

**PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE CSDP WATER
PROJECT FACILITATED BY THE KWARA STATE
COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
(KWCSDA):
A STUDY OF BADA AJEGUNLE COMMUNITY IN IFELODUN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF KWARA STATE, NIGERIA.**



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By

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DEDICATION

This research work is dedicated to Almighty God; my awesome husband Bayo and lovely daughter Oluwawamiri who have been very supportive and have been patient with me for the past one year. Thank God for you two.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CDD	Community Driven Development
CDP	Community Development Plan
CPMC	Community Project Management Committee
CPRP	Community based Poverty Reduction Project
CSDP	Community and Social Development Project
FGD	Focal Group Discussion
FMWR	Federal Ministry of Water Resources
FPSC	Federal Project Steering Committee
FPSU	Federal Project Support Unit
GWA	Gender and Water Alliance
HD	Human Development
KWCSDP	Kwara State Community and Social Development Project
KWSEED	Kwara State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategies
LEEMP	Local Empowerment and Environment Management Project
LGA	Local Government Area
LGDO	Local Government Desk Office
LGRC	Local Government Review Committee
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PGN	Practical Gender Needs
PO	Project Officer
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
SA	State Agency
SGN	Strategic Gender Needs
WELL	Water and Environmental health at London and Loughborough
WHO	World health Organisation
UN	United Nation
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund

SUMMARY

Women are the managers of water but they are often isolated from decisions of water supply which is meant to benefit them. As a result of this the water projects are not owned by the women and the capacity of the water project to meet their domestic water needs is not achieved, thus leading to ineffectiveness of the project. This study investigates the level of participation of women in the Community and Social Development Water Project facilitated by the Kwara State Community and Social Development Agency (KWCSDA), and the extent to which their participation has influenced the water project to meeting their domestic water needs. It is aimed at providing information on factors to consider in involving women in water projects in order to ensure that water projects implemented by development organizations benefits the women by meeting their domestic (household) water needs. The study took place at Bada Ajegunle community in Ifelodun Local Government Area of Kwara state.

The primary data were collected using semi structured interviews, focus group discussion and the gender analytical matrix. 2 focus group discussions and individual interviews were carried out at the community and the CSDP state agency, the first FGD was carried out with the 20 women, this was followed by individual interview of the 20 community women, 1 CSDP official and 1 man (who was also the CPMC chairman) the second FGD was conducted again with the 20 women and the 4 men alongside the use of the gender analytical matrix to triangulate the information collected.

The findings of the study revealed that the women were aware of the project prior and during implementation. Women in the community contributed in cash, labour and material towards the implementation of the project, though the contribution in cash was far less than the men's cash contribution, they contributed actively in manual labour during the construction (implementation). In meeting their domestic water needs, the water project has made house chores easy for the women and even children; it has also made the women's economic activities less stressful. Their homes, clothes and bodies are cleaner; the water points are safe, easily accessible and can cater for the population; injuries and accidents from fetching water from far distances has reduced, there are no issues of water borne diseases; the quality of the water is very satisfactory, the quantity of water is also satisfactory but due to the irregular power supply there are days they go without been able to fetch water. There are also no more disputes over water between the women and the Fulani cattle herds' men and women of other communities.

However, the women's attendance in meetings regarding decision making on the planning and implementation of the project was very low. Based on the hierarchy of participation by Prokopy (2005) the level of participation of the women in the water project is towards the lower end of the scale. The low level of participation of the women was largely due to the culture and religion which does not give room for active participation of the women. Though the research revealed that the women's level of participation was low in the meetings regarding the decision making process of the water project, this did not significantly affect the benefit they derived from the water. This was because the women were able to tell their men at home what they wanted from the water project.

It can be concluded that the CSDP has greatly contributed to improving the living standard of the community by increasing their access to water but it has not been able to establish effective strategies that will improve women's participation in projects, which is necessary for gender equality in rural communities.

Key recommendations of the study are that development organisations need to take practical measures to ensure women's participation in planning and implementation. There is a need to involve and train women more in technical and managerial aspects of project operation and also to involve women in technical aspects of operation and maintenance as the men. Gender specific indicators that will help to monitor and measure the quality of women participation should also be put in place.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Overview of Community and Social Development Project (CSDP)

Poverty in Nigeria is on the increase, most especially in the rural areas, these areas are largely characterised by low income and gross infrastructural deprivation. Social and economic indicators are poor at the national level and it is much poorer at the rural areas where majority of citizens reside.

Successive governments (Federal, State and Local) have embarked on different forms of poverty alleviation projects however, the projects have not yielded the maximum desired results, largely because they were not properly focused and directed. Many of the supposed beneficiaries did not benefit reasonably, neither did they have the feelings of ownership of the projects. Most projects also had low survival rate and lacked accountability. Even though poor communities have potentials to contribute to, identify, implement and sustain projects; they lack the requisite skills and funds.

The search for service delivery mechanisms that are demand-driven, covering multiple sectors and depending on specific community-determined needs, therefore, became increasingly necessary. The Federal Government of Nigeria and the World Bank unanimously agreed to use the Community Driven Development approach. Community-driven development (CDD) involves a degree of devolution of responsibility to communities for managing their development, including the design and implementation of projects. This requires that the communities themselves have the capacity to assume responsibility. It also requires a culture of public administration that views communities as development partners in their own right, rather than as simply recipients of benefits through public expenditure. The extent to which communities can shape their own development priorities within a project context defines the extent to which the project is applying a community-driven development approach. The approach adopts a decentralized, community approach to service delivery, which has been advocated by development organizations and NGOs in the past decade in response to systemic failures of supply-oriented water projects in the 1970s and 1980s. It gives control of decision and resources to community groups i.e. men, women, elderly, youth and vulnerable groups in order to enhance collective action and sustainability and makes development more inclusive of the interest of women and the poor.

The Community and Social Development Project (CSDP) is therefore a new intervention that flagged off in 2010, which built on the preceding World Bank's projects structures i.e. Local Empowerment and Environment Management Project (LEEMP) and Community based Poverty Reduction Project (CPRP). It was to effectively target social and environmental infrastructure at the community level, as well as improve Local Government Area (LGA) responsibility to service delivery. One of the key highlights of the CSDP is that clear-cut supportive roles and responsibilities are provided for the key actors in the project cycle. They include: the Federal level -the Federal Project Steering Committee (FPSC) and the Federal Project Support Unit (FPSU); the State level, State Agency Board, the State Agency (SA); and the Local Government level -the Local Government Review Committee (LGRC) and the LGA Desk Office (LGDO). At the community level are the Community Project Management Committee (CPMC) and several Sub-Committees.

The CSDP primarily finance Community Development Plans (CDPs) which are plans that focus on and reflects priority projects initiated by communities, and for which they are expected to make at least 10% resource contributions, (contributions which may be in cash, kind, material or any combination thereof).

The overall goal of the CSDP is to improve access to services for Human Development (HD) and specifically CSDP hopes to:

- empower communities to plan, part-finance, implement, monitor and maintain sustainable and socially inclusive multi-sectoral micro-projects;
- facilitate and increase Community-LGA partnership on HD-related projects;
- increase the capacity of LGAs, State and Federal Agencies to implement and monitor CDD policies and interventions; and
- leverage federal, state and local government resources for greater coverage of CDD interventions in communities.

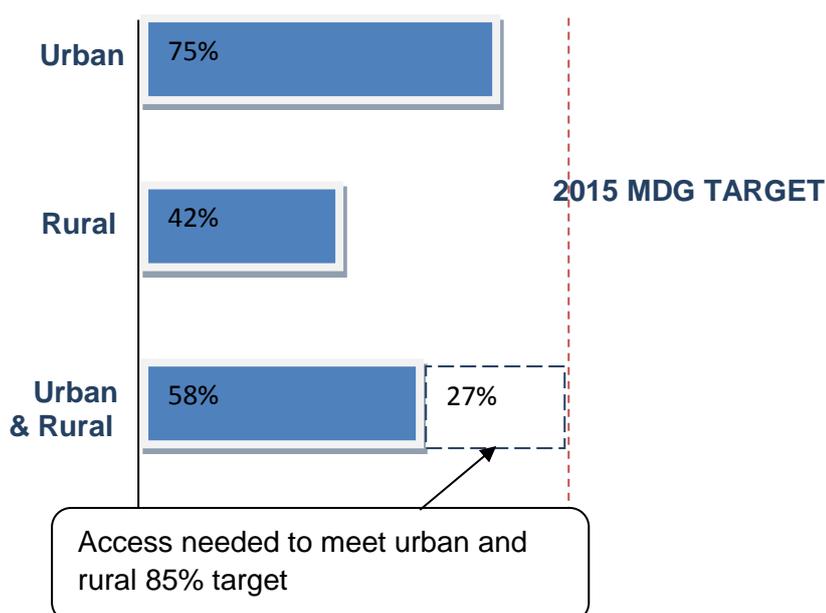
*the information given above on the overview of CSDP is obtained from Project Implementation Manual, (CSDP 2011).

1.2 Overview of Water Supply in Nigeria

Water is essential for the sustenance of life and its importance to human development cannot be over emphasised. Water for drinking, cooking and washing in sufficient quantity and quality are basic human needs and not having it is an infringement on human right. In order to tackle this issue the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 7 on environmental sustainability aims to reduce by half the number of people with no access to drinking water and basic sanitation by 2015. WHO/UNICEF (2012), the UN secretary, reports that since 1990 more than 2 million people have gained access to improved drinking water, but much remains to be done as about 780 million people are still without access to safe drinking water source, majority of which are in the sub-Saharan Africa regions.

FMWR (Federal Ministry of Water Resources) (2003) reported that most rural villages in Nigeria do not have access to regular drinking water supply and may face severe shortage especially, during the dry season. To improve water supply in Nigeria several government and non-government water projects have been initiated and an estimate of about 58% of Nigeria's population has access to improved drinking water supply which is still a far cry from meeting the 2015 MDG (WHO/UNICEF 2010), (See fig 1). This limited access to clean and safe water associated with poor hygiene and sanitation at household level has further widened the poverty gap, gender inequalities and the prevalence of water borne diseases (Gender and Water Alliance (GWA), 2006).

Figure 1: Meeting MDG7: Access to improved water supply in Nigeria



Source: WHO/UNICEF 2010, JMP drinking water update.

Like most social sectors, the water and sanitation sector is gendered. Men and women play different roles in meeting community and family water and sanitation needs. Across most cultural settings in Nigeria, drinking water is seen as an exclusive women domain. It is the responsibility of the woman to ensure that water is available and to keep their environment clean. Women are the ones to do the household work. They are supposed to go and fetch water no matter the distance. They use the water for cooking, cleaning and other household chores. Men on the other hand play complementary role, they clear and dig wells of clear rivers and streams if these are the community water sources (Hussaini, 2005).

Though water crisis is observed as a general problem for the rural population, women bare the greatest burden because of the gendered water roles. Thus, to ensure the implementation of a sustainable and effective water project, more research needs to be conducted to bridge the existing gap between women's roles, needs, knowledge and participation in the implementation of water project

1.3 Background on CSDP Water Projects

Water and sanitation services are domains considered to be provided by the Nigerian government however the government has not been successful in meeting the population's demand for water. Water supply services, where they exist, are unreliable and of low quality and are not sustainable because of difficulties in management, operation and pricing and failure to recover costs. Many water supply systems show extensive deterioration and poor utilization of existing capacities, due to under-maintenance and lack of funds for operation.

The Community and Social Development Project (CSDP) is a project that is working towards achieving the MDG by supporting and facilitating the provision of infrastructural project one of which is the provision of safe drinking water among others. The project is being implemented in 26 of the 36 States in the country in which Kwara state the state where this research is conducted is a part. CSDP in the state is coordinated by the Kwara State Community and Social Development Agency (KWCSDA)

For every participating community the project consists of 5 primary stages; the first stage is the needs assessment stage where Participatory Rural Appraisal is conducted in the community among the different groups (men, women, elderly, youth and children) This is done to identify and prioritize the needs of the community with emphasis on the needs of the women and the vulnerable groups, after which the Community Project Management Committee (CPMC) election is carried out.. The second stage is the training of the CPMC, at this stage the Community Project Management Committee (CPMC) that have been elected, which comprise of 7 members of the community with at least 2 women, undergo a form of training to equip the committee members with the requisite knowledge and skill to manage the project.

The third stage is the planning of the project, this is controlled by the committee alongside the state agency officials of the project; all decisions to be made are carried out at this stage. There are two types of meetings about the project which can occur – committee meetings and community meetings. Most decisions regarding the finances and management of the water project are made at committee meetings; however, there are also community-wide meetings which take place at different stages of the project. The committee consults with the community on steps to take and decisions reached are relayed to the project officials. The fourth stage is the implementation stage which involves the construction and other technical activities required for the project. The last stage is the monitoring and evaluation stage, to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of the project. At the completion of the project a ceremonial opening of the project is carried out after which the project is ready for use by the community.

In the last couple of years there has been an increasing level of participation of women in decisions concerning implementation of water project but it is still discovered that some of these project do not adequately benefit the women. Some of the water projects i.e. boreholes

are not women and children friendly, the pumps are so difficult to use that older boys or men are required to help in the pumping of the boreholes. Some communities have the water project situated within the community but are sometimes not accessible to the women because it is in the premises of the King's Palace which is not readily accessible to women or underutilized because some other cultural factors were not taken into consideration due to the non-involvement of women in decision making. As a result, time spent on fetching water does not improve; there is inability to meet household water demand, the sanitation and household hygiene is not improving leading to deteriorating health status. This will consequently lead to women spending more time on caring for the sick thus reducing the labour and time for more productive and other social activities and a widening gap of inequality between men and women.

The use of water is in two folds, domestic or economic benefit and analysing the effect of water project on women's roles involve three dimensions, which are the reproductive roles, the productive roles and the community roles. But for the purpose of this research, emphasis will be laid on the reproductive role in other words, those tasks that involves, providing, managing and safeguarding water for use of the family (domestic use). Though there have been some criticisms on focusing on reproductive needs (domestic) alone, this research is focused on this aspect because household chores is exclusively considered as women's duties in most parts of rural Nigeria and more than 70% of household chores require the use of water (UNEP, 2004). It is assumed that women's participation in decision making of the planning and implementation of water project will ensure that it satisfies their domestic need of water and consequently other economic needs.

1.4 Structure of the Study

The study is limited to Bada Ajegunle community in Ifelodun Local Government Area of Kwara state, Nigeria. The focus of the study was on the level of participation of women in the water project facilitated by CSDP and the extent to which their participation influenced the benefit derived from the project. The report of the study is structured into six chapters.

The first chapter is the introductory part of the thesis. It provides a background on the state of drinking water supply in the country, an overview of CSDP, research problem, objectives and questions.

The second chapter is the literature review on the concept of participation, measuring women's participation, women's roles, gender needs of water, household water needs and supply, sanitation and hygiene, household health and social dynamics and effective water supply

The third chapter presents the methodology used in carrying out the research; it explains the research analysis and strategy used for data collection. It also presents a brief overview of the community.

The fourth chapter explains the research findings form respondents, informants and observations. The information is presented with the major theme of the main research questions.

Chapter five presents discussions on the data collected from the field against the literature review.

Chapter six concludes the study with a summary of the major findings, conclusions and recommendation drawn for consultative purposes.

1.5 Research problem

The provision of portable water and basic hygiene is one the most essential challenges that needs to be met in the society and it is an area that has drawn a lot of gender concern in order

to achieve sustainable development. Water is required for diverse uses within the household: for cooking, cleaning, washing and watering household animals. The activities mentioned above are reproductive in nature and the responsibility falls on women to look for water for household use; they are required to transport it home and to ensure its proper usage. Children are also employed to haul water; however the main user of water for domestic intents goes to women because of their ascribed roles within the household. Gender planning should therefore not be down played for a successful implementation of community development water projects (Taylor, 1999).

Researchers have shown that women play a vital role in the supply and management of water in the household and community but often times their role and involvement in the development of water and sanitation project is overlooked in its planning and implementation (Gender and Water Alliance, GWA, 2003). In Nigeria, the stress of looking for water rests on women as they know the water sources, it is their duty to mediate with neighbours for water and are also responsible for the sanitary practices of the children and sanitary conditions of the house they live in.

Many projects executed in the past decade have made some provision to identify women's prevailing roles in water management and supply, and to encourage women's participation in water project activities. However, such participation tends to be inadequate, and often tokenistic. Water projects do not often clearly focus on the need to promote an equal balance of power between women and men they are usually concerned with improving living standards by increasing access to water.

There are a number of challenges to incorporating a gender approach to project design, implementation and evaluation. These challenges relate to the meaningful participation of women and men in ways that addresses vital issues of gender equality and fairness in distribution of resource, which are also integral to effective water supply and management. Though women are involved in water and sanitation, they are often isolated from decision making in water interventions meant to benefit them, as a result the projects are not owned by the women and the potential and capacity of water project to improve or meet the water needs of women is not achieved. This leads to ineffectiveness and non-sustainability of the project and the project becomes a failure on the long run.

1.6 Objective of the research

The aim of this thesis is to provide information on factors to consider in involving women in water project in order to ensure that water projects implemented by development organizations benefits the women by meeting their domestic (household) water needs.

1.7 Specific objectives

- 1) To identify the level of participation of women in the water project.
- 2) To know if their participation has an influence on the water project meeting their domestic water needs.

1.8 Research questions

- 1) What is the effect of women's participation in portable water project provided by CSDP on their household water needs?

Sub-questions

- For what purpose do women need water within the household?
- How did women participate in the water project?
- What factors facilitated or hampered women's participation in the project?
- How did the women benefit from the drinking water project?
- How accessible is the water project to the women?
- What is the situation of the sanitation and hygiene within the household as compared to when the project was not in existence?

- What ways has the water project influenced the health of household members in comparison to when there was no project?
- In which ways has the water project influenced the social dynamics within the household and community.

1.9 Limitation of the Study

This research was focused only on one community, which was predominantly a Muslim community, though these are communities where a lot of gender concerns are generated, it would have been of more benefit if the research was equally conducted in communities of predominantly Christians and communities that have a mix of both religion or communities with different background. This would have helped to give a comparative study and would have given a broader view and information to enrich the analysis of factors to consider in the participation of women in water projects.

During the field research the only active woman in the CPMC was unavailable to be interviewed. This would have given more information on the level of her participation in the committee and factors that influenced or affected her participation.

The study was also mainly concerned with the domestic use of water which could not be easily separated from the economic use because most of the women in the village were involved in economic activities that required a lot of water, and these activities were carried out from their homes.

Lastly, my role as a researcher as well as a staff of the NGO working with the project could not be easily separated and this could have an influence on some of my judgements. Though I was not a staff of the project at the same time I was not really an outsider, thus it is difficult to rule out some possibility of bias.

1.10 Significance of the Study

The information from the study will help development organisations know how to initiate effective participation of women and men in water projects by informing them on the strategies for making women's concerns as well as men's concerns an integral part in water project designs, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, so that women and men can benefit maximally. This will ensure water project's efficiency and effectiveness

Figure 2: Women at Bada Ajegunle community



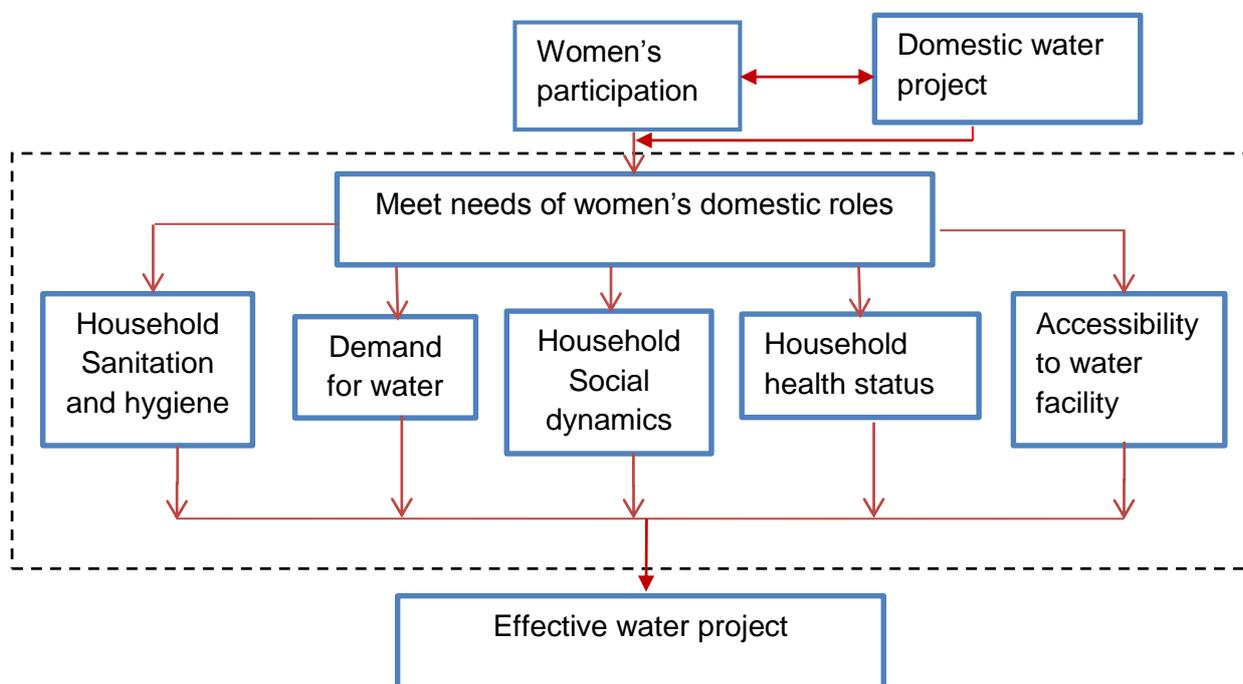
Source: Field study, 2012

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 Literature Review

2.1 Conceptual Framework:

Figure 3: Women's Participation for effective Domestic water Projects



Source: Developed for field study, 2012

2.2 Concept of Participation

Cohen & Uphoff (1977) cited in Prokopy (2004) defined participation as people's involvement in decision-making processes, in implementing programs, their sharing in the benefits of development programs and their involvement in efforts to evaluate such programs. It has been argued that people's participation can contribute to the achievement of five main objectives of water supply projects: effectiveness, efficiency, empowerment, equity, and coverage (Narayan, 1995 cited in Prokopy, 2005). In the last 10 years, many claims have been made for both the theory and the practice of women's increased participation in the management of domestic water resources. This is said to have contributed both to increasing project efficiency and effectiveness (see fig 3) as well as to empowering women (Cleaver, 1997). A broad analysis of policy and project literature reveals that the domestic water sector elucidates that women's participation in water projects at the community level has contributed to women's empowerment as well as to project efficiency (Deepa and Fawcett, 2001).

Participatory approach to development has been justified to being a process that ensures greater efficiency and effectiveness of investment and contributing to the processes of equality and empowerment. This is supported by Cleaver (1999), who also opined that participatory approaches distinguishes between the effectiveness and efficiency arguments (participation as a tool for achieving better project outcomes) and equity and empowerment arguments (participation as a process which enhances the capacity of individuals to improve their own lives and facilitates social change to the advantage of disadvantaged or marginalized groups).

Sollis (1993) argues that meeting basic needs is not an end in its self and this is based on the premise that if the population does not participate in, or contribute to, the community's social and economic progress needs will not be adequately met and there will not be true

development. Sector professionals also claim that women's participation does not only result in positive community service development outcomes but also positive gender outcomes such as equal access and control over resources between men and women (Dayal et al, 2000).

However some researchers argue that such prescriptions on participation may have contributed to project efficiency at a high opportunity cost of women's participation, but have done little in empowering women and therefore in addressing gender issues. There is criticism that such interventions homogenize women as a unitary social category and immobilize women in their domestic roles as water producers or suppliers (Jackson, 1997 cited in Deepa and Fawcett, 2001). Another basic failing of this approach of encouraging women's participation in community project is the fact that it misinterprets the theory of gender and thus identifies 'gender' as 'women', thus separating and isolating women from the context of social relations, which is what gender is essentially concerned with and wants to avoid (Baden and Goetz, 1998). Other critiques include concerns that participation places unfair burdens on the shoulders of rural people (Oakley, 1991); and participation can be a sham where men and women have no real ability to influence the direction of a project (Cooke and Kothari, 2001).

In continuation of these arguments, it has been suggested that for participation to lead to the expected sustainable outcomes, women and men need to be equally involved in higher levels of decision making; not just in manual work (Schouten and Moriarty, 2003). This argument indicates that there are different levels or types of participation i.e. from passive participation at the lower end of the continuum to active participation at the upper end of the continuum. This participation also on one hand can be influenced by many structural factors that affect women from uniformly, effectively and strategically participating in water project (Deepa and Fawcett, 2001). It was observed in a study in South Africa that a lack of information, lack of resources and government assistance, lack of education, cultural values and discrimination against rural women were the most important factors contributing to the inactive participation of rural women in development (Kongolo and Bamgose, 2002).

Though the use of water is of two main purposes, for domestic and economic purpose, this framework's emphasis is on domestic purpose and it is based on the notion that, women's participation in decision making of the planning and implementation of domestic water projects will ensure that the project is appropriate and effective to meet their household needs. This will help development organization to implement effective drinking water project that will also meet women's domestic needs, and at the same time bring into view that women's participation is influenced by certain factors which also determine their level of participation.

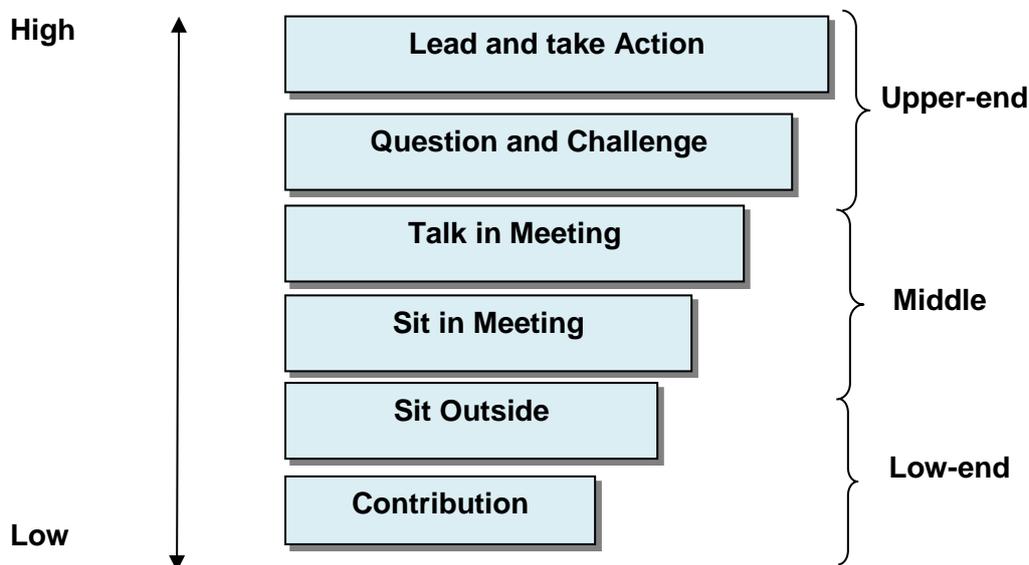
2.3 Measuring Women's Participation

Prokopy (2005) indicated that, several hierarchies of participation have been developed for different sectors; these frequently involve terms such as passive participation or tokenism at the low-end of the scale. Contribution of money, labour, or materials toward a predetermined project can be considered to be a very low form of participation or even nonparticipation as communities are seldom given a choice and may not even know what their resources are being used for. In the middle of the hierarchy, participants are involved in decision making about largely predetermined questions. In water supply projects, this involvement for the average household can take the form of attending meetings, speaking out at meetings, being involved in decisions such as the location of key facilities and the timing of water supply, and supervising construction. At the upper end of this hierarchy, participants undertake their own initiatives, develop strong leadership roles, and are in full control of their project. Individuals who are members of local-user committees can often have more power to influence the course of the project than average citizens; however, this power can still be limited by external constraints such as deadlines, budgets, and predetermined ideas about technology type.

The World Health Organization (WHO) developed some measures to specifically examine women's participation in water supply projects. The lowest level of participation is the contribution of money or labour for pre-determined projects. The next step up is sitting outside

a meeting; here people are aware of the issues being discussed. One step higher is attending meetings. Better yet is actually talking at meetings. When participants begin to ask questions and challenge decisions during meetings, it begins to be quality participation. The highest level of participation is when people begin to take the lead and ensure action on issues that are important to them. Figure 4 shows an adaptation of World Health Organization's hierarchy of participation in rural water supply project by Prokopy (2005).

Figure 4: Hierarchy of participation in rural water supply



Source: Adapted from Prokopy, 2005

For this study the six levelled hierarchy is preferred to measure women's participation because of its more qualitative approach. It looks at the different level of participation and not just the number of women present in meetings or committees.

2.4 Cost of Participation

Participation in public decision-making and in collective activities has very obvious costs and benefits in terms of time and effort. Such costs and benefits affect men and women differently. For the poorest people the opportunity costs of such participation may be prohibitive. Many poor households survive by hiring out their own labour on a casual basis. If half a day spent at a meeting means giving up half a day's paid labour, such people are unlikely to participate. The time constraints on women, particularly poor women, and the limiting effects of this on their participation have already been noted. Problems with long delays in replacing pumps and wells when men are the caretakers led to calls for increased involvement of women. Women often cite cultural constraints on their mobility as a reason for not attending meetings, particularly if attendance involves travelling long distances or being out at night. However, women can sometimes use these cultural norms to their own advantage, to avoid water management work (UN, 2005).

2.5 Women's Triple Roles

The concept of triple roles is enunciated by Moser (1993) as the categorization of work carried out by men and women into three dimensions, which are an important knowledge base for gender planning. These three roles are expressed as the reproductive, productive and community roles.

Reproductive role: Bhasin (2000) stated that reproduction is of two kinds, biological and social. Biological reproduction refers to giving birth to new human beings, an activity which only women can perform. Social reproduction on the other hand refers to all the caring and nurturing activities necessary to ensure human survival and maintenance. The reproductive

role thus refer to activities that reproduce human labour, these activities include caring for children and sometimes adults, cooking, cleaning, washing, feeding, nursing and other household activities, most of which requires the use of water.

These activities are the most crucial for human survival but it neither considered as work nor an economic activity as a result they are unrecognised, invisible and unpaid. Women and girls across the world are generally expected to fulfil these roles.

Productive role: Moser (1993) defines this role as work done by both men and women for payment in cash or kind. It comprises both market production with a trade value, and subsistence production with an intangible use value and a potential trade value. Bhasin (2000) emphasised that, usually women’s productive work are not given as much value as the men’s because it is considered as an extension of their household work. When water projects are attached to production it is given more value and thorough attention than when it is for domestic use because men dominate productive resources. There is however an overlap of reproductive and productive use of water for many women, and this often overlooked (SDC 2005).

Community role: Bhasin (2000) identified community roles as activities carried out to run and organise community life. These activities include governance, organization of and participation in social and cultural festivals and social services. Moser (1993) also pointed out that community roles for women are still frequently identified as part of their reproductive roles. It is seen naturally as women’s work and membership in community activity is voluntary because the neighbourhood is an extension of their domestic arena. Men on the other hand tend to be involved in position of direct authority in the community and often work in paid capacity.

Understanding gender roles will help to better understand the impact of water projects and also help to plan water interventions and policies. Water projects will be planned based on the knowledge of how and why people make the choices they do in water use in order to meet their needs. Below is a table illustrating a summary of the gender roles.

Table 1 Gender Roles

Roles	Role composition
Reproductive	Childbearing/rearing responsibilities and domestic tasks undertaken by women, including the care and maintenance of the workforce (husband and working children) and the future workforce (infants and school going children).
Productive	Work done by men and women for payment in cash or kind. Includes both market production with an exchange value and subsistence/home production for actual use/potential exchange value.
Community	Activities undertaken primarily by women at the community level as an extension of their reproductive role. Includes provision and maintenance of collective resources; water, health and education. Work is voluntary, unpaid and undertaken in addition to the other roles. It rarely includes levels of decision making and formal community politics, this is often the role of men who get paid in cash, status or power.

Source: Adapted from Coates 1999

2.6 Gender Needs

As it has been stated above, in most developing counties women and men have different roles and exercise different levels of control and power over resources they often have different needs. How roles are valued in any given context affects the way women and men determine their interest when it comes to planning a project, it also determines their capacity to participate in it. An evaluation of the interests of women and men in the development process has developed into the concept of practical and strategic needs.

2.6.1 Practical Gender Needs (PGN)

Moser (1993) states that practical gender needs are the needs women identify in their socially accepted roles in society. PGNs do not challenge gender relations although they arise out of gender divisions of labour and women's subordinate position in society. PGNs are response to immediate and perceived requirements, identified within a specific context. They are practical in nature and often concern lack in living conditions such as water provision, health care and employment.

Coates (1999) identified that practical gender needs are linked to the condition of women's lives, their immediate environment, workload and responsibilities that exist in the society of which they are part. Meeting PGNs is relatively straightforward but their existence alone is unlikely to change the inequalities that exist relative to the condition.

PGN in reproductive roles

The PGN in reproductive roles includes favourable living conditions, the health care, safe drinking water, nutritional supplement, child care facilities, sanitation, nutrition, transport, family planning facilities and fulfilling of other related needs. The reproductive role of women demands that she provides water for her household to ensure the health and cleanliness of her household. Not having water in adequate quantity and quality puts pressure on the women to look for water at all cost.

PGN in productive roles

The PGN in productive roles of women demands her economic contributions to the family in form of employment, wages or income. Having to look for water all day usually will not give the women time to engage in meaningful productive roles.

PGN in community roles

Women in their community management roles protect and preserve the resources in the environment. Therefore water intervention should take into consideration the activities carried out by women to run and organise community life.

Basically the aforesaid needs refer to human survival needs. These needs are considered throughout the world as women's needs, which has aroused from the expected roles of women in a particular society. The responsibility of women to address the PGN often reinforce the gender division of labour and women are immersed in the day to day affairs of taking care of her family, earning an income for the family and managing the basic services. The above said deeds of women which are perceived as their duties, benefit the patriarchy and make it difficult to challenge the subordinate position of women's experience (Regmi and Fawcett, 1999).

2.6.2 Strategic Gender Needs (SGN)

Strategic needs as stated by Moser (1993) refer to needs women identify because of their subordinate position in society. They vary according to particular contexts, related to gender division of labour, power and control, and may include issues such as legal rights, domestic violence, equal wages and women's control over their bodies. Meeting SGNs assists women to achieve greater equality and change existing subjugated roles, thereby challenging women's subordinate position. They are more long term and less visible than practical gender needs.

Regmi and Fawcett (1999) consider the focus on women's strategic gender needs in development projects to be important for two reasons. First, the intervention may then contribute to greater gender equality in society; second, focusing on women's strategic gender needs is the only way to ensure that women's and men's practical needs are met fully and efficiently.

SGN in reproductive roles

Reproductive roles sometimes make women to be more susceptible to abuse. Violence against women mostly takes place in the homes and therefore women's access to control over their lives and bodies could be the strategic gender needs. For example, lack of safe drinking water forces women to travel to far off and remote places to fetch water where they are prone to sexual violence and rapes.

SGN in productive roles

In productive roles, the SGN can be the need to provide training for women in non-traditional entrepreneurship or to lobby and advocate for changes in laws or customs that do not empower or give women equal rights as men. SGN in productive roles entails giving women power to access resources and to make and take decisions concerning the resources that will help to increase production which will consequently reduce poverty.

SGN in community roles

The SGN of women in community roles can be met by giving them the space for collective organization, freedom of expression, up-gradation of their skills, taking up leadership roles for managing community resources. Women as custodian of water should be allowed to fully participate in the major decisions regarding the planning, implementation and maintenance of water intervention.

In general the conceptual categorization of practical and strategic gender needs as also illustrated by Moser (1993) refer respectively to immediate perceived necessities that women lack in a specific context, and necessities which would enable women to change their subordinate status in society, for example, to control their bodies, bear and rear children, own land and property, be active decision makers in their homes and communities, fight against domestic violence, claim equal wages, or change the sexual division of labour.

Therefore promoting participation of women in water project is not only to solve the problem of effectively and efficiently providing the basic need of water (PGN) but also to empower women to lead, control, make decisions and take actions in managing community and even personal resources (SGN).

2.7 Household (domestic) Water Needs

In reality, the use of water for domestic purposes cannot easily be separated from productive use at the household level, particularly among poor rural communities. Domestic water use to support livelihoods among the poor is a vital part of household coping strategies. There are also essential health and societal gains from ensuring adequate quality of water service to support small-scale productive use especially where this involves food production. Access to adequate water for small-scale productive activity in such areas is therefore important as part of poverty alleviation and may deliver significant indirect health benefits as a result (WHO, 2003). However for this study more emphasis is laid on the domestic use of water i.e. for consumption (drinking and cooking), hygiene (including basic needs for personal cleanliness) and amenity use (for instance washing of quarters, toilets, implements, garden watering). The water needs within the household that should be met for domestic water project to be effective are further discussed below.

2.8 Supply of Water

The supply of water will be discussed in terms of quality and quantity required for well-being. Water supply is an essential requirement for all people and one of the first priorities in many rural areas in developing countries is the immediate provision of adequate amounts of water. The quantity of water demanded and used in households is an important aspect of domestic water supply and it needs to be safe and appropriate for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene. Although the water quality requires permanent monitoring with professional technical equipment, providing a sufficient quantity of water of average quality is better than only a small amount of high quality water (WHO, 2003).

People use water for a variety of activities and determining how much water is needed is the first step to water supply; discussing with various users (especially women) will enable the limited resource of water to be effectively channelled. The importance of adequate water quantity for protecting and improving human health has been a major issue for many years and has attracted arguments about the relative importance of water quantity and quality to sanitation, hygiene and health (WHO, 2003).

The WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme, which produces the Global Assessment of Water Supply and Sanitation data, describe reasonable access as being 'the availability of at least 20 litres per person per day from a source within one kilometre of the users dwelling' (WHO and UNICEF, 2000). The Sphere project on the other hand recommends 15 litres of water used per capita per day as being a key indicator in meeting minimum standards for disaster relief (Sphere Project, 2004). In their guidance manual prepared for the Department for International Development (UK), WELL (1998) suggested that a minimum criterion for water supply should be 20 litres per capita per day, whilst noting the importance of reducing distance and encouraging household connection. Gleick (1996) suggested that the international community adopt a figure of 50 litres per capita per day as a basic water requirement for domestic water supply.

In terms of quality WHO (2003) indicates that water for consumption should be free of microbial and chemical contaminants. Water provided for drinking and ingestion via food should be of a quality that does not present a significant risk to human health.

2.9 Household Sanitation and Hygiene

The Sphere Project (2004): Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response, in their handbook indicated that, the main purpose of implementing emergency water and sanitation project is to provide the minimum quantity of clean water required to allow people to perform daily task of cleaning their body, hands, homes and clothes, cook of food and using the toilet. This was said to be important in order to reduce transmission of oral-faecal diseases and disease carrying vectors. Accessible and plentiful supply of water facilitates and encourages more hand-washing and better hygiene in general. This implies that inadequate water supply prevents good sanitation and hygiene.

Ademiluyi and Odugbesan (2008) highlighted that availability and reliability of water supply played a very significant factor in the number of times and the quantity of water the women are willing to use to clean or wash their clothes, bodies and quarters. A number of women indicated that they would prefer to defecate in an open field than to use the toilet because they will only need to make use of very little amount of water.

2.10 Accessibility of Water Facility

The most essential need for water includes water used for personal hygiene, but the adequate volume of water used by households to ensure personal hygiene depends on accessibility, which is determined primarily by distance and time spent. Where the basic water access has not been achieved, hygiene cannot be assured and consumption requirements may be at risk. Therefore providing minimum level of access is the highest priority for many water projects.

The study by Ademiluyi and Odugbesan (2008) indicated that consumption rates do not tend to increase significantly until sources lie within a few minutes (say 100 m) of home. People seem to prefer to save time than use more water. Once the time taken to collect water source exceeds a few minutes (typically around 5 minutes or 100m from the house), the quantities of water collected decrease significantly. Beyond distance of one kilometre or more than 30 minutes total collection time, quantities of water will be expected to further decrease, in rural areas to a bare minimum where only consumption needs can be met. Once water is delivered through at least a single tap on-plot, the quantity of water increases significantly and further increases are found only when water is piped into the home and is available through multiple taps (WHO, 2003).

WELL (1998) also illustrated that average consumption of water when it is piped into the home is relatively high 155 l/c/d (litres per capita per day), but decreases to 50 l/c/d when water is supplied to a yard level. When water is outside the home, average consumption drops still further to roughly one-third the average consumption at a yard tap and one-tenth that of households with water piped into the home. It was suggested that for the households using a source of water outside the home, the lesser the volume collected the more negative impact on hygiene.

Accessibility can also be described in terms of the location of the water facility, the design and number of taps available to cater for the number of people using it; this can significantly influence the collection time and subsequently the usage of the facility. Regmi and Fawcett (1999) reported that women complained in Nepal, that their water collection time significantly increased (nearly 400-500%) after they received the improved water services. This is because the tap stands and the tube wells are located along the roadside, where they cannot bathe freely and wash their menstrual clothing comfortably, for shame of being seen by males. In order to avoid this, women carry water all the way to their homes several times each day, spending significant amounts of energy to do this. In some villages women reported waiting until dark to carry out these activities. They reported not to have this problem when they used the more distant traditional sources, where there was no chance of men being around. If the design and site of the new water projects are inappropriate, women are likely not to be interested in using them.

2.11 Household Health

Domestic water supplies are essential requirements for human life. Without water, life cannot be sustained beyond a few days and the lack of access to adequate water supplies leads to the spread of disease. Children bear the greatest health burden associated with poor water and sanitation. Diarrhoeal diseases attributed to poor water supply, sanitation and hygiene account for 1.73 million deaths each year and contribute over 54 million Disability Adjusted Life Years, a total equivalent to 3.7% of the global burden of disease (WHO, 2003). This places diarrhoeal disease due to unsafe water, sanitation and hygiene as the 6th highest burden of disease on a global scale, a health burden that is largely preventable (WHO, 2003).

The effect of water borne diseases further exacerbated women's burden due to their gender roles as care givers. Providing sustainable access to safe water supply and basic sanitation together with hygiene education can bring about a major reduction of water-related health risks and child morbidity and mortality (Hesselbarth, 2005).

2.12 Household Social Dynamics

The improvement of water supply and sanitation usually impacts positively on women's social status and living conditions. Their work load is significantly reduced from water collection and care of sick children thus, giving them more time for productive endeavours, adult education, empowerment activities and leisure (UN, 2005). At the same time, reducing the distance to the water supply and sanitation facilities will also improve the security and safety and reduce the risk of harassment and spinal injury which result from carrying water on their heads. Better water, sanitation and hygiene influence the socio-cultural position of women and have the potential to provide them with privacy and dignity as well as increased status within the family and wider community. It can also influence the relationship between members of the household and the community at large. Female representation on water boards and user committees strengthens the role of women in society and this has far reaching socio-cultural impacts. Women become more self-confident to make decisions and take up leadership roles in the community (Hesselbarth, 2005).

2.13 Effective Water Supply

Many millions of people, particularly in the developing world, use unreliable water supplies of poor quality, which are costly and are distant from their home (WHO & UNICEF 2000). In

many cases water is scarce while in some cases there is water but of low quality (see fig 5) and in some it is of good quality but it is located in a far distance from the household. In many rural communities in the developing countries many of the drinking water supplies are managed by the community which is predominantly for drinking and other household chores. Most of these water supplies include simple piped water systems or a range of point sources, such as boreholes with hand pumps, dug wells and protected springs (WHO, 2003).

According WHO (2006), in undertaking an assessment of the adequacy or effectiveness of the drinking-water supply, the following factor should normally be taken into consideration:

- *Quality*: whether the supply is clean enough for drinking without presenting risk to human health;
- *Quantity (service level)*: whether the supply can cater for the proportion of the population using water supply;
- *Accessibility*: whether the population has reasonable and safe access to the water supply;
- *Affordability*: whether the tariff paid by domestic consumers is affordable; and
- *Continuity*: whether the time during which drinking-water is available is adequate.

Figure 5: Old water sources at Bada Ajegunle community.



Source: Field study, 2012

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 Research Methodology

3.1 Research analysis

The research relies on the use of qualitative analysis to collect data from the women in the community and project officials. The use of current and reliable literature and documents was employed to generate information that will analyse the relationship and effect of women's participation in water project on their household water needs. This will be used to justify the empirical data collected. Semi structured interviews, focused group discussion (FGD), PRA tool and observation will be used to extract and collect information in the field of study.

3.2 Research Strategy

The research was conducted with 20 purposively selected women and 4 purposively selected men at Bada Ajegunle community and an official (Project Officer Gender who was a female) of the Kwara State Community and Social Development Agency (KWCSDA). Semi structured interviews and focused group discussion with the use of a PRA tool were used to generate qualitative data. An interview was conducted with the project officer gender of the State agency and another with the CPMC chairman of the community. 2 focused group discussions and individual interviews were carried out at the community, the first FGD was carried out with the 20 women, this was followed by individual interviews of the 20 community women, the second FGD was conducted again with the 20 women and the 4 men alongside the use of a PRA tool (the Gender Analytical Matrix) to triangulate the information collected. The data were collected by me and I was assisted by the project officer gender of Kwara State Community and Social Development Agency and a research assistant who had been briefed on the study objectives and purpose. It is also worthy to note here that the chairman (male) of the Community Project Management Committee (CPMC) of the community also helped in the explanation of steps to be taken in detail in the local language (see annex 2 for the pictures and list of all the persons interviewed).

The first focus group discussion (see fig 7) that was conducted with only the women gave me the opportunity to familiarise myself with the women and in turn familiarise the women with the reason for the research, the first FGD helped to illicit an overview of the community, the water project and the participation of the women in the project. The second focus group discussion alongside the gender analytical matrix (see fig 11 & 12) which was conducted with the men and the same group of women in the first FGD was an opportunity to double check the results or data that had been earlier collected. This process used gave me confidence of the validity of my qualitative inquiries. The second FGD was similar to the first but with more depth and detail.

The semi structured interview was used because of its open ended nature which allows dynamism in interviews; it gives the informant the opportunity to express themselves in their own terms, it also creates a rapport and dialogue which is essential for qualitative data. Though the tool has a tendency to cause a divergence from the interview topic guide, it no doubt brought up very useful information.

The gender analytical matrix was used to finalise the process of analysing the impact of the water project on the roles of men and women within the community in a constructive manner.

The field study took a period of 9 days; day 1 was for entry visit where I met with the community elders and gate keepers. Day 2 was for the interview with a KWCSDA official, which was the P.O. gender. Day 3 was for the first focus group discussion; days 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 was for interviewing the community women (4 women per day), and day 9 was for the second focus group discussion.

Figure 6: Community leaders



Source: Field study, 2012

At the point of entry, the community leaders (see fig 6) were informed on the purpose of the study and the requirement needed from them. It was also the opportunity prior to data collection to duly inform the respondents of the purpose of the research and to seek their consent to capture their responses on video, which they agreed to.

Figure 7: First Focus group discussion



Source: Field study, 2012

3.3 Overview of Study area

Nigeria is located in West Africa it has an area of 923,768.00km² with a population estimate of about 160 million people making it the most populous African nation. It lays between latitude 40 and 140 north of the equator and longitudes 30 and 140 east of the Greenwich meridian making it entirely within the tropical zone and part of sub Saharan Africa (see fig 8). It is a Federal Republic nation with 36 states and Abuja as the state capital. Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo, Fulani, and Kanuri are the most widely used Nigerian languages (Bureau of African Affairs, 2012).

The selected community for the study is Bada Ajegunle in Ifelodun Local Government Area of Kwara state. Kwara state is located in the western part of Nigeria it is situated between latitudes 11°9" and 11°45" and longitudes 2°45" and 6° (see fig 9) with land mass of about 32,500km². Kwara State was created on May 27, 1967 when the Federal Republic of Nigeria was divided into twelve States. It is predominantly a Yoruba, Baruba and Nupe speaking state with some clusters of Fulani communities, having Yoruba as the most populous group, the state comprises of about 2.5 million people. The major occupation of most rural communities in the state is agriculture and agricultural related activities i.e. processing and sale of agricultural product. Kwara state is known for agricultural production in crops like rice, maize, sorghum, cowpea, cashew, cocoa, coffee, sugarcane, kenaf, cotton, beniseed, cassava, shear butter, oil palm and vegetables and animals such as cattle, sheep and goat and poultry (KWSEED, 2004).

Currently, the number of women living below the poverty line is high compared with their male counterparts. The 2011 global gender gap report stated that the overall gender gap in Nigeria is 0.601. As such, the policy thrust in Kwara state is to increase access of women to opportunities and resources designed to enhance their welfare and well-being by articulating a State policy with measurable indicators on gender equality.

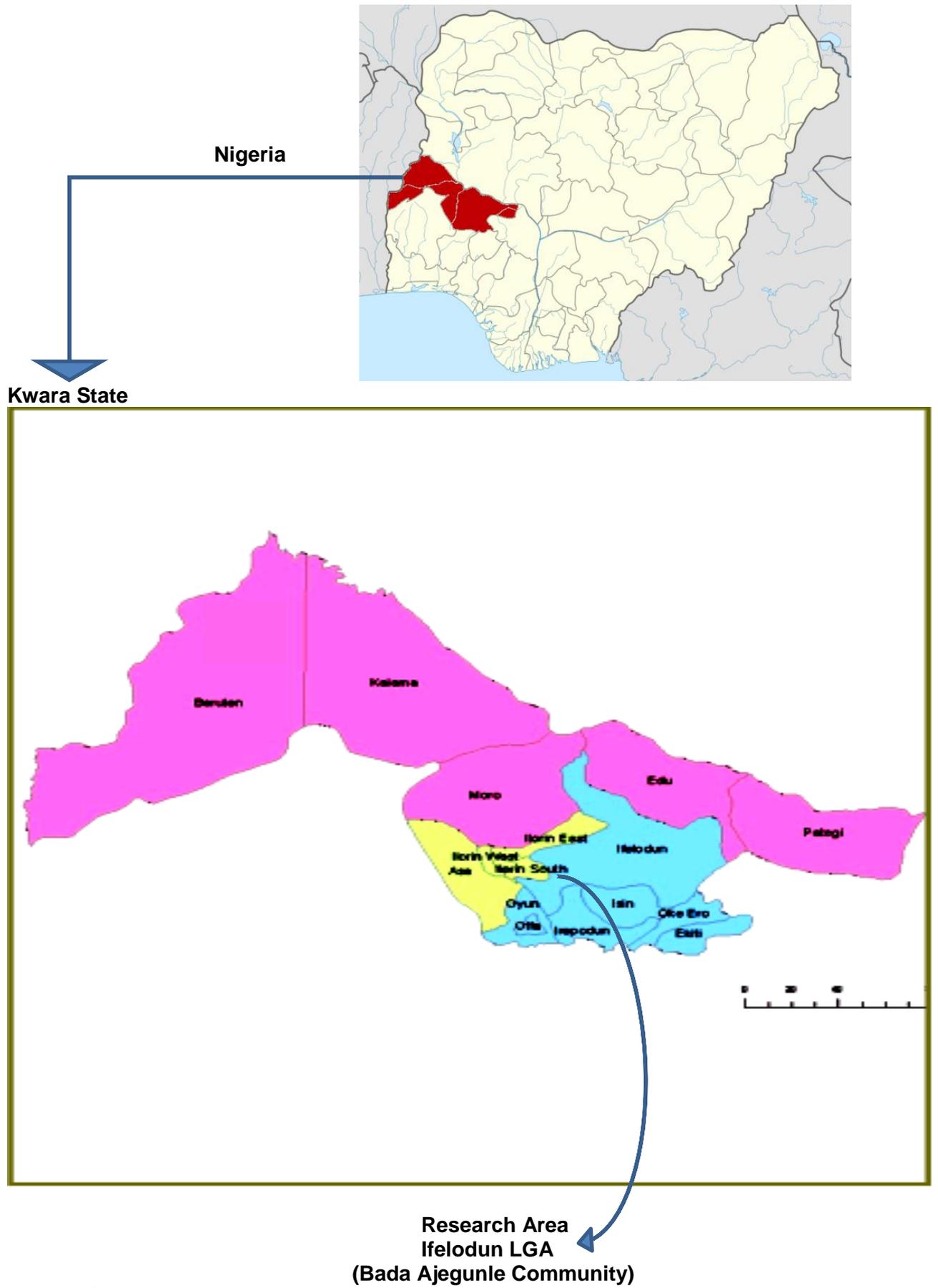
Bada Ajegunle is a Yoruba speaking community of less than a 100 households and it was selected due to its relatively small size and also because it is one of the first 10 communities to have completed its water project in Kwara state under the Community and Social Development Project and the water project has been in operation for more than 12 months (CSDP 2012)

Figure 8: Location of Nigeria in Africa



Source: Google maps, 2012

Figure 9: Maps of Kwara state



Source: Google maps, 2012

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 Findings and Results

This chapter presents the findings of data collected from Bada Ajegunle community. The information presented based on the research question is categorised under three heading, they are:

- 1) Participation of women in the water project
- 2) Benefits derived from the water project
- 3) Effect of participation on the benefit derived from the water project

4.1 Participation of Women in the Water project

Figure 10: Structure and site of water project at Bada Ajegunle community.



Source: Field study, 2012

4.1.1 Awareness of water project by women

All the women interviewed stated that they were aware of the project prior to implementation and during implementation. The women also reported that they have been advocating for portable water supply in the community for years and having the water project in their community has been a great blessing.

Adamo Sanni (community member):

We were aware of the water project, our men informed us of it. The issue of portable water has been a problem for long time and we have also been advocating for it, when we were informed of the project we were glad and all the women embraced it. In fact at every stage we were always informed.

The project officer gender also emphasised that the KWCSDA is responsible for sensitizing the communities on the project's aim in each community. She also stated that the World Bank made it a rule that women must participate in the project.

Hawa Kulu Abubakar Aliu (P.O. Gender):

Through the agency's campaigns, sensitisation and training in the community we were able to involve the women. The World Bank made it compulsory for women to be members of the CPMC which is the main body that will take charge of the project in each community.

Rihanatu Ayinla (community member):

We were aware of the water project, apart from the fact that our men informed us of it, the organisation also came to the community to inform us of all they wanted to do for the community.

4.1.2 Contribution of women to the water project

Most of the women interviewed stated that they contributed towards the project either in cash or kind (labour or material) or both. They specified that the community was required to pay counterpart fund or resource of 10% and about 12 of the 20 women reported that they contributed in cash to the 10% while the remaining in kind, they however emphasised that they paid far less than the men. The women also indicated that they were the ones pressing at home on the matter of portable water supply and they made sure they gave their husbands all the support required to implement the water project.

Rashidat Gidado (community member):

We were told that we needed to contribute some money for the project and we paid the little we could contribute. We told our men to take the issue of the provision of water seriously and we made sure we gave them all the support we could. We had suffered so much from lack of water in this community that we were not ready to allow the opportunity to pass us by.

Hafusat Wahab (community member):

We did not do so much, but for those who had the means they contributed some amount of money, others helped in the construction. Generally we were always urging our men to do all they can, to make sure we had water in the community and we supported them wherever possible.

4.1.3 Attendance and involvement of women in meetings

The P.O. gender and the CPMC chairman indicated that the attendance of women in meeting was low, this they said was largely due to their religion, Islam and some cultural factors which do not allow women to talk in the gathering of men. It was said to be a sign of disrespect to the men. The women on the other hand recounted that, the men did not involve or call them for meetings. Most of the women interviewed emphasised that if they were called for meetings they would have attended. Some women also indicated that there were times they were asked to nominate two women to represent them in meetings, which they did.

Hon. Jimoh Agboola, Man 4 (CPMC chairman):

The level of participation of women is low I must be sincere with you, by the culture anywhere men are gathered the women feel that they must not be there because we their husbands are there. But when the organisation came to sensitize and explain to the community and the women that, they must be involved since they have contributed money they need to know how the money will be spent, also for most of the women their income generating activities involve the use of a lot of water, though the attendance of women improved, it was still not good enough.

Rihanatu Ayinla (community member):

The men only call us when we have visitors like you from the city, who wants to help us with the development of our community, although at some times we were asked to nominate two representatives from the women to attend meetings. We only go when we are called and we don't ask questions, we don't have manhood and these meetings are usually men's affair. It will be disrespectful for us to poke our nose into affairs we are not called into.

Hajarat Issa (community member):

It isn't that women don't want to go, but we can't go unless we are called. We are ready to attend meetings and there is no meeting women have been called for that we do not attend. Now that you have called us, you can see how we all came to meet you.

4.1.4 Involvement of women in needs assessment

The women reported that they came out in mass for the needs assessment. The women stated that they were told to come and vote for the project they wanted and also vote for those to represent them in the management of the project. All the women interviewed indicated that they were involved in the needs assessment. The women testified that they all voted for water project among others and the women's highest vote was for water during prioritization of needs.

Silifatu Issa (community member):

The organisation came to the community and they told us we should come and vote for what we wanted. It was a day of celebration we dance and sang for the organisation to honour them, we voted for water, it was our first priority, we were then asked to vote for other things we wanted and we voted for school and hospital. We really needed portable water supply, though we had the hand pumped bore hole they were not working properly. We were determined to have the portable water supply, and we did, it was the first of the projects to be implemented, it has been a great relief to us.

Hon. Jimoh Agboola, Man 4 (CPMC chairman):

The women came out to vote and their votes counted, I was voted in as the CPMC chairman and they also voted for water, it was the highest vote recorded. Water was their highest priority.

4.1.5 Involvement of women in planning

The P.O. gender stated there must be at least three women in the CPMC and at least two women in the sub-committees, she reported that in some communities the women are very active and in some others they are not. 10 of the women interviewed specified that two women usually represent them in meetings but only to the meetings they are called to attend. The other women said there were no representatives let alone to be a part of the planning process.

Zainaab Azeez (community member):

Yes, we had women in the committees but, there were no women involved in the planning. From the beginning to the end of construction women were not involved. In fact some women said the men wanted to commit some fraud that is why they did not call women to the planning of the water project. I am one of the youngest women in the community even the older ones couldn't do anything about it. They don't want us in the planning; they know we will want them to talk about how the money was spent so they don't allow us to talk.

Maryam Kareem (sub-committee member but does not know her position):
There are women in the committee but we are not called for meetings regularly. It is difficult to know our position in the committee since we are not called regularly for meetings. But anytime there is a big gathering, like the day we were asked to vote they called us.

Hon. Jimoh Agboola, Man 4(CPMC chairman):
There are two women in the CPMC and another woman in one of the sub-committee. They tried their best to be involved in the meetings. They are not very active.

Hadizatu Larongbe (community member):
There are no women in the committee, our men were the ones involved in the planning but they kept us informed of all that was going on and we were satisfied with what they did.

Rashidat Lukman (community member):
I have had an opportunity to go for one of the meetings; I went on behalf of my in-law who was unavailable. I just sat there at the meeting I couldn't contribute to what was been planned since I was new to the meeting and I had no idea of previous discussions.

4.1.6 Involvement of women in implementation

At this point majority of the women revealed that during the implementation of the project they offered manual labour when the foundation for the overhead tank was to be constructed, they helped to fetch water which was used for mixing the concrete. The women reported that they were not involved in any decision making concerning implementation; they were only informed of what they needed to do and they did it.

Falilat Lawal (community member):
When they wanted us to help with the construction, we were informed of the day they wanted us to assist them. At such days we made it a point of duty among ourselves to come out and help, we wanted them to know that we might not have has much money as the men, but we were ready to help the way we could, and this was a way we could help. We wanted the water and we were ready to support our men.

4.1.7 Involvement of women in monitoring and evaluation

None of the women interview mentioned any involvement in monitoring or evaluation. The men were the ones who participated in the evaluation.

Rashidat Gidado (community member):
We were always telling our men not to relax on the issue of the water. We tried to encourage them with sweet words of encouragement so that they will take the water seriously and to complete it on time, which they did and we are satisfied with the effort the put into it.

4.1.8 Factors affecting or influencing women participation in decision making

The CPMC chairman and the P.O. gender revealed that their culture and the religion (Islam) do not give room for active participation of women in community meeting especially those that involve men. The CPMC chairman and the other 3 men interviewed also specifically reported that apart from the fact that women are showing them respect by their culture, they couldn't make decisions because the women only contributed a meagre amount in cash to the project thus they did not have the boldness to make decisions, they also said the women are fond of

backbiting among themselves and with that kind of attitude they can't make informed decision that will move the community forward.

The men also said that there is no unity among the women as it is found among the men. The women on the other hand indicated that they did not participate as much as they should in meetings because they were not invited.

Hon. Jimoh Abgoola, Man 4 (CPMC chairman):

At some points in the project we asked the women to say their own part but they were not forthcoming, I feel that the women think by coming for the meeting and even talking in the meeting, the men might see them has been forward.

Man1 (community member):

We know our women, they are not united; they are fond of fighting over little matters. Even when men have disagreement we sort it out and move forward but for the women it is not so. How do you then think they can manage community issues?

Man2 (community member):

We are more united than the women and that has given us an edge over the women in community development matters.

Aminat Wahab (community member):

Let's forget about what happened in the past with the water project, we the women have heard all you have said. All we can say now is that the men should call us for meetings; there is no woman among us here who is invited to meetings that won't be willing to go.

Man3 (community member):

We are happy with our women, there is nothing we want to do that we don't get their support. Maybe we need to encourage them a little more to come for meetings.

4.2 Benefits Derived from the Water Project

4.2.1 What do the women use water for?

All the women interviewed stated that water is the most important element in their daily lives; they specified that they use water for cooking and drinking, for cleaning their living quarters and lavatories, for washing their clothes, plates and bodies. They also reported that water is a very essential resource in their income generating activities. Most of the women interviewed were involved in agro-processing activities such as, shear butter making (this is carried out by majority of the women in the village), corn pudding (eko), locust bean making (iru), cassava (fufu), herbs processing, and milling of grain. Others are into hair dressing and petty trading. These activities require the use of water most especially the shear butter and locust bean making. Most of the women carry out these processing activities from their homes, but sell their finished product in the nearby market town.

Falilat Lawal (community member):

This water project has really made my work at home easy, I am very grateful to the organisation that gave us this water. I use water to clean my home, I was actually washing clothes when I was told you had arrived.

Rashidat Gidado (community member):

Apart from the fact that I use water for most of my household chores, my business as a shear butter producer requires a lot of water. The process of making shear butter is like making palm oil, at every point in time I need about 6 drums of water to process my shear butter. It has been a huge relief for me. Now my shear butter is cleaner and whiter and I can also afford to make more with less stress.

4.2.2 Household hygiene

All the women reported that they now find it easy to clean their homes, wash clothes and their body.

Taiye Raimi (community member):

There is no woman in this community that will tell you her life has not been made easy upon the completion of this water project. Now, I can take my bath any time I like, I can wash my clothes at any time I feel like, before it was not so.

Faidat Kareem (community member):

Before this water was completed I had to take my clothes to the well for washing after which I will fetch the one to be used at home but now I can wash from my house.

Rashidat Ibrahim (community member):

Before the water was completed I had to ration the water I use for washing, after walking a far distance to fetch water, I can only carry a container at a time; I need to really ration the water well but now I can afford to use 2 paint buckets to take my bath (10L), and now I take my bath regularly.

Silifatu Issa (community member):

There is a great difference, you can imagine having to trek for such a long distance just to fetch one basin of water; definitely I won't take my bath from it. There are times I go 3 days without bathing, but now I take my bath any time I want to.

Nimata Musa (community member):

My house is cleaner than it used to be before the water project, now I can clean my house, my body and clothes with ease.

Rashidat Gidado (community member):

You need to see where I keep dirty clothes before this water was completed, it was an eye sore, but now it is easy to wash my clothes regularly. No woman should have a dirty house with this water, it's only if she is a pig.

4.2.3 Household health

All the women indicated their health is better; they have fewer injuries occurring from carry water over long distances, less miscarriages and they are not often tired as they used to be. They also stated that they don't have problems of water borne diseases, even when they had no portable water, they stated that the well and the spring were clean.

Nimata Musa (community member):

There were times we needed to fetch water from the neighbouring community by the time I get home with the water, the joints of in my body will be in pain. But now, such pains are no more.

Maryam Kareem (sub-committee member):

Even if you are not sure you are pregnant, it is from fetching water that your body gives you signals that you are pregnant, because we had to climb up hill.

Rihanatu Ayinla (community member):

There were times when I go to fetch water, after I have gone the second or third round, I will be so tired. There was a day I fell down with the water on my head and I was already close to my house. I have problem with my right leg up till now.

4.2.4 Water supply

All the women stated that the quality of the water is very good, the water is clean enough for drinking and cooking. The women however affirmed that there are times they don't get water to fetch due to the irregular power supply. They specified that when the tanks are full it can be used by the community for about 3 to 4 days, if there is no power supply during or after those days there is the possibility of not having water. On the other hand if there is regular power supply, they have no problems with getting the amount of water they want. Some women however stated that there are times when there is power but there no one to switch on the pump.

There was a bit of argument among the women on the issue of switching on the pump, some women claim that they did not know they can switch it on because they felt the men were responsible for switching it on. The woman in whose house the switch is located (which is the Baale's compound) however indicated that she switches on the pump when there is power supply. Some other women stated that those switching on the pump were partial (there are four overhead tanks one for the Baale's compound and 3 for the community) because the Baale's compound is always having water. Many of the women affirmed that there is the need to work out a good plan for switching on the pump and that the women should be involved. But in general they specified that they get enough quantity when there is power supply and whens the tanks are full.

Rihanatu Ayinla (community member):

The issue about switching on the pump came about because our men did not take time out teach the women how to switch it on. In fact I did not know a woman can switch it on.

Rashidat Gidado (community member):

Any time there is no power supply for a long period we have problem with getting water, but if you can help us with generator we will be most grateful.

Tawakalitu Nurudeen (community member):

There are times we have light and yet we won't have water, take this morning for example we have light now but the water has not been pumped. There is need to work on the switching on of the pump, it can be annoying. I hope we will be involved.

Zainab Azeez (community member):

The water is of good quality but we don't get enough quantity, right now there is no water and yet we have light, the pump is not switched on promptly when there is power supply.

4.2.5 Water accessibility

All the women indicated that the water points are very accessible, the distance of the water points to their homes is short (about 60 metres for the farthest house), they can fetch water at any time of the day if there is electricity supply to pump water, the water points are safe since they are all close to their houses, the water point are enough to cater for the number of people who want to fetch water (there are 3 major water stands in the community and for each stand there are 4 taps, see fig 13), there are no queues and the time spent in fetching water has greatly reduced and at no cost at all.

Hafusat Wahab (community member):

The time I spend in fetching water has greatly reduced unlike before; it takes me the whole day to fill my reservoirs at home with water even with my children. It was so stressful. At periods of fasting like the one we have now, we won't be able to do our business; we spend our time fetching water so that we can have water to cook the early morning meal.

Marufat Muritala (community member):

I can fetch water at any time the points are safe, sometimes I come around 10pm to fetch water. There is also no queue at any water point.

4.2.6 Household social dynamics

All the women indicated that the work load has reduced greatly, they now have more time for leisure, their family and business. Some women also stated that they are proud of their community. The men also stated that, their wives appreciate them better and are happy with them for implementing the water project.

Rihanatu Ayinla (community member):

There were times we were harassed by the neighbouring community; immediately we were sighted from a far they started making nasty comments that we have come again to finish their water. At such times we dare not go alone we usually made sure we were about 2 or 3 before going to fetch water in the other community. We were insecure, we sometimes felt inferior to other community.

Rashidat Gidado (community member):

At a point I was tired of this community I started regretting marrying from this community, the community I hail from (Ilotaa) is one the community we used to fetch water from and I kept asking myself what I was doing here. But now, I am proud of the community, even our children are relieved from having to go with us in search of water. We don't have body odour again, we are more appealing to our husband. Even our husbands don't mind washing their farm work clothes.

Falilat Lawal (community member):

Before now all I would have been able to fetch is just a bucket or two of water, all I can use it for is to cook and I will have to ration the water, but now cooking has been made easy. We now cook on time for our family.

Nimata Musa (community member):

With this water project I have more time to rest, I had fetched all the water I needed within one hour, unlike before which will take me the whole day, in fact I was sleeping when my partner came to tell me you had arrived. Before it was not so, right now I will still be at the spring or the neighbouring community fetching water. It will even be difficult for you to get any woman to interview. Those times were really bad, we are very grateful to the organisation that provided this water for us.

Aminat Wahab (community member):

Now fetching water does not stop me from going to the farm, before now I set aside a day for fetching water. Now I am proud of my community, other communities with no portable water now come here to fetch water. Any time we fetch water from our taps our heart bless this organisation.

Man 3 (community member):

Our wives are proud of us, they were also very supportive and they are more relaxed now. We have more time to talk.

4.3 Effect of Participation on Benefits Derived from the Water Project

4.3.1 *In what way was participation adequate or inadequate?*

All the women reported that their participation was not enough, many of them stated that, they were only effective in the “voting” (needs assessment) and when manual labour was required and some others contributed in cash. Majority of the women also indicated that, they did not participate in the decision making process, they however specified that, they were telling their men what they wanted from and of the water project from home and they were in turn informed of some part of the project activities, such as where the project was sited, of which majority of the women said they were satisfied with. One of the women however said, they were not involved because the men did not want them to know how the money was spent. The older women were indifferent about not participating; they felt the project was the men’s responsibility.

Hajarat Issa (community member): one of the older women

I participated in the voting, I voted for water, we told our men what we wanted, the water has been completed and we are able to use as we like; I think that is ok with me.

Rihanatu Ayinla (community member):

I participated in the voting but I could not take part in the construction because of the pain in my right leg. I think you should help advice our men to allow us take part in decision making.

Adamo Yusuf (community member):

Anytime we are invited for meeting I always go, days I can’t, my partner will go. We contributed money to the project and we told our men what we wanted.

Zainab Azeez (community member):

Women did not participate in any of the decision making meetings, they only participated in the general community meetings. They did not want us to know how the money was spent. Some women said there was some form of fraud.

4.3.2 How did participation or non-participation in decision making affect project benefit?

Majority of the women reported that their non-participation in the public decision making process did not affect the benefits they are getting from the water project, because they were able to relay what they wanted from the project to their husband at home and the men have carried out what they wanted. One of the women out rightly stated that, she prefers that the men handled the project; she noted that if the women were in charge the project would not have been completed. A few however said that if they were in the decision making meetings they would have preferred the project to be sited in the middle of the community instead of the Baale's compound, they also specified that instead of having water stands with four taps each, they would have preferred that each household had its own tap.

Maryam Kareem (sub-committee member):
There might have been some differences if we participated in the decision making, but I don't know where it could have been different. I feel the men did their best.

Falilat Lawal (community member):
I would have preferred if the taps were located by each household.

Rashidat Gidado (community member):
I don't think it would have been better than this if we were involved. If it was left for the women it won't have been completed, we will just be fighting over small issues.

4.3.3 Is there a part of the project that participation should or could be increased and would have better increased benefits?

Many of the women stated that they should be involved in the meetings; some stated that they should increase their cash contribution to the project; a few said there was no part they had in mind. However majority of the women indicated that they were satisfied with the water project.

Hawa Kulu Abubakar Aliu (P.O. gender KWCSDA):
Participation can be increased by electing more women in the CPMC, and if more educated women can be elected it is better. Women's participation should also be increased in the planning stage. This is a stage where the women can put forward how best the project can benefit them.

Figure 11: Second focus group discussion



Source: Field study, 2012

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 Analysis and Discussions

5.1 Participation of Women in the Water Project

From the findings it was discovered that the women were aware of the project prior to the implementation of the water project. They also participated actively in contribution of resources i.e. cash and manual labour, towards the implementation of the project. Though their contribution in cash was lesser compared to the men, they compensated for it through their active labour in the project construction.

From literature, Prokopy (2004) defined participation as people's involvement in decision-making processes in implementing programs, their sharing in the benefits of development programs and their involvement in efforts to evaluate such programs. Fig 4 shows the hierarchy or levels of participation in rural water supply projects; adapted from World Health Organization in Prokopy (2005). This figure shows that there are different levels of participation i.e. from passive participation at the lower end of the continuum to active participation at the upper end of the continuum. The lowest level of participation is the contribution of money or labour for pre-determined projects. The next step up is sitting outside a meeting; at least here people are aware of the issues being discussed. One step higher is attending meetings. Better yet is actually talking at meetings. When participants begin to ask questions and challenge decisions during meetings, it begins to be quality participation. The highest level of participation is when people begin to take the lead and ensure action on issues that are important to them.

Findings revealed that women were members of the CPMC and other sub-committee, which is a group of people who have been elected by the community to represent the community to manage and facilitate the planning, implementation, monitoring and implementation of the project. The findings from the interviews showed that, the number of women in the committees was less than the expected number: there was only one woman instead of three in the CPMC (she was unavailable during the period of the field study) also there was only one woman instead of 2 in the project sub-committee. Findings however showed that though there were women in the committees the attendance of women in meetings that dealt with making decisions in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the project was not regular because they were not invited, and when they are invited their level of participation was just sitting or being present in meetings.

At the point of needs assessment, the women felt they participated effectively because some tools were used by KWCSDA which they participated in, and at the point of prioritization (which they referred to as voting), their highest priority was for water. The fact that, the "need" in which they had the highest votes was the first to be considered for implementation, gave them a sense of being important. At this stage of the project it can be stated that the women's level of participation was talk in meeting. However, at the planning, monitoring and evaluation stages the women did not participate at all.

Meetings were held behind the women's back and they did not have the opportunity to speak let alone make informed decisions, the only active form of participation they had, was in contribution of resources. Their overall participation in the water project was between the levels of contribution to talking in meetings. It can therefore be proposed that, the women had passive participation or tokenism which is between the middle and the low-end of the scale.

Deepa and Fawcett (2001) indicated that participation can be influenced by many structural factors that affect women from uniformly, effectively and strategically participating in water project. Based on this theory, the findings from the interviews revealed that, the Islamic religion and norms which the community practices, does not give room for equal participation of men and women in community meetings. Women could not take lead in meetings or speak

in meetings where men are, unless they are specifically asked or given permission to. It was equally discovered that the lower economic status of the women did not give the women boldness to challenge their low representation in the project.

5.2 Benefits Derived from the Water Project

SDC (2005) stated that there is an overlap of reproductive and productive role in the use of water for many women, and this is often overlooked. It was assumed that women's participation in decision making of the planning and implementation of domestic water projects will ensure that the project is appropriate and effective to meet their household needs. Findings however disclosed that, many of the women's domestic use of water could not be easily separated from the economic use of water. This was due to the fact that, the economic activities the women were engaged in also require the use of a lot of water, and these economic activities were carried out from their homes; these economic activities are processing of locust bean, shear butter, cassava paste and corn pudding production. Findings also revealed that the PGN which reinforces gender division of labour such that women are immersed day in day out with the burden of looking for water for basic survival needs has been significantly met. The SGN however that looks into the subordinate position of women is yet to be addressed.

In terms of the quantity and quality of the water, women prior to the project could not boast of using the 20Litres minimum requirement of water of clean water per day (WELL, 1998) but with the completion of the project they can afford to use 10Litres (2 paint buckets) just to take their bath, which implies that the women were getting enough quantity. In close relation to quantity and quality is adequate hygiene and sanitation of household and body, Ademiluyi and Odugbesan (2008) highlighted that availability and reliability of water supply played a very significant factor in the number of times and the quantity of water the women are willing to use to clean or wash their clothes, bodies and quarters. With the completion of the water project the women are less concerned or worried about not getting enough water for their household use.

In terms of accessibility to the water facility, the location of the water stands which is not more than 50 to 100m from the farthest house has helped to significantly increased the consumption of water thus enabling the women have cleaner clothes, homes and conveniences as well as healthier bodies. This is in support of the study carried out by Ademiluyi and Odugbesan (2008) which indicated that consumption rates do not tend to increase significantly until sources lie within a few minutes (say 100 m) of home, because women seem to prefer to save time than use more water. Also siting of the water facility within the community has significantly helped to reduce the harassment from neighbouring community and even the discord that sometimes arise with the Fulani herdsmen. Having the water close has also significantly reduced the amount of injuries sustained from carrying water over long distances; this is in support of Hesselbarth (2005). The easily accessible water also significantly reduced the chances of injuries.

On the overall, the low participation of women in the decision making process however, did not significantly impede the benefit they derived from using (domestic or economic) the water project. 19 of the 20 women categorically stated that, they were happy and satisfied with the water project and it has met their household water needs. This contradicts Cleaver (1999), who opined that participation in decision making is a tool for meeting project effectiveness. The only woman who reported dissatisfaction stated that she would have preferred that the water was piped to their homes instead of the communal water source.

5.3 Effect of Women's Participation on Project Outcome

Dayal et al, 2000, claim that women's participation does not only result in positive community service development outcomes but also positive gender outcomes, findings revealed significantly supported this, because the low level of participation of women in the decision making process did not give women the opportunity to take up leadership roles or to be self-

confident or have the feeling of being equal to the men in the implementation of the portable water.

However, though women could not participate in public decision making, this did not completely incapacitate them from improving their lives and to achieve what they wanted from the project. The women knew they desperately needed to have water in the community and when the opportunity to have a portable water source arose, the women subtly passed on the information of their requirements for the water project to their husband at home, without challenging the power relation in the community. The men in turn worked with the women's requirement and it yielded positive project outcome. The women are happy, their work load has reduced significantly, burden of fetching water on children has also reduced, they have cleaner processed agricultural product and they have time to rest and time for their family and community. The women are proud of their men and their community; the men are happy of the development in their community.

Much can't be discussed on the costs or sacrifices entailed in participation due to the women's low level of participation in decision making and attendance in meetings. However, it can be inferred from findings that the women wanted to be part of decision making process but they did not want to be in charge. This can be attributed to the fact that the women cannot afford to spend the efforts, labour and time required to manage and facilitate the implementation of the water project.

A strong factor impeding against women's participation is the religious and cultural dictates, though it is difficult to change this mind set in a short period of time, the CSDP project and even this research has created a strong awareness on the significance of increasing women's participation in community development activities in the community.

Figure 12: Using the gender analytical matrix



Source: Field study, 2012

Table 2: Gender Analytical Matrix

	LABOUR	TIME	RESOURCES	CULTURE
WOMEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -No more stress in searching for water. -Less injuries incurred during fetching water. -Domestic chores are carried out easily. -Don't have to take clothes to the river to wash. -Meals are cooked on time and with ease. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Valuable time spent on water has reduced -Water can be fetched at any time. - Don't have to wake up early to look for water. -Better opportunity to plan the day. -Don't have to wait for a specific day to clean the house. -More time to rest and spend with family. -More quality time for economic activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -More income, improved business. -Neat and cleaner homes and body. -Rest of mind and comfort, more time for leisure. -No more assault from cattle herds men and neighbouring community. - No more money spent on purchasing Water during festivities. -Less injuries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Festivals and celebrations are carried out with much ease; cooking and cleaning is less stressful. -Women's participation in community development activities has improved.
MEN		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Project implementation took much of their time. -Meals are ready on time, no more late meals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Baths are taken regularly. -Can afford to give farm animals enough water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Citizens of the community in the cities and towns now come home regularly to celebrate festivals
HOUSEHOLD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Burden of fetching water has reduced on the children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -More time for everyone to rest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -More peace of mind at home. -No more settling of disputes among women over water. -Easier to maintain cleanliness at home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Some men don't mind fetching water. -Some men are willing to wash their farm clothes
COMMUNITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Houses are now constructed with ease. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Neighbouring communities come to fetch water. -Cost of construction is reduced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Increased the awareness of women's participation in community development.

Source: Field study, 2012

The gender analytical matrix revealed that the water project has had a significant impact in reducing the work load of the women, the women feel less burdened and fatigued. The project has also increased the awareness on the importance of involving women in community development activities. The research on the overall gave the women a sense of being important and the men also realised the ability of the women to make decision, lead and manage community projects.

5.4 Reflection on the Conceptual Framework

Findings revealed that participation can be achieved without the formal presence of women in meetings and decision making process. Also the dynamic nature of rural livelihood and the dynamism of the social relationship existing between men and women in different households and communities make it difficult to effectively address women's participation using a framework. Based on this, development organisations need to critically understand these dynamics, this will enable them put in place strategies to effectively involve men and women.

CHAPTER SIX

6.0 Conclusion and Recommendation

6.1 Conclusion

This research is concerned with the level of participation of women in the development of water project and extent to which their participation has influenced the capacity of the implemented water project to meet their domestic needs.

The research revealed that the women were aware of the project prior and during implementation. Women in the community contributed in cash, labour and material towards the implementation of the project, though their contribution in cash was far less than the men's cash contribution, they contributed actively in manual labour during the construction (implementation). The women's attendance in meetings regarding decision making on the planning and implementation of the project was very low. The number of women in the Community Project Management Committee and project sub committees was lower than the required number. The women in the committee were just a token to fulfil the World Bank's rules of having women in the committee. The women were not involved in meetings because they were not invited by the men; the women who had the opportunity to be in one or two meetings did not talk. However, during large community meetings involving the KWCSDA organisation, they were usually invited and at such times they had the privilege to talk. It was rightly reported by the women that, they were not involved in the planning, monitoring and evaluation of the water project. Based on the hierarchy or levels of participation by Prokopy (2005) the level of participation of the women in this water project is towards the lower end of the scale. The low level of participation of the women was largely due to the culture and religion which does not give room for active participation of the women.

In terms of meeting the domestic water needs, the water project has made house chores easy for the women and even children; it has also made the women's economic activities less stressful. Their homes, clothes and bodies are cleaner; the water points are safe, easily accessible and can cater for the population; injuries and accidents from fetching water from far distances has reduced, there are no issues of water borne diseases; the quality of the water is very satisfactory, the quantity of water is also satisfactory but due to the irregular power supply there are days they go without been able to fetch water. On the overall the women are satisfied with the water project, their work load has reduced greatly, they have more time to rest and to spend with their family, some men are also willing to wash their clothes. The women are happy and proud of their men and community. Most of the women preferred that the men were in charge of the project but that the men should give them more chance to participate in meetings; they also proposed that they should increase their cash contribution towards the project, as it will give them boldness and power to participate, question and challenge decisions in meetings. The research revealed that though the women's level of participation was low in the meetings regarding the decision making process of the water project, this did not significantly affect the benefit they derived from the water. This was because the women were able to tell their men at home what they wanted from the water project.

It can be concluded that the CSDP has greatly contributed in improving the living standard of the community by increasing their access to water but it has not been able to establish effective strategies that will improve women's participation in projects, which is necessary for gender equality in rural communities.

6.2 Recommendation

Based on the findings of the research and the conclusions above, these recommendations are proposed for future implementation of water projects

Development intervention in communities, most especially on water supply must shift away from top-down, technically-oriented, centralised provision, which has a poor record, to decentralised community based provision with communities playing significant part in the improvement of community services. In order to achieve this, community participation in development interventions must be paramount and the first step to consider is to critically look at and understand the gender issues and the existing dynamics within a community. This will give a clear picture of the social, power and gender relations that is prevailing within the community and this knowledge will aid development organisations on strategies to put in place to involve and draw the skill and knowledge of men and women in the design and implementation of community based development project. It should be noted here that though community participation is significant, it does not guarantee women's participation. A gender based approach needs to be incorporated to make it really participatory.

With the above in mind, women in developing countries are managers of water at household as well as community level, this therefore makes them very crucial to the success of community water projects. Development organisations therefore need to strategically involve women in such a way that it does not increase their workload nor disrupt the relationship between men and women nor without bringing them any clear benefits. Increasing women's participation in community development activities requires specific strategies which are sometimes specific to each community.

Women must be consulted early in the preparation of the water project so it does not result in non-usage of the facility. In collection of information on the background situation and needs, participatory method of data collection should be used as this helps to involve everyone and helps women to build their confidence on their capacities and knowledge.

It is very important to have women's representation at higher or formal level as it helps to make participation at the lower level easy. Development organisation should therefore consult early with the men especially the village heads, in order to promote a positive attitude to women's participation.

However, it is often problematic to involve women in the formal or official structures, in many communities in developing countries it is even outrightly unacceptable, at such point specific strategies need to be put in place to ensure their participation. Development organisations should not try to force their involvement but should work with them, as the women themselves know how to work around male dominated formal structures. Informal women's organisations existing can be used but the composition of these organisations may not represent all women and supplementary strategies may be needed.

Development organisations need to take practical measures to ensure women's participation in planning and implementation. The location, structure and timing of meetings may need to be adapted to facilitate women's participation. Important areas of decision making which should involve women include: water committee members, identification of water sources and siting of facilities; choice of design and technology; sharing arrangements; selection of caretakers, and management of financing system. There is a need to involve and train women more in technical and managerial aspects of project operation and also to involve women in technical aspects of operation and maintenance just like the men.

Monitoring and evaluation should also involve both the organisation and the community including the women; this can help to increase gender sensitivity. Gender specific indicators that will help to monitor and measure the quality of women's participation should also be put in place.

Finally, after the completion of the water project, participatory health education programs using appropriate method such as group discussions, role plays or mass media, to ensure the proper use and storage of water which is needed to guide against contamination and to guarantee health. Men, women and children should be involved in health education programs.

Figure 13: The three water points at Bada Ajegunle community



Source: Field study, 2012

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Annex 1: Interview Questions

Areas of questions for interviews and focus group discussion

A) Participation

- Awareness of women about the project – (prior to implementation)
- Contribution of women – (kind, cash and or resources)
- Attendance and involvement in meetings (any major decision taken by women, using the 6 levels of participation)
- Involvement in needs assessment (any major decision taken by women, using the 6 levels of participation)
- Involvement in planning (any major decision taken by women, using the 6 levels of participation)
- Involvement in implementation (any major decision taken by women, using the 6 levels of participation)
- Involvement in M&E
- Factors affecting or influencing participation (Give reasons for not attending, timing, location, information about the project, was your attendance regular, did other family members go on your behalf,

Levels of participation

Lead and take action, question and challenge, talk in meeting, sit in meeting, sit outside the meeting and contribution.

B) Benefits

- Need for water: what do you use water for
- Household hygiene: In terms of cleanliness of living quarters, clothes, toilets and bathrooms, cooking area or room and body.
- Water supply: In terms of quantity and quality.
- Household health: In terms of being free from water borne diseases.
- Water accessibility: In terms of distance, time spent, safety (location), freedom of usage and service (ability to cater number of people using the facility).
- Household social dynamics: In terms of social status, work load, gender relation, self-confidence, time for leisure etc.

C) Participation's effect on benefit

- Was participation adequate: in what ways was participation adequate or inadequate?
- How as the level of participation or non-participation affected the project's benefit
- Is there a part of the project that participation should or could be increased and would have better increased benefits

Annex 2: List of Interviewees



HAWA ABUBAKAR ALIU
(P.O. GENDER)



HON. JIMOH AGBOOLA
(CPMC CHAIRMAN)



HAJARAT ISSA



ADAMO YUSUF



ADAMO SANNI



RIHANATU AYINLA



SILIFATU ISSA



NIMATA MUSA



RASHIDAT GIDADO



FALILAT LAWAL



TAIYE RAIMI



AMINAT WAHAB



ZAINAB AZEEZ



MARYAM KAREEM



HADIZATU LARONGBE



HAFUSAT WAHAB



FAIDAT KAREEM



ADAMO RAIMI



RASHIDAT IBRAHIM



TAWAKALITU NURUDEEN



MARUFAT MURITALA
LUKMAN



RASHIDAT