



The role of community self help projects in rural development of Kwara state, Nigeria

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Abstract

This study attempt to examine the impact of self-help projects in rural development using Irepodun Local Government Area as a case study, Kwara State, Nigeria. A sample of 200 respondents was interviewed through the use of questionnaire format. In the course of the study, it was revealed that income encouraged the people to embark on self help projects. Community unions/association contributed immensely in the execution of self help projects and the subsequent rural development. The Chi-square and correlation results, concluded that the inhabitants of the area are not equally satisfied with self help projects and amenities and that there is a relationship between population and self help projects and also that self help projects has increased the standard of living of the people in the area. There is an unequal distribution of self help projects in the study area. And since the level and efficiency of self help projects on rural communities normally influence the development of the rural areas, governments should therefore redirect its rural development towards capital and developmental projects in rural areas and make population be the focus for all communities in the rural areas. This will ensure an equitable distribution of self help projects an essential tool for balanced socio-economic development of the rural areas especially in Nigeria.

Keywords: Self-help, Community development, Rural development

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1. Introduction

The idea of self help and communal assistance which forms the basis of the present day community and rural development among the rural dwellers is deeply rooted in the rich traditions of the African people in which evidences abound of how communities have, for generation successfully organized themselves to construct roads, build bridges, palaces, market stall, dwelling house among many others (Ekpomban, 1976).

A self help according to Igozurike (1977) may be viewed as a regional resources mobilization system in which of the conception initiative and best of the exceptional responsibility rest with the occupants of the region or community concerned. Self help could also be defined as the theory that individuals provide for their even support and improvement in society or the act of providing for or improving oneself (illustrated Oxford Dictionary). Idachaba and Atte (1974) conceive rural development not only in terms of agricultural and economic growth but as the creation of fair sharing of social and economic benefits. Mabugunge (1980) on the other sees rural development as a systematic attempt at re-organizing and mobilizing the rural masses in order to improve their capacity to cope effectively with their daily tasks and with the concomitant changes. This is done through the provision of basic infrastructure to improve rural accessibility and the participation and perception of the rural people in their own affairs. Self help in the content of rural development is therefore the carrying out of developmental and capital projects in the rural areas through community participation. It is a shift from the earlier rural development policy which was preoccupied with generation of food and fiber surpluses to over all formulation of a national rural development strategy with emphasis on the alleviation of rural poverty and enhancement of the quality of rural life.

Programmes on self help projects in Nigeria are basically an attempt to reduce poverty and satisfying basic needs. Thus, successful self help projects in rural development in Nigeria will implies the acceleration of the pace of developing the rural areas, through the provision of basic needs and necessary amenities like water supply, electricity, job opportunities, development of settlement schemes and feeder roads (Onibokun, 1976).

Government grant aided self help as a strategy for community and rural development was given a greater prominence in the third National Development Plan for community development was incorporated into the framework of the National Development Plan. As mentioned in the plan, activities in the sector of community and rural development will take the form of self-help project by various communities under the agencies of their local government authorities with the state government providing technical and financial assistance whenever such projects are initiated. Such projects include the construction of village roads and bridges, markets, dispensaries, schools and other amenities directed towards the instrument of their localities (Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1975).

Emphasis of the plan was on the provision of water and the construction, rehabilitation and maintenance of an effective rural feeder road network the eventual development of rural areas (Onilokim and Kumuyi, 1990). These resulted in the formulations of various rural development policies like, the operation feed the nation (OFN), green revolution, Better life for rural women (BARW), the River Basins Agricultural Development Programmes (ADP) and the Directorate for Food, Road and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI) amongst others were all created to encourage the aided self-help projects in rural development in Nigeria.

The wide acceptance of self helps as a strategy for rural and community development is evidenced in the number of projects initiated in the country by the rural communities in Nigeria. In the last few decades, there was hardly a week that passed by without the news media mentioning communities across the country that were initiating, completing or opening aided self help projects. For instance, the number of self help projects completed in some rural communities in the then Western state of Nigeria increased from 224 in 1970 to 2087 in 1975 of which the percentage increase was 93.12% (Onibokum, 1766). Adedayo (1985) also stated that between 1978 and 1979, some rural communities in kwara state, Nigeria embarked on about 356 self help projects at a cost of over 7.5 million naira.

In addition various voluntary organizations, religions bodies, non-governmental agencies, rural elite philanthropists that lives in the urban areas encouraging rural and other development projects in the rural areas by initiating and financing project in the rural communities.

2. Statement of the research problem

Until recently, the belief among most Nigerian communities was that it was the sole responsibility of the government and its agencies to provide the needs of their communities. In other words government should develop the community by providing the entire necessary infrastructure and social and physical amenities (Onibokun, 1976). Consequently social amenities are lacking in most rural areas. However the degree or level of infrastrural problems facing rural areas varies from one place to another. Therefore in order to arrive at policy issues that could be applicable to specific regions of Nigeria, the following research questions needed to be answered by this study:

1. How do the rural people conceive, perceive and carry out a self help project to boost the development of their immediate local environment?
2. What are the conditions and degree of self help projects that will increase the standard of living of the people of the study area?
3. How do the people of the study area contribute physically and financially towards self help projects?
4. Thus, the need to assess the roles and impacts of self help projects on the rural development of the study area forms the major focus of this study.

2.1. Aim and objectives of the study

Those present study aimed at examining the impact of self help projects in Irepodun Local Government Area, Kwara state, Nigeria.

The following objectives will be pursued in other to achieve the aim of the study

- 1 Identify the various on-going and completed self help projects in the study area
- 2 identify the sources of funding of these self help projects
- 3 Examine the roles of rural community associations in self help projects in the area
- 4 Assess the level and role of the government for self help projects in rural development.
- 5 Highlight the spatial patterns of projects being, undertaken.

2.2. Hypothesis testing

There is the need to test for hypothesis whether there is a strong relationship between self help projects and population in the study area. Also whether self help projects has increased the standard of living of the people in the study area.

Ho: There is no relationship between self help projects and population in the study area

HI: There is a relationship between population and self help projects

Ho: Self projects has not increased the standard of living of the people

HI: Self help has increase the standard of living of the people.

2.3. Significance of the study

This research study would be of immense help to individuals, corporate bodies, non-governmental organizations and government agencies in assessing the level and degree of impact of self help projects on rural development in Nigeria's rural areas. It can also be used by professionals and academicians like geographers, rural sociologists, agriculturist and economists for academic purposes. So also, the local state and the federal government planning unit can also make use of their research findings in assessing and planning for rural development in most of Nigeria's rural areas.

3. The study area

The study area is Irepodun local government, one of the oldest local governments in Kwara stat of Nigeria has its headquarters in Omu Aran. It has two districts of Ajasse Ipo and Omu. It has over twenty settlements of which some of them includes: Ilala, Agame-Ipo, Omo, Ijomu ero, Iludun Oro, Esie, Ijan, Ajengbe, Agbamu, Agbonda, Olomi, Rore, Omido, Eleyin, Agbeola, Okerimi, Olurntele, Omu aran, I petu, Oko among others. There are quite a number of self help projects that has been carried out in the area in the last few years, like the rural electrification, water supply road construction, building of schools and hospitals, market stalls, community halls among others.

3.1. Location

The area lies between latitude 8° N and 8° 25 N and between longitude 4° 40¹ E and 5° 30¹ E. The headquarters which is Omu-Aran is about 80km from Ilorin the state capital. It has a landmass of 2,432sqkm with a population of 137,980 (Kwara state year book, 2001).

3.2. Socio-economic activities

Economically majority of the inhabitants engaged in agricultural activities and small scale industrial activities like black smiting, machine repairing, bicycle repairing, photography, block making, bread

industries, gari processing, among others. The area is socially provided with amenities like hospitals, tourist centre, schools, hotels, recreational centers.

4. Literature review and conceptual framework

Though self help and rural or community development has been defined and conceptualized variously by different scholars, its mode of operation is made up of three essential elements like participation by the people as well as local organization management ability; the provision of technical and other services in ways which encourage initiative and therefore strengthening the community as an entity. The improving living standard and popular participation are thus central to the concept of rural and community development (Adedayo et al., 1991).

4.1. Concepts of self-help projects in Nigeria

The overwhelming enthusiasm and active interest and participation among members of various communities for self help projects and development has risen tremendously in the past few years in Nigerian rural areas. The process of rural and community self help projects involves grass root participation which means that the process of initiating by a single group or individual, rather, the local people consult themselves and get involved in the identification of local needs and in the conception and formulation of any project aimed at self reliance and also related development and thus projects will constitute a network of non-governmental agencies, individuals, local unions and associations, elite indigenes among many others (Adedayo, 1991).

However, the issue of self help projects has been expansively dealt with in the late 1990s and early 1980s by different author and scholars like Igbozunike (1977) who conceptualized self help project as a socio-economic developmental arrangement in which externally generated input of thought, processes, ideas and materials is expected to assume secondary status. And Olawepo (1997) added that the commonest approach to this form of development strategies is community disbursement.

It should be noted that, these self help projects are always associated with rural area where participatory development is encouraged. This because, rather than development impetus originating from 'top to down', it is a reversal of process where development facet is suggested and undertaken by the communities in relation to their felt needs. One influence of community development via participation is that it encourages outsiders to learn gradually from the rural residents who are always happy to be involved in planning their development (Olawepo, 1997).

According to the national development plan, the main objective of self help in Nigeria is to raise the quality of life of the rural communities by harnessing voluntary private effort to supplement government's effort. The Federal Government is to continue to promote and assist private activities in the pursuit of its objectives. The state governments to will intensify their effort in training community development workers and in the provision of technical services for the identification, preparation and execution of approved local self-help projects (Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1970).

4.2. Rural development

Various attentions has been given to the issues of rural development since the early 70s by various levels of government organization and different scholars that it is a concept that is not easily amenable to definition but it is view in relation to personal research problem.

The overseas development Institute defined rural development as the improvement of living conditions in rural areas, through the increased productivity of agricultural and related enterprises. The world Bank on the other hand defines it as a strategy designed to improve the economic and social conditions of specific group of the people; the rural poor (World Bank). King (1974) also conceived rural development in terms of the changes in the structure of opportunities that residents of rural areas can avail themselves and thereby improve their standard of living.

Mensah (1970) and Sarta (1978) explain rural development as consisting of concerted efforts directed at improving the quantitative and qualitative conditions of living of a given population Akinbode (1986) added that rural development is that stage at which people in my village and other villages in Nigeria turn on their taps and get clean water inside or near their homes, have improved medical facilities, schools, markets, transportation etc and participate in decision making that affects their lives, with inner satisfaction and pride to remain in the these rural villages. In essence, the rural people and their communities should be the focus of development programmes.

Improvement in levels of living, including income, employment, education, health and nutrition, housing and a variety of social services will eventually reduce the rural-urban migration. It decreases inequality in the distribution of rural incomes and in urban rural imbalances in incomes and economic opportunities. Thus rural development is on holistic process in which transformations in economic, social and political spheres are interwoven

4.3. Community participatory in rural development

According to Paul (1987) as cited in World Bank (1998), Community participation in the context of development refers to "an active process whereby beneficiaries influence the direction and execution of development projects rather than merely receive a share of project benefits. It is an evolutionary process in which activities at the project or micro-level can create the conditions for increased popular participation in the planning and implementation of development programs at the local level". Not all the basic needs of the rural poor can be met immediately, it is therefore necessary to prioritize their different needs and the process of deciding which need ought to be satisfied first is fundamentally the concern of the rural people themselves and thus the need for community participation of the rural people is essential in rural development.

Community participation in project planning and implementations universally acknowledged as an essential input for the socio-economic transformation of the rural areas. Such local participation enables the rural people to identify problems, to prioritize them and to devise and design locally acceptable solutions to the problem and thus give them a desired sense of belonging which will ensure the success of the projects

and programmes imported upon (Agboola, 1988). Participation in rural development efforts in Nigeria has almost come full circle, from the pre-colonial period when rural dwellers have identified their problems themselves, proposed solutions to them and solved them, to the post-colonial and contemporary times when rural problems are identified for the rural dwellers and the solutions are prepared and executed by own-rural bureaucrats. This is seen in the pre-colonial times when community participation is seen in clearing and widening of rural roads, dredging of water courses, building and maintenance of Oba's or Emir's palaces and markets and so on through their chief in the community (Agboola, 1988). The participation of the rural people in rural development in these contemporary times can be seen in grading of rural roads, building of primary schools, clinics and dispensaries among others (Olawepo, 1997).

4.4. Integrated rural development approaches

Government interest in Integrated Rural Development schemes is not new in the country. For instance, some years back, the then Western Nigeria Regional Government had issued a whole paper on Integrated Rural Development in Western Nigeria which was adopted by other regions in the country. Examples include the farm settlement of Eastern and Western Nigeria and the farm training institute of Northern Nigeria (Idachaba, 1980).

Integrated rural development is a new approach to rural development planning and given the multi-sectoral approach to rural development. According to the United Nations, the concept of integrated rural development is a composite or comprehensive programme for rural development with all relevant sectors such as agriculture, education, housing, health and employment conceived as interlinking elements in a system having horizontal as well as vertical linkage in operational and spatial terms (United Nation, 1976).

The primary objective of integrated rural development is the up-lifting the well-being of the rural people. Integrated rural development occurs when the quality of life of the rural majority has been raised. In other words, the strategy of integrated rural development involves comprehensive, simultaneous and systematic attack on all the factors affecting the development of a given rural area in accordance with the relative scarcity of each critical factor (Gama, 1987). Integrated rural development can be brought about in various ways like community development, agricultural development, rural infrastructure development government agencies rural headship. For this study the community development approach is adopted.

4.5. Community development approach

This form gained prominence during the colonial era when social welfare officers tried by stimulating self-help to improve health, nutrition and general community welfare. It connotes that the people themselves assert their economic, social and cultural conditions.

According to Dunham (1973) community development is concerned with total community life and needs. It involves all the members of the community and requires their fullest participation in first making and then implementing decision for their whole being development. Whereas community development is defined and conceptualized variously, its modes of operation is made up of three

essential elements like the participation by the people, initiative self-help by the people and strengthening the community as an entity (Adedayo et al., 1991).

The effectiveness of a community development programme will depend largely on the extent to which government encourages local planning and participation since the goals of improving the living standard and popular participation of the rural people are central to the concept of community development.

4.6. Application of theory to modern day rural development

Past studies on diffusion theory have shown strong influence of the awareness of ideas and innovation by a member of the community in which it spreads to all other members of such community. Also is the influence of distance on diffusion process which shows that a further away member of the society may not be aware of the innovation or ideas from the source on time unlike someone else to the source. Thus, this theory depicts an application to rural development through self help projects by the process of social contract through spatial range and dimension and field of influence. A member of the community develop an idea of rural development through a self help project and pass it down to other members of the community through community unions and associations in most cases. The expansion and diffusion process is most applicable in rural development through self help projects in which ideas, innovation and communication spread spatially and temporarily until increasing members of individuals in the society became aware of the phenomena i.e. became aware of the need for self help project for rural development.

5. Methodology

This work employed both primary and secondary data sources. The primary data were derived through the use of questionnaire administration from the 400 sampled populations in the study area. The secondary data were sourced from relevant literature information and other documents. The information gotten from the sampled population was analyzed using bi-variate analyses like percentages cross tabulation regression/correlation chi-square and nearest neighbor analyses.

6. Discussion of findings

6.1. Religion

The inhabitants of the Study area practice various religion. It was revealed from the field that 50% (200) of the respondents were Christians, 47% (188) were Muslims while 3% (12) practiced traditional religion. This kind of religious set up encourages communalism. Hence the willingness of the members of the community to participate in self help projects.

6.2. Respondents occupational structure

The role of the type of occupation of the inhabitants of the study area cannot be over emphasized in fact it has a positive correlation with any successful participation and completion of self-help projects and rural development. In the course of the field survey, it was revealed that about 80.50% are in the informal sector like farming trading, self employed work and business like driving, security, blacksmithing etc. While just about 19.5% were civil servant (Table 1). This type of occupational structure afford people more time to participate in the self-help projects that the community embarked upon in terms of direct labour than the civil servants and the self employed.

Table 1. Distribution of respondents by occupation

OCCUPATION	NO of RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%) DISTRIBUTION
Farming	94	23.5
Trading	86	21.5
Self-employed	60	15
Civil servants	78	19.5
Others	82	20.5
Total	400	100

Source: Authors field Survey, 2010

6.3. Distribution of respondents average income

Income is a major determinant of any development project in any area. The higher the income of the people, the more they contribute to the development of their environment as this is revealed in the result of the administered questionnaire in the study area. The field survey indicated those that about 87.50% earns between 6,000 and 20,000 are 30.5%, and those that are earning above 20,000 and above are 8% (Table 2). With this type of income distribution; it is likely that more people will be able to contribute financially to the self-help project that the community embarks upon.

Table 2. Distribution of respondents' average income

INCOME MONTHLY INCOME (Naira)	NO of RESPONDENTS	PERCETAGE (%) DISTRIBUTION
>6,000	58	14.5
6,000-10,000	102	25.5
10,000-15,000	86	21.5
15,000-20,000	122	30.5
20,000+	32	8
Total	400	100

Source: Authors field Survey, 2010

6.4. Analysis of community development

Rural and community development is a participatory role that involves actively the populace in subjecting their developmental problems to a collective effort. In this research, it was discovered that 87% of the communities were developed through communal projects, government inputs are so minimal [9%] (Table 3). The respondents were asked if there exist any association/union and whether they belong to any. All the respondents said there were community unions/associations of which 83.5% (209) belongs to one union or the other.

Table 3. Past self-help projects undertaken

TYPES OF SELF-HELP PROJECTS	NUBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE (%) DISTRIBUTION
Road Construction	96	24.0
Palace& Market	34	8.5
Electricity& Water	60	15.0
Clinic/Health centers	74	18.5
Schools	112	28.0
Others	24	6.0
	400	100

Source: Authors field Survey, 2010

It is clear from this table that the people in the study area tends to conceptualize their development in the past mostly on those areas that will have effect on individual and tends to develop their future economy. Hence the past self help projects was tilted towards provision of educational facilities and road construction, clinics/health centers, electricity and water supply all of which is about 85.5% of the total developmental projects in the study area (Table 3).

In the course of the survey, the respondents submitted that recent projects embarked upon by the community include Schools/educational institutions which constituted about 28% of the projects embarked upon by the community this was followed by Road construction (24%), Clinics/Health Centers (18.5%), Water/electricity (15%), Palace/Markets (8.5%) and others was about 6 % (Table 4).

Table 4. Rescent community self-help projects

SELF-HELP PROJECTS	NO of RESPONDENT	PERCENTAGE (%) DISTRIBUTION
Road construction	88	22.0
Electricity& Water	68	17.0
Clinic/Health center	120	30.0
Schools	44	11.0
Palace &Market	28	7.0
Others	52	13.0

Source: Authors field Survey, 2010

About 78% of the projects are executed through direct labour by members of community thus fewer funds is expended on the project, governments' contribution was so minimal, about 12%. In essence majority of the development projects were undertaken by the communities (Table 5).

Table 5. Project execution and cost of projects according to respondents

PROJECT EXECUTION	NO of RESPONDENT	%	COST of PROJECTS (Naira)	NO of RESPONDENTS	%
Direct Labour	312	78.0	>100,000	44	11.0
Contract Award	60	15.0	100,000-200,000	68	17.0
Government	28	7.0	200,000-400,000	100	25.0
			400,000+	188	47.0
Total	400	100		400	100

Source: Authors field Survey, 2010

The importance of available and accessible funds for any development projects cannot be over emphasized. Funds according to the respondents were generated from donation (57%), launching of fund raising 29.5%, some from government aid and levying members of the community either from their associations /union or individuals (Table 6).

Table 6. Fund generation according to respondents

MEANS of GETTING FUNDS	NO of RESPONDENT	PERCENTAGE (%) DISTRIBUTION
Donation	228	57
Levy	22	5.5
Government aids	32	8
Launching/Fundraising	118	29.5
Total		100

Source: Authors field Survey, 2010

The execution and completion of any self help projects and rural development cannot materialized unless somebody perceives, conceive and put the initiative forward before people can embark on it(diffusion theory). During the field survey, respondents were of the opinion that 48.5% (194) of the self help projects were initiated by the community union/association leaders with about 27.5% (110) of the same by local chiefs and those governments initiated only10%. About 96.5% of the respondents agreed that self help projects have indeed led to the development to their community. The chi-square confirmed that self help has improved the standard of living of the people in the community (Appendix 1). The correlation analysis also showed a strong relationship between population and self help projects in terms of the direct labour input of the people in the community (Appendix 2). The nearest neighbor statistic showed a random distribution of self help projects in the study area (Appendix 3).

7. Summary of findings

In the course of the study, it was revealed that income encouraged the people to embark on self help projects. Community unions/association contributed immensely in the execution of self help projects and the subsequent rural development.

The Chi-square and correlation results, concluded that the inhabitants of the area are not equally satisfied with self help projects and amenities and that there is a relationship between population and self help projects and also that self help projects has increased the standard of living of the people in the area (Appendes ,ii, i).

The research also shows to a large extent the lopsidedness in the distributional patter of self help projects in the area in which it is randomly distributed using the Nearest Neighbour Statistics (Appendix 3). For instance out of the 20 settlements selected randomly in the area, 5 settlements had about 49.3% of the 136 of self help projects concentrated in them.

8. Policy implications

It has been acknowledged worldwide even before the occurrence of the regrettable global economic recession that no government, no matter how benevolent it might be, can afford to provide all the needs of its people. In this vein some community contribute one way or the other, to develop their localities. To this end, a number of communities in Nigeria especially in the southern part have done relatively well in self help projects in terms of building schools, hospitals, construction of roads and bridges etc. And this has gone a long way to develop their immediate rural environment of which the study area is no exception.

From the findings as it is known that community unions/associations helped to initiation and implementation of self help projects. The continuous contribution of the community clubs and unions/association should be encouraged in order to fast tract the general development of the community from the grassroots. Moreover, the well-to-do individuals and elites that are indigenes of the various communities should be encouraged to come and develop their immediate rural communities through monetary donation and use their position to attract government aids for rural development.

Government should redirect its rural development towards capital and developmental projects in rural areas and make population be the focus. Non-governmental organization (NGOs), charity organizations, multi-national companies and other business organizations can invest/grant aid to develop rural areas and help complete some of abandoned self help projects that dots all over the place in the rural communities in Nigeria.

The level and efficiency of self help projects on rural communities normally influence the development of the rural areas. Hence, efforts should be geared towards improving the communication link between self help projects and rural development by reflecting an equitable distribution of self help projects as an essential tool for balanced socio-economic development of the rural areas in Nigeria.

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Appendix.1 Hypothesis testing

H₀: there is a relationship between population and self help projects in the study area

H₁: there is no relationship between self help projects and population in the study area

S/N	Settlement	Self help project (X)	Population distribution (Y)	X ²	Y ²	XY
1	Omu-Aran	15	12,733	225	162129289	190995
2	Oro	17	13,070	289	170824900	222190
3	Iludun	09	7041	81	49575681	63369
4	Ajase-Ipo	13	11,307	169	127848249	146991
5	Esie	10	11,113	100	123498769	111130
6	Oko	04	5,217	16	27217089	20868
7	Inisan	05	6,050	25	36602500	30250
8	Oloruntele	05	5,471	25	29931841	27355
9	Rore	03	4,931	09	24314761	14793
10	Olomi	05	5,031	25	25310961	25155
11	Arandun	07	6,015	49	36180225	42105
12	Omido	05	5,287	25	27952369	26435
13	Agbonda	07	6,834	49	46703556	47838
14	Agbele	04	4,825	16	23280625	19300
15	Ago	03	4,374	09	19131876	13122
16	Agbamu	06	5,109	36	26101881	30654
17	Ijan	07	6,679	49	44609041	46753
18	Sanmora	04	5,501	16	30261001	22004
19	Buari	04	4,603	16	21187609	18412
20	Aran-Orin	03	5,429	09	29474041	16287
	Total	136	13.80x10 ⁴	1138	105257x10 ⁴	98x10 ⁴

$$r = \frac{n \sum XY - (\sum X)(\sum Y)}{\sqrt{[n \sum X^2 - (\sum X)^2]} \sqrt{[n \sum Y^2 - (\sum Y)^2]}}$$

$$r = \frac{20(98) - 136 \times 13.8}{20 \times 1.1 - (136)^2 \times 105257 - 13.8}$$

$$r = 0.81$$

The correction result shows a very strong relationship between population and self help projects in the area. This can further be tested using the t-test formula

$$T = \frac{r - p}{\sqrt{\{1 - r^2 / n - 2\}}}$$

$$T = 5.86$$

For tabulated value

$$Dt = n - 2$$

$$Dt = 20 - 2$$

$$Dt = 18$$

18 at alpha level 0.05 = 2.88

Since calculated value of 5.86 is greater than tabulated value 2.88, we accept H_0 and reject H_1 .

This signifies that there is a relationship between population and self help projects in the area.

Appendix 2

S/N	Self Help Projects	Expected (E)	O-E	(O- E) ²	$\frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$
1	15	6.8	8.2	67.24	9.89
2	19	6.8	12.2	148.84	21.89
3	09	6.8	2.2	4.84	0.71
4	11	6.8	4.2	17.64	2.59
5	13	6.8	6.2	38.44	5.65
6	03	6.8	-3.8	14.44	2.12
7	05	6.8	-1.8	3.24	0.48
8	05	6.8	-1.8	3.24	0.48
9	03	6.8	-3.8	14.44	2.12
10	04	6.8	-2.8	7.84	1.15
11	07	6.8	0.2	0.04	0.01
12	05	6.8	-1.8	3.24	0.48
13	07	6.8	0.2	0.04	0.01
14	03	6.8	-3.8	14.44	2.12
15	03	6.8	-3.8	14.44	2.12
16	06	6.8	-0.8	0.64	0.09
17	07	6.8	-0.2	0.04	0.01
18	04	6.8	-2.8	7.84	1.15
19	04	6.8	-2.8	7.84	1.16
20	03	6.8	-3.8	14.44	2.12
Total	136	136	0	383	76.34

Hypothesis testing using chi-square (χ^2) statistics

H_0 : Self help projects have increased the standard of living of the people in the study area.

H_1 : Self help projects have not increased the standard of living of the people of the study area.

$$X^2 = (O-E)^2 / E$$

X^2 calculated value = 76.34

To calculate the tabulated value $Dt = K - 1$

$$Dt = 20 - 1 = 19$$

19 at alpha level 0.05

=31.41

X^2 tabulated = 31.41

Conclusion

Since X^2 calculated value of 756.34 is greater than X^2 tabulated value of 31.41, then we accept H_0 and reject H_1

This indicates that self help project has increased the standard of living of the people of the area.

Appendix 3

To evaluate the spatial pattern of self help projecta being undertaken in the local government area using the Nearest Neighbour statistics.

Nearest Neighbour Statistics

$$R_n = \frac{D_{obs}}{RE}$$

D_{obs} = ENND (km) no of points /and $RE = 0.5 \sqrt{(\text{size of study area} / \text{no of points})}$

ENND is the summation of the Nearest Neighbour Distance of settlements in km i. e. 410.35km

No of points is the total number of self help projects in the study area i.e. 136

Size of the study area is the total landmass of the study area i.e. 2432km

$$D_{obs} = \frac{ENND (km)}{\text{No of points}} = \frac{410.35}{136} = 3.0173km$$

$$D_{obs} = 3.0173km$$

$$RE = (0.5) \sqrt{\text{size of study area} / \text{Number of points}}$$

$$RE = 0.5 \times \sqrt{(2432/136)}$$

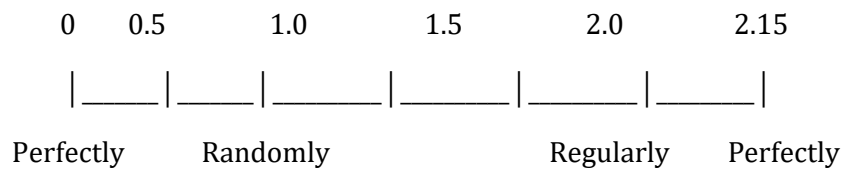
$$= 0.5 \times \sqrt{17.88.115}$$

$$= 0.5 \times 4.23$$

$$= 2.12km$$

$$R_n = D_{obs} / RE = 3.0173 / 2.12 = 1.423$$

$R_n = 1.42$ - randomly distributed



Thus, the spatial pattern of distribution of self help projects in the area is randomly distributed.