

THE IMPACT OF INCREASE IN URBANIZATION ON MAJOR CITIES IN NIGERIA. A CASE STUDY OF ENUGU STATE (ENUGU URBAN), SOUTHEASTERN NIGERIA

Moses O. Eyankware¹, Ruth O. Eyankware², Blessing O. Okoeguale³, and Emmanuel O. Eyankware⁴

¹Department of Geology, Faculty of Sciences, Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki P.M.B 053 Ebonyi State, Nigeria

²Department of Geography and Meteorology, Faculty of Environmental Sciences, Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Enugu State, Nigeria

³Department of Applied Biology, Faculty of Biological Science Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, P.M.B 053 Ebonyi State, Nigeria

⁴Department of Gas Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, University of Port Harcourt Choba, Port Harcourt, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT: The increase in migration into urban cities in Nigeria has posed a challenge to the Nigerian government. This study access the causes of rural-urban migration in major cities in Nigeria of which Enugu Urban is a case study. There are several factor responsible for rural-urban migration which influence the migrant's migration status. The study attempts to find answers to research questions by using survey design and sampling techniques to collect data from 210 (153) respondents with the aid of a 10-item structured questionnaire and personal interview. The respondents comprise of heads of household of migrants' (remove this) in the study area. Data for this study were edited, coded and analyzed using Statistical Packages for Social Sciences (SPSS) and descriptive statistics. The findings revealed that majority of the migrants migrated to continue their education rather than in search of employment as concluded by a lot of past studies. It also revealed that the impact of out-migration in the area includes: absence of youths to assist parents in their profession, lack of work force to work on farms, and desertion of the area by the youths as it affects the aged and children. The study recommends measures to limit rapid increase in urbanization, as well as strategies to reduce rural-urban migration and also profound ways of making the rural areas (include) comfortable for rural dwellers. Through government's support in the development and funding of small and medium scale rural enterprises, government should promulgate policies that will provide basic amenities in rural areas and finally higher school (tertiary institutions) such as polytechnics (include this) and universities should be sited in rural areas.

KEYWORDS: Rural-Urban Migration, Basic Amenities, Higher Education, Youth and Electricity.

1 INTRODUCTION

Migration can be broadly defined as the change of residence from one civil division to another for a specific period of time or on a permanent basis. migration occurs for various reasons and its determinants or factors vary from country to country and even within a country; it varies depending on the socio-economic, demographic and cultural factors. High unemployment rate, low income, high population growth, unequal distribution of land, demand for higher schooling, previous migration patterns and displeasure with housing have been identified as a number of the prominent determinants of rural out migration (Nabi, 1992; Sekhar, 1993; Yadava, 1988; Singh et al, 1981). Migration is often considered as a driver of growth and an important route out of poverty with significant positive impact on people's livelihoods and well being, (Anh, 2003). There is a general consensus that migration and remittances reduce rural poverty and contribute to the improvement of household living standards.

Prior to colonialism in Nigeria, the extended families lived a communal life. They carried out their daily activities together and shared their yield adequately following a well comprehended custom. Colonialism exposed Nigerians to international market by the introduction of cash crops and creation of administrative offices in planned zones which necessitated the investment in socio-economic amenities within these areas. This stimulated the quest for paid employment and migration of workforce into these areas and therefore prompted the commencement of rural-urban migration in Nigeria. This resulted in an increased migration into new cities such as Lagos, Port-Harcourt, Enugu, Jos and Kaduna: Unskilled labours were required for menial jobs in the urban centres of colonial administration (Omonigho, 2013). The theory upon which this study is based is Todaro's Model of Migration. This theory offers theoretical basis for proper understanding of rural-urban migration. It also related the impact of rural-urban migration on the urban centres to serious problems such as overpopulation, soil erosion, pollution and soil degradation. What are the causes and impacts of rural-urban migration in Nigeria? The researcher intends to find answers to these questions, using Enugu urban in Enugu state, Nigeria.

1.1 STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

Rural-urban migration is growing progressively; this migration is as a result of high concentration of Infrastructure and amenities in the urban areas, coupled with favourable living conditions and standard of living. Some immigrants do not think about environmental hazard faced with the issue of re locating to the urban centres.

1.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the study are:

1. To examine the relationship between urbanization and its environmental hazards.
2. To determine the implication of urbanization with respect to unemployment (causes and impact of urbanization on the socio – economic environment.
3. To proffer solutions that will bring rural-urban migration to the minimum in Nigeria.

1.3 RESEARCH QUESTION

The research questions for this study are as follows:

1. What is the relationship between urbanization and unemployment as regards to development?
2. What are the causes and impact of urbanization on the socio – economic environment?
3. What are the possible solutions that will bring rural-urban migration to its minimum in Enugu urban?

1.4 STATEMENT OF HYPOTHESIS

For the purpose of this study, the following hypothesis will be tested.

H_0 : There is no significant difference between urbanization and its impact on major cities in Nigeria.

H_1 : There is significant difference between urbanization and its impact on major cities in Nigeria.

H_0 : Unemployment has no significant impact on economic growth.

H_1 : Unemployment has significant impact on economic growth.

1.5 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The significance of this study is as follows:

The study would provide an econometric basis upon which to examine the effect of urbanization and unemployment on Nigeria's economy which would be useful to Nigeria as a whole. The study will add to intellectual value of Nigerians. The knowledge of the effect of urbanization and unemployment will be very useful as it will broaden individual's outlook, sharpen their intellect and inculcate in them the habit of balanced thinking. The study will also educate the government and rural dwellers who ignored agriculture in pursuit of white collar jobs in the office. Finally, the study will serve as a reference material for further studies.

1.6 SCOPE OF THE STUDY

Though the issue of urbanization poses a great challenge to Enugu state government and this research is focused on how to solve the problem of rural-urban migration.

2 LITERATURE REVIEW

(Omonigho, 2013; Fields, 1975; Gugler, J. 1991; Mahbub, 1997), admitted that government policies have been in favour of urban development, by purposely and continuously creating employment opportunities, educational opportunities and other infrastructural amenities more in the urban areas, compared to the rural areas. This has resulted to inequality in the development and quality of life between the rural and urban areas, and therefore enhancing rural-urban migration.

There also seems to be a unanimous agreement among economists including; Nwanna (2004); Brockerhoff (1995); Adewale (2005) that decision taken by people to migrate from the rural to urban areas is as a reaction to socio- economic issues such as; inferior social and economic facilities such as: health care, educational opportunities, transportation system, electricity, pipe borne water, housing conditions amongst others, in the rural areas compared to those in the urban areas, and degrading view of rural areas and its inhabitants. (Adefolalu, 1977) asserted that the rural areas in Nigeria are being affected by several incapacities in various levels of severity such as: inaccessibility, seclusion, underdevelopment, poverty, drabness, boredom, ignorance, depopulation, hunger, and all types of sicknesses. It is the general consensus amongst writers such as Adepoju (1990) and Essang et al (1974) and others that Migration from rural to urban areas leads to a reduction in the number of rural populace. This has a negative effect on rural agricultural output and thus hinders the pace of development in the rural areas. Migration of youths takes away the glamorous social life in the rural areas, leaving the area in a gloomy state. The youths migrate from the villages taking along their energy and vigour, and leaving behind the feeble old men, women and children to labour on the farm since farming is their major occupation. This has led to a reduction in agricultural produce with its consequential effect on the gross domestic product of the nation, lowered funds for development, income and standard of living of rural inhabitants, underdevelopment, and total desertion of the rural areas. Rural areas in Nigeria lack socio-economic facilities including: pipe borne water, electricity, motor able roads, industries, high paid employment

3 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The following are the research questions posed to guide the study.

- ❖ What are the causes of rural-urban migration in Enugu urban, south-eastern Nigeria?
- ❖ What are the impacts of rural-urban migration in Enugu urban, south-eastern, Nigeria?

4 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

the methodology for the study employed the survey research design (household survey research method) to obtain vital information from 210 heads of migrants' families within the study area. the households used for the study were selected by purposive sampling (a non-probability sampling technique) and information was obtained from them with the aid of personal interview and a structured 22-item questionnaire. the questionnaire consisted of two sections, a and b. section a was based on personal bio-data of the respondents while section b comprised of questions drawn from respondents to investigate the causes and examine the impact of rural-urban migration, in enugu urban nigeria. copies of the questionnaires were administered on a face-to-face basis. the response rate was 85.2% meaning 179 questionnaires were returned. however, 26 out of the 210 questionnaires returned were invalid, leaving the researcher with 153 (65.1%) questionnaires for analysis. data for this study were analyzed using descriptive statistics. data gathered were edited, (include this) coded and analyzed using spss.

5 SCOPE OF THE RESEARCH

In this research, we investigated the migration pattern, causes and impacts of out-migration on Enugu urban, south-eastern Nigeria, from the year (2012 – 2014). The main economic activities that occur within the study area are: farming, (remove this) and sand quarrying. However, most of them have been deserted due to maladministration and high operating cost including: inadequate of electricity supply. Area has primary and secondary schools (public and private) but no higher

institutions. “Prior to the year 1999-2003 democratic dispensation, the Igbo- Etiti Local Government Area in Enugu state was without doubt, among the local Government Area in the Federation where no town or village enjoyed electricity”. However, even after the installation of electrical facilities in the area, electricity supply has been highly epileptic. Power is only supplied sometimes during festive periods (include this) – Christmas, New Year, Easter, new yam or during other festive periods within the area. Pipe-borne water which is only available in few communities like Emene, Abakpa and Ogui hardly available. Few members of the community depend on borehole for water while majority of them depend on stream and river as their source of water supply. Their main transportation system in the area is by water and land.

6 DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

From the 10-item structured questionnaire with open and closed ended questions, it was discovered that out of 210 copies of the questionnaire administered 179 copies were returned, 26 out of the 179 copies were invalid, leaving the researcher with 153 copies 72.9% for analysis. The response to question one, on the location of respondents, revealed that the respondents were widely dispersed over the study area. However, the number of respondents in three out of the 18 locations namely: Holy-ghost junction, Ogui road and Peace Park around Okpara Avenue, where the administrative and commercial centres are mainly located, were higher than those in other locations, with 8.0%, 7.1% and 5.2% respectively. 86(56.2%)of respondents were male, while the remaining 67(43.8%)were female. Majority of the respondents, 47(30.72%) had their ages between 50-59 years, 49(32.03%) between 40-49 years, 33(21.57%) between 30-39 years, and 24(15.47%) were 60 years and above 97 (65.1%) of respondents were married, while 37 (24.4%) were widowed.

6.1 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the study is presented below:

Table 1: Answer to Research Question 1, Analyzed with a Sub Question under Question 9 on the Questionnaire. Reasons for Migrating

	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	VALID PERCENT	CUMMULATIVE PERCENT
Valid Education	79	52	52.6	52.6
Employment	28	18.4	18.4	71
Basic amenities	18	12.1	12.1	83.1
Join relatives	17	11.8	11.8	94.9
Marriage	11	5.1	5.1	100
Total	153	100	100	100

Table 2: Year of Migration (Reasons for Migrating Cross Tabulation)

REASONS FOR MIGRATING TO URBAN (ENUGU URBAN)												
Year of Migration	BASIC											
	EDUCATION		EMPLOYMENT		AMENITIES		JOIN RELATIVES		MARRIAGE			
2012	17	42.2 %	10	25.4%	8	19.4%	4	9.4%	1	3.6%	40	100%
2013	21	32.4%	17	24.5%	8	16.9%	6	19.5%	6	6.7%	67	100%
2014	18	41.3%	13	34.6%	7	8.8%	6	9.2%	2	6.1%	46	100%
Total	57	37.2%	39	25.5%	26	17.0%	23	15.0%	8	5.2%	153	100%

Table. 2 reveals that education, followed by employment is the major reason for youths’ out-migration from the study area yearly, within the ten years. These reasons supersede every other reason.

Table 3: Age at Migration in Groups Reasons for Migrating Cross Tabulation.

AGE GRADE	Reasons for Migrating						TOTAL
	EDUCATION	EMPLOYMENT	BASIC AMENITIES	JOIN RELATIVES	MARRIAGE		
10-12	2 50%	0 0%	0 0%	2 50%	0 0%	4 100%	
13-15	8 67.6%	0 0%	0 0%	4 32.4%	0 0%	12 100%	
16-19	8 50%	2 12.5%	0 0%	6 37.5%	0 0%	16 100%	
20-24	23 62.5%	9 25.0%	1 3%	2 4.5%	2 5%	37 100%	
25-29	15 48.3%	5 14.3%	4 12.4%	2 7.5%	6 17.5%	3 100%	
30+	14 26.5%	18 35.6%	6 12.0%	10 18.5%	4 7.4%	52 100%	
Total	70	34	11	26	12	153	

Table. 3 shows that majority of migrants within age group 10-12 and 13-15, migrated to meet their relatives, while those within the age group 16-19 and 20-24 mostly migrated to continue their education. However, migrants within age group 25-29 mostly migrated in search of employment (greener pasture) while 30 plus migrated due to basic amenities.

Table 4: Answer to Research Question 2, Analyzed with a Sub Question under. Question 9 on the Questionnaire. Consequences of Out-Migration on your Area.

	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	VALID PERCENT	CUMMULATIVE PERCENT
Valid Dull village life	7	4.8	4.8	4.8
Lack of help	49	31.9	31.9	36.7
Lack of labour force.	85	55.4	55.4	92.1
Inability to learn culture	2	1.2	1.2	93.3
No youth in the Community	10	6.7	6.7	100
Total	153	100.0	100.0	

Table 4 reveals that 7 (4.8%) of respondents agreed that out-migration of their youths in large number has led to a dull lifestyle in the village, 49 (31.9%) agreed that youths are no longer available to help them to carry out their house chores and assist them in their trade or profession, 85 (55.4%) of the respondents agreed that it has led to lack of work force especially on the farm which has consequently led to a reduction in agricultural produce and therefore low income and lower standard of living of the rural dwellers. However, 2(1.2%) agreed that it has led to inability of the youths to learn their culture, while 10 (6.7%) stated that it has led to the abandonment of village by the youths, living behind mainly the aged and children.

7 SUMMARY

From the above discussion, it can be deduced that a majority of migrants from rural communities in Enugu state, south-eastern Nigeria, migrated to continue their education while others migrated in search of employment, basic amenities, to join relatives, and get married. That until the imbalance or disparity in socio-economic development between the rural and urban areas is removed, no amount of persuasion can put a stop to rural-urban migration and its' multiplying effects in Enugu urban and other cities in Nigeria.

8 CONCLUSION

All these negative impacts can be upturned if the disparity in development between the urban and rural areas is substantially eliminated. This would make what the youths sort for in the urban areas available in the rural areas, therefore making them remain in the rural communities.

9 RECOMMENDATION

From The Research Carried Out, It Is Hereby Recommended That Policy Makers In Nigeria Should Carry Out An Intense Effort To Transform The Rural Areas Holistically, By Making Available More Socio-Economic And Infrastructural Amenities Such As: Higher Income Earning Jobs, Educational Institutions Especially Higher Educational Institutions Such As Monotechnics (Include This) , Polytechnics (Include This) And Universities, Sanitation, Health Services, Electricity, Motorable Roads (Including The Farm Roads), Pipe Borne Water, Good Housing Condition, Financial Institutions, (Include This) Small And Medium Scale Enterprises And Other Basic Social-Economic Services For The Rural Dwellers. A Concerted Effort Should Also Be Made Towards Financing The Rural Enterprises And Encouraging Effective And Efficient Agricultural Activities Through National Policy Framework And Rolling Plans. The Recommendation Listed Above Will Assist In Increasing Their Productivity. Also Efforts Towards Improving The Urban Areas Without Consequentially Developing The Rural Areas Would Aggravate The Already Problematic Situation Posed By Rural-Urban Migration, Since Higher Number Of Youths Will Migrate To The Urban Appealing Areas. Also Insincerity Of Purpose, Corruption, Embezzlement Of Funds Meant To Execute Rural Developmental Projects By Government Officials In Nigeria Which Needs To Be Reduced To The Barest Minimum For The Rural Transformation Process To Be Successful.

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