Assessment of Millennium Development Goals in Rural Communities: A Study of Azuinyaba Community in Ishielu Local Government Area of Ebonyi State

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ABSTRACT

The study assessed the impact of Millennium Development Goals in Rural Communities: A study of Azuinyaba community in Ishellu Local Government Area of Ebonyi State. The study was guided by three objectives with three corresponding research questions. Relevant literature related to the study was reviewed. The study adopted the theory of structural functionalism. The descriptive method of research based on sample survey design was adopted in this study. The population of the study comprised the people of the Azuinyaba community. The population will be based on 3310 males and 4122 females respectively, bringing the total number of 7432. The sample size of the population was determined using the Taro Yamani formula. A total number of 400 questionnaires was distributed to the respondents. Simple random sampling will be used in the distribution of the questionnaire. Data analysis was anchored on Mean and Standard Deviations. The study revealed that MDGs has not made a significant impact on the standard of living of the rural dweller in the Azuinyaba community of Ebonyi State. The rural dwellers should be incorporated into the MDGs programmes. This would attract the support of the people in the implementation and maintenance of developmental programmes.

KEYWORDS: Development, Millenium, Goals, Rural-community

I. INTRODUCTION

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are the world time-bound and quantified target for addressing extreme poverty in its many dimension like income, poverty, hunger, disease, "adequate housing etc. while promoting gender equality, education and environmental sustainability (MDG, 2010)**.**MDGs has its origin in the September 2000 gathering of 189 Head of State and government in New York for the United Nations Millennium summit where the millennium declaration was ratified. It was a landmark event in many ways. First, it represented perhaps the heaviest congregation of world leaders with the sole aim of charting a global development agenda. Second, it crafted a set of interrelated socio-economic and environmental goals (with indicators for self-evaluation and monitoring of performance) and third, it committed all countries to mainstream these goals into their internal development efforts, (Chete, 2009).

From the foregoing, it is obvious that the raison d'etre for MDGs are to reduce the high incidence of extreme poverty and several of its consequences in rural communities of the world, where there are no access or inadequacy of the necessities of life such as safe drinking water, sanitation, transportation, health and education. (Okoli and Onah: 2002) pointed out that such areas have people that appear oppressed, degraded and deprived, and that their opportunities for education, employment and good living are minimal. Generally, the rural communities are poor and economically live below the poverty line and, therefore, are

referred to as economically undeveloped. Akin (2005) opined that about 85 per cent of Nigerians mostly in rural areas are living in abject poverty, and those without access to good drinking water, modern health care and education are put at over 57.3 million while United nation development reports 2000-2001 maintained that 51 per cent of Nigerians had no access to good health care, and 59 per cent had no access to good sanitation.

In the same vein, Onyenechere (2010) pointed that poverty is higher rural in areas than in urban areas. In 2004, the urban population with access to good water was 67 per cent, while the corresponding rural population was 31 per cent. In terms of sanitation services, 53 per cent of the urban population had access to sanitation services and 36 per cent in my rural areas. This is worse than the sanitation condition in Cameroon, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe (World Bank, 2008). UNDP (2002) Reports the Ebonyi ranked low (0.466) on the Human Development Index (HDD a combined measure of longevity (physical health), knowledge (education and income (purchasing power). The reasons for this low expectancy at birth are estimated to be below 59.2 years for males and 60.7 years for females. The mortality rate for children under 5 is 191 per 1000 live births (UNICEF Report, 1994). One-third of the State's population is still without safe water and sanitation. Approximately half of the population of rural dwellers obtains water from shallow wells and contaminated water from rivers. A good per cent of the population are illiterates. This statistic is evident in the Azuinyaba community where more than 90% of the population depend on a shallow pond, River etc. for the source of water. The health care accessibility of the area is worrisome as there is no presence of government or private hospitals in the area. Therefore leaving the entire community practically in the hands of rural quacks and traditional medicine.

It is on this account that Mahbab (2004) posits that millennium Development Goals sometimes called global development is at the very least, about making sure that the most basic things we in the northern hemisphere take for granted, can also be taken for granted by everyone else in the world, that means food on your plate, a roof over your head, schooling for your children, health care when you are sick and income to pay for necessities.

However, the deplorable condition of life in the rural communities of the world amounts the landmark millennium declaration on engendering development in these areas and tackling poverty in its entire ramification. In their words, we will spare no effort to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty to which more than a billion of them are currently subjected (National Millennium Development Goal Report 2004). In pursuance of these laudable Initiatives, they pinpointed some pro-poverty development agenda in tackling poverty in the rural communities of the world. These include the following (a) To eradicate extreme poverty and hunger (b) To achieve universal primary education (c) To promote gender equality and empower women (d) To reduce children mortality (e) To improve maternal health care (f) To combat HIV/AIDS malaria and other diseases (g) ensuring environmental sustainability and (h) Developing global partnership for development.

To achieve MDGs and targets, the Federal government of Nigeria, Integrated their implementation into the national Development plans as encapsulated in The National Economic Empowerment Strategy (NEEDS). Its purpose was to raise the countries standard of living through a variety of reforms including macroeconomic stability, deregulation, stability, deregulation transparency and accountability etc. It also sought to address basic deficiencies such as lack of fresh water for households, decaying infrastructure, corruption

etc. related initiative on the state level is the State Economic Empowerment Strategy (SEEDS) and at the local level is called local Government Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (LEEDS).

Consequently, localizing the ''MGDs as NEEDS documents is instrumental to its effective implementation. UNDP (2009) noted that it's a process of designing (or adjusting) local development strategies to achieve locally adapted MDGs targets. To impact the lives of the people, MDGs needs to be adapted and transplanted into local realities and embedded in the local plan process. This would engender community participation in the design and implementation of projects, the programme targeted to affect their lives.

In the same vein, Ebonyi State Millennium Development Goal and the office of Grant and Donor Agencies in 2007 was established. The latter is charged to liaise with International donors that are yet to get their presence in the state to partner with the state agencies in the health, education, agriculture etc. MDGs are expected to reach out to the agrarian Ebonyi communities, collaborate with the villagers to decide the best thing for their welfare etc. This is done through a conditional grant scheme. Which helps in the implementation of projects as in MDGs. However, the 2007 conditional grant scheme formulated by the Federal Government of Nigeria is designed through which saving made from Debt Relief will be expended on projects that support the actualization of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Under the 2007 scheme, the projects were narrowed down to focus on: primary healthcare-related projects and programmes, rural water supply and sanitation and rural electrification etc.

Statement of the Problem

A careful Observation and analysis of some of our rural infrastructure in Ebonyi State, especially in Azuinyaba Community in Ishielu Local Government Area would reveal that there is a lack of basic amenities like pipe-borne water, Hospital, Electric::, Bridges, good road network etc, In spite of the government intervention programmes to alleviate the poverty of the rural populace and to provide social amenities to the rural poor, the opposite remains evident, Government over the years has embarked on various programmes such as: Directorate for food Road and Rural Infrastructure (DIFFR) National Directorate for Employment (NDE) operation feed the Nation (OFN) Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Onah and Okoli (2006) Posited that the problem in Nigeria is not about the conceptualization of policies, plans, programmes and project neither is it about pitting down development plans but all the plans are supposed to be prosecuted through programmes and projects.

Billions of Naira has been expended every year by Government in various communities and Rural Development programmes, especially the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). But the euphoria that greeted the entire programme is the poor result as it is reflected in many of ou- rural communities. Furthermore, the various rural development strategies so far adopted especially Millennium Development Goals have negated my responsibility of mobilizing the rural populace. A motley group of Elite classes sits, in**spires** and elaborates the need of rural people, decides on the project without the active participation of the rural population. Consequently, there is a lack of appropriate ideological framework for the total mobilization of the neglected rural majority and abandonment of projects is inevitable.

In addition to these problems, the sporadic and inconsistent nature of Nigerians rural

development programmes had equally vitiated their impact. A newew regime usually discards whatever its predecessors had done or are doing whether good or bad and invent its own. This ugly development has negatively affected the entire rural and development plans of the government and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is not an exception. It is against this backdrop that the need to make research on the Assessment of millennium Development Goals in rural communities in Ebonyi State especially Azuinyaba becomes imperative.

Research Question

From the foregoing analysis, the following pertinent research questions are formulated.

1. To what extent has millennium Development Goals affected the standard of living of the Azunyaba Community?

2. What are the levels of participation of the Azunyaba Community in MDGs related activities?

3. How effective is the conditional grant scheme to the attainment of MDGs in Azuinyaba Community?

Objective of the Study

The broad objective of this study is to assess the impact of MDGs in the rural communities in Ebonyi State with reference to Azuinyaba Community.

However, the specific objectives are:

1. To verify the extent MDGs has affected the standard of living in Azuinyaba Community.

2. To ascertain the level of participation of Azuinyaba community in MGDS related activities in their area.

3. To measure the effectiveness of conditional grant scheme to the attainment of MGDs in Azuinyaba Community.

II. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

There are many publications, journals, textbooks and seminar papers that examined the impact of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) However, the works of Okoh (2009) Okpata (2009) Afolabi (2009) and Lawal et al (2012) will form the empirical review of this section. The chapter will also take a look at some existing literature of MDGs as reported by scholars.

To UNDP (2010), the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) **represents** the world's commitments to deal with global poverty in its many **dimensions.** This commitment is supported by a global partnership, which calls for country-led strategies, and support from developed countries in the areas of trade, officials Development Assistance (ODA), debt sustainability end access to medicine and technology. The World Health Organization **(WHO)** (2015), observed that MDGs are currently the highest level of expression of the international community to development priorities. It explained that MDGs commit the international community to an agenda, which emphasizes sustainable human development as the key to fulfilling social and economic progress. It further stressed that all the 191 member states of the United Marion's Organization have pledged to achieve these goals by the year 2015. It observed that the MDGs goals, targets and indicators are widely accepted as a framework for measuring national and global development progress.

Woo, et al. (2005) observed that MDGs offers Africa a way of escape out of the poverty trap-being too poor to grow. They plead with the western policymaker to fully support the MDGs and encourage an increase in public investments to produce a large step increase in Africa's underlying productivity, both rural and urban. They noted that foreign donors would be critical to achieving this substantial step increase. Arif, *et al.* (2005) observed that MDGs represent a new attempt to increase the effectiveness of development assistance in reducing poverty with time-bound targets and a strong commitment to monitoring progress. They pointed out that to achieve these laudable MDGS objectives, it is imperative to address the need for water sanitation, health care, schools, employment poverty and crises, especially among the less re, eloped economies.

Aisha (2008) observed that culture is an obstacle to the achievement of MDGs in Nigeria, In her view, the cultures of the people of Northern Nigeria are stampeding the efforts of various NGOs in achieving these goals. There, women are viewed as subservient to men and should not be seen competing with them on important issues which affect the whole society. For few that break the jinx, they are given an insignificant roles to play in government. Also in her view, many pregnant women prefer to give birth at home rather than at the hospitals, thus leading to the establishment of the Traditional Birth Attendance (TBA). It is also noted that these TBAs do not have the required skills to handle childbirth complications. Early marriages, lack of girl child education are the major obstacles to those goals. Cultural conservatism and ignorance arising from illiteracy stand against the wheel of progress in achieving the goals of this global policy.

The 2004 MDG Report states corruption makes Nigeria unattractive to investors as it raises the cost and risk of business investment in the country. Transparency international (2005) observed that corruption is a massive drag on an effort to reach the Millennium Development Goals. Corruption dwindles economic growth and development, it subjects the country to poverty and hunger. For instance, the volume of bribes paid annually has been estimated by the World Bank institute at US$1 billion "early thrice the gross domestic product for Africa, but at less than US$600 billion for 1999 by African Development Bank (World Bank, 2001). Similarly, misallocations arising from corruption means hospitals are poorly staffed and resourced. Corruption facilitated the circulation of fake potential lethal drugs. Bribes are often prerequisites for access to health care, including maternal health (Transparency international 2007)

Teunissen (2005) was of the opinion that MDGs are the finest set of goals or promises to the third world especially African countries, however, they identified four major reasons for Africa slow growth: low capital accumulation; the high price of investment goods for Africa investors, low productivity of investment and geographical advantages. They advocated for aggressive investment in infrastructure as key to economic growth that will compliment MDGs achievement and improve social outcomes. furthermore, they identify the importance of regional cooperation and integration that helps growth and infrastructure and vice versa, which will have a lasting effect on MDGs beyond 2015.

Culpeper (2005) appreciates the global commitment to move about 50 per cent poor of the world out of extreme poverty by 2015, through MDGs projects. However, he advocated for a more thorough approach which is not up to 50 per cent, but 100 per cent of the people living in poverty should be elevated. He explained that if we still had 40 per cent to 50 per cent of humanity struggling to subsist at between one and two dollars a day, then we need a deeper

approach to fighting poverty. He equally observed that MDGs raise little or no significant attention to poverty in the urban economy, he believes that MDGs should focus as well on the provision of decent employment in the productive sector for urban dwellers. He advocate for restructuring of the tax system, which he described as being regressive at current based on the extreme reliance on the sales and consumption tax system. He argued that in most developing economies, elites hardly pay tax (a very regressive distributional tax system)

III. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The study adopted the theory of structural functionalism. The theory was propounded by Gabriel Almond (1960). This theory originated from sociology and was first used by Talcott Parsons and Marion Levy. It seeks to study the political system as a set of structures performing functions. And also functions performed by several structures which together constitute the system of politics both internally and extremely. The structural part of the approach refers to any human organization that can do things and have an effect on human beings and other human organizations, like a public corporations, families, courts, bureaus etc. The functional part relates to the activity of the agency arm its external effects. The theory is a form of systemic analysis which looks at political systems as coherent wholes which influence and are in turn influenced by their environments. It equally opined that each political system is characterized by a legitimate force which is the basis of all its activities,

Society is seen as a mosaic of functions and structures that perform them. For example, in order to survive, society needs to reduce poverty, educate its children, produce goods, govern affairs and provide security to its citizenry. These are functions and they necessitate several structures such as institutions/Agencies, industries, parliament so on. It is the ability of functional and effective leadership that direct the affairs in the organized system in which the people could react positively to issue that affect them. The theory is premised on the following:

1) .... The principles of self-help: This principle highlights community development as a movement of the people which is evolved from the aspirations of the people themselves that their improvement will come, about. It enables them to exploit their advantage, resources that would otherwise lie dormant.

2) .... The Principles of felt-need. This stresses that people must be able to identify what they want to do to achieve their desired development.

3) .... The principles of citizen participation. This demands that whatever is done to improve the welfare of a people must endeavour to elicit the enthusiasm and wholehearted participation of such a people.

4) .... The principles of self-Growth. This principle also demands that a community does not have to accept or even wait to have ready-made solutions to its problems which are worked out by outsiders who have no connections with the community.

5) .... The principles of self-Reliance. This emphasizes the need for people to take their destiny into their own hands.

The structural-functional theory is relevant to the study because it takes cognizance of the environment, structures, functions and the people and government. The theory duly emphasized that for any community Development to thrive, there must be the 'structural and functional system that must be in place. The theory equally established the relevance of the structures created by the government to eradicate poverty in Nigeria such as NAPEP policy, Universal Basic Education Programme etc. and whether these structures have played any significant roles in the realization of the MDGs in the Azuinyaba community. It will further help to understand the level of community participation in MDGs actualization.

IV. METHODOLOGY

This heading consisted of the methodology and procedures to be used in obtaining and analyzing important data in the course of the study. The descriptive method of research based on sample survey design was adopted in this study. This will involve a systematic collection and presentation of data to give a clear picture of a particular situation or information. This was carried out within the agrarian community of Azuinyaba in the Ishielu Local Government Area in Ebonyi State. It is comprised of 6 villages which include: Anyim, Ogbogum, Onu-Oji, Agu-Egede, Ekeugwu and Azu- Office. The population of the study comprised the people of the Azuinyaba community. The population will be based on 3310 males and 4122 females respectively, bringing the total number of 7432 (Census figure, 1991). The sample size of the population was determined using the Taro Yamani formula given below:

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

Where

N= the Total population size

E= Error margin

I= constant

A total number of 400 questionnaires was distributed to the respondents. Simple random sampling will be used in the distribution of the questionnaire. The questionnaire was a closed-ended type. The researcher used the primary source of data. However, a secondary source of information was used to support the primary data. The questionnaire was subjected to validity tests. Validity of instrument refers to the ability of an instrument to prove what it claims to measure. Efforts were made to draft the questions in simple and unambiguous language. To determine the reliability of the study, the researcher employed the test and retest technique. The effort was made to present the questionnaire to some experts and academics for reliability measurement; only the revised version was administered to the respondents. Data analysis was anchored on Mean and Standard Deviations.

V. DATA PRESENTATION

Research Question One: To what extent has millennium Development Goals affected the standard of living of the Azunyaba Community?

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics on the extent Millennium Development Goals has affected the standard of living of Azunyaba Community

N=388, Criterion=2.5

S/N	Statement	VHE	HE	LE	VLE	Mean	Std.	Remark
1	Millennium Development Goals has really made provision for good drinking water	74	99	51	164	2.21	1.18	**Low Extent**
2	There is adequate sanitation service as a result of the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals	71	71	18	228	1.96	1.23	**Low Extent**
3	The millennium Development Goals has really help improve the people's physical health	20	31	146	191	1.69	0.83	**Low Extent**
4	There is adequate provision of education for the masses as a result of the Millennium Development Goals	30	40	108	210	1.72	0.94	**Low Extent**
5	There is financial empowerment for the people	90	87	--	211	2.14	1.30	**Low Extent**
6	There is low child mortality rate	68	111	21	188	2.15	1.21	**Low Extent**
7	There is adequate power supply for the masses	82	82	83	141	2.27	1.16	**Low Extent**
	Grand Mean					**2.02**	**1.12**	**Low Extent**

Table 1 showed the extent to the Millennium Development Goals has affected the standard of living of the Azunyaba Community. The grand mean of 2.02 and standard deviation of 1.12 revealed that to a low extent Millennium Development Goals has not affected the standard of living of the Azunyaba Community. This was drawn from the respective means on the table which showed that Millennium Development Goals has not made provision for good drinking water, no adequate sanitation service, no improvement of health facilities, and insufficient financial empowerment for the people, etc.

Research Question Two: What are the levels of participation of the Azunyaba Community in MDGs related activities?

Table 2: Descriptive Statistics on the levels of participation of Azunyaba Community in MDGs related activities

N=388, Criterion=2.5

S/N	Statement	VHL	HL	LL	VLL	Mean	Std.	Remark
8	Eradicating extreme poverty and hunger	92	70	26	200	2.14	1.28	**Low Level**
9	Reducing child mortality	96	72	45	175	2.23	1.26	**Low Level**
10	Improving maternal health	81	51	19	237	1.94	1.26	**Low Level**
11	Combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases	132	67	--	189	2.37	1.38	**Low Level**

S/N								
12	Ensuring environmental sustainability	125	63	--	200	2.29	1.37	**Low Level**
13	Developing global partnership for development	39	132	20	197	2.03	1.12	**Low Level**
14	Achieving universal primary education	132	106	--	150	2.57	1.31	**Low Level**
15	Promoting gender equality and empowering women	30	244	--	114	2.49	1.00	**Low Level**
	Grand Mean					2.26	1.24	**Low Level**

Table 2 showed the levels of participation of the Azunyaba Community in MDGs related activities. The grand mean of 2.26 and standard deviation of 1.24 showed that the participation levels of the Azunyaba Community in MDGs related activities was low. This was so because they do not participate in eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS, among others.

Research Question Three: How effective is the conditional grant scheme to the attainment of MDGs in the Azuinyaba Community?

Descriptive Statistics on the effectiveness of the conditional grant scheme to the attainment of MDGs in Azuinyaba Community

N=388, Criterion=2.5

S/N	Statement	SA	A	D	SD	Mean	Std.	Remark
16	Very effective	27	46	21	101	2.00	0.81	**Disagreed**
17	Effective	190	89	94	15	3.17	1.14	**Agreed**
18	Not Effective	102	101	75	110	2.50	1.01	**Agreed**
19	Not Very Effective	55	306	--	27	2.51	0.45	**Agreed**
	Grand Mean					2.54	0.85	**Agreed**

Table 3 showed the effectiveness of the conditional grant scheme to the attainment of MDGs in the Azuinyaba community. With the grand mean of 2.54 and standard deviation of 0.85, it was indicated that the conditional grant scheme to the attainment of MDGs in the Azuinyaba community is very effective.

VI. Discussion of Findings

Research question one examined the extent to the Millennium Development Goals has affected the standard of living of the Azunyaba Community. It was indicated with the grand mean of 2.02 and standard deviation of 1.12 that to a very low extent Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) has not affected the standard of living of Azunyaba Community because the MDGs has not made provision for good drinking water, no adequate sanitation service, no improvement of health facilities, insufficient financial empowerment for the people, etc. The findings of the study corroborated with the findings of Olabode *et al.(*2014) which revealed that the MDGs programme did not significantly improve the standard of living of the people. This was attributed to corruption in the implementation of the development programme and low rural participation.

Research question two examined the levels of participation of the Azunyaba Community in MDGs related activities. The grand mean of 2.26 and standard deviation of 1.24 showed that there is a low level of participation of Azunyaba Community in MDGs related activities, this was tied to the responses that the people do not participate in eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS, among others. The study's findings correlate with the finding of Agu-Aguiyi *et al.* (2018) in their entitled 'community participation in the millennium development goals (MDGs) programmes in Awka North Local Government Area (LGA) of Anambra State, Nigeria'. *The result revealed that MDGs have implemented and executed some reasonable developmental programmes in the area but with a low level of community participation. In order to strengthen and enhance community participation in developmental programmes, the researchers made the following recommendations are made; the community should be allowed to identify and make choices on the type of programmes and projects they went in their community. Also, the government officials should allow the community to be involved in the design, planning and formulation of the programmes. All these will encourage the full participation of the community. The findings also corroborated with the findings of* Onyekineso (2017) which revealed that Anambra State MDGs has initiated and implemented some rural wealth creation programmes at different community but the MDGs was confronted with low participation of the rural dwellers.

Research question three examined the effectiveness of the conditional grant scheme to the attainment of MDGs in the Azuinyaba community. With the grand mean of 2.35 and standard deviation of 0.85, it was indicated that the conditional grant scheme is ineffective to the attainment of MDGs in the Azuinyaba community. The present finding supported the findings made by Kalu & Olulu (2014) in a study entitled 'Performance Evaluation of MDGs Conditional Grants Scheme in Rivers State, Nigeria'. The process assessment reveals that to a large the MDG office in Port Harcourt conform to the guidelines on the contract award, the composition of the tender board, procurement process and inter-agency collaboration. Investigation however reveals that the communities are not fully involved at the point of project implementation. This has created capacity underutilization of facilities in the primary health care centres, the paper recommended active collaboration between the state and the communities, as well as involvement of the private sector to enhance the sustainability of the project. The Conditional Grants Scheme has been a very useful tool towards achieving the MDGs in Nigeria. It has proved to be a very potent channel for reestablishing a footing for social services at the grassroots following the infrastructural decay of the 1980s and 1990s. It outperformed expectations compared to other similar programmes in Nigeria and is deservedly the flagship programme of the OSSAP-MDGs. The Conditional Grants Scheme has been a very useful tool towards achieving the MDGs in Nigeria. It has proved to be a very potent channel for reestablishing a footing for social services at the grassroots following the infrastructural decay of the 1980s and 1990s. It outperformed expectations compared to other similar programmes in Nigeria and is deservedly the flagship programme of the OSSAP-MDGs.

VII. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS
From the foregoing, it is obvious that the raison d'etre for MDGs are to reduce the high incidence of extreme poverty and several of its consequences in rural communities of the world, where there are no access or inadequacy of the necessities of life such as safe drinking water, sanitation, transportation, health and education.

The study revealed that to a very low extent Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) affected the standard of living of the Azunyaba Community. MDGs has not made provision for good drinking water, no adequate sanitation service, no improvement of health facilities, insufficient financial empowerment for the people, etc. There is a low level of participation of the Azunyaba Community in MDGs related activities, this was tied to the responses that the people do not participate in eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS, among others. Furthermore, the conditional grant scheme for the attainment of MDGs in the Azuinyaba community is ineffective. Based on the above findings, the study concluded that MDGs has not made significant progress in improving the standard of living of the people in the Azuinyaba community.

Based on the above findings, the study recommended that:

1. The rural dwellers should be incorporated into the MDGs programmes. This would attract the support of the people in the implementation and maintenance of developmental programmes.

2. MDGs programmes should be rural dwellers centred. It should be able to address the basic need of the rural dwellers such as pipe-borne water, roads, and universal basic education.

3. The anti-corruption agencies in Nigerian should carry out yearly evaluations of the implementation of MDGs programmes in Nigeria. Those found guilty of embezzlement of the funds should be prosecuted immediately to deter others from doing the same.

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QUESTIONNAIRE

SECTION A BIO DATA

Please Tick (√) as Deemed appropriate to you.

1.   Sex: Male ( ) Female (   )

2.   Age: 18-28 (   )   28-38 (   )   48-58 (   )   68-above (   )

3.   Marital Status: Married (   )   Single (   )

4.   Qualifications: FSLC ( ) SSCE (   ) ND/NCE   ( ) BSC( ) M.Sc (   )

SECTION B: GENERAL INFORMATION

Please Tick also (√) as Deemed fit **for you.**

KEY:

A = Agreed	SA = Strongly Agreed	U = Undecided

D = Disagree	SD = Strongly Disagree

S/N		SA	A	U	SD	D
1	In your assessment, do you agree that MDGS has improved the access of primary health care in Azuinyaba Community.					
2	The people of Ebonyi state and Azuinyaba Community in particular are usually involved during the execution of MDGs projects in their localities.					
3	You can agree that the sanitation goals of MDGs in Ebonyi state and Azuinyaba in particular are duly achieved.					
4	The people of Azuinyaba Community in Particular are usually mobilized to monetary contribution to support the MDGs projects in their community.					
5	Do you agree that MDGs has revitalized the dilapidated structures and improved the learning condition of public schools in Azuinyaba community?					
6	Do you agree that MDGs has eradicated the over dependency of River, shallow pond for source of water supply in Azuinyaba Community?					
7	Do you agree that MDGs has affected the quest for early marriages and lack of girl child education in Ebonyi State especially in Azuinyaba Community?					
8	In your assessment, do you agree that conditional grant scheme					

	of MDGs has improved on rural electrification in Ebonyi State especially Azuinyaba Community?					
9	The people of Ebonyi state and Azuinyaba community in particular are usually involved during the formulation of MDGs projects in their localities.					
10	Women of Ebonyi state and Azuinyaba in particular are usually not represented in the formulation and execution of MDGs projects in their localities.					
11	Non Involvement of people to ventilate their inputs and felt needs usually leads to rejection and abandonment of MDGs projects in rural area.					
12	Do you agree that construction of ventilated improved toilets in Ebonyi state particularly in Azuinyaba community has reduced the quest which people defecate in the bush?					
13	Do you agree that, lack of counterpart fund from Ebonyi state as in conditional grant scheme has affected the implementation of MDGs in Azuinyaba?					
14	Do you agree that, corruption by political elites affects the implementation of conditional grant scheme in a quest to make MDGs a reality in Ebonyi state particularly Azuinyaba community?					
15	There is lack of appropriate ideological framework for the total mobilization of people in the MDGs programme.					
16	Do you agree that MDGs has helped to eradicate high patronage of traditional medicine in Azinyaba community?					
17	D'o you agree that inflation of contract by project contractors drains the fund available for the implementation of MDGs programmes in Azuinyaba community?					
18	Policy inconsistency is the major problem of the MDGs to realize its goals in the Nation in general and Ebonyi state in particular.					