

**Community Involvement as a Strategy for Sustainable Development in Southwestern
Nigeria (2012-2022)**

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**Being a PhD Thesis Submitted to the Department of Politics & International Relations,
Faculty of Management & Social Sciences
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Public Administration**

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Certification

This is to certify that **Joshua Olusegun OMOWUNMI** with matriculation number LCU/PG/002027 carried out this research work on **Community Involvement as a strategy for Sustainable Development in Southwestern Nigeria (2012-2022)** in the Department of Politics and International Relations, Faculty of Management and Social Sciences, Lead City University, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria, for the award of Doctor of Philosophy Degree (PhD) in Public Administration and that this work has not been previously submitted.

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Date

Dedication

This research work is dedicated to God Almighty

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Acknowledgement

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Abstract

The sustainability of any community project depends on the involvement of its members. This study examined the efficacy of community involvement as a strategy for sustainable development in Southwestern Nigeria. Gaps in literature were filled from the perspective of community involvement on educational development, prevention of crime and control, delivery of primary health care and economic development. Communicative planning theory was adopted as a theoretical framework for this research. Survey research design was equally adopted for the study. The study population consisted of 46,706,662 domiciled in the six states. Multistage sampling method was adopted in selecting samples for inclusion in the survey. Out of the 137 local government area (LGAs) domiciled in the zone, 23% was conveniently selected across the 18 senatorial districts within the states, in which the population of the selected local governments per senatorial district was considered. A total of 9,216 community members were randomly selected across the 31 LGAs. Closed-ended questionnaire was administered to the sample community members where 84.8% of the research instrument was duly filled and returned. Descriptive and inferential methods of data analyses were employed on the data collected. Empirical results indicated that sustainable development in Southwestern Nigeria is positively and significantly influenced by community involvement strategy ($F=384.516$, $p\text{-value}<0.05$), with inclusion of educational development ($F=55.971$, $p\text{-value}< 0.05$), crime prevention and control ($F=18.237$, $p\text{-value}<0.05$), delivery of primary health care ($F=14.439$, $p\text{-value}<0.05$) and promotion of economic development ($F=1.642$, $p\text{-value}<0.05$). The study resolved that development ineffectiveness is attributed to the non-applicability of community involvement. The study recommends amongst others the need to involve the primary beneficiaries across every level of developmental projects as it promotes synergy between the development agencies and the people thereby eliminating ugly situations where such projects would not be adequately utilized.

Keywords: *Community Involvement, Sustainability, Regression, Mean Response Score, Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)*

Word Count: 298

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