

Effect of Rural-Urban Migrants' Remittances on the Socio-Economic Development in Nasarawa State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The study examined the effects of rural-urban migrants' remittances on socioeconomic development in Nasarawa State. The study adopted survey design and analysis of existing data. Questionnaire was used to generate primary data while secondary data were obtained from the work of past researches. Chi-square statistical technique was used to test the hypotheses in order to determine the relationship between rural-urban migrants' remittances and socioeconomic development of rural communities. The result of the study shows average of amount of remittances usually received from rural-urban migrants range from ₦10,000 - ₦50,000 and it has enhanced their socio-economic status. The study also revealed that, rural-urban migrants' remittances have enhanced socioeconomic development of rural communities through the provision of social amenities like health, roads, water and electricity. It was further revealed that, rural-urban migrants' remittances were used to support agricultural production such as providing insecticide and seeds for farmers. The study results further confirmed that rural-urban migrants' remittances were used to empower women and youth such as remitting money home for up keeping, setup of small scale businesses, provision of grinding machines, enrolling youths in skills acquisition etc. The study therefore, recommends that Nasarawa state government should design appropriate policies and programmes that will further support the efforts of rural-urban migrants' remittances to accelerate socio-economic development and income distribution among the citizens of the State.

Keywords: Development, Migrants, Rural-Urban, Remittances, Socioeconomic

Introduction

Migration has been identified as a survival strategy utilized by the poor, especially the rural dwellers. The assessment of the effects of migration on rural areas has remained relevant since migration acts as a catalyst in the transformation process of not only the destiny of individual migrants but also the conditions of family members left behind, local communities, and the wider regions (Ajaero and Onokala, 2013). One significant source of development for the rural populace as a result of this increasing drift towards the cities is remittances. Recently, migrants' remittances and the income multipliers are becoming critical resources for the sustenance strategies of receiving households as well as agents of regional and national development (World Bank, 2005). Households that receive these remittances tend to use the proceeds primarily for current consumption (food, clothing etc.) as well as

investments in children's education, health care, improvement in household food and security, and water and sanitation. Nevertheless, the ability of remittances to compensate the labour shortage in rural areas is still the function of the amounts and value of remittances received by migrants' households at home, especially in the developing countries (World Bank, 2005).

Consequently, the effects of rural-urban migration in the rural places of origin manifest in two ways. First, the rural-urban migrants send remittances to their relatives in the rural areas and these remittance-receiving households use the remittances for various purposes. Secondly, these rural-urban migrants execute various rural developmental projects in their rural areas of origin. In Nigeria, most migrants coming from a particular rural community to live in an urban area usually form rural community associations in the urban area. These community associations in the urban areas articulate, from time to time, the developmental needs of their rural communities of origin and contribute resources to execute projects such as road construction and the award of educational scholarships and so on to students in the rural areas.

A combination of these rural community projects executed by the rural-urban migrants and the use of remittances by rural remittance-receiving households serve as indicators of the effects of rural-urban migration on the population concerned. In this regard, and in tandem with contemporary practice, development is deemed as "personal satisfaction consequent on improvement in the quality of life of the individual and/or population" involved in the developmental process (Nzeadibe and Ajaero, 2010). Accordingly, each population ranks community developmental projects and uses of remittances in the order of importance they believe will ensure their satisfaction and happiness. It is also the existence of these projects and the uses of remittances derive from the migration process that reflects the level of socio economic development that can be traceable to rural-urban migration (Ajaero and Onokala, 2011). Therefore, the combination of these projects by migrants and the various uses of remittances in the past three decades are what they see as indicators of development in their rural communities.

Rural-Urban migration in Nasarawa State (like any other place) is the movement of people from remote areas or village settlement to a city centre This migration has attracted much attention in recent years largely because of the increasing number of people involved, but basically because of the rapid growth of ethnic and communal crises in some communities of Nasarawa State. Majority of the migrants are from various rural communities in Nasarawa State. Some of these rural communities includes; Angwan-Magaji, Angwan-Doka, Agabija, Aligaza, Assakio, Ara, Araba, Agwada, Kaibo-Mada, Sabo-Gari, Giza, Alosi, Agaza, Angmadugu etc. The attraction of rural dwellers to major cities in Nasarawa State is largely but not entirely economic although white collar jobs, trade, services, better life, health care, educational opportunities and housing are additional attractions of rural dweller to cities centres in the state and Nigeria at large. In recent times, inter-ethnic conflicts have forced rural dwellers to migrate to urban centres for safety.

The impact of rural-urban migration's remittances on socio-economic development of rural communities have not been given much attention by researchers especially in Nasarawa State, therefore, this study attempts to fill this gap by assessing the impact of rural-urban

migrations' remittances on socio-economic development of rural communities in Nasarawa State.

Statement of the Problem

In different parts of the world, Nigeria inclusive, research has been carried out on the effects of migration on rural communities of origin. Most of these studies largely concentrated on the negative effect of rural-urban migration on rural development rather than examine the contribution of these migrants to the development of their communities. Some of these studies include those of Glytsos (2001) in Eastern Europe, Sibanda (2004) in South Africa, Azam and Gubert(2005) in Mali, Lucas (2005) in Albania and Morocco, Nwajiuba (2005) in Nigeria, Adams (2006) in Latin America, McKenzie (2006), Taylor and Mora (2006) in Mexico, Sorenson (2004) in Somali, Pozo(2007), and Adepoju (2000) in developing countries. However, these studies focus mainly on international migration and on uses of remittances. Other studies on migration in Nigeria include an assessment of changes in urban-rural ties from 1961 to 1987 in Eastern Nigeria (Mabogunje, 2007). Also, another study in Anambra state found that many Igbo families encouraged their family members to migrate because of the belief that their continued stay in the village will not bring financial success (Gugler, 2001). Again, a study carried out in Aba, southeastern Nigeria, focused only on rural-urban interactions without examining the migratory processes that yielded the interactions (Chukwuezi, 2009) while Nwajiuba (2005) focuses his study on international migration and its impact on livelihoods. Okali, Okpara, and Olawoye (2001) carried out a study of rural-urban migration on the poverty status of migrants in urban areas of Abia state.

It is clear from the above that most of the rural-urban migration studies done in Nigeria virtually excluded the contributions of rural-urban migrants' remittances to the development of their host communities and are in most cases sample surveys on characteristics and determinants of migration. This therefore create the need for studies that will determine the effects of the contribution of rural-urban migrant's remittances to the development of their host communities with specific focus on Nasarawa State where rural-urban migration has been on the increase in recent times.

To further guide the study, the following hypotheses were formulated:

- i. There is no significant relationship between average amount of Migrants' remittances usually received by rural household and socio-economic development in Nasarawa State;
- ii. There is no significant relationship between rural-urban migrants' remittances and provision of basic social amenities to rural communities in Nasarawa State;
- iii. There is no significant relationship between Rural-Urban Migrants' remittances and agricultural development of rural communities in Nasarawa State; and
- iv. There is no significant relationship between Rural-Urban Migrants' remittances and women/youth empowerment in rural communities of Nasarawa.

The Concept of Migration

Simply put, migration refers to the movement of people from one place to another for the purpose of establishing permanent or temporary residence (Adebayo and Raheem, 2012). There are two types of migration, first internal migration, referring to migration within the country, and secondly, international migration, which means the movement from one country to another. The reason for migration can be divided into two main aspects, the so called

“push” and “pull” factors. Fischer (2009) argues that factors and determinants of migration are rather diverse and can be split up in economic and non-economic reasons. The economic push factors include unemployment and underemployment in rural areas, low wages and no assets as well as lack of land which is sometimes due to inheritance system that split the land among a large number of people, making it less productive. On the other hand, the non-economic push factors play an important role and mainly include a poor rural infrastructure in general, i.e., poor living conditions referring to housing, education possibilities and health care; furthermore, aspects of agricultural change like modernization of farming, new techniques and machines as well as economic reforms in general cause less demand of labour in the agricultural sector and therefore causes people to search for more job opportunities; additional factors that act as push factors are natural disasters, drought or famine, war and conflict (especially in Africa) that in most of the times affect rural areas by destroying most of their belongings and farm land and therewith their livelihood.

Chikaire, Nnadi, Atoma, Egwuonwu and Echetama (2012) defined migration “as the movement of people from one place to another in search of employment, market, education, health and other means of livelihood. The movement can be temporary or permanent”. They are of the opinion that migration occurs as a response to economic development as well as social, cultural, environmental and political factors and effects on areas of origin as destination.

Chikaire, Nnadi, Atoma, Egwuonwu and Echetama (2012) further argued that in Nigeria and many developing countries, there has been rapid growth of cities at the detriment of the rural areas. The rural population is gradually shrinking, while the urban population is blooming. Chikarie et.al (2012) found that “Nigeria is a typical example of a country, where there had been a tremendous expansion of urban areas consequent to the rapid rural migration”. The large number of able-bodied men and women moving to the cities is at an alarming rate. The intention of the movement varies; some migrate to the urban centres in search of jobs, while others migrate to enjoy basic amenities that are lacking in the rural areas. Unfortunately, there is no expansion or improvement on the basic amenities in the cities to meet with the increasing demand of the growing population. Thus, most of the migrants end up in slums, where they compete with each other for survival. The migration also takes away able-bodied young men and women from the rural areas to urban centres, thereby making the rural areas to lose the manpower necessary for agriculture and rural development. It is therefore useful to set the present migration trend and urbanization in its historical perspective, linking this to the stages and process of economic development strategies in the country.

The Concept of Rural-Urban Migration

Rural-urban migration is a form of so-called internal migration which means a movement within a country and which stays in contrast to international or intercontinental migration (Fischer, 2009). This refers to the movement of people from the country side and rural areas respectively into the cities, often the metropolitan cities of a country. Adebayo and Raheem, (2012) quoting Stephens (2002) posited that by 2030 three-fifths of the world population is expected to live in urban areas. This change of residence is often connected with the migration of labour and a career change to a more promising career with better pay. Though, it can be referred to the migration of people who are not working but are in agriculture or farming as well.

According to Braunvan, (2004) people tend to be pulled to the areas of prosperity and pushed from areas of decline. Migrants are usually concerned with the benefits they hope to gain by moving and usually give less thought to the problems that may be generated as a result of the process which includes; pressure on fragile urban infrastructure and possible environmental degradation, for most migrants are relatively poor and live together. Rural-urban migration in Nigeria is therefore inevitable and sometimes a desirable resultant effect of industrialization.

In Nigeria as in most developing countries of the world, internal migration has become a major issue influencing government policies and programs. Crucial among these issues are problems of unplanned urbanization, growing urban crimes, increase poverty, neglect of agriculture and unbalanced population concentration. These suggest the effect of rural-urban migration on national life (Akinyemi et al, 2005).

Although, Akpomuvie (2012) believes that migration is necessary for growth. It is equally his contention that “all countries attain economic growth through a transfer of man power from rural and agricultural sector to urban and secondary or tertiary sector.” However, migration of people from rural area far outstrips services and infrastructure available in urban centres and this situation results in deepening crises of slums, criminality, unemployment etc. The after-effect of structural adjustment program introduced in the 1980s by the IMF has compounded the situation in Nigeria. Rural population moves out in large numbers temporarily or permanently to towns and cities to seek out new opportunities, improved living conditions, but end up in the city slums with limited capacity to adapt to socioeconomic changes in the new environment they find themselves.

Economic Development: A Conceptual Discourse

Economic development is simultaneously a concept, an activity and a professional practice. Not only is economic development a popular topic of discussion, it is also an activity for which there are high expectations, and significant investments of public money. Fitzgerald and Leigh (2002) propose that, “...economic development preserves and raises the community’s standard of living through a process of human and physical infrastructure development based on principles of equity and sustainability.” This adds to the concept of community and expands the objectives of economic development to explicitly embrace equity and also highlights sustainability. In this conceptualization, economic development is about creating choice or expanding the opportunity set for both consumers and businesses. Equitable and sustainable economic development fosters economic growth that at the same time renews and improves the capacities and conditions that make growth possible. While industrial activity certainly benefits from location, the resulting profits are often not distributed back to local residents or reinvested in those same places that provided the advantage to firms and industries. Pieces of the economic development puzzle are missing and require greater articulation (Sen, 2009).

Economic development is the expansion of capacities that contribute to the advancement of society through the realization of individual, firm and community potential. Economic development is measured by a sustained increase in prosperity and quality of life through innovation, lowered transaction costs, and the utilization of capabilities towards the responsible production and diffusion of goods and services. Economic development requires effective institutions grounded in norms of openness, tolerance for risk, appreciation for

diversity, and confidence in the realization of mutual gain for the public and the private sector. Economic development is essential to creating the conditions for economic growth and ensuring our economic future. By capacities, we mean conditions conducive to promoting an array of intermediate outcomes that set the stage for the realization of potential. This potential may be realized at multiple levels, or an individual, a firm or set of firms or industry, a community of people or a place. One lesson that history teaches is that the limits of potential are unbounded and lie in uncharted domains. Building capacities allows for a better platform to accommodate an uncertain future and the ability to meet many possible contingencies.

Sen (2009) considered economic development to be the strengthening of autonomy and substantive freedoms, which allow individuals to fully participate in economic life. Hence, economic development occurs when individual agents have the opportunity to develop the capacities that allow them to actively engage and contribute to the economy. In the aggregate, this should lower transaction costs and increase social mobility. Rather than being reduced to a static factor in a production process, individuals become the agents of change in the process of economic development: they have the freedom to realize their potential. The higher the number of individuals who participate in the economy of the society; the greater the opportunity for new ideas to circulate and be put into action. Economic development is measured by rising real per capita income, gaining coefficients and other measures of the distribution of income and wealth as well as indicators of quality of life, that range from life expectancy and crime statistics to environmental quality. From this standpoint, economic development differs from growth in terms of a focus on a broader set of metrics. Although some work was rooted in the context of some of the world's poorest countries, this definition and criteria are equally relevant to the range of regional economies.

Literature Review

Uttam (2017) examined rural-urban migration remittances in Chitrakoot, India. The study aims at establishing the major causes and consequences of the movement of people from rural to urban areas. To achieve the objective 500 migrant household heads were selected randomly from three ward of the Chitrakoot town. Both primary and secondary data were employed and were analyzed both qualitatively and quantitatively. The study revealed that migrants came to Chitrakoot in search of employment and to utilize urban services and education. Hence, the out flow of economically active people from the rural agricultural sector has a negative effect on production in the areas of origin and the receiving area now experiences problems such as a shortage of housing, unemployment, increasing cost of living, lack of access to social services etc.

Ajaero and Onokala (2013) examined the effects of rural-urban migration on rural communities of South Eastern Nigeria. The study examined the effects of rural-urban migration on the rural communities of south eastern Nigeria. Data were obtained using mixed methods approach comprising questionnaire surveys and key informant interviews. Six rural local government areas (LGAs) were selected based on population size and spatial equity from two states of south eastern Nigeria. From each of the rural LGAs, fifty migrant-sending households were sampled for the study. Multiple regression and hierarchical cluster analyses were used to estimate and categorize the effects of rural-urban migration due to remittances and community projects executed by the rural-urban migrants, respectively. In addition, the

Chi-square and Kruskal-Wallis tests were utilized in prioritizing areas for development interventions in the rural communities. The regression analysis shows that rural-urban migration contributes significantly towards the development of their rural communities through monetary remittances and the involvement of the rural-urban migrants in community development projects. Based on the findings, the study recommended the initiation of development projects based on the identified needs of each of the rural communities to augment the effects of migration.

Ogunmakinde, Oladokun, & Oke, (2015) investigated the resultant effects of rural-urban migration to national development with a particular focus on the South western part of Nigeria. It analyzed the causes of rural-urban migration, past efforts of the government in reducing the rate of rural-urban migration in these areas and the socio-economic factors influencing rural-urban migration. It also reviewed existing literatures on rural-urban migration. Data were collected from the respondents through a structured questionnaire which was administered in Lagos, Ondo, Ogun, Osun and Ekiti States; all in the south western part of Nigeria. The study identified lack of social infrastructure, neglect of the rural community, modernization and others as some of the factors responsible for rural-urban migration and recommended that for all round national development, the rural communities has to be developed to meet the standard of the urban centres in order to reduce the rate of rural-urban migration.

Mgbakor, Uzendu and Usifo (2014) examined the effect of rural-urban migration by youths on agricultural labour supply in Aniocha South local government area of Delta State, this was done by identifying the 14 communities that make up the study area, 90 respondents were randomly selected. Data obtained were analyzed using descriptive statistical tools such as frequency distribution table and percentages. The result of the analysis showed that males migrate more than the females in the study area. It was observed that most of the migrants have different levels of educational qualification. It was also observed that the major causes of rural-urban migration in the study area are lack of social amenities such as electricity, pipe borne water, lack of communication facilities, lack of good road network and no established agro-allied industry etc. The study recommended the establishment of industries, provision of social amenities such as electricity and good communication facilities etc. to help curb the menace of rural-urban migrations.

From the forgoing, it can be deduced that in many developing countries, rural poverty resulting from low agricultural income, low productivity and under employment as well as strain of farm work is pushing many migrants out of rural areas towards areas with greater opportunities.

Theoretical Framework

Theory of Dual Sector Model of Economic Development as postulated by Arthur Lewis (1954) was used for analysis. In 1954 Sir Arthur Lewis published a paper, 'Economic Development with unlimited supplies of labour' (The Manchester School). This theory focuses on 'dual economics' small, urban, industrialized sectors of economic activity surrounded by a large, rural, traditional sector. The Lewis Dual Sector model has two main sectors: An agricultural/rural sector characterized by zero marginal productivity of labor, and an urban/industrial sector which has a high demand for labor and offers wages that are higher

than the rural areas. Lewis assumed the agricultural sector to be purely subsistence characterized by surplus labor, low productivity, low incomes, and considerable underemployment. Some portions of the rural labor force were assumed to be redundant or surplus in nature, contributing nothing to output. The industrial sector was assumed to be technologically advanced with high levels of investment operating in an urban environment (McCatty, 2004).

The Lewis Dual Sector model basically states that there is the existence of excess labour in the rural agricultural sector; therefore, people migrate to the industrial sector to obtain employment (McCatty, 2004). Besides, the urban manufacturing sector demands labour transfer so as to increase its productivity. In the modern sectors the migrants are thought to be attracted due to better wage. According to Todaro (1976:31), high levels of rural-urban migration can continue even when urban unemployment rates are high and are known to potential migrants. Migrant will move even if that migrant ends up by being unemployed or receives a lower urban wages than the rural wages. Similarly, the probability of obtaining an urban job is inversely related to the urban unemployment rate.

This theory is relevant because, it explains the essence of the development process in an economy where the transfer of labour resources from the agricultural sector on rural production to the more modern industrial sector, where they create a surplus that may be used for further growth and development.

Methodology

The study employed mixed approach, descriptive survey and analysis of existing data. Mixed methods approaches have recently been utilized in development research in Nigeria and have been noted to be user-friendly especially where there is paucity or absence of baseline data or when dealing with research participants with low literacy levels (Nzeadibe, Anyadike, and Njoku-Tony, 2012). The population of the study was 1,869,377 rural households in Nasarawa State (2006 population census). Yamene (1964) formula was used to select 10% sample size, thus:

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

Where: n=sample size

N=total population size

1 is constant

e = the assume error margin or tolerable error which is taken as 5% (0.05)

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2} = \frac{55,790}{1 + 55,790(0.05)^2} = \frac{55,790}{139.475} = 400 = (\text{sample size})$$

The Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) was used in analyzing the data collected while inferential statistics using Chi-square statistical model was used to test the hypothesis. The hypothesis was tested at 5% (i.e. 0.05) level of significance.

Data Presentation and Analysis

This section deals with the analysis of data collected as well as the testing of the research hypothesis. The data collected were based on the responses of respondents from the field. Out of four hundred (400) questionnaire distributed to respondents, three hundred and fifty-four

(354) representing (88.5%) of them were duly completed and returned while forty-Six (46) representing (11.5%) were not returned. This was presented in table 1 below:

Table 1: Questionnaire Distributed and Returned

Categories	Returned Questionnaire	Not Returned Questionnaire	Total	Percentage (%)Returned	Percentage (%)Unreturned
Household	354	46	400	88.5	11.5

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Table 2: Educational Qualification of Respondents

Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Degree/HND	127	50.1
OND/NCE	101	32.5
SSCE/PRI	59	5.7
Others	20	12.7
Total	354	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2022

The above table shows that, 50.1% of the respondents had Degree/HND education. This means that, majority of the studied population have higher qualification.

Table 3: Occupation

Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%.)
Traders	107	30.2
Farmers	108	30.5
Artisans	76	21.5
Civil servants	60	16.9
Others	3	0.8
Total	354	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2022

The table above shows that, 30.5% of the respondents are famers. This means that, majority of this studied population are famers.

Table 4: Average of amount of remittances usually received by rural household for socio-economic development of rural communities in Nasarawa State

₦ (000)	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
₦ 10,000-50,000	227	64.1	64.2	64.2
₦51,000-100,000	118	33.3	2.5	97.5
				100.0

Valid ₦101,000-above	9	2.5	100.0	
	354	57.0		
Total Missing System	37	43.0		
Total	86	100.0		

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Data obtained revealed that, 227 respondents representing 64.2% agreed the average of amount of remittance they usually received from their rural-urban Migrants range from ₦10,000 -₦50,000 and it has enhanced their socio-economic status. 118 respondents representing 33.3% agreed the average of amount of remittance they usually received from their rural-urban Migrants range from ₦5 1,000 -₦100,000 and it has enhanced their socio-economic status while, 9 respondents representing 2.5% agreed the average of amount of remittance they usually received from their rural-urban Migrants range from ₦100,000 - above and it has enhanced their socio-economic status.

Table 5: Rural-Urban Migrants’ Remittances Contribution to the Provision of Basic Social Amenities to Rural Communities in Nasarawa State

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Agree	222	63.3		
	Disagree	123	35.0	63.3	63.3
	Undecided	9	2.7	35.0	97.3
Missing	Total	354	62.8	2.7	100.0
	System	32	37.2	100.0	
Total		86	100.0		

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Data obtained shows that, 222 respondents representing 63.3% agreed that, Rural- Urban Migrants’ remittances has Contributed to the provision of basic’ social amenities to rural Communities in Nasarawa State. 123 respondents representing 35.0% disagreed while 9 respondents representing 2.7% could not ascertain whether Rural-Urban Migrants has contributed to the provision of basic social amenities to rural Communities in Nasarawa State.

The rural-urban migrants’ remittances were used to provide social amenities public toilets, housing, running water and electricity.

Table 6: Rural-Urban Migrants’ remittances have contributed to agricultural development of rural communities in Nasarawa State.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative Percent
	Agree	231	65.2	65.2	65.2
	Disagree	112	31.6	31.6	96.8
Valid	Undecided	11	3.1	3.1	100.0
	Total	354	57.0	100.0	

Missing	System	37	43.0		
Total		86	100.0		

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Data obtained revealed that, 231 respondents representing 65.2% agreed rural-urban migrants' remittances have contributed to agricultural development of rural communities in Nasarawa State. 112 respondents representing 31.6% disagreed while, 11 respondents representing 3.1% could not ascertain whether Rural-Urban Migrants has contributed to agricultural development of rural communities in Nasarawa State.

Rural-urban migrants' remittances were used to support agricultural production such as providing insecticides and seeds for farmers. Rural-urban migrants' remittances were used to facilitate rural farming by making money available for the procurement of new farm inputs, it was also used to assist farmers by raising their income which in turn stimulates the farmer's interest in farming. Rural-urban migrants' remittances were used to support farmers through supply of quality inputs at proper times and making money available for purchases of fertilizers.

Table 7: Rural-Urban Migrants' Remittance has Contributed to Women and Youth Empowerment in Rural Communities of Nasarawa

		Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Agree	247	70.0	70.0	70.0
	Disagree	94	26.2	26.2	96.2
	Undecided	13	3.8	3.8	100.0
	Total	354	100	100.0	
Missing system	System	37	43.0		
Total		86	100.0		

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Data obtained revealed that, 247 respondents representing 70.0% agreed rural-urban migrants have contributed to women and youth empowerment in rural communities of Nasarawa State. 94 respondents representing 26.2% disagreed while, 13 respondents representing 3.8% could not ascertain whether rural-urban migrants have contributed to women and youth empowerment in rural communities of Nasarawa State. This implies that rural-urban migrants' remittances were used to empower women and youths such as remitting money for up keep, setting up of small scale businesses, provision of grinding machines etc. It was used to provide women and youths with adequate credit facilities, business and skills acquisition training.

Test of Hypothesis I

There is no significant relationship between Average of amount of remittances received by rural household and socio-economic development of rural communities in Nasarawa State.

Table 8: Chi-Square Tests

Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
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Pearson Chi-Square	135.356a	4	.001
Likelihood Ratio	154.601	4	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	134.838	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	54		

Source: SPSS Output Version 20

Table 8 above shows the calculated value of chi-square $X^2 = 135.35$, while the critical value of chi-square $X = 9.49$ at 4 degree of freedom under 0.05 level of significance. Since the calculated value of X^2 (135.35) is greater than the critical value of X (9.49) and the P-Value of 0.06 is greater than the alpha value of 0.005, we can reject the null hypothesis which states that, there is no significant relationship between Average of amount of remittance usually received by rural household and socio-economic development of rural communities in Nasarawa State. The study concludes that, the average of amount of remittance they usually received from rural-urban Migrants' range from ₦10,000 - ₦50,000 and it has enhanced socio-economic status of rural population.

Test of Hypothesis II

There no significant relationship between Rural-Urban Migrants' and provision of basic social amenities to rural communities in Nasarawa State.

Table 9: Chi-Square Tests

	Value	Df	Asymp.Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	18,356a	4	.062
Likelihood Ratio	54.601	4	.061
Linear-by-Linear Association	34,838	1	.061
N of Valid Cases	54		

Source: SPSS Output Version 20

Table 9 above shows the calculated value of chi-square $X^2 = 18.35$, while the critical value of chi-square $X = 9.49$ at 4 degree of freedom under 0.05 level of significance. Since the calculated value of X^2 (18.35) is less than the critical value of X (9.49) and the P-Value of 0.06 is greater than the alpha value of 0.005, we can reject the null hypothesis which states that, there is no significant relationship between rural-Urban Migrants' and provision of basic social amenities to rural communities in Nasarawa State. Rural-urban migrants has contributed to the provision of basic social amenities to rural communities in Nasarawa State.

Test of Hypothesis III

There is no significant relationship between rural-urban migrants and agricultural development of rural communities in Nasarawa State.

Table 10: Chi-Square Tests

	Value	Df	Asymp.Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	168.182	4	.002
Likelihood Ratio	151.351	4	.001
Linear-by-Linear Association	148.291	1	.001

N of Valid Cases	54
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Source: SPSS Output Version 20

The table 10 above shows the calculated value of chi-square $X^2=168.182$, while the critical value of chi-square $X = 9.49$ at 4 degree of freedom under 0.05 level of significance. Since the calculated value of X^2 (168.1 82) is greater than the critical value of X (9.49) and the P-Value of 0.06 is greater than the alpha value of 0.005, we can reject the null hypothesis which states that, there is no significant relationship between rural-urban Migrants and agricultural development of rural communities in Nasarawa State. This means that, rural-urban migrants has contributed to agricultural development of rural communities in Nasarawa State.

Test of Hypothesis IV

There is no significant relationship between rural-urban migrants and women/youth empowerment in rural communities of Nasarawa.

Table 11: Chi-Square Tests

	Value	Df	Asymp.Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	89.92 P	4	.003
Likelihood Ratio	82.193	4	.002
Linear-by-Linear Association	82.781	1	.002
N of Valid Cases	54		

Source: SPSS Output Version 20

Table 11 above shows the calculated value of chi-square $X^2=89.921$, while the critical value of chi-square $X = 9.49$ at 4 degree of freedom under 0.05 level of significance. Since the calculated value of X^2 (89.92 1) is greater than the critical value of X (9.49) and the P-Value of 0.06 is greater than the alpha value of 0.005, we can reject the null hypothesis which states that, there is no significant relationship between rural-urban migrants and women/youth empowerment in rural communities of Nasarawa State. This means that, rural-urban migrants have a significant effect on women/youth empowerment in rural communities of Nasarawa State.

Discussion of Findings

Findings from the study revealed that, rural-urban migrants’ remittances have enhanced socio-economic status of rural population in Nasarawa due to the average amount of remittance received from rural-urban Migrants which range from ₦ 10,000 to ₦50,000. This finding is in line with the study conducted by Ajaero and Onokala (2013) whose study also revealed that rural-urban migration contributes significantly towards the development of their rural communities through monetary remittances and the involvement of the rural-urban migrants in community development projects. Ogunmakinde, Oladokun, & Oke, (2015) also observed that, rural-urban migration has link with national development. The study concludes that; rural-urban migration has significant impact on national development in South western part of Nigeria.

The study equally revealed that, rural-urban migrant’s remittances have a strong significant effect on the provision of basic social amenities to rural communities in Nasarawa State.

Rural-Urban Migrants has not contributed to the provision of basic social amenities to rural communities in Nasarawa State. This finding was in line with the study conducted by Lucas (2005) whose study revealed that, Migration has significant impact on economic development in Africa.

It was further revealed that, rural-urban migrants have significant impact on agricultural development of rural communities in Nasarawa State. This means that, Rural-Urban Migrants has contributed to agricultural development of rural communities in Nasarawa State. This finding goes contrary to the study conducted by Abonyi and Nnarnani (2011) whose study revealed that, rural urban migration has food crisis in emerging economy and development. This has led to persistence rural poverty in Nigeria as there are evidence where there is lack of these basic life needs in the rural areas, a development which has made a number of rural dwellers to migrate to urban centre with high hopes of improving their standard of living. This finding is in line with the study by Uttam (2017) which revealed that, the out flow of economically active people from the rural agricultural sector has a negative effect on production in the areas of origin and the receiving area now experiences problems of housing, unemployment, and inadequate social facilities.

It was also confirmed from this study that, rural-urban migrants' remittances have significantly empowered women/youths in rural communities of Nasarawa. This finding is in line with the study conducted by Ajaero and Onokala (2013) which revealed that, rural-urban migrants usually send remittances in the forms of money, food, and clothing and at a definite interval with most of them remitting once a month or quarterly. This finding was supported by a study conducted by Tiffen (2015) which revealed that there are also usually positive effects of rural-Urban migrants in areas of origin. One such aspect is remittances which migrants send home. Hence, migration of a family member is used as a means of income diversification against risks. Female migrants make remittances to their parent's households. In general, migrants are everywhere doing all kinds of jobs mostly in the service and informal sectors. They are mainly engaged in difficult, dirty, and dangerous jobs that the urban population does not want because they are too hard or disgracing

Conclusion

This study concludes that, rural - urban migrants' remittances have significantly contributed to the development of rural communities in Nasarawa State. This is because; rural-urban migration to some extent has significantly impacted on infrastructural and agricultural development in Nasarawa State. It could be deduced that, rural-urban migrants in Nasarawa State were engaged in different economic activities that brought development to individual household through empowerment.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations were advanced:

1. Since the study shows that, rural-urban migrant's remittances have enhanced socioeconomic status of rural population in Nasarawa rural-urban migrants should be encouraged by the community leaders to increase its remittance in order to setup small businesses that will alleviate poverty in rural communities.

2. The findings show a no significant relationship between rural-urban migrants and the provision of social amenities, there is urgent need for the rural urban-migrants to focus their attention on social infrastructure like water, electricity, recreational centres among other facilities. Non-Governmental Organizations should support the rural-urban migrants in order to provide social amenities to rural communities. This is very essential to their existence.
3. The findings of the study also established that there is a significant relationship between Rural-Urban migrants and agricultural development in Nasarawa State. Federal and State Government should initiate policies that will encourage rural-urban cooperation to support local farmers in their communities.
4. The study further established that there is a significant relationship between Rural-Urban migrants remittances and women and youths empowerment in Nasarawa State. Thus, the government should complement these efforts by providing the rural dwellers with entrepreneurial training and quality education, apprenticeship skills to manage the businesses established through the remittances received.

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