

Full Length Research Paper

Empirical Assessment of Underdevelopment in the Niger Delta: Implication for Security, Peace and Development in Nigeria

Edih University O.^{1*}, Faghawari Nyanayon David¹ and Okuoyibo Azuka²

¹Marine Economics and Finance, Nigeria Maritime University Okerenkoko, Delta State, Nigeria.

²Port Management, Nigeria Maritime University Okerenkoko, Delta State, Nigeria.

*Corresponding Author E-mail: oweilade123uni@gmail.com

Received 25 January 2022; Accepted 18 April 2022; Published 14 June 2022

ABSTRACT: The study examined empirical assessment of underdevelopment in the Niger Delta: implication for security, peace and development in Nigeria. Primary data were collected using questionnaires structured in line with Likert summation scale. The chi-square, a non-parametric statistical method was used to analyze data and test the two hypotheses formulated for the study. The study found that, underdevelopment in the Niger Delta was caused by lack of political will on the part of the Federal and State governments as well as the Oil companies' singular intent of sapping and exploiting the huge oil deposit from the region. It was also discovered that, incessant protests, violence and militancy in the region were aftermath of pervasive poverty and hunger, visible marginalization, massive unemployment and avoidable underdevelopment. Furthermore, insecurity and underdevelopment have been seen as twin and deadly maladies that undermine security, peace and development of the Niger Delta. The study therefore, recommends that, governments at all levels (Federal, State and Local governments) should enshrine and enforce good governance structure by creating a strategic development plan for the region. It is also suggested that a strategic employment generation scheme (such as entrepreneurial arrangements) be developed to engage the youths of the Niger Delta.

Keywords: Crude-oil, development, Dutch disease, Niger-Delta, security, underdevelopment

INTRODUCTION

Insecurity and underdevelopment are problems traceable to natural resource curse, Dutch disease syndrome and absence of good governance. Arguably, the problem of underdevelopment in Niger Delta region may have been orchestrated by insensitive of government and political instability that resulted to violence, wars and communal clashes. The Niger Delta region is synonymous with mineral resources deposit transverse with rivers and tributaries sheltered by natural vegetation suitable for conviviality of life. The region hosts vast deposit of crude oil in Nigeria. Oil was discovered in commercial quantity in 1956 at Oloibiri (an Ijaw community) in Bayelsa State (Osadume and Edih 2020; Tombari, 2019; Agbaeze and Ukoha, 2018; Amnesty international 2009). Crude oil became a major export and foreign exchange earnings for the country from the 70s till date. The agricultural sector (groundnut pyramids in the North, Cocoa plantations in the West and Palm oil trade in the

East) which hitherto, the mainstay of the economy was abandoned for the wealth from oil. The Niger-delta environment is besetting with arrays of ecological and political challenges ranging from oil spills erosions, deforestation, local indigenous refineries to civil wars and communal clashes etc. Salami (2009) describes these human activities as 'ecological hemorrhage.' It refers to loss of adaptive capacity due to perturbations, dislocations and seriously environmental hazards that weaken natural resilience of the environment. Olokesusi and Gavary (2010) also posit that environmental degradation causes loss of soil fertility, rise in temperature, poor air quality, morbidity and mortality, reduction of living space and arable farming, deforestation, desertification, accumulation of toxic, hazardous substances and drought. The above illustrates the uncontrolled 56 years of bleeding the Niger-Delta ecological assets without commensurate improvements

in people's living standard. This is dehumanizing and a security threat to the county. Human life is meaningless if there is no security. Security in this context encompasses economic development, social justice, environmental protection, political democracy, disarmament and respect for human rights (UNDP NHDR, 2018). This might have informed the postulation in section 14(25) of the 1999 constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) ... the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government.

However, the Federal government invaded and leveled Odi (a community in Bayelsa State) in what was described as a full military onslaught by the Obasanjo/Atiku led government in 1999. The community was decimated by machine guns and bombs consequent upon the killing of some policemen by an angry mob. Retrospectively, the government convicted and executed, nine Ogonis (Ken Saro-Wiwa and 8 others) based on trumped up charges, who justifiably agitated against the repression, marginalization and massive environmental pollution caused by the action of oil companies in Ogoni land and the Niger-Delta in the 1995 (Tombari, 2018).

Consequently, farmlands were grossly devastated, fishing rivers were contaminated and farmers' lost their source of livelihood. Accumulated ills of poverty, unemployment and neglect on the part of government may have aroused violence and militancy in the region. Counter-reactions on the part of Federal government in furthering the suppression and quelling these agitations through military arsenals worsened the mild protests into disproportionate dimensions of blowing up all pipelines and sacking of oil companies from operating in the region. Due to drastic reduction in oil production and dwindling revenue, the Federal government bowed to negotiations which were rather inconclusive and deceptive. Negotiations were not actually welcomed.

The few 'peace accords' reached by the elders of Niger – Deltan, spearheaded by PANDEF (Pan Niger Delta Elders Forum ably chaired by Chief Edwin Clark) with the Federal government were not implemented and if implemented, they were selective on the agreed terms. The emergence of Covid 19 pandemic unveiled the notorious mindset of the federal government on good governance and upholding section 14(2b) of the 1999 constitution of FRN. The government failed to give palliative to assuage the corrosive effects of the twin tragedy of health and economic woes on the people due to imposed lockdown for several and consecutive weeks /or months. The enforcements of lockdown rules resulted to several deaths in Delta and River States. Simply put, people's lives are not valued in Nigeria. Insecurity and poverty, unemployment, diseases and underdevelopment and bad government are snuffing lives from the people in Nigeria.

Arguably, overdependence on oil proceeds murdered the agricultural and manufacturing sectors of the

economy. The consequences of neglecting the agricultural and manufacturing, mining sectors explain the resource curse puzzle and the Dutch disease. The monolithic nature of the economy makes it vulnerable to oil price stocks (Ali and James 2018; Osadime and Edih, 2020; Agbaeze and Utoka, 2018). The expected blessings accompanying natural resource endowments, in the case of the Niger-Delta and Nigeria was the reverse. However, there is no gain saying the fact that oil wealth brought some dividends to Nigeria, Lagos (former Capital Territory) and Abuja (the current capital Territory) of Nigeria were built with petro-dollars.

In spite of these natural endowments, Nigeria is reckoned as one of the poorest nations in the world and the impoverishment in Niger delta is even worse (Tombari 2019; Ebeku, 2018). Tombari (2019) asserts that, the Ogoni communities in the Niger Delta lost their nine illustrious sons (Ken Sarowina, and others) to the struggle of emancipating Ogoni/Niger-delta region from the oppression, misgovernment and connivance of government and SPDC (Shell Petroleum Development Company). He recast the lamentation of the Niger-Delta people who have the wealth that sustains the country as regrettable and excruciating in a supposedly abundant petroleum resources. The blessing therefore, portends curse, degradation and predicament (Bodo and David, 2018). Amnesty International (2019) corroborates the environmental degradation, community displacements and impoverishment caused by the oil companies and the federal government of Nigeria. The people of the Niger-Delta are not partaking in the proceeds from the huge sales of oil. The ideology that natural resources (oil wealth) propels development in low-income countries does not hold waters in Nigeria and therefore, is mere development theory. Wealth from oil revenues does not translate to developmental projects in Nigeria, around 70% of the population (220 million) live below the poverty line.

Based on these imposing evidences of poverty, unemployment, disease, squalor conditions, rejection, vandalism, insecurity and underdevelopment, may be, spearheaded by the Federal government and allied forces, compelled the revolution through declaration of wars and conflicts, militancy and destruction of Oil pipelines, leading to the closure of oil companies' operations in the region. The declaration by Isaac Adaka Boro for succession in Kaiama in 1966, eruption of Militant groups (MEND 2006, MOSOP 1990, AVENGERS, 2016) and lately, movement for resource control engineered and sponsored by the nine governors of States in the Niger-Delta in 1999 – 2006 were pointers to resource curse and Dutch disease syndrome ravaging the economy of the Niger-Delta and Nigeria (Edih and Yomere, 2020).

The government of Yaradua/Goodluck in 2006/7 initiated amnesty programmes for repentant militants as palliative measure to curbing the restiveness and

violence in the Niger-Delta region. The initiative was to pay monthly stipends to militants, award scholarships to those who can further their education, lobby militant leaders (Asari Dokubo, Ateke, Tompolo etc) and also award contracts to indigenous companies etc.

It is against this backdrop that the study is assessing the under-development in the Niger-Delta region amidst Crude-oil wealth for over 60 years of sustained capital inflow. The major objective of the study is to empirically assess under-development in the Niger-Delta. Consequently, to establish that under-development and insecurity led to violence, restiveness and militancy in the region. To also establish that absence of political will to develop the region is the cause of under-development and insecurity in Niger-Delta. Based on this, two hypotheses were formulated for the study: one, there is no significant relationship between under-development and violence, restiveness and militancy in the Niger-Delta and two, there is no significant relationship between political will and development of the Niger-Delta. The study will assist policy makers in formulating development strategies for the region.

Review of Literature

Batta et al. (2013) described Nigeria as a nation endowed with forest resources (and mineral deposits). These forest resources accounted for about 2.5% of the GDP. Over two million people are employed through supply of fuel woods and poles. The forests occupy about 10% of the total land area of 92,337 hectares. However, the forests have been largely lost to human activities. Nigeria loses an average of 409,700 hectares of forest per year (FAO, 2010). The main drivers of deforestation are agriculture, logging and mining, rapid population growth and use of fuel wood (Olakunle et al., 2011). The activities of oil exploitation and exploration in the Niger-Delta and its attendant consequences of oil spill resulting to environmental assault have also reduced the expanse of forest in Nigeria. This indeed, has affected the security of lives.

Security is an integral factor of development. The relative peace in the Niger-Delta due to disarmament and ceased fire agreement have not been transformed into human and capital development. At the households' level, poverty and unemployment rates are aching because of poor governance controlled by aristocratic few (NHDR, 2015). The problems of insecurities and under-development are aggravated through policy summersault and lack of political will. Economic growth does not result to the reduction of poverty and unemployment, diseases, communal wars and agitations in Nigeria. Human security is highly threatened by the effects of oil exploitation, loss of aquatic and terrestrial lives, deforestation etc. The Nigerian government protects oil workers and oil companies to enable them

sap the oil wealth but had continuously failed in protecting lives and properties.

NHDR (2015) also disclosed that Nigeria was among the world's largest oil producers ranking the 12th position and the 6th place in Africa. Despite her enormous endowments and huge petrodollars, the people are wallowing under poverty. The economic performance of Nigeria is abysmally poor since 1960. Huge hydrocarbon deposits have not been translated into robust economic structure, developmental plans, relevant infrastructure and in fact, decent standard of living for the people. Proceeds from oil wealth for the post-independence era amount to about US \$500 billion, but did not extinguish the recurring economic woes, declining welfare and social instability (Jerome and Ajakaiye, 2018).

CBN (2010) asserts that the oil sector accounts for about 90% of the country's foreign exchange earnings and about 80% of public revenues. Measures taken to revamp and boost the agriculture and manufacturing sectors are yet to yield impactful results on the economy accompanying the surge in oil in the 1970s. Nigeria is confronted with the challenge of ensuring an inclusive and sustained economic growth in her post-independence development agenda. It has argued that Economic growth which exhibits high inequality indices is regarded as non-inclusive. Non-inclusive growth opposes the ideals of decent living standards and sustainable development. Poverty and unemployment have been identifying as major challenges to the government and economy since growth in oil revenues are not trickling down to the poor in country (NHDR, 2015).

The National Human Development Report, NHDR (2015), UNDP (2008), World Bank (1996) in conjunction with Obadan (2001) and Okpamacin (2001) documented eight categories of drivers of poverty, unemployment, social instability and underdevelopment in Nigeria, namely:

- i. Low and declining real farm incomes due to environmental degradation necessitated by oil spill, deforestation, animal grazing etc.
- ii. Higher prices of food and hike in transport and fuel.
- ii Exchange rate, interest rate, jobless non-inclusive growth, inequality, unemployment and high dependence in oil.
- iii. Socio-cultural conditions
- iv. Insecurity (conflicts and displaced population)
- v. Stagnated rural economy (agriculture, infrastructure, natural disaster)
- vi. Gender imbalance to basic entitlements, education, health, sanitation, energy, housing etc.
- vii. Policy shocks (policy summersaults)

Agbaeze and Ukoha (2018) agreed with the Dutch Disease Syndrome that natural resource may negatively influence an economy where economic diversification

policies were ignored. They agreed that the impact of oil on the Nigeria economy was inconclusive because oil is both blessing and curse depending on government policies and actions. Ismail (2010) contends that oil-exporting countries will experience oil price shock for depending on proceeds from oil. However, manufacturing sectors with higher capital intensity are insulated from windfall shock in oil prices. The economy of Norway was sustainable on basis of liberal economic policies which afforded diversification of the economy. The resource gifts reverse growth ideology was not experienced in Norway's economy (Larsen 2004, Sachs and Warner, 2001).

Gould and Kapadia (2010) explains Dutch Disease to mean the resource movement effort. The shift of factors of production from non-booming sectors to booming sectors. The concept of Dutch Disease came to limelight in the 1960s where gas price fell and the Dutch economy was no longer sustainable because of high dependence on revenue from gas. In similar vein, Brahmhatt et al., (2010), describe Dutch disease as the 'changes in the structure of production in the wake of favourable shock in the discovery of natural resources, rise in prices of exports. Ali and James (2018) in their comparative study found that the dependence of Nigeria government revenues on oil to the neglect of other sectors attracted the consequences of a resource curse or Dutch Disease to the country. However, in Norway, stable political economy and sound legal institution and diversified economic polices fostered growth and development of the country over its peers. The study faulted the lack of transparent and accountable government, corruption and political instability, policies summersault and maladministration as causes of underdevelopment in the country. Nigeria is therefore the classical exemplifier of a resource curse. Ochogwu (2006) opines that oil is not a curse but the unstable political economy, mismanagement of oil revenues to the abandonment of other sectors of the economy, frail institutions are the curses in Nigeria.

Ali and James (2018) further stress that the imposition of a capitalist authorization structure to suppress oppositions, freedom of expressions, violate human rights, win election at all cost and retain power without recourse to good governance and the future of the country resulted to this deplorable and pitiable conditions of servitude of the Niger- Delta people in the midst of abundant natural resources. UNDP Nigeria Human Development Report (2016) in its study departed from the normal human development index (HDI) to the utilization of inequality-adjusted human development index (IHDI). The new indices were, inequality adjusted human development index (IHDI), multidimensional poverty index (MPI) and gender inequality index (GII). The report revealed an increase in inequalities in education, income and life expectancy. The value of HDI was 0.5114 in 2016 and 0.2712 in 2013 while IHDI was 0.3590 in 2016

and 0.2591 in 2013. The report also demonstrated that, a large proportion of persons were poor. There was 62 percent loss in potential human development due to gender inequality according to the report.

Also, National Human Development Report (2015) had a study on the seven realms of human security in Nigeria. The report itemized the seven security in human security to include economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community and political security. Some of the findings in this report were, (1) human security was constrained by threats of economic access, high unemployment rates, low perception of job security, (2) the political will to entrench development policies in the country was low, (3) children were vulnerable and malnourished due to food insecurity pervading the land; poor state of health care system could aggravate intergenerational poverty crises among others. To strengthen human security in the country, political will is highly required to cause a paradigm shift from the status quo.

METHODOLOGY

The study gathered primary data through administration of structured questionnaire designed in four point Likert scale. Simple random sampling technique was employed in selecting ministries of economic planning and statistics of Delta, Bayelsa and Rivers States. NDDC, (Niger- Delta Development Commission, Port Harcourt) and DESOPADEC (Delta State Oil Producing Area Development Commission Warri). The sample size was 100 allocated equally to the five selected components of participants in the study. The non-parametric tool (Chi-Square) was employed to test the hypotheses. The general rule for determining the number of degree of freedom (df) when dealing with contingency table is given by the equation, $df=(r-1)(c-1)$. Decision rule is, the null hypothesis will be accepted if the computed value of the Chi-Square (χ^2) is less than the critical value at the given degree of freedom, otherwise, the alternative hypothesis will be accepted (Yomere et al., 1999). The Chi-Square formula is stated as follows

$$\chi^2 = \frac{\sum (Of - Ef)^2}{Ef}$$

Where, Of = Observed frequently

Ef= Expected frequently

χ^2 = Chi-Square

$$Ef = \frac{TR + TC}{GT}$$

TR= Total row of observations

Table 1: Responses to questionnaire distributed.

s/n	Respondents	Sample distributed	Sample returned	Returned %
1.	Economic Planning Delta	20	20	20%
2.	Economic Planning Bayelsa	20	20	20%
3.	Economic Planning Rivers	20	16	16%
4.	NDDC Port Harcourt	20	14	14%
5.	DESOPADEC Warri	20	20	20%
Total		100	90	90%

Source: Author's computation from field work 2020

Table 2: Summarized responses to questionnaire.

S/N	Items	SA	A	DA	SDA	Total
1.	Agitations and violence were caused by under-development in the region	10	80	00	00	90
2.	Hunger, malnutrition and poverty are effects of environmental degradation	30	60	00	00	90
3.	Lack of bridges, road networks and other infrastructure were caused by poor governance.	50	40	00	00	90
4.	Corruption and politics affected region's development.	60	30	00	00	90
5.	Marginalization and political will are factors responsible for insecurity and under-development in the Niger-Delta.	85	5	00	00	90
6.	Lack of an integrated development plan for the region	70	20	00	00	90

Source: Author's computation from field work 2020

TC = Total column of observations
GT = Grand total of observations

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Presentation of Data

The data collected for this study was presented in the table below.

The (table 1) showed that, 100 questionnaires were distributed and 90 were returned.

Analysis of data

Responses on the distributed questionnaires were summarized into a single table as shown in (Table 2).

Test of Hypotheses

The two hypotheses were tested with the non-parametric statistical tool- the chi-square.

Hypothesis one

There is no significant relationship between underdevelopment and restiveness, poverty and violence

in the Niger-Delta. In testing hypothesis one, responses one and two were used (Table 3).

$$\text{Calculation, } E_f = \frac{TR + TC}{GT}$$

$$Df = (R - 1)(C - 1) \\ = (5 - 1)(2 - 1) = 4$$

Calculated Expected Frequency for Agreed Strongly

$$= \frac{40 \times 90}{180} = 20$$

Calculated Expected Frequency for Agreed Slightly

$$\frac{140 \times 90}{180} = 70$$

$$\chi^2 = \frac{\sum (O_f - E_f)^2}{E_f}$$

$$\frac{(10 - 20)^2}{20} + \frac{(30 - 20)^2}{20} + \frac{(80 - 70)^2}{70} + \frac{(60 - 70)^2}{70} \\ = 12.850$$

The critical value of chi-square for 5% or 0.05 alpha level of significance at 4 degree of freedom (df) is 9.488
 $\chi^2 > \text{critical value } 12.850 > 9.488.$

Decision: Since the chi-square value is greater than the critical value, the null hypothesis was rejected. This means that there is significant relationship between under-development and youth restiveness, poverty and violence in the Niger Delta.

Table 3: Observed frequency for questions one and two.

Variables	Response 1	Response 2	Total
Strongly Agreed	10	30	40
Agreed	80	60	140
Strongly Disagreed	-	-	-
Disagreed	-	-	-
Total	90	90	180

Source: Author's computation from field work 2020

Table 4: Observed frequency for questions four and five.

Variables	Response 4	Response 5	Total
Strongly Agreed	60	85	145
Agreed	30	5	35
Strongly Disagreed	-	-	-
Disagreed	-	-	-
Total	90	90	180

Source: Author's computation from field work 2020

Hypothesis two

There is no significant relationship between political will and development of the Niger-Delta region. In testing hypothesis two, responses four and five were used (Table 4).

Calculated Expected Frequency for Agreed Strongly;

$$\frac{145 \times 90}{180} = 72.5$$

Calculated Expected Frequency for Agreed Slightly;

$$\frac{35 \times 90}{180} = 17.5$$

$$\chi^2 = \frac{\sum (Of - Ef)^2}{Ef}$$

$$\frac{(60 - 72.5)^2}{72.5} + \frac{(80 - 72.5)^2}{72.5} + \frac{(30 - 17.5)^2}{17.5} + \frac{(5 - 17.5)^2}{17.5} = 22.166$$

The critical value of chi – square for 5% at 4 df is 9.488

$$\chi^2 > \text{critical value}$$

$$22.166 > 9.488$$

Decision: The null hypothesis was rejected. That means, there is significant relationship between political will and development of the Niger Delta region

DISCUSSION

Hypothesis One result showed that the chi-square (computed value) was greater than the critical value,

12.850 > 9.488, and the null hypothesis was rejected. This portrays that, youth restiveness, violence, and militancy, hunger, malnutrition and poverty are products of underdevelopment. It also confirms the Dutch disease syndrome corroborated by Agbaeze and Ukoha (2018), Ismail (2010) and Gould and Kapadia (2010). The people of the Niger-Delta are wallowing in poverty and disease, unemployment, and underdevelopment in the midst of abundant petroleum resources. The over 56 years of oil exploration and exploitation is meaningless to the lives of the people and government reluctance to exert its political will to driving development of the region. Niger-Delta region. Considering the enormous revenue from oil, it's possible to transform the region into another Dubai if the government meant business and necessary technologies are adopted.

Hypothesis two result showed that the computed value was greater than the critical value, 22.166 > 9.488 and the null hypothesis was rejected. This symbolizes that, political will is a mobilizing force for the development of a country (Table 4). The people of Niger-Delta revolted against marginalization, oppression and landslide environmental degradation through protest, violence and militancy evidenced by Isaac Adaka Boro's Kaiamas declaration, 1966, MOSOP 1990, MEND 2006, and AVENGERS 2016. Tombari (2019) and Ebeku (2018) assert that Nigeria was one of the poorest nation in the world and the poverty in the Niger-Delta was the worst. Ken Saro-wiwa and eight Ogonis were unlawfully executed for advocating for emancipation from oppression, subjugation, exploitation, squalor disease and hunger amidst plenty resources hijacked by the Federal government and oil companies. In 1999-2007, the then governors of the nine Niger-Delta States, spearheaded by Chief James Ibori and late Chief DSP Alamiyesiyegeha, added momentum to the resource control struggle which culminated to a constitutional

provision of 13% derivation or Oil producing States. NHDR (2015) also contends that the political will to sustaining development policies in Nigeria was very low.

Conclusion

The study concludes that development is the panacea to insecurity, violence, poverty and underdevelopment in third world countries. It was also seen that the underdevelopment and insecurity in Nigeria/Niger-Delta is self-inflicted due to bad government and ill-conceived policies. The total dependence on oil wealth to the reckless neglect of hitherto viable and sustaining sectors-agricultural, manufacturing and mining, tourism sectors resulted to the effects of Dutch disease and resources curse on the economy. The notions of Walter Rodney (1972) in his book on how colonial masters exploited and impoverished Africa through colonialism and subsequent imperialism do not hold water in the context of the Niger-Delta. The underdevelopment in the Niger-Deltas typified the postulations of dependency theory on underdevelopment. Its implications are myriads and ravaging, namely; malnutrition, hunger, poverty, unemployment, disease, squalor conditions, violence, insecurity, wars, environmental pollution and underdevelopment. The relative peace in the Niger-Deltas due to ceased-violent agreement must be sustained through concrete and monumental development projects commensurate with the billions of petrodollars that the region has generated to the common-wealth of Nigeria. Based on this foregoing, the paper recommends as follows;

One, the Nigeria government should entrench good governance and marshal reasonable development plan for the region. Two, the government should also design a robust, functional and sustainable employment generation schemes for the productive youths in the Niger-Delta region. Three, embarking on massive construction of bridges across seas, rivers and streams, massive construction of road network to connect all villages, towns and cities, massive electrification projects to empower small businesses and entertainment industry, and most importantly, building a well-furnished and equipped educational institutions from primary to tertiary levels and affordable health care system in the regions, among others. Four, economic diversification is key for sustainable development. Five, government should formulate and implement liberal economic policies because they germane to national development and the Norwegian's experience should be under studied for proper articulation and possible importation.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful to participants who responded to the questionnaire.

We also acknowledge Evangel Prints for her typesetting services.

Conflict of interests

We hereby declare that the study was not funded by any organization and there is no conflict of interest.

REFERENCES

- Agbaeze, E. k. and Ukoha, K. (2018). Oil a Blessing or a Curse: The Nigerian Experience *European Journal & Social Science* 56 (3), Pp. 262 – 270.
- Ali, E. and James, B. (2018). *Oil & Blessing or Curse: A Comparative Assessment of Nigeria, Norway and the United Arab Emirates*. Scientific Research Publishing, doi:10.4236/te/2018.85076.
- Amnesty International (2009). *Petroleum Pollution and Poverty in the Niger Delta* URL: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/AFR44/012/2009/en/3be47df-f-af1F-4c8eb7ab6-960d229644f7/af440212009en.pdf>.
- Batta, H, Ashong, C. A. and Bashir, A.S. (2013). Press Coverage of Climate Change Issues in Nigeria and Implication for Public Participation Opportunities. *J. Sustain. Dev.* 6(2), 56.
- Bodo, T. and David, L.K(2018). The Petroleum Exploitation and Pollution in Ogoniland, Rivers State, Nigeria. *The Community Perspective. European Scientific Journal.* 14(1);75-96.
- Brahmbhatt, M, Canuto, O., and Vostroknutova, E. (2010). *Poverty Reduction and Economic Management: Dealing with Dutch Disease Economic Premise*, the World bank working paper series, 16, 1-7.
- Central Bank of Nigeria (2010). *Annual Report and Statement of Accounts*.
- Edih, U.O and Yomere, G.O (2020). *Tackling Underdevelopment in the Niger-Delta through a Dynamic Approach*, Master Degree Dissertation in Delta State University, Abraka, Delta State, Nigeria.
- FAO (2010). *Global Forest Resources Assessment(GFRA) 2010, Food and Agricultural Organisation(FAO), United Nations, Rome.*
- Gould, J., and Kapadia, K.N. (2010). *Dutch Disease in Africa: A Case Study of Nigeria and Chad*, 1-11.
- Ismail, K. (2010) *The Structural Manifestation of the Dutch Disease: The Case of Oil Exporting Countries*, IMF Working Papers 10(103), 1. <http://doi.org/10.5089/9781455200627.001>.
- Jerome, A. and Ajakaiye, O. (2015). *Sub-national Governments and the Development Process in Nigeria*. Paper Prepared for 2015 Iju Public Affairs Forum, March, 2015.
- Larsen, E. (2006). *Escaping the Natural Resource Curse and the Dutch disease? American Journal of Economics and Sociology*, 65(3), 605 – 640.
- NHDR (2015). *Human Security and Human Development in Nigeria*.
- Obadan, M. I. (2001). *Poverty Reduction in Nigeria; The Way Forward*. CBN Economic and Financial Review 39(4); 159-188.
- Ochogwu, J. (2006). *Business and Conflict Management in the Nigeria's Oil-rich Niger Delta Region: From forcible to Non-for cible Conflict Management (Dissertation)*. University of Bradford, Bradford.
- Olakunle, O. F. Omolayo, A and Odewumi (2011). *Pattern and Problem of Deforestation in Southwestern Nigeria*. *International Journal of Academic Research* 3(3):641-654.
- Osadume, R. and Edih, U. O. (2020) *Oil price Volatility and Budgetary Performance in Nigeria (1980-2019)*. *Global Scientific journals*, 8(8), 2537-2552
- Sachs, J. D. and Warner, A. M. (2001). *The Curse of Natural Resource*. *European Economic review* 45 (2001):827 – 838.
- The 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as amended.
- Tombari, B (2019). *Deep Issues Behind the Crises in the Niger-Delta: The Case of Oil Exploration in Ogoniland, River State, Nigeria*. *Asian Journal of geographical Research* 2(i): 1-12.
- UNDP, NHDR (2018). *Computation of Human Development Indices for the UNDP Nigeria Human Development Report (reported October*

- 2018).
- UNDP (2008). Human Development Report 2007-8: Fighting Climate Change: Human solidarity in a Divided World. Oxford University Press, New York.
- World Bank (1996). Nigeria: Poverty in the Midst of Plenty, the Challenge of Growth with Inclusion: A World Bank Poverty Assessment. The World Bank: Washington, D.C.
- Yomere, G. O. and Aganifoh , B. A (1999), Research Methodology in the Social Science and Education. Centerpiece Consultant Nigeria Ltd Benin City.