

DIASPORA REMITTANCES AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN HOME TOWNS

BY

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Diaspora Remittances and Community Development in Home Towns" 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 diaspora remittances and community development in home towns, 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 diaspora; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with diaspora and remittances. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Technology Acceptance Model and the UTAUT. A sample size of 382 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 356 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 = 3.02). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.538$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 8.02, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.28$, $p > 0.05$). 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 diaspora.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of diaspora remittances and community development in home towns 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.

Few subjects attract as much policy interest in contemporary Nigeria as the question of diaspora. Within Lagos State, the country's most populous commercial hub, the dynamics of diaspora are observed in their starkest form. Comparative work by Alade and Olawale (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking diaspora with remittances. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. Comparative work by Eze and Oyelaran (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking diaspora with remittances. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding remittances. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

The phenomenon of diaspora, while not new, has acquired fresh analytical urgency in Nigeria. Economic pressures and resource scarcity frequently determine the pace at which diaspora advances in practice. Field evidence gathered by Adeniyi and Adebayo (2016) suggested that stakeholder engagement materially improves the results achieved in matters of diaspora. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding remittances. Research by Ibrahim and Ibrahim (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting diaspora and remittances. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

Few subjects attract as much policy interest in contemporary Nigeria as the question of diaspora. National policies and programmes have sought, with varying degrees of success, to respond to the realities of diaspora and remittances. Studies by Ibrahim and Ibrahim (2019) largely support the view that diaspora exerts a measurable influence on outcomes of interest. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. The aggregate picture emerging from Ogunlana and Ekwueme (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between diaspora and the outcomes of interest. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

Over the past two decades, diaspora has become increasingly significant within the Nigerian landscape and beyond. Nigeria's federal structure and its diverse cultural geography ensure that the experience of diaspora varies considerably from one region to another. Empirical evidence from Oyelaran and Alade (2021) suggests that positive developments in remittances are associated with improvements in diaspora. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. Umeh and Adigun (2020),