

An Assessment of the Benefits and Externalities of Urbanisation in Kogi East, Nigeria

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Abstract

In this paper, the benefits and externalities (spillover effects) of urbanisation in Kogi East, Nigeria were examined. Data for the study were obtained by administering 1408 questionnaire copies to households in Ankpa, Anyigba and Idah as well as communities within 15km radius of Ankpa, Anyigba and Idah being the urbanizing centres in Kogi East. Questionnaire data was analysed using means, tables and simple percentages. Results obtained showed that population explosion, material structures and diversity of infrastructural facilities/services were the principal benefits of urbanisation in Kogi East (Ankpa, Anyigba and Idah) with average percentage of 60.8%. Others included improvement in employment opportunities and relative prosperity, enhancement of better communication, transport, housing and public/social infrastructure, improvement in income and wealth distribution among several others. The study showed that across the three locations power outage, social problems (drug addiction, crime, prostitution, alcoholism and political thuggery) and overcrowding were the essential and common urbanisation problems. The study further showed that security of life/poverty, poverty, water supply and sanitation and environmental pollution were serious problems in urban areas with higher mean scores than in the hinterland (rural).

Keywords: Urbanisation, Benefits, Externalities, Kogi East

1. Introduction

Urbanisation is a global phenomenon which at present is sweeping through developing countries like a wild fire (Ejaro and Abdullahi, 2013; Opoko and Oluwatayo, 2014). The impact of rapid population growth on urban development in a developing economy is usually a consequence of the push of the rural areas and the pull of the town (Abalaka, 2015). In tune with this, Awumbila (2017) stated that “migration is a considerable contributor to urban growth and to the urbanisation process because people move to cities and urban centres in search of social and economic opportunities. There is always an upsurge and conglomeration of people in city centres with the resultant effects on infrastructural growth arising from acute unemployment (Awumbila, 2014; Abalaka, 2015; Awumbila, 2017). This growth and physical expansion of cities have been accompanied by unplanned urban sprawl, environmental pollution, deterioration, deficiencies in modern basic facilities, and general urban decay. Available data reveal that Nigeria’s urban population has been growing at an alarming rate (Alkali 2005; Bloch et al., 2015).

Nigeria’s urban population has increased rapidly over the past 50 years and it will continue to grow in the years to come. According to the UN, Nigeria’s urban population was 69 million in 2010, while the Africapolis approximation was only 50 million. By 2020, the UN projects Nigeria’s urban population to be 108.7 million, while the Africapolis projection is just 61.8 million settlements (Bloch et al., 2015). This implies that the rate of urban growth in Nigeria urban areas is much higher than the African rate. This implies increase government spending on infrastructures to meet the needs of the increasing urban population as well as increase environmental concerns and protection. Africa’s urban transition is taking place rapidly; though in absolute terms, Asian cities remain the world’s fastest growing urban centres (Awumbila, 2017). The global share of African urban population is projected to increase from 11.3% in 2010 to 20.2% by 2050, with roughly two-thirds of its population growth estimated to take place in urban areas (UN HABITAT, 2014). As noted earlier, the rapid growth in urban population presents opportunities (benefits) as well as challenges (externalities) on Africa’s economy, social and environmental development which will depend greatly on how this unprecedented growth is handled.

Nigerian towns and cities are exploding – growing in leaps and bounds. A little more than 50 years ago, fewer than 7% of Nigerians lived in urban centres. This figure rose to 10% in 1952 and 19.2% in 1963. It is now estimated at above 50% (Abalaka, 2015). In fact, Nigerian cities are among the fastest growing in the world (United States Library Congress, 2013). Many political and economic factors have been responsible for this rapid growth in urban population in Nigeria. The colonial era influenced the growth and pattern of urbanisation in many ways, including the creation of new towns, principally along the transportation routes and at the ports and mining camps; modernisation of the physical structures in existing towns; introduction of modern utilities and changes in the economic base that led to the emergence of modern commercial – industrial centers outside the traditional town centres (Akunnaya and Adedapo, 2014). Creation of state and local level of government has had perhaps the most significant impact by introducing new poles of political and economic growth (Mabogunje, 1968 cited in Abalaka, 2015). Consequent on all these pull factors in towns and cities urban centres became

so attractive to youths in rural areas causing massive rural-urban migration on a vast scale (Adamu, 2009; Oke et al., 2017).

Like every other urban centres in Nigeria, Kogi East has over the years experienced unprecedented growth in urban population due to the presence of economic, service and institutional facilities. The physical expression of speedy urbanisation in Nigeria's urban centres and Kogi East in particular is often disordered and represents the demographic, social and economic transformations occurring in the area. Regrettably, the opportunities of urbanisation become elusive due to lack of adequate resources, basic infrastructure, services and well-conceived planning put in place by the government (Opoko and Oluwatayo, 2014). The observed problems and challenges posed by this rapid urban growth in Kogi East are immense (Abalaka, 2015). Very frightening and perhaps more easily observable are the human and environmental poverty, the declining quality of life, and the untapped wealth of human resources that they represent. Housing and associated public facilities (water, electricity, etc) are similarly inadequate or unavailable to meet the demands of the urban population. The gradual decline of social values and the breakdown of family cohesiveness and community spirit have resulted in increased level of juvenile delinquency and crime such as political thuggery (Abalaka, 2015).

The economy of Kogi East senatorial zone where this high rate urbanisation is taking place is generally described as stagnant with little or no industrialization (Adofu et al., 2010). The provision of public infrastructure and social services has suffered neglect in most rural areas in Nigeria, and the process of urban planning and development control has been slow to guide urban growth. Significantly population growth has outpaced the rate of infrastructural provisions particularly in Anyigba which is witnessing unprecedented urban growth as a result of the presence of the Kogi State University (Abalaka, 2015). Consequently there is a preponderance of the large proportion of Anyigba dwellers and others in urbanising towns in Kogi East living in housing and environmental conditions that are so deplorable due to lack of basic infrastructural facilities like good roads, drainage, sewage and portable water supply. Unfortunately, there have been few documented studies that examined the problems associated with urbanisation a fast developing area. It is on this background that the present study contributes to the already burgeoning literature by appraising the benefits and externalities of urbanisation in Kogi East, Nigeria.

2. Methods

2.1 Study Area

The study area is Kogi East which is located between Longitudes 6°35'16" and 7°53'58"E and between Latitudes 6°28'4" and 8°06'07"N (Fig.1). It is bounded on the North by River Benue, Kogi LGA and Nassarawa State, on the East by Benue and Enugu States with Anambra state to the South and Edo state and the rest of Kogi State to the West. Kogi East is located in the derived and southern Guinea savanna zones of Nigeria (Adegbola and Onayinka, 1976; Abalaka, 2015). The area has a tropical savanna climate. There are two main seasons: the wet season which begins from May to October and the dry season from October to April. The rainy season is characterized by the moisture laden south westerly winds from the equatorial rain

belt. The area has an annual rainfall of between 1,100mm and 1,300mm. The vegetation consist essentially of short to tall grasses, trees of various sizes and height with shrubs, high forest and hills dominated by rubber trees (Abalaka, 2015). Economic trees such as cashew, mango, mahogany and rubber trees, are prevalent in the area. Agriculture is the most significant economic activity in Kogi East (Ukwedeh, 2003). The KGSMBP (2004) cited in Abalaka (2015) reported that about 80% of the population is farmers, engaging mostly in subsistence farming with over 65% of these farmers being women and children.

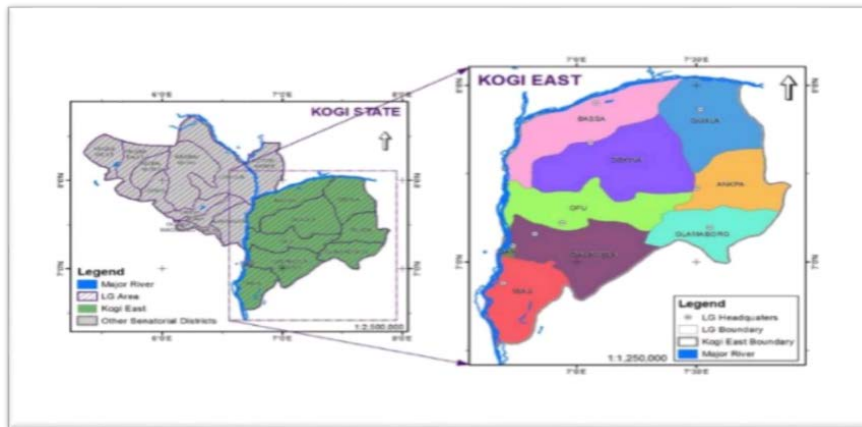


Figure 1. Kogi State showing Kogi East LGAs

2.2 Type and Source of Data

This study made used of data collected from the respondents on the benefits and externalities of urbanisation in Kogi East. These data types were sourced (gathered) through the administration of structured questionnaire copies to households in Anyigba, Ankpa and Idah as well as villages found within Anyigba, Ankpa and Idah.

2.3 Sampling Technique

Multi-stage sampling was carried out involving three stages. In the first stage, stratified sampling technique was used to divide Kogi East senatorial district into three zones: Kogi-East North, Kogi-East Central and Kogi-East South. In each sampling zone, the fastest urbanizing settlement based on population size was selected for the study. Out of the 25 settlements identified during the pilot survey, only three (3) settlements were found to witness significant changes in population between 2001 and 2013. On this note, Idah (Kogi-East South), Anyigba (Kogi-East Central) and Ankpa (Kogi-East- East) were selected. In the second stage, sampling of hinterland settlements, that is, villages and hamlets located within the metropolitan region of Idah, Anyigba and Ankpa within 15km radius were selected. This was predicated on the understanding that since the incidence of rural-urban migration between the hinterland settlements and the urbanising centres is highest; respondents in these rural settings were in the best position to experience the push-pull factors of urbanisation.

To aid the sampling process, Idah, Anyigba and Ankpa and their surrounding hinterlands were zoned into four viz North-East, South-East, South-West and North-West. In each of the four zones within Idah, Anyigba and Ankpa metropolitan regions, 2-3 settlements NE, SE, SW and

NW were randomly selected. Thus in Idah, Anyigba and Ankpa (8 hinterland settlements) were sampled. Thirdly, sampling of respondents in the three urbanising settlements and 24 hinterland settlements was done through a two stage process. In the three fast urbanising settlements, respondents were selected through a combination of multi-stage random and systematic sampling techniques. Residential neighborhoods in the inner core and urban fringe zones of Idah, Anyigba and Ankpa were selected randomly; 2 or 3 residential neighborhoods were selected from inner core and urban fringe zones, making a total of 4-6 neighborhoods for each urbanising area. In the same way, 3 streets in each residential neighborhood were randomly selected for the study. Finally respondents were selected from buildings using systematic sampling technique at a sampling interval of 7 buildings along the three major/minor streets. In each of the 24 hinterland settlements, 10 questionnaire copies were administered making a total of 240 questionnaire copies.

2.3.1 Sample Size

In order to determine the exact number of respondents for the survey, the Yaro Yamane formulae of (1964) cited by Anatsui and Fagbemi (2014) for the determination of sample size was employed. The Yaro Yamane formula is expressed below:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where N = Population of study location(s)

n = Sample size

e = Sample error (taken at 0.05 at 95% (confidence level))

Applying the formulae, the sample size of the study locations are computed as follows;

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Idah} &= \frac{75,789}{1 + 75,789(0.05)^2} = 399.9 = 400 \\ \text{Anyigba} &= \frac{48,240}{1 + 48,240(0.05)^2} = 399.17 \\ \text{Ankpa} &= \frac{68,046}{1 + 68,046(0.05)^2} = 400 \end{aligned}$$

This gives a total of 1,199.17 (approximately= 1,200) respondents plus 240 respondents that were sampled in the various hinterland settlements giving a grand total of 1440 respondents. After the administration, 1408 questionnaire copies were successfully found useful for analysis.

2.4 Method of Data Analysis

Data obtained from the administered questionnaire was analysed with the aids of averages, standard deviation, tables and simple percentages.

3. Results

3.1 Demographic and Socioeconomic Characteristics of Respondents

Information on the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of respondents showed that majority of respondents were youths, while very insignificant proportion (3.5%) were 60 years and above. In terms of age structure, 37.8% of the respondents were below 25 years old; 39% were within the ages of 26-35 years old; 11% were within 36-45 years old; 8.4% were within 46-55 years, while only 1.0% and 2.5% of respondents were within 56-60 years and 66 years old respectively. This result suggests that majority of the respondents were under 45 years implying the area is composed of young adults. A look at the sex structure of respondents showed that it is skewed in favour of males with 62.1% in Anyigba, 60.9% in Ankpa and 63.3% in Ankpa as against the aggregate value of 62.0% for the entire study area. The marital status of respondents revealed that 44.2% were single in Anyigba, 41.5% in Idah and 32.5% in Ankpa. Respondents that were married included 29.1% in Anyigba, 57.0% in Idah and 49.4% in Ankpa. The total number of respondents found to be divorced, widowed and or remarried accounted for an insignificant proportion of 15.5% (of all data obtained for Anyigba, Ankpa and Idah. A cursory look at the data on marital status clearly shows that about 55% of the respondents are either single.

On education, an overwhelming 94.4% of all respondents had obtained some form of formal education with only 5.6% with no formal education. Respondents with primary, secondary and tertiary education qualifications were 11.4%, 28.2% and 50.6% for Ankpa; 6.1%, 17.7%, 67.8% for Anyigba; and 5.2%, 32.0%, 55.0% for Idah respectively. With respects to the occupational status of the respondents, the result showed that 35.5% of the respondents were either civil/public servant, while business men/women constituted 37.0%. A significant proportion of respondents were students (21.1%). Only an insignificant percentage of the respondents (5.6%) were farmers and unemployed. The study showed that Christianity (50.8%) was the most wide spread religion in the area, followed by Muslims (36.9%), while a negligible percentage (12.4%) was traditionalists and atheists. The ratio of Christians to Muslims in Ankpa was 37%:45.5%; for Anyigba was 59.7%:24.4%, while Idah was 56.4%:39.2%. This shows that there are more Muslims in Ankpa than in Idah and Anyigba, while there are more Christians in Idah and Anyigba than in Ankpa.

3.2 Perceived Effects of Urbanisation

Table 1 showed that the most obvious effect of urbanisation in Kogi East (Ankpa, Anyigba and Idah) was explosion in human population and material structures (heterogeneity) of different ethnic groupings, religious inclinations as well as diversity of infrastructural facilities/services with average frequency percentage of 60.8%. This was followed by improvement in employment opportunities and relative prosperity (25.5%): enhanced better communication, transport, housing and public/social infrastructure (10.3%), better or enhanced income and wealth distribution among urbanites (2.3%) and improvement in environmental quality, public hygiene and functional aesthetics (1.1%). The result clearly indicates that population explosion that is caused by urbanisation in Kogi East is most felt or experienced in Anyigba. This is clearly seen in the responses of Anyigba (68.1%), Idah (57.9%) and Ankpa (56.7%).

The rapid population growth in these towns has not translated into improvement in environmental sanitation, public hygiene and functional aesthetics (1.1%) and better income

and wealth distribution (2.3%). This may not be unconnected with the relatively poor provision of transport, communication, housing and public infrastructure (10.3%) vis-à-vis vast areas where houses and built-up structures exist. It is not surprising therefore that respondent in these urban centres have not witnessed or experienced significant improvement in employment opportunities and income generation (25.5%). This sentiment is generally shared by respondents in Anyigba (23.5%), Ankpa (28.1%) and Idah (24.7%). These findings are consistent with previous results in developing countries that urbanization processes and patterns in Africa in particular have not led to significant improvement in standards of living including the liveability status of their cities (Adedeji and Ibem, 2010; Oyeleye, 2013).

Table 1. Respondents' viewpoint on urbanisation effects

Options	Ankpa		Anyigba		Idah		Total %
	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	
Urbanisation has led to rapid increase in population and material structures (Physical).	272	56.7	310	68.1	267	57.9	60.8
Improvement in employment generating activities, in incomes and economic prosperity.	135	28.1	107	23.5	114	24.7	25.5
Enhancement of better transport, communication, housing and public/social infrastructure.	47	9.8	31	6.8	66	14.3	10.3
Promotion of better income and wealth distribution among all strata of society.	26	4.8	08	1.1	07	0.9	2.3
Improvement in environmental sanitation, public hygiene and physical aesthetics.	03	0.6	02	0.4	10	2.2	1.1
Total	458	100	464	100	483	100	100

3.3 Underlying Implications of Urbanisation in Kogi East

In order to clarify the issues and findings observed in Table 1, the effects of urbanisation are further characterised by indicating respondents' level of agreement with each specific correlate. The result of this characterization into strongly disagree, disagree, undecided, agree and strongly agree is presented in Table 2. The result clearly indicated that there was very strong agreement that these effects were manifestly present and could be visibly seen/or experienced in Anyigba, Ankpa and Idah towns. The strong agreements on all the effects examined are reflected in the responses obtained for strongly agree and agree options as follows: large size of human (45.5%, 42.3%), provision of employment opportunities (36.4%, 54.9%), improvement in quantity and quality of public infrastructure (39.0%, 41.7%), more equitable distribution of income and wealth by all socio-economic strata of society (18.5%, 36.4%) and better public hygiene, environmental sanitation and quality (24.5%, 49.3%). These findings suggest that irrespective of existing externalities of urbanisation in Kogi East (like congestion of structures, human population and environmental degradation), there exist strong support for urbanisation, that is, the benefits of urbanisation are viewed to exceed its negative effects.

Table 2. Characterization of urbanisation effects in Kogi East

Options	Location	SA	A	U	D	SD	Totals %

The most remarkable feature of Urbanization is rapid increase in population and material structures	Ankpa: F	211	180	12	62	21	486
	%	43.4	37.0	2.5	12.8	4.3	100.0
	Anyigb: F	220	144	27	14	01	456
	%	48.2	42.5	5.9	3.1	0.2	100.0
	Idah: F	209	219	21	11	00	460
	%	45.4	47.6	4.6	2.4	0.0	100.0
Urbanization has led to creation of diverse employment opportunities, increase in wages/improved revenues	Ankpa: F	145	251	08	52	32	488
	%	29.7	51.4	1.6	10.7	2.4	100.0
	Anyigb: F	141	296	07	11	02	457
	%	27.5	64.8	1.7	2.4	0.4	100.0
	Idah: F	226	224	04	06	00	460
	%	49.1	48.7	0.9	1.3	0.0	100.0
There are remarkable improvement in the number and quality of roads, portable water supply, education and health institutions and public infrastructure	Ankpa: F	167	174	31	85	29	486
	%	34.4	29.7	6.4	17.5	6.0	100.0
	Anyigb: F	158	196	32	71	00	457
	%	34.6	42.9	7.0	15.5	0.0	100.0
	Idah: F	222	215	10	13	00	460
	%	34.8	46.7	2.2	2.8	0.0	100.0
There is better distribution of income and wealth among the three socio-economic strata of society	Ankpa: F	107	206	57	94	21	486
	%	22.1	42.5	11.8	19.4	4.3	100.0
	Anyigb: F	101	180	63	105	05	457
	%	22.2	39.6	13.9	23.1	1.1	100.0
	Idah: F	51	124	89	171	26	460
	%	11.1	26.9	19.3	37.1	5.6	100.0
There is better public hygiene, environmental sanitation, street furniture and general environmental quality in urban areas compared with rural/villages	Ankpa: F	101	187	39	112	45	486
	%	20.9	38.6	8.1	23.1	9.3	100.0
	Anyigb: F	169	215	21	38	08	457
	%	37.5	43.7	4.7	8.4	1.8	100.0
	Idah: F	72	286	52	37	13	460
	%	15.7	62.2	11.3	8.0	2.8	100.0

3.4 Comparing the Effects of Urbanisation in Urban and Hinterland Settlements

Table 3 showed that the perceived widespread environmental problems in the study locations were power outage related issues (34.0%), social problems like drug addiction, crime, prostitution, alcoholism and political thuggery (29.6%), overcrowding of people and material structure (24.7%), air, surface water and land pollution/waste management problems (6.8%) and, water supply and environmental sanitation (4.9%) in the order of hierarchy (Table 3). These findings agree with those of Oyekeye (2013) and Akunnaya and Adedapo (2014). A close look at the result in Table 3 also revealed that the problem of power outage was more serious in Ankpa (47.2%) and Idah (46.5%) compared with Anyigba (7.6%). Respondents in Anyigba observed that public power supply was serious but the use of generators and with reasonably available fuel supply in the town made its effect less significant. What respondents considered as the most prevalent urban related problem in Anyigba were social problems like political thuggery prostitution crime, alcoholism and cultism (38.0%) compared with the values obtained for Idah (29.3%) and Ankpa (21.8%).

This may be attributed to the relatively very large student population of the Kogi State University and the fact that Anyigba is considered the political capital of Kogi East (the Igala people) where political parties often clash with opponents with students serving as thugs. For respondents in Idah, the next most serious urban problem to power outage was social related problems (29.3%). This was followed by overcrowding of people and material structures

(12.0%) and water supply and sanitation (8.1%) and lastly, by air, water and land pollution/poor waste management (4.1%). From the results in Table 3, it could be deduced that the order of prevalence or severity of urban problems in Ankpa were power outages (47.2%), overcrowding of people and material structures (25.2%), social related issues/problems (21.8%), environmental pollution (3.7%) and lastly, water supply and sanitation problems (2.1%). The low ranking accorded water and sanitation problems in all three towns may be related to the presence of rivers in Idah (River Niger), Ankpa (River Olamaboro) and Anyigba (River Ofu). It was not surprising however in Anyigba the order of severity of urban related problems as perceived by respondents were social (38.0%), overcrowding (36.9%) and water supply and sanitation (24.8%). In all, the results in Table 3 show that across the three locations, power outage, social problems and overcrowding are the essential and common urbanisation problems in Kogi East.

Table 3. Common urbanisation problems in Kogi East

Options	Ankpa		Anyigba		Idah		Total %
	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	
Water supply and sanitation problems	13	2.1	26	4.8	40	8.1	4.9
Power outage related issues	227	47.2	35	7.8	213	46.5	34.0
Air, Water and land pollution/waste management problems	18	3.7	58	12.7	19	4.1	6.8
Social problems such as drug addictions, crime alcoholism, prostitution etc.	105	21.8	174	38.0	134	29.3	29.6
Overcrowding of people/structures/vehicles and traffic chaos	121	25.2	169	36.9	55	12.0	24.7
Total	484	100	462	100	461	100	100

3.5 Analysis of the Differences in Urbanisation Problems Between Urban and Rural Areas

Respondents' mean scores were used to examine if significant differences exist in the prevalence or severity of urban related problem between urban and hinterland settlements (rural) using the responses of respondents measured in Likert Scale. The results as presented in Table 4 showed that overcrowding was obviously a serious problem in urban areas with a mean value of 3.76, but was not an issue in the hinterland settlements with a mean value of 2.38. Similarly, social problems were serious in urban areas, but were on the rise in the rural areas with mean values of 3.88 and 2.72 respectively. The results reaffirm earlier results in Table 3 that these urban problems are serious in the urban centres though to varying degrees with mean values of security of life/poverty (3.90), social problems (3.88), poverty (3.82), water supply and sanitation problems (3.79), overcrowding of people/material structures (3.76) and environmental pollution (3.76).

In contrast to urban induced problems in hinterland settlements obtained mean values were poverty (3.29), water supply and environmental sanitation (3.18), environmental pollution and degradation (2.93), power outage/security of life/property (2.90), social problems (2.73) and overcrowding (2.38). These results show that overcrowding is not considered a problem by respondents in hinterland settlements, while issues like social problems, security of life/property and power outages and environmental pollution/degradation are widespread and

becoming a concern. However, poverty and, water supply/environmental sanitation problems are serious in hinterland settlement areas as being experienced in the urban areas. Poverty manifests in urban areas as unemployment, underemployment, starvation/hunger and lack of disposable income to purchase basic necessities of food and shelter. On the other hand, hinterland villages are dependent on urban areas for a number of needs as such poverty often translates into poor or lack of money remittances, lack of local finance, medical supplies and non-agricultural goods.

In the same way, poverty breeds environmental degradation factors like deforestation, over cultivation of farmlands, poor sanitary disposal system and waste management in rural areas. Whereas poverty in urban areas often translates into slum foundation, indiscriminate disposal of solid wastes, silt up of drainage channels, overcrowding of dilapidating buildings, deterioration of public/social facilities and infrastructure through overuse, including hawking (and trading) in unauthorised places along roads, streets and public places or domains. Conversely, poverty in rural areas have been correlated with incidences of over cropping of existing farmlands, deforestation, soil erosion and, overexploitation of forest resources including animal/fishery resources.

Table 4. Results of urbanisation problems between urban and rural areas in Kogi East

Related problems	Urban		Rural	
	Mean	Std Dev	Mean	Std Dev
Overcrowding of people, buildings and material structures	3.76	1.28	2.38	1.23
High incidence of drug addiction, sexual promiscuity (prostitution), criminality and political thuggery	3.88	1.14	2.72	1.19
Air, surface water pollution, land dispoilation, solid waste management	3.76	1.12	2.93	3.27
Water supply and environmental sanitation/public hygiene	3.79	1.10	3.18	1.29
Power outage including security of life and property	3.91	1.18	2.90	1.39
Incidence of poverty, decaying public infrastructure, vanishing/diminishing environmental resources	3.82	1.14	3.29	1.36

3.6 Discussion

As observed earlier, absence of portable water and for domestic use is a serious issue in Kogi East. The provision of public utilities like water and power supply was given high priority before the creation of Kogi State in 1976 when Kogi East became part of a new state called Benue. As at then, Ankpa, Dekina and Idah towns enjoyed pipe- borne water supply. Investment in public utilities since then seems to have diminished or seized except for some non sustainable interventions like boreholes in the Millennium Development Goals era. That explains the reliance on water tanker vehicles and natural water sources like streams and rain water harvesting prevalent in the area. Until recently, only Ankpa and Idah towns enjoyed epileptic public power supply from the national grid via 11 KVA lines from Otukpo and Nsukka respectively. It was not until during the current political dispensation that a more durable public power supply was drawn from Ajaokuta to Anyigba via a 33KVA line and which has ensured more stable power supply. This line has been extended to Dekina and most of the

settlements along Anyigba- Dekina road. This line has also been extended to Idah to improve the power supply situation there. No wonder Anyigba has the least complaints on power outage related issues in with Ankpa and Idah being worse off in that order.

Another issue that came up in the prevalence problems is air, water and land pollution/waste management problems. The issue of environmental pollution in the study locations can be explained by many factors: the absence of an environmental regulatory agency office in any of the settlements. They are growing amorphyously without any discernible development control activities. The few existing urban drainages serve as waste dumps. In an event of heavy rainfall this wastes are returned to the roads and constitute ugly sights. Unfortunately, much of this waste ends up in the available rivers and streams resulting in the silting and growth of avuncular plants as a result of heavy nutrient loads to these fresh water bodies. Increased erosion brought about by exposure of the land to heavy runoff has exposed the land to gully erosion in some cases. All these lead to soil and water pollution. The increased traffic volume, buildings and other human activities have tended to generate more emissions and subsequently air pollution. Amongst the prevalence of problems identified are: drug addiction, crime, alcoholism and prostitution. These issues are difficult to discuss without further empirical study. As observed earlier is the political headquarters of Kogi East and hence venue of intense political activities that breed all sorts of characters including political thugs as mentioned in chapter one. It is for this reason that respondents in Anyigba considered social problems like political thuggery prostitution crime, alcoholism and cultism, followed by Idah and then Ankpa. The incidence of cultism and other crimes could find its roots in the presence of tertiary institutions in these towns. Cultism and gangsterism are prevalent problems in Nigeria's tertiary schools with the universities providing the breeding grounds for such activities. The issue of prostitution is a bit tricky. While ladies are not on the streets soliciting for men, a night in any of the comfortable hotels in Anyigba is suggestive. There are stories of ladies who come to these settlements for short runs. No wonder hotel business is a common business around town.

Overcrowding of people/structures and traffic chaos is an obvious issue in the settlements. The most obvious reason is the absence of up to date master plans to guide developments in these towns. There are no organized layouts and some natives and touts are in the business of land sale to willing developers without any form of development control or guide. Another issue that demands further elucidation is the factors of urbanisation in the study area. The result of this study indicates that the singular cause of rapid urbanisation in Ankpa, Anyigba and Idah is rural-urban migration to seek for employment, higher revenues, and higher education and improve standard of living. These findings agree with those of Onokerhorhaye (1995), Bergman and Renwice (1999), Awumbila (2017) and many other research studies. Usually urban areas provide more diversified consumption opportunities than rural areas since many shopping centres, theatres, cinema houses, conventions halls and recreational facilities available make it more attractive for ruralites and encourage massive migration. It must be stated however that the decision as to whether a person should migrate or not is personal and conditioned by the attitude of the individual (Berginan and Ranwich, 1999; Opoko and Oluwatayo, 2014). In terms of demographic structure of rural-urban migrants, this study has revealed that more youth particularly males are the most implicated migrants in the study areas,

though females who are offered admission into higher institutions of learning have also form significant percentage of the migrants. These results are similar to reasons indicated in urbanisation interaction in America, Europe, Asia and Africa. For example Bjerer in 1971 found out that initially, migrants are mostly male of the working age but with time female representation within the migration stream increased in the Scandinavian countries. This corroborated by Mabogunje (1999). In Ghana, as in most African countries, children have been identified also as migrants (Ghana Statistical Service, 2003). A number of reasons have been adduced for the massive movement of males, females, children and even matured women to the urban areas from villages. Beside reasons adduced above others include but not limited to rapid population growth (though natural increase) and decreasing fertility of land (Dewit, 1998), imbalance created from fragmentation of land plots by inheritance practices, landlessness and the fall in land/man ratio (De wit, 1998; Abalaka, 2015). Thus with declining or decreasing land and increasing population, the excess population in the rural areas will seek a livelihood in urban areas (De wit, 1998).

Expectedly, the invasive rural-urban migration has created various economic, social, environmental and insecurity situations for the urban and rural areas of Africa. While urban areas are a strong driving force for economic growth, rapid urban population growth has been criticized for deepening the poverty problems in urbanisation has been positively corrugated within economic growth and has been reported to reduce urban poverty levels (Mabogunje, 1999; Fay and Opal, 2000). The economic gains in terms of income and employment generated by the stimulated economy are more or less distributed to the urban poor. As rural areas become quantitatively and qualitatively depopulated, economic opportunities in cities become progressively limited since the urban economy being predominantly basic, characterized by her pace of industrialization, limited generative economic activities and impressive investment outlook, the majority of the urban residents or habitants are themselves found to live at subsistence level. As a result of the economic situation, the absorptive capacity of African cities in the form of employment, housing, health facilities and social infrastructure very limited therefore most of the rural in-migrants or in-migrations as well as urban masses are employed underemployed or unemployable.

4. Conclusion

The study has shown that urbanisation in Ankpa, Anyigba and Idah are an unprecedented phenomenon that has resulted in pollution growth and urban expansion. The urbanisation phenomenon in these three locations has triggered the development of material structures and multiplicity of infrastructural facilities/services to meet the increasing demands of people as well as to meet the requirements of urban centres. The benefits of urbanisation in these locations are manifested in the improvement in employment opportunities and relative prosperity, enhancement of better communication, transport, housing and public/social infrastructure, bring about improvement in income and wealth distribution among several others. Despite these benefits, the urbanisation phenomenon in Ankpa, Anyigba and Idah is observed by this study to cause widespread environmental problems with power outage, social problems and overcrowding as the essential and common problems. The study shows that social problems like drug addiction, crime, prostitution, alcoholism and political thuggery are

serious and more dominant in the urbanising centres than in the hinterland. Other externalities associated with urbanisation in Ankpa, Anyigba and Idah are air, surface water and land pollution/waste management problems and water supply and environmental sanitation.

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