



Rural-Urban Migration in Nigeria: “who migrates most”? A Case Study of Ogun Waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State, Nigeria

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Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration between the two authors. Author OTO wrote the study, wrote the prolix, the literature review, wrote the first draft of the manuscript and performed the statistical analysis. Author ZOO designed the study, managed the analysis of the study and literature searches. Both Authors read and approved the final Manuscript.

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ABSTRACT

This paper examined who migrates most from rural to urban areas in Nigeria, using Ijebu waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State, Nigeria, as a case study from the period of 1999-2008. The paper examined the sex of migrants from the study area, investigated the ages of the migrants at migration, ages of migrants in groups at migration, and identified the year the migrants migrated from the study area. The study endeavoured to find solutions to research questions by using survey design and purposive sampling technique to gather data from 144 respondents with the help of personal interview and 10-item structured questionnaire. The respondents included families of migrants from the study area. Data for this research were examined using descriptive statistics such as, frequencies and mean. Data collected were modified, coded and examined using Statistical Packages for Social Science (SPSS). The results disclosed that majority of migrants were female, they were youths between the ages of 16-29 years, and the number of migrants each year, from the year 1999 to 2008 were similar. The paper recommended the provision of tertiary

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institutions and high income earning jobs through the establishment of industries—small, medium and large scale industries within the entire Local Government Area, and carry out a planned, intentional, and holistic transformation of the rural areas, socio-culturally, technologically, economically, and politically, through its policy and programmes in order to make the rural areas cherished and habitable for the youths who go to the urban areas in search of comfort.

Keywords: Rural-urban; migration; habitable; migrants; youths; government; city.

1. INTRODUCTION

In Nigeria, men dominated in both rural and global migration. Some of the men were later united with their wives, some leave their wives behind to raise their children while they went for studies or get a better paid job and return to reunite with their families after studies or years of employment in the cities. Recently, in developing countries like Nigeria, young men and women migrate in mass from rural to urban areas and even overseas in search of greener pasture - higher paid jobs, tertiary institutions, better their standards of living, tertiary education, better health and medical facilities. The cause of this is not farfetched from the extensive gap in socio-economic growth and development of the urban areas against the rural areas in Nigeria. [1] defined rural-urban migration as “the movement of people from the rural areas into cities”. Rural-urban migration is “the phenomenon of an unprecedented movement of people from the rural countryside to the burgeoning cities of Africa, Asia and Latin America” [2]. Rural-urban migration is global, people in developed countries also move from rural areas to the urban areas for different reasons. Who migrates most?

This research was carried out to investigate “who migrated most” from Ijebu Waterside Local Government Area, in Ogun State, Nigeria, from the year 1999-2009. Ogun Waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State Nigeria is situated in the South Eastern part of Ogun State. Created on the 15th of May, 1989, Ogun Waterside Local Government Area is bounded in the North by Ijebu East Local Government, South by the Atlantic Ocean, East by Ondo State, and West by Lagos State. It’s headquarter is Abigi, but it has three area offices located at Ode-Omi, Itebumanuwa and Iwopin [3,4]. The major economic activities carried out by its people include: farming, hunting, fishing, and sand quarrying. Agro allied industries used to flourish in the Local Government Area, but majority of them were abandoned owing to mismanagement and high cost of operation, which include, lack of electricity supply. These industries include:

Iwopin Rubber Processing Plant at Ilusin, Iwopin, Palm Oil Processing Mill at Lomiro, Pulp and Paper Company Limited, Palm Oil Processing Plant at Ibiade, Rice Mill at Ode-Omi and a small paper processing Company at Ita-Otu. Primary and secondary schools (public and private) are available in the local Government Area but no higher institutions. “Prior to the year 1999-2003 democratic dispensation, the Local Government Area was without doubt, the only Local Government Area in the Federation where no town or village enjoyed electricity” [5]. Even with the installation of the electricity poles and wires in the area, electricity supply has been extremely irregular, and provided mainly during festive period like New Year, Easter, Christmas, Ileya festival amongst others. Pipe-borne water is only available in few communities like Iwopin, Ibiade, Abigi, Efire, Oni and the water barely flows. A small number of the people depend on borehole as their source of water supply, while bulk of them depend on stream and river. Their main transportation system is by water and land.

2. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Despite the numerous programmes and projects that have been carried out by past governments in Nigeria to develop the rural areas in anticipation of bridging the developmental gap between the urban and rural areas and make the rural areas more desirable for the youths to live in, earn their livelihood and consequently curb rural-urban migration especially amongst the youths, and its associated problems, the rural areas in Nigeria are still vastly underdeveloped socially, economically, physically etc. They still lack basic infrastructural amenities such as proper sewage system, clean drinking water (pipe-borne water), electricity, good roads including farm roads, good hospitals and other basic amenities. The standard of living of the rural dwellers is very low (subsistence) and they lack high paid jobs and tertiary institutions. Nigeria urban areas have continued to attract youths from the rural areas in pursuit of these amenities. Who migrates most from the rural to the urban areas in Nigeria? The researcher

intends to find answers to this question, using Ijebu Waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State, Nigeria, as a case study. Several researches have been carried out on “Who migrates Most”? While some of the past studies affirmed that rural-urban migrants are women between the ages of 15 and 24 years, wives of low income wage earners, young adults between the ages of 15 – 35 years, others submitted that men migrate more than women.

The discoveries revealed that majority of migrants from Ogun Waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State, Nigeria, are youths between the ages of 16-29 years. Majority of them migrated to the urban areas after their secondary schools to continue their education, while others migrated in search of jobs and other reasons. More females migrated each year, than male. The broad objective of this study is to examine who migrates most from rural to urban areas in Nigeria, using Ogun Waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State as a case study, and the specific objectives are to: identify the sex of migrants from Ogun Waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State from 1999–2008, investigate the ages of migrants at migration from the study Area, identify the year the migrants migrated, and examine the age of migrants in groups from the study Area.

2.1 Previous Research

2.1.1 Existing studies on the history of rural-urban migration in Nigeria

According to [6],

the first stage of migration - urbanization process in Nigeria corresponds, in an approximate way, to the period dating from 1914 when the new state was created by the amalgamation of the northern and southern protectorates to 1952. Internal migration in the country during this period received its impetus from several socio-economic changes brought about by the colonial regime. Migrants were few, and their destinations were the administrative headquarters, port cities, rail towns and nodal centers. The three largest towns in Nigeria by 1952 were Ibadan, Lagos and Kano respectively.

The establishment of the nodal points complemented by huge infrastructural development, and administrative control center served as the beginning of rural to urban

migration which started the urban pull on rural dwellers.[7], affirmed that in 1950 urbanization had hardly occurred because the population of virtually all the developing countries lived in rural areas. Since 1950, urbanization has had a great effect on developing countries globally, at different rates of change. In agreement with [7], [8] Stated “the pace of urbanization in less developed counties before 1950 was very slow. However after this period the rate increased substantially. The urban population compared to the rural population increased by 100% in the period of 1950-1985”. In consensus with [8][9], confirmed that,

only 29 percent of people lived in urban communities in 1950. In 1960, only two urban centers: Lagos and Ibadan had more than 500,000 residents. By 1980, nine cities had more than half million persons in Nigeria. Between 1960 and 1970, the urban population grew by 4.7% per year, and between 1970 and 1982, the population of the cities grew by 4.9% per year.

[10], revealed that between 1960s and the 1970s, rural to urban migration amounted to about 55% of urban growth.[11]reported the share of urban population in 1970 to be 20 percent, in 1973, it increased to 38 percent and it is envisaged to hit 60 percent by the year 2010. A lot of the upsurge was from migration. [6] opined that,

Primarily for security reasons, group movements as opposed to individual migration accounted for the vast bulk of pre-colonial migration. The imposition of a rather coercive colonial administration is seen as a major stimulant to individual migration for economic reasons which laid the foundation for rural-rural and rural-urban migration patterns still prevalent in Nigeria.

[12], agreed that migration was comparatively low during the pre-colonial era and merely few traditional cities were present. However, the British employment led to wage labour and migration of workforce. The establishment of the nodal points supplemented by huge infrastructural development, and administrative roles aided rural to urban migration by starting the urban pull on rural inhabitants. Earlier in Nigeria, men dominated in both rural to urban and global migration drifts, while women reunited with their husbands later. Lately, opposite has been the case. A larger number of rural-urban migrants

are women, especially younger women [13]. [2], submitted that "rural-urban migrants in developing countries tend to be young men and women between the ages of 15 and 24". Numerous researches in Asia and Africa have revealed this occurrence. [10] discovered that bulk of migrants are entrepreneurs or family workers, who make a living by vending and engaging in small businesses.

[13], stated that "most migrants are young adults between the ages of 15 - 35 years of age". "Younger people also migrate to live with relatives and attend schools or to become apprentices" [12]. [14,15], agreed that migration of women peak at ages 15 to 24. The consensus of [6,16] is that rural-urban migration is more frequent amongst the younger and well educated persons. They specified that there is proof that, comparatively, men migrate more than women. In consonance with this findings,[6]claimed that "from Nigerian studies rural-urban migrants tend to be mostly young, educated, single males while rural-rural migrants are usually, uneducated (with no formal schooling), married males with dependants". However, current happenings show that more women (especially the unmarried) are joining the migration trend.

3. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This study was built upon Todaro's Model of Migration. This theory is proper for this study since it gives a theoretical underpinning for good knowledge of rural-urban migration. It offers comprehensions on why migration occurs especially amongst the youths. [2], gave a lucid explanation of this model. He submitted that migration is an economic resolution where individuals or households resolve to move from rural to urban areas, if they foresee bigger revenues in the urban areas. The model presumes that migration occurs in reaction to urban-rural disparity in projected rather than real income. The idea is that migrants ponder over the various labour market prospects available to them between the rural and urban areas, and pick the one that takes full advantage of their expected gains from migration.

4. METHODOLOGY

Considering the broad objective of this study which is to examine who migrates most, from rural to urban areas in Nigeria, using Ogun Waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State as a case study, the researcher employed survey design (household survey) to obtain

information from 180 heads of migrants' families in the area of study. Purposive sampling was employed to select the households used for the study and information was obtained from them by the use of personal interview and structured 10-item questionnaire. The questionnaire contained two sections, A and B. Section A comprised personal bio-data about the respondents while section B contain edquestions collected from respondents to examine who migrates most from Ogun Waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State, Nigeria. The questionnaires were administered face-to-face. 88% response rate was achieved, meaning 159 questionnaires were returned. Nonetheless, out of the 159 questionnaires returned, 15 were invalid meaning 144 (80%) questionnaires were used for analysis. Descriptive statistics was used to evaluate data for this study. SPSS was employed to analyze data after they were edited and coded.

5. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

5.1 The Following were the Research Questions Posed to Guide the Study

1. What were the ages of migrants at migration from Ogun Waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State?
2. What were the ages of migrants in groups at migration from Ogun Waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State?
3. What year did the migrants migrate from Ogun Waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State?
4. What were the sex of migrants from Ogun Waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State from 1999–2008?

6. DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

Data gathered from the field were analyzed in order to answer the 4 research questions raised for this study. 10-item structured questionnaires were administered to respondents. The questionnaires contained open and closed ended questions. Out of 180 questionnaires administered 159 copies were returned, out of which 15 copies were invalid, meaning 144 copies (80%) were used for analysis. Due to validity purposes, the respondents' bio-data was first analyzed. It was discovered from the response to question one, on the location of respondents, that the respondents were widely spread over the study area. Nevertheless, the number of respondents in three localities (Iwopin,

Ibiade and Abigi) out of the 22 localities, were greater than others (9.0%, 8.3% and 7.6% respectively). The reason given for this is that, the administrative and commercial centers are mostly located there. Male respondents were 83(57.6%) and 61(42.4%) were female. The ages of bulk of the respondents, 72(50%) were between 50-59 years, 24(16.7%) between 40-49 years, 9(6.3%) between 30-39 years, and 39(27.1%) were 60 years and beyond. Number of married respondents were 102(70.8%), while 42(29.2%) were widowed. 5(3.5%) of the respondents did not partake in any formal school, 61(42.4%) attended primary school, 39(27.1%) and 39(27.1%) attended secondary school and tertiary institution respectively. 6 households gave birth to 4 children each, 31 households 5 children each, 69 households 6 children each, 33 households 7 children each, and 5 households 8 children each. This sums up to 864 children in 144 households. Hence, every family in the sampled region can be assumed to have an average of $(864/144)$ 6 children. In effect, majority, 69 households, comprising of 47.9% of

respondents had 6 children each. 2 of the households had 1 migrant each, 10 had 2 migrants each, 29 had 3 migrants each, 75 had 4 migrants each, 25 had 5 migrants each, and 6 had 6 migrants each. Meaning, 552 children out of 864 $(552/864*100)$ 64%, migrated from 144 respondents households in the study area, within ten years. This is disturbing. Averagely $(552/144)$ 3.8, approximately 4 children migrated from every family under study. Majority of the households, 75(52.1%) had 4 migrants each.

7. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The results of the study were presented in line with the objectives of the study.

Table 1 reveals that the mean age of migrants at migration was 21.9 years, the median age was 21 years, while the mode was 18 years. 119 out of the 551 migrants were 18 years of age and this constituted 21.6% of the total migrants.

Table 1. Answer to research question 1, analyzed with a sub question under question 9 on the questionnaire. Ages of migrants at migration

Years	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
Valid				
10	1	.2	.2	.2
11	1	.2	.2	.4
12	20	3.6	3.6	4.0
13	16	2.9	2.9	6.9
14	5	.9	.9	7.8
15	10	1.8	1.8	9.6
16	7	1.3	1.3	10.9
17	7	1.3	1.3	12.2
18	119	21.6	21.6	33.8
19	23	4.2	4.2	37.9
20	57	10.3	10.3	48.3
21	39	7.1	7.1	55.4
22	27	4.9	4.9	60.3
23	31	5.6	5.6	65.9
24	16	2.9	2.9	68.8
25	11	2.0	2.0	70.8
26	80	14.5	14.5	85.3
27	18	3.3	3.3	88.6
28	10	1.8	1.8	90.4
30	1	.2	.2	90.6
34	39	7.1	7.1	97.6
35	3	.5	.5	98.2
36	8	1.5	1.5	99.6
37	1	.2	.2	99.8
38	1	.2	.2	100.0
Total	551	100.0	100.0	

Age at migration statistics

N valid missing	5510
Mean	21.95
Median	21.00
Mode	18

Table 2 revealed that majority of the migrants from the sampled area were youths between the ages of 16-29 years. In fact, 445 out of the 551 migrants were within the age groups 16-19, 20-24 and 25-29, totaling 80.8% (that is 28.3%+30.9%+21.6%) of the migrants. This outcome is not far from [2]'s conclusion that migrants in developing countries seem to be young men and women between the ages of 15-24 years, and [13] who resolved that bulk of migrants are young adults between 15-35 years. Personal interview with some of the respondents revealed that the reason for the above result is that majority of the youths migrate after their secondary school to continue their education, or in search of jobs in the cities or towns because there is neither a tertiary institution nor a high income earning job within the entire Local Government Area. This result is in accord with the result attained from analysing a Sub

Question under Question 9 on the Questionnaire "Reasons for Migrating". The result revealed that 266(48.3%) of the youths migrated in search of education, 120(21.8%) in pursuit of employment, 77(14.0%) due to lack of basic amenities, 59(10.7%) relocated to join their relatives, and 27(4.9%) to get married. This findings shows that the socio-economic amenities within the study area is insufficient for the populace, consequently the youths particularly those between the ages of 18 – 29 years migrate in mass to the urban areas in search of these facilities particularly educational facilities and employment.

Table 3 reveals that 55, 53, 55, 60, 51, 53, 57, 56, 54 and 57 migrants migrated from the sampled area from year 1999 - 2008 respectively. Meaning averagely 55 migrants migrated yearly.

Table 4 shows the number of migrants in each age group, that migrated each year, from the year 1999 to 2008. The table depicts that migrants within age groups 16-19, 20-24 and 25-29, migrated more than those within other age groups each year, for the ten years.

Table 2. Answer to research question 2, analyzed with a sub question under question 9 on the questionnaire. Age at migration in groups

Valid	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
10-12	22	4.0	4.0	4.0
13-15	31	5.6	5.6	9.6
16-19	156	28.3	28.3	37.9
20-24	170	30.9	30.9	68.8
25-29	119	21.6	21.6	90.4
30+	53	9.6	9.6	100.0
Total	551	100.0	100.0	

Table 3. Answer to research question 3, analyzed with a sub question under question 9 on the questionnaire. Year of migration

Valid	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
1999	55	10.0	10.0	10.0
2000	53	9.6	9.6	19.6
2001	55	10.0	10.0	29.6
2002	60	10.9	10.9	40.5
2003	51	9.3	9.3	49.7
2004	53	9.6	9.6	59.3
2005	57	10.3	10.3	69.7
2006	56	10.2	10.2	79.9
2007	54	9.8	9.8	89.7
2008	57	10.3	10.3	100.0
Total	551	100.0	100.0	

Table 4. Year of migration *age at migration in groups cross tabulation

Year of migration	Age at migration in groups						Total
	10-12	13-15	16-19	20-24	25-29	30+	
1999	5 9.1%	11.8%	26 47.3%	6 10.9%	1221.8%	5 9.1%	55 100.0%
2000	3 5.7%	3 5.7%	14 26.4%	1732.1%	12 22.6%	4 7.5%	53100.0%
2001	2 3.6%	3 5.5%	15 27.3%	1629.1%	1425.5%	59.1%	55 100.0%
2002	4 6.7%	3 5.0%	17 28.3%	1830.0%	1423.3%	46.7%	60 100.0%
2003	2 3.9%	3 5.9%	14 27.5%	1631.4%	10 19.6%	6 11.8%	51100.0%
2004	0 .0%	6 11.3%	18 34.0%	1426.4%	1018.9%	5 9.4%	53100.0%
2005	1 1.8%	3 5.3%	18 31.6%	1729.8%	13 22.8%	5 8.8%	57100.0%
2006	1 1.8%	6 10.7%	15 26.8%	1832.1%	9 16.1%	712.5%	56100.0%
2007	2 3.7%	2 3.7%	11 20.4%	2342.6%	12 22.2%	4 7.4%	54100.0%
2008	2 3.5%	1 11.8%	814.0%	2543.9%	13 22.8%	814.0%	57100.0%
Total	22 4.0%	315.6%	156 28.3%	170 30.9%	119 21.6%	53 9.6%	551100.0%

Table 5 revealed that 223(40.5%) number of male and 328(59.5%) number of female, migrated from the sampled area within 10 years, meaning that, the proportion of migrants male to female is about two-third (2/3rd). That is 40.5%/59.5%. Mean number of migrants per year for the 10 years is 55.1 (551/10) migrants.

Table 6 shows that more female migrated each year for the ten years than male. The total number of female migrants for the ten years as stated on the table is 328, that is 59.5% of the total number of migrants, while that of male is 223, 40.5%.

8. DISCUSSION

The main objective of this study was to examine “who migrates most” from rural to urban areas in Nigeria, using Ijebu waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State, Nigeria, as a case study from the period of 1999-2008. In carrying out this study, Questionnaires were prepared and administered to 180 heads of migrants’ families in the area of study. 88% response rate was achieved, meaning 159 questionnaires were returned. Nonetheless, out of the 159 questionnaires returned, 15 were invalid meaning 144(80%) questionnaires were used for analysis. The study revealed that bulk of the migrants from the sampled area were youths between the ages of 16-29 years, mean age of the migrants at migration was 21.9 years, the median age was 21 years while the mode was 18 years.

Averagely 55 migrants migrated yearly. 445 out of the 551 migrants were within the age groups 16-19, 20-24 and 25-29, totaling 80.8% (that is 28.3%+30.9%+21.6%) of the migrants. This revelation is comparable to [2]’s conclusion that migrants in developing countries seem to be young men and women between the ages of 15-24 years, and [13] who resolved that bulk of migrants are young adults between ages 15-35 years of age. However, more female migrated each year for the ten years than male. The total number of female migrants for the ten years is 328, that is 59.5% of the total number of migrants, while that of male is 223, 40.5%, which means that the ratio of migrants male to female is about two-third (2/3rd). This result is in agreement with [13] who stated that larger number of rural-urban migrants are women, especially younger women, and in variance with [6]’s study who discovered that “from Nigerian studies rural-urban migrants tend to be mostly young, educated, single males”. [6,16] reiterated that there is proof that, comparatively, men migrate more than women. While [2], submitted that rural-urban migrants in developing countries are likely to be young men and women. Personal interview with some of the respondents revealed that the reason for the above result is that majority of the youths migrate after their secondary school to continue their education, or in search of jobs in the cities or towns because there is neither a tertiary institution nor a high income earning job within the entire Local Government Area.

Table 5. Answer to research question 4, analyzed with a sub question under question 9 on the questionnaire. Sex of migrants

Valid	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
Male	223	40.5	40.5	40.5
Female	328	59.5	59.5	100.0
Total	551	100.0	100.0	

Table 6. Year of migration * sex of child cross tabulation

Year of migration	Sex of child		Total
	Male	Female	
1999	2240.0%	3360.0%	55 100.0%
2000	2139.6%	3260.4%	53 100.0%
2001	2341.8%	3258.2%	55 100.0%
2002	2440.0%	3660.0%	60 100.0%
2003	2039.2%	3160.8%	51 100.0%
2004	2241.5%	3158.5%	53 100.0%
2005	2442.1%	3357.9%	57 100.0%
2006	2341.1%	3358.9%	56 100.0%
2007	1935.2%	3564.8%	54 100.0%
2008	2543.9%	3256.1%	57 100.0%
Total	22340.5%	32859.5%	551100.0%

It can be inferred from the discussion above that majority of the energetic youths (ages between 16-29 years) within the study area migrated in search of tertiary institutions and high income earning jobs, because they are unavailability within the Local Government Area. This reveals the low level of socio-economic development within the rural areas in Nigeria. The youths have a choice to either remain in the rural areas, receive very little education, build and live in uncomfortable houses since they cannot afford to build comfortable homes, get into early marriages, take up professions as petty farmers, hunters, fishermen, traders, amongst other, and suffer from huge inferiority complex among their mates whose standard of living is usually better than theirs, each time they come home during celebrations or migrate to the urban areas where they can have access to the socio-economic facilities they need to better their lives. This explains the reason for the rural youths' consistent migration in mass to the urban areas in Nigeria. This means, unless the necessary socio-economic amenities are provided in the rural areas and the inequality in development between the rural and urban areas is rectified, rural-urban migration will continue to thrive amongst youths in Ijebu Waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State and the entire Nigeria. The reason for this is that the youths will continue to go in search of socio-economic amenities in the urban areas, where they are available.

9. CONCLUSION

It can be concluded from the discussion above that youths between the ages of 16-29 years within Ijebu waterside Local Government Area of Ogun State, Nigeria migrated majorly in search of tertiary institutions and high income earning jobs, because these amenities are unavailability within the Local Government. This shows that there is the need for every incumbent government in Nigeria to comprehend the plight of these youths, understand the reason for youth's migration in mass from the rural to the urban areas in Nigeria, in other to initiate developmental programmes that would address the youths' plight and forestall their migration to the urban areas.

It is therefore recommended that policy makers in Nigeria should carry out a passionate effort to develop the rural areas, socially, economically, technologically, physically, provide adequate socio-economic and infrastructural facilities such

as: educational, (especially tertiary education) facilities, higher income earning jobs, electricity, health services, motor able roads (including the farm roads), pipe borne water, that would make them live comfortably in the rural areas and discourage them from migrating to the urban areas. Also, the government should make an intensive effort towards developing the financial institutions, and encourage the development of the small and medium scale enterprise in the rural areas, by making available to these enterprises, short and long-term loans without putting them through the rigors of asking them to provide huge collateral before they are given the loans. This would encourage the youths to get involved in advanced agricultural and other professional activities, increase their productivity and encourage them to get involved in the transformation process of their areas. Dogged efforts towards the development of the urban areas without involving the rural areas would worsen the existing challenging condition being caused by rural-urban migration, because more youths will migrate to the urban areas which is more attractive in comparison to the rural areas. It should also be noted that, for the rural transformation process to succeed, it is pertinent for the government and its officials to put a stop to the misappropriation of funds meant to execute rural developmental projects in Nigeria.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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