

AWARENESS OF NATIONAL PARKS AMONG URBAN RESIDENTS

BY

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[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Awareness of National Parks Among Urban Residents" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

Date

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined awareness of national parks among urban residents, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of awareness; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with awareness and national. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Technology Acceptance Model and the UTAUT. A sample size of 395 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 371 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 3.14). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.465$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 6.67, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.06$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on awareness.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page	i
Certification	ii
Dedication	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Abstract	v
Table of Contents	vi
List of Tables	vii
List of Figures	viii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background to the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	4
1.3 Objectives of the Study	7
1.4 Research Questions	7
1.5 Research Hypotheses	7
1.6 Significance of the Study	8
1.7 Scope and Limitation of the Study	11
1.8 Definition of Terms	13
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	15
2.1 Conceptual Review	15
2.1.1 Concept of Awareness	15
2.1.2 Concept of National	16
2.1.3 Concept of Parks	18
2.2 Theoretical Framework	20
2.2.1 Technology Acceptance Model	20
2.2.2 UTAUT	21
2.2.3 Diffusion of Innovation Theory	22
2.2.4 Systems Development Life Cycle	23
2.3 Empirical Review	24
2.3.1 Early Studies on awareness	25
2.3.2 Recent Nigerian Evidence on awareness	26
2.3.3 Awareness and national	28
2.3.4 Comparative Perspectives across Africa	30
2.4 Summary of Literature Review	32
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	34
3.1 Research Design	34
3.2 Population of the Study	34
3.3 Sample Size and Sampling Technique	35
3.4 Sources of Data Collection	36
3.5 Research Instrument	37
3.6 Validity and Reliability of the Instrument	38
3.7 Method of Data Analysis	39
3.7.1 Administration of the Instrument	40

3.8 Ethical Considerations	40
CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION	43
4.1 Data Presentation	43
4.2 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents	43
4.3 Analysis of Research Questions	44
4.4 Test of Hypotheses	45
4.5 Discussion of Findings	46
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	51
5.1 Summary	51
5.2 Conclusion	52
5.3 Recommendations	53
5.4 Suggestions for Further Studies	53
REFERENCES	55
APPENDIX	57

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1: Summary of the Review of Related Literature	32
Table 2.2: Operationalisation of the Study Variables	33
Table 3.1: Population of the Study and Sampling Technique	41
Table 3.2: Validity and Reliability of the Research Instrument	41
Table 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents	49
Table 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents	49
Table 4.3: Educational Attainment of Respondents	49
Table 4.4: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question One	50
Table 4.5: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question Two	50
Table 4.6: Correlation Summary between the Independent and Dependent Variables	50
Table 4.7: Independent Samples t-test by Gender	50
Table 4.8: Chi-square Test of Association	50

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1: Conceptual Framework of the Study	13
Figure 3.1: Tourism and Hospitality Research Context	42
Figure 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents	49
Figure 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents	49

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of awareness of national parks among urban residents is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

The phenomenon of awareness, while not new, has acquired fresh analytical urgency in Nigeria. Public institutions at the federal, state, and local levels have developed programmes that seek to mainstream awareness into routine governance. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Umeh and Alade (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. A notable study by Ibrahim and Nwosu (2017) argued that the impact of awareness is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. Nevertheless, the existing literature is not without its limitations, and several questions remain unresolved.

Scholars have long recognised awareness as a critical determinant of outcomes in tourism and hospitality. Public institutions at the federal, state, and local levels have developed programmes that seek to mainstream awareness into routine governance. Comparative work by Ibrahim and Ibrahim (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking awareness with national. For practitioners, the practical significance of awareness cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with national. Ogbeide and Eze (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of awareness are unevenly distributed across groups. Such findings reinforce the argument that awareness deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

In recent years, awareness has emerged as a central theme in scholarly discourse on tourism and hospitality. Globalisation and technological change have intensified both the opportunities and the challenges associated with awareness. Ogbeide and Eze (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of awareness are unevenly distributed across groups. Such findings reinforce the argument that awareness deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. Comparative work by Alade and Obiora (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking awareness with national. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding national. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

Contemporary scholarship increasingly frames awareness as inseparable from the broader question of national. Federal and state governments have initiated several reforms, yet implementation gaps continue to constrain progress in matters of awareness. The aggregate picture emerging from Ogunlana and Famuyide (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between awareness and the outcomes of interest. Sustained engagement