

New Partnership for African Development (Nepad) and Foreign Aids Impacts on the Socio-Economic Development of Ebonyi State, Nigeria (2015 - 2020)

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Abstract

The study in its main thrust aimed to examine the impact of NEPAD and foreign aids to socio-economic development of Ebonyi State, Nigeria. Specifically was on healthcare delivery and provision of educational aids. The work was based on New Endogenous theory developed by Lucas and Romer in 1986. Both primary and secondary sources of data was employed. In methodology, descriptive survey design was utilized and structured questionnaire being the major instrument of data collection was distributed to the 400 sample size drawn from the study population. The hypotheses was tested using chi-square statistical tool. The data analysis reveals among others that NEPAD through its foreign aids have contributed in the following ways-provision of food aids, relief materials, agricultural incentives, renovations of dilapidated hospitals and structures of public schools located in the state but however not adequate enough. Based on the findings, it was recommended among others that NEPAD should increase it's foreign aids programmes since it is a bedrock to socio-economic development of developing countries. Also there is need to strengthen aid co-ordination and management processes in line with the principles of harmonization, alignment and mutual accountability for better results in aid management in states of Nigeria.

Key Words: *Aids, Partnership, Socio-economic Development.*

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I. Introduction

NEPAD is the acronym for New Partnership for African Development. It is a holistic, integrated and sustainable development initiative undertaken by African countries in constructive partnership with the developed countries for the economic and social rejuvenation of Africa. The Africa countries anchored the NEPAD effort on their avowed determination to liberate their continent and its peoples from the crushing challenges of underdevelopment and exclusion in the current age of globalization. Generally hailed as the beginning of a new era for Africa, and the Continent's last chance to address its ugly status as the least developed continent both in terms of its governance and level of socio-economic development, NEPAD is a pledge platform built by African leaders who shared a common vision and conviction that they have a pressing duty to place their countries on a pedestal of sustainable development to enable them participate in world economy and body politic.

It would seem from the above that the NEPAD initiative was a new wake-up call among African leaders for a partnership founded on the realization of common interest, obligation commitment, benefit and equity. The whole process of its founding began with the transition of Organization of African Unity to African Union in 2000. In preparing for this transition, the member-states had given a mandate to five selected heads of states of Algeria, Egypt, Nigeria, Senegal and South Africa, to design an integrated socio-economic development framework for the continent. As a result of their resolve to rebuild the African social and economic structures, they looked forward to NEPAD as a merger arrangement of the millennium development partnership for Africa. This merger was finalized on July 3, 2001, out of which grew a New African Initiative (NAI), and was approved by the O.A.U. Summit of Heads of States on July 11, 2001. On their own part, leaders of the G-8 29 endorsed the plan on July 20, 2001 in Genoa, Italy. An implementation committee formalized the policy framework on October 23, 2001 at Abuja, Nigeria. Thus, NEPAD was formed, while the African leaders officially adopted NEPAD in July 2002 as the officially mandated programme of the new African Union, which had been inaugurated in Durban, South Africa as the successor to the defunct Organization of African Unity (OAU).

Socio-economic development is crucial for any viable country. In fact, the importance or substance of a country is measured by her level of socio-economic growth and development. For developing countries like Nigeria, foreign aid has been seen as needed to promote socio-economic growth and development in the

country. African countries are seen as the highest official development assistance (ODA) recipient in the world but the countries within this region are characterized by very low per capita GDP and real GDP growth. Also, the country faces several challenges of political instability and institutional failure. Most African countries are characterized by massive poverty, high death rate, slow GDP growth, high population growth rate and increased income inequality, increased absolute poverty rate, low educational standards, low human development index to mention a few. According to development statistics, in Africa, about 1.2 billion people live on less than \$1 a day and another 2.8 billion people live on less than \$2 a day. This is also a similar case in health as the mortality rate has sky rocketed over the years as declared according to the UNICEF who stated that more than 10 million children die each year from preventable disease such as malaria, polio to mention a few (Emmanuel, 2012; Ogundipe and Ogundipe, 2013). Another scenario in developing countries is that the child mortality rate remains more than 10 times higher than those found in the rich countries and this is as a result of diseases that can be treated easily like dehydration (Todaro and Smith, 20H).

In examining human capital development via education, Africa is in deteriorating conditions. The average child in sub Saharan Africa can expect to spend less than 5 years in school, without even considering absenteeism of teachers and lack of resources like books. This The World Bank reports in 2004 showed that there has been a reduction in the amount of foreign aid directed to developing countries on this measure, rich countries reduced their aid contributions from around 0.34% to 0.23% of their output between 1990 and 2002. The reason for this can be attributed to several reasons ranging from economic to political changes (Hopkins 2000, Robinson and trap 2000.). However, the main reason for this "aid-fatigue" can be attributed to the fact that aid has failed to some large extents as there have been reports of corruption and poor administration, with aid management tying up valuable resources in recipient countries (Kanbur, 2000). Some researchers have argued that a large portion of foreign aid flowing into the country is wasted on unproductive public consumption, corruption and inefficiencies and this is as a result of poor institutional quality and bad governance.

In Ebonyi State in particular the public servants in the state have not benefited from the numerous bail out funds that comes to the state government. Promotions and its benefits are being stagnated and withheld since 2016. The state government have claimed that their major priority is on rural health, primary and secondary school education. It seems much developments have not been witnessed in such areas.

Without a speck of doubt, it is seen that foreign aid has failed in Africa and Nigeria and this has been fully backed up by statistics. Despite the different forms of aid, most especially the Official Development Assistance (ODA), Africa countries like Nigeria has not progressed to a meaningful stage of development. As home to a large proportion of the world's "bottom billion," Africa has attracted substantial amounts of foreign aid over the years. Over the last five decades, foreign aid to governments in Africa countries amounted to \$1 trillion. Ironically, at the same time, growth of GDP per capita in Africa actually registered a marked decline and was for many years even negative. GDP per capita figures also declined across most of Sub- Saharan Africa asides a few countries. For example, World Bank calculations show that based on the predictions of theories, foreign aid transfers to Nigeria, which began in the 1960s, would have by today pushed per-capita income to over \$20,000. However, reverse is the case as Nigeria income per capita has stagnated at around \$600 for years (Farah Abuzeid). This provides a vivid illustration of the failures of foreign aid in Africa countries.

Objectives

The main objective of this research is to examine the impact of foreign aids by NEPAD on socio-economic development in Nigeria. However, the specific objectives are as follows;

1. To ascertain the impact of NEPAD foreign aids on socio-economic development of Ebonyi State Nigeria.
2. To examine the role of NEPAD on educational development through the provisions of educational aids in Ebonyi State Nigeria.
3. To determine how NEPAD through provision of health aids contributed to socio economic development of Ebonyi State Nigeria

Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses were formulated to guide the study

- 1: Ho:** There is no significant relationship between NEPAD foreign aids and socio-economic development of Ebonyi State Nigeria.
- 2; Ho:** NEPAD have not contributed significantly to the educational development through the provisions of educational aids in Ebonyi State Nigeria.
- 3: Ho₃:** NEPAD through provision of health aids have not contributed to improved healthcare delivery in Ebonyi State Nigeria.

Theoretical Framework

The New Endogenous growth theory which came from Lucas Romer's modification of the old neo classical growth theory is employed as the theoretical foundation for the work. The main contributors to the theory are Arrow (1962), Romer (1986) and Lucas (1988). The endogenous growth theory recognizes the vital importance of the endogeneity of capital (that is, human capital and research and development activities) in the growth process. The neoclassical model emphasized that technical progress or total factor productivity growth are exogenously determined or given but the endogenous theory implies that growth is as a result of 'the learning by doing' effect which occurs between both physical and human capital (Mallick and Moore, 2006). This approach includes institutions such as NEPAD as being an important determinant and having an important role to play. Institutions are seen to affect the availability and productivity of resources and so actions supporting property rights and freedom of exchange for credible policy commitments should be encouraged. Also, the government should strengthen the role of political and legal environment among other functions. This is in line with the opinion of North (1990) who emphasized that the 'third world countries' are poor because their institutional constraints defines a set of pay offs of political activities that does not encourage production activities (Wako, 2011). Hansen and Trap (2000) explained that over the years, considering the institutions approach to growth; progressions have been made on the topic of aid effectiveness. The progressions have included making use of panel data, inclusion of institutions like NEPAD in the growth regression, recognition of the endogeneity of aid and other variables and explicit recognition of linearity in aid-growth relationship (Wako, 2011)

This theory is relevant to the study in the sense that if foreign aids provided by institutions like NEPAD can be effectively and properly utilized on the issues it is meant for, the main objectives and targets of formulating NEPAD as a tool for socio-economic growth and development in the third world countries, Nigeria inclusive will be achieved.

II. Methodology

Descriptive survey design was adopted here structured questionnaire the major instrument of data collection was distributed to a sample size of 400 drawn with Taro Yameni's formula from a projected population of 3,260,699 of Ebonyi State, Nigeria.

The judgemental sampling a non probability sampling technique was employed in the questionnaire distribution to the three (3) senatorial zones of Ebonyi State:

- i. Ebonyi Central Zone (160) but (155) questionnaire returned;
- ii. Ebonyi North Zone (140) but (130) questionnaire was returned.
- iii. Ebonyi South Zone (100) but (95) questionnaire was returned.

The five (5) point likert scale of strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Undecided (U), Disagree (D), and strongly disagree (SD) was used to calculate the responses of the respondents while chi-square statistical tool applies in testing the hypotheses.

Data Presentation Based on Research Objective One; Ascertaining the impact of NEPAD foreign aids on socio-economic development of Ebonyi State Nigeria.

S/No	Item	Point, Frequency, Percentage				
		SA	A	UD	D	SD
1	Through provisions of financial assistance or bailout funds to the state	183 (48.1%)	177 (46.6)	5 (1.3%)	10 (2.61%)	5 (1.3%)
2	Through provisions of food aids to reduce the rate of poverty in the state	181 (47.5%)	180 (47.4%)	0 (0%)	11 (2.8%)	9 (2.3%)
3	Through provisions of humanitarian aids to empower the residents of the state	174 (45.8%)	164 (43.2%)	9 (2.3%)	23 (6%)	10 (2.6%)
4	Provisions of relief materials to the victims of emergency	163 (42.9%)	156 (41%)	11 (2.8%)	40 (10.5%)	10 (2.6%)
5	Through the provision of agricultural incentives and loans to the state	174 (45.5%)	165 (43.4%)	0 (0%)	31 (8.2%)	10 (2.6%)

Data Presentation Based on Research Objective two; To examining the role of NEPAD on educational development through the provisions of educational aids in Ebonyi State Nigeria

S/No	Item	Point, Frequency, Percentage				
		SA	A	UD	D	SD
6	Constructions of public schools to improve the quality of education in the state	193 (50.5%)	167 (41.7%)	3 (0.7%)	20 (5.2%)	7 (1.8%)
7	Renovations of dilapidated structures in public schools located in the state to enhance the quality of education	176 (46.4%)	162 (42.6%)	12 (3.1%)	20 (5.2%)	10 (3.4%)
8	Release of counterpart funds to the state to improve the quality of education	173 (45.5%)	165 (43.4%)	5 (1.3%)	20 (5.2%)	17 (4.5%)

9	Supplying if school desks and writing materials to improve the quality of education in the state	171 (45%)	160 (42.1%)	7 (1.8%)	22 (5.8%)	20 (5.3%)
10	Assisting the state by providing assistance during emergency period in educational sector	168 (44.2%)	160 (42.1%)	10 (2.6%)	20 (5.2%)	22(5.8%)

Data Presentation Based on Research Objective three; To determining how NEPAD through provision of health aids contributed to improved healthcare delivery in Ebonyi State Nigeria.

S/No	Item	Point, Frequency, Percentage				
		SA	A	UD	D	SD
11	Construction of public hospitals in the state to enhance quality healthcare delivery	191 (50.5%)	160 (42.1%)	10 (2.6%)	20 (5.2%)	9 (2.4%)
12	Provisions of drugs to indigent patients of the state for quality healthcare delivery	193 (50.8%)	167 (41.9%)	8 (2.1%)	10 (2.6%)	12 (2.3%)
13	Renovations of dilapidated hospitals in the state to improve healthcare delivery	187 (49.2%)	173 (45.5%)	10 (2.6%)	4 (1.0%)	6 (1.6%)
14	Equipping the hospitals in the state with health facilities like syringes and other medical materials to improve healthcare delivery	182 (47.8%)	178 (46.8%)	0 (0%)	11 (3.9%)	9 (2.5%)
15	Provisions of mosquito nets, retroviral drugs to HIV/AIDS etc to the affected patients in the state	171 (45%)	161 (43.4%)	10 (2.6%)	40 (10.5%)	40 (10.5%)

Testing of Hypotheses

Hypothesis One

Hoi: There is no significant relationship between NEPAD foreign aids and socio-economic development of Ebonyi State, Nigeria.

Hai: There is a significant relationship between NEPAD foreign aid and socio-economic development of Nigeria.

Based on the chi-square formula which is stated below:

$$X^2 = \frac{\sum (oi-ei)^2}{Ei}$$

Where: X^2 = calculated chi-square value

S = Summation

Oi =Observed Frequency

Ei = Expected Frequency

The error of acceptance is 0.05 (5%)

Therefore, hypothesis 1: will be tested according to research item 1 from the questionnaire distribution table which states that foreign aids contributed to socioeconomic development of Ebonyi State Nigeria through the provisions of financial assistance or bailout funds by NEPAD to the state.

: Contingency Table Hypothesis (1)

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Strong Agree	183	48.1%
Agree	177	46.6%
Undecided	5	1.3%
Disagree	10	2.6%
Strongly Disagree	5	1.4%
Total	380	100

Source: Field Work 2021

Expected Frequency (E) =380=76

Chi-Square Table Calculation

Oi	Ei	Oi-ei	(oi-ei) ²	$\frac{(oi-ei)^2}{Ei}$
183	76	107	11449	150.6
177	76	101	10201	1342
5	76	-71	-5041	-663
10	76	-66	4356	5703

5	76	-71	-5041	-663
Total				949

Source: As calculated by the researcher.

Therefore, the calculated chi-square value of $X^2 = 94.9$

To compute the degree of freedom, the formula is

$$Df = (R-1)(C-1)$$

$$(4-1)(2-1)$$

$$3 \times 1$$

$$Df=3$$

However, at 5% level of significance, the degree of freedom at 3 =7.82

Decision Rule

If the calculated chi-square (X^2) value is greater than the critical value of degree of freedom at 3 under 0.05 level of significance, the alternate hypothesis (H_1) should be accepted and null hypothesis (H_0) rejected and if the calculated X^2 value is less than the critical value of degree of freedom at 3 under 0.05 level of significance, the null hypothesis (H_0) should be accepted and alternate hypothesis (H_1) rejected.

Therefore, since the calculated chi-square value of 95 is greater than the critical value at 7.82, the alternate hypothesis (H_1) is accepted and null hypothesis (H_0) rejected

Hypothesis 2:

Ho2: NEPAD have not contributed significantly to the educational development through the provisions of educational aids in Nigeria.

Ha2: NEPAD have contributed significantly to the educational development through the provisions of educational aids in Nigeria.

Based on the chi-square formula which is stated below:

$$X^2 = \sum \frac{(oi-ei)^2}{Ei}$$

Where: X^2 = calculated chi-square value

Σ = Summation

O_i = Observed Frequency

E_i = Expected Frequency

The error of acceptance is 0.05 (5%)

Therefore, hypothesis 2: will be tested according to research item 6 from the questionnaire distribution table which states that foreign aids have played a significant role in socioeconomic development in Ebonyi State Nigeria through constructions of public schools by NEPAD to improve the quality of education in the state.

Contingency Table Hypothesis (2)

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	193	50.5%
Agree	167	41.7%
Undecided	3	0.7%
Disagree	20	5.2%
Strongly Disagree	7	1.8%
Total	380	100%

Source: Field Work 2021

Expected Frequency (E) = $\frac{380}{5} = 76$

Chi-square Table calculation

O_i	E_i	$O_i - e_i$	$(o_i - e_i)^2$	$\frac{(o_i - e_i)^2}{E_i}$
193	76	117	13689	180

167	76	91	8281	108.9
3	76	-73	-5329	-70
20	76	-69	3136	412
7	76		4761	-62.6
Total				115.1

Source: As **calculated by the researcher.**

Therefore, the calculated chi-square value of $X^2 = 115.1$

To compute the degree of freedom, the formula is

$$Df = (R-1)(C-1)$$

$$= (4-1)(2-1)$$

$$= 3 \times 1$$

$Df = 3$

However, at 5% level of significance, the degree of freedom at 3 = 7.82

Decision Rule

If the calculated chi-square (X^2) value is greater than the critical value of degree of freedom at 3 under 0.05 level of significance, the alternate hypothesis (H_1) should be accepted and null hypothesis (H_0) rejected and if the calculated X^2 value is less than the critical value of degree of freedom at 3 under 0.05 level of significance, the null hypothesis (H_0) should be accepted and alternate hypothesis (H_1) rejected.

Therefore, since the calculated chi-square value of 115 is greater than the critical value at 7.82, the alternate hypothesis (H_1) is accepted and null hypothesis (H_0) rejected.

Hypothesis Three

H_{03} : NEPAD through provision of health aids have not contributed to improved healthcare delivery in Ebonyi State, Nigeria.

H_1 : NEPAD through provision of health aids have contributed to improved healthcare delivery in Ebonyi State Nigeria. Based on the chi-square formula which is stated below:

$$X^2 = \sum \frac{(O_i - E_i)^2}{E_i}$$

Where

$X^2 - X^2$ = calculated chi-square value

\sum = Summation

O_i = Observed Frequency

E_i = Expected Frequency The error of acceptance is 0.05 (5%)

Therefore, hypothesis. 3: will be tested according to table 17 from the questionnaire distribution table which states that foreign aids contributed to socioeconomic development through construction of public hospitals in the state to enhance quality healthcare delivery.

Contingency Table Hypothesis (3)

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	191	50.5%
Agree	160	42.1%
Undecided	10	2.6%
Disagree	20	5.2%
Strongly Disagree	9	2.4%
Total	380	100%

Source: Field Work 2021

$$\text{Expected Frequency (E)} = \frac{380}{5} = 76$$

Chi-Square Table Calculation

O _i	E _i	O _i -e _i	(o _i -e _i) ²	$\frac{(o_i - e_i)^2}{E_i}$
191	76	115	13225	174

160	76	84	7056	92.8
10	76	-66	4356	-57.3
20	76	-56	3136	41.2
9	76	-67	4489	-59
Total				109.3

Source: As calculated by the researcher.

Therefore, the calculated chi-square value of $X^2 = 109.3$

To compute the degree of freedom, the formula is

$$Df = (R-1)(C-1)$$

$$(4-1)(2-1)$$

$$3 \times 1$$

$$Df=3$$

However, at 5% level of significance, the degree of freedom at 3 =7.82

Decision Rule

If the calculated chi-square (X^2) value is greater than the critical value of degree of freedom at 3 under 0.05 level of significance, the alternate hypothesis (H_1) should be accepted and null hypothesis (H_0) rejected and if the calculated X^2 value is less than the critical value of degree of freedom at 3 under 0.05 level of significance, the null hypothesis (H_0) should be accepted and alternate hypothesis (H_1) rejected.

Therefore, since the calculated chi-square value of 109.5 is greater than the critical value at 7.82, the alternate hypothesis (H_1) is accepted and null hypothesis (H_0) rejected..

his research study set to find out if there is a significant relationship existing between NEPAD foreign aid and socioeconomic development in Nigeria. In conclusion, there is the need to reform all sectors of the Nigerian economy. Donor agencies like NEPAD should devote great attention and research into recipients' commitment to reform. This means working intimately with experts and communities within recipient countries and states.

Foreign aid must be targeted at the reform needs of each sector in order to be effective in. meeting the socioeconomic development needs of the country and also to prevent waste of the resources that aid provide. Thus, donor governments and multilateral institutions should continue to push economic reforms on recipient governments because not only will this improve the socioeconomic development of the state but will enhance the effectiveness of foreign aid.

Major Findings

Based on the above presented data, findings from this study revealed the following:

1. That foreign aids contributed to socioeconomic development of Nigeria through the provisions of financial assistance or bailout funds, provisions of food aids to reduce the rate of poverty and through the provisions of humanitarian aids/services by NEPAD to empower the residents of the state.
2. It was also revealed that foreign aids contributed to socioeconomic development of Nigeria through the provisions of relief materials to emergency victims and provisions of agricultural incentives and loans by NEPAD to the victims of emergency in the state.
3. It was also observed in the course of carrying out the research that foreign aids have played a significant role in socioeconomic development in Nigeria through constructions of public schools and renovations of dilapidated structures in public schools located the state by NEPAD to improve the quality of education in the state. They have equally have played a significant role in socioeconomic development in Nigeria through the supplying of school desks and other writing materials and assisting the education sector of the state to improve the quality of education delivery in the state.
4. The foreign aids have contributed to socioeconomic development through construction of public hospitals in the state, renovation of dilapidated hospitals and provisions of drugs to indigent patients enhance quality healthcare delivery. That foreign aids contributed to socioeconomic development by equipping the hospitals in the state with health facilities like syringes and other medical materials to improve healthcare delivery though these assistance in health care system was not adequate as it were not adequate enough to cover the vast population of rural areas where majority of the people are living.

Recommendations

1. NEPAD should increase its foreign aids programmes since it is the linchpin to socioeconomic development of the third world or developing countries.
2. There is the need for capacity development activities in Nigeria in order to strengthen aid programming, co-ordination and management processes in line with the principles of harmonization, alignment and mutual accountability for better results in aid management in Nigeria.
3. There is the need for the establishment of sound infrastructural facilities and institutional framework for monitoring and evaluating the inflow and utilization of foreign aid through formulation of sound fiscal, monetary and development policies is needed to foster foreign aid utilization.

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