Good water supply is a problem which confronts many parts of Nigeria. Although the standard of rural water scheme in the southern part of the country has been relatively impressive, the problem of poor rural water supply has reached an alarming rate in the North were wells are scattered, rivers relied upon.

In Nsukka Local Government water supply schemes are aimed at providing an easier source of water than streams and rivers therefore reducing transmission of water-borne disease.

Since 1995 Nsukka Local Government and Enugu State Government have spent considerable amount of money in water supply schemes in pursuance of its objective of providing better sources of water to the rural areas. The Government efforts have also been complemented by fund raising activities of rural communities through self-help. Through these concrete efforts, many rural communities have been provided with portable water supply.

Water is needed not only for drinking and washing of closes but also for environmental sanitation, particularly for sewage and other types of waste.

TABLE 4.7LOCATION OF BOREWHOLES/WATER PROJECT IN
NSUKKA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

S/N	Name of	Constructed by	State of Execution
	Community		
1.	Nru	Community assisted by Govt.	Completed
2.	Eziani	Community assisted by Govt.	Completed
3.	Edem	Community assisted by Govt.	Completed
4.	Obukpa	Community assisted by Govt.	Completed
5.	Opi	Community assisted by Govt.	Completed

Nsukka Local Government Community Development Office

File No. NSK/AD/CD/150/132

The table above shows that Town Unions and government have jointly provided boreholes/water to various communities in Nsukka Local Government.

CHAPTER FIVE

5.1 INADEQUATE FINANCE AS AN IMPEDIMENT TO TOWN UNIONS FROM ACHIEVING THEIR GOALS OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

According to Ezeani (2004:187) "A major problem confronting local governments especially in developing countries, is inadequate finance" He further stated that there is no doubt that the ability of the Local Government to perform their constitutionally assigned function depends on the funds available to them. Akpan (1965) cited in Ezeani (2004) also argued that the bottom line in judging the effectiveness of local bodies is the amount of funds at their disposal. According to him, the success of a local authority is often measured in terms of its ability to provide services to the public. These services cost 'money' which the local government does not have sufficiently.

These expositions by Ezeani and Akpan have explained the position of inadequate finance not only in the local government but also to our Town Unions. Our Town Unions are located in the rural areas and as a result of rural poverty unable to generate enough internal revenue. They cannot in the face of this impediment perform optimally.

Ezeani (2004) also noted that the inadequacies of operational and capital funds constitute a set back on local government implement of regular services and investments programmes. This is also true of our Town Unions who do not receive monthly allocation form government but depend largely on the revenue generated from the community. Finance as we have noted earlier is the live wire of any organization. It is the oil that lubricates the engine to enable it work. Finance is on the top list of decision making of any organization. In community development, it plays prime function since no meaningful project would be executed without money. Owing to the fact that the inhabitants of the Nsukka Local Government Area are largely farmers gives credence to the prevalent mention of inadequate finance by Town Unions. Leaders of these communities may have good objectives and initiatives to better the lots of their people but these objectives are subject to the amount of fund available for accomplishing those objectives.

The resources at the disposal of the government are limited and even if in the normal circumstances, no government however rich and benevolent can satisfy all the needs of the people especially at the rate the needs are being identified.

Nsukka Local Government Area has been impeded by inadequate finance. This had led to the lack of certain projects or amenities in our communities as in the urban areas. These include abandoned projects, inaccessible roads in our rural areas, mass literacy etc.

To elicit information on whether inadequate finance has impended the Town Unions from achieving their goals of community development we turn to our respondents. Out of the 400 questionnaires distributed, five (5) were incorrectly filled and were discarded; we therefore left with 395 questionnaires correctly filled. The table below presents the opinions of the respondents.

TABLE 5.1 DOES INADEQUATE FINANCE IMPEDE TOWN UNIONSFROM ACHIEVING THEIR GOALS OF COMMUNITYDEVELOPMENT?

Positive		Neutral	Neg	Total	
Agree	Strongly	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly	
	Agree			Disagree	
76.5	200	63.2	38.3	17	395
276.5		63.2	55	5.3	395
70%		16%	14	%	100%
	Agree 76.5 276	AgreeStronglyAgree76.5200276.5	Agree Strongly Undecided Agree Agree - 76.5 200 63.2 276.5 63.2	AgreeStronglyUndecidedDisagreeAgreeAgree 38.3 76.5200 63.2 38.3 276.563.2	AgreeStronglyUndecidedDisagreeStronglyAgree $ -$ 76.520063.238.317276.563.2

Source: Research data 2013

The above data showed that only 55.3 representing 14% of our total respondents were of the view that inadequate finance did not impede the success of Town Unions in achieving the goals of community development, while 63.2 representing 16% were undecided or neutral. 276.5 representing 70% of our respondents expressed the feeling that inadequate finance impeded the success of Town Unions in achieving their goals of community development.

In an interview conducted all the executives of the Town Unions were of the opinion that inadequate finance has impeded the success of Town Unions in community development. These also have confirmed our hypothesis II that inadequate finance has impeded the success of Town Unions in community development. Because of the consistent mention of inadequate finance by the Town Unions we tried to find out the source of revenue available to Town Unions in Nsukka Local Government Area. These are summarized as follows

Table 5.2: Main Sources of Revenue for Town Unions in Nsukka LocalGovernment Area as Supplied by Town Union Leaders

		TOWNS							
S/N	Types of Revenue	Umabor	Agbamere	Breme	Ezebinagu	Ede-oballa	Idi opi	Lejja	Total
1.	Annual/ monthly dues		V		V	V	V	V	24
2.	Donations								22
3.	Governme nt grants	V	V	V	V	V		V	10
4.	Fund raising or launching	\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		V	20
5.	Fine				\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark	10
6.	Toll fees								5
7.	Levies								24

					ТО	WNS			
S/N	Types of Revenue	Uwani lejja	Eziani	Obimo	Nru	Ihe n'ower	Nkpun ano	obukpa	Total
1.	Annual/mo nthly dues	V		V	V	V	V	\checkmark	24
2.	Donations		\checkmark		\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark	22
3.	Governmen t grants	V		V	V		V	V	10
4.	Fund raising or launching	V	V	V	V		V	V	20
5.	Fine		\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	10
6.	Toll fees		\checkmark						3
7.	Levies			\checkmark		\checkmark		\checkmark	24

					ΤΟ	WNS			
S/N	Types of Revenue	Obigege Obukpa	Ajuona	Obukpa	Okutu	Okapligbo	Ibagwa Ani	Okuje	Total
1.	Annual/monthly dues	V	V	V	~	V	\checkmark	\checkmark	24
2.	Donations			\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark		22
3.	Government grants	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	10
4.	Fund raising or launching	V	V	V	V	V		\checkmark	20
5.	Fine	\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark	10
6.	Toll fees								
7.	Levies		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark			\checkmark	24

			TOWNS						
S/N	Types of Revenue	Akpa	Edem	Edem	ani	Ozii	edem	Total	
1.	Annual/monthly dues							24	
2.	Donations	\checkmark		\checkmark		\checkmark		22	
3.	Government grants							10	
4.	Fund raising or launching							20	
5.	Fine			\checkmark				10	
6.	Toll fees	\checkmark		\checkmark		\checkmark		3	
7.	Levies							24	

The table shows that there are seven main sources of revenue generation for communities in Nsukka Local Government these includes Annual/monthly dues, Donations, Government grants, fund raising/Launching, fines Toll fess and levies. From the above table one can also conclude that few communities seem to make use of the whole revenue generation available to them. Again communities embarking on giant projects depend on the buoyancy of the members of such community. In community where the members are not buoyant enough, their revenue generation will also be very poor, this will lead to inadequate finance which will also lead to either abandoning some project or not embarking at all.

CHAPTER SIX

FINANCIAL MISMANAGEMENT AS A CONSTRAINT ON THE ABILITY OF TOWN UNIONS TO ACHIEVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GOALS

According to Ezeani (2006:315) effective financial management is very important for effective and efficient performance of government functions. He went further to posit that the subject of financial management has been of immense interest to both academicians and practicing managers. Pandy (2005) cited in Ezeani (2006:345) further highlighted the importance of financial management.

Among the most crucial decisions of the firm are those which relate to finance, and an understanding of the theory of financial management provides them with conceptual and analytical insights to make these decisions skillfully (Pandy, 2005:3)

Decisions in an organization cannot be made without finance and understanding the theory will help those organizations to make skillful decisions Sheard cited in Ezeani (2006:346) defined financial management as part of management which is concerned mainly with raising funds in the most economic and suitable manner, using these funds as profitably, (for a given risk level) as possibly; planning future operations; and controlling current performance and future development through financial accounting, cost accounting, budgeting, statistical analysis and other means. Pandy has fully elaborated the financial management which will be summarized as the prudent way of raising funds and using these funds profitably Financial management concerns the economic decisions and activities of individual. Families, households, private business in trying to minimize cost and maximize profits. At this level, the financial manager could be one person or a small group of people which may involve the evaluation of and selection of investible projects or utilization of already available resources with overall objectives of minimizing cost and maximizing profits

To curb this obnoxious attitude of leaders of different organization the then Anambra State military government granted Town Unions many power by enacting Edict No22 of 1986: Rural Development Fund Management which was designed to bring legality to bear on public accountability. The Edict was intended to solve once and for all the erstwhile practice of some unpatriotic citizens dipping their hands into community fund collected for development projects for their selfish aggrandizement. The Edict read thus

Anyone fund guilty of embezzlement of community fund shall be tried in a customary court and on conviction be liable to a fine of \$1000.00 or imprisonment for two (2) years or both

In recent times also the Federal Government under the Administration of President Olusegu Obasanjo has also established the independent corrupt practices and other related offences Commission (ICPC). ICPC Act 2000. Section 3 (3) it was inaugurated on 29th September 2000. The main duty of the commission is to receive complaints, investigate and prosecute offenders, other duties include education and enlightment. (www.google.com ICPC) and the Economic and finance crime commission formed in 2003 by EFCC

establishment Act of 2004. A law enforcement agency that investigate financial crimes. (Wikipedia.org/wik/economic.fin.crimes 2013) all these law were made to protect public and private fund.

Wikipedia encyclopedia (2003) described financial mismanagement as an inefficient management of money (fund) in such a way that it hampers the achievement of goals. This therefore means that financial mismanagement is a careless attitude towards the use of money (fund)

Financial mismanagement therefore arises when the principles, facts dealing with the use of money by individual, corporate bodies and government are thwarted, distorted this will lead to embezzlement, misappropriation of fund and outright fraud. Town Union executives give their financial account yearly; this includes all money collected and its expenditure. It is when this statement of account is subject to doubt and investigation made and fund the executives either incompetence, careless, corrupt or misappropriation of fund that financial mismanagement sets in.

In this chapter we shall based on available data see how financial mismanagement has been a cog on the ability of Town Unions achieving their community development goals. We therefore turned to our respondents for their opinions on the issue.

TABLE 6.1DOES FINANCIAL MISMANAGEMENT POSECONSTRAINT ON THE ABILITY OF TOWN UNIONS TO ACHIEVECOMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT?

	Positiv	e	Neutral	Nega	ative	Total
	Agree Strongly		Undecided	Disagree	Strongly	
		Agree			disagree	
Response	35.55	229.1	39.5	59.25	31.6	395
TOTAL	264.65		39.5	90.85		395
%	67%		10%	23%		100%

Source: Research data 2013.

The above data showed that 90.85 representing 23% of the total respondents of 395 did not support our claim while 39.5 representing 10% of the total respondents 395 were undecided and 264.65 representing 67% supported our hypothesis that financial mismanagement has posed constraint on the ability of Town Unions to achieve community development.

We conducted oral interview with the youth leaders of various town Unions to ascertain whether their Town Union government have been judicious in spending the unions funds. Again we sought to know whether there have been cases of the Town Union Government embezzling the Union's fund or misappropriation. The response we gathered showed that some Town Union governments have either misappropriated the Union fund or outright cases of fraud. We also gathered that some of the executives in the face of threat agreed to pay back the alleged fraud signifying that there has been embezzlement.

Judging from the above respondents and the interviews conducted we will conclude that there has been financial mismanagement among Town Union governments of various communities in the local government. This has posed constraints on the ability of Town Unions to achieve community development.

CHAPTER SEVEN

7.1 SUMMARY

This study examined the role of Town Unions in Nsukka L.G.A. in community development.

The study has the following specific objectives

- To ascertain whether Town Unions in Nsukka Local Government Area have contributed to community development
- To determine whether inadequate finance impeded town unions in achieving their goals of community development
- To ascertain whether financial mismanagement has posed constraint on the ability of Town Unions to achieve community development

We adopted Gabriel Almond's structural functionalism theory as our theoretical framework. In adopting this theory, we emphasized that every structure has functions Town Unions as structures have roles to play in the political system. Data for this study were mainly collected using primary source such as questionnaires, interviews and field observation and secondary sources such as books, journals and internet materials.

In analyzing our data we used the quantitative method-using descriptive statistical technique. We therefore employed simple percentage and tables as tools for analysis.

Stratified random sampling was used in the study. A sample size of 400 represents the entire population of the 36 autonomous communities in Nsukka Local Government Area.

7.2 CONCLUSION

In conclusion we discovered that in all communities there is at least a recognized Town Union responsible for community development. These Unions are real authorities in their various communities. They make binding rules and act as channels through which community receive information, directives and aids. We discovered also that Town Union in Nsukka Local Government have contributed to community development in areas of Road network, Educational programmes, such as primary, post primary and Adult education/literacy and water project.

We also discovered that inadequate finance has impeded Town Unions in Nsukka from achieving their goals of community development.

Financial mismanagement was also discovered as constraints on the ability of Town Unions in achieving community development. This could manifest in form of embezzlement, misappropriating of fund for projects it was not meant for.

7.3 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

From the findings we proffer the following recommendations.

First the State and Local Government should incorporate the Town Unions in their decision making process and implementation, encourage and motivate them to cultivate the spirit of community development towards improving the living standard of their people.

Secondly, Government should articulate a policy of direct financial assistance to communities for projects certified by Local Government as viable and felt need of the people. Towns Unions should also put machineries in place to explore more revenue generation device and learn to make use of the existing ones to the brim. Such revenue device includes communal, oil palm plantation and other economic ventures.

Thirdly, leaders of proven integrity should be elected or appointed as Town Union executives. They should be advised to be judicious in the use of money collected for projects and should be focused to accomplish a particular task. There is also need for internal auditor set by Town Unions to control embezzlement and misappropriation of fund.

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Appendix I

List of autonomous communities in Nsukka Local Government Area before the creation of new autonomous communities in Enugu State in 2002:

- 1. Eha Ndi-Agu
- 2. Eha Ulo Eha-Alunona
- 3. Ede Obolla
- 4. Lejja
- 5. Obimo
- 6. Edem
- 7. Nsukka
- 8. Ibagwa-Ani
- 9. Obukpa
- 10. Opi Uno
- 11. Opi Agu
- 12. Alor Uno
- 13. Okpuje
- 14. Anuka
- 15. Okwutu
- 16. Okpalluigbo

Appendix II

List of autonomous communities in Nsukka Local Government Area after the creation of new autonomous communities in Enugu State in 2002

LIST OF AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITIES

- 1. Eha Ndiagu
- 2. Agu Umabor
- 3. Eha Azuabor
- 4. Breme
- 5. Ezebunagu
- 6. Eha Uno Eha-Alumona
- 7. Agbamure Eha Alumona
- 8. Umabor Ehaalumona
- 9. Ede Enu
- 10. Ede Oballa
- 11. Lejja
- 12. Uwani Lejja
- 13. Eziani
- 14. Ajona Obimo
- 15. Obimo
- 16. Akpa Edem
- 17. Ozzi Edem
- 18. Edem Ani
- 19. Ihe N'Owere Nsukka
- 20. Nru Nsukka
- 21. Nkpunano Nsukka
- 22. Ibagwa Ani
- 23.Utobolo

LIST OF AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITIES

- 24. Ibige Obukpa
- 25.Ogbagu Obukpa
- 26.Owerre Obukpa
- 27. Ajuona Obukpa
- 28.Idi Opi
- 29.Opi Agu
- 30.Ibeku
- 31.Ogbozalla Opi
- 32. Alor Uno
- 33.Anuka
- 34.Okpalluigbo
- 35.Okpuje
- 36.Okutu.

Appendix III

Department of Political Science, University of Nigeria, Nsukka. 24th July, 2013.

Dear Respondent,

I am a Post Graduate student of the above mentioned department. I am under going a research work on **Town Unions and Community Development in Nigeria, using Nsukka Local Government Area as a study**. This is in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Masters Degree (M.Sc) in Political Science. In this regard, no answer is right or wrong. Therefore you should feel free to give your honest answer which shall be highly appreciated and confidential.

Your answers are strictly for research purposes.

INSTRUCTIONS

Read the statement carefully. There are five boxes on the right hand side of the paper, Agreed, Strongly Agreed, Undecided, Disagreed and Strongly disagreed). If you agree, tick box 1, if you definitely agree with a statement, tick box 2 (Strongly Agreed) If you are not sure tick box 3, if you don't really agree tick box 4. If you certainly don't agree, tick box 5.

You can tick like this (X) or like this ($\sqrt{}$). Remember you have only one tick for one sentence. It will take you about 5-10 minutes to complete

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

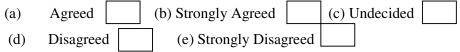
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Ugwu Louis C.

	QUESTIONNAIRE
(1)	Marital Status
(a)	Single (b) Married (c) Divorced (d) Widowed
(2)	Religion
(a) C	hristianity (b) Islam (c) traditional religion (d) others
(3)	Qualification
(a)	Primary 1 – 5 (No Certificate)
(b)	First School Leaving Certificate – JSS III
(c)	WASC/GCE/NECO/SSCE
(d)	OND, NCE
(e)	HND, BSC and above
(4)	Occupation
(a)	Farming
(b)	Trading
(c)	Civil servant
(d)	Artisans
(5)	Age
(a)	From 18 – 35 years
(b)	From 36 – 50 years
(c)	From 51 and above
(6)	Name of Town Unions/Development Unions (please indicate here)
(7)	Towns Unions contributed to Community Development in Nsukka Local
	Government Area.
(a)	Agreed (b) Strongly Agreed (c) Undecided
(d)	Disagreed (e) Strongly Disagreed

QUESTIONNAIRE

- (8) Town Unions contribute to Community Development through Road Projects
- (a) Agreed (b) Strongly Agreed (c) Undecided
- (d) Disagreed (e) Strongly Disagreed
- (9) Town Unions contribute to Community Development through water programme
- (a) Agreed (b) Strongly Agreed (c) Undecided
- (d) Disagreed (e) Strongly Disagreed
- (10) Town Unions contribute to Community Development through Educational Programmes



- (11) Inadequate finance has impeded Town Unions from achieving their goals of Community Development
- (a) Agreed (b) Strongly Agreed (c) Undecided
 (d) Disagreed (e) Strongly Disagreed
- (12) Financial Mismanagement as serious constraint on the ability of Town Unions to achieve Community Development
- (a) Agreed (b) Strongly Agreed (c) Undecided
 (d) Disagreed (e) Strongly Disagreed (c)