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## Challenges Confronting International Donor Agencies in the Development of Delta and Edo State

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### ABSTRACT

Despite the huge resources available and that had accrued to the Niger Delta Region for its development nothing seem to be on ground to justify such, hence the intervention of international donor agencies. The study examined the challenges confronting international donor agencies in the development of Delta and Edo states. The study adopted the ex-post facto research design. Data were acquired by administering questionnaire among the residents of study area using random sampling method and descriptive statistics was used to explain the frequencies of variables being expressed in percentages. The findings of the study revealed that identified corruption and bad governance, political and ethnic interest in developmental projects, climatic factors, poor infrastructural foundations and the expanding insecurity as critical developmental challenges affecting the survival of projects and programmes in the oil producing states. The study recommends among others that International donor partners should be transparent in their local micro projects such as basic healthcare facilities, rural transportation, sanitation, water supply, education and electricity that have economic and social impact on the lives of people especially rural areas in Delta and Edo States.

**Keywords:** Challenges, international donor agencies, development, Niger Delta Region

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Since the mid 1970s, the oil creating territory of the Niger Delta has been quite possibly the most strongly dirtied spaces of the world. The contamination, alongside extreme ecological debasement, has to a great extent been an outcome of the district's oil creation and has made it hard for the occupants of the Niger Delta incapable to do their conventional monetary exercises of fishing and cultivating. This has caused outrageous neediness and has additionally brought forth savagery. There are in any event 40 diverse ethnic gatherings possessing the Niger Delta Region and communicating in maybe 250 dialects and vernaculars. The riverine Ijaw are the most various by assessment, 14 million in number yet the overall picture is one of additional standard ethnic variety, a mosaic of heterogeneous and frequently crabby networks held together by a powerful feeling of being "Delta individuals". To say that the delta is composed of ethnic communities with robust local cultural identities-Ijaw, Ogoni, Ikwerre, Itsekiri, Urhobo, Andoni, Efik, Ibibio, Ukwani, Ika and so on-begs the very important question of what ethnicity means, its shifting political significance and why the languages of the 1950s "ethnic minorities" has now been replaced by a new lexicon: "ethnic nationalities" and "oil minorities". The Niger Delta remains of course a great paradox: why an oil-rich region and at the same time, a space of such unrelenting misery? For the vast majority, oil has brought only misery, violence and a dying ecosystem.

Since the provincial time, a few approaches and projects inside public advancement plans have been defined to address the characteristics of the district; minority status, fomentations and saw minimization of individuals of the delta. In any case, the common inclination in the locale is that, it is regularly shoved aside inside the Nigerian Federation. This is especially valid for minority ethnic gatherings. The primary significant endeavour to address these complaints was in 1957, when the provincial organization set up the Willink's Commission of Inquiry to suggest the best systems for the improvement of the district which has the most troublesome territory in the nation (Akpomovie, 2011). In 1987, the Babangida organization set up the Presidential Implementation Committee to supplant the Presidential Task Force. The Committee couldn't deal with the complex environmental issues and developing neediness around there. By the 1990's another rush of ethnic and local patriotism started to clear across the Niger Delta area. This was shown as ethnic mass activation. The different gatherings in the locale turned out to be strongly prepared according to the basic issue of disregard, exclusion, natural destruction, impoverishment and unfairness. There were wide spread dissent, strain, anxiety, savagery and interruptions (Ikelegbe, 2004).

Following the discontent, the Babangida organization set up the Oil Mineral Producing Areas Commission. The Commission's capacities include: to set out on improvement projects in the oil delivering networks in the Niger Delta district and to remunerate really networks, nearby governments and states which have endured harm or hardships because of mineral prospecting exercises. All in all, the Commission's way to deal with advancement could best be portrayed as palliative when contrasted with the profundity of improvement issues around there. Thus, individuals actually stayed poor and immature. It was against the prior foundation that they chose to take their fates in their grasp to request a reasonable treatment from the Nigerian State. Gigantic rebellions turned out to be right around a perpetual component of the area. It was under the present condition that the Niger Delta Development Commission was set up in 2001; with a dream to offer enduring answer for the financial challenges of the Niger Delta district and a mission to work with the fast and even advancement of the locale, Ito an area that

is monetarily prosperous and politically tranquil (Usen, 2003). Like past formative organizations, the Commission has been exceptionally weakened in handling the overwhelming formative difficulties around there

Subsequent bodies included the Niger Delta Basin Development Authority (NDBDA) set up in 1976 and the Oil Mineral Producing Areas Development Commission (OMPADEC) in 1992. More than its predecessors, OMPADEC appeared better equipped to make some impact on the development of the region, but was to suffer from a number of problems including lack of a master plan, which would define its development objectives and strategies, inadequate funding and unfavourable political interference among others (Daily Times, 2008). In the case of NDBDA, organizational problems bedevilled it from inception. None of the board members appointed by the Federal Government to run the Authority came from the Niger Delta.

In all, the post-independence government eventually responded to the Willink's Report by setting up the Niger Delta Development Board (NDDB) in 1960. The Federal Government established the Niger Delta Development Board to manage the developmental needs and challenges of the region. The achievements of the board were marginal. Following mounting agitation for a renewed focus on the development of the region, the President Shehu Shagari Administration set up a Presidential Task Force Account (popularly known as the 15 percent committee) in 1980 and 15 percent of the Federation Account was isolated to the Commission to tackle the developmental problems of the region. The committee like the boards was ineffective. It was eventually emasculated and collapsed under the crosscurrent of military and partisan politics (Daily Times, 2008) cited in (Akpomuvie, 2011).

During the civilian administration of Shehu Shagari, 11 River Basin Development Authorities were created; several of them, now have jurisdiction in the Delta including the Niger River Basin Development Authority, Anambra-Imo River Basin Development Authority, Benin-Owena River Basin Development Authority and Cross River Basin Development Authority. These authorities also had very little impacts; for one thing, their board members often comprised politicians who regarded their tenures as opportunities to reap the 'dividends of democracy' through corruption (Akpomuvie, 2011). The capital dearth of the Nigerian political class and its quest to use access to State institutions to remedy this dearth has played a crucial role in subverting state development interventions in the region. What has emerged from state efforts at developing the oil rich Niger Delta region of Delta and Edo states is a long chain of patron-client relationship; this chain stretches from the Federal Government, through the states, to Local and Community levels. This relationship allows mostly those who have direct access to state power and those sufficiently close to them to benefit from the funds allocated to the agencies of development through corrupt practices.

The assertion above is supported first, by physical realities of abandoned or poorly executed projects, project completion without usage and those that broke down soon after commissioning. For example, In Ebedie and Umutu communities in Ukwani Local Government Area of Delta State and Ologbo in Ikpoba Okhia Local Government Area of Edo State, as a result of poor execution, none of the facilities provided by the Niger Delta Development Commission has made any appreciable impact on the people's lives. Although there overhead water tanks with taps in different locations, the taps do not flow. In these Communities, the bulk of the people still depend on the streams for their main source of supply. Also a multimillion naira hospital project initiated by the same Commission at Ologbo, has been abandoned for several years. To the community this facility is more of a monument than a development project (Jack-Akhigbe, 2010).

When President Obasanjo came to power in 1999, he constituted a new body, the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) to take over from OMPADEC. At the initiation of its pioneer board, in December 2000, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria noticed that the NDDC has the possibilities to bring to the table an enduring answer for the financial challenges of the Niger Delta, which progressive governments have wrestled with even before autonomy. To accomplish its order, the NDDC board recognized spaces of center including; Development of social and actual foundations Technology; Economic/ecological remediation and dependability; Human turn of events; Pursuit of a tranquil climate that permits the travel industry to flourish and supports a light culture. As a development agency, the NDDC quickly identified the need for a master plan as part of its overall strategy which has been completed and put into use. The NDDC like previous boards and commissions does not seem to have made any positive impression on the peoples of the Niger Delta resulting in the creation of the present Federal Ministry of Niger Delta Development, headed by a Minister, under the supervision of the President (Akpomuvie, 2011).

In five of the nine states in the region that includes Delta and Edo States, water problems are very acute and result in supply of unsafe water in more than 50 percent of the cases. A Niger Delta Environmental Survey (NDES) Report (2017), covering the states of the Niger Delta region, except Cross River State, also found that most settlements depend on untreated surface water and wells, which lead to health problems from waterborne diseases. Poor access to adequate drinking water has had serious implications for the general health, environment, economic activity and sustainable livelihoods in the Niger Delta region. The lack of portable water in the rural areas, as well as severe shortages of pipe-borne water in urban centers, necessitates new policies that favour community involvement and participation in devising and managing water supply systems in a sustainable fashion. Roads in the region are mostly bad and impassable during the rainy season (Akpomuvie, 2011).

Efforts to repair the roads have worsened them and left the local people with more hardship. Although urban road transportation development has recently been accorded some priority attention, less regard has been shown for rural transportation, especially water transport, which majority of the rural populace depends on. The dearth of telecommunication infrastructure in Delta and Edo states in the Niger Delta region has stifled the advancement of information technology and development as well as technical empowerment of the populace. Most rural communities are largely unconnected and completely unable to take advantage of modern trends in telecommunications and technology as tools for accelerated rural development (Akpomuvie, 2010).

Emerging studies have shown that, despite intervention of donor agencies to complement government efforts in providing social services, the development gap are till widen (MacRae 2012; Martns 2013; Anam, 2014). This leaves us with more questions than answers as to whether donor partners are actually sincere with their proclaimed motive of intervening in developmental projects and programmes of developing countries, or they are simply creating a dependency syndrome among Third World countries so as to achieve their strategic interests even at the expense of the developing nations. Donors may help to ensure that poverty reduction strategies better integrate pro-poor growth with progress on other dimensions of poverty. Support for these policy processes should form the basis of policy dialogue between donors and partner country governments. The outcomes of the policy making process and the policy dialogue should, in turn, be reflected in donors' country assistance strategies and the design of programmes, helping to make them better aligned and more relevant to country-led processes

OECD (2007). This study therefore examine the challenges of international donor partners in the development of Delta and Edo States

### **Research Questions**

The following research questions guided the study

- i. What are the identifiable developmental challenges confronting Delta and Edo States as oil producing states?
- ii. What constitute the development focus, rationale and objectives of international donor agencies in the development of Delta and Edo States?
- iii. What is the impact of the development goals of international donor agencies in the development of Delta and Edo States?
- iv. What are the challenges confronting international donor agencies in promoting development/achieving developmental goals in Delta and Edo States?

### **Challenges Confronting International Donor Agencies**

The previous decade has seen a developing number of researchers and experts mounted an undeniably powerful pushback against unopinionated ways to deal with advancement help. Exploration and experience have exhibited on numerous occasions the restricted effect of benefactor driven, best-practice ways to deal with detailing strategy and improving establishments. Especially powerful difficulties have come from Dani Rodrik (2007), featuring the need to consider the capacity as opposed to the type of establishments; Merilee Grindle (2004a), deriding endeavours to seek after sweeping "great administration" changes in unsupportive conditions; and Matt Andrews (2013), chronicling the restricted effect of hierarchical institutional changes sought after over numerous years by the World Bank and others. Not exclusively are such methodologies generally insufficient, yet they can likewise be harming: Matt Andrews and others (2012) have cautioned of the dangers that bringing in standard reactions to foreordained issues will subvert nearby endeavours to assemble state capacity; James Putzel (OECD, 2009) has featured the significance of "do no damage" approaches, particularly in delicate and struggle influenced states.

Obviously, nowadays, most improvement specialists just make living in fantasy land that legislative issues assumes a focal part in supporting or hindering turn of events, and that they need to move their concentration from attempting to accomplish present moment groundbreaking change to contemplating what sort of gradual advancement may be practical inside a given setting. Rough suppositions about the capacity of help and restriction to invigorate great administration have offered route to the idea of adequate administration; conversation has moved from quest for best practice strategies to a quest for "solid match". The 2004 World Development Report (World Bank, 2013) put the focus on the legislative issues of administration conveyance. The discussion about defilement has become more nuanced, with some acknowledgment of the connects to levels of political rivalry and the job that support plays in keeping up political and social solidness.

The majority of the primary guide organizations have created structures for political economy examination (PEA), at country and area level. The nature of studies is variable yet at their best they have assisted with organizing and legitimize the unsaid information that contributor staff regularly have about the way authentic directions, international components, profoundly implanted social and financial designs, and formal and casual organizations all



shape the political framework and the impetuses and conduct of various gatherings and people inside it. Area and issue driven investigation has given bits of knowledge into the particular ways that political setting and cycle block (or could boost) strategy and institutional reform. In short, contrasted with 10 years prior, a vastly improved educated, politically mindful discussion is occurring among numerous advancement experts. The striking thing, in any case, is the way restricted the effect has been on what the fundamental guide offices do. Benefactors have thought that it was difficult to move from better investigation to all the more likely practice.

Quite a bit of that clarification of why standard guide mediations are not assessing legislative issues is that this would oppose the political economy of the guide business. Particularly in a time of financial starkness, political heads of improvement offices feel constrained to exhibit to their own citizens that guide can accomplish critical, quantifiable, transient outcomes in an exceptionally immediate way. Paradoxically, political economy investigation uncovers the profundity of the difficulties engaged with building powerful open establishments to help financial development, equity, security and a scope of other essential administrations in helpless nations. Some giver offices are likewise constrained to show that guide is supporting international strategy and security goals, this slants consideration away from nearby political economy elements towards a pre-set contributor plan. These pressing factors on contributor offices are genuine, and they impact benefactor conduct in self-evident, and very inconspicuous ways. For example: A parcel of political economy examination has been embraced with the end goal of improving guide adequacy and discovering viable answers for issues recognized by contributors – as opposed to attempting first to comprehend the untidy, complex reality that faces them and investigating in a more liberal manner how to make progress.<sup>1</sup> Expectations that political investigation could point straightforwardly to elective programming techniques have demonstrated ridiculous. Along these lines, experiences from examination have been underestimated, openings missed, and insightful instruments excessively promptly excused as having minimal operational worth.

An excessive amount of examination has been shallow, raced (to meet contributor programming plans), inadequately resourced and attempted as an oddball work out, not a progressing try. Contributors have frequently not had the right stuff or adequate interest to attempt point by point, miniature level examination (which is much the same as research). Donors have an inclination to distort, trying to figure out a perplexing world in manners that are viable with their current presumptions or philosophical predispositions, or that can be utilized to legitimize benefactor activism. So they keep an eye on single out research discoveries, building programs on unstable proof (for instance, the expansion of interest side "voice and responsibility" activities); seizing on significant discoveries and controlling them to accommodate their own motivations (for instance turning the pivotal knowledge about neighbourhood "proprietorship" of improvement goals into the Paris Declaration idea of association that surmises a shared trait of interests among benefactors and beneficiary governments); and enjoying living in fantasy land (for instance, that upgrading vote based system will uphold advancement, or that decentralization will expand responsibility of governments to residents).

The inclination to distort, alongside philosophical predispositions, is additionally reflected in benefactor jargon, including universally useful marks that obscure significant qualifications (for instance "neo-patrimonialism" as an equivalent for debasement or terrible administration), and worth loaded language that encapsulates unexamined suppositions (rights, consideration, straightforwardness, cooperation, power sharing).

More or less, the issue may not be that PEA neglects to convey important experiences, however that contributors are not adequately propelled to catch them. As far as concerns them, specialists have not generally been especially acceptable at refining clear directives for experts that catch equivocality and intricacy, nor keen on doing so. Scholars and administration guides are not in every case clear what they mean when they talk about governmental issues. "Governmental issues" causes uneasiness among numerous expert gatherings. Some contributor staff stress that it infers connecting straightforwardly in hardliner governmental issues (which is seldom the aim). Some read it as upholding the quest for explicit political targets including majority rules system assembling and are (with some avocation) suspicious about the degree of aspiration suggested. Specialized specialists, including some administration guides, may consider legislative issues to be an impediment to great arrangement making instead of innate to reformist change, and view political economy investigation fundamentally as a method of overseeing hazard. Administration guides need to work more earnestly at drawing in with other expert gatherings, clarifying that they are discussing governmental issues in the sense conveniently characterized by Adrian Leftwich (2008), that is, political cycles that support strategy decisions and the production of compelling organizations (formal and casual), and political setting that shapes how those cycles work out. They ought to likewise call attention to that the approach center doesn't involve a debasement of specialized skill; that they are keen on the collaboration among governmental issues and development, not contending for a restrictive spotlight on organizations; that they perceive the part of thoughts, qualities and notoriety in boosting lawmakers, not simply material interests; and that in notice against over-idealistic interest side systems they are not underplaying the significance of more extensive connections among state and society.

High turnover of benefactor staff and absence of orderly assessment of results three to five years after the finish of help mediations can give customary guide extends the presence of being more effective than they truly are – giving ammo to those slanted to be doubtful of the significance of governmental issues.

The contention that governmental issues matters faces a test from defenders of randomized controlled preliminaries, who advocate this technique as a method of detaching and evaluating the effect of miniature level arrangement mediations, yet with the end goal of making more extensive determinations about what works. Proof from such preliminaries can be useful on the off chance that it is utilized close by a comprehension of how strategy communicates with the legislative issues of take-up and execution however is pointless whenever seen as advancing a quest for generalisable specialized arrangements that disregard setting and governmental issues. Evidence from research about precisely how legislative issues matters for improvement is considerably less indisputable than we might want. This is the subject of the following segment.

## **2. MATERIALS AND METHODS**

The study adopts an Expost-facto research design using the mixed methods research approach. This means that quantitative and qualitative sources were utilized. The mixed methods approach was used for the study because the data used for the research comprises of both primary and secondary sources which include questionnaires to survey responses from respondents. The researcher administered questionnaires to individual and institutions in the

selected States. These data was then complimented with secondary information obtained from documents, reports and government publications. The study focused on Delta and Edo States in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria with a projected population of 9,899,000 in 2018 based on the 2006 population census figure. This projection is based on 3.2% annual growth rate as determined by National Population Commission (NPC), Abuja, (2018).

**Table 1.** Delta and Edo States Population based on 2018 projection.

<b>State</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Total population</b>
Delta	2018 Projection	5,663,400
Edo	2018 Projection	4,235,600

Source: National Population Commission of Nigeria (web), National Bureau of Statistics (web) (2018).

A sample of 1000 respondents was used for this study. In selecting the sample size, the researcher adopts the stratified simple random sampling method. This method was used in order to get a representative opinion of the citizens of Delta and Edo States of Nigeria. As such, 50 respondents were randomly selected from 10 local Government Areas each chosen from Delta and Edo states giving a total of 1000. According to Harper (1977) “stratification lessens the possibility of inaccurate assessment” the subjects were randomly selected from among the stratified groups of international donor partners’ members, civil servants, youth Organizations, community leaders and women groups. 10 persons were randomly selected from each of the 5 group from the 20 Local Government Areas understudy, making a total of 1000 respondents from each local government area. In the observation technique, the researcher would visit most of the project sites of the European Union (EU), World Bank, United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) and Department for International Development (DFID) in Delta and Edo states to see the real things on ground such as signposts of donors’ projects, equipment and the photograph of the projects. This offered real assessment of such projects.

This study utilized both primary and secondary data. Primary data for the quantitative aspect of the study was sourced using the questionnaire; the questionnaire was divided into section one and two using the five point Likert scale of close ended structured questionnaire. Section one was designed to elicit bio-data of respondents while section two was used to obtained information on the role of donor agencies in the development of Delta and Edo states. Some of the questionnaires administered to the respondents by the researcher and his assistants were retrieved the same day and others were retrieved on a later day. The secondary data was sourced from textbooks, journal articles, newspapers, magazines, government publications and the internet. Others are workshops and seminal papers, research reports by academic institutions, government agencies and establishment were sourced from national library and universities including the Delta State University library.

The questionnaire method was used to collect primary data for this study. In this study, a close ended type of questionnaire in which exhaustive questions were asked and a broad range of answers or list of possible options was also provided for the respondents to choose from.



Data from secondary sources were collected as they exist in those sources and used to buttress our discussion where necessary, while the primary data was presented and analyzed using descriptive statistics such as tables and percentages.

### 3. RESULTS

#### Research Question 1:

What are the identifiable developmental challenges confronting Delta and Edo States as oil producing states?

**Table 1.** Mean Score Analysis on the identifiable developmental challenges confronting Delta and Edo States as oil producing states

Items	Delta N = 417		Edo N = 366		Total N = 783	
	$\bar{X}$	SD	$\bar{X}$	SD	$\bar{X}$	SD
Corruption and Bad Governance	4.03	.85	4.05	.81	4.04	.83
Political and ethnic Interest in the developmental projects of the states	4.10	.86	4.12	.82	4.11	.84
Climate and Environmental challenges	4.13	.94	4.18	.90	4.15	.92
improper infrastructural foundation	4.14	.90	4.20	.86	4.17	.88
Inter and Intra States security challenges	4.11	.97	4.15	.92	4.13	.94

Source: Fieldwork, 2020;

Criterion Mean = 3.00

Table 1 shows that mean and standard deviation scores on the identifiable developmental challenges confronting Delta and Edo States. In both Delta and Edo States, corruption and bad governance, political and ethnic interest in developmental projects, climatic factors, poor infrastructural foundations and the expanding insecurity were rated high above the criterion mean of 3.00 and as identifiable challenges confronting developmental progress.

In essence, all the respondents agreed that these identifiable developmental challenges confront development in Delta and Edo States.

#### Research Question 2:

What constitute the development focus, rationale and objectives of international donor agencies in the development of Delta and Edo States?

Table 2 shows that mean and standard deviation scores on what constitute the development focus, rationale and objectives of international donor agencies in the development of Delta and Edo States. Respondents from both Delta and Edo States, recorded very high that

fighting and addressing poverty, and protecting fundamental human rights and privileges of citizen is core among the mandates of project execution for development by international donor. Other objectives rated high above the criterion mean of 3.00 were eradicating illness and diseases through provision of health care facilities, promoting and securing democratic governance, empowering citizens with productive skills, and providing quality education with functional schools facilities.

In essence, respondents strongly support that addressing poverty related issues and protecting human rights are significant to international donor agencies execution of projects in Delta and Edo States In essence, all the respondents agreed that these identifiable developmental challenges confront development in Delta and Edo States.

**Table 2.** Mean Score Analysis on what constitute the development focus, rationale and objectives of international donor agencies in the development of Delta and Edo States.

Items	Delta N = 417		Edo N = 366		Total N = 783	
	$\bar{X}$	SD	$\bar{X}$	SD	$\bar{X}$	SD
Fight and address the problem of poverty	4.04	1.02	4.07	.96	4.05	.99
Protection of fundamental human rights and privileges	4.01	.98	4.09	.94	4.05	.96
Eradication of illness and diseases through provision of health care facilities	3.89	.96	3.93	.90	3.91	.93
Promote and secure democratic governance and empowering citizens with socio-economic skills and opportunities	3.88	.95	3.93	.90	3.91	.93
Provision of quality education through constructing and quipping functional schools	3.89	.96	3.94	.99	3.92	.95

Source: Fieldwork, 2020;

Criterion Mean = 3.00

**Research Question 3:**

What is the impact of the development goals of international donor agencies on the development of Delta and Edo States?

Table 3 shows that mean and standard deviation scores on the impact of the development goals of international donor agencies on the development of Delta and Edo States. Respondents from the both states affirmed that the developmental goals of the international donor agencies has impacted on the provision of fundamental basic amenities, assisting government in good governance, provision of quality education for the people and the promotion and encouragement of local content development.

Respondents score low for the assertion that international donor agencies campaign against government corrupt practices in the states. This implies that aside, meeting the immediate needs of the people, the people does not agree that these agencies can do things contrary to existing leadership of the state in the area of revealing corrupt practices and poor leadership.

**Table 3.** Mean Score Analysis on the impact of the development goals of international donor agencies on the development of Delta and Edo States.

Items	Delta N = 417		Edo N = 366		Total N = 783	
	$\bar{X}$	SD	$\bar{X}$	SD	$\bar{X}$	SD
Provision of Fundamental Basic Amenities like Hospitals, Schools, Housing and Drinkable Water	3.98	.95	4.02	.97	4.00	.98
Assisting Government in providing good governance	3.94	.89	3.99	.96	3.97	.95
Providing Education and Enlightenment for the populace	3.91	.86	3.93	.82	3.92	.84
Campaigning against corruption and bad leadership	1.82	.93	1.76	.94	1.79	.96
Promoting socio-political and economic potentials of the people and encouraging local content development	4.15	.99	4.20	.95	4.17	.97

Source: Fieldwork, 2020;

Criterion Mean = 3.00

#### Research Question 4:

What are the challenges confronting international donor agencies in promoting development/achieving developmental goals in Delta and Edo States?

**Table 4.** Mean Score Analysis on the challenges confronting international donor agencies in promoting development/achieving developmental goals in Delta and Edo States.

Items	Delta N = 417		Edo N = 366		Total N = 783	
	$\bar{X}$	SD	$\bar{X}$	SD	$\bar{X}$	SD
limited financial resources at the disposal to the Donor agencies	4.16	.76	4.17	.72	4.17	.74
Problem of governance and Insecurity	3.94	.97	3.99	.96	3.96	.99
Political Interest, corruption and Transparency Problem	3.95	.93	3.99	.87	3.97	.90
Implementation of projects in areas of their interests and concerns of the Donor partners	3.90	.91	3.92	.86	3.91	.89
Lack of proper infrastructural foundation to build on	3.89	.87	3.93	.84	3.91	.86

Source: Fieldwork, 2020;

Criterion Mean = 3.00

Table 4 shows that mean and standard deviation scores on the challenges confronting international donor agencies in promoting development goals of Delta and Edo States. Respondents from the both states affirmed that the most significant challenge is the financial challenge. They have limited fund to execute their project and programmes. Other challenges are the prevailing insecurity, political interest, corruption, inappropriate infrastructural developmental foundation and donors pursuing and implementing projects that are of interest and concern to them. This implies that aside financial challenges, social, political and cultural challenges confront donor’s ability to achieve their goals in Delta and Edo States.

**Respondents Responses to Promoting Development in Oil Producing Edo and Delta States**

**Table 5.** Mean Score Analysis on Promoting Development in Oil Producing Edo and Delta States

Items	Delta N = 417		Edo N = 366		Total N = 783	
	$\bar{X}$	SD	$\bar{X}$	SD	$\bar{X}$	SD
The provision of basic needs such as food, shelter and protection	4.46	.79	4.51	.75	4.48	.77
Enhanced life sustenance and self esteem of the people	4.12	.87	4.17	.94	4.14	.97
Social, economic and institutional development, transforming into a better life	4.09	.97	4.13	.91	4.11	.94
political freedom	4.02	.79	4.07	.94	4.04	.98
Social and economic opportunities for the people	3.92	.93	3.93	.98	3.93	.96

Source: Fieldwork, 2020;

Criterion Mean = 3.00

Table 5 shows that mean and standard deviation scores that address pogroms of promoting development in the oil producing Delta and Edo States. Respondents agree that development can be promoted in these regions when basic needs such as food, shelter and life protection is available. Aside these, enhancing and sustaining the life of the people, transforming social, economic and cultural institutions, providing political freedom and creating economic opportunities are essentials for promoting development in both states

**4. DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS**

Firstly, the study identified corruption and bad governance, political and ethnic interest in developmental projects, climatic factors, poor infrastructural foundations and the expanding insecurity as critical developmental challenges affecting the survival of projects and programmes in the oil producing states.

Secondly, the study reveals the important focus of international donor agencies are fighting and addressing poverty, and protecting fundamental human rights and privileges of citizen is core among the mandates of project execution for development by international donor agencies. However, these focuses were not difference in Delta and Edo State. Ositive effect on average.

Thirdly, the study reveals that the developmental goals of the international donor partners has impact on the provision of fundamental basic amenities, assisting government in good governance, provision of quality education for the people and the promotion and encouragement of local content development, except on campaign against corruption on both states. This finding is consistent with the study of Burnside and David (2000), Buitor (2007) and Easterly and Tobias (2008) who separately claimed that international donor agencies development goals and objective are primarily to alleviate poverty and meet the MDGs.

Fourthly, the study reveals that the most significant challenge facing international donor partner is the financial challenge i.e. limited to funding proposed project and programmes. Other challenges were the prevailing insecurity, political interest, corruption, impropriate infrastructural developmental foundation and donors pursuing and implementing projects that are of interest and concern to them.

This implies that aside financial challenges, social, political and cultural challenges confront donor's ability to achieve their goals in Delta and Edo States the development challenges confronting international donor partners has a positive and significant relationship with the extent development is promoted in Delta and Edo States With respect to the fourth hypothesis of this study, the study found that the development challenges confronting international donor partners has a positive and significant relationship with the extent development is promoted in Delta and Edo States.

## **5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The study examined the challenges of international donor agencies in the development of Delta and Edo States. From the findings of this study, we concluded that corruption and bad governance, political and ethnic interest in developmental projects, climatic factors, poor infrastructural foundations and the expanding insecurity as critical developmental challenges affecting the survival of projects and programmes in the oil producing states. And that the developments focus of these international donor agencies are the same in Delta and Edo States because their main focus is on alleviating poverty. The study also concluded that development challenges' confronting international donor agencies affect development is promoted in Delta and Edo States. In view of the findings made in the course of this study, the following recommendations were made Based on the conclusion reached in this study, the following recommendations were made.

- i. Because factors like political and ethnic interest in developmental projects, climatic factors, poor infrastructural foundations and the expanding insecurity hinder development, projects cited should put these factors into consideration
- ii. International donor partners should be transparent in their local micro projects such as basic healthcare facilities, rural transportation, sanitation, water supply, education and electricity that have economic and social impact on the lives of people especially rural areas in Delta and Edo States.



- iii. International donor agencies should focus on assisting Nigeria especially Delta and Edo States to development and implement nationally owned poverty reduction strategies suitable to the local context

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