

RESIDENTS' EVALUATION OF URBAN RENEWAL PROJECTS IN SELECTED CITIES OF SOUTHWESTERN NIGERIA

 \mathbf{BY}

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DEPARTMENT OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING FACULTY OF ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT OBAFEMI AWOLOWO UNIVERSITY

ILE-IFE

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this study was	carried out by Adewale Olufunlola Yoade, of the
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DEDICATION

This Thesis is dedicated to Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the God who is, was and to come; the Almighty and All-Sufficient-God.



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List of Abbreviations

F.H.A Federal Housing Authority

G.R.A Government Reservation Area

N.H.P National Housing Policy

R.P.I Relative Perception Index

R.S.I Relative Satisfaction Index

U.N.C.H.S United Nations Center for Housing Studies

N.G.O Non-Governmental Organization

C.B.Os Community Based Organizations

W.H.O World Health Organization

U.N.O United Nations Organization

U.R.P Urban Renewal Projects



Abstract

The study examined the socio-economic characteristics of the residents of Abeokuta, Osogbo and Akure; identified and examined residents' perception of urban renewal projects; examined residents' level of participation in the urban renewal projects in the study area; and assessed residents' level of satisfaction with the renewal projects in the study area. This was with a view to providing guidelines that could enhance public participation in urban renewal in the study area.

Primary data were collected from residents in urban renewal project of the selected cities in Southwestern Nigeria. The states in Southwestern Nigeria were categorized into three homogeneous groups; namely, Lagos/Ogun, Oyo/Osun and Ondo/Ekiti. One state was randomly selected from each group. These are Ogun, Osun and Ondo States. Thus, selected cities for study are Abeokuta, Osogbo and Akure respectively where urban renewal projects were concentrated. There were seventy-eight political wards in the study area and thirty-one were where urban renewal projects have been executed. This formed the sampled frame. A set of questionnaire targeted the residents and was administered on household heads living in one of every 20 houses in the 31 political wards. A total of 1,665 household heads were therefore selected for questionnaire administration. In-depth interview was employed to obtain qualitative data from community development association leaders in the study area. Records from the Community Development Association register in the selected states showed that there are 130, 121 and 93 of such in Abeokuta, Osogbo and Akure respectively. Leaders of the five percent of associations were systematic selected for in-depth interview. Data collected were analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistics.

The study revealed that the majority (77.7%) of the respondents had tertiary education, while 7.4% were primary school certificate holders. Majority (59.3%) of the respondents' claimed that



involvement of community leaders in the implementation of urban renewal projects was inadequate, only 3.7% believed that it was adequate. It was also found that the majority (74.0%) of the respondents were perceived tolerable with the adequacy of hospital while 12.6% and 10.1% of the respondents were very tolerable and intolerable respectively. Only 3.7% of the respondents' opined that adequacy of health institution was intolerable. The majority (66.7%) of the residents were satisfied with the establishment of mega schools, while 11.1% of the respondents were very satisfied with the establishment of such schools in the study area. This is against 15.1% and 7.1% of the respondents who were unsatisfied and very unsatisfied respectively with the establishment of mega schools. Furthermore, it was found that residents' satisfaction with urban renewal projects was on the average in all the sampled cities, with a relative satisfaction index (RSI) of 3.60. The study also revealed that socio-economic factors (such as income, education status and age) had a lot of influence on residents' level of satisfaction in the selected cities.

The study concluded that the involvement of members of the public in the planning and implementation of urban renewal goes a long way in the acceptability and sustainability of the projects.



CHAPTER ONE

Introduction

1.1 Background to the Study

The world's population is rapidly urbanizing (United Nations Center for Human Settlement, 2013). The signs are inescapable. In the early 1800s, roughly three per cent of the world's population lived in cities. The proportion today is well over half, and in the next fifty years it is estimated to increase to two thirds (Koenig, 2009). In 2011 there were 480 cities with population exceeding one million as compared to just 80 in 1950 (Akuffo, 2006; World Bank, 2015). More than three billion people currently reside in urban areas and this figure is expected to rise to five billion by 2050 (UN-Habitat and UNEP, 2010). Perhaps, the most striking fact is that virtually all population growth in the coming decades will occur in low- and middle-income countries. Global population growth is overwhelmingly concentrated in marginal urban and surrounding periphery contexts, especially those with slums (Franklin, 2011).

Lack of adequate housing is undoubtedly one of the world's great development challenges of urban centers; with now over 1 billion people worldwide and over 70% of Sub-Saharan Africa's urban population living in slums (UN Habitat, 2015). Living in informal settlement or slums, more specifically, lacking adequate housing is directly linked to many of the daily deprivations faced by the poor. These include lack of clean running water, electricity, personal safety, security of tenure and access to economic opportunities. Slums are not just symptoms of poverty, they contribute to the problem.

In regions such as sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and also in North America and across South and Central Asia, certain cities and their neighborhoods are



convulsed by, and in some cases exporting endemic violence (Agyarko-Oduro, 2009; Butala, VanRooyen and Patel, 2010; Widineh Zedebe, 2011; Wondwossen Teshome, 2009). The slum situation is even worse in countries of sub-Saharan Africa, especially in Nigeria (Olotuah, 2010).

One of the most visible and disturbing characteristics of urban areas in Nigeria is the decline of infrastructure base. Aribigbola (2008) elucidates this point further by saying that "as urban populations grow, and as available resources decline, public infrastructure is being degraded to the point where cities are seriously losing their capacity to operate as productive entities". A joint study by Lagos State Government and the Africa United Nations group in 1999 revealed that about 42 settlements in Lagos State Nigeria can be classified as slums and in dire need of upgrading or regeneration (Atere, 2001).

Nigeria is one of the few countries in Africa which had many large cities before the colonial period. The largest concentrations of such cities are in the south-western zone, which is by far the most urbanized area in sub-Saharan Africa (UN-Habitat, 2007). One of the major factors which explain the development of pre-colonial urbanization in this area was the continuous inter-tribal wars among the Yorubas. This forced peasants to flee minor settlement and found refuge in walled cities, leading to high population concentration in such cities characterized with organic development. Therefore, the result of such relatively high rates of urban growth and inadequate planning is chaos, which is manifested mostly in housing shortage, inadequate and overstressed social infrastructure and amenities (water, electricity, drainage, among others), and its attendant problem of slum creation at the core of most towns and cities (Areola, 1994; Arayela, 2002; Agbola, 2006).

Slum creation is the product of inadequate housing, deferred maintenance of infrastructure and structures, disappointment with housing needs and expectation (Olayiwola,

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2005). Slum that is created as a result of these attributes is expected to be subjected to renewal if the community where it is located is expected to meet the yearnings and expectation of the residents (Elias, 2008; Eden, 2010; UN-Habitat, 2009). The emergence of slums, blighted or squatter areas within the spatial bowl of the city (with its socio-political, economic, cultural and environmental repercussions) consequently formed the formal justification for the birth of urban renewal (in both policies and programmes) (Olayiwola, 2012).

According to Grebler (1965) and Olaore (1987), urban renewal is a deliberate effort to change the urban environment through planned, large-scale adjustment of existing areas to present and meet future requirements for urban living and working. Egunjobi (1987) sees it as an inescapable response to the decaying nature of ageing cites. Similarly, Osuide (2004) described urban renewal as a planned attempt to transform the urban environment through structured large-scale control of existing urban areas to enhance both the present and future operations of urban populace (Osuide 2004, cited in Dimuna and Omatsone, p.142). In the view of Agbola (2007),

"Urban renewal is "a relatively comprehensive community redevelopment programme through which a particular city seeks to refashion and rebuild the physical structures of a particular segment of the city in order to enable it cope with many problems confronting it".

Urban renewal projects have faced great challenges in most cities of Nigeria. This has been attributed to inadequate urban renewal policies as well as poor action plans on

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