


Assessment of the Implementation of Rural Development Projects by Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) in Abuja, Nigeria: 2015-2023

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Abstract

This study assessed the implementation of rural development projects by the Federal Capital Territory Administration in Abuja, Nigeria, from 2015 to 2022. The study employed surveys and documentary research, utilizing both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection. The population of this study includes members of the rural community, the Rural Development Association, and officials of the Federal Capital Territory Administration of FCT. We drew the population from the rural areas within the councils. This study employed both qualitative and quantitative data analysis methods to scrutinize the collected data. The study's findings reveal the administration of a total of 397 questionnaires. Out of the three hundred and ninety-seven (397) questionnaires administered, three hundred and sixty-one (361) were completed and returned, while thirty-nine (39) were not returned. The study further revealed that the Federal Capital Territory Administration played a significant role in the provision of social amenities for the socio-economic well-being of the residents in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Area Council's wards. Findings from the study also revealed that the Federal Capital Territory Administration plays a significant role in the provision of education-related projects, which include the building and rehabilitation of public schools in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Area Council's wards. Findings from the study further revealed that the Federal Capital Territory Administration plays a significant role in the provision of health-related projects, which include building and rehabilitating public health care centers in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Area Council's wards. Based on the findings, we recommend that the Federal Capital Territory Administration should continue its efforts to provide more social amenities for residents in the council's wards. This will further promote the socio-economic well-being of the populace. The Federal Capital Territory Administration should give education a top priority by providing quality instructional materials and expanding the infrastructures. This will lead to a higher rate of school enrolment and a reduction in the incidence of dropout syndrome.

Keywords: Rural Development, Social Amenities, Education-Related Projects, Health-Related Projects, Federal Capital Territory Administration, Abuja, Nigeria.

Introduction

The importance of rural development has been universally recognized, both globally and locally, as a critical strategy for achieving sustainable development, reducing poverty, and

promoting social equity. In the 20th century, rural areas in many countries, particularly in the Global South, were characterized by low levels of economic development, limited infrastructure, and poor access to basic services such as education, healthcare, and clean water. These challenges have spurred various initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life in rural communities through targeted development projects. Globally, rural development has been recognized as a central element in achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 1 (No Poverty), Goal 2 (Zero Hunger), and Goal 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).

In Africa, rural areas continue to face significant challenges. According to the World Bank, over 70% of Africa's population lives in rural areas, with many of these communities facing challenges such as inadequate infrastructure, limited access to essential services, and high levels of poverty. In Nigeria, rural areas are home to about 50% of the country's population, but they remain underserved by basic infrastructure and services (World Bank, 2020). In an effort to address these disparities, various governmental and non-governmental organizations, including the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) in Abuja, have embarked on rural development initiatives aimed at improving the living standards of people in the rural areas surrounding the capital city.

The Federal Capital Territory (FCT), which houses Abuja, the capital city of Nigeria, has a unique governance structure, with a blend of urban and rural areas. Since 2015, the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) has taken steps to implement rural development projects aimed at improving infrastructure, enhancing access to healthcare and education, creating employment opportunities, and reducing poverty in rural communities within the FCT. These initiatives have included rural road construction, provision of electricity, water supply projects, and support for agricultural development, as well as social welfare programs.

Despite these efforts, the effectiveness of these projects has not been thoroughly evaluated. In particular, the implementation process and the impact of these initiatives on rural communities in Abuja have not been systematically studied, despite their relevance in achieving the broader objectives of sustainable development in the region.

Several recent studies have investigated the effectiveness of rural development projects in Nigeria, including those implemented by the FCTA in Abuja. Research has identified several key factors that influence the successful implementation of rural development projects, such as governance, funding, community participation, and the role of technology. A few notable studies have highlighted the relationship between these factors and the success of rural development initiatives. Study by Okoye et al. (2020) explored the impact of governance and institutional capacity on the successful implementation of rural development projects in Nigeria. The authors found that governance issues such as corruption, lack of transparency, and poor accountability mechanisms were significant barriers to successful implementation. They argued that strengthening the institutional capacity of local government agencies like the FCTA could improve the delivery of rural development projects.

Study by Agboola and Olowu (2021) focused on the role of community participation in rural development projects in Nigeria. The authors concluded that community involvement in the planning, execution, and monitoring of projects led to better outcomes in terms of both the quality of infrastructure and the sustainability of the projects. The study also emphasized that rural development initiatives are more likely to succeed when local communities are empowered to take ownership of the projects.

Study by Adebayo et al. (2022) examined the impact of technology on rural development projects in Nigeria, particularly focusing on the role of digital platforms and innovations in improving project management and resource allocation. The researchers found that integrating technology into rural development efforts helped in enhancing transparency, improving monitoring and evaluation, and facilitating better communication between stakeholders.

Despite the efforts of the FCTA, the effectiveness of rural development projects has not been adequately assessed. Many rural communities in the FCT still face infrastructural deficits, poor access to social services, and high levels of poverty. Recent data from the National Bureau of Statistics (2023) indicates that rural poverty in Nigeria remains a significant challenge, with many rural areas in the FCT lacking essential services like healthcare and electricity. Given these challenges, the importance of this study lies in its potential to evaluate the effectiveness of rural development projects in Abuja, providing policymakers and development practitioners with insights into the factors that influence successful project implementation. The study contributes to the growing body of knowledge on rural development in Nigeria, offering recommendations for improving the design and execution of rural development projects in the future.

Statement of the Problem

The implementation of rural development projects has been marked by significant challenges that hinder the successful execution and sustainability of such projects. While rural development is a key policy priority for improving the livelihoods of underserved communities, several contemporary issues such as inadequate infrastructure, poor funding, ineffective governance, and socio-political instability have impeded the efficiency of project implementation. This study seeks to address these contemporary issues by investigating the factors that influence the successful implementation of rural development projects in Abuja. Key challenges in the existing research include the lack of empirical evidence on the specific barriers faced by FCTA, such as inefficient coordination among government agencies, weak community participation, and the misalignment between project objectives and local needs (Olorunfemi & Adebayo, 2020; Okwu & Adeyemo, 2019; Oladipo, 2021). These gaps in knowledge have limited the development of targeted strategies for improving project outcomes in the region. For example, previous studies by Olorunfemi and Adebayo (2020) highlighted the low impact of rural development projects due to poor planning and limited community involvement, while Okwu and Adeyemo (2019) emphasized the challenge of financial mismanagement. Oladipo (2021) noted that the

political dynamics and lack of continuity in government policies were significant contributors to project failure. The primary objective of this study is to assess how these variables influence the outcome of rural development projects in the Federal Capital Territory. Addressing this issue is of utmost importance because rural areas in Abuja, despite being close to the nation's capital, continue to suffer from underdevelopment, poor infrastructure, and limited access to basic services, which perpetuates cycles of poverty and inequality. Understanding the factors that contribute to the success or failure of rural development projects in this context is crucial for policy makers and development practitioners to design more effective and sustainable interventions.

The Area is design to provide support to rural areas for social and economic development. Although some factors like inadequate finance, lack of technical man power, lack of autonomy has hampered its service. But despite these problems, Area still boost socio-economic activities of rural people the provision of water borehole. But what is not certain is whether the Federal Capital Territory Administration has developed the rural areas through the provision of basic social amenities, health care facilities, educational facilities, agricultural inputs and basic infrastructures. This raises a fundamental question of; to what has Federal Capital Territory Administration do with the millions of naira they receive meant to provide primary education, feeder roads, culvert and bridges, agricultural and natural services and health care services. This study therefore tends to address this fundamental research problem which stated that, what has been the major role of Federal Capital Territory Administration to the development of rural areas in Abuja Area Council of FCT?

The study seeks to answer the following research questions:

- i. To what extent has Federal Capital Territory Administration provide social amenities for the socio-economic well-being of the rural dweller?
- ii. Does Federal Capital Territory Administration provide educational facilities for the development of rural education?
- iii. Has Federal Capital Territory Administration provide Health facilities for the development of rural hospitals?

The main objective of the study is to examine the role of Area on Rural Development, while the specific objectives are to:

- i. ascertain whether Federal Capital Territory Administration has provided social amenities for the socio-economic well-being of the rural dweller.
- ii. evaluate the role of Federal Capital Territory Administration in the provision of educational facilities for the development of rural education.
- iii. find out whether Federal Capital Territory Administration has provided healthcare facilities for the development of rural hospitals.

The following Hypotheses were formulated to guide the study;

- i. Federal Capital Territory Administration did not play a significant role in the provision social amenities for the socio-economic well-being of the residents.

- ii. Federal Capital Territory Administration did not play a significant role in building and maintenance of educational facilities for the development of rural education.
- iii. Federal Capital Territory Administration did not play a significant role in building and maintenance of healthcare facilities for the development of rural hospitals.

Literature Review

Concept of Local Government

Local government refers to a system of administration or governance at the grassroots or regional level, typically serving specific geographic areas such as cities, towns, municipalities, or counties. It is responsible for managing local affairs and delivering public services that meet the needs of its constituents. These services can include education, healthcare, transportation, public safety, and zoning regulations, among others. Local governments operate under the framework of national or regional laws and are typically characterized by the decentralization of authority, which allows for local decision-making that reflects the unique preferences and needs of the community (Akinyele, 2020; Smith & Jones, 2019).

Local governments can take various forms, including councils, commissions, or boards, depending on the country's structure and legal framework. They generally possess both legislative and executive powers, such as the ability to pass ordinances, levy taxes, and oversee public infrastructure projects. The autonomy of local governments varies across different countries and can be influenced by factors such as the legal system, political environment, and historical context (Johnson, 2021). Over time, the role of local government has expanded beyond traditional functions, incorporating responsibilities related to environmental sustainability, social inclusion, and economic development (Miller & Wang, 2022).

Concept of Development

Development is a multi-dimensional concept that encompasses economic, social, political, and environmental progress aimed at improving the well-being of individuals and communities. It typically involves the enhancement of human capabilities, the expansion of economic opportunities, and the reduction of inequalities. The definition of development is not fixed, as it evolves in response to changing global contexts, but it remains focused on improving the quality of life and fostering sustainable progress.

In the context of economics, development often refers to growth, industrialization, and the increase in income levels, though it increasingly includes non-economic dimensions such as education, healthcare, and access to basic services. The Human Development Index (HDI), for instance, incorporates income, education, and life expectancy to provide a more comprehensive measure of development (UNDP, 2020). Furthermore, development is viewed as a process of achieving justice, equity, and human rights, as evidenced by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set forth by the United Nations (United Nations, 2015).

Development can also be seen as a process of social transformation, where there is a deliberate effort to reduce poverty, promote equality, and achieve social inclusion (Chenery & Syrquin, 2019). In this sense, it involves fostering social capital, strengthening governance, and empowering communities. Environmental sustainability is another crucial dimension, with an emphasis on ensuring that development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (World Commission on Environment and Development, 2017).

Concept of Rural Development

Rural development refers to the process of improving the quality of life and economic well-being of people living in rural areas. It involves a range of initiatives aimed at addressing the specific challenges faced by rural communities, such as poverty, lack of infrastructure, and limited access to education and healthcare. The concept encompasses economic, social, environmental, and cultural dimensions, focusing on creating sustainable livelihoods, improving local governance, and promoting social inclusion (Khan, 2021; Sharma & Singh, 2019).

Rural development strategies often emphasize the need for local empowerment, decentralization, and community participation in decision-making processes. These strategies can include improving agricultural productivity, fostering entrepreneurship, enhancing education and healthcare services, and promoting renewable energy solutions. The goal is not only economic growth but also the well-being of rural populations, with attention to equity and environmental sustainability (Saxena, 2022).

The concept has evolved over time, with earlier models focusing mainly on economic growth and infrastructure development, while contemporary approaches adopt a more holistic view, integrating social, environmental, and institutional factors (Jha & Singh, 2020). Furthermore, rural development is increasingly seen as a multidimensional issue that requires the cooperation of multiple stakeholders, including governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the private sector, and rural communities themselves (Sharma et al., 2023).

Review of Empirical Studies

In recent empirical studies on rural development and project implementation, several studies have been conducted, focusing on different aspects of rural development and governance, though none have directly examined the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) in Abuja, Nigeria, specifically between 2015 and 2023. A study by Akinyemi and Adeyemi (2023) titled "Assessing the Implementation of Rural Development Projects in Nigeria: A Case Study of the Federal Capital Territory (FCTA)" employed a descriptive research design, using survey questionnaires to collect data from local government officers and community members. The data was analyzed using simple frequency and percentage analysis, alongside Chi-square for hypothesis testing. The study found that there were significant challenges in project execution due to poor budget

allocation and inefficient project monitoring. The study recommended better monitoring and transparency in the allocation of resources. Similarly, *Ibrahim (2022)* in his study "Impact of Government Interventions in Rural Areas: The Role of FCTA", used a mixed-method approach, collecting both qualitative and quantitative data through interviews and surveys. The data analysis employed simple descriptive statistics and Chi-square tests, revealing that many rural development projects had low sustainability rates due to insufficient community involvement in project planning and implementation. Ibrahim suggested increasing local stakeholders' participation in the planning phase to improve project sustainability.

Another study by Ogunlade et al. (2021) titled "Evaluation of Rural Infrastructure Development Programs in Abuja: A Case Study of FCTA's Rural Development Initiatives" adopted a survey research design, using questionnaires as the primary data collection tool. Data was analyzed using descriptive statistics and Chi-square analysis, revealing that rural infrastructure projects often suffered from delayed implementation and low local engagement. Ogunlade et al. recommended the decentralization of project management to local governments to enhance effectiveness. In contrast, Oluwole (2020) in the study "Rural Development Projects in Nigeria: An Assessment of FCTA's Role", utilized a case study design with interviews and focus group discussions. Data analysis involved simple percentages and Chi-square, identifying a lack of coordination between the FCTA and other governmental agencies, which often delayed the completion of rural development projects. Oluwole proposed a more integrated approach to project management involving all relevant stakeholders.

Lastly, Adepoju and Bakare (2019) in "Challenges of Rural Development Project Implementation in Abuja: The Case of FCTA's 2015-2020 Programs" used a cross-sectional survey design, collecting data via structured questionnaires from community leaders and government officials. The data was analyzed through descriptive statistics and Chi-square tests, highlighting the issue of inadequate funding as a major barrier to successful project implementation. They recommended an increase in budgetary allocation and stricter financial oversight to ensure timely completion of rural projects.

While these studies all focus on rural development in Nigeria, they differ from the current study in that they either focus on broader national rural development issues or lack a specific time frame related to the FCTA's activities from 2015 to 2023. Additionally, none focus specifically on the implementation challenges faced by the FCTA in Abuja, especially in terms of local community engagement, project sustainability, and inter-governmental coordination.

Gaps Identified

No study has specifically analyzed the implementation of rural development projects by the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) within the context of Abuja between 2015 and 2023.

While some studies mention challenges in rural development at the national level, the unique issues facing Abuja, including the urban-rural divide and inter-governmental coordination, remain largely unaddressed.

Previous studies have focused on broader rural development without isolating the FCTA's role and specific interventions during the time frame mentioned in the current study.

Theoretical Framework

The Decentralization Theory of Development is primarily associated with the work of scholars like Edward Weidner and Robert A. Dahl (1961), who emphasized the importance of decentralizing governance and decision-making as a means of fostering local development. However, decentralization has been a central concept in development studies, with various scholars building upon these early contributions.

The theory of decentralization argues that shifting power and resources from central authorities to local governments or communities is key to achieving sustainable development. Centralized systems often face challenges such as inefficient resource allocation, lack of responsiveness to local needs, and alienation of local populations from the decision-making process. Decentralization is seen as a way to enhance political participation, improve governance, increase accountability, and foster more context-sensitive and inclusive development (Bray, 2013).

Political Justification: Decentralization empowers local governments and communities, improving democratic governance by allowing people at the grassroots to participate directly in decision-making (Faguet, 2014).

Administrative Justification: Decentralizing administration can lead to more efficient and effective management of resources, as local authorities are better positioned to understand and respond to the specific needs of their areas.

Economic Justification: Decentralization is thought to stimulate local economic development by encouraging local autonomy and better-targeted investments in rural areas, leading to more sustainable development outcomes.

Basic Assumptions of the Theory

Power and Decision-Making Should Be Distributed: The theory assumes that power should not be concentrated at the national level but distributed to local authorities to ensure that development efforts are more context-specific and responsive to local needs (Olowu & Wunsch, 2004).

Local Governments Are More Effective: Local governments are presumed to have better knowledge of local needs and are in a better position to implement development projects suited to their unique socio-cultural and economic contexts.

Democratic Participation Enhances Development: Decentralization encourages greater participation in governance, improving transparency, accountability, and the responsiveness of governments to the people (Manor, 1999).

Local Autonomy: The theory assumes that granting local authorities autonomy in decision-making and resource allocation will result in better outcomes for local communities, particularly in developing countries.

Criticisms of the Theory

While decentralization has been widely promoted as a solution to various governance challenges, several criticisms have emerged:

Capacity Issues: Local governments may lack the technical, financial, and managerial capacity to effectively implement development projects. This can lead to inefficiencies or failures in project delivery (Smoke, 2003).

Fragmentation: Decentralization may lead to fragmented governance, where different regions or localities pursue conflicting development agendas, potentially undermining national cohesion and coordinated development (Prud'homme, 1995).

Local Elite Capture: In practice, decentralization can empower local elites who may use their power for personal gain, leaving vulnerable populations without the intended benefits of development (Heller, 2001).

Resource Disparities: Not all local governments have equal access to resources, and decentralization can exacerbate inequalities between rich and poor regions, as wealthier areas can implement development programs more effectively (Smoke, 2003).

Relevance to the Study of Rural Development Projects in the Federal Capital Territory (FCTA), Abuja, Nigeria

The Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) in Abuja, Nigeria, offers a pertinent context for examining the relevance of decentralization in rural development. The decentralized governance structures within the FCTA have implications for the design and implementation of rural development projects.

Local Governance in Abuja: The FCTA is a unique case in Nigeria, as it combines both federal and local governance mechanisms, which offers an opportunity to assess the role of decentralization in addressing rural development challenges in an urbanizing region (Nwankwo & Adebayo, 2014).

Political and Administrative Challenges: While the FCTA is responsible for implementing rural development projects in surrounding areas, issues such as resource allocation, coordination between federal and local entities, and political interests often complicate project execution. The decentralization theory's emphasis on local autonomy could help address some of these issues by giving local communities more control over decision-making (Faguet, 2014).

Capacity and Inclusivity: The decentralization of decision-making in the FCTA may enhance the ability to tailor rural development projects to the specific needs of communities in Abuja's periphery. However, the capacity of local authorities in the region must be assessed to ensure that decentralization translates into effective governance and sustainable development (Bray, 2013).

Equity in Development: The theory's focus on equity is particularly relevant in Abuja, as rural areas around the FCTA have historically faced disparities in access to resources and services. By decentralizing the management of development projects, these areas may benefit from more targeted interventions (Manor, 1999).

Conclusion

The Decentralization Theory of Development offers an insightful framework for evaluating the role of local governance in rural development projects, particularly in contexts like the FCTA in Abuja, Nigeria. While decentralization holds the promise of more responsive, inclusive, and context-sensitive development, its implementation must contend with significant challenges such as resource disparities, local elite capture, and capacity deficits. Therefore, assessing the effectiveness of rural development projects in Abuja requires a nuanced understanding of both the opportunities and limitations inherent in decentralization.

Research Methodology

Three basic research designs were employed for this study; they are Survey, Documentary where both Quantitative and qualitative data were used.

The population of this study are; Rural Development Association, officials of the Federal Capital Territory Administration and member of traditional Councils in FCT. The population was drawn from rural areas.

The total population of the study is one hundred and nine three thousand and two fifty-seven (193,257). The population size of one hundred and nine three thousand and two fifty-seven (193,257) would be narrow down to determine the sample size. Smith (2008) sample size determination was employed to get the sample size. It is most appropriate for survey research because it is easy to use and the computation is based almost solely on the population size.

A total of 193,257 populations were narrowed down to determine the sample size using Smith (2008) statistical formula as given below:

$$\frac{N}{3 + N (ME)^2}$$

$$\frac{193,257}{3 + 193,257 (0.0025)}$$

$$\frac{193,257}{486.14} = 397$$

Therefore, the sample size for this study is 400

The study was utilized both primary and secondary method of data collection. The primary data consists of Survey, Interview and personal observation while, secondary method will consists past records and other relevance documented materials.

Inferential statistics using chi-square analysis were used to test the hypothesis at 5% level of significance.

Chi-square Statistical model as shown the relationship between the dependent and independent variables as given below:

$$\chi^2 = \frac{\sum (O_i - E_i)^2}{E_i}$$

Where:

c=degrees of freedom

O=observed value(s)

E=expected Value(s)

Result and Discussion

To what extent has Federal Capital Territory Administration provide social amenities for the socio-economic wellbeing of the residents?

Table 1: Respondent distribution on whether Federal Capital Territory Administration has provided Borehole water for Councils ward

Variables	No of respondents	Percentage (%)
Agreed	186	51.5
Disagreed	165	45.7
Undecided	10	2.8
Total	361	100%

Source: Field survey, 2024

From the data obtain, it was revealed that 186 respondents representing 51.5% of the sample population agreed that Federal Capital Territory Administration has provided Borehole water for Councils ward, 165 respondents representing 45.7% disagree while, 10 respondents representing 2.8% cannot ascertain whether Federal Capital Territory Administration has provided Borehole water for Councils ward.

Table 2: Respondent distribution on whether Federal Capital Territory Administration has provided any modern market in the Councils

Variables	No of respondents	Percentage (%)
Agreed	300	83.1
Disagreed	58	16.1
Undecided	3	0.8
Total	361	100%

Source: Field survey, 2024

From the data obtain, it was revealed that 300 respondents representing 83.1% of the sample population agreed that Federal Capital Territory Administration has provided any modern market in Councils ward, 58 respondents representing 16.1% disagree while, 3 respondents representing 0.8% cannot ascertain whether Federal Capital Territory Administration has provided any modern market in Councils ward. The data are represented in the table below:

Table 3: Respondent distribution on whether Federal Capital Territory Administration has provided dispensaries public utilities in Councils ward

Variables	No of respondents	Percentage (%)
Agreed	290	80.3
Disagreed	61	16.9
Undecided	9	2.5
Total	361	100%

Source: Field survey, 2024

From the data obtain, it was revealed that 61 respondents representing 19.3 % of the sample population agreed that, Federal Capital Territory Administration has provided dispensaries public utilities in Councils ward, 290 respondents representing 80.3% disagree while, 9 respondents representing 2.5% cannot ascertain whether the Federal Capital Territory Administration has provided dispensaries public utilities in Councils ward.

Has Federal Capital Territory Administration built and maintain educational facilities for development of rural education?

Table 4: Respondent distribution on whether Federal Capital Territory Administration has built public primary school in rural districts.

Variables	No of respondents	Percentage (%)
Agreed	120	33.3
Disagreed	230	63.7
Undecided	11	3.0
Total	361	100%

Source: Field survey, 2024

From the data obtain, it was revealed that 120 respondents representing 33.3% of the sample population agreed that Federal Capital Territory Administration has built public primary school in Councils ward, 230 respondents representing 63.7% disagree while, 11 respondents representing 3.0% cannot not ascertain whether Federal Capital Territory Administration has built public primary school in Councils ward.

Table 5: Respondent distribution on whether Federal Capital Territory Administration has rehabilitated public primary school in Councils ward.

Variables	No of respondents	Percentage (%)
Agreed	220	60.9
Disagreed	100	27.7
Undecided	41	11.4
Total	361	100%

Source: Field survey, 2024

From the data obtain, it was revealed that 220 respondents representing 60.9% of the sample population agreed that Federal Capital Territory Administration has rehabilitated public primary school in Councils ward, 100 respondents representing 27.7% disagree while, 41 respondents representing 11.4 % cannot ascertain whether Federal Capital Territory Administration has rehabilitated public primary school in Councils ward.

Has Federal Capital Territory Administration provided and maintain Health facilities for the development of rural hospitals?

Table 6: Respondent distribution on whether Federal Capital Territory Administration has built public health cares in Councils ward

Variables	No of respondents	Percentage (%)
Agreed	83	22.5
Disagreed	229	62.1
Undecided	51	14.1
Total	461	100%

Source: Field survey, 2024

From the data obtain, it was revealed that 83 respondents representing 22.5% of the sample population agreed that Federal Capital Territory Administration has built public health cares in Councils ward, 229 respondents representing 62.1% disagree while, 51 respondents representing 14.1% cannot not ascertain whether Federal Capital Territory Administration has built public health cares in Councils ward.

Table 7: Respondent distribution on whether Federal Capital Territory Administration has rehabilitated any health centre in Councils ward.

Variables	No of respondents	Percentage (%)
Agreed	161	44.5
Disagreed	140	38.8
Undecided	60	16.6
Total	361	100%

Source: Field survey, 2024

From the data obtained, it was revealed that 161 respondents representing 44.5 of the sample population agreed that Federal Capital Territory Administration has built any new or rehabilitate any health centre in their wards, 140 respondents representing 38.8% disagree while, 60 respondents representing 16.6% cannot ascertain whether Federal Capital Territory Administration has built any new or rehabilitate any health centre in their ward. The data are represented in the table below.

Test statistics of frequency and percentage were used to test the questionnaire while chi-square was used to test the validity of the hypotheses.

Chi-square: $\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$ (1)

Where O=observed frequency, E=expected frequency.

The level of significant is 5%

Chi-square was used because the population involved more than two proportions.

We shall apply chi-square:

$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(f_o - f_e)^2}{f_e}$

Where χ^2 =chi-square, f_o =fo: observed value, f_e : expected value, 0.05 level of significances.

Test of Hypothesis I

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	183.113 ^a	4	.000
Likelihood Ratio	142.964	4	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	171.831	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	361		
a. 1 cells (11.1%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 3.41.			

Calculated $\chi^2 = 183.11$. $DF = (r-1)(c-1) = (3-1)(3-1) = 2 \times 2 = 4$.

Under 4 degree of freedom at 0.05 level of significance chi-square = 9.48 from the table 1 above.

Decision Rule

Reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis, if chi-square (χ^2) calculated value is greater than chi-square value from the table, otherwise accept it. Therefore, null hypothesis is rejected since the calculated chi-square is greater.

This means that, we reject null hypothesis which stated that, Federal Capital Territory Administration did not play a significant role in the provision social amenities for the socio-economic well-being of the rural dweller and accept the alternative which stated that, Federal Capital Territory Administration played a significant role in the provision social amenities for the socio-economic well-being of the rural dweller.

Test of Hypothesis II

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	6.434 ^a	4	.068
Likelihood Ratio	5.720	4	.095
Linear-by-Linear Association	5.314	1	.079
N of Valid Cases	361		
a. 1 cells (11.1%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 3.41.			

Calculated $\chi^2 = 6.434^a$. $DF = (r-1)(c-1) = (3-1)(3-1) = 2 \times 2 = 4$.

Under 4 degree of freedom at 0.05 level of significance chi-square = 9.48 from the table 1 above.

Decision Rule

Reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis, if chi-square (χ^2) calculated value is greater than chi-square value from the table, otherwise accept it. Therefore, null hypothesis is rejected since the calculated chi-square is greater than the estimated.

From the above analysis, the study accept the null hypothesis which stated that, Federal Capital Territory Administration did not play a significant role in building and maintenance

of educational facilities for the development of rural education and reject the alternative which stated that, Federal Capital Territory Administration played a significant role in building and maintenance of educational facilities for the development of rural education.

Test of Hypothesis III

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	4.811 ^a	4	.062
Likelihood Ratio	5.912	4	.068
Linear-by-Linear Association	4.790	1	.054
N of Valid Cases	361		

a. 1 cells (11.1%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 3.41.

Calculated $\chi^2 = 4.811^a$. $DF = (r-1)(c-1) = (3-1)(3-1) = 2 \times 2 = 4$.

Under 4 degree of freedom at 0.05 level of significance chi-square = 9.48 from the table 1 above.

Decision Rule

Reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis, if chi-square (χ^2) calculated value is greater than chi-square value from the table, otherwise accept it. Therefore, null hypothesis is rejected since the calculated chi-square is greater than the estimated.

From the above analysis, the study accept the null hypothesis which stated that, Federal Capital Territory Administration did not play a significant role in building and maintenance of healthcare facilities for the development of rural hospitals and reject the alternative which stated that, Federal Capital Territory Administration played a significant role in in building and maintenance of healthcare facilities for the development of rural hospitals.

Discussion of Finding

Table 8: Rural Development in District Area of FCT

Basic Infrastructures
Rehabilitation of health clinics blocks
Building of new rural health clinics blocks
Rural Electricity: Supply of transformers for communities
Provision of Pipe-borne water
Constructions and Rehabilitations of Feudal Roads
Constructions and Rehabilitations of culverts and bridges.
Building of new blocks in rural health clinics blocks
Rehabilitation of clinics primary schools blocks

Source: Federal Capital Territory Administration's Projects Report, 2023

Finding from the study shows that, Federal Capital Territory Administration played a significant role in the provision social amenities for the socio-economic well-being of the FCT residents. This finding goes contrary to the study conducted by Anger, (2012) who examined local government and rural development in Benue State found that, performance of local government in Benue state on rural areas in Benue state are characterized by inefficient means of agricultural production, there is general lack of basic infrastructure and social amenities such as safe portable water, road, medical facilities, educational facilities, electricity and general decline in human development.

Documents retrieved from the local government shows that only few social amenities were provided for Councils ward in Area Area of FCT. This is presented in the table below:

Table 9: Federal Capital Territory Administration's intervention in Basic social amenities related project Abuja Areas councils

S/N	Basic social amenities	No. of Projects	No. of Benefited
1	Water supply	5	Yaba, Garki
2	Electricity	9	Jiwa, Kabusa,
3	Sewage system	13	
4	Roads and transportation infrastructure	12	Yangogi, Yebu
5	Public parks and green spaces	4	Kilankwa, Kwali, Pai,
6	Community centers and recreational facilities	8	Jiwa, Kabusa, Karshi, Karu
7	Transformers	2	
8	Public restrooms	5	Gwagwa, Gwarinpa
9	Communication infrastructure (telephone, internet, postal services)	5	, Orozo, Bwari,
10	Markets and shopping centers	6	Garki, Gui,
11	Public transportation services (bus stops)	6	Kuje, Rubbochi, Ashara, Dafa,

Source: Federal Capital Territory Administration's Projects Report, 2023

Table above shows that, few rural communities benefited from the rural development projects in FCT. The benefited communities are classified in the twenty-five districts areas. The report shows that, 5 districts areas benefited from the Water supply, 9 districts areas benefited from the Electricity projects infrastructure (transformers), 13 districts areas benefited from the Sewage system projects, 12 districts areas benefited from the Roads and transportation infrastructure related projects, 4 districts areas benefited from the Public parks and green spaces, 8 districts areas benefited from the Community centers and recreational facilities projects, 2 districts areas benefited from the transformers projects, 5 districts areas benefited from the Public restrooms, 6 districts areas benefited from the Markets and shopping centers projects, Public transportation services (buses stop) while 6 districts areas benefited from the Social welfare services such as youth event centers. The Benefited district communities are; Abaji, Yaba, Garki, Gui, Gwagwa, Gwarinpa, Jiwa,

Kabusa, Karshi, Karu, Nyanya, Orozo, Bwari, Gwaywalada, Kuje, Rubbochi, Ashara, Dafa, Gumbo, Kilankwa, Kwali, Pai, Wako, Yangogi, Yebu

Finding from the study shows that, Federal Capital Territory Administration played a significant role in building and maintenance of educational facilities for the development of rural education and reject the alternative which stated that, Federal Capital Territory Administration played a significant role in building and maintenance of educational facilities for the development of rural education. This finding goes contrary to the study conducted by Odewale (2019) who examined an overview Local Government and Primary Education in Nigeria and found that Local government has contributed immensely to the functioning of primary education, both in mandatory and concurrent capacities with the state government especially in payments of teacher's salary and allowances, provision of instructional materials, provision of classrooms and other infrastructures needed for the smooth running of primary education in Nigeria. The paper concluded that local governments remain the major actor and provider of primary education in Nigeria.

Documents retrieved from the local government shows that only few educational facilities were provided for Councils ward in Area Area of FCT. This is presented in the table below:

Table 10: Federal Capital Territory Administration's intervention in Education related project in Abuja

S/N	Education related projects	No. of Projects	No. of Benefited district
1	Teachers educational Training	2136	all the district areas
2	Public Libraries	18	Kwali, Garki,
3	Rehabilitated School buildings	25	all the district areas
4	Newly constructed School building	14	all the district areas
5	Educational resources	12	all the district areas
6	Information Technology	20	Orozo, Bwari
7	Virtual Classroom	17	Bwari, Kubwa
8	Instructional materials	21	Gwagwa, Gwarinpa
9	Recreational facilities	22	, Orozo, Bwari,
10	Skill acquisition	24	Garki, Gui,
11	Laboratory equipments	11	Kuje, Rubbochi, Ashara, Dafa,

Source: Federal Capital Territory Administration's Projects Report, 2023

Table above shows that, some areas districts benefited from the rural development projects in FCT. The benefited communities are classified in the Twenty Five districts areas. The report shows that, 2136 Teachers in all districts areas benefited from the educational Training, 18 districts areas benefited from the Public Libraries , 25 districts areas benefited from the Rehabilitated School buildings, 14 districts areas benefited from the Newly constructed School building, 12 districts areas benefited from the Educational resources, 20 districts areas benefited from the Information Technology, 17 districts areas benefited from

the Virtual Classroom, 21 districts areas benefited from the Instructional materials, 22 districts areas benefited from the Recreational facilities, 24 districts areas benefited from the Skill acquisition while 11 districts areas benefited from the Laboratory equipments. The Benefited district communities are; Abaji, Yaba, Garki, Gui, Gwagwa, Gwarinpa, Jiwa, Kabusa, Karshi, Karu, Nyanya, Orozo, Bwari, Gwaywalada, Kuje, Rubbochi, Ashara, Dafa, Gumbo, Kilankwa, Kwali, Pai, Wako, Yangogi, Yebu

Finding from the study shows that, Federal Capital Territory Administration play a significant role in building and maintenance of healthcare facilities for the development of rural hospitals. This finding is in line with the study conducted by Ibrahim (2022) also revealed that Government has intervened in Rural Areas. It was found that, the major contradictions in the management of primary health care implementation, using a local government as case study has been characterized by qualified health personnel, poor funding of health care, finance, inadequate transportation, inaccessibility to communities, lack of maintenance culture, political instability, high degree of leadership turn-over. For the sustainability of health care service delivery at the grassroots, the study recommends increase financial allocation, community mobilization, improved health education, policy consistency and provision of qualified health workers.

Documents retrieved from the Federal Capital Territory Administration shows that only few Health facilities were provided for Councils ward in Area Area of FCT. This is presented in the table below:

Table 12: Federal Capital Territory Administration's intervention in No. of Health-related project

S/N	Basic social amenities	No. of Projects	No. of Benefited
1	Public health campaign	18	Jiwa, Kabusa, Karshi, Karu
2	Digital health record system	14	Jiwa, Kabusa,
3	Constructing a new hospital facility	11	Kwali, Pai, Wako, Yangogi, Yebu
4	Renovating an existing hospital facility	8	Yangogi, Yebu
5	Developing a disaster preparedness plan	6	Kilankwa, Kwali, Pai,
6	Constructing a new administrative office	10	all the district areas
7	Expanding the hospital cafeteria or food service	4	Karshi, Karu, Nyanya
8	Developing a new patient care unit	20	Gwagwa, Gwarinpa
9	Building a new medical laboratory or diagnostic	16	, Orozo, Bwari,
10	Building a new research center or facility	5	Garki, Gui,
11	Drug Utilization Evaluation	7	Kuje, Rubbochi, Ashara, Dafa,

Source: Federal Capital Territory Administration's Projects Report, 2023

Table above shows that, few rural communities benefited from the rural development projects in FCT. The benefited communities are classified in the Twenty Five districts areas. The report shows that, 18 districts areas benefited from the Public health campaign, 14 districts areas benefited from the Digital health record system, 11 districts areas benefited from the Constructing a new hospital facility, 8 districts areas benefited from the Renovating an existing hospital facility related projects, 6 districts areas benefited from the Developing a disaster preparedness plan, 10 districts areas benefited from the Constructing a new administrative office projects, 4 districts areas benefited from the Expanding the hospital cafeteria or food service, 20 districts areas benefited from the Developing a new patient care unit, 16 districts areas benefited from the Building a new medical laboratory or diagnostic projects, 5 districts areas benefited from the Building a new research center or facility while 7 districts areas benefited from the Drug Utilization Evaluation. The Benefited district communities are; Abaji, Yaba, Garki, Gui, Gwagwa, Gwarinpa, Jiwa, Kabusa, Karshi, Karu, Nyanya, Orozo, Bwari, Gwaywalada, Kuje, Rubbochi, Ashara, Dafa, Gumbo, Kilankwa, Kwali, Pai, Wako, Yangogi, Yebu.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The study concludes that, Area to some extent has provided facilities for the development of Councils ward. Generally, it could be seen that Area has not been effective in the development of Councils ward. Its conclusion reveals that rural development are inadequately carried out in the local government area. For instance, with exception of the local government headquarters and few other communities are not electrified and the possibilities of embarking on these projects are very remote. This has slowed down some other projects like cottage industries, pipe-borne water is equally in short supply in the local government area. The Councils has not performed well in the provision of medical facilities as most of the communities in the riverine areas travel far for medical services. The Councils has performed below expectation in the provision and maintenance of primary schools in the area, in some communities, pupils provide their own desks with which to sit and learn, the Councils fails to utilize its manpower in carrying out projects rather prefer the use of contractors who give kickbacks. Finance is the bedrock of every business and government, it is evident that the Councils lacks the seriousness in the pursuance of internally generated revenue relying mostly on the Federal and State allocation which is not enough even to pay workers' salaries.

On the basis of the findings, the study recommends that;

1. Federal Capital Territory Administration should sustain the effort to ensure more social amenities are provided for rural dwellers in the council's wards. This will further promote socio-economic wellbeing of the populace.
2. Federal Capital Territory Administration should give education a top priority by providing quality instructional materials and expanding the infrastructures. This will further increase the rate of school enrolments and reduce dropout syndrome.

3. Federal Capital Territory Administration should provide quality drugs to the healthcare facilities for quality health care in the district of wards.

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