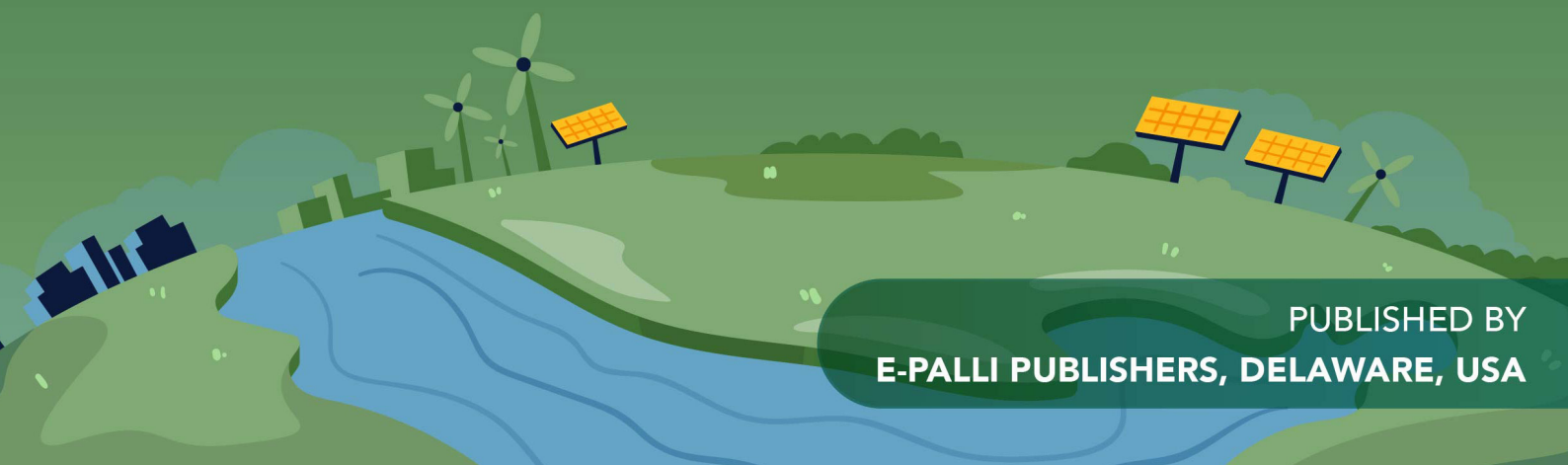




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Analysis of the Environment, Climate Change and Habitat Pillar of Development Agenda for Western Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

How a government identifies needs during uncertain times, is a reliable measure of its perception and sensitivity to critical governance issues. This study was conducted to determine how much attention and mainstreaming is given to the issues of climate change and disaster risk reduction, especially in these uncertain times of disasters and climate crisis. Using the Development Agenda for Western Nigeria, DAWN blueprint as case, the paper sought to know among other research questions, how disaster risk reduction and climate change, DRR/CCA, surfaced in the document and determine if any pattern can be deduced from the DRR/CCA mainstreaming in the document and also know if there are noted lapses from DRR/CCA portrayal in the document when compared with the /DRR/CCA frameworks. This study employed a qualitative methodology using the interpretive approach through digital fieldwork. Among other findings, there is a subtle implication that for effective management of environmental issues and concerns through the DRR/CCA lens, the environment is much more than the physical environment. Its issues and concerns are subject to socio-cultural, economic, political, and other possible variables. Also, there are no strong indications of solid arrangements for risk assessment, disaster readiness, early warning systems, and a sincere preparedness to protect people, infrastructure and other assets from the impacts of disaster. The study recommends that proactive steps be taken to strengthen institutions and shore up arrangements and truly commit to building capacity and ensuring people's active involvement /participation, in strategies/policy formulations.

INTRODUCTION

A policy provides overall guidance for an organization, community or any form of service related to public, private. or not-for-profit organizations. It does this primarily through laid down objectives/set-goals and plans. The planning is to chart a course for the achievement of set goals. The effectiveness of the planning is in the provision of directions, establishing control standards, and in reducing the risk of uncertainty. The role of strategy is to provide the framework for plans through carefully developed strategies and a consistent framework for operational planning.

Development Planning in Disaster Management

Disasters have a traumatic effect and devastating experience on development. For example, livelihoods are lost, families are displaced, communities have no grip on business activities, while schools and other activities are disrupted in addition to economic activities. The list of unpleasant experiences is endless. Development planning is how the government plans its resources to guide social, political and spatial development in a given time. One of such times is during a disaster. The planning process makes way for collaborations and synergy between the community, agencies, and institutions in a way that identifies needs during the uncertain times.

The plan that evolves from this synergy becomes a guide on resource allocation. The recognized structure for planning in this case are the four phases of overall

management in disaster periods: They are, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery (IFRC, 2023)

A development plan therefore is a comprehensive strategy of written statements and maps containing the planning and sustainable development of an area.

Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation Overview

Disaster Risk Reduction, DRR, is the concept and practice of reducing disaster risks. It is the assessment, analysis and managing the causative factors of disasters so as to reduce the risks and lessen the vulnerability to hazards so that the economy, property and environment are well preserved.

Climate Change Adaptation

CCA, however, deals with proactive measures to mitigate or lower the risks of increasing extreme climate and gradual increase in temperatures to forestall the risk factors it poses to development planning and policies especially in terms of food shortages, water shortages and changes in livelihood.

While activities seem broader in scope with DRR, activities of CCA are generally restricted to prevention, mitigation and the building of capacities.

Despite a number of differences between the two concepts, in terms of similarities, both seem to focus on increased climate related issues such as floods, landslides, and both seem to overlap in disaster preparedness while

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climate related disaster issues continue to be debated with reference to climate change.

From an evolution of global frameworks and related policies, more constructs incarnated in addition to the primary focus on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation to accommodate:

- Accelerating and intensifying the actions and investments required for a sustainable low carbon future,
- Limiting global warming to well below 2-1.5 degree Celsius and
- Reducing Greenhouse gas emission GHG. -The Paris Agreement.

Other notable additions to the focus on DRR/CCA also became apparent in the New Urban Agenda where it is observed that there was a shift in the five sustainability constructs of economic, social, environments, cultural heritage and government/community role. There was an insistent emphasis on new urban development in a way that infrastructure was linked with localities. The UN Conference on Human Settlements, Habitat 1, II, and III, which came after, also championed this new shift by addressing issues of 'adequate housing for all, and viable human settlements in a changing world'.

The 'health issue' as a focal point for DRR/CCA became more pronounced in the International Health Regulation, IHR, with a focus on building capacity to detect and report potential public health emergencies worldwide and required all countries to have the wherewithal to detect, assess, report and respond to public health issues and events. This was corroborated by The Asia Pacific Action Plan 2021-2024, with a call to treat disaster risk reduction as a theme that cuts across and requires collaboration. This was echoed in the Asean Agreement on Disaster Management which sought to promote regional cooperation in Southeast Asia in the spirit of equality and partnership for the contribution to peace and prosperity in the region.

The Children's Emergency Protection and Relief Act, CEPR, also seems to have sealed the central place of the need to protect children in disasters, earlier expressed in DRR/CCA Literature, while also underscoring roles and responsibilities of Local Government Units. LGUs, in Local Administration.

Perhaps the capstone in the scope of DRR/CCA came through the National Security Policy, with the tacit inclusion of the concept of National Security as not just in terms of defense and survival, but also in terms of overall well-being of the people through economic development, as well as through ensuring natural and environmental resources. It emphasizes the state's ability to protect and defend the citizens socially, economically and physically. This essentially means development and peace and sustaining the environment go hand in hand, and that without ensuring peace, there can be no development.

As a result of the need to sustain the environment for future generations, new principles, rules and guidelines on how to fight the major challenges of climate change, food shortages, widespread environmental degradation and

poverty among the marginalized emerged. The principles, rules and guidelines further gave birth to the Sustainable Development concept made more popular by the UN, and has become a lens through which economies over the world not only view their development score, but also a vehicle through which many development plans and policies are driven.

DRR/CCA Planning in Nigeria

While the Government of Nigeria recognized the ravaging effects of climate change on not just the environment but also on the socio-economic development, and its adverse effect on the people of the country, in the year 2012 , it took a decisive step on the management of climate-related/development challenges with the Nigeria Climate Change Policy Response and Strategy (NCCPRS). The government further set in place the necessary institutional arrangements specifically to mainstream climate change into its development priorities. Other strategic moves included the implementation of mitigation and adaptation initiatives for a sustainable development planning that is compatible with growing climate issues and concerns, and its realities. Also, the National Disaster Management Framework (NDMF) was inaugurated as a mechanism to provide regulatory roles to ensure a thorough disaster management in Nigeria. As a framework to ensure effective management of disaster related issues, its objectives include the establishing of a proactive disaster management apparatus that is efficient for the purpose of preparing , mitigating, responding to and ensuring recovery from disasters in Nigeria.

All of this seems to provide a lens through which we can begin to imagine the wide scope covered by a consistent evolution of the frameworks and concepts that have defined the scope of DRR/CCA, and will form the basis of assessments and analysis in this paper.

General Objective

However, despite this state of affairs of DRR/CCA in sustainable development planning in Nigeria, in what ways do DRR/CCA plans in Nigeria, reflect the sensibilities of DRR/CCA? What measures may be taken, if needed, to ensure their consistency and conformity with the principles, constructs, and focus of DRR/CCA?

Specific Research Questions

1. In what ways can the DAWN blueprint be described in terms of context, policy imperative and underpinning philosophy?
2. How does Disaster Risk Reduction/Climate Change Adaptation surface in the Development Agenda for Western Nigeria, DAWN?
3. Are there patterns that can be deduced from the DRR/CCA mainstreaming in the document?
4. To what extent does the portrayal of DRR/CCA reflect the realities of the Nigerian experience?
5. Are there noted lapses from DRR/CCA portrayal in the document when compared with the /DRR/CCA template?

Scope and Limitations of the Study

The Development Agenda for Western Nigeria blueprint was formulated on the following pillars of development, namely;

- Economic Development,
- Commerce and Industries (with a focus on Manufacturing and Small/Medium Enterprises),
- Human Capital Development (Education and Health),
- Infrastructure Development (ICT, road, rail, Air and Water Transportation, Power and Housing)
- Agriculture and Agri -Business,
- Security, Law and Enforcement,
- Culture, Tourism Arts and Heritage, Environment,
- Environment, Climate Change and Habitat

For the purpose of this paper, analysis was based primarily on the Environment, Climate Change and Habitat pillar. However, to align the study with established concepts and principles covered in the DRR/CCA frameworks, the Security, Law and Enforcement pillar, as well as the Infrastructure Development (ICT, road, rail, Air and Water Transportation, Power and Housing) were analyzed. These two other pillars were viewed by the researcher to be closest in construct and policy to the Environment, Climate Change and Habitat pillar.

Also, rather than focus on the whole of Nigeria, it was deemed prudent to limit the area covered by the research to Western Nigeria, with the belief that results may reflect and represent the realities of the whole of Nigeria since climate change and disaster issues span the length and breadth of Nigeria, even though in varying dimensions.

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

In an attempt to study the Development Agenda for Western Nigeria blueprint in a way that will answer the research questions accurately, the interpretivist approach was deployed. The approach was chosen because it recognizes the possibility of a researcher's subjective analysis, opinions and assessment. It also allows the results or findings to emerge naturally. In this way, an understanding of the document for analysis is developed.

Data Construction Strategy

This study employed a qualitative methodology using the interpretivist approach. Digital fieldwork was conducted from May 21 to June 10, 2023 by an internet search. The fieldwork involved studying the DAWN blueprint. Texts on the site were copied and transformed into transcripts for coding and analysis.

The researcher began to make notes of observations as well as preliminary analytical notes at this point. The search for usable data returned to the net for appropriate journal articles that were adjudged to have the credibility to enrich the study and command reliability.

Several articles and other resource materials were found and studied and filed according to relevance to the themes of Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change Adaptation, Policy/Strategies, and the Environment.

This was followed by subsequent digital fieldwork in search of extensive background study on DRR/CCA mainstreaming in Nigeria.

A Content analysis method was deployed. It therefore followed this specific process: The units of analysis and categories for coding were defined. Also, a set of rules for coding was developed to be able to organize the units of meaning into previously defined categories. The researcher decided what to be included and what would not be included to ensure consistent coding. Texts were coded according to the rules. The researcher went through each text to record all relevant data in the appropriate categories manually along with all the words and phrases that went with each category. Once coding was completed, data collected were examined. Thereafter, interpretations were made, while conclusions were drawn (scribbr.com).

This paper therefore relied on secondary data from related studies, especially on the researcher's previous study on Environmental Communication.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Adejumo & Adejumo (2014) in their study on the prospects for achieving sustainable development through the Millennium Development Goals in Nigeria, emphasized the need for sustainable development. They are of the view that the environment as well as socio-economic challenges confronting the Nigerian economy requires that the Nigerian government concentrate on key areas that can help boost and sustain its development objectives.

Daramola & Ibem (2010) while studying urban environmental problems in Nigeria and implications for Sustainable Development examined the causes and implications of increasing environmental determination for sustainable development in Nigeria. They admit that little attention has been paid to the implications of environmental problems for sustainable development. They highlight the three-fold effects on human health, the economy and the ecological system. They suggest that the application of planning, economic, legal, institutional as well as educational tools will address the situation.

In their study on poverty and Sustainable Socio-Economic Development in Africa in light of the Nigerian experience, Igbokwe –Ibeto *et al* (2012) established that various governments had made a lot of efforts to alleviate poverty in Nigeria. Despite this, nothing much has changed in the people's living standards. According to them, Nigeria's challenges of poverty alleviation strategies were articulated in the context of sustainable socio-economic development. They conclude that poverty alleviation in Nigeria requires both socio economic policies geared towards sustainable development. They believe that the human capital of the poor in particular needs to be enhanced. To do this, priorities for educational reforms should be in the areas of basic education, vocational training, water and sanitation, health care delivery, agriculture and housing for all.

While looking at Science Education and Sustainable Development in Nigeria, Omole and Ozoji (2014) underscore the need for relevant focal points to identify and address sustainable development. To them, the key issues that have to be addressed are non-formal aspect of education, science and entrepreneurship education and relevant issues that address the society.

Omisore (2017) focused on attaining Sustainable Development Goals in Sub-Saharan Africa and the need to address environmental challenges and examined the central role of the environment in sub-Saharan Africa's march towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. He believes that the environment is central to Africa's growth and transformation, but that there is no end to the cycle of poverty leading to unsustainable development. With scarce resources at its disposal, he believes that Sub-Saharan African governments and other stakeholders need to draw attention continually to environmental problems which constitute a serious threat to development, while productive partnerships need to be established to tackle these problems. He is of the opinion that significant progress will not be made on the SDGs until concerned stakeholders give environmental issues a deserved priority.

Egbe, (2014) examines rural development in Nigeria with emphasis on the institutions, agencies, policies and strategies employed to achieve rural development in the country. Among findings of the study is the reality that strategic policies and development plans made by the Nigerian government from several strategies from the colonial era till date did not amount to significant improvements in the lives of the people and rural development in general. The study recommends that the lopsided and urban based development process should be reversed for rapid and sustained rural development to take place.

Orluwene (2014) in an overview of the politics of development strategies in Nigeria since independence came up with the findings that the politics of non-continuity and lack of accountability in public policies and programs in Nigeria since independence are major reasons of non-actualization of development strategies. He recommends that government policies and programs that are people-centered and people-oriented should be enhanced and continued in order to create the greatest happiness for the greatest number.

Onyenekenwa (2011) focused on failed development vision, political leadership and Nigeria's underdevelopment. Findings of the critique include the observation that Nigeria's underdevelopment is more of poor implementation than lack of development visions and programs. Also, it discovers that policy somersault and development project abandonment are common and that political leaders need to be sensitized on putting society interest first and committing to development visions and programs.

Ibietan (2011) conducted a study on the public policy making process with emphasis on agricultural and

rural development policies in Nigeria from 1960 till date. The researcher finds out that successive Nigerian governments commit policy reversal and somersaults in the policy making process. He notes that intended policy beneficiaries are not carried along at the policy conception/formulation stage, hence implementation/execution are fraught with avoidable problems. He recommends a collaborative approach with the critical section and other stakeholders in the policy making process to stem the tide of disconnection between beneficiaries and the government.

Nwidiobie, (2014) looked into the issue of community economic development policies and programs in Nigeria. He underscores the need for a comprehensive development policy of all tiers of government in Nigeria to include strategies focused on business attraction, business retention and new business start-ups as a means to increase community economic development. He also opines that provided finances to local governments should be used to develop and train citizens in the community to harness local natural resources with policies and programs of all tiers of government coordinated to achieve a singular economic development. He further recommends that community development initiatives be geared towards preserving the life quality and productive ability of the citizens. He also strongly advises on the necessity to shield community developments in Nigeria from external shocks by basing its development plans on internal fiscal finances, self-help programs and development that is dependent on natural resources endowed at the communities, which are cheap, available and accessible by the community dwellers.

Atai *et al* (2012) establish a link between government policies/programs and national development. Taking the critical approach, they highlight the need for entrenchment of sound policies. They recommend that policies and programs must directly reflect available human and natural resources, cultural realities and political persuasion, and that policies and programs must be rooted in deep democratic norms of accountability, transparency and fiscal discipline. They note the impact of corruption on policies and programs in Nigeria over the years.

Lawal & Abe (2011) in their study on the issues, challenges and prospects of national development in Nigeria opine that development is critical and essential to the sustenance and growth of any nation. They recommend what they call a 'faithful implementation' of the development plan as well as commitment on the part of the leaders and the absence of corruption for the achievement of sustainable development in Nigeria.

In their research on Rural-Urban Migration in South Western Nigeria, Ogunmakinde *et al* (2015) assert that migration as the movement of people from one place to another could either be permanent or temporal. Their study investigates the resultant effects of rural-urban migration to national development with a particular focus on the South western part of Nigeria. It analyzes the

causes of rural-urban migration, as well as past efforts of the government in reducing the rate of rural-urban migration in these areas. It also investigates the socio-economic factors that influence rural-urban migration and reviews existing literature on rural-urban migration. 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. It proposes that for all round national development, the rural communities have to be developed to meet the standard of the urban centers in order to reduce the rate of rural-urban migration.

Ikeyinbe (2009) reflects on the introduction of National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) as a medium term planning strategy as a blueprint for new order. Using historical and content analysis methods, the paper explores common indices of development planning in the country. It reveals that NEEDS is not different from previous development plans in Nigeria, despite the claims to the contrary. While claiming to be a home-grown plan, he believes it is very much in line with the wishes of the international agents of developed capitalist economies; there is lack of commitment of the leadership in pursuing plan objectives; corruption is still rife and priority in selecting plan projects is still poor. The paper recommends among others, the need for committed leadership, continuity with the NEEDS II document, drawing adequate scale of preference in choosing policies and programs, and determined efforts to break from the crutches of neo imperialism and neo colonial tendencies of the developed countries.

Bolaji (2015) in finding an answer to why policies fail in Nigeria admits that even though initiating public policy is sometimes tough, the overriding challenge is the institutional will power to see through policy decisions. He opines that institutional willpower is absolutely necessary as a major factor behind successful public policy administration in the global North and as a result, if the developing world is to gain an equal degree of functionality and relevance in the implementation of public policy decisions, they should ensure that institutional will power is intact. According to him, despite the heavy focus placed on education, the troublesome implementation of policy decisions remains one of the most contentious issues dominating the education sector.

Policy for Assessment

Development Agenda for Western Nigeria (DAWN)

The DAWN blueprint was formulated in 2011. It was formally launched in the year 2013. It was inspired by the need to mainstream sustainable development through the merging of the economies of south western states of Nigeria. The States are Oyo, Osun, Ogun, Lagos, Ondo and Ekiti States. These States make up the Southwestern Region of Nigeria.

The blueprint emerged from a Regional Cooperation and Integration Agenda. The coordinating agency, called

the Development Agenda for Western Nigeria, (DAWN) Commission, was subsequently empowered to manage the project by the Governments of the six states.

While recognizing the sovereignty of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the vision of this plan is to see the Western/ South West region as the preferred place to live, to work and to visit. It is dedicated to promoting and improving the quality of lives of the people.

Before this Agenda, the Western Region used to be a force to reckon with. In the 1960s, the region boasted of several infrastructures in parts of the region. They were built from earnings from rubber, timber and cocoa, which were the star exports from the region. However, in recent times, economic development plans, which relied on money from the Nigerian oil boom, caused a total neglect of agriculture and a gradual fall in the economic fortunes of the region.

DAWN Document Structure and Description

The DAWN blueprint is a 53-page Executive Summary. Its guiding framework is divided in terms of the context, policy imperative and underpinning philosophy. It is subdivided into 12 sections/chapters, with the conclusion as 13. The conclusion is followed by an epilogue.

The sections are:

1. Background
2. Introducing the Development Agenda
3. The Development Agenda for Western Nigeria (DAWN)
4. Why a Southwest Perspective?
5. Reality Check
6. The DAWN Concept Note
7. Risks of Non Implementation
8. The DAWN Road mapping
9. Highlights of the Roadmap
10. The DAWN Pillars
11. Conflict Management
12. Actualizing the Roadmap
13. Conclusion Epilogue

RESULTS

Questions

In What Ways Can the DAWN Blueprint be Described in Terms of Context, Policy Imperative and Underpinning Philosophy?

According to the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Atlanta Georgia, US, Policy content evaluation examines the substantive information and material contained within a policy ... the context in which it was developed, or some combination of these.

They also state that policy content evaluation may focus on a number of different aspects of policy content including:

- The evidence base supporting the policy's strategy.
- The context of the policy's development and passage.
- The stakeholders' roles and responsibilities.

Using the above parameters, these were the findings for the first question:

The substantive information contained in the document points more in the direction of Development as seen through the Modernization theory. This is because economic development takes pre- eminence and aligns with the mission of GDP growth pursued by the policy. Advocacy for industrialization, urbanization, bureaucracy and the adoption of democracy is prevalent in the document. Even though influenced by several approaches and theories, the predominant theory is the Incremental theory approach. There is no evidence to support the policy as being motivated by the participatory approach. There is also a hint from substantive information that links the drafting of the policy as a possible product of an “expert” perhaps in conjunction with other like minds. A top -down approach is evident from its content, focus, and policy thrust. It also does not seem to owe an apology for its technocratic approach as each pillar and strategic focus acknowledges the need for expert contribution in the implementation stages of the policy as well as in rallying support for its sustainability.

How Does Disaster Risk Reduction/Climate Change Adaptation Surface in the Development Agenda for Western Nigeria, DAWN?

Under the Environment, Climate Change and Habitat pillar the following portrayal were found in the document. Physical environmental issues took preeminence with a list of environmental Sustainability Issues to be addressed. The list included the need to address Waste management, flooding, coastal erosion, pollution, deforestation, urbanization because they all affect Climate Change and affect agriculture, food, water resources and health. Steps to be taken included:

Reforestation (growing fast -yielding species that can mature within 7 years as a way of benefitting from carbon market), Forest Management (involving local communities rather than absentee landlords such as government forest guards), Vulnerability Awareness (For farmers and fishers to know about climate change and how vulnerable they are and exploring the knowledge in relation to cause and effect) Development of Early Warning System (For farmers, to promote adaptation strategies through extension services), Urbanization (Fast tracked urban cleanliness and domestic waste dispersal program/waste to wealth program to be embarked upon), Transportation (Good access to public and other sustainable modes of transport such as interstate rail network to reduce pollution), Renewable Energy (Exploring renewable energy as alternative source), Under the Security and Law Enforcement pillar, the mission was to ensure a safe and conducive environment for economic, social and political development, based on local knowledge and community ownership. Steps to be taken included, Strengthening Community policing and neighborhood watch capacity through raising awareness in schools.

States to take more interest in the career and progress of their indigenes in the public armed forces and security

and public services and encourage monitoring. Focus support for the police in provision of communication facilities. More on provision of gadgets and equipment to the police.

Intensive security vigilance in areas around International borders to combat cross border crimes.

Monitoring of neighborhood watch and community policing initiatives to be the role for local government/ councilors and traditional rulers. Lawmakers at the Federal level to lobby other colleagues from other regions to lobby and push bills for community policing and state police.

Strategic approach to security needs such as databases, automated car registration system, use of technology (CCTV). Promoting Youth Development program as a support of Security Management Agenda. While under the Infrastructure development pillar, Transportation will focus on road, rail air and water with the following iteration:

Design and execute modern, integrated multimodal transport system throughout the western Nigeria region. Steps to be taken included:

Road

Collaboration with Federal Government, International DFIs, Multilaterals, Investment Banks, Private sector investors. Development of rural roads and modernization of required road networks

Upgrading existing or constructing new parallel roads to link major commercial roads linking the region to ports.

Rail

Provision of integrated fast rail network linking the whole region in conjunction with private investors and international investments and development banks.

Water

First developing the capacity to manufacture boats in their varieties to meet particular needs, as well as intervention to start with the local manufacturing, using imported engines.

Power Infrastructure

Generate and distribute power locally without dependence on the national grid, generate sufficient power for the zone, sell excess to national grid and international grid

Energy

Mount pressure for the activation of moribund energy projects. Huge deposits of heavy crude oil in Ondo and Ogun states to be investigated for their potential as fuel sources for power plants Housing and Urbanization.

Computerized land use and registration system in Western Nigeria to make land registrable and easy to transfer. Government to make serviced land available with all infrastructural facilities (water, electricity, drainage, services such as markets schools, etc.). Land grants to property developers and housing associations. Put in place strategy

of self-help housing for people

- To allow for very low and middle income classes people to construct their own houses, using their own labor and resources as in a cooperative system

- To be achieved by grouping Trade groups, unions, societies to join hands and help one another

- To incorporate training of artisans/effective use of local building materials, enforcement of codes and regulations, use of core house expandable concepts, step by step infrastructural provisions, simplified design and environmental consciousness.

Establish South West Mortgage and Urban Development Bank which will be as secondary mortgage bank to assist homeowners, developers, primary mortgage companies and savings and loans operators to access funds for their housing development.

Both public and private sectors are to promote this bank to be a pillar of support and funding to all local governments, to borrow money for their infrastructural development. Under the Urban Development segment of this pillar, the following were noted as enshrinements:

- Major emphasis on urban renewal
- Upgrading of infrastructure in low income and slum areas
- City beautification, tree planting, to be given prominence
- All old Town centers to be decongested, upgraded and beautified
- Urban rates and charges to be introduced to compliment government efforts
- Promote rural integration and industrialization so that areas will become more attractive to live in and make urban areas less congested
- Establish Rural Integration Development Authority for the region

Are There Patterns That Can be Deduced from the DRR/CCA Mainstreaming in the Document?

In the course of studying the document and coding for answers as itemized above in question 2, the researcher found an insight into strands of perspectives through which the policy thrust of the document may have been contrived. They include:

Physical environment related issues, Governance/ leadership related issues, Socio-cultural issues and Community development issues. The study noted the interconnection among these strands of issues. The patterns seem to suggest that leadership must recognize not just the connections among the physical issues and concerns, but also the intersection among good governance, peace, and the Environment for DRR/CCA to receive a proper mainstreaming as an integral part of development. There is a subtle implication that for effective management of environmental issues and concerns through the DRR/CCA lens, the environment is much more than the physical environment. Its issues and concerns are subject to the conditions of socio-cultural, economic, political, and other possible variables. (Ojurongbe, 2020) (unpublished dissertation)

To What Extent Does the Portrayal of DRR/CCA in the Document Reflect the Realities of the Nigerian Experience?

There are clear indications that the issues that the document seems to concern itself with are in line with the realities in Nigeria. From the review of related literature, the following can be garnered as major challenges confronting DRR/CCA policy formulations:

Need to concentrate on key areas that can help boost and sustain development objectives (Adejumo & Adejumo, 2014).

Need to apply planning, economic, legal, institutional as well as educational tools to address environmental problems for sustainable development through the three-fold effects on human health, the economy and the ecological system (Daramola & Ibem, 2010).

Poverty alleviation in Nigeria requires both socio economic policies geared towards sustainable development. The human capital of the poor needs to be enhanced through priorities for educational reforms in the areas of basic education, vocational training, water and sanitation, health care delivery, agriculture and housing for all. (Igbokwe Ibeto, et. al., 2012)

Omole and Ozoji (2014) also underscore the need for relevant focal points for sustainable development to be identified and addressed such as non-formal education, science and entrepreneurship education and relevant issues that address the society. Need for concerned stakeholders to draw attention continually to environmental issues which constitute a serious threat to development, for significant progress to be made on the SDGs (Omisore, 2017).

There is an urban based development process that is standing in the way of significant improvements in the lives of the people (Egbe, 2014).

Policies and programs are not people-centered and people-oriented enough. Such policies should be encouraged and promoted in order to create the greatest happiness for the greatest number. (Orluwene, 2014).

The necessity to shield community developments in Nigeria from external shocks by basing development plans on internal fiscal finances, self-help programs and development that is dependent on natural resources endowed at the communities, which are cheap, available and accessible by the community dwellers (Nwidobie, 2014).

In Southwestern Nigeria, there is a lack of social infrastructure, neglect of the rural community, modernization, and others. These are some of the factors responsible for rural-urban migration. The rural communities have to be developed to meet the standard of the urban centers in order to stem the tide of rural urban migration (Ogunmakinde *et al.*, 2015).

The overriding challenge to policy formulation is the institutional will power to see through policy decisions. (Bolaji, 2015) All of these issues and more, are evident and echoed explicitly or implicitly in the DAWN document formulations.

Are There Noted Lapses from DRR/CCA Portrayal in the Document When Compared with the /DRR/CCA Template?

Even though the Yokohama principles do not represent the total of all principles of DRR/CCA, they mark a significant departure from earlier focus by attempting to include more areas of attention that have guided policy formulations on DRR/CCA. Security, Housing, Health and other populist concepts have since been included in subsequent frameworks, but the Yokohama principles remain a milestone for policy thrust on DRR/CCA. They are:

- Risk Assessment is a required step
- Disaster prevention and preparedness reduce the need for disaster relief
- Disaster prevention and preparedness are integral aspects of development, policy and planning
- Development and strengthening of capacities to prevent, reduce and mitigate, disasters are a top priority
- Early warnings of impending disasters and their effective dissemination
- Participation at all levels in prevention
- Vulnerability reduction through proper designs and patterns of development
- Technology and information sharing
- Environmental protection
- Each country bears the primary responsibility of protecting its people,
- infrastructure and other natural assets from the impacts of disaster

These principles have helped in weighing in on the DAWN document, to find if there are lapses or gaps that were left unfilled.

While there are indicators of enshrinement of security, housing needs and some measure of concern for the people's welfare in DAWN document, there are no strong indications of solid arrangements for risk assessment, disaster readiness, early warning systems, and a sincere preparedness to protect people, infrastructure and other assets from the impacts of disaster. There is also a clear gap in the area of participation as there is a constant reminder that the document was a possible product of some 'expert' input.

CONCLUSION

There are no indications or acknowledgement of the central role of the people in strategizing to ensure the vision of especially the DRR/CCA pillars come to fruition. In this case, it may be unrealistic to align the outcome of the document to a transformative agenda. For instance, farmers are the only target for awareness on Climate Change and habitat issues and concerns. While this is normal and most necessary, it may seem an anomaly when there are no visible attempts to involve the general populace in getting educated on the issues of mitigation, adaptation as well as with the concerns of conserving biodiversity. There are expressions in the document on the need for social change, participation, as

well as strengthening of local and regional institutions; an attempt to locate its consistency in the document is however largely wasted. Except proactive steps are taken to strengthen institutions and shore up arrangements and truly commit to building capacity and ensuring people's active involvement participation, strategies/policy formulations remain at the experiential level of the caliber of existing knowledge, wisdom and understanding and most especially of the prevailing structure of governance on DRR/CCA. There is not enough demonstration of strong and authentic partnerships, collaborations, and affiliations that will assure support and sustainability. Readiness principles and indicators are missing. There is little or no demonstration or conviction on consideration for sustainability factors in terms of enabling laws, financial and manpower infrastructure, and leadership support, especially where it is a regional initiative within the bigger picture of a federation. Laws must first be put in place and enforced in Nigeria to ensure effective integration of DRR (Disaster Risk Reduction) policies in disaster management processes many nations have accordingly formulated disaster management and are using the same in their countries before policies on DRR/CCA and proper institutionalization can be authentic. While it is one thing to want to be seen to be upwardly looking and compliant with DRR/CCA principles. It is another to have the economic, political and social wherewithal to deliver on the promises. Even though there is an indication of Management by Objectives, the reality that stakeholders were not comprehensively represented in the drafting and crafting of the document's content may not be a plus for the document, especially since participation has been an established strength of Management by Objectives principles. While an emphasis on setting goals to attain objectives is obvious in the document, a system to measure actual performance and achievement against defined objectives in the document is not strong or clearly visible in the DRR/CCA inclusions. There is also no allowance for possible changes, contingencies in unforeseen circumstances. A Result based monitoring and evaluation system/matrix of agenda is grossly lacking. Perhaps this is the reason why the document advocated for a MASTER PLAN as a follow up.

It is believed that the above issues and concerns should be considered to ensure a credible level and magnitude of inclusion, commitment and mainstreaming/institutionalizing of DRR/CCA principles in development policies and especially in the Dawn document. Their inclusion in the right level and magnitude would demonstrate understanding and sincere belief in, and commitment to the concepts and practices. If the noted lapses from the questions are worked on, and the positives receive further boost, the consistency and conformity of the DAWN document (and similar documents) with the principles, constructs, and focus of DRR/CCA, may also receive a boost in the search for more mainstreaming or institutionalizing of DRR/CCA in development plans.

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