

IMPACT OF ECONOMIC GLOBALIZATION ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN ETCHE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF RIVERS STATE BETWEEN 2009-2019

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ABSTRACT

Globalization is increasingly impacting on rural communities of Africa and has dictated the pace of economic activities of rural dwellers in these communities. This paper examines the impact of economic globalization on rural development in Etche Local Government Area of Rivers State of Nigeria between 2009-2019. The paper emphasizes the uncontrollable penetration of the phenomenon of globalization on the rural economies of Nigeria. The paper adopted Immanuel Wallestein's World system theory as its theoretical perspective to argue that rural development in Etche Local Government Area is enhanced by the phenomenon of economic globalization. The paper relied on quantitative data to arrive at its findings; as such it employed the fore point likert scale questionnaire on a descriptive survey design. The paper adopted the mean and standard deviation method to analyze data generated from a purposively selected sample population of 342 respondents, while a single hypothesis was tested with the Spearman rank order coefficient correlation, with the help of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences. The univariate and bivariate analysis carried out on individual variable, the mean score and standard derivation were obtained. The paper found out that there is a positive relationship between economic globalization and rural development in Etche Local Government of Rivers State; thus rejecting the null hypothesis of no significant relationship between economic globalization and rural development in Etche Local Government Area of Rivers State. The paper recommends amongst others; that the government should endeavour to set up and implement various schemes that aim at enhancing entrepreneurial development and self-reliance in the Etche Local Government Area.

Keywords: Development, Globalization, Economic Globalization, Rural, Etche LGA.

INTRODUCTION

Globalization has become the defining feature of contemporary international system through which major actors in the system network together in order to achieve their interest and objectives (Ramsey, 2013). Globalization entails a process and pattern of

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interaction which link people, nation states, governmental and international institutions, non-governmental organizations and multinational corporations together (Balarabe 2002). Although the gestation period of globalization cannot be ascertained, the ongoing processes of globalization do not occur in a vacuum but interacts with other complex processes at different levels, including domestic economic policies, livelihood strategies and socio-cultural structures and practices (Anslem, 2015). Major aspects of globalization that relates to rural economy include the liberalization of international trade as well as markets for agricultural products, commercialization of agriculture and expansion of agro-industries, rural livelihood diversification, the intensification of international and internal labour migration, the increasing privatization of resources and services, Structural Adjustment policies and the wider use of information technologies (United Nations 2005).

Therefore, the implications of globalization for the rural economy are complex. The changes taking place in rural areas has direct impact on the lives of rural dwellers, in both positive and negative ways. For some rural dwellers, the ongoing changes present new opportunities; for others, they may intensify social exclusion and marginalization. As a complex and multifaceted phenomenon, globalization is considered by some as a form of capitalist expansion which entails the integration of local and national economies into a global, unregulated market economy.

Globalization has grown due to advances in transportation and communication technology. With the increased global interactions comes the growth of international trade, ideas, and culture. Nigeria's rural population is about 72.7 million of 140 million (census 2006), equivalent to 52.7 per cent and is increasing by an average of 1.2 per cent each year (Ogundu, 2012).

Agriculture account for 45 per cent of Nigeria's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and it is the main base of rural livelihood. Under globalization, world economy is increasingly changing and these changes are undoubtedly affecting the nature of trade, structure of the market and sustainability of the form of livelihood. For instance, colonialism, neo-colonialism and imperialism exerted a strong influence on rural economy. It is therefore, proper to state that the current policies of globalization will also impact on rural economy in Nigeria. Nigeria's rural population is predominantly large with 79% of the total population living and working in rural communities. 54 million of the 79 million people living in the rural areas are women (Nigeria Rural Poverty Portal 2010). According to Okafor and Onokerharaye cited in Onwuemele and Kuase (2011) Nigeria's rural economic system comprises of five major components, which includes; human resources, agricultural activities, nonagricultural activities, primary production and natural resources.

More than 80 percent of the rural labour force is engaged in subsistence farming at smallholder level (Edo and Ikelegbe 2014). According to Edo and Ikelegbe (2014) Crop and livestock production are usually fused together as rural agricultural activities and there are variation in agricultural production, the Northern region of Nigeria majorly produces more of cotton, rice, beans, groundnut, horticulture and livestock while the Southern region majorly produce more of palm product, cassava, rubber, coca and fishing product. Most food crop is produced for consumption, while cash crops are exported. Agriculture as a large sector of the rural economy contributes about 50 percent to Nigeria's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and account for large portion of income of farmers in relation to other sources of income in the rural communities (Edo and Ikelegbe 2014). Access to productive resources in rural communities reflects the practise of customary laws. Customary laws in

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rural communities are determinants of social order, entitlement to productive resources as well as specify the obligations of men, women and children.

Customary land laws and norms define the mode of operation and land is generally believed to be owned communally and administered under the authority of community traditional rulers, chief and family head. As such, customary land tenure system in the rural areas is governed by customary laws, practices and norms. Land in Nigeria's rural economy is held in two forms community and family land. Community heads, traditional chiefs, council of elders remain custodian of community land while family land is managed under the custody of the family head.

According to Gender Report (2012) in spite of the Nationalisation of land, in practices land ownership and access varies from one place to another in Nigeria. Under the land use act of 1978, women's right to land are still regarded as secondary and use right for women is still based on marriage, inheritance through male son and leasing. Furthermore, many customs still suggest that women access to land is mediated through patrilineal system (Aluko and Amudu, 2006). Although farming is the dominant economic activity among rural communities from pre-colonial to post-colonial among rural communities in Nigeria, majority of the rural population are also engaged in variety of non-farm activities which serve as alternative source of livelihood.

In spite of the benefits of globalization for rural development, most of the indigenous people of the Etche Local Government Area are not gainfully employed, majority of them are either into peasant farming or petty trading. Again, the Etche Local Government Area is infrastructural deficient, with little or no electricity supply and acute lack of sufficient pipe-borne water etc., to sufficiently service the people. The above negative indices correlate negatively with rural development. This paper therefore is instituted to ascertain the impact of globalization on rural development, focusing on Etche Local Government Area of Rivers State between 2009-2019. The paper aims at examining the impact of globalization on the rural dwellers of Etche Local Government Area, particularly between segmented in other to fully expound on its core purpose. The first segment is introduction, the second segment comprises of the theoretical perspective and the elucidation of key concepts of the paper. The third segment is a very brief outline of how data were collected and analyzed while the fourth segment encapsulates presentation of data and discussion of findings, the fifth segment and of course the final segment covers the conclusion and recommendations made by the paper.

Theoretical Perspective

World System Theory

The World System Theory as an approach to social analysis and social change was developed among others by Immanuel Wallenstein in 1974. The world system theory is a macro sociological perspective that seeks to explain the dynamics of the capitalist world economy as a "total social system". World system theory is both a political and an intellectual endeavor that simultaneously fall into the fields of historical sociology and economics. Because of its emphasis on development and unequal opportunities across nations, it has been embraced by development theorists and practitioners. As a framework of analysis which mirrors the prevailing economic conditions of the various segments of the world system.

Wallenstein aimed at achieving a clear conceptual break with theories of "modernization" and thus providing a new theoretical paradigm to guide the investigation

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of the emergence and development of capitalism, industrialism and national state. For Wallenstein, the world system is a social system, one that has boundaries, structure, members, groups, races of legitimacy and coherence. Its life is made up of the conflicting forces which hold it together and tear it apart as each group seeks eternally to remold it to its advantage. It has the characteristics of an organism in that, it has a life span over which its characteristics change in some respects and remain stable in others. The world system is what Wallenstein termed "world economy" integrated through the market rather than a political center in which two or more regions are interdependent with respect to necessities like food, fuel, and protection while two or more polities compete for domination without the emergence of one single centre.

The world system theory is on the fact that the global north and the global south are into an unequal relationship such that; as long as the south continues to play the role of producing raw materials, cheap labour and a market for finished goods exported from the north, the north will continue to advance and develop at the detriment of the south. For Wallenstein, the continuation of this unequal relationship which is dictated by underpinning economic interest implies that development will never be felt in the global south. As such, the relationship is asymmetric in nature. The global north is the developed nations otherwise known as the core or the metropole while the global south is the underdeveloped or developing countries of Africa otherwise known as the periphery or satellite, the unequal relationship makes the global South to be in a subjugated condition.

Thus, while the global north keeps increasing in wealth and development, the global south keeps growing poorer, and will remain underdeveloped because of the unequal relationship. The subjugated condition of the global south is brought about by imperialism because the relationship between the global north and the global south is unequal, in this way looking at globalization and rural development, the rural area, or rural economy of Africa which is part of the global south will continue to remain underdeveloped because what they produce is only raw materials, they don't manufacture, but only generate raw materials with cheap labour. Thus, the relevance of the theory to this paper, is that it mirrors how the rural dwellers of Etche local government area who themselves are part of the global south are conditioned to remain poor and underdeveloped, as a result of how the Nigerian economy and indeed economies of Africa are linked into the global capitalist system in a subjugated condition.

Concept of Globalization

Globalization refers to the process of the intensification of economic, political, social and cultural relations across international boundaries.

Harrison, (2011) sees globalization as the process of interaction and integration among people, companies, and governments worldwide. Milani, (2009) defined globalization as a set of economic, social, technological, political as well as cultural structures and processes arising from the changing character of the production, consumption and trade of goods and assets that comprise the base of the international political economy. He further stated that; there is an increasing structural differentiation of these goods and assets that has spread across traditional political borders and economic changes. According to Dalibor (2008), globalization refers to a set of social, political, economic, and cultural processes giving which have given rise to ever interconnectedness and interdependence of the world, to its transformation from the world-in-itself to the world-for-itself. Besides, Nora (2002) sees globalization as the 'process of deregulation of

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labour markets, de-nationalization of capital, opening of borders for goods and capital and on the other side closing it for the poor. Selma, (2011) of the California state university defined globalization as 'an on-going historical process that is reaching its apex toward the end of the 20th century. This process lead to the increasing integration of the production of goods, services, ideas, culture, communication and environmental pollution on a worldwide scale, impacting the locality of populations and labour'. As a complex and multifaceted phenomenon, globalization is considered by some as a form of capitalist expansion which entails the integration of local and national economies into a global, unregulated market economy (Jones. 2009). Globalization has grown due to advances in transportation and communication technology. With the increased global interactions comes the growth of international trade, ideas, and culture.

According to Polonski, (2011) Globalization is primarily an economic process of interaction and integration that's associated with social and cultural aspects. However, conflicts and diplomacy are also large parts of the history of globalization, and modern globalization.

The term globalization became popular in social science in the 1990s. It derives from the word globalize, which refers to the emergence of an international network of economic systems, The term 'globalization' had been used in its economic sense at least as early as 1981, and in other senses since at least as early as 1944. Theodore Levitt is credited with popularizing the term and bringing it into the mainstream business audience in the later half of the 1980s. Since its inception, the concept of globalization has inspired competing definitions and interpretations. Its antecedents date back to the great movements of trade and empire across Asia and the Indian Ocean from the 15th century onward. Due to the complexity of the concept, various research projects, articles, and discussions often stay focused on a single aspect of globalization (Anslem, 2013).

According to Held (2010), globalization refers to the widening, deepening and speeding up of global interconnection, such a definition begs further elaboration. Globalization can be on a continuum with the local, national and regional. At one end of the continuum lie social and economic relations and networks which are organized on a local and/or national basis; at the other end lie social and economic relations and networks which crystallize on the wider scale of regional and global interactions. Globalization can refer to those spatial-temporal processes of change which underpin a transformation in the organization of human affairs by linking together and expanding human activity across regions and continents. Without reference to such expansive spatial connections, there can be no clear or coherent formulation of this term. A satisfactory definition of globalization must capture each of these elements: extensity, intensity, velocity and impact (Robertson, 2016).

Economic Globalization

Economic globalization is the increasing economic interdependence of national economies across the world through a rapid increase in cross-border movement of goods, services, technology, and capital (Akinyemi, 2015). Whereas the globalization of business is centered around the diminution of international trade regulations as well as tariffs, taxes, and other impediments that suppresses global trade, economic globalization is the process of increasing economic integration between countries, leading to the emergence of a global marketplace or a single world market. Depending on the paradigm, economic globalization can be viewed as either a positive or a negative phenomenon. Economic globalization

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comprises: globalization of production; which refers to the obtainment of goods and services from a particular source from different locations around the globe to benefit from difference in cost and quality. Likewise, it also comprises globalization of markets; which is defined as the union of different and separate markets into a massive global marketplace. Economic globalization also includes competition, technology, corporations and industries (Neyman 2015).

Current globalization trends can be largely accounted for by developed economies integrating with less developed economies by means of foreign direct investment, the reduction of trade barriers as well as other economic reforms, and, in many cases, immigration. International standards have made trade in goods and services more efficient. An example of such standard is the intermodal container. Containerization dramatically reduced transport of its costs, supported the post-war boom in international trade, and was a major element in globalization. International Organization for Standardization is an international standard-setting body composed of representatives from various national standards organizations.

A multinational corporation or worldwide enterprise is an organization that owns or controls production of goods or services in one or more countries other than their home country. It can also be referred as an international corporation, a transnational corporation, or a stateless corporation (Dudley 2007). A free-trade area is the region encompassing a trade bloc whose member countries have signed a free-trade agreement (FTA). Such agreements involve cooperation between at least two countries to reduce trade barriers – import quotas and tariffs – and to increase trade of goods and services with each other. If people are also free to move between the countries, in addition to a free-trade agreement, it would also be considered an open border. Arguably the most significant free-trade area in the world is the European Union, a politico-economic union of 27 member states that are primarily located in Europe. The EU has developed European Single Market through a standardized system of laws that apply in all member states. EU policies aim to ensure the free movement of people, goods, services, and capital within the internal market. Trade facilitation looks at how procedures and controls governing the movement of goods across national borders can be improved to reduce associated cost burdens and maximize efficiency while safeguarding legitimate regulatory objectives.

Global trade in services is also significant. For example, in India, business process outsourcing has been described as the "primary engine of the country's development over the next few decades, contributing broadly to GDP growth, employment growth, and poverty alleviation". William I. Robinson's theoretical approach to globalization is a critique of Wallenstein's World Systems Theory. He believes that the global capital experienced today is due to a new and distinct form of globalization which began in the 1980s. Robinson argues not only are economic activities expanded across national boundaries but also there is a transnational fragmentation of these activities. One important aspect of Robinson's globalization theory is that production of goods are increasingly global. This means that one pair of shoes can be produced by six different countries, each contributing to a part of the production process.

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Characteristics of Globalization

Globalization, according to Nwachukwu, (2010) possesses the following characteristics:

Movement of People

An essential aspect of globalization is movement of people, and state-boundary limits on that movement have changed across history. The movement of tourists and business people opened up over the last century. As transportation technology improved, travel time and costs decreased dramatically between the 18th and early 20th century. For example, travel across the Atlantic ocean used to take up to 5 weeks in the 18th century, but around the time of the 20th century it took a mere 8 days. Today, modern aviation has made long-distance transportation quick and affordable.

Tourism is travel for pleasure. The developments in technology and transport infrastructure, such as jumbo jets, low-cost airlines, and more accessible airports have made many types of tourism more affordable. International tourist arrivals surpassed the milestone of 1 billion tourists globally for the first time in 2012. A visa is a conditional authorization granted by a country to a foreigner, allowing them to enter and temporarily remain within, or to leave that country. Some countries – such as those in the Schengen Area – have agreements with other countries allowing each other's citizens to travel between them without visas. The World Tourism Organization announced that the number of tourists who require a visa before traveling was at its lowest level ever in 2015. Immigration is the international movement of people into a destination country of which they are not natives or where they do not possess citizenship in order to settle or reside there, especially as permanent residents or naturalized citizens, or to take-up employment as a migrant worker or temporarily as a foreign worker. According to the International Labour Organization, as of 2014 there were an estimated 232 million international migrants in the world (defined as persons outside their country of origin for 12 months or more) and approximately half of them were estimated to be economically active (i.e. being employed or seeking employment). International movement of labor is often seen as important to economic development. For example, freedom of movement for workers in the European Union means that people can move freely between member states to live, work, study or retire in another country.

Globalization is associated with a dramatic rise in international education. More and more students are seeking higher education in foreign countries and many international students now consider overseas study a stepping-stone to permanent residency within a country. The contributions that foreign students make to host nation economies, both culturally and financially has encouraged major players to implement further initiatives to facilitate the arrival and integration of overseas students, including substantial amendments to immigration and visa policies and procedures. A transnational marriage is a marriage between two people from different countries. A variety of special issues arise in marriages between people from different countries, including those related to citizenship and culture, which add complexity and challenges to these kinds of relationships. In an age of increasing globalization, where a growing number of people have ties to networks of people and places across the globe, rather than to a current geographic location, people are increasingly marrying across national boundaries. Transnational marriage is a by-product of the movement and migration of people.

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Movement of Information

Before electronic communications, long-distance communications relied on mail. Speed of global communications was limited by the maximum speed of courier services (especially horses and ships) until the mid-19th century. The electric telegraph was the first method of instant long-distance communication. For example, before the first transatlantic cable, communications between Europe and the Americas took weeks because ships had to carry mail across the ocean. The first transatlantic cable reduced communication time considerably, allowing a message and a response in the same day. Lasting transatlantic telegraph connections were achieved in the 1865–1866. The first wireless telegraphy transmitters were developed in 1895. The Internet has been instrumental in connecting people across geographical boundaries. For example, Facebook is a social networking service which has more than 1.65 billion monthly active users as of 31 March 2016. Globalization can be spread by Global journalism which provides massive information and relies on the internet to interact, "makes it into an everyday routine to investigate how people and their actions, practices, problems, life conditions etc. in different parts of the world are interrelated. Possible to assume that global threats such as climate change precipitate the further establishment of global journalism."

Concept of Development

Development as a concept is not very easy to define. It means different things to different people sometimes depending on their disciplines or professions. For instance as noted in Oyebamiji and Adekola (2008) that while an economist would see development in terms of increase in Gross National Product (GNP), Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and per capita income of individuals in the system, the political scientist would see it as improvement in the political consciousness of the people, the environmentalist would see the term development as improvement and welfare of the totality of the physical and natural environment. To the psychologist development is concerned with the mental and physical growth of individuals. To the adult educator, development is seen in terms of improvement in the living standard of the people and their community. Against this backdrop, Onyeozu (2007) stressed that development should be perceived as a multi-dimensional process which involves the reorganization and reorientation of the entire social, economic and cultural systems. Added to improvements in incomes and outputs, it involves radical changes in institutional, social and administrative structures as well as in popular attitudes, and sometimes, even customs and beliefs. Oyebamiji and Adekola (2008) noted that in defining development many words with similar meanings often come to mind. Such words include: social change, growth, evolution, advancement and modernization. They stressed that with the exception of social change; all others imply positive change in a specific direction. Thus, Balogun (2014) noted that development is concerned with change but it is not simply the same as change. He noted further that development is concerned with those progressive changes which are rooted in, and sprang out of previous situations. This means that development is not making everything new but a new emerging from the old.

Akinpelu (2012) noted that development is of man rather than of infrastructures and public works, super markets, sky scrapers and highways, -though they are indices. Balogun (2014) agrees with this assertion when he said that the emphasis of development is on the people; as it is they who are thought to appreciate what constitute change. This view likely derives from the opinion of Nyerere (1978) who maintained that "Development is for man,

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by man and of man'. From similar standpoint, Kidd (2008) saw development as the power of the people to solve their own problems, using their own experience, thinking and resources with a view to bringing to an end their hitherto abnormal state of poverty and want. Todaro (2005) specified three objectives of development:

- i. **Life Sustaining Goods and Services:** To increase the availability and widen the distribution of basic life sustaining goods such as food, shelter, health and protection.
- ii. **Higher Incomes:** To raise levels of living, in addition to higher incomes, the provision of more jobs, better education, greater attention to cultural and human values, all of which serve not only to enhance material well-being but also to generate greater individual and national self-esteem.
- iii. **Freedom to make Economic and Social Choices:** To expand the range of economic and social choices available to individuals and nations by freeing them from servitude and dependence not only in relations to other people and nations but also to the forces of ignorance and human misery.

The Noble Economist Amartya Sen writing in 'Development as Freedom' sees development as being concerned with improving the freedoms and capabilities of the disadvantaged, thereby enhancing the overall quality of life. Sen pursues the idea that development provides an opportunity for people to free themselves from the suffering caused by: early mortality, persecution, starvation and illiteracy. Development should be about increasing political freedom, cultural and social freedom and not just about raising incomes. Anyanwu (2009) identified four areas which development is operational:

- i. Social change, in which new ideas are introduced into a social system to produce higher per capita incomes and levels of living.
- ii. Man's capacity to expand his own consciousness and, therefore, his power over himself, his environment and his society.
- iii. The power of the people to solve their own problems, with their own wisdom, experiences and resources;
- iv. The optimum realization of the wellbeing of individuals in their community.
- v. He noted that in all cases, the emphasis is on people, because it is they who are stimulated, motivated, helped or encouraged to adopt new methods, and to learn new skills, for their well-being.

After a critical examination of the scholastic views of development, we agree with the submission of Okoli (2005) who sees development as man-directed and propelled socio-economic and political transformations of self and entire structure of a given political system from a comparatively low and/or remarkably improved form. These transformations have as their primary objective improvements of the living conditions and material standings of the citizenry. These subsequently improve man's potentials and capabilities and diminish and/or reduce poverty, penury, inequality, unemployment and, generally enhance the conditions for human existence.

Economic Development

Oyebamiji and Adekola (2008) observe that the economist views economic development in terms of increase in the Gross National Product (GNP), Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and the per capita income. The community developer sees economic development in terms of increase in the disposable income of individuals. To the

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professional as noted by Oni and Bello cited in Onyeozu (2007) economic development is the qualitative and quantitative change in factors of production leading to increase in the quality and quantity of goods and services that every individual is opportune to possess in a given period of time.

Economists also maintain that economic development differs from economic growth. Economic development means the sustained concerted actions of communities and policy makers that improve the standard of living and economic health of a specific locality. Todaro (2007) defines economic development as an increase in living standard, improvement of the citizen's self-esteem needs and freedom from oppression as well as a greater choice. It implies changes in income, savings and investment along with progressive changes in socio-economic structure of the country. Economic growth is a sub - category of economic development. It refers to an increase in a country's real level of output of goods and services, caused by increase in quality and quantity of resources such as education, improvements in technology etc. In essence, the conclusion of Oyebamiji and Adekola (2008) is quite apt in the issue under discussion. They maintained that from whatever angle economic development is perceived our concern in community development is the welfare of the people and their community in terms of quality and quantity of financial resources available to them as individuals and as groups.

Concept of Rural Development

Although community development has its ancestry as a union of community organization and economic development, rural sociology, adult education and the extension movement, it is new as a discipline. (Anyanwu, 2009). It was first mentioned internationally at the 1948 Cambridge Summer Conference. There it was agreed that the compound word 'community development' should be used in place of 'mass education' and defined as:

A movement designed to promote better living, with the active participation and if possible on the initiative of the community but if this initiative is not forthcoming spontaneously, by the use of techniques for arousing and stimulating it in order to ensure its active and enthusiastic response to the movement. Since then, the concept has attracted a lot of attention from other organizations, scholars and practitioners as evident in literature, who have defined the concept in various ways all of which, however, refer to similar and related development activities and situations. Notable among the organizations is The United Nations Organization (UNO) who in 1963 gave a definition that today enjoys wider acceptability. It defined community development as: A process by which the efforts of the people themselves are united with those of governmental authorities, to improve the economic, social and cultural conditions of community, to integrate those communities into the life of the nation and to enable them contribute fully to national progress. Community development is also defined as: An educational method in which the efforts of the people themselves are united with those of governmental authorities to improve the economic, social and cultural conditions of communities and integrate them into the life of the nation and enable them contribute fully to national progress. (Onyeozu, 2007).

Similarly, Community Development Exchange (2013) sees community development as a set of values and practices which plays a special role in overcoming poverty and disadvantage, knitting society together at the grass roots and deepening democracy. It involves changing the relationships between ordinary people and impositions of power, so that everyone can take part in the issues that affect their lives. It starts from the principle that within any community there is a wealth of knowledge and experience which, if used in

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creative ways, can be channeled into collective action to achieve the community's desired goals.

Frank and Smith (2013) view community development as a process where community members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to common problems. It ranges from small initiatives within a small group to large initiatives that involve the broader community. They maintained that effective community development should be a long term endeavor;

- i. Well planned
- ii. Inclusive and equitable
- iii. Holistic and integrated to bigger picture
- iv. initiated and supported by community members
- v. Of benefit to the community and
- vi. Grounded in experience that leads to best practices.

Alozie (2012) sees 'community development as a structured intervention that gives communities control over the conditions that affect their lives.' Anyanwu (2009) said it is 'the process of life in the community, by which the people plan and act together for the satisfaction of their felt needs'. A careful consideration of the definitions above, given in organizations and individuals, shows that community development has been described as a movement, a method and a process. The implication is that community development as a development tool manifests in different forms depending on the practitioner. It needs to be noted, however, that community development in contemporary times has gone beyond the traditional role of improving the social, economic and physical conditions of individuals to include improvement in their emotional and psychological dispositions. Based on this, community development can be defined as a process by which the people with or without external help take steps to improve on the social, economic and physical standards as well as the emotional and psychological dispositions of community members relying mostly on local initiative, leadership and resources.

Characteristics of Rural Areas

For the purpose of this chapter, we shall delve a little bit into a clear distinction of what connotes urban areas from rural areas. The essence here is that there are peculiar characteristics that differentiate rural from urban areas. Ijere (2005) defined 'urban' as the focus of commercial, social and civil life of a people, the major employment of a trained labour force, and the majority of the nation's educational and recreational facilities. The urban areas are the seat of government or administration, with possible slums and insanitary conditions. Examples of such areas as given by Ijere are Lagos Island, Onitsha and Kaduna, all within Nigeria. Meanwhile rural areas are perceived to be places with agricultural orientation, a collection of multiple farming dwellings and not totally unrelated nuclear families. In a nut-shell we can say that 'rural' covers a population that obtains a substantial part of its income from subsistent agricultural enterprises. In the words of Irabor, (2009) rural people, rural communities and rural societies differ from urban societies in their kinship and family structures. Rural families are generally large and more extended than urban families. In view of the above distinction, we shall analyze the features of rural areas as it relates to the Nigerian experience. The following are the common features of rural areas:

- i. **Lack of Infrastructure:** Ijere (Ibid:9) posits that good transportation systems, education, health and social welfare, water, and electricity which are invariably enjoyed by urban

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dwelling is however a luxury in the rural areas. Good water supply is a problem which confronts many parts of the country, either urban or rural. In the northern part of the country, the problem of poor rural water supply has reached a crisis level and the people depend on wells and scattered rivers that mostly run dry before the end of every year. Potable water supply in the rural areas has become a major, priority to most governments, and national agencies involved in this effort have been the Federal Ministry of Water Resources, the State Water Agencies, the Agricultural Development Projects, the River Basin Development Authorities and the Directorate for Food, Road and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI).

Idode (1989) sees education as another social service which is capable of facilitating the process of rural development. Much of the education found in our rural areas are besieged with unqualified and uncommitted teachers. The school buildings are often dilapidated due to rain storm or many years of neglect.

- ii. **Man Power Drift to Urban Areas:** A trip to any of our rural areas will reveal the magnitude of man power drift from the rural areas, and due to this drift; rural development is hindered. The attendant rural exodus means that the rural areas are exporting their most precious human resources, with their knowledge and skills, their vision and dynamism. It is only the old and the very weak that are usually left behind in the villages while the vibrant young that would have contributed tremendously to the development of the villages have all gone to town in search of “white collar” jobs. The resultant effect is that the areas lack the personnel to plan their resources and execute and contribute financially to community development.
- iii. **Resistance to Change:** One interesting and also important feature of rural communities and traditional agricultural societies is that usually there is a considerable resistance to change, to adoption and use of improved practices and new ideas. One commonly accepted view held is that there is a widespread fear that changes may result to a shift in the status-quo. There is always fear and dislike for innovative, resourceful, ambitious persons and the general prevalence of lack of faith, suspicion, distrust and fear of people from outside the traditional peasant societies... (IRAJ, 1986:11)
- iv. **Low Agricultural Productivity:** Despite great changes in agriculture in many parts of the world, large areas of our rural communities are yet to experience the revolution in the agricultural sector. They are still used to primitive agriculture and most of the agricultural products are consumed by the peasants and their families leaving non or little surplus for sale. Farm sizes in the rural areas are usually very small — normally under half a hectare thereby not creating enough space for cultivation. These farms are very often fragmented and consist of several plots scattered in different places thereby not creating room for communal cultivation that might boast productivity. Finally, cultivation techniques are simple and primitive. Much of the work is manual using hand-made tools, very little use is made of more advanced techniques or tools for crop production. The rural people cannot afford heavy — duty machines to engage in mechanized farming, and also; fertilizers meant to boost crop production has become very expensive that it needs government’s subsidy to reach the rural people.

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- v. **Lack of National Policy on Rural Development:** Most governments of developing and underdeveloped nations do not integrate the development of their rural areas into the overall national developmental plan of the country. Due to this, the rural areas are needed in the development schemes of such countries, and the people are left to develop on their own with their lean natural and human resources. According to Ijere (Op. Cit.), “up till 1976; Nigeria had no rural development programme. Not that there were no rural development problems, but that the rural questions were subsumed in agricultural matters, or in isolated, experimental rural development projects or community development schemes”. Speaking further, Ijere confirms that there is the absence of a national policy on rural development, each state tailors its own rural programme as deem fit. But even with these little efforts of individual states, the frequent changes of government and revisions of policy have contributed to confusion and instability. It is hoped that with the country’s nascent democracy, much attention will be paid to the development of the rural people because they also contribute to the GNP.
- vii. **Poor Quality Education:** In the developing countries of the world where large- scale rural development projects and programmes are underway, education and training for the implementation, management and co-ordination of rural development activities at primary, secondary, vocational and higher levels are not only necessary but vital. Many rural education and rural development programmes and projects of long or short duration have suffered from lack of effective organization and managerial capacity.
- viii. **Politically Handicapped:** The rural people, though very large in number, do not have the political capabilities in influencing government policies to their favour. They are often ignored in the scheme of decision making even when such decision affects their lives directly, they see themselves purely as followers and not leaders. Political capabilities enable people to develop the will to attain development, to experiment, to adventure and to take risk. Political capability gives them the right attitude to inculcate saving culture, investment, to work so as to alleviate absolute poverty, and to attain development in general. It is believed that when rural people have this power, their voice will be adequately and audibly represented in government, and only then can they influence policies affecting them.
- ix. **“Up-service” to Rural Policies:** The rural sector is important in the context of government fiscal policy; as a receiver of government expenditure and as a contributor to the revenue. Before and during election period, there are lots of promises to the rural people as it concerns their development; but these promises/policies do not see the light of day as they are never implemented. Due to the issue of lip-service on policies concerning the development of the rural poor, the people had no other choice than to engage themselves in self-help projects.

METHOD

This paper is descriptive and as such will adopt the descriptive survey design. Survey design covers a broad area using a sample from the entire population to analyze a larger population at a given point in time, it enabled the paper to use sample drawn to represent the different elements of the study population. The merits of this form of quasi experimental research design include: accumulation of information from individuals at relatively low cost; maximization of details in view of its micro analytical approach; more

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legitimate generalization to larger population; flexibility in the application of data collection techniques; and sensitization of the paper to potential problems originally unanticipated or unknown among others (Anikpo, 2006).

In the light of the above, the population of this study comprise of all the residence of the five clans in Etche Local Government Area of Rivers State, which include Okehi Clan, Mba Clan, Ulakwo/ Umuselem Clan, Igbo clan and Ozuzu clan. This is otherwise referred to as the target population of the study. (Okehi Clan 62, Mba Clan 58, Ulakwo/Umuselem Clan 74, Igbo Clan 72, Ozuzu Clan 58, Total of 324. Comprising of Community Chiefs, Youth leaders, Civil servants, CDC Chairmen and Elites).

The primary data helped in obtaining the exact information needed for the paper, these was obtained through administration of well-structured 5-point Likert scale questionnaire to the respondents as well as oral interviews aimed at revealing knowledge, attitudes, perceptions, etc. which are embodied on the respondents and which cannot be ascertained through the survey of existing documents.

In analyzing the data for this paper the mean and standard deviation method was adopted, while the Hypothesis was tested with the spearman rank order coefficient correlation, with the help of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS).

Table 1: Administration and Retrieval of Questionnaire

Clan	Copies Distributed	Copies Returned	Percentage Returned	Unreturned Copies
Okehi	62	55	16.9	7
Mba	58	45	13.8	13
Ulakwo/Umuselem	74	64	19.7	10
Igbo	72	58	17.9	14
Ozuzu	58	51	15.7	7
GRAND TOTAL	324	273	84	51

Source: Authors Field Data, 2020.

Univariate Analysis

The output of the primary data (univariate analysis) is presented. Analysis here is carried out on individual variables (their elements and measures) mean score and standard derivation are also illustrated. It begins with the independent (predictor) variable which is "globalization in Nigeria", its empirical referents/dimensions include: economic globalization

The empirical referents and the measures of the criterion variable are all scaled on the five point likert scale with 5 indicating "Strongly Agree"(SA) 4 stands for "Agree"(A) 3 indicate "Undecided"(U) 2 stands for "Disagree" (D) and 1 stand for "Strongly Disagree " (SD).Thus, the univariate analysis of this study are illustrated accordingly as diagrammatically shown below.

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Response Rates and Mean Analysis on Globalization in Nigeria.

Table 2 Mean analysis on Economic Globalization

S/No.	Items	SA	A	U	D	SD	Mean (X)	Std Deviation
1	Globalization has helped in increasing the interdependence of the Etche people.	140	100	25	5	3	4.35	0.264
2	Cross communal movement of goods and services, technology and capital brought about by globalization has helped in enhancing the development of the Etche Local Government Area:	160	90	20	3	0	4.49	0.278
3	Economic globalization has helped in enhancing the self reliance of the Etche people	120	110	35	5	3	4.24	0.255

Source: Authors Field Data, 2020.

The data in table 2 above illustrate the response rates and mean analysis on economic globalization, measured on a 3 item instrument and scaled on a 5 point likert scale. From the data the first question item show a mean score of 4.35 which is on the Strongly Agreed range of the scale, the 2nd and 3rd items with 4.49 and 4.24 mean scores also mean that the respondents are more inclined to the Strongly Agreed range of the scale used in the measurement.

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Response Rates and Mean Analysis on Rural Development in Nigeria

Table 3: Mean analysis on Economic Development

S/N o.	Items	SA	A	U	D	SD	Mean (X)	Std Deviation
1	The economic development in the Etche Local Government has led to increase in the desposable income of the Etche people	90	115	40	20	8	3.95	0.249
2	There is sustained concerted effort of the various clan in the Etche Local Government geared towards increase in the standard of living of the Etche People	115	100	30	28	0	4.11	0.243
3	There is increase in the real level of output of the indigenous people of Etche as a result of increased economic development	120	110	35	5	3	4.24	0.255

Source: Authors Field Data, 2020.

Table 3 above illustrate the response rate and mean analysis on economic development, measured on a 3 item instrument and scaled on a 5-points likert scale. From the data the first question item shows a mean score of 3.95 which is on the strongly agreed range of the scale the 2nd and 3rd items with mean score of 4.11 and 4.24 respectively indicate that the respondents are more inclined to the strongly agreed side of the scale used in the measurement.

Table 4: Mean Analysis on Physical Development

S/no	Items	SA	A	U	D	SD	Mean (X)	Std Deviation
1	There is improvement in the physical surrounding of the Etche communities.	50	155	40	20	8	3.80	0.220
2	Physical infrastructures such as road, schools and hospitals has been given a face lift in the Etche Local Government Area	140	100	25	5	3	4.35	.0264
3	There is increase in the health condition of the residents of the Etche Local Government Area as well as in the availability of modern and highly technological gadgets.	150	105	10	8	0	4.45	0.274

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Source: Authors Field Data, 2020.

Table 4.10: above illustrate the response rate for physical development, measured on a 3 item instrument and scaled on a 5- point scale. From the data, the first item shows a mean score of 3.80 which is on the strongly agreed of the scale, the 2nd question item show a mean score of 4.35 while the 3rd item show a mean score of 4.45 this indicate that the respondents are more included to the strongly agreed range of the measurement scale.

Table 5: Mean analysis on Sustainable Development

S/No	Items	SA	A	U	D	SD	Mean (X)	Std Deviation
1	Communal development in the Etche Local Government meets the need of the present without compromising the needs of future generation	120	110	35	5	3	4.24	0.255
2	Leadership in the Etche Local Government Area Prioritizes the ability of future generation by helping to meet their own developmental aspirations.	160	90	20	3	0	4.44	0.278
3	Overriding priority is giving to sustainable development of the Etche Local Government by the present political dispensation in Rivers State.	110	105	40	10	8	4.10	0.242

Source: Authors Field Data, 2020.

Table 5 above shows the response rate for sustainable development, measured on a 3 item instrument and scaled on a 5- point likert scale from the data the first question item shows a mean score of 4.24 which is on the strongly agreed side of the scale. The 2nd and 3rd question items with 4.44 and 4.10 mean scores respectively indicate that the respondents are more inclined to the strongly agreed range of the scale used in the measurement.

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Table 6: Mean analysis on Entrepreneurial Development

Source: Authors Field Data, 2020.

S/No.	Items	SA	A	U	D	SD	Mean (X)	Std Deviation
1	The spirit of self reliance has been inculcated in the residents of the Etche Local Government Area.	140	100	25	5	3	4.35	0.264
2	Small scale business has been given utmost priority and proliferation in the Etche Local Government Area.	130	120	20	3	0	4.49	0.278
3	Various development programs has been put in place by the Etche Local Government Council geared towards promoting entrepreneur in the areas.	110	105	40	10	8	4.10	0.242

Table 6 above illustrates the response rate for entrepreneurial development, measured on a 3 item instrument and scaled on a 5-points likert scale. From the data the first question item shows a mean score of 4.35 which is on the strongly agreed range of the scale the 2nd and 3rd items with mean score of 4.49 and 4.10 respectively indicate that the respondents are more inclined to the strongly agreed range of the scale used in the measurement.

Bivariate Analysis

After the data have been analyzed on their individual variables, the next local step is the bivariate analysis. Bivariate analysis is concerned with studies with two variables. Ahiauzu and Asawo (2012) states that bivariate analysis is the presentation and analysis of the data on the interface between the predictor (independent) variable and the criterion (dependent) variable.

The secondary data analysis is carried out using the Spearman's Rank Order Correlation tool at a 95% confidence interval. Specifically, the tests cover hypotheses (Ho₁) to hypotheses (Ho₄) which were bivariate and all stated in their null form.

The paper relied on the Spearman's Rank (*rho*) statistics to undertake the analysis. The 0.05 significance level is adopted as criterion for the probability of either accepting at ($p > 0.05$) or rejecting at ($p < 0.05$).

Statistical Test and Interpretations

In a bid to carry out a statistical test and its interpretations, the paper must obey the laid down decision scale frame, especially when it concerns the test of association. As discussed earlier, the current study adopted and applied the Spearman's Rank Order Correlation for the bivariate correlation association analysis. Just as it was substantiated by Chikwe (2012) which postulated that "in carrying out this bivariate analysis and respective correlation results decision interpretation, the researcher has to arm and guide himself with

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decision scale. Dana (2001) has itemized the following correlation decision scale frame as illustrated below:

- (a) $\pm .00 - .19$ (very weak)
- (b) $\pm .20 - .39$ (weak)
- (c) $\pm .40 - .59$ (moderate)
- (d) $\pm .60 - .79$ (strong)
- (e) $\pm .80 - .99$ (very strong)

Salkind (2010) also gave the following parameters as benchmark for interpreting correlation coefficient (r):

- (a) $0.8 - 1.0 =$ very strong relationship
- (b) $0.6 - 0.79 =$ strong relationship
- (c) $0.4 - 0.59 =$ moderate relationship
- (d) $0.2 - 0.39 =$ weak relationship
- (e) $0.0 - 0.19 =$ very weak or no relationship

The statistical tests are illustrated below accordingly.

Ho: There is no significant relationship between economic globalization and rural development in Etche Local Government Area of Rivers State.

Table 7: Correlation Result for Economic Globalization and Rural Development

		Economic Globalization	Rural Development
Spearman's (rho)	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	0.414
	Economic Globalization Sign. (2-tailed)	.	.012
	N	273	273
	Correlation Coefficient	0.414	1.000
	Rural Development Sign. (2-tailed)	.012	.
	N	273	273

* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Source: SPSS 21.0 Data Output, 2020

From the result in table 7, it is shown that a positive association exists between economic globalization and rural development. The *rho* value 0.414 indicates a significant association, it is also significant at $p.0.012 < 0.05$. Therefore, based on empirical findings, the null hypothesis earlier stated (i.e. Ho) is hereby rejected. Thus, there is a positive and significant relationship between economic globalization and rural development in Etche Local Government Area of Rivers State.

Table 8: Decision Summary of Result of the Hypotheses Tested

Hypotheses	Decision	Basis for Decision
H ₀₁ : There is no significant relationship between economic globalization and rural development in Etche Local Government Area of Rivers State.	The null hypothesis was rejected	Association was positive and significant based on rho value of 0.414 and p-value where $p = 0.012 < 0.05$

It is reiterated that the current study uses descriptive and inferential statistical methods powered by SPSS to examine the impact of globalization and rural development in Nigeria. Ahiauzu and Asawo (2016) put it that descriptive statistics “enables the researcher to have a clear understanding of the characteristics of the sample as well as the state of the individual items under investigation.” It is used to check frequencies as well as describe the nature of the data. Inferential statistics helps the researcher to determine whether a relationship does exist between sample results and the population.

The results of this study revealed a positive and significant association between globalization and rural development in Etche Local Government Area of Rivers State. This was confirmed from the output of the Spearman’s Rank Order Correlation tool powered by SPSS version 21.0 data output 2020. The interpretation of the current research results are itemized accordingly as shown below:

Result on Stated Research Hypothesis (H₀): This study saw a positive relationship between economic globalization and rural development in Etche Local Government of Rivers State. The rho value of 0.414 indicates a positive association. It is also significant at $p = 0.012 < 0.05$. Therefore, based on empirical finding, the null hypothesis earlier stated (i.e. H₀₁) is hereby rejected. Thus, a positive and significant association exists between economic globalization and rural development in Etche Local Government Area of Rivers State.

In summary, this paper empirically examined globalization and rural development in Nigeria, with focus on Etche Local Government Area of Rivers State. Globalization refers to the process of the intensification of economic, political, social and cultural relations across international boundaries. It is principally aimed at the transcendental homogenization of political and socio-economic theory across the Globe (Newman, 2013). Harrison, (2011) sees globalization as the process of interaction and integration among people, companies, and governments worldwide. Milani, (2009) defined globalization as a set of economic, social, technological, political as well as cultural structures and processes arising from the changing character of the production, consumption and trade of goods and assets that comprise the base of the international political economy.

CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

After the univariate and bivariate analysis of all the data gathered from the respondents, the paper concluded that globalization enhanced rural development in Nigeria to a great extent. Thus, the paper further revealed that:

A positive and significant relationship exist between economic globalization and rural development in the Etche Local Government Area of Rivers State, as the rho value of 0.414 and $p = 0.012 < 0.05$ indicate a positive relationship, meaning that economic globalization enhances rural development in Nigeria.

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In view of the foregoing; government should uphold good governance, transparency, accountability, zero tolerance at all levels, this will help in eradicating corruption as well as promoting even development in the Etche Local Government Area and beyond.

Government should build strong institutions in Etche Local Government. The institutions should possess good character, integrity, fair play, focus, probity result oriented, discipline, hard work, dedicated to service and efficiency. This will bring about efficient service delivery and eliminate wastage and crime.

Political will and stability should be encouraged, as these are ingredients that will eliminate political interference in policy objectives and implementation.

Encouraging local farmers through micro credit scheme, improved high yielding seeding, good irrigation system and building of agro-based industries to mop-up and process their Products should be encouraged, this will eliminate crime, waste as well as empower the rural farmers financially.

There should be commensurate commitment of stake holders, government, donors, communities and civil societies etc. towards the sustainable development in the Etche Local Government Area.

The government should endeavor to set up and implement various schemes that aim at enhancing entrepreneurial development and self-reliance in the Etche Local Government area, this will go a long way in alleviating poverty in the area.

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