

Assessment of Community Based Organizations Activities towards Economic Development in Ondo State, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

The term Community Based Organizations (CBOs) is often used synonymously with 'grassroots organization'. There doesn't appear to be much clarity about exactly which organizations are embraced by this term. CBOs are distinct in nature and purpose from other Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). CBOs are normally 'membership' organizations made up of a group of individuals who have joined up together to further their own interests and the interest of the people they represent. The quest to improve on the economic development is one of the driving forces for CBOs.

This project considers the activities of CBOs and the Involvement of CBOs in the Economic Development of Ode-Irele Community. For the purpose of this research, stratified random sampling was employed to pick the selected streets in the community. The various political wards in Ode-Irele community were employed as the strata for this research. 156 questionnaires were administered to the residents of the community in 18 streets and analysis was done with the use of a computer program "Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS)" and Microsoft Office Excel. Findings from the research show that cooperation is one of the major things that is lacking and militating against the activities of CBOs in the community towards the development of the economy of the community. This is because most of the people who are either member of the community or members of one CBO or the other do not feel compelled to be committed to the running of the organization. Recommendation includes giving financial supports to the CBOs either by the Government bodies, Credit and Loan Societies, NGOs and IOs to enhance the easy delivery on capital projects in the community.

Keywords: Community Based Organizations, Economic, Development, Ondo State, Activities

INTRODUCTION

Meeting the need of citizens has been recognized as one of the motives behind the propagation of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) in the new era. Alongside, Wahab (2000) detected that people in emerging countries lately beheld up to governments to provide the elementary socio-economic hassles. Governments in African countries have developed top-down and bottom-up methods to attain bearable expansion of their general public. It comprise founding of lead firm at main hubs so as to generate job prospects, offer basic infrastructure and use provincial natural and artificial wealth to inspire development and economic that would blowout to sheathing areas (Abegunde, 2003).

The disappointment of governments' top-down method and lack of participation of the folks at the proletarian in the bottom-up approach have

debilitated the assurance of the community in central establishments. The public thus search for comfort in local institutes, which compel government to provide development to hitches in their societies. The local organizations are linked with self-help (Ogundipe, 2003).

CBOs can also be called local groups which are called series of names in diverse places. These consist of 'community development associations', 'neighborhood councils' and united community among others (Biddle and Biddle, 1968; Agboola, 1998). CBOs are made up by communal labors of local folks of homo or heterogeneous characteristics but existing or employed in the same location. Their coming together produces situations which widen the base of self-governance plus circulation of command through a broader sphere of the inhabitants (Adeyemo, 2002; Adejumobi, 1991). It is seen as charitable, non-profit, non-governmental and extremely confined or

vicinity whose participation is placed on the same equal and whose key aim is the development of the community and economic well-being of every member (Abegunde, 2004). The current advancement of public groups, particularly in emerging nations, has supported the view that these "bottom-up" organizations are effective which address the local needs than higher benevolent organizations. Distinctive public groups are in the following categories: community-service and action, health, educational, personal growth with improvement, social welfare and self- help for the disadvantaged.

. According to the World Bank, CBOs are "different in nature and drive from other NGOs. CBOs are usually 'membership' organizations made up of a group of individuals who have joined up together to further their own interests (e.g. women's groups, credit circles, youth clubs, cooperatives and farmer associations)." CBO's in Ode-Irele comprises of women groups, men groups, men groups, traders union and youth clubs in the community. The purpose of this research tends to look critically into the reasons for this.

Statement of the Problem

The idea of co-operation towards community development is a very common and age long phenomenon (Adejumobi, 1991). Government in emerging nations are aware of this but gave attention to it later than expected (Abegunde, 2004). The former approach toward development was by polarizing economic activities in cities, leaving lagging regions to fend for self-existence till spread and multiplier effects of industrial establishments at poles would transform their local economies (Chen and Ravallion, 2004). Since this situation is prominent to the economic development of Ondo State and affects Ode-Irele, there is a need to seek a lasting solution which will bring about a better economic development and foster human capacity development in Ode-Irele. It is high time an exercise was conducted to assess the role CBOs are playing in the development of the community. It would also be good to ascertain the challenges they are facing and find ways of minimizing the effect of such challenges on the work of CBOs.

Research Questions

The research question for the study includes:

- What are the various types of CBOs in the study area?

- Are the activities of the CBOs regular in the development of the community?
- What are the modes of carrying out the activities in the study area?
- What is the relationship between Community Based Organization and Government?
- What are the various problem hindering the services of Community Based Organization?

Aim and Objectives

This study is aimed at investigating the activities of CBOs towards Economic Development of Ode-Irele with the intention of facilitating poverty alleviation in the community.

The objectives are to:

- identify the various types of CBOs in the study area
- investigate the regularities of activities of CBOs in the development of the community
- identify the mode of carrying out the activities in the study area
- examine the relationship between Community Based Organization (CBOs) and Government.
- investigate various problems hindering the services of Community Based Organization (CBOs).

Justification of Study

The study on the activities of CBOs in Ode-Irele is very important as there are several development projects that are left undone by the initiative of the State and Local Government bodies. In order to seek for a lasting solution to these pressing issues, a people based firm which relates with the need of the people and as well have their base within the people needs to come in which calls for the need of CBOs. Since planning is done for the people, it is also important to plan along with them. This enables one to know actually the need of the people and on the safer side, helps to meet their need without having to think too far before solving the problems of the need of the people. The state of the development of Ode-Irele community is an eyesore as there are several need of the people that are not being met by the programs and initiations of the government bodies. It is assumed that if a more community participation groups are put in place, these issues will soon become a thing of the past. All these put together justifies how important CBO's are useful to the development of the economic phase of ode Irele community.

Scope of Study

It has been noted that a particular problem cannot spread over an unlimited space, neither can it be indefinite. This suggests that the planner must be able to classify his ambiguously and recognize the criteria for demarcating the area under study (affected area). Having discovered a certain area have a perceived problem there is need to embark reconnaissance survey, to identify the affected environment and determine the geographical coverage, hence the essence of determination of scope therefore, is to mark the limit of study (Basorun J.O, 2006).

The scope of this study is limited to Ode-Irele Community. It is limited to the community because of the need to reach the widest range within the shortest time available. This study will involve the administration of questionnaires to residents of Ode-Irele with the view of addressing the Economic background of the area towards achieving a sustainable development in Ode-Irele community. The sample items to be considered are the inhabitant of the study area.

Study Area

Location

Irele is one of the principal Ikale towns in former Okitipupa Division of Ondo state. It is located at $6^{\circ}29'0''N$ $4^{\circ}52'0''E/6.48333^{\circ}N$ $4.86667^{\circ}E$. It is the headquarters of Irele Local Government, the other communities that make Irele Local Government are Omi, Iyansan, Ajagba, Akotogbo and Iju-Osun. It has a land area of 963 km^2 and a population of 145,166 at the 2006 census. Irele kingdom has boundary with Iyansan, Ese-Odo Local Government at Sabomi, Ese-Odo Local Government at Igbobini, Aye in Okitipupa Local Government at Ominla, with Ondo/Odigbo Local Government at Ore, Edo State at Ofoso. Ode-Irele is the major town of Irele territory. There are some other smaller settlements in Irele territory, such as GbelejuLoda, Lofu, Onipaanu, Atoranse-Ayadi, Ajana, OtuLoya, Ayadi/Irelejare, Litoto, Kajola, Oju Inn, Kidimo, Araromi, Likanran, Idogun, Lekun, Gbogi, Ludasa, Omonira/LebiAkinbomi etc. The metropolis of Ode-Irele with very rapid urbanization is about 5 square kilometers, it is the largest single human settlement in the whole of former Okitipupa Division, is still growing by leaps and bounds. Irele town is built on a hill in that, to enter Irele through all the roads that lead to the town, you have to climb a small hill. Irele

has the largest population amongst all the towns in the former Okitipupa Division.

Climate and Weather

The tropical climate of Irele is broadly of two seasons which are the rainy season between April and October and dry season between November and March. A temperature throughout the year ranges between $21^{\circ}C$ to $29^{\circ}C$ and humidity is relatively high. The annual rainfall varies from 2,000mm in the southern part of the community to 1,150 in the northern areas. The community enjoys luxuriant vegetation with high forest zone (rain forest) in the south and sub-savannah forest in the northern fringe.

History

Irele is one of the principal Ikale towns in former Okitipupa Division of Ondo state. It is the headquarters of Irele Local Government, the other communities that make Irele Local Government are Omi, Iyansan, Ajagba, Akotogbo and Iju-Osun. These are Ikale communities with different history and origin. All these other communities speak both Ikale dialect and, Edo language because of the source of their migration to the present site. As a matter of fact, a couple of years past, some of the communities were grouped together under one Local Government known as "Benin Confederation".

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Economy

The economic structure of Ode-Irele as a Local Government Area can be categorized into formal sector and informal sector. It is comprised of legally recognized firms/establishments that have structured operation. It also includes primary activities (agricultural occupation), secondary activities (traditional and modern crafts e.g. weaving tailoring, hair dressing etc), small-scale distribution (hawking, petty trading, retailing etc) and tertiary activities (for instance transport operations, restaurant, dry cleaning etc). The economic activities can be further classified as basic or non-basis activities. The basic economic activity which is not very much pronounced is constituted by those activities that attract purchasing power to Ode-Irele. That is, those that generate goods and services for export outside the town. These include professional services for non-resident, wholesale and retail trade services for areas beyond the community, specialized recreational services to people outside the town and production/manufacturing

services for demands outside Ode-Irele. On the other hand, the non-basic activities are those for local consumption. It includes activities that support internal economy of Ode-Irele. For instance, power supply, water supply, banking, restaurant, vulcanizing, etc.

Resources

Irele Kingdom is endowed with many resources. Palm produce is abundant in Irele; the climate is quite suitable for Palm fruits. Almost every family has small or large palm Estate. The former Western Nigeria Government acquired some parts of Irele for the planting of palm trees as Palm Estates. Apart from palm produce, timber and other economic trees abound in Irele territory. Cocoa grows very well in Irele territory. As a matter of fact, Irele is perhaps the only area in former Okitipupa Division or Ikale, producing Cocoa in very large quantity. The unfortunate thing is that the large quantity of Cocoa produced in Irele is not graded in Irele Local Government Area owing to the fact that there is no Feeder Road to evacuate the Cocoa beans to Irele.



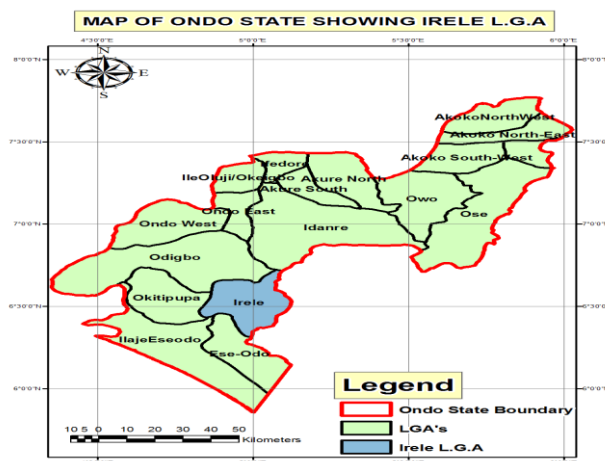
LITERATURE REVIEW AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Literature Review

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are cloistered, charitable, non-profit organizations self-governing of any government, and sponsored by individual and group donations, tax obligation on participants, donations from global administrations and governments (Agbola, 1988), (Fowler, 1987). CBOs are also voluntary organizations. They are voluntary because participation is reliant on individual choice; however a times participation might be

enforced as in the case of certain trades or professions such as the market women unions. The three words most commonly used in the texts, often interchangeably are Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs), Private Voluntary Organizations (PVOs) and CBOs. The first term is usually used in the umbrella group within which the last two can be incorporated subject to their scale of task (USAID, 1984). Among these groups or NGOs according to SINA (1986) NGOs could be home-grown or worldwide, they may be benefactor agencies, partnerships, religious groups and others operating at state or sub-

national levels. Most of CBOs are formed to solve the most pressing problems facing man in the municipal surroundings (Aina, 1990).



Figur2. Map of Ondo State showing IRELE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

Source: Ministry of Housing and Urban Development

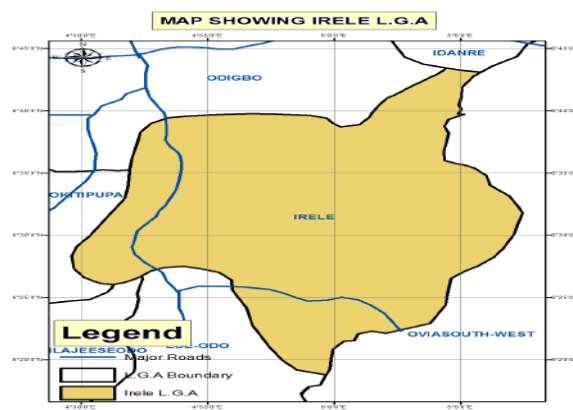


Figure 3: Map Showing IRELE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

Source: Ministry of Housing and Urban Development

According to Emmanuel and Akinbode (2012), Providing Infrastructure is an originator for economic improvement at numerous stages. The influence on indigenous fiscal development and the qualification of paucity is infinite. Absence of infrastructure has continually hindered economic expansion. In specific cases, CBOs board on corporeal expansion schemes to offer facilities in their societies.

This discoveries stood based on his inquiry on the influence of amenities donated by CBOs (especially the CDAs) carried out in Ilaje Local Government Area (a coastal LGA) of Ondo State.

Toyobo A. Emmanuel and Muili A. B. (2008) in their study paper on the Constraints militating against efficiency of community development projects elucidated that the rapid growth of urban population developing countries led to a corresponding increase in the demand for basic urban services. According to his research, he

assumed that community members generally participate in development projects because of the realization that contemporary governments can no longer single handedly meet most of these community needs. The study which aimed to examine the efforts of Community Base Organisations (CBOs) in urban development projects identified and classified the different projects embarked upon by the CBOs, the cost of projects and their mode of financing and problems. The findings on their research study shows that CBOs actually financed and executed development projects based on the financial capabilities of the organizations. CBOs were also faced with certain constraints such as inadequate of fund, lack of man power, absence of favoured government policies. The study further displays that CBOs do not embark on capital-intensive ventures and they do not finance or execute any project in partnership with Local Government. In view of the findings, recommendations were proffered on how the

constraints militating against the effectiveness of community projects can be solved. These include the financial base of CBOs, co-ordination in the location of projects, research and feasibility studies, orientation programme, coupled with cordial relationship between the CBOs and Ilesa Local Government.

The provision of elementary facilities and infrastructure in urban and rural areas is one of the main tasks of local authorities (A K Mihanjo 2005). Her report titled "The Significance of CBOs in Supporting Rural Development".

Conceptual Framework

The Overview of CBOs

Individual clusters and societies trying to discourse numerous matters and difficulties disturbing the societies at large form CBOs. From decades, societies have prepared themselves to take care of communal and individual needs. And yet for the past fifty years, countless efforts intended at getting people to contribute and take obligation in their own progress have been abortive.

According to Hilton Rita (1994), a fundamental qualification of fruitful sharing programs at the community level is the reversal of control and accountability from central authorities to the community level.

CBOs play a fundamental common element in the design of successful programs aimed at problem solving problems and issues that have to do with the economic development of a community.

The fact is that CBOs involve community creativities in the scheme cycle which comprises of knowledge and thoughtful of local needs and of the existing network of social collaboration at the household group and community level.

This knowledge provides the best of defining the changes needed both in existing local organization and in external agencies to meet specified objectives. The aggregation of families habitually living together within a definite geographical location could be referred to as a community.

A community refers to people living within shared neighborhood having common interest and interactive patterns. It also implies pooled interest, features, suggestion as in the expression of community concern like; business community and farming community.

CBOs discover the benefit of felt needs of the people to secure their interest as a way of helping them to solve their own problems. Community participation involves active involvement of the local community in a particular project meant for their own benefit. The participation may be in cash or kind and due to various factors such as: status, income level and age, the level of participation by individual vary.

Types of Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)

Users associations (UAs): are CIGs established to operate and maintain a facility constructed with public and/or private funds, with resources mobilized from the members of the association.

Micro-finance institutions (MFIs): are community-level CIGs specialized in savings and lending.

Village development committees (VDCs): are organizations of collective governance of a village with responsibility for development. Collective governance of a community implies a set of accepted endogenous rules, i.e. the institutions of the community, and an organization responsible for the application of the rules and for organizing collective action of interest to all the members of the community.

Common interest groups (CIGs): are organizations of some members of the community that come together to achieve a common purpose.

Networks of CBOs: These may join together VDCs or CIGs. The latter are more common. Federations of CIGs of various types are often classified as "**Professional Associations**"

Functions and Roles of CBOS at Local Community Levels

CBOs are in straight connection with indigenous groups, and are therefore an important avenue for the voice of the poor and other marginalized groups to be heard. This could be expressed in term of people expressing their need by themselves to those who feel concerned about them. As independent initiatives in communities, CBOs are critical for social capital development and transformation, which are pre-requisites for sustainable socio-economic development.

Assessment of Community Based Organizations Activities towards Economic Development in Ondo State, Nigeria

CBOs have not been given the full opportunity to play their rightful role in local communities thus contributing national and international development. A number of CBOs Kironde, J. M., & Yhdego, M, (1997) have been established or are in the process of formation in the communities of Nigeria.

These CBOs mobilize local and foreign resources to address social problems in their areas. Areas of concern have included water, electricity, roads, orphans, poverty issues, credit facilities, tree planting, and waste management.

Gajanayake, and Gajanayake, (1993) emphasizes a more full set of roles and purposes of CBOs in local societies as follows:

- Activating local knowledge, skills and systems for local development.
- Providing a forum for the community to collectively advocate for their social, economic and political needs.
- Mobilizing local resources to support local development.
- Initiating dialogue with key factors such as government and the private sector.

He indicated that awkwardly, in spite of the fact that CBOs play a crucial role in socio-economic development; social, economic and cultural development in East Africa has tended to be a top down affair, commonly controlled by government organizations.

This in addition to other external pressures and influences from various actors in the CBO environment, have distorted the ethos of CBOs, limiting them mostly to the role of service delivery and addressing immediate survival issues and needs.

CBOs and Economic Development in Nigeria

Indication from the texts discloses the actions of community- based organizations in Nigeria (Olowu et al., 1991; Olomola, 2001; Adejumobi, 1991; Abegunde, 2004). For instance, the study conducted by Olomola (2001) in Lagos state revealed that CBOs in the state solely relied on internally generated revenue with very little aid from the government. This was why the CBO that won the best CBO award in 1988 emanated from Lagos state.

Table 1. Federal Appropriation for Community Development Project, 1990-2000

	1990	1991	1995	1996	1997	1999	2000	Total
Community Development	200	200	--	--	--	--	--	400
CD Urban Shanties Assistance to CD Self-Help Projects in the State	--	--	500	423	1000	3000	4000	8923
Construction of Multi-Purpose Centres in various Communities--	--	--	1000	423	2000	--	--	3423
30069	--	--	2000	1069	2000	6000	19000	
Community Development Training Centres	--	--	--	846	--	--	--	1471
625	--	--	--	846	--	--	--	1471
Purchase of Vehicles for Community Development Programmes	--	--	--	2200	--	--	--	2200
Total	200	200	4125	4961	5000	9000	23000	46486

Source: Federal Budget Estimates (2000)

The organization in 1998 built a primary school, bank, court hall, community hall, post office and opened up several roads for vehicular usage (Olomola, 2001).

A study conducted by Abegunde (2004) on the activities of the CBOs in Atiba local government area of Osun state revealed that there were about 160 CBOs in the area. About

40% of these CBOs provided social facilities worth 17.56 million naira to their immediate community.

If social and economic problems that impede effective participation of people are addressed, CBOs in Nigeria can contribute towards poverty alleviation and physical development of Nigerian communities.

Problems and Constraints of CBOs

Despite the actions of CBOs towards the development of the economic sector of Ode-Irele community, there are several issues and constraints that are being faced by the CBOs. Some of the problems include:

Finance

The costs of executing CBOs' projects are borne by the members in form of contributions, membership dues, levies, fines and donations. None of the CBOs receive subventions and donations from statutory bodies or funding agencies. Most of the CBOs spent less than N260, 000 on their various development projects. With the exception of members of International Organizations some religious organizations that are relatively rich, many other CBOs have weak financial base.

Manpower

CBOs are also faced with problem of manpower during the actual implementation of projects. Most club members are reluctant to be members of project committee. Some members of CBOs such as Social Clubs, Town Unions and International Organizations do not reside within Ode-Irele town. This makes the task of project committee members more difficult. Project committee members found it difficult to meet and discuss, procure the materials necessary to the project site and supervise the project. The work of a five-man committee is, therefore, left for one or two persons to shoulder. The problem of manpower has been one of the factors constituting hindrance of effective execution of projects. Only few members of the project committee were left to implement the projects and also do not seek for the services of professionals.

Government Policies

Agbola (2002) remarked that Non-Governmental Organization often multiply where governmental rules favor them. Most CBOs treasure their freedom. A situation where Ode-Irele CBOs are at the mercy of officials of the Local Government to approve their project proposal and the bureaucratic process within Irele Local Government, hamper speedy execution of projects.

This approval may take up to weeks (even when such proposals are approved) before the authorities of the Local Government consent to the proposal and write the CBOs officially.

Many controls are being imposed by officials of Irele Local Government. CBOs must first seek clearance and approval before they could embark on any project. Unfortunately, the Local Government lacks the capacity to monitor and evaluate development units within the various departments of the Local Government.

These controls coupled with non-encouragement and supports from the government are some of the reasons why CBOs do not finance and execute many economic development projects in partnership with the Local Government.

Community Based Frameworks

In order to have an intellectual framework for the subject under discussion, it is important to have a look at some of the theories that have relevance to community-based organizations. These are theories that deal with issues of organization and they include the Instead of looking at the emergence of CBOs from a theoretical point of view, Stewart (2006) is of the view that the evolution of a new generation of community and grassroots groups has been driven by "a shifting constellation of forces, including stagnant or deteriorating economic and environmental conditions for the poor, the failure of governments to respond to basic needs, the spread in some regions of new social ideologies and religious doctrines and political space opened in some countries as tight fistled dictatorships give way to nascent democracy. In contrast to traditional organizations and mass political movements, this rising tide of community groups is generally pragmatic and concerned above all with self-help". Some other theoretical framework that deals with issues on CBOs relating to economic development are discussed thus:

Economic Development Framework

The preconditions for economic development to be meaningful and effective include organizational commitment, understanding, competencies and available human resources from the part of CBOs to the whole community. The core competencies for economic development and public participation include communicating, facilitating and managing change (WHO, 1998).

What is being presented in this document is a description of an Economic development Framework based on the requirements for the development of a community through various

ways of public participation and private partnership. These elements have been supported by current knowledge of the need on the subject and the observations and experiences of some key factors that support economic development.

Recognizing that public engagement and economic development are inextricably linked, some of the economic development framework that can be adopted includes:

- The promotion of organizational development.
- The facilitation of networking and inter-sectoral collaboration, and
- The support and facilitation of local area development (grassroots work).

Organizational Capacity Building

We conceptualize capacity as a set of knowledge, skills, commitments and resources required at the individual and organizational levels to enhance economic development (Prairie Region Health Promotion Research Centre, 2004).

Capacity building involves the elements of knowledge (e.g. understanding the determinants of health, development and economy as well as knowing when it is appropriate to use a range of development strategies), skills (e.g. economic development process skills, research, planning, project management and evaluation skills), and commitment (e.g. valuing economic development principles, being oriented to holistic definitions of health and health promotion). Capacity building assists to develop knowledge to increase their capacity to serve clients and the growing needs of communities. Organization capacity can be conceptualized as the characteristics that an organization needs in order to function and implement activities/initiatives (Flaspohler et al, 2008). Organizational capacity is the “potential ability of a health organization to develop an empowering and democratic partnership with a community, through which the community’s capacity to identify and address its priority health concerns are enhanced” (Germann and Wilson, 2004).

Capacity building can be defined as: “Supporting organizations to build and maintain the skills, infrastructure, and resources to achieve their mission.” (United Way of Calgary

and Area, 2011). Building the capacity of an organization to improve health is a complex task.

Organizational capacity does not only consider the sum of individuals’ capacities, it also reflects the structures, systems, policies, procedures and practices of an organization (NSW Health Department 2001 and Prairie Region Health Promotion Research Centre, 2004).

The capacity of organizations, in turn, is determined in part by the knowledge, skills and commitments of the individuals who compose them. Organizational capacity will expand if learning goes beyond solving a specific problem to gaining the skills and knowledge to solve problems.

However, at the organizational level, capacity also entails elements of organizational culture and structure (e.g. leadership and communication practices, systems for participation and learning), policies (e.g. making health promotion and economic development a priority, empowering employees to act), and resources (e.g. funding and human resources in support of economic development initiatives (McLean, 1999).

Why Organizational Capacity Building?

Organizational development or capacity building is an essential component of economic development and public participation as it creates a supportive culture that acts in accordance with its espoused values and principles.

Some organizational development within community based authorities will be necessary to enable the existing culture and mechanisms to change and develop so that community views can be incorporated into decision-making structures affecting health (Smithies and Webster, 1998).

Promoting Organizational Capacity Building within a Region

Kathy Germann and Doug Wilson (2004) in their article, Organizational Capacity for Economic development in Regional Health Authorities:

A Conceptual Model, noted that the following structures and processes are some of the helpful considerations in supporting organizational capacity building and economic development:

Flexibility in planning

To understand and accept that the goal is not necessarily the actual outcome of a project, but the increased capacity that communities develop as they learn to work together to set priorities and take actions towards achieving the set goals.

Collaboration with other Bodies

Willingness and ability of members of CBOs to collaborate with government bodies, communities and other organizations and sectors to promote economic development

Evaluation Mechanism

Long term nature of economic development is not amenable to traditional measures; there is a need to find better ways to document their work and its outcomes, need to accept qualitative data as valid evidence of success and build capacity of community organizations to evaluate their own activities,

Job Design

Includes role clarity and presence of other front line staff that do economic development work, flexibility because of the nature of economic development work – hours, etc.

Resources

Human, material, and non-material goods which are put together into the scheme of enhancing the works of CBOs to attain a reasonable economic development in areas concerned.

Funding

Funding is essential in economic development practices. This owns to the fact that every development that happens is dependent on funds either from individuals, corporate bodies, government bodies or international organizations.

Local Area Development

For any economic development strategy to be effective, it must include the provision of, and access to, resources (human resources, support, finances etc.) targeted to facilitate grassroots work and local action. Local action can occur within communities that share a common interest or within geographic communities. Torjman (2007) suggests that “the goal of the community’s agenda is to promote resilience in order to build strong and vibrant communities”. The best definer of a community is the community itself as it organizes itself for the resilience journey and its ability to not only

respond to adversity but in reaching a higher level of function. Economic development is long-term work building trust and mutual respect among community members and professionals in which the CBOs is one player of many. “Economic development is carried out with a community by someone, while community building is done by the community itself” (Labonte, 1998).

Locality development subscribes to the values and outcomes of what is typically referred to as “economic development”. Rothman characterized different approaches to working with communities which includes locality development (Burdine et al 2010). Economic development makes it possible for the CBOs, NGO’s CHA’s and other local citizen groups to work within the community and support it in improving its people’s health, economy and lives. Communities, like individuals, have strengths and gifts. The role of community facilitator is to draw out these natural strengths through such actions as bringing community members together at meetings and facilitating members to speak about the issues that are important and then help mobilize the ideas and actions that the community would like to see implemented.

The community facilitators support their community areas by:

- Strengthening community capacity
- Building partnership
- Improving access to information
- Enhancing health systems

The community facilitators play a key role in connecting individuals to services and helping to address the economic, social, environmental and personal rights of individuals and communities. They can also observe and relay community realities to the agencies concerned. Community facilitators also play the role of the “trusted advisor and health navigator in the community” (Perez, 2008).

Inter-Sectoral Networking

Inter-sectoral networking is a key component of economic development. The 1978 Declaration of Alma Ata (World Health Organization) noted a set of principles for Primary Health Care. One of these notes that primary health care should “Involve, in addition to the health sector, all related sectors and aspects of national and

economic development, in particular agriculture, animal husbandry, food, industry, education, housing, public works, communications and other sectors; and demands the coordination efforts of all these sectors". Inter-sectoral action includes various participants and takes many forms. Inter-sectoral collaboration can be between different departments and bodies within the government, between organizations (for profit and for nonprofit), communities and those outside of governments (Adeyele O and O Fili, 2010).

Felix et al (2010) also discusses the partnership approach and indicates it is a strategy that seeks to build relationships among people and different sectors of the community (these include service providers, education, the private sector, all levels of government, civic and faith based groups) and linking them with the resources and sectors outside the community. Partnerships are vital and serve as linkages in establishing new relationships and reconnecting old associations and the common objective is improve health based on a shared local vision (Felix et al, 2010).

Inter-sectoral networking is defined as: "a recognized relationship between part or parts of the health sector and part or parts of another sector that has been formed to take action on an issue or achieve health outcomes... in a way that is more effective, efficient or sustainable than could be achieved by the health sector working alone" (World Health Organization, 1997).

It is also suggested that the conditions for effective inter-sectoral action involve:

- Identifying the necessity to work together to achieve the goal;
- Creating opportunities for action within our working environments;
- Developing capacity to take action;
- Developing a relationship to enable action to be taken;
- Planning, implementing and evaluating the action; and
- Achieving sustainable outcomes. (World Health Organization, 1997)

Within the framework, it is necessary to be clear on a number of possible outcomes when assessing public engagement effectiveness and to differentiate formal from informal policies

and decisions from actions (Thurston et al, 2005).

In conclusion, whatever the reason for organization might be, the bottom line is that for things to go on well there is need for some sort of organization. For CBOs, elements of all these views apply. The following section looks at views of different people on categorization of community-based organizations

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Introduction

Research is a study systematically carried out in order to present an outcome which will solve a real life situation of people. In essence, this chapter discusses the way and manner by which the research was carried out and presents fundamental issues that are indeed important to the research work. Research methodology is of great importance to the researcher to ensure that the research is done consistently and accordingly. The issues discussed here include the various data collection strategies as well as systems of data analysis. Data were collected through primary and secondary data sources with the aid of pilot and full survey.

Data Sources

Information from this research work was gotten from two data sources. These sources are the primary source and the secondary source.

Primary Source

This was obtained through personal observations, administration of questionnaires and personal interviews. This research employed the use of the questionnaire to obtain data from the study area. The respondents were residents of Ode-Irele community who provided data on the operation of CBOs in their community.

Secondary Source

The secondary sources of data are gotten from the Irele Local Government Area. Some relevant data on the population of the study area were gotten from National Population Commission. Other secondary data sources were from journals, seminar papers, dissertations, published and unpublished books, maps, documentary reports, newspaper reports, magazines and dissertation. These were obtained before going to the field for survey to get background knowledge on the topic as well as detailed information on the study area. These

information made the conduction of the study easier for the researcher. Library and the internet were also consulted for further information.

Research Design

The type of research design employed for this research was survey design. This involved pilot survey and full survey. The pilot survey was carried out to get necessary preliminary information from Ode-Irele town. Some of the questionnaires equally was administered to ascertain the appropriateness of the questions. The full survey involved the administration of the required number of questionnaire to respondents to obtain relevant data.

Research Population and Sample Size

The population of the town of Ode-Irele according to the population census 1991 is 33,051. The projection of the population to year 2018 is calculated as 58,322 using the formula $P(1+x/100)^n$.

Where P= present population, x= current growth rate, n= number of years to be projected.

The present growth rate is 3.18%.

The research population includes the selected number of the people that the questionnaire was administered to in the community. The purposive random sampling was employed in selecting the sample size from the total population after it was discovered that the sample size gotten using the National Education

Association (NEA) (1960) formula $(S=X^2NP(1-P)/D^2(N-1)+X^2P(1-P))$.

Where S= required sample size, X²=the value for 1 degree of freedom at the desired confidence level (3.841), N= the population size, P= population proportion (assumed to be 0.50 since it would provide the maximum sample size), D= the degree of accuracy expressed as a proportion (0.05).

The total population to be selected for the administration of the questionnaires is 156 which will be administered to youths and adults in Ode-Irele community.

Sampling Technique

Sampling is concerned with the selection of a subset of individuals from within a statistical population to estimate characteristics of the whole population. For the purpose of this research, stratified random sampling was employed to pick the selected streets in the community. The various political wards in Ode-Irele community were employed as the strata for this research. The total number of wards in the community is five (5) with about 75 streets in total in which selected streets were randomly picked. The table below shows the details of various wards available in the town and the number of streets available in each ward. The streets were randomly selected from each stratum. Questionnaires were administered at each of the selected streets in the community to get the required data on the operations of CBOs in the study area.

Table 2. Facts and Figures on Ode-Irele Town.

Wards	No of Streets in each ward	Total No of building each ward	Percentage No.
	of	building in each	ward using 10%
Ward 1 (Jolaolu)	17	325	33
Ward 2 (Liseri)	14	433	43
Ward 3 (Gboroye)	13	426	42
Ward 4 (Temidire)	16	215	22
Ward 5 (Oke-Oloro)	15	202	20
TOTAL	75	1601	160

Source: Author's field work, 2018

Table 3. Names of the Streets According To Wards and the Selected Streets.

Wards	Name of Streets in each ward	Name of Selected street	No of questionnaire for each Street
Ward 1 (Gbeleju) Ward 2 (C & S)	Gbeleju, Ewu-Oke, Lurere, Ojowuro, Jegun, Lootin, Lijoka, Omona, Orunbo, Ayeobasan, Comprehensive, Gboyegun, Petu, Luhare, Ladan, Lekon, Gbogi.	Gbeleju, Luhare, Lijoka	10x3=30

Ward 3 (Medahunsi)	C & S, Ojomu, Arowa, Zion, Aduwo, Ebute,, Lumeko, Adekugbe, Igbo Akinyomi, Ogunsola, Owobambo, Lokaka, Lewumeji	C & S, Lumeko, Owobambo, Ojomu	8x4=32
Ward 4 (Seja)	Medahunsi, Woye, Lemikan, Oke, Orunto, Olowoefoyekun, Ebute Obon, Owode, Omifunfun, Labaile, Legunmare, Ruwahe, Olowomeye, Atoranse, Otuloya, Lutako,	Medahunsi, Lemikan, Owode, Legunmare	8x4=32
Ward 5 (Arowosola)	Seja, Ajigbore, Akaigbo, Aro, Ayeoyenikan, Salvation, Seja Oloyomuwa, Iyara, Akingboye, Awo, Akinboni, Ojan, Lerun, Legbogbo, Irele Jare	Seja, Akingboye, Akinboni, Legbogbo	8x4=32
	Arowosola, Gbogunron, Konye, Aribo, Olowonye, Yasere, Olaotan, Tewogboye, Lurowo, Lota, Litoto, Kidimu, Iditala, Omifunfun, Oke-Oloro, Yasere, Sabomi,		10x3=30

Source: Author's field work, 2018

Data Collection Instrument

The instruments used in getting data for this research include; questionnaires, camera and personal observation.

Questionnaire

One major way of collecting information on a survey is the use of questionnaire. A questionnaire can be described as a data collection tool that is normally relied upon in survey research; it consists of a set of questions that are primarily meant to achieve the objectives of the study or research.

Photographs

Digital camera was used to obtain photographs of some buildings demolished during the case of the exercise

Personal Observation

The researcher also observed certain activities going on in the study area and made documentation of such.

Data Analysis

All the data collected from the field survey were collated, processed and presented with the use of descriptive statistical technique. The presentation of analyzed data on the operations of CBOs in the study area includes the use of tables, graphs and charts.

A computer based software, Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 19 and Microsoft Office Excel 2007 was employed for

data analysis and presentation. Some of the data analyzed includes; provision of infrastructures by the CBOs, Ways by which the CBOs carry out their activities, and challenges the CBOs faces during their operations.

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

Introduction

This chapter contains the findings obtained from the field survey. The data for this study were collected through the use of questionnaire which was distributed to the respondents and analyzed in order to have insight information on activities of CBOs towards the Economic Development of Ode-Irele community. Some of the CBOs available in the community are also questioned to get facts and details on their activities towards the development of the economy of the community of Ode-Irele.

Socio Economic Characteristics

Sex of Respondents

From the research carried out, it was discovered as shown in Figure 4 that the population of the male in the community is a bit more than that of the females. The males in the community have a percentage of 53% and the females have 47%. This can be traced to the fact that that community is an agrarian community in which those who tend to venture into farming are majorly the male people. Also, it is contributing to the economic development of the community as the males can be available to participate in the development projects that tent to occur in the community per time.

Figure 4. Sex of Respondents

Source: Author's Field work, 2018.

Age of Respondents

The age distribution in Figure 5 shows that the age between 26 and 35 has the highest percentage of 33% which is an indication that there are people who are young and agile enough to take up the responsibility of carrying out some development project in order to give the community a face lift making their economy better.

Figure 5. Age of Respondents

Source: Author's Field work, 2018.

Occupation of Respondents

The major occupation of the residents shown in Figure 6 is mainly from the government while many others are self employed. 33% of the respondents are Civil Servants while the same 33% are self-employed.

Self-employed could mean that they have their own work which ranges from traders to all other forms of barbing, sewing, and many other more. Owing to the locality, the higher percentage of the population of the respondents is unemployed having a percentage of 39%.

This is so because the locality does not really favor large establishment of industries and therefore, many of them tends to venture into farming as a means of survival.

The economic background of the locality is not really developed by CBOs as a reason of the fact that many of them are not really employed and in turn, they cannot really contribute to the need for developing the economy of the community except they rely on the Government and on the members of CBOs that are actively working.

Figure 6. Occupation of Respondents

Source: Author's Field work, 2018.

Annual Income

The income of the residents of Ode-Irele Community is a major determinant to be considered when thinking of the involvement of CBOs in the economic development of the community.

This is because the income of the people that are going to contribute to the funding of a project goes a long way to affect the level at which development will take place.

From the research conducted, as shown in Figure 7, the annual income of the larger percentage of the respondents in the community falls between below 20,000 and 20,000-50,000. This supports the findings in Figure 6 above that expresses that majority of the respondents are unemployed which is also the probable reason why the annual income is so low.

Only 30% of the respondents are earning above 100,000 annually and it is not guaranteed that all the 30% fully cooperate with the available CBOs in the quest to improve the economic base of the community.

This percentage cannot really affect the economic development of the community. There is a need to seek an adjustment or a balance in the level of income of the residents.

Figure 7: Annual Income of the Respondents

Source: Author's Field Work, 2018

Findings on Cbos in the Community

Type of CBOs Present in the Community

The type of CBO in Ode-Irele can be categorized under different groups that are involved with the process of making the community develop.

The categories of CBOs available are youth organizations which includes the Motorcycle Union and Barbers Union. This category of people has a percentage of 17%.

Table 4. Type of CBO Present

	Frequency	Percent
YOUTH ORGANIZATION	27	
MARKET WOMEN	54	34.6
FARMER ORGANIZATION	15	9.6
TRADE UNION	60	38.5
Total	156	100.0

Source: Author's Field work, 2018

The Market Women can be categorized into the people selling various things at the market which can include tomatoes, rice; pepper etc. Farmers Organizations are those that are into the business of growing crops for a commercial purpose.

This category has the smallest percentage of 10% and the Trade Unions are those who set up their own business of trade in various parts of the town. They have the highest percentage of 38%. These types of CBOs helps to know what their components are and how effective they are in providing the community with facilities that

will encourage and improve the economy of the community



Plate 1. Some of the CBOs Available in the Community

Source: Author's Field work, 2018.

Regularity of Activities

From table 5, it was found that the CBOs rarely carry out their activities in the community. The table shows that the respondents agree that the CBOs rarely carry out their activities. This can be as a result of the fact that there is no large amount of capital for the CBOs to carry out their activities frequently. 32.7% of the respondents also ascertain the fact that some of the CBOs carry out their activities towards the development of the economy of the community yearly. The reason behind this is because the activities that are done on annual basis do not really require much capital to carry out. Some of the activities carried out on a yearly basis include the rehabilitation and repairs of bad roads, erection of sign boards across the street among others.

Table 5. Regularity of Activities

	Frequency	Percent
RARELY	57	36.5
WEEKLY	9	5.8
MONTHLY	39	25.0
YEARLY	51	32.7
Total	156	100.0

Source: Author's Field work, 2018.

Table 6. Mode of Carrying Out Activities

	Frequency	Percent
PUBLIC AWARENESS	78	50.0
FOCUSED GROUP DISCUSSION	54	34.6
SEMINARS	18	11.5
OTHERS	6	3.8

Total	156	100.0
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Source: Author's Field work, 2018.

Mode of Carrying Out Activities

From table 6, it was realized that the major way by which the CBOs carry out their activities is to make it known to the community through the means of Public awareness either through the mass media or by vocal announcements in the community. 50% of the respondents confirm this which actually shows that the CBOs usually carry the community along in any development project they intend to carry out. This is not the only means by which they carry out their activities. Some other means also include Focused group discussion with 34.6%, seminars, 11.5%, and others which is just 3.8% of the total respondents.

Relationship between Government and CBOs

It is always important to have and maintain a good relationship with the Government bodies to enhance productivity and proper delivery of services when working on economic development of a community. CBOs in Ode-Irele community have ensured that they fulfill this obligation to maintain a sure relationship between themselves and the Local Government Authorities in the community. Table 7 shows that 55.8% of the CBOs in the sampled community have a strong relationship with the Government. This in turn helps the process of seeking permission for the approval of projects that are to be carried out easier and faster. 44.2% of the CBOs do not have a good rapport

with the Government. This can stand as a setback to the process of approval of their projects and may lead to a slowdown in the

process of economic development of Ode-Irele community.



Plate 2. Water Provision at Various Streets in the Community

Source: Author's Field work, 2018

Table 7. Relationship between Government and CBOs

	Frequency	Percent
YES	87	55.8
NO	69	44.2
Total	156	100.0

Source: Author's Field work, 2018

Need of the Community

Being asked what the need of the community is from the sampled respondents, it was discovered as shown in table 8 that the need of the community is more than one but there is a clear difference in the need. The highest percentage, 32.7% of the respondents desire that the CBOs provide them with an educational facility like primary and secondary school.

This is due to the fact the Mega School provided by the State Government in the community has not been functioning since the school had been put in place. 30.8% of the respondents want an improvement in the area of agriculture in terms of provision of machineries that can be used for the purpose of faster and easy productivity. 21.2% desire good road for proper communication between their homes and places of work and for other forms of transactions.

Table 8. Need of the Community

	Frequency	Percent
EDUCATION	51	32.7
HEALTH	12	7.7
AGRICULTURE	48	30.8
ROAD	33	21.2
OTHERS	12	7.7
Total	156	100.0

Source: Author's Field work, 2018.

4.4 Specific Data Group

Some of the CBOs present in Ode-Irele are also questioned during the research and there are several outcomes of the findings. Some of them will be discussed in this section.

Reasons for CBOs in the Community

The reason for the existence of the various CBOs in Ode-Irele community cannot be farfetched from the fact that there is a need to be met in the community.

Table 9 shows that 55% of the CBOs came into existence because of the interest of the community.

This explains that the people of the community are interested in the economic development of their community.

CBOs are one of the voluntary organizations that can help in meeting the need of the people.

Table 9. Reason for CBOs in the Community

	Frequency	Percent
PERSONAL INTEREST	6	30.0
COMMUNITY INTEREST	11	55.0
OTHERS	3	15.0
Total	20	100.0

Source: Author's Field work, 2018

Table 10. Support by the Government

	Frequency	Percent
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Assessment of Community Based Organizations Activities towards Economic Development in Ondo State, Nigeria

YES	13	65.0
NO	7	35.0
Total	20	100.0

Source: Author's Field work, 2018

Support by the Government

From table 10, it was shown that the Government always gives support to the CBOs in the community to carry out their projects. 65% of the CBOs confirmed this.



Plate 4. Water Facilities Provided by the Local Government

Source: Author's Field work, 2018

Sources of Finance

When asked what the major sources of finance for projects are, it was found out that one of the major sources is through loans. Table 11 above revealed that the CBOs always get loans for executing their projects. 65% of the respondents ascertained that they usually get loans from the banks and other credit and thrift societies which enable them to complete their projects. All the loans gotten are returned at a later date with little or no interest.

Table 11. Sources of Finance

	Frequency	Percent
YES	13	65.0
NO	7	35.0
Total	20	100.0

Source: Author's Field work, 2018

Problems Hindering the Services of CBOs

The problem facing the CBOs in carrying out their activities as shown in table 12 is mainly lack of cooperation both of the community dwellers and also some of the workers and members of the CBOs. 61.5% of the CBOs respondent commented that many of the members do not respond to the need of the

The support given by the Government will go a long way in meeting the need of the CBOs towards responding to the economic need of the community though only the CBOs cannot shoulder these responsibilities alone but with the aid of the Local Government, it becomes easier for them to execute their capital projects.

Organizations on time through giving as agreed by the body. 19.2% are faced with the problems of funding for the execution of pending projects.

Table 12. Problems Hindering the Services of CBOs in the Community

	Frequency	Percent
POOR MANAGEMENT	15	9.6
LACK OF FUND	30	19.2
LACK OF COOPERATION	96	61.5
OTHERS	15	9.6
Total	156	100.0

Source: Author's Field work, 2018

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

This research was carried out in Ode-Irele Town with the aim of looking at the activities of CBOs on economic development and how it facilitates poverty alleviation in the community.

It also focused on identifying the various available CBOs in the study area including the registered and unregistered groups, investigate on the activities of CBOs in the development of the community and examine the challenges that hinders the CBOs in Ode-Irele community from contributing to the socio-economic development of the community.

The result of the study revealed that the higher percentage of the respondents in the community are married and around the age of 20-35 years. All respondents are Nigerians and they are all dominant resident of Ode-Irele Community. Some of the CBOs are also questioned to get relevant information about the mode of their operations as well as their motivations and challenges.

The analysis of the data retrieved from the field revealed that cooperation is one of the major things that is lacking and militating against the activities of CBOs in the community towards the development of the economy of the community. This is because most of the people who are either member of the community or members of one CBO or the other do not feel compelled to be committed to the running of the organization.

Many projects are left undone in the community because it was discovered that most of the projects are executed by the State Government through the Local government seat in the community. These projects are not done frequently and therefore, the economy of the community is not very buoyant unlike places like Akure and Osogbo.

RECOMMENDATION

The purpose of diagnosing a problem ought to be for solving it, any other purpose that is short of this makes the whole diagnosis a wasted effort. Based on this fact, certain strategies have been proffered by the researcher after undertaken the research to get the necessary findings with respect to the suggestions of the respondents surveyed. Therefore the recommendations of the research are therefore stated thus:

Governments at all levels should encourage the proliferation of and economically support the goals of CBOs in the study area. Creating a common purse where both governmental and nongovernmental organizations could contribute their quota with the aim of achieving a self sustaining economy can do this. The advantage of fund raising from public to develop community projects was well utilized by CBOs in the study area. Government and the general public can borrow a leaf from this to help finance local projects for the people.

CBOs at various levels should be encouraged and properly monitored in order to promote differences in opinions towards the execution of

projects. This form of initiative will bring about uniformity in reaching a compromise on the need of the community per time. Presenting such needs to the monitoring authority will be direct and precise without any controversial opinion at discussion with the authorities.

Due to strained relationships between the Local Government and CBOs, it is therefore necessary to suggest ways of enhancing public-private sector cooperation. Project Planning Units must be established within the Department of Community Development of the Local Government. These Units should be headed by a Project Coordinator, who must be a qualified Urban and Regional Planner. The project planning units will therefore serve as a link between the CBOs and Local Government officials, so that both private and public resources could be coordinated and applied to produce maximum results for the benefit of all.

Financial supports should be made available for the CBOs either by the Government bodies, Credit and Loan Societies, NGOs and IOs. The reason is not farfetched from the fact that there is always a need for high capital whenever the issue of development projects surfaces. Only a group or groups of CBOs cannot actually foot the bills for those projects alone. The Government agencies as well as IOs are those that can help with the mind of fulfilling the need of the community with the quest of attaining a strong economic background. Therefore, Government Agencies as well as IOs and NGOs are encouraged to contribute towards the economic development of the community.

Since funding of the projects by the CBOs are also done to a greater extent by the members of each CBOs, it is important that residents in the working class should make themselves available to join CBOs in other to improve on the funding of the CBOs.

Registered CBOs should be given mandate on how often they are supposed to carry out development project in the community. This will increase how often development takes place in the community

CONCLUSION

This research has focused on the involvement of CBOs in the economic development of Ode-Irele community. The major factors that influences the CBOs in the economic development of the community is lack of proper

funding as well as lack of cooperation between the people.

It was however noticed that there is little or less activities by the CBOs in Ode-Irele community which can really improve the economic background of the community.

Since growth is the desire of everybody either in the rural area or in the urban area, it is important to look critically into the problems of the CBOs and seek a way of making both ends meet in order to enhance the economic development of the community.

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