

SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS OF LABOUR MIGRATION IN AKPABUYO, CROSS RIVER STATE NIGERIA

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Abstract Socio-Economic Implications of Labour Migration in Akpabuyo, Cross River State Nigeria. The relationship between migration and socio-economic development as a whole cannot be less emphasized, especially when the movement involves economically productive individuals. Migration can aid economic growth and development of both the regions of origin and destination. This study focused on those migrants who move to work and earn a living in Akpabuyo local government, Cross River State, Nigeria, as well as their relationship with the indigenes of the area. A total of 384 questionnaires were distributed to the migrants and non-migrants alike in a multi-staged process. Findings from the analyses revealed that migrant labourers contribute significantly to the overall socio-economic development of Akpabuyo and that the socio-economic well-being of migrants and non-migrants differ significantly. This was proven by the statistical result of the paired sample t-test which compared; the number of hours put into work by migrants and non-migrant ($t = -3.4, p = 0.001$), the perception of commensurability of time and energy put into work and income derived ($t = 5.4, p = 0.0$), average monthly income ($t = 0.0, p = 1.0$) and sufficiency of income generated by migrants and non-migrants in taking care of education and healthcare needs ($t = 4.0, p = 0.0$). The study recommended that the government should set up institutions and facilities that would foster socio-economic development in Akpabuyo LGA such that can be affordable to both migrants and otherwise and encourage them to utilize same such as schools, low cost housing, health care centers, cottage industries, etc. Likewise, since migrants are key to the socio-economic development of Akpabuyo LGA, the inflow of migrants to the area should be encouraged.

Keywords: Labour migration, Labour migrants, Non-migrants, Migrant socio-economy attributes, Akpabuyo

1. Introduction

Migration is an age-long culture of man and one of the earliest activities man indulged in. It is an instinctive and deliberate activity that man had to perpetuate for his survival and wellbeing. Every historical document that recorded mans' early travails repeatedly mentioned movement from one location to another. The Bible, the Quran and other religious books give accounts of such migratory movements in different versions of man's beginning. The term migration in itself is a difficult concept to define because it involves movement of people for different reasons across different places (Osondu, Ibezim, Obike and Ijiomah, 2014). It is generally, a process in which an individual or a group shifts their residence temporarily, semi-permanently or permanently from one location to an-

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other. It involves the crossing of national boundaries, in the case of international migration and the crossing of administrative boundaries within a country, in the case of internal migration (Eboh, 2002).

The relationship between migration and socio-economic development as a whole cannot be less emphasized as buttressed by Miracle and Berry (1970), especially when the movement involves economically productive individuals. Migration can aid economic growth and development of both the regions of origin and destination. Capital, skills and knowledge transferred by migrants can help both the source and destination communities in their development take-off especially from the point of view of farming activities, agricultural productivity and efficiency (De Haa, 2008).

This research is focused on those migrants who move to work and earn a living. This group of migrants are termed 'labour migrants' or 'migrant labourers' and according to the International Organization for Migration (2004), approximately 60 to 65 million migrant workers, accompanied by dependants are working in locations other than their place of origin to improve their socio-economic well-being. This improvement is inferred from an increase in income, expenditure on food, health and education, all representing an individuals' standard of living (Quartey, 2006).

Labour migration is male-dominated and usually includes a high proportion of young adults of working age especially the age group 18- 35 years, who sometimes have lower levels of schooling than the population which they join (Adepoju, 1987). It is often embarked upon because of a lack of opportunities for decent living at home; other factors compelling this migration include violations of human rights, bad governance, political intolerance, and wars. It can and does serve as an engine of growth and development for all parties involved. At destination locations, labour migrants have rejuvenated workforces, improved the economic viability of traditional sectors including agriculture and services, promoted entrepreneurship, met demand for skills for high tech industries as well as unmet labour needs (Federal Ministry of Labour and Productivity, 2013). Despite the pros identified, Simfer (2008) reported some cons of labour migration such as, impacting negatively on social structure (tension between migrants and non-migrants), land tenure system (land conflicts, increased pressure on agricultural lands and reduction in farm steads), environment (deforestation, pollution and threat to diversity), etc.

Reconnaissance surveys have shown that Akpabuyo Local Government Area (LGA) of Cross River State (CRS) is not exempted from the presence of these temporary, semi-permanent and permanent labour migrants. They are known to engage in various activities including factory work, especially by United Cement (UNICEM), the cement production industry in the vicinity, trading, primary agricultural activities such as farming, fishing, hunting, lumbering and wine tapping, etc.

The presence of migrant labourers partaking in all these activities at different scales in the area, in their own little way, make their mark in the United

Nations Millennium Development Goal (UN-MDG) of eradicating extreme hunger and poverty or possibly half it. Reconnaissance survey showed that migrant labourers constitute a significant segment of the workforce in Akpabuyo, both in agricultural activities, industries and other sectors. However, their productive capacity to transform the economy of the area appears not to have been properly documented, such that their impact remains unrecognized by policy makers.

There is also a huge possibility that the intrusion of migrant labourers into Akpabuyo diminishes the menu of opportunities accruable to the indigenes in the area. A similar situation was reported by Ogbonnaya (2005) in Ayodeji, Adeyemo, Bamire and Binuomote (2013) that the influx of migrant farmers from Zimbabwe to Kwara state, Nigeria, which helped to jump-start economic development through commercial farming and increased market conditions through the farming activities of the in-migrant farmers in the state also greatly displaced the indigenous farmers from their landed properties.

This work is thus geared at assessing the contributions of migrant labour towards socio-economic development in Akpabuyo LGA. To achieve this, the social and economic activities of migrants and non-migrants were identified and the level of relationship between both groups was established. Akpabuyo Local Government Area was created out of Odukpani Local Government Area in 1991 and became the 14th and 589th Local Government Area in Cross River State and Nigeria respectively. It is located in the Calabar Agricultural Zone with its headquarters at Ikot Nakanda. There are twenty-eight (28) villages in Akpabuyo and ten (10) council wards. The major ethnic groups are the Efiks, Quas and Efuts. The major languages spoken are Efik and English, while all the major ethnic groups share a common cultural and ancestral heritage (TipTopGlobe, 2016). The area lies spatially between latitude 4°5' North and 5°4' South and longitude 8°25' West and 8°32' East. Akpabuyo had a total population of 96,724 in 1991 according to the National Population Commission (NPC) report and an increase to 271,325 in 2006 (NPC, 2006).

2. Literature Review

A great deal of literatures abounds on studies done on various aspects of migration. For this work, existing studies on issues bothering around migration and socio-economic development will be consulted from the both an international perspective and a local context.

Roman and Voicu (2010), studied the recent labor migration flows and trends and the impacts of these movements on Romanian economic and social life. According to the authors, after Romania joined the EU, the travel restrictions for Romanians inside the EU state was eased and they fructified this opportunity provided by the economic consequences of this movement. In the study, the researchers analyzed the demographic consequences, since category that emigrated

for economic reasons in the last years is composed of youngsters (around 30). The study also assessed the important economic impact on financial aspects and life quality of Romanians, since the volume of remittances was about 7 billion euros in 2007. The study also examined the social impact particularly on the lives of migrant families. Lastly, it was noted that the most problematic issue is the temporary abandonment of minors by their labour migrant parents, and that forced authorities to formulate policies to monitor the situation.

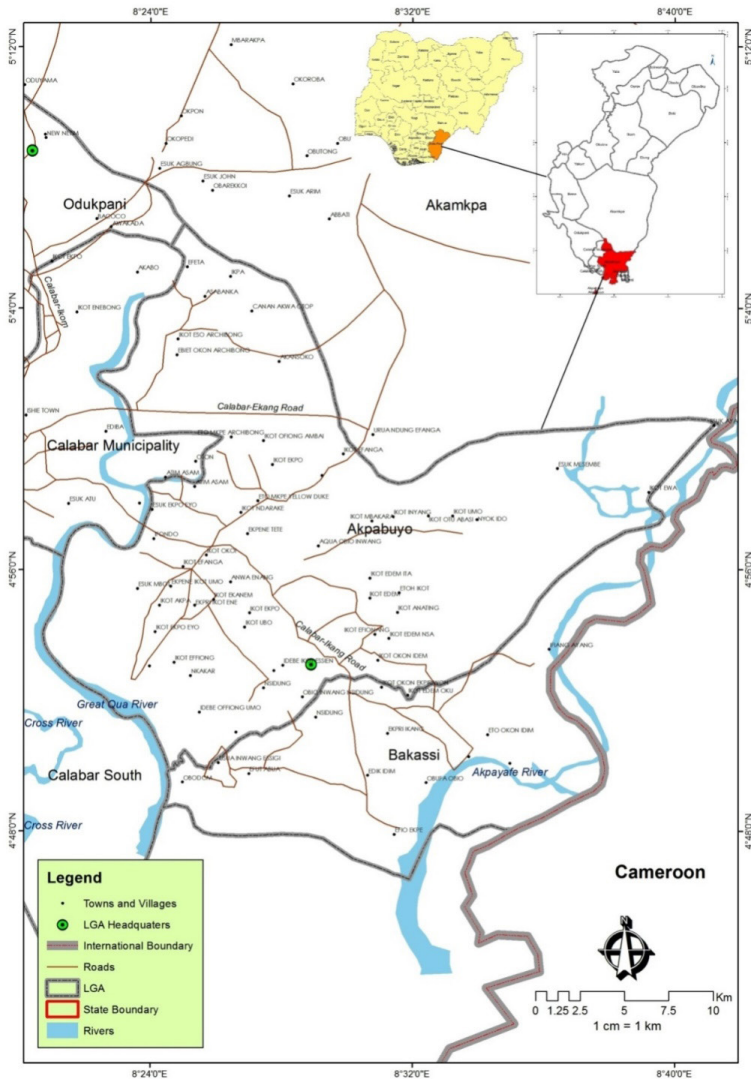


Fig. 1. Akpabuyo LGA showing sampled Communities
 Source: Office of the Surveyor General, CRS, 2016

Also, Haas (2007), noted that irrespective Morocco's status as one of the world's leading emigration countries, empirical study on Morocco has been largely missing from the lively theoretical debate on migration and development. The study focused on social and economic impact of international migration on Moroccan migrant-sending through a review of empirical studies. Nevertheless, research gaps and methodological errors, available evidence noted that migration and remittances have significantly increased living conditions, income, education and motivated by economic activity through agricultural, real estate and business investment, from which non-migrants indirectly profit. The study discovered that the benefit of migration has developed migrant-sending regions such as the Rif, Sous and southern oases into relatively prosperous areas that now attract internal 'reverse' migrants. Although these setbacks have prevailed pessimism, the developmental potential of migration is not fully realized due to several structural constraints. The study spotted that migration impacts are different across space, socio-ethnic and gender groups, and tend to be flexible over time and household migration cycles. Migration and remittances may assist people to retreat from, as much as to invest in, local economic activities, depending on the specific development context.

Kaur, Singh, Garg, Singh and Singh (2011) noted that in Punjab, India, the movement of migrant labour particularly in agriculture sector started with the green revolution and picked up subsequently. Due to monoculture in the cropping pattern, the state has become largely dependent on migrant labourers for various agricultural operations. The results revealed that better income and employment opportunities at the destination place were the major factors responsible for migration. Also, about 64 per cent of the respondents earned less than ` 20000 per annum at their native places and 60 per cent of them had less than 200 days of employment in a year, whereas 23 per cent of the labourers were unemployed at their native place. However, after migration 63 per cent of the migrants could earn from ` 20000 to ` 50000 per annum and 34 per cent earned more than ` 50000 per annum in Punjab, leading to a major share (60% of total income) as remittances sent back to their native places. On the other hand, the flip side of the influx of migrants in the study area increased the drug menace by 37 per cent, social tension by 45 per cent and crime by 43 per cent. The state government should maintain a demographic balance by regulating the migrants and should help in verification of credentials of migrating labourers to Punjab

Danejo, Abubakar, Haruna, Usman and Bawuro(2015) studied the socio-economic factors influencing rural-urban migration in Wukari, Taraba State. The study revealed that majority of the migrant migrated to Jalingo, the state capital city due to lack of social amenities and employment in their original place of residence and for educational pursuance and that the migrants engaged them-

selves in one form of business or the other that generated certain amount of money. Ofuoku (2012) revealed that the socio-economic variables of the migrants had significant relationship with the decisions of the migrants to engage in agricultural activities which showed that most of the urban rural migrant are retirees and are interested in farming.

Likewise, the effects of “permanent migration” on the economy of Owerri, Eastern Nigeria was studied by Igwe and Obiakor, (2015). The study showed that the out-migrations led to changes in some facets of lives of both the source area and the host urban centres. To the source area, permanent migration benefited some of the migrants through their cash savings and accumulated landed property; as some proportion of the capital saved was repatriated to the indigenous communities of migrants. Thus, some of the migrants utilized the money saved to build their own house at home, while some others paid the bride wealth of their spouses from such savings. It recommended proactive measures that if implemented could curtail ‘permanent migration’, which is still prevalent in current Imo State of Nigeria till date. Adewale (2005) focused on socio-economic factors associated with urban-rural migration in Nigeria by examining socio-economic factors influencing movement of people from urban centres to rural areas in Nigeria with particular focus on Oyo State of Nigeria. The principal results of the study reveal that most of the respondents left the urban centres for the rural areas because of their inability to secure jobs in the towns, transfer to rural areas in their places of work, retirement and high cost of living in the urban centres. Also, the result revealed that there is a positive and significant relationship between lengths of stay of migrants in the rural areas and their ages.

Oyeniya (2013), in his study of internal migration in Nigeria, focused on the impact of internal migration on human development and found that rural-urban migration flows are the most predominant, other migration flows being equally important and ongoing. Results from study revealed that internal migration increases access to education, prolongs lives and contributes to improved living standards, not only for the internal migrants and their dependants and loved ones in regions of origin, but also of their host communities in destination areas, contrary to the widely held view that internal migration is an economic and developmental problem. More so, Chen (2013) studied population, migration, living standard and social pressure in Colombia, using the concept of thermodynamics to examine the relations among population size, migration patterns, living standard, space, social pressure, and cost to raise children. The result shows that at low levels of living standard, increasing living standard will increase the population size and at high living standard, increasing living standard will decrease the population size. The increase of population size or living standard increases social pressure and pressure to migration.

3. Materials and Methods

Primary and secondary data were adopted for this study. The primary data source was the questionnaire instrument. The copies of the questionnaires were administered to respondents in the study area during a field survey. Some of the primary data include the source region of respondents, average monthly income of migrants, economic activities indulged by migrants, etc. The secondary data sources include existing official and unofficial statistics from publications including journals, articles, theses, books, conference papers and reports from renowned organizations from both paper and virtual platforms. Also are the 1991 and 2006 census data from the NPC.

The sample population was 271,325, being the total population of Akpabuyo given by the NPC census of 2006. This population is made up of indigenes of the host community and migrants alike. The sample size for this study was 384 derived using Smith's (2000) formula. The multi-stage sampling method was adopted to delineate the sample size proportionally. Because the sample population of this study is made up of two distinct groups of people, the first stage was the stratification of the population into migrants and non-migrants. This stratification implies that the sample size was divided into two as information was harnessed from both parties, hence, a purposive allocation of 60 percent of the samples to migrants and 40 percent to non-migrants.

Secondly, the area was stratified into 2 land use categories; the 'populated' and the 'less-populated'. This categorization is depictive of the characteristics of the socio-economic activities eminent in either of the areas. The built-up area is the heart of Akpabuyo and a hub to denser population and a larger chunk of the socio-economic activities in the area such as industries, daily markets, schools, offices, etc. while the less-populated area is home to agricultural activities which are also relevant contributors. Thus, same 60-40 percent ratio was used. 60 percent for the former, 40 percent for the later.

Further, in third stage, questionnaires were distributed randomly to the respondents, 60 percent (230 samples) to migrants and 40 percent (154 samples) to non-migrants. Out of these 230 samples to the migrants, 60 percent (138 samples) were administered in the populated areas while 40 percent (92 samples) in the less-populated areas. Also, out of the 154 samples to the non-migrants, 60 percent (92 samples) were administered in the populated areas while 40 percent (62 samples) in the less-populated areas. Care was taken not to involve temporary visitors or passersby. Also, the respondents were interviewed to ascertain their category before questionnaire administration.

4. Results and Discussion of Findings

4.1. Socio-economic attributes of migrants in Akpabuyo

Revelations on the educational status of the sampled population shows that 8.7 percent have no formal education, 7.0 percent have primary education, 53.5 percent have secondary education and 30.9 percent have acquired tertiary education. In the area, 5.2 percent of migrants are industrial workers, 32.6 percent are farmers, while civil servants constitute 16.5 percent. The sampled population who are into business are 27.4 percent and 8.57 percent are involved in other activities. The number of hours that migrant labourers spend working each week was also figured out. 25.2 percent of the migrant labourers work less than 20 hours per week, while 27.8 percent spend between 20 to 40 hours and 35.2 percent spend 40 to 60 hours, whereas 10.9 percent of migrants sampled spend 60 to 80 hours and only 0.9 percent spend more than 81 hours per week working. The summary of the analysis reveals that 35.2 migrants of the sampled population are vibrant young personnel who are capable of working longer hours.

The time and energy respondents invest in their work and its commensurability with their income was also considered. The report reveals that 67.4 percent acknowledged that their energy and time input expended on work is equivalent while 31.7 percent said that their income is way below their energy and time invested in work. In accessing the average monthly income of the respondents, it was observed that 25.2 percent earn less than 10,000 Naira, 26.5 percent earn between 10,000 to 30,000 Naira, while 34.8 percent's average income range between 31,000 to 50,000 Naira. Also, 12.2 percent of sampled population earn 51,000 to 80,000 and only 1.3 percent earn above 80 000 as their average income. In a bid to ascertain respondents' ability to pay education and healthcare bills, further analysis showed that 67.4 percent cannot sufficiently pay both their educational and healthcare bills.

4.2. Migrant's access to social amenities and their contributions to the socio-economic development of Akpabuyo LGA

Results showed that 74.3 percent of migrants in Akpabuyo have access to available social amenities, while 25.7 percent do not have access to the social amenities. This can be due to factors such as proximity to facility, cost of service, etc. Additionally, 77.8 percent have their wards registered with an academic institution in Akpabuyo while 21.7 percent do not have their wards registered. An assessment of migrant's annual expenditure on education revealed that 27.4 percent of migrants spend less than 10,000 Naira annually on education of their children and other dependents in their host communities and 26.1 percent of the sampled population spend between 10,000 to 30,000 Naira. Further, 29.6 percent

spend 31,000 to 50,000 Naira, then 16.5 percent of sampled population spend between 51,000 to 80,000 Naira, while only 0.4 percent spend above 81,000 on education. Analysis concerning migrant's patronage of health facilities in the area revealed that 80.4 percent of migrants patronize health facilities in the vicinity, while 19.6 percent do not patronize health care facilities in their area. This is because a number of respondents move to bigger cities with more efficient and sophisticated medicine or simply to traditional medicine around and afar. Results further revealed that 18.3 percent rate their accessibility to social amenities as very good and 56.5 percent perceive accessibility to social amenities as good, but in the contrast 17.8 percent are of the opinion that the accessibility level is bad while 7.4 percent of migrants perceive it as very bad.

4.3. Socio-economic attributes of non-migrant in Akpabuyo

The result of investigation on the educational status of non-migrants revealed that 3.9 percent have primary education only and 56.9 percent, while 39.2 percent had tertiary education. The summary of the analysis shows that the literacy level is not high among the sampled population. Furthermore, in-depth investigation was carried to know the nature of non-migrants employment in the area. A total of 9.2 percent work in industries, 18.3 percent are civil servants while 30.7 percent are into business. 7.2 percent are entrepreneurs and 28.1 are involved in farming activities.

Additionally, analysis on the number of hours non-migrants spend working every week revealed that 16.3 percent spend less than 20 hours, 38.6 percent spend 20 to 40 hours and 26.8 percent spend between 40 to 60 percent working per week, still 60 to 80 hours is spent by 17.6 per cent, while only 0.7 respondent spent 81 hours and more per week. A further assessment is done to know if the time and energy invested in work is commensurate with income revealed that 134 respondents representing 87.6 percent affirms that their income level is in consonance with their time and energy invested in work, whereas 12.4 percent were of the opinion that their income level is far lower than their time and energy invested.

Further details show the average monthly income of non-migrant respondents. The analysis illustrates that 34.0 percent earn an average income less than 10,000 Naira while 33.3 percent earns between average income less than 10,000 to 30,000 Naira and 20.9 percent earns between 31,000 to 50,000 Naira whereas 11.1 percent earn 51,000 to 80,000 Naira and only 0.7 percent earn above 80,000 Naira. To access the standard of living of respondents, their ability to pay for education and healthcare bills are considered. 89.5 percent of non-migrants are able to pay such bills, whereas representing 10.5 percent cannot comfortably cater for their education and healthcare bills.

4.4. Non-migrant respondents and the socio-economy of Akpabuyo

In a bid to further examine respondents' access to social amenities, analysis revealed that 86.9 percent agrees to have access to social amenities in the vicinity while 13.1 percent of total sampled population argue that they don't have access to social amenities within their vicinity. This implies there is a considerable access to social amenities such as schools, portable water, roads, etc. within the area. Additionally, the investigation to ascertain if the respondents' wards are registered in an academic institution in Akpabuyo proves that 86.3 percent affirmed that their wards are registered while 13.7 percent stated that their wards are not registered in an academic institution in Akpabuyo. This means some respondents patronize schools in other areas away from the study location

Further, 25.5 percent of sampled population spends less than 10,000 Naira on education averagely in a year, 35.9 percent between 10,000 to 30,000 Naira, while 26.1 percent representing 40 respondents spend between 31,000 to 50,000. Also, 11.8 percent spend between 51,000 to 80,000 Naira. While only 0.7 respondent spend above 81,000. The expenditure on education is not very high in the area, probably due to the fact that there is no institution of higher learning in the area. The analysis on expenditure on healthcare by non-migrants revealed that 78.4 percent of respondents do patronize health care facilities in the vicinity, whereas 21.6 percent of the total sampled population does not patronize health care facilities in the area. Emphases on respondents' perception on accessibility to social amenities revealed that 14.4 percent rate their access to social amenities as very good, while 55.6 percent rate it as good, but in contrast 21.6 percent rate level of accessibility as bad and a counterpart 8.5 percent view it as very bad.

4.5. Existing Relationship between Migrant Labourers and Host Communities

A mutual relationship between residents of Akpabuyo, indigenes and migrants alike would mean socio-economic development in the area. Analysis shows that 83.5 percent of migrants resident in Akpabuyo co-exist peacefully with indigenes of Akpabuyo, while 15.7 percent of migrants have reservations on their relationship with indigenes of the study area. Further revelations shows that 53.9 percent of migrants confessed they have felt stigmatized at one point or another during their sojourn to Akpabuyo, while 24.3 percent have never felt stigmatized. During the researchers field work, some migrant respondents complained bitterly that during elections, they experience high level of stigmatization, as well as during government empowerment programmes. The migrants' participation in cultural activities and leadership roles were also examined. 72.6

percent migrants participate in cultural and traditional activities and even play significant leadership roles in the study area, while 27.4 per cent refute ever participating in cultural activities and leadership role in Akpabuyo.

On the other hand, an assessment of the level of relationship between indigenes of the host communities and migrants in the study area is examined. Analysis revealed that 92.2 percent accept that they co-exist peaceably with migrants, while 7.8 have issues with migrants resident in the area. Some of the indigene blame migrants of exhibiting obnoxious behaviour towards the customs and traditions of the area, while some others blame the migrants for the escalation of criminal activities. On the perception of the impact of migrants to the socio-economic growth of the study area. Outcome showed that 16.3 percent think that migrants do not significantly contribution to the socio-economic growth of Akpabuyo, whereas 37.9 percent's opinions show that the impact of migrants in Akpabuyo is significant and 45.8 percent of the total sampled population were of the opinion that migrants contributions to the growth of the area is very significant. From the foregoing therefore, it can be said that migrants contributes positively to the growth of Akpabuyo especially as another 84.3 percent of respondents attested that migrant significantly contribute to the overall development of the study area

4.6. Test of hypothesis

The hypothesis stated that the socio-economic well-being of migrants and non-migrants do not differ significantly. The paired samples t-test was used to infer if the socio-economic well-being of migrants and non-migrants differs significantly. The samples paired include; average weekly work hours of respondents (pair 1), time and energy invested in work (pair 2), average monthly income from employment (pair 3) and ability for income to cater for education and healthcare of both migrants and otherwise (pair 4).The data used for this analysis was derived from the administered questionnaire and is presented Appendix 2, while Table 4.14 is the paired sample test table where the results of the dependent t-test are presented. There were 4 pairs, putting the values for migrant against those of non-migrants.

The result of the test depicts that for the first pair which compares the number of hours put into work by migrants and non-migrant, $t=-3.4$, $p=0.001$ (<0.05). This implies that there is statistical significant difference in the time put into working by both migrant labourers and non-migrants in the area. The second pair compares the perception of both parties on the commensurability of time and energy put into work and income derived. The result derived here depicts that $t=5.4$, $p=0.000$ (<0.05), also implying there is statistical significant difference between both variables. Further, the third pair compared the average monthly income of

migrants and non-migrants. The outcome showed that $t=0.0$, $p=1.000$ (>0.05). A p-value greater than the alpha or significance level implies that the variables are independent, thus no significant statistical difference between the income of migrants and non-migrants in Akpabuyo. Finally, the fourth pair assessed if the income of both migrants and non-migrants was capable of taking care of their education and healthcare needs. The result showed that $t=4.0$, $p=0.000$ (<0.05), which suggests that there is statistical significant difference between both variables.

Table 1: Paired samples test table of socio-economic well-being of migrants and non-migrants

Paired Differences		t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)				
Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference					
			Lower	Upper				
Pair 1	-.373	1.342	.108	-.587	-.158	-3.434	152	.001
Pair 2	.281	.643	.052	.178	.384	5.403	152	.000
Pair 3	.000	1.372	.111	-.219	.219	.000	152	1.000
Pair 4	.196	.597	.048	.101	.291	4.065	152	.000

Source: Authors field work, 2016

In a nutshell, the outcome of the analyses showed that 3 of the 4 pairs inferred statistical significant difference. Thus it can be inferred that the socio-economic well-being of migrants and non-migrants differs significantly. This tilts to the alternate hypothesis and implies the null is rejected and the alternate accepted.

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

The contribution of migrant labour towards socio-economic development of rural areas in the world is worthy of note. This is in view of the fact that migrant engage in agricultural, industrial and other activities that boost the socio-economic status of the rural communities, however, the observed contributions of migrant labour to economic growth of Nigeria, Cross River State and Akpabuyo Local Government Areas, resonates with the findings of Danejo, Abubakar, Haruna, Usman, and Bawuro (2015), Adewale (2005) and Fadeji (2011). This study shows that migrant labourers significantly contribute to the overall development of Akpabuyo and that the socio-economic well-being of migrants and non-migrants differs significantly.

It is thus recommended that the government should set up institutions and facilities that would foster socio-economic development in Akpabuyo LGA such that can be affordable to both migrants and otherwise and encourage them to utilize same such as schools, low cost housing, health care centers, cottage industries, etc. Likewise, since migrants are key to the socio-economic development of Akpabuyo LGA, the inflow of migrants to the area should be encouraged through

the improvement of the existing road infrastructure and the utilization of natural water bodies bounding the area for water transportation. This will go a long way to reduce the travel time of getting to Akpabuyo.

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