EVALUATION OF THE IMPACT OF GOOD GOVERNANCE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN NIGER STATE

Dr. Adamu isah

Department of Public Administration Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University, Lapai

ABSTRACT: *This paper evaluates the impact of good governance on rural development in Niger State. The problem investigated is stimulated by the expectation of the people for good governance in democratic era. The specific objective of the study include determining the extent to which the government archived the tenets of good governance, finding out the impact of good governance on rural development and examining the constraints of good governance in achieving rural development. Data for the study were generated from both primary and secondary sources using the instrument of observation, questionnaire, published and unpublished material as well as the internet. Data were analysed using both descriptive and inferential statistics. The descriptive tools used include tables and simple percentages while the inferential tool used is the spearman rank correlations. The study revealed that, good governance has not provided rural development. More specifically, there is low service delivery, low rate of adherence to rule of law, lack of transparency and accountability, existence of high rural poverty, decay in rural educational system, inadequate water and road infrastructure as well as inadequate health facilities. The study also revealed poverty, corruption, poor judicial system, need for excess wealth as constraints for good governance. It was therefore recommended that, there should be institution of integrity, transparency and accountability in governance, there should be improvement in social services and there should be measures to check misgovernance and mismanagement.*

KEYWORDS: Good Governance, Impact, Rural Development.

INTRODUCTION

Good governance emerges as a product of emphasis on societal development, progress and sustainable growth (Ugwu, 2010.47). Indeed one way of measuring the success or failure of governments in modern society's world over is to access how successful such governments are in developing the conditions for satisfying the basic needs of the people they govern (Basil, 2009:350). The needs include basic infrastructure; social services; creation of an efficient and productive economy. In addition, it also includes ability to mobilize or generate adequate resources as well as utilized them on the path of both urban and rural development (Ayo, 2009:19, citing Stohr, 1981:1-2).

Nigeria is one of those countries of the developing world that urgently requires rural sustainable development for her citizens through the instrumentalities of good governance. Ohagwu 2010, cited in (Shehu; 2015:2) opines that rural development is that part of development that seek to enhance the quality of life in the rural areas by providing basic infrastructural facilities, that include water supply, Health Care; road, transport and communication, education, agricultural facilities, markets and electricity.

Rural dwellers have rightfully asserted their place in the scheme of things in Nigeria, as they continued to provide its food needs of the urban population and also supply the raw materials

for agro- based industries located in the semi-urban areas of the country. Although the rural inhabitants remain the life wire of the Nigerian economy; there is very little evidence to suggest that past policies of government made significant impact in terms of improving the quality of life of those categories of Nigerians (Ibrahim, 2014:2).

In Niger State; the return of the country to a democratic rule in 1999, arose the demand of the people for good governance especially in the rural areas. Observation shows that in Niger State, most rural areas lack good water supply, motorable roads, rural electricity as well as educational and Health facilities. Hence, the problem aroused by this paper is stimulated by the fact that though good governance is expected to ensure rural development, but does the rising expectations of the people seems to have been met? Therefore, the research questions arising from the research problem are; to what extent does the government achieve the tenets of good governance in rural areas? To what extent does good governance ensures rural development? And what constitute the constraints for good governance to ensure rural development?

The central objective of this paper is to determine the impact of good governance on rural development. However, specifically, the study seeks to find out the extent to which government achieve the tenets of good governance in rural areas; determine the extent the extent to which good governance ensure rural development and examine the constraints of good governance in ensuring rural development. The null hypothesis postulated for this study is "there is no significant relationship between good governance and rural development" significantly, many studies have been conducted on the impact of good governance such as Abdulkarim (2004), Idris (2006), Ibrahim (2007), Basil (2009), and Ugwu 2010 but this study is uniave for its focus on rural development. This will fill in the existing gap in these studies and new ideas will emerge from the present study on Niger State. This study is of tremendous importance to research, development policy makers and practitioners; international development agencies, the local governments and the general public. All these categories will benefit from the rich literature and date therein.

This study spans between the period of 2007-2015 in Niger State. This can be justified on the ground that this is a democratic era in which the citizens expect benevolent performance on good governance. The period also coincided with the eight years of servant leadership experienced in Niger State. The study is also limited to three local governments are from each senatorial zone. Thus, Edati from zone A, Shiroro from Zone B, as well as Magama from zone C were selected. The invoices of good governance are many emphasis is laid on citizens participation, development oriented leadership, accountability, transparency and rule of law. As for rural development, emphasis is on infrastructural development in terms of water supply, roads, Health care, electricity and education. These indices also operationalize the concept of good governance and rural development. Finally, this paper is divided into five sections. Section one is the introduction, section two dwells on literature review and theoretical framework, section three contains the research methodology, section four centered on discussions of results and findings while section five conclude the paper with summary, conclusions and recommendations.

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK.

Introduction

This section consists of conceptual clarification; review of previous related studies, theoretical framework and experience of other countries.

Conceptual clarification

Three concepts were explored in this study. These are good governance, development and rural development.

Concept of Good Governance

The Concept of good governance does not tend itself to a single definition. Ezeife (2002:36) sees good governance as the careful and guided application government resources to the upliftment of standard of living of the society. Ademolekun (2002:3, 2006:31(sees governance as the exercise of political authority in managing the affairs of the state. he identified the indices of good governance as adherence to the rule of Law; freedom of expression and association electoral legitimacy; accountability; transparency and development oriented leadership.

Sharma (2011:64) sees good governance as the ability to deliver goods to various stakeholders by making the various agents of political system work for the betterment of the people especially the marginalized section of the society.

Concept of Development

Development as a concept defies precise definition. This is because scholars and practitioners advanced definitions based on their orientation and social milieu Ngu, (2014:3), sees development as a positive process of comprehensive transformation of economic, political and socio-cultural values and institutions towards substantial amelioration of societal values.

Gathaka and Wanjala (2012), cited in Idris (2009:30) sees development as the process of planned mobilization and harnessing of a society's natural and human resources for the advancement of the social, economic and political wellbeing of a people.

Early scholars like seers (1969:3), cited in Shehu (2015:18), sees development in terms of addressing wide spread absolute poverty, inequality and unemployment.

Concept of Rural Development.

The term rural development has been variously defined. However, it is much more restricted conceptually and sparitially to rural environment or areas (Shehu, 2015:5). The World Bank (1975:3), sees rural development as a strategy designed, to improve the economic and social life of a specific group of people the rural pour.

Also, Ijere (1992(sees. It as agricultural development. As for Idode (1989) the term implies development limited to spatial occupational context. Drejomach in Ayichi (1995) defines rural development as a process of increasing per capital income and standard of living of rural population which is measured in terms of food and nutrition, health, education housing and security. Ndubusi (1992), cited in Mabel (2010:84) gave a more comprehensive definition of rural development as the development of moral, social, political, and economic potentialities

of rural communities to enhance their self-reliance through the provision of appropriate infrastructures. They include pipe home water, electricity, good roads, increase in people's political consciousness and participation to promote their moral and social wellbeing.

Review of Empirical Studies

The study by Abdulkarim (2004) entitled "Good governance at local government level and development in Nigeria" attempted to analyse the role of good governance in local government administration. The study assumed that the lack of accountability, transparency, qualified staff and independence are indicators of good governance. The study is similar to the present one in its usage of transparency and accountability as indices of good governance.

Another study by Idris (2006) entitled "Towards sustaining democracy for good governance in fourth republic Nigeria", It was revealed that adherence to rule of law, electoral legitimacy, as well as accountability and transparency has been low and that the fourth republic did, not ensure good governance. It was therefore suggested that rule of law need to be strengthened; public institutions need to be referred among other things.

Basil (2009) studied good governance and leadership in Africa, panacea for sustainable growth and development. To him, what is lacking is the proper leadership that could successfully harness the abundant, natural and human resources of Africa for sustainable growth and development.

Finally, Ugwu (2010); studies good governance accountability and development in Nigeria the study revealed policy of clienlalism, Compton, poor judicial system and absence of procurement law as some of the constraints of good governance.

Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework adopted far this study is the rural modernization theory. One of the proponents of this theory is Neil Smelser (1963). Rural modernization theory is often operationalised in infrastructure development policy. The theory posit that rural development can be attained through provisions of modern facilities in rural areas, so that they will also share features of modern urban areas.

Applying rural modernization theory to the study on the impact of good governance on rural development in Niger State. Government should be responsive, accountable and transparent in the provisions of schools and colleges in the rural areas. Establishment of health care centres and maternities, extensive rural water supply and electrification projects, provisions of rural feeder roads and so on. By this, the citizens will have trust in government and thus participate indecision making.

Experience of Other Countries

The essential of good governance in India entails developing a National outlook, political reforms, curbing corruption electoral reforms, administrative reforms. Judicial reforms, as well as responstreness.

In Bangla des, the comitia project is the shining example for good governance. The features of the comitia project is that development should be based at village level where people know cool other, the method used by the project was to organize primary cooperative Society for

farmers and each participating village which would become a self-sustaining unit. Villages were visited to inform of them of the project and invite them to take part.

METHODOLOGY

This section provide information on the research design adopted; sources and methods of data collection utilized; population and sample size of the study sampling technique as well as methods of data analysis employed.

In terms of research design, this study adopted the survey research design. The purpose is to enable population so that inferences can be made. The use of survey design can be justified on the bases of economy, reliability, and rapid turnaround in data collection. This study was designed to investigate the impact of good governance on rural development. Variables relating to good governance and that of rural development were examined. The responses of the respondents were measured in the five point liker scale of strongly. Agree (SA). Agree (A), Undecided (U), Disagree (D) and strongly disagreed (SD).

In terms of sources and methods of data collection, the study utilized both primary and secondary sources of data. The primary science makes use of observation, and questionnaire methods. This is justified on the bases of reliability, convenience, preserving anonymity and lower rate of reactivity. The secondary source consists of books, magazines, newspapers; internet and unpublished materials. The secondary source compliments the primary source.

The target population of the study consists of rural inhabitants in the selected local governments namely Edati, Shiroro and Magama it consists of 750 rural populace, 300 politicians, 410 staff of local governments, 200 members each of youth organizations and women group, 30 traditional rulers; 70 members of non-governmental organizations, as well as 120 community leaders totalling 2,081. The table below shows the distribution.

Table 3.1 Population Distribution.

Category	Zone A Edati	Zone B Shiroro	Zone C Magama	Total
Rural Populace	200	250	300	750
Politicians	90	110	100	300
Staff Of Local Governments	100	140	170	410
Youth Organizations	60	50	90	200
Women Group	80	60	60	200
Traditional Rulers	8	14	8	30
NGOs	21	30	19	70
Community Leaders	35	30	55	120
Total	**594**	**684**	**803**	**2,081**

Source: Survey Research 2017

From the population distribution above, the sample size is determined using Yamane's formular as thus;

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

Where n   =   Sample size

N   =   Total population

e   =   Level of significance (95%)

Source: Yamane (1968) as expressed by Israel (1992)

Here:

$$n = \frac{2,081}{1 + 2081\,(0.05)^2}$$
$$= \frac{2,081}{1 + 2081\,0.0025}$$
$$= \frac{2,081}{1 + 5.2025}$$
$$= \frac{2,081}{6.2025}$$

335.5

:. n = 336 representing 16.15% of the total population.

Based on the above sample size of 336, the sample distribution for questionnaire is as follows:

Table 3.2 Sample Size Distribution

Category	Zone A Edat	Zone B Shiroro	Zone C Magama	Total Sample	Percentage
Rural Populace	22	2	40	88	
Politicians	16	23	10	49	
Local Gov'ts Staff	10	15	30	55	
Youth Organizations	7	8	10	25	
Women Group	14	7	7	28	
Traditional Rulers	3	6	4	13	
NGOs	10	17	5	32	
Community Leaders	7	12	27	46	
Total	**89**	**114**	**133**	**336**	

Source: survey research 2017.

The sampling technique adopted for the study in drawing the sample size is the simple random sampling technique. Also questionnaires were administered personally by the researcher with the aid of research assistants. Observation was carryout on state of infrastructure in the selected areas.

Finally, in terms of methods of data analysis both descriptive and inferential statistical tools of analysis are employed in the study. The descriptive tools include the use of frequency tables, simple percentages and mean scores for analysing and interpreting data. The inferential statistical tool used is the spearman's Rank correlation. It is one of the non-parame the degree of relationship between two variables "X" (Independent) and "Y" (dependent). The spearman's Rank correlation formula given as

$$R = \frac{6\xi d^2}{N(N^2-1)}$$

Where   d =   the difference between the ranks of

Corresponding values of X and Y

N = The number of pairs of values (X,Y) in the data.

The R value obtained from the formula are subjected to t – test to check significance as thus

$$t = \frac{R\sqrt{N-2}}{(1-R^2)}$$

Where N= number of values of X and Y

Source: Spiegel and Stephens (1999).

The t value obtained is then compared with the critic value of t distribution at 95% (0.05) level of significance and given degree of freedom (v). the degree of freedom is equal to the number of the pairs of values of X and Y where X is the independent variable and Y, the depended variable.

The decision rule in using R for testing hypothesis is as follows: accept null hypothesis Ho if R calculated value is less than the critical value, if otherwise reject.

DISCUSSION, RESULTS AND FINDINGS

Introduction

This section provides discussions on data presented, analysed and interpreted. It consists of rate of returns of questionnaires, socio-demographic characteristics of respondents, and measuring of variables for rural development, presentation on constraints, statistical testing of hypothesis as well as major findings.

Rate of Returns and Response of Questionnaires

Three hundred and thirty six (336) questionnaires equivalent to the sample size were administered to the sample respondents. Out of 336 questionnaires administered, 316 were returned given a rate of returns of 94.04%. Also, out of the 316 questionnaires returned, 300 questionnaires were duly completed, given a rate of response of 89.3%. The tale below shows the rate of questionnaire returns and response.

Table: 4.1 Rate of Returns / Response of questionnaire

Category Of Respond	Zone 'A' Edati	Zone 'B' Shiroro	Zone 'C' Magama	No. Of Questionnaire Administered	No. Of Questionnaire Returned	No. Of Questionnaire Duly Completed
Rural Populace	22	26	40	88	85	80
Politicians	16	23	10	49	45	40
Local Gov't Staff	10	15	30	55	54	54
Youth Organisation	7	8	10	25	20	20
Women Group	14	7	7	28	25	24
Traditional Rulers	3	6	4	13	12	10
NGOS	10	17	5	32	32	30
Community Leaders	7	12	27	46	43	42
Total	89	114	133	336	316	300

Sources: Survey Research 2017.

From the above table; rate of returns and Response is computed as thus:

Rate of Returns =   No of Questionnaire Returned   x 100
                       No of Questionnaire administered   x 1
                  = 316   x   100
                    336   1
                  = 94.05%

Rate of Response = No of Questionnaire duly completed x 100
                   No of Questionnaire administered   1
                  = 300   x   100
                    336   1
                  = 89.3%

Based on the above; analysis of data in this study is on the basis of 300 respondents.

Socio-Demographic Characteristic of Respondents

Here, variable such as Gender; marital status, Age, Educational qualification and occupation were used to elicit information from their respondents and presented on table 5.2 below.

Table 4.2 Socio-Demographic Characteristic of Respondent

Indices	Variables	Responses	Percentages
GENDER	Male	205	68.3%
	Female	95	31.7%
	Total	300	100%
AGE	21-30	60	20%
	31-40	140	46.7%
	41-50	80	26.7%
	51-60	17	5.7%
	above 60	3	1%
	Total	300	100%
EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION	Religious Education	70	23.3%
	Primary Certificate	72	24.0%
	Grade	56	18.6%
	II/WAEC/NECO.GCE	90	30%
	OND/ND/NCE/A level	10	3.3%
	HND/Degree	2	0.6%
	Post graduate	300	100%
	Total		
OCCUPATION	Famers	148	49.3%
	Traders/Artisans	70	23.3%
	Civil servants	50	16.6%
	unemployed	32	10.6%
	Total	300	100%
STATUS	Rural Populate	80	26.6%
	Politicians	40	13.3%
	Local Gov't staff	54	18%
	Youth organization	20	6.6%
	Women group	24	8%
	Traditional Rules	10	3.3%
	NGOs	30	10%
	Community leaders	42	14%
	Total	300	100%

Source: Survey Research, 2017.

From the above table, it is dear that majority of the respondents are male farmers and rural populace. It also shows that the opinion were exposed by those in their active ages and these with are term of educational qualification and others. Similarly except for about 30 respondents majorities have are terms of occupation or the other.

Secondary Data on the Activities of Niger State Governments on Good Governance and Rural Development 2007- 2015

Total 4.3 Elements of good governance 2007-2015

VARIABLES	INDICATORS	ASPECTS
PEOPLE ORIENTED LEADERSHIP	1. Formation of Jama'a forum to enhance participation in governance 2. Monthly media briefings to educate be peopl/e on new government operate 3. Visitations to institution of higher learning to and lecturers learning to interact with students and lecturers of Niger State extraction. 4. Payment of backlog of gratuity to retirees. 5. Release of counterpart funding to international donors mis-programmes.	Good Governance
TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY AND RULE OF LAW.	6. Constant declaration of state government account to the public 7. Establishment of human rights commission. 8. Establishment of many high courts. 9. Increase in salary of the Judiciary.	Good Governance
RESPONSIVENESS AND INCLUSIVENESS	10. Capacity building for civil servants. 11. Increase and prompt payment of salaries. 12. Inclusion of permanent secretaries in state executive council. 13. Merit system through civil service exams. 14. Payment of Annual salary bonus. 15. Formation of graduate employment scheme.	Good Governance

Source: Niger State Book Development Agency, 2017.

Table 4.4. Elements of infrastructure, Niger State 2007/ 2015

Variable	Indicators	Aspects
Housing and Roads	1. Construction of Housing estate in Minna, Bida and Kontagora 2. Providing a new look for Minna as capital. 3. Rehabilitation of Roads in Minna, Bida and Kontagora. 4.Construction of 10km Roads	Infrastructure
HEALTH	Contraction and equipping of hospitals in Gulu, Nasko and Tafa. Free medical services to children, pregnant women and the Aged. Signing of MOU with foreign of medical experts. Free medical treatment on eye, Gaiter and cancer.	Infrastructure
EDUCATION	engagement and support girl child education Settlement of WAEC and NECO fees. provision of textbooks. Provision of Buses for transporting students. Payment of student allowances.	Infrastructure
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	Granting of N1,000,000 for ward development project. Granting 25% subsidy on sale of fertilizers. Release of funds for Local Government project. Extension of conditional cash transfer COT to Local Governments.	Infrastructure

Sources: Adopted from progress report of Niger State book Agency.2015.

Measurement of Good Governance

Respondents opinion on variables of good governance were presented on table 4.5 below

Table 4.5 respondent's opinion on good governance

VARIABLES RELATING TO GOOD GOVERNANCE	SA	A	U	D	SD	TOTAL
1. Citizens participated in governance as a result of high service delivery.	40 (13.3%)	30 (10%)	10 (3.3%)	100 (33.3%)	120 (40%)	300 (100%)
2. Rate of adherence to the principles of rule of law is high.	20 (6.6%)	10 (3.3%)	30 (10%)	140 (46.6%)	100 (33.3%)	300 (100%)
3. There is existence of development oriented leadership.	80 (26.6%)	60 (20%)	10 (3.3%)	90 (30%)	60 (20%)	300 (100%)
4. Rate of accountability and transparency within the three arms of government is high.	15 (5%)	20 (6.6%)	5 (1.6%)	110 (36.6%)	150 (50%)	300 (100%)

Key: SA = Strongly Agreed, A = Agreed, U = undecided, D = Disagreed, SD = Strongly Disagreed

Source: survey research, 2017

From table 4.5 above, it is clear that about 220 respondents representing 73.3% disagreed that citizens participated in governance as a result of high service delivery. Similarly, 240 respondents representing 79.9% claimed that there is low rate adherence to rule of law. Also from the table, opinion was divided on the existence of development oriented leadership. 150 (50%) disagreed while 140 (46.6%) agreed. Finally, the table shows that rate of Accountability and transparency within the three arms of government is not high. 260 respondents representing (86.6%) attested to this.

Measurement of Rural Development

Respondent's opinion on measurement of rural development is also presented on table 4.6 below

Table 4.6 respondent's opinion on rural development

VARIABLES FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT	SA	A	U	D	SD	TOTAL
5. Poverty is high in the rural areas.	120 (40%)	80 (26.6%)	30 (10%)	60 (20%)	10 (3%)	300 (100%)
6. Water and roads infrastructure were fully developed in the rural areas.	10 (3%)	5 (1.6%)	5 (1.6%)	180 (59.9%)	100 (33.3%)	300 (100%)
7. There is total decay and collapse of the rural system.	150 (49.6%)	100 (33.3%)	20 (6.6%)	20 (6.6%)	10 (3.3%)	300 (100%)
8. There are inadequate healthcare facilities services.	140 (46.6%)	120 (40%)	5 (1.6%)	15 (5%)	20 (3.3%)	300 (100%)

Key. SA = Strongly Agreed, A = Agreed, U = undecided, D = Disagreed, SD = Strongly Disagreed

Source: survey research, 2017

From table 4.6 above, respondents revealed that poverty is high in the rural areas understudy. 200 respondents representing (66.6%) attested to this. It was further claimed that water and roads infrastructure were not fully developed in the rural areas. As high as 280 respondents representing (93.2%) attested to this. Also, the table further revealed that there is total decay and collapse of the rural educational system and there are inadequate healthcare facilities for rural health services. 250 respondents representing 82.9% claimed the farmer while 260 respondents representing 86.6% attest to this later.

Constrains Of Good Governance

Respondent's opinion on the factors constraint variables of good governance to enhance rural development were presented to table 4.7 below.

Table 4.7 respondent's opinion on constraints of good governance for rural development

S/NO	CONSTRAINTS	NO. OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Poverty	280	93%
2	Corruption	250	83.3%
3	Test for excess wealth	190	63.3%
4	Poor judicial system	220	73.3%
5	Personalization of public offices	240	80%

Source: survey research, 2017

The table above, shows poverty, corruption, test for excess wealth, poor judicial system and personalization of public offices as constraints of good governance that can hinder rural development

Test of hypothesis

The hypothesis postulated states that 40: there is no significant relationship between good governance and rural development. The independent variables here are good governance while the dependent variables are rural development. Data relating to good governance were captured from table 4.5. While data relating to rural development were captured from 4.6 respectively. The highest percentage for each of the variables is chosen and presented on table 4.8 below.

No. Of Variables	Good Governance X	Rural Development Y	Ranking Of X Rx	Ranking Of Y Ry	Rx – Ry D	D²
1	40	40	3	4	-1	1
2	46.6	59.9	2	1	1	1
3	30	49.6	4	2	2	4
4	50	46.6	1	3	-2	4

$$R = \frac{1 - 6\sum d^2}{N(n^2 - 1)}$$

$$= \frac{1 - 6 \times 10}{4(4^2 - 1)}$$

$$= \frac{1 - 60}{4(16 - 1)}$$

$$= \frac{1 - 60}{60}$$

$$= 1 - 1 = 0$$

Subject r = 0 to test of significance at 95% and 4 degrees of freedom.

$$t = r\ \sqrt{N - 2}$$

$$\sqrt{1 - r^2}$$

$$= 0 \frac{\sqrt{4 - 2}}{\sqrt{1 - 0^2}}$$

$$= 0 \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{1 - 0}}$$

$= 0 \text{ x } \underline{4}$

$= 0 \text{ x } 4^{1}$

$= 0$. Calculated value

Critical value $= 2.353$.

From the spearman's Rank correlation and test of hypothesis, the calculated value is less than the critical value and going by the decision rule, the new hypothesis which states that there is no significant relationship between good governance and rural development.

SUMMARIES OF FINDINGS

From data collected and analysed, the study reveals that good governance has not enhanced rural development in Niger state more specifically.

1. Attribute of good governance has not seen, in the sense that service delivery is low rate of adherence to rule of law is also low. Also transparency and accountability was not seen within the three arms of government.

2. The study revealed high rate of rural poverty, existence of total decay and collapse in rural educational system, there is inadequate healthcare facilities for rural healthcare services there is also inadequacy of water supply and rural roads to enhance development.

3. Fundamental constraints like poverty, corruption, desire for excess wealth, personalization of public office as well as poor judicial system affected the development of rural areas in the study environment.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

From data collected and hypothesis tested; the study concludes that good governance has not provided rural development in Niger State. That is there is no significant relationship between good governance and rural development.

In consequence of this, government public resources have undergone mismanagement, misused and misapplication, hence the existence of bad governance which has made our rural areas to remain in perpetual poverty and underdeveloped.

It is based on this that. This study proffers the following recommendation:

1. There is the need for the institution of the culture of integrity, accountability and transparency in the three arms of government. Here, the executive arm must provide policies that eliminate corruption in governance; the legislature must past relevant laws that ensure transformation of the rural areas while the judiciary must be truly independent to ensure adherence to rule of law.

2. There is the need for rural development by reducing poverty through improvement in the provision of social services, improvement in qualitative education, provision of adequate healthcare facilities, potable water supply as well as feeder roads.

3. To remove the constrains of good governance, there is the urgency of enthroning effective checks against misgovernance.

REFERENCES

Abdulkarim S. (2004), Democracy and Good Governance at Local Government level.

Adammolekun, L. (2006): Politics Bureaucracy and Development in Africa, Ibadan, Spectrum Books Ltd.

Augustine N. (2012); Research Methods in Political Science and Public Administration University of Lagos.

Ayichi D. (1995) Models of Rural development in Nigeria with special focus on ADPS Ebo E. C. et al; Rural development Nigeria concepts, processes and prospects. Enugu Auto century pub. Coy.

Ayo, Bamidele (2000), "Government Crisis in Nigeria: Tocqueville's Challenge and Response of African Scholar", in Adedeji et al (eds) People-Centre Democracy in Nigeria? The research for Alternative Systems of Government at the Grassroots. Nigeria: Heinemann Educational Books Publisher.

Basil (2009), Good Governance and Leadership in Africa. Nigerian Journal of Public Administration and Local Government, Vol. xiv, No.1 September, 2009.

Ezeife, C. (2002), "Leadership, Democracy and Good Governance" in Crystal international Magazine June, 2002, Abuja, Heritage Press Ltd.

Ibrahim Z. (2014). Assessment of the Impact of Local Government on Rural Development of Soba and Zaria Local Government Areas. On published MSC Thesis, A.B.U Zaria.

Idris M. (2006); Journal of Administrative Studies ABU Zaria Vol. 4, No. 3, July 2017.

Idris M. (2009), NEPAD and Development in Nigeria. Proceedings of Second National Conference, Faculty of Social and Management Sciences; Kaduna State University. Kaduna

Ijere M. O. (1992) Leadina issues in rural development, Enugu ACENA Publishers.

Ngu S. (2014), Development Administration a Theoretical and Pragmatic disposition; Ahmadu Bello University. Press Limited Zaria.

Ohagwu, C.A. (2010), Rural Development in Nigeria: Issues, Concepts and Practice, Enugu, John Jacoob's Classic Publishers.

Ozoemenam M. (2005); Social Science Research Methods for Policy and strategic studies Mai Dusa Academic Publishers Kaduna.

proceedings of 2004 National Conference Organised by the Department of Public Administration ABU Zaria, 9-12 March, 2004.

Sharma M. P. (2011), Public Administration in Theory and Practice, Kitab Mahal Publishers.

Shehu A. (2015). An Introduction to Development Administration in Nigeria. Jobe Erans Booksa and Publications Bida.

Shehu A. (2015). An Introduction to Rural Development in Nigeria. Blessed Concepts Prints Bida.

Shehu and Ezenwegbu (2017). Esearch Methodology in Social Science. Prestige Printing Press Bida.

Spieged and Stephens (1999); Statistics. MC graw-Hill London

Stohr, W. B. (2001), "Development from Blow", The Bottom-up and Peripheral-Inward Development Paradigm". In Development from below: The Dialectics of Regional Planning in Developing Countries ed. W. B. Stohr and D. R. F. Taylor (Chichester, England, New York: Willey).

Ugwa C. (2010), Good Governance, Accountability and due process in Nigeria. University of Nigerian Nsukka Publication.

World Bank Report (1975): Rural development sector policy paper Washington D.C.