European Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Research
Vol.7, No.4, pp.35-46, December 2019
Published by ECRTD-UK
Print ISSN: ISSN 2054-6424(Print), Online ISSN: ISSN 2054-6432(Online)

INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITALS AND COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION IN TOURISM DESTINATIONS, SOUTHWEST NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT: *The study analysed the influence of tourism infrastructure on community transformation in Southwest Nigeria. One most prominent tourism destination was purposively selected from each state of six; Oyo - Agodi Gardens, Ogun - Olumo Rock, Osun - Osun Osogbo Groove, Ondo - Idanre Hills, Ekiti – Ikogosi Warm Springs, and Lagos - National Theatre. Simple random sampling technique was employed to select thirty residents from each destination, giving a total of one hundred and eighty respondents. The results revealed social factors had Cronbach's Alpha values of social (0.799) with variance 10.310%; political factors (.811) with variance 9.237%; natural factors (0.781) with variance 9.103%; economic factors (.614) with variance 10.117%; physical factors (.749) with variance 10.312%; human factors (.721) with variance 10.003%; and cultural factor (.611) with variance explained as 9.041%. The results further revealed that social capital (B = 0.164; p<0.05); physical (B = 0.174; p<0.05); human (B = 0.184; p>0.05); and natural capital (B = 0.159; p<0.05) showed significance with community transformation. While, economic capital (B = 0.113; p>0.05); political factors (B = 0.181; p>0.05); and cultural factor (B = 0.130; p>0.05) showed no significant prediction but all had t values greater 1. Infrastructure capitals (social, physical, and natural) were found to have significant relationship with community transformation. It is recommended that infrastructure capital should be set up as a 'service industry' to providing goods that meet customers' demands in order to forestall irregularities and delay in supply for rapid and optimal sustainable transformation.*

KEYWORDS: community, infrastructure capital, community transformation, tourism destination, tourism development.

INTRODUCTION

Globalisation has changed the tides of many contexts in theory and in practice. Community is not an exception of such. Conventionally, a community is often described on geography, such as; village, town, or city. In the current dispensation, a community might include a group of people who share a common interest or value, such as; tribe, residence, faith, job, office, and other demographics, without considering physical proximity. In fact, virtual communities exist on the fulcrum of Information Communication Technology (ICT); twitter, facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, and a host of others. In tourism language, boundaries that share some form of attraction identity are addressed, a host community. One thing is common to the descriptions of a community, a people sharing common value. Community could then mean a space occupied by people for business, shelter, political, and social life. Every community exists within a physical or natural setting, simply, a space. According to James, Nadarajah, Haive, and Stead (2012), a community is a group or network of persons who are connected

(objectively) to each other by relatively durable social relations that extend beyond immediate genealogical ties, and who mutually define that relationship (subjectively) as important to their social identity and social practice.

Community in tourism context, encompasses a space, interaction of people, and all therein for the benefits of individuals, government, society, and generally, mankind. A physical or virtual space unoccupied is void and useless. A destination is a community, rural or urban (country, state, region, city or town) which is marketed or markets itself as a place for tourists to visit (Holloway, 2006). Also, it is an area or resort with facilities and services that meet the needs of tourists and may contain one or more tourist attractions (Bakare, & Omiwale, 2016). Without specific plans, a space will be unregulated, formless, or haphazard and could lead to a range of negative environmental, economic, and sociocultural impacts. Harrande (2009) observed that lack of development has positive correlation with negative consequences such as exodus of community dwellers to urban areas, with resulting problems of unemployment, crimes, prostitution, child labour, insecurity, money laundering, bribery, poverty, proliferation of shanty living areas, spread of diseases, and overstretching of facilities and infrastructure in urban areas. At the community level, tourism offers opportunities for direct, indirect, and induced employment and income, spurring regional and local economic development (Aref, Gill, & Aref, 2015). Tourism generates employment and income leading to community economic transformation (Ige, & Odularu, 2008). Influx of guests and tourists to a community comes with unprecedented gains; ranging from investment opportunity, product and service patronage, aesthetic value, and acculturation. It is evident that from the conduct of tourists, the host people regulate and garner strength on morals and fashion ethics. Tourism policies can be used to control environmental damage or loss of public access to natural resources and to form conservation programs to encourage residents' and tourists' enjoyment and stewardship of the environment (Tang, 2015). Tourism activity also involves economic costs, including the direct costs incurred by tourism businesses, government costs for infrastructure to better serve tourists, as well as congestion and related costs borne by individuals in the community (Adebayo, Jegede, & Eniafe, 2014). Reflection of local elements gives an attraction and a community its bespoke identity.

Osayande (2011) averred that transformation is phenomena as change, progress, growth, development, industrialization, and modernization; it is a goal that every individual, social group, community, or nation strives to achieve. It is also a process of comprehensive societal change whereby societies diversify economies and reduce reliance on agriculture; become dependent on distant places to trade and to acquire goods, services, and ideas (Idoko, 2018); which is equally achievable through tourism. Community transformation (CT) is recognized as a process impacting on development with interventions and processes. In other words, it constitutes the dynamics in the physical space and does not by itself provide directions for sustainable development. Development is often accompanied with its brunt identified as insecurity; yet, it is highly desirable. Andrés-Rosales, Sánchez-Mitre, & Cruz (2018) identified insecurity as infringing high social, and economic costs and slows human capital, impoverishes families, limits new opportunities for young people and worsens problems such as social exclusion and income distribution. One way to promote effective community transformation is through planning that is policy bound. The implementation of CT often rests on various organs and or stakeholders in the society. According to Adewusi (2013) in his study on community information, individual is an agent of social, educational, economic, industrial, technological,

agricultural, political, cultural and recreational developments. A number of micro-level studies have investigated how a greater investment in infrastructure raises agricultural productivity. But infrastructure investments have many effects. As long as the majority of rural households are dedicated to more than one income activity, whether salaried or non-salaried, agricultural or non-agricultural which are often tourism-based; it is not abnormal that the access to public infrastructure will affect household labour assignments (diversifying livelihoods). Public infrastructure could have a direct or indirect role increasing the income-generating opportunities for the poorest rural populations. Infrastructure focuses more on providing preconditions for development, while recreational facilities are seen as a way to improve everyday life (Mandić, A., Mrnjavac, Z., Kordić, L., 2018). In a broader sense, it includes all those facilities that tourists use when they leave their homes, reach their destination and return back home (Lohmann, & Netto, 2017), while in reality, most of the infrastructure assets are constantly used by residents (Hadzik, & Gabana, 2014).

Community transformation viewed as development by Arnold and Flora (2012) focuses on creating a healthy ecosystem where all people can thrive and includes opportunities for all residents to participate in their activities of choice. Green and Haines (2008) defined community development as a planned effort to build assets that increase the capacity of residents to improve their quality of life. These assets include multiple forms of community capital: natural, cultural, human, social, political, financial, and built (Flora & Flora, 2008). A community's ecosystem includes the geographic community of people, the individual species of flora and fauna, and all non-living factors with which they interact. Emery and Flora (2006) also identified seven infrastructure capitals essential for transformation, viz; social, human, built, political, financial, cultural, and natural. Among all, social capital was found to have highest influence on community transformation. Many researches treat social capital as a factor of production similar to human capital and physical capital (Jordan, Anil, & Munasib, 2010). Economic, social, and cultural policy agendas must become better coordinated to direct more attention to the significance of community transformation (Harrande, 2009). There are many attributes of infrastructure that make it difficult for individuals to design, construct, operate and maintain the services effectively and efficiently. Faith organisations, pressure groups, social groups, industries, individuals, governmental and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and others (international organisations and diaspora) can be stakeholders in transformation at any point in time. Functionaries of development come in the form of policies, funds, infrastructure, and interventions among others. Among these are NGOs which focus on local-level development projects, usually filling gaps government services have not met (Klugman, 2014). NGOs for instance, provide community development, assistance in national disasters, sustainable system development and assist social movements (Dixon, Ritchie, & Siwale, 2006). Government and public sector remain the dominant players in the provision of infrastructure services (Satish, 2007). Community development emphasizes the importance of participation as a means of strengthening local communities (Kuponiyi, 2008). Community transformation is, therefore, a gradual process and a continuum of the assurance of renewable economic, social and cultural benefits. Studies abound on community development and factors of development, most did not capitalise factors of development as infrastructure capitals, hence, ended up with a shoddy interpretation. The few studies that did never incorporated tourism content as a transformation architecture in the community. The study, therefore, seeks to analyse the influence of infrastructure capitals on community transformation in tourism destinations.

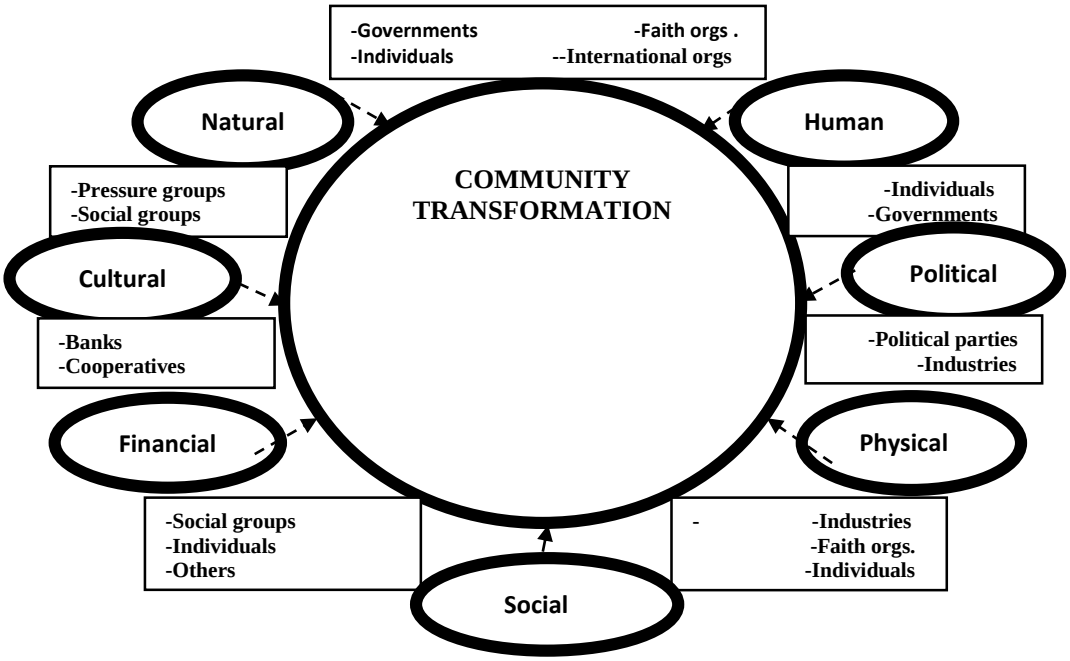

Figure 1: Conceptual Framework for the Study

Infrastructure capitals and Community transformation – From Figure 1 above, infrastructure varying capitals to gain access to the community via agents viz; individuals, pressure groups, governments, NGOs, social groups, It is the driver of the transformation capitals (social, financial, physical, political, human, natural, and cultural) into the community. The nexus between the community and tourism is so strong that it constitutes a means for the different livelihood capitals for the host people while the destination, in turn, offers all the architecture for tourism to be sustainable. The agents of the transformation capitals spread all about the community by supplying the enabling environment for the interjection which gives birth to desiring development. Tourism leverages on capital infrastructure via the various agents like individuals, industries, governments, NGOs, faith organisations, pressure groups, social groups, and others which may include diaspora and international organisations.

Objectives of the Study

i. Identify the capitals of infrastructure for community transformation
ii. Investigate the agents of transformation
iii. Conceptualise a framework for Tourism infrastructure and community transformation
iv. Examine the influence of tourism infrastructure on community transformation

Hypothesis

There is no significant relationship between tourism infrastructure and community transformation.

METHODOLOGY

Southwestern Nigeria is one of the six geopolitical zones in Nigeria. It comprises six states, namely; Oyo, Osun, Ondo, Ogun, Ekiti, and Lagos States. The zone is specially blessed with

arrays of idyllic touristic resources. The Southwestern Nigeria as a destination is endowed with all-year-round clement weather, tracts of undistorted nature ranging from tropical forests, magnificent parks, rolling lulls, waterfalls, diverse wildlife, beaches, and a host of others (Bakare, 2015). To its credit, it is boastful of cultural and natural resources of museums, ancient slave sites, palaces, shrines, pristine culture, crafts and artistry, springs, mountains, hills, and most importantly a crop of hospitable people. One most prominent tourism destination was purposively selected from each state; Oyo - Agodi Gardens, Ogun - Olumo Rock, Osun - Osun Osogbo Groove, Ondo - Idanre Hills, Ekiti – Ikogosi Warm Springs, and Lagos - National Theatre. Simple random sampling technique was employed to select thirty residents from each town from each state, giving a total of one hundred and eighty respondents. Residents were sourced from and within the neighbourhoods of the destinations; hence, familiarity to the community was paramount. Interview guided questionnaire was used to elicit information from the respondents. The questionnaire was sectioned into three, viz; community characteristics with checklist of infrastructure capitals, tourism resources, and agents of community transformation. The questionnaire had 4 point Likert scale; ranging from strongly disagreed - 1 to strongly agreed - 4. Data were analysed using regression model and factor analysis.

Scoring of rural infrastructure capitals was done by scoring each column on a 4 point scale on odd number continuum from 0 to 5 (putting the minimum at 0, maximum 5) (sustainably transforming (ST) - 5, fairly sustainably transforming (FST) - 3, minimally sustainably transforming (MST) - 1, and not (NST) sustainably transforming - 0). The scores for each column were added for each respondent. This was divided by the number of variables/statements for each asset to get the mean. e.g = **1**=3, **2**=3, **3**=1, **4**=5, **5**=5, **6**=3, **7**=3, and **8**=1. The score for human capital for this respondent is 3+3+1+5+5+3+3+1 = 24, 24/8 = 3.0. The frequency and percentage generated were used to plot the pentagon based on states. (Oyo, Ondo, Ogun, Osun, Ekiti, and Lagos) this gave six webs in the pentagon). The more balanced the Pentagon is, the more sustainable is the transformation. When the pentagon is skewed, it connotes certain irregularity and this can give a red alert of non-sustainability. The pentagon presents the threshold of each asset and the interrelationship of the capitals. Meanwhile, low possession of one capital can affect the other negatively hence, resulting to low sustainability. The size of the pentagon within the web is another concern. Most importantly, the capitals should maintain a close to perfect pentagon shape to describe low or high sustainability. While skewed pentagon was interpreted as poor infrastructure capital, no sustainability.

Agents of Community transformation - Figure 2 below showed the per cent involvements of the different agents of community transformation. Governments (32.4%) at different levels had the highest involvement in infrastructure intervention for communities. Individuals (15.1%) who were residents domestically and business-wise had the second-highest percentage of involvement in infrastructure for community transformation. Pressure groups (12.7%) which include political parties had the third involvements. The rest which included; industries (12.1%), NGOs (9.2%), others (7.0%) may include international organisations, social groups (6.3%), and faith organisations (5.2%) included Christian and Islamic bodies also contributed in different percentages to infrastructure towards community transformation. The results is in line with Adebayo, Jegede, & Eniafe (2014) that government incurred cost on infrastructure towards community; Satish (2007) also corroborated the result that public sector is associated with infrastructure services. The results corroborated Klugman (2014) that remarked the focus

of NGOs on local-level development projects, usually filling gaps government services have not met. Adewusi (2013) also identified individuals as an agent of social change in the community. However, the level of involvement of these agents identified by these research was not revealed.

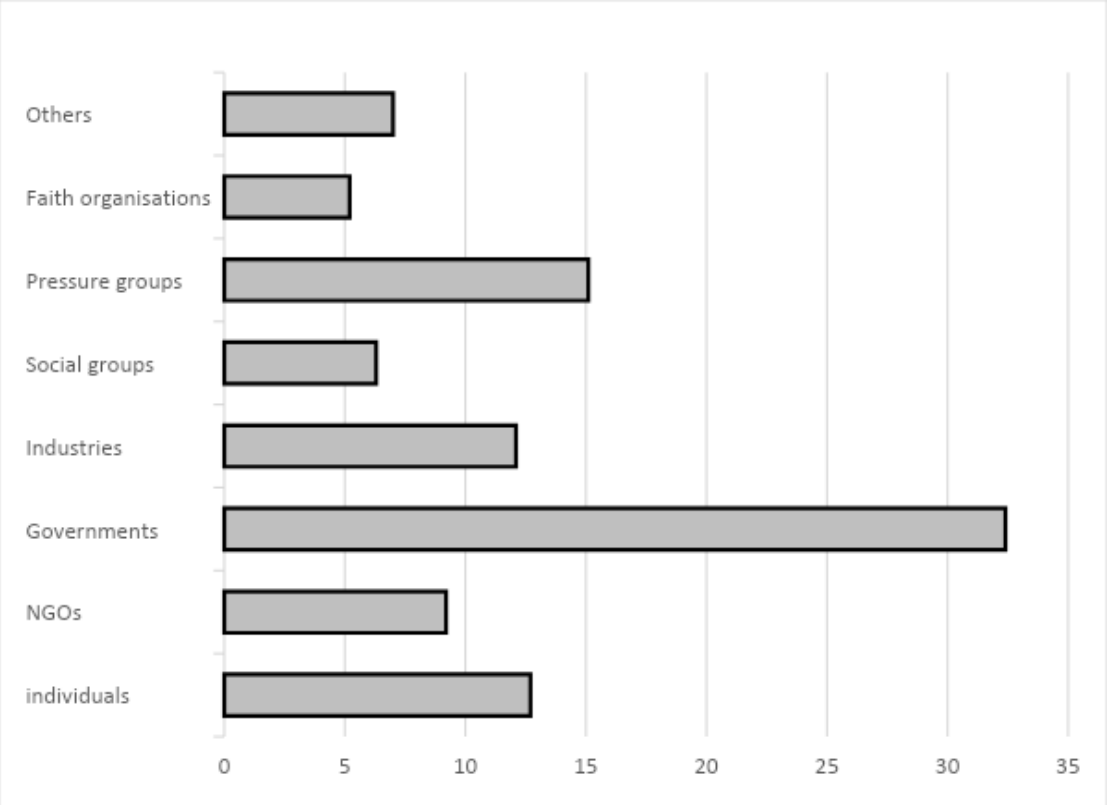

Figure 2: Agents of Community transformation

Distribution of Infrastructure capitals across the states in Southwestern Nigeria - Figure 3 showed the distribution of capitals according to states. The radar is the most efficient presentation for capitals. It gives a pictorial outlook of the distribution of the capitals in comparison with others. Studying the radar in Figure 3, there is no state in Southwestern Nigeria that has exhausted its optimal potential for community transformation. The use of radar reveals the size/scale of tourism infrastructure vis-a-vis community transformation. N state from the presentation had perfect radar of equal sides; and no state has optimised its points on all sides - political, social, human, economic, cultural, and physical capitals. This is not surprising as each state was yet to exhibit all capitals at optimal levels. Lagos had the radar shape that almost depicted high level of sustainable transformation. Ondo, Osun, and Oyo States had skewed radar which depict deficits in some infrastructure capitals. Ogun and Ondo States had more of natural capital but no commensurable levels of other capitals to give such level of sustainable transformation. Oyo State had a high level of physical infrastructure but deficits in others to make up a commendable sustainable transformation.

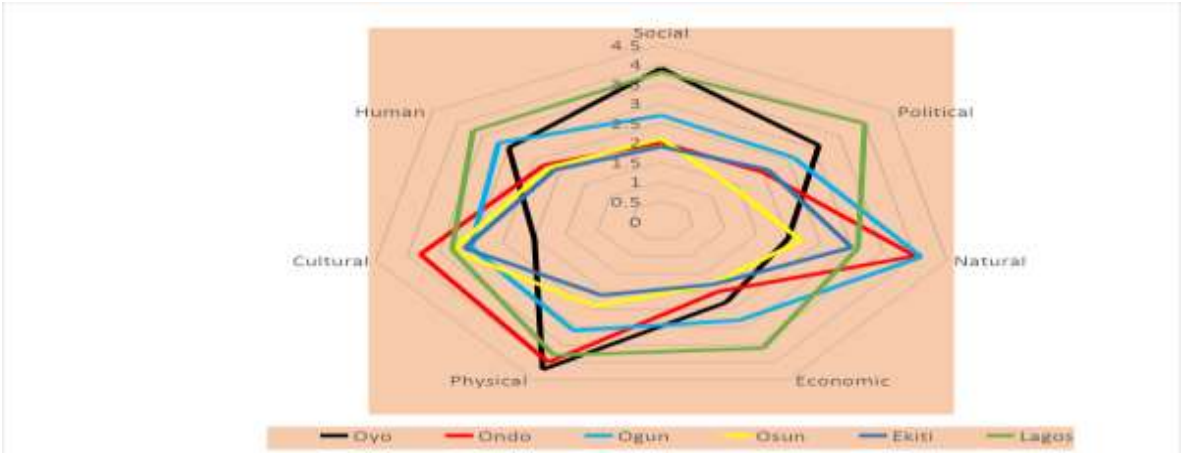

Figure 3: Pentagon of Infrastructure Capital Distribution in Southwestern Nigeria

Table1: Factor analysis showing infrastructure capitals and community transformation

Factors / Variables	Factor loadings	%variation explained	Eigen value	Cron. alpha
Social		10.319	3.993	.799
Security apparatus	.744			
Road	.692			
Electricity/Water	.622			
Associations/groups	.651			
Image/reputation	.541			
Media/ICT	.612			
Political		9.237	2.994	.811
Policies	.812			
Rules and regulations	.797			
Govt. offices	.723			
International relations	.701			
Political offices	.700			
Natural		9.103	2.713	.781
Vegetation	.736			
River/springs	.713			
Weather	.819			
Wildlife	.747			
Land	.815			
Hill/Mountains	.727			
Economic		10.117	1.231	.614
Markets	.780			
SMEs	.816			
Stores	.630			
Banks	.611			
Wages	.553			
Physical		10.312	1.267	.749
Industries	.743			
Town planning	.701			
Location	.724			
Institutions	.722			
Faith buildings	.633			

Built structure	.610			
Sports	.774			
Cultural		9.041	1.131	.611
Festivals	.714			
Museum	.751			
Cuisines	.503			
Historical sites	.707			
Folklores	.613			
Dance	.536			
Music	.671			
Human		10.003	1.214	.721
Health	.743			
Individuals/people	.639			
Strength/stamina	.713			
Skill/knowledge	.717			
Total		68.132		

Kaiser Meyer Olkin Sampling Adequacy .787; Bartlett's Test of Sphericity Chi sq. 2119.461; df = 178; Sig. = 0.000; Cronbach's Alpha 0.711

Infrastructure capitals and community transformation - Table 1 above showed the construct validity, principal component analysis and Varimax rotation. Since the results of KMO and Bartlett's test allows to run factor analysis, component factor analysis was applied to identify the principal components of the scale. During the calculation of factors, eigenvalues were utilized. After reliability test had applied to the scale consisting of 49 items, 6 items were deleted from the research due to reduced reliability. Cronbach's Alpha α was calculated as 0.711. Since Cronbach's Alpha value is close to 1, the value for the analysis is determined as adequate based on statistical significance and the scale is determined as consistent and reliable. KMO value of the scale was calculated as 0.787 which is quite satisfactory. Therefore, the existing set of data is quite good for factor analysis. Also, Bartlett's test of sphericity was calculated as 2119.461 which shows the research factors and variables are statistically meaningful at a level of 0.001. Since KMO and Bartlett's tests allow to run factor analysis, component factor analysis is run in order to identify the principal components of scale. As a result of factor analysis implemented to the scale, seven capitals were created. Table 1 also showed the seven capitals, as well as the eigenvalues related to these factors, per cent variance explained, and factor loadings (indicating which each item is associated with which factor). Total variance explained is 66.132%. Social capital and variance explained as 10.319% with Cronbach's Alpha value as 0.799; political capital had Cronbach's Alpha value as 0.811 and variance explained as 9.237%; natural capital had Cronbach's Alpha value as .781 and variance explained as 9.103%; economic capital had Cronbach's Alpha value as .614 and variance explained as 10.117%; physical capital recorded Cronbach's Alpha value as .749 and variance explained as 10.312%; and cultural capital with Cronbach's Alpha value as .611 and variance explained as 9.041%; and finally, human capital with Cronbach's Alpha value as 0.721 and variance explained as 10.003%. The implication for the study is that every capital item was suitable for infrastructure capital and all the capitals were significant to community transformation. The findings of Adewusi (2013) in his study on community information found that

social, educational, economic, industrial, technological, agricultural, political, cultural and recreational developments were significant to development changes. The study also agreed with Jordan, Anil, & Munasib (2010) that defined social capital as social networks and cultural norms, believed to facilitate political participation and good governance. This assertion can imply to adduce that all the capitals are important for transformation as availability of some can make some others to exist.

Table 2: Regression analysis for community transformation

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
(Constant)	1.315	0.340		3.867	0.000
Social	0.150	0.082	0.164	1.840	0.068
Physical	0.148	0.074	0.174	1.985	0.059
Political	0.113	0.081	0.181	0.617	0.401
Natural	1.197	0.087	0.159	1.613	0.506
Economic	0.116	0.081	0.113	2.687	0.008
Human	0.161	0.081	0.184	1.733	0.060
Cultural	0.122	0.092	0.130	1.329	0.186

Dependent Variable: Community transformation

Relationship between infrastructure capitals and community transformation – Table 2 above showed social capital (B = 0.164; $p<0.05$) was greater than 0.05 and significant at t-value 1.840; physical capital (B = 0.174; $p<0.05$) showed significant position with community transformation, the Beta value greater than alpha 0.05 as well t value of 1.985; human capital (B = 0.161; $p<0.05$) showed significant position with community transformation, the Beta value greater than alpha 0.05 as well t value of 1.733. Also, natural capital (B = 0.159; $p<0.05$) showed significance with community transformation at t-value 1.613. Although natural capital seems to have a Beta-value that is neither less than 0.05 or greater than 0.05 hence, the hypothesis is rejected as p = 0.05, even as it showed a high insignificant level 0f 0.506. Political capital (B = 0.181; $p>0.05$) also showed no significant position with community transformation, the Beta value greater than alpha though, the t value of 0.617. Economic capitals (B = 0.113; $p>0.05$) also showed significant relationship with community transformation as its t value is 2.687 which very much greater than 0.05 significant level. Finally, the findings on cultural capital (B = 0.130; $p>0.05$) showed no significant relationship with community transformation with t-value 1.329; though, the hypothesis is rejected as Beta-value is greater than 0.05. From the findings, only political capital did not show any significant influence on community transformation. The position is that without political capital in place, a community can be transformed if other capitals such as; physical, social, natural, economic, and natural are in place. The finding of the study is in agreement with Emery and Flora (2006) that identified seven infrastructure capitals essential for transformation, viz; social, human, built, political, financial, cultural, and natural. The result also corroborated with the finding that social capital was found to have highest influence on community transformation (Emery, & Flora, 2006). Social capital which included interaction/information, and ties that people may have is very strong as it can be applied to work for other capitals. The study also agreed

with Jordan, Anil, & Munasib (2010) that many researches treat social capital as a factor of production similar to human capital and physical capital (Jordan, Anil, & Munasib, 2010).

CONCLUSION

Infrastructure capitals were found to have significant relationship with community transformation. It could be inferred from the capital pentagon that none of the states in Southwestern Nigeria had optimised its potential in terms of capitals hence, none is optimally sustainably transforming. Lagos State was close, but not yet there as the web did not reflect a perfect/balanced pentagon. The situation in other states like Osun, Ondo, Ekiti, and Ogun despicable as infrastructure capital assets pentagons were skewed or lop-sided giving an impression of unbalanced/unsustainable transformation. Social, physical, and natural capitals were most significant for community transformation. This is due to the fact that some capitals could come to exist and lead to the acquisition of others. Social capital (group membership, networking,); physical capital (industries, built structures, etc.); and natural capital (weather, land, river, etc.) can bring about assets that will constitute economic capital (cooperatives, thrifts, markets, etc.); and human (people through migration, strength, knowledge, health, skill, etc.) among others.

Recommendations

i. Government is the principal stakeholder and the giant donor of infrastructure assets, it should put in place a system to regularly evaluate infrastructure capital of communities at different levels based on needs, to be able to attend to capital needs deficits for optimal sustainable transformation. Based on regular assessment, blueprint / feedback on the state of infrastructure capital should be made available for other agents of community transformation to attend to deficit areas for optimal sustainable transformation. This will also give the mechanism for planning, managing, and maintenance of infrastructure.

ii. Commercialisation - applying commercial operations in the public sector towards infrastructure supplies is apposite. To achieve commensurable infrastructure for optimal sustainable transformation, there is need to conceive infrastructure capital as a ‘service industry’ to providing goods that meet customers’ demands. This will encourage public or private sectors to run on business lines by having clear and coherent goals focused on delivering services with autonomous management.

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