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**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK FOR NIGER DELTA IN
NIGERIA**



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UUM

Universiti Utara Malaysia

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA
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NIGERIA**



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**A Thesis Submitted to Ghazali Shafie Graduate School of Government
in fulfilment of the requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy
Universiti Utara Malaysia**

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ABSTRACT

The need for community development sustainability is vital for nation's progression, transformation and general well-being of a respective community. Nevertheless, its impact on community members particularly in rural communities remained a major issue that has not been adequately addressed. This scenario also captured in the Niger Delta Region in Nigeria where so much effort has been put in by the government in the region yet not much has been achieved. Therefore, this study is intended to examine the challenges and catalyst for community development sustainability in the Niger Delta region. A mixed methodology was employed in this study to elicit an in-depth and meaningful data on Niger Delta community's participation to facilitate development sustainability. The in-depth interview was employed in the qualitative study using 19 interviewees from across six selected communities from three states in the Niger Delta region and three key officers from the NDDC making a total of twenty-two interviewees. Survey was used for only community members using 300 questionnaires which were administered using the cluster sampling technique. The pick and drop-off technique was used for data collection and 284 questionnaires representing a total response rate of 94.7% were returned. The interviews were thematically coded thereafter analysed using the Nvivo 10 software while the SPSS version 20 was used for the quantitative data analysis. The results from both findings were triangulated and the findings show that three fundamental elements: *Community*, *developmental agency* and *government* were identified as crucial for community development sustainability. The findings from the study demonstrate that the role of community members is key element in achieving community developmental sustainability whereas the approach and strategies adopted by government and developmental agencies motivates community participation and involvement in developmental programs. The research findings elicit the pertinent role of community participation on development sustainability, and proposed a framework that promotes community development sustainability. The study concludes that government reactivity towards developmental goals; adequate funding and relationship of community members with developmental agencies are salient issues that needs adequate attention in developmental plans.

Key words: Community development; community participation; community involvement; developmental agency; developmental strategy.

ABSTRAK

Kelestarian pembangunan komuniti adalah penting bagi transformasi dan kemajuan bagi sesebuah Negara. Walaubagaimanapun impak pembangunan komuniti khususnya komuniti luar bandar masih menjadi isu besar yang belum mendapat perhatian dan penyelesaian sepenuhnya. Senario yang sama juga berlaku di Lembah Niger, Nigeria di mana walaupun telah banyak program pembangunan dilaksanakan oleh pihak kerajaan tetapi impak terhadap tahap kelestarian pembangunan komuniti setempat masih sedikit. Justeru kajian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji cabaran dan katalis kepada kelestarian pembangunan komuniti di Lembah Niger. Pendekatan metod kajian yang pelbagai digunakan untuk mendapatkan data yang sesuai berkaitan dengan penyertaan komuniti di Lembah Niger dalam usaha untuk meningkatkan kelestarian pembangunan komuniti di lembah tersebut. Untuk itu sejumlah 22 responden yang terdiri dari 6 komuniti pilihan dari 3 negeri dalam daerah Lembah Niger dan tiga pegawai NDDC telah ditemuduga. Manakala survei digunakan khususnya untuk mendapatkan data kuantitatif dari ahli komuniti yang terlibat dan 300 kaji selidik telah diedar dengan menggunakan teknik sampling kluster. Kaedah *pick and drop-off* teknik digunakan dan sejumlah 284 soalselidik lengkap (94.7%) telah diterima. Hasil temuduga telah dikod secara tematik menggunakan perisian Nvivo 10 dan sementara itu SPSS versi 20 telah digunakan untuk menganalisa data kuantitatif. Dapatan kajian daripada dua metod kajian telah ditriangulasikan dan dapatan kajian telah menunjukkan 3 elemen penting iaitu komuniti; agensi pembangunan dan kerajaan telah dikenalpasti sebagai faktor penting dalam kelestarian pembangunan komuniti. Juga dapatan kajian menunjukkan bahawa tanggungjawab warga atau ahli komuniti adalah merupakan faktor utama di dalam mencapai kelestarian pembangunan komuniti. Sementara itu, kesesuaian kaedah dan strategi yang dilaksana oleh kerajaan dan agensi pembangunan boleh merangsang penyertaan mereka di dalam menjayakan program seumpama itu. Sehubungan itu, kajian ini telah dapat mencadangkan satu *framework* yang boleh dijadikan sebagai pemangkin kepada penyertaan warga komuniti di dalam usaha pembangunan komuniti mereka. Dapatan kajian ini juga menunjukkan kepentingan penyertaan warga komuniti untuk mencapai kelestarian pembangunan komuniti yang berjaya.

Kata kunci: Pembangunan Komuniti, penyertaan komuniti; penglibatan komuniti, agensi pembangunan dan strategi pembangunan.

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to the Almighty God, the most gracious, ever loving
and faithful father for His mercies and kindness towards me



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

LEEDS	Local Government Economic and Empowerment and Development Strategy
NDDB	Niger Delta Development Board
NDDC	Niger Delta Development Agency
NEEDS	National Economic and Empowerment and Development Strategy
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
OMPADEC	Oil Mineral Producing Area Development Commission
PPP	Private Public Partnership
SEEDS	States Government Economic and Empowerment and Development Strategy
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WSSD	World Summit for Sustainable Development



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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Since the transition to civil rule in 1999, the Nigerian government has concentrated on development of the Niger Delta communities due to the region's immense contribution to the country national revenue. Based on Mähler (2012) classifications, the initiatives of Nigerian government can be viewed from three dimensions. These include: the derivation formula (regulation of distribution of oil revenue), the establishment of Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), and the creation of Ministry of the Niger Delta (which launched the Niger Delta Technical Committee and amnesty programme). All these initiatives are meant to address the poverty and underdevelopment of the region, especially the NDDC that has been mandated with the responsibilities of both infrastructural and human development of the region (Nwagbara, 2016; Okafor, 2011).

The establishment of the NDDC in year 2000 and the commission master plan in 2005 shows the government commitment to developmental initiatives in the region. However, NDDC's master plan with all the noble programmes initiated by government to achieve both infrastructural and human development in the region is not sufficient to meet the developmental challenges of the region (Ukeje, 2015; Ugoh, 2010). The ineffectiveness of NDDC programmes and master plan have been associated with the host communities not been sufficiently and explicitly integrated in their community developmental projects and initiatives (Nzeadibe, Ajaero & Nwoke,

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