NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA’S DEVELOPMENT (NEPAD) AS THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROGRAMME FOR AFRICA’S RENEWAL: A CASE STUDY OF NIGERIA.

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this dissertation is a result of an original research conducted by me under the supervision of Ms. Juliana Appiah and that no part of it has been submitted anywhere else for any other purpose.

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DATE........................................  DATE........................................
DEDICATION

This study is dedicated to the Almighty God and to my Father, Mr. Caleb Akah.
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First of all, I want to thank the Almighty God, who gave me life and for His immeasurable guidance throughout my study.

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ABSTRACT

Post-colonial Africa is often plagued with deplorable socio-economic conditions further worsened by constant violence, famine, poverty, disease, bad governance and corruption. With these numerous challenges confronting African countries, leaders on the continent have tried and tested various measures such as the structural adjustment programmes, import-substitution, export-led growth, among others but to no avail. One significant factor associated with these strategies is that majority of them were imported from the developed countries or better still served as conditionalities for financial assistance from the international financial institutions, such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). It was against this backdrop that African leaders saw the need for a comprehensive development strategy that will be home grown African. This therefore resulted in the birth of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) to help advance the socio-economic development agenda of African countries. This study sought to examine how the NEPAD initiative has been mainstreamed into Nigeria’s socio-economic development agenda and what has been achieved. The study found that a lot more needs to be done to realize NEPAD’s objectives in Nigeria with most of the States not doing anything at all to realize NEPAD’s objectives. The study also found that the country is faced with various challenges in pursuing NEPAD’s objectives. These include but are not limited to corruption, lack of adequate funding, lack of political zeal, lack of technical personnel, among others.
ABBREVIATIONS

AAF-SAP – African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programme

ACCOMEX - Agricultural Commodity Exchange Market

AfDB – African Development Bank

APRM – African Peer Review Mechanism

AU – African Union

CAADP – Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme

CDSF – Capacity Development Strategic Framework

CFR – Chief and Commander of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

CRM – Country Review Mission

CSAR – Country Self Assessment Report

DAPRS - Developing Agricultural Policy and Regulatory Systems

DPGI – Democracy and Political Governance Initiative

EAP – Environment Action Plan

EASSy – East Africa Submarine System

ECA – Economic Commission of Africa

ECCAS – Economic Community of Central African States
ECGI – Economic and corporate Governance Initiative

ECOWAS – Economic Community for West African States

EFA – Education For All

EFCC – Economic and Financial Crime Commission

EU – European Union

FDI – Foreign Direct Investment

FOA - Food and Agriculture Organization

FMARD - Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

FMAD – Federal Ministry, Agencies and Department

FPOs – Focal Point Officers

GDP – Gross Domestic Product

HDI – Human Development Index

HIPC – Heavily Indebted Poor Countries

HSGIC – Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee

ICPC – Independent Corrupt Practice Commission

ICT – Information Communication Technology

IMF – International Monetary Fund
IPPF – infrastructural Project Preparation Facility

LGA – Local Government Area

LGLOs – Local Government Liaison Officers

LROs – Lead Research Organizations

MAN – Manufactures’ Association of Nigeria

MAP – Millennium Partnership for African Recovery Programme

MARKETS - Maximizing Agricultural Revenue in Key Enterprises

MDGs – Millennium Development Goals

MoU – Memorandum of Understanding

NACCIMA – National Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture

NAI – New African Initiative

NAIP – Nigerian Agriculture Investment Plan

NECA – Nigeria’s Employers Consultative Association

NEPAD – New Partnership for Africa’s Development

NFP – National Focal Point

NPCA – NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency

NPC – National Planning Commission
NPoA – National Programme of Action

NSC – National Steering Committee

NWG – National Working Group

NYSC – National Youth Service Corp

OAU – Organization of African unity

ODA – Official Development Assistance

PAF – Partnership for African fisheries

PIDA – Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa

PPA – Place of Primary Assignment

PPR – Presidential Personal Representative

PHCN – Power Holding Company Nigeria

RAISE - Raising Agricultural Income with Sustainable Environment

RECs – Regional Economic Communities

SAP – Structural Adjustment Programme

SGF – Secretary to the Government of the Federation

SPRM – State Peer Review Mechanism

SSA – Senior Special Assistant
STAP – Short Term Action Plan

UNESCO – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UN-PAAERD – United Nations Programme of Action for Africa’s Economic Recovery and Development

UN-NADAF – United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa
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CHAPTER ONE

RESEARCH DESIGN

1.0 Background

The role of NEPAD as a socio-economic programme for Africa’s renewal has been well-recognized by researchers, academicians, and policy makers in recent times. According to Ebegbulem et al, it is in line with achieving this feat that African leaders deemed it necessary to use the NEPAD initiative to address Africa’s myriad developmental challenges after the failure of several previous ones.¹

Post-colonial Africa is often plagued with deplorable socio-economic conditions further worsened by constant violence, famine, poverty, disease, bad governance and corruption. According to Sachs, the World Bank estimates that nearly half of Africa’s population lives in extreme poverty.² He also posits that more than 1 million children in Africa succumb to Malaria each year.³ By 1994 estimates, Africa accounted for one-tenth of the world’s population, yet, it accounted for half of the world’s refugees. It is noteworthy that “while Africans have been quite successful in uniting to achieve national freedom, Africans have utterly failed to unite for economic development and political stability.”⁴

Several unsuccessful attempts have been made by African leaders to address these socio-economic issues so as to put Africa on the path of sustainable development. These attempts

The New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) is the current attempt to put Africa on a path to sustainable development. This is essentially the brainchild of former South African President Thabo Mbeki. He led the call for a new partnership for development among African states as part of his new philosophy of African Renaissance. This call therefore, led to the creation of NEPAD. The NEPAD initiative is a merger of two documents, the Omega Plan and the Millennium Partnership for African Recovery Programme (MAP), put together by five Heads of State of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) – Algeria, Nigeria, South Africa, Egypt and Senegal.\(^6\) The two documents ensures the delivering of certain development programmes in key sectors such as

Infrastructure, which covers Energy, Transport, ICT, Water and Sanitation; Agriculture and Food; Peace and Security; Science, and Technology; Trade and Market Access, including, Tourism and Environment and Human Development – which includes Health, Education and Water and Sanitation. In addition, there is a focus on Governance and State Capacity Building which are the conditions for sustainable development, while Gender and women empowerment is central to all programmes.\(^7\)
The final document of the Omega plan and the MAP became the New African Initiative (NAI), and on 11th July, 2001 the NAI was presented to the Heads of State and Government on an OAU summit, who accepted and adopted the document. On 23rd October, 2001, the OAU Heads of State and Government met at an extraordinary session in Abuja, and the NAI was renamed the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD). The programme is designed to establish an ownership of the continent and to serve as an interaction between Africa and the international community. The programme is also defined on the principle of good governance which is a basic necessity for political stability, peace and security, management of resources and socio-economic transformation. According to George-Genyi “African sees NEPAD as an instrument for weaving together many of its numerous domestic predicaments such as poverty, lack of investment, political instability, corruption and general economic downturn.”

NEPAD as a socio-economic development programme has its outlined aims and objectives alongside a time frame to achieve them. These aims and objectives include, eradication of poverty; to place African continent, both individually and collectively, on a path of sustainable growth and development; to stop the marginalization of Africa in the globalization process and enhance its full and beneficial integration in the global economy and to accelerate the empowerment of women. The Principles of NEPAD are the core elements toward achieving the objectives and programmes of NEPAD. They are as follows:

- Good governance as a basic requirement for peace, security and sustainable political and socio-economic development.
African ownership and leadership, as well as broad and deep participation by all sectors of society.

- Anchoring the development of Africa on its resources and resourcefulness of its people.
- Partnership between and amongst African peoples.
- Acceleration of regional and continental integration.
- Building the competitiveness of African countries and the continent.
- Forging a new international partnership that changes the unequal relationship between Africa and the developed world.
- Ensuring that all Partnerships with NEPAD are linked to the Millennium Development Goals and other agreed development goals and targets.

Coincidentally, Nigeria is one of the pioneering countries of NEPAD and a strong supporter and promoter of NEPAD principles. Nigeria is also one of the leading oil producing and exporting countries in Africa, which exports millions of dollars in oil per year. "Over $300 billion ($300,000,000,000.00) worth has been pumped from the Niger Delta region in the last four decades, yet the population lives in terrible poverty; the social conditions of humanity in the region are indeed appalling."

Yet, the country has not totally incorporated the ideologies of NEPAD into its national socio-economic development policies and plans and to optimize the NEPAD benefits. “South Africa, another pioneer country, has taken full advantage of the supports and protection offered by NEPAD to expand its investment and economic stronghold in the continent.” The NEPAD
initiative serves as a benchmark to socio-economic development in Nigeria. Since its establishment in Nigeria, there have been progress and setbacks in the implementation of its programmes in achieving its socio-economic goals in the country. It is in line with this that this study examines whether NEPAD’s objectives are being realized in Nigeria.

1.1 Statement of the Problem

Nigeria as one of the architects of NEPAD, has been a driving force of the NEPAD initiative. The NEPAD initiative has succeeded in implementing some socio-economic programmes in Nigeria such as the CAADP for agriculture, the NEPAD e-school for education and the para-military training scheme in the aspect of peace and security. Despite the implementation of NEPAD programmes and the mainstreaming of these programmes into the Federal, Ministry, Department and Agencies (FMDA’s), the implementation of NEPAD initiatives in Nigeria have been unsustainable. This has culminated in the regression of NEPAD programmes in Nigeria.

1.2 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this study are to:

1. Examine the overview of NEPAD.

2. Examine what NEPAD has done in mainstreaming the objectives of NEPAD into the socio-economic agenda of Nigeria.

3. Identify the factors that are constraining the realisation of NEPAD objectives in Nigeria.

4. Recommend practicable solutions to tackling these constraints.
1.3 Research Questions

1. What does NEPAD stand for in Africa?

2. What effort has been put in place by NEPAD to mainstream its objectives into the socio-economic agenda of Nigeria?

3. What factors are impeding the realization of NEPAD objectives in Nigeria?

4. What strategies can be adopted to overcome the challenges with regards to the implementation of NEPAD in Nigeria?

1.4 Scope of the Research

The scope of the study covers the socio-economic development of Nigeria in the light of NEPAD. It covers the period between 2003 and 2013, indicating the first decade of NEPAD’s existence in Nigeria. Nigeria is also used as a case study because it is a co-founder of NEPAD and a major contributor to the NEPAD initiative.

1.5 Rationale

This research will not only add to existing literature on NEPAD and Nigeria but also serve as a resource material to both academia and relevant stakeholders. It will bring to the fore the progress or otherwise of NEPAD’s socio-economic programmes in Nigeria and how relevant this is to the development of the country.
1.6 Conceptual Framework: African Renaissance

The concept of African Renaissance first emerged in Nelson Mandela’s speech when he addressed the Organization of African Unity in Tunis in 1994. The concept was popularized by former South African President Thabo Mbeki in a speech delivered to the Constitutional Assembly of South Africa on the 8th of May 1996 titled ‘I am an African’. That speech did not only signal a new foreign policy, but also acknowledged the collective ties between South Africa and the rest of Africa. Mbeki has since promoted the idea of a Renaissance as a new social concept, making it a critical factor of change and a sine qua non of reclamation in Africa. Mbeki has also notionalised and given a programmatic vision for the idea of African Renaissance.

The African Renaissance institute defines the concept of African Renaissance as “a shift in the consciousness of the individual to re-establish our diverse traditional African values, so as to embrace the individual’s responsibility to the community and the fact that he or she, in community with others, are in charge of their own destiny.” Moeletsi Mbeki defines African Renaissance in what he called the ‘key elements’ of African renaissance. They are:

- The recovery of the African continent as a whole.
- The establishment of political democracy on the continent.
- The need to break neo-colonial relations between Africa and the world’s economic power. The mobilisation of the people of Africa to take their destiny into their own hands, thus preventing the continent being a place for the attainment of geo-political and strategic interest of the world’s most powerful countries.
- Fast development of people-driven and people-centred economic growth and development aimed at meeting the basic needs of the people.
According to Kessel I. Van, “African Renaissance is an ideological and spiritual beacon that has been proposed as Africa's response to globalisation, a marketing strategy and a 'back to roots' recipe for moral regeneration.” The concept of African Renaissance can be viewed from three different perspectives; as an agenda for modernisation, an agenda for neo-traditionalism, and an agenda for Africanisation.

The modernistic perspective of the concept of African Renaissance is a modernising initiative that is centered on economic and political development and pays little importance to cultural dimensions. Among the priorities of economic and political development are anti-corruption campaigns, democratisation, poverty reduction, good governance, foreign investment, and economic growth. Mbeki's vision of the African Renaissance includes joining the information super-highway, the emancipation of women, debt cancellation, improved access to international market for African products and sustainable development. In several forums, Mbeki called for Africa's renewal which he repeatedly refers to as a call to rebellion. “We must rebel against the tyrants and the dictators, those who seek to corrupt our societies and steal the wealth that belongs to the people.”

The neo-traditionalist perspective of the concept of African Renaissance is an initiative calling for a homecoming of Africans to their roots. As Eddy Maloka notes, "there is more and more interest in the public sphere in what are believed to be traditional African practices and beliefs. One element of this perspective is the notion of *ubuntu*, a concept that has been around for some years but has recently resumed more popularity."
Lastly, Makgoba argues that, African Renaissance from the Africanist perspective is for Africans only, stating that “only Africans can understand, declare, initiate, implement, commit themselves and lead an African Renaissance.”\textsuperscript{24} The African Renaissance can be filled with practically any content and is therefore readily subjected to suit the motive of black empowerment and black progression.

Since Mbeki’s call for African Renaissance, a considerable number of studies have wrestled with the idea, seeking to understand its meaning and scope. For Jana,

\begin{quote}
The African Renaissance vision is an all-embracing concept that draws its inspiration from the rich and diverse history and cultures of Africa. It acknowledges Africa as the cradle of humanity, whilst providing a framework for the modern Africa to re-emerge as a significant partner in the New World order. This framework touches all areas of human endeavour; political, economic, social, technological, environmental and cultural.\textsuperscript{25}
\end{quote}

According to Bongmba, the African Renaissance is vital because it calls for a post-nationalist policy that looks into the issues of the African region, demands for the renewal of African culture and encourages a new political culture in Africa.\textsuperscript{26} He further argues that Mbeki’s call for an African renaissance is timely because “he calls for the liberalisation of African states and their economies; the institution of values that must replace corruption and incompetence; as well as seeking the peaceful resolution of conflicts and encouraging an Africa-centered engagement that will promote trade and sustainable development.”\textsuperscript{27} The African Renaissance is seen as an important concept in Africa that will shape the socio-economic situation of Africa.
The African Renaissance has been criticized by scholars, organisations and individuals, amongst others. The left-wing black scholars have condemned Mbeki’s African Renaissance as a cover for a neo-liberal economic policy. To them it is “a Trojan horse for the Washington Consensus,” a policy which goes in line with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) policies.

Bongmba indicated that Mbeki’s African Renaissance, has paid much attention on improving the South African economy and that of the African continent, emphasising the oneness of the African continent. While some South African’s claim there is nothing to Mbeki’s focus on the South African economy and the continent, but it is only a slogan, and that it is dead because of the ongoing developments at the north of the Limpopo River.

Kessel states that the Purists criticized Mbeki’s African Renaissance that he has turned to the Western culture to dig up the concept of a Renaissance, instead of exploring Africa’s own rich culture for a concept of renewing Africa. The Renaissance has been analysed within some Christian groups in South Africa as purely humanistic and hence, it is materialistic and non-spiritual in nature.

The significance of the concept of the African Renaissance to this study is that the Mbeki African Renaissance, which came to unite and develop Africa, paved the way for the birth and adoption of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) to serve as a socio-economic programme for the development and renewal of Africa and Nigeria.
1.7 Literature Review

The reviews of literature in this study reflect NEPAD and its activities towards development both in Africa and in Nigeria.

According to Posthumus, African leaders admit to the fact that Africa’s developmental crisis are connected to issues of governance in the continent. In addition to the issue of governance, Africa’s developmental crisis also stems from its history with colonial rule. This has resulted in lack of good governance amongst many African states. The effect of the deficiency in the quality of governance has brought about socio-economic and developmental ills such as poverty, low standard of living, and stunted economic growth in many African states.

Posthumus suggests that the NEPAD presents “the hope of turning back the clock of delay of development in Africa.” 32 The positivity surrounding the NEPAD holds that it is an initiative by African leaders that recognises the existence of developmental gaps and the need to tackle it head-on. Posthumus’ analysis depicts that the NEPAD initiative promotes socio-economic programmes for Africa’s renewal.

Landsberg in his analysis, posits that the NEPAD objective was to eliminate poverty in many African countries both individually and collectively, and pave a way for sustainable growth and development in Africa’s economy. He further views the NEPAD’s objective as Africa’s opportunity to “participate actively in the world economy and body politic on equal footing”. 33 Landsberg’s analysis is supported by Akokpari who in his own view sees the NEPAD programme as a representation of a moral contract between African countries and the
international community. The moral contract involves African states committed “to improving governance and promoting democracy by undertaking political reforms and market-friendly economic policies while the international community undertakes to assist African countries committed to good governance, the promotion of human right, poverty eradication, and economic growth”. 34 Both analysis shows that the NEPAD initiative is instrumental to Africa’s renewal. NEPAD’s programmes, policies and structures are set out to achieve the enhancement and sustenance of Africa’s socio-economic development.

According to Mamman Saba et al, African leaders have initiated several developmental programmes for the revival of Africa, including the APRM, which he thinks is rather too technical. He argues that “good governance can only be achieved through servant leadership, respect to rule of law, protect the rights of the citizens, and guarantee of greater happiness among the greater number of the people.” 35 Kebonang et al stated that bad governance and misuse of public funds by African leaders has impoverished the people thereby diminishing their standard of living. In order to make progress in Africa’s rejuvenation with regards to its socio-economic development, the NEPAD APRM serves as a voluntary process with a high degree of legitimacy for African countries willing to pass through its process of assessment. 36 The programme is aimed at promoting state’s international reputation, increasing support for their national policies and enhancing human and economic development. Kebonang et al opines that NEPAD APRM democratic, political and corporate governance practices are ways to place Africa on the path of socio-economic development.
The NEPAD initiative seeks to strengthen cooperation at regional level and the same time create an opportunity for African states with the industrialised countries. Ebegbulem et al summarized the positive aspect of NEPAD’s partnership with the industrialised countries where he argued that NEPAD “provides an avenue for Africa to engage and negotiate with the West for a new place in the international political economy as well as creates opportunities for the region to take ownership of its development process.” These facts about NEPAD and its programmes raise positivity in regards to Africa’s long-term development. However, questions have been raised about the genuineness of the partnership between Africa and the international community, because of the lack of cooperation, and reciprocity in between. In fact, Asante labels the partnership with the industrialised countries as a “partnership of unequal partners.” Despite this critic, the NEPAD initiative pave the way for the socio-economic renewal of the continent through cooperation and negotiation between African and the international community.

Nigeria is one of the key drivers and financial contributor to NEPAD projects and has benefitted less from its programme of action. Giyose argues that NEPAD has failed to address poverty, by not providing poverty targeted policies, which is a serious challenge facing Africa and African’s. In Nigeria for instance, seventy percent (70%) of its population lives on less than a Dollar ($1.00) per day, and the poorest fifth of the Nigerian population obtains only four percent (4%) of the nation’s wealth. Unfortunately, very little efforts were made to educate the African population about the NEPAD initiative right from its establishment in many African countries. Loxley noted that Church representatives have argued that “the process that gave rise to the current NEPAD document is seriously lacking because there has been no consultation with Africa’s citizenry, without whose active participation there can be no real partnership and no real
development.” A survey conducted by the Nigerian Guardian newspaper in 2009 in Mamman Saba et al revealed that over fifty percent (50%) out of a total number of 1200 respondents have never heard about NEPAD, 35.5 per cent said they have heard about NEPAD, while 14.5 per cent gave no comment as their response. This study therefore discusses the challenges the NEPAD initiative and its programmes faces in the hope of reviving Africa’s socio-economic development.

1.8 Sources of Data

This study is based on secondary data. The secondary data is sourced from journal articles, books, official documents, internet materials, magazines and newspapers, among others. The secondary sources of data collection are sources that are relevant to the study. These sources of data are collected from the Balme Library, Legon Center for International Affairs and Diplomacy (LECIAD) and the Department of Political Science, all at the University of Ghana, Legon.

The research methodology used in this study is the qualitative approach, which involves a historical approach in studying NEPAD as the socio-economic programme for Africa’s renewal, using Nigeria as a case study. The historical approach is a collection and evaluation of past events to test the hypothesis concerning the cause and effect of events that may help to explain present and future occurrences.

The qualitative approach poses some advantages such as covering issues and subjects in detail, it require a small scale of targeted audience and cost effective. In addition to the advantages, the framework of qualitative approach allows research to be reviewed quickly and in lesser time new
information and update surfaces. The qualitative approach has some disadvantages such as issues on confidentiality and anonymity can pose problems during presentation of findings. Secondly, findings can be time consuming and difficult to present in visual ways. However, the reason for the adoption of qualitative research is that it gives the researcher a clear understanding about the targeted market for the reason that the types of questions asked during the process starts with “why” which makes it more powerful and easy to deal with than those questions that focus on “what, when and how much”.

1.9 Arrangement of Chapters

This study involves four (4) chapters.

- Chapter one (1) deals with the research design.
- Chapter two (2) concentrates on a general overview of NEPAD.
- Chapter three (3) looks at the experience of Nigeria with the NEPAD programme, and the factors that constrain the successful accomplishment of its objectives in Nigeria.
- Chapter four (4) then focuses on the summary of findings, conclusion and recommendations for the study.
Endnote

3Ibid.
9Ibid. P.3
11NEPAD. 2001. P. 1
17Ibid. P. 292
21Ibid.
22“The African Renaissance” In: Mbeki, Africa. P.300
24Inter Press Service, 28th September, 1998.
27Ibid. P. 291
28Ibid. P. 309
29Ibid.
CHAPTER TWO

AN OVERVIEW OF NEPAD

2.0 Introduction.

According to Chimmanikire, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) was faced with challenging issues from within Africa and the international community between the periods 1970 to 1980.¹ These challenges include “globalization, civil wars with the collapse of States, the rise of rebel groups and terrorism, and the increase in the economic crisis which the OAU could not address.”² A strategic sequel to this was the transformation of the OAU into African Union (AU) a year later. The AU is expected to tackle the issues of conflict, famine, poverty, disease, bad governance, corruption, among others through the NEPAD initiative. This chapter gives an overview of the NEPAD, specifically considering a brief background of NEPAD, its objectives, principles, institutional structures, its achievements so far in the priority areas and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM).

2.1 A Brief Background of NEPAD

The New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) is a framework developed by African leaders to address social, economic and political issues in Africa; it is a commitment by both Africans and the international community to place Africa on a path of sustainable development and to partner with the international community.³ The NEPAD initiative was inspired by five African Heads of State of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). Two documents brought the
NEPAD initiative into existence, the Millennium Partnership for African Recovery Programme (MAP) and the Omega Plan.

The notion of an Africa’s rebirth was first seen in Thabo Mbeki speech, when he called for an African renaissance. The African Renaissance is said to have originated from Pan-Africanism or what is called black consciousness. The Mbeki African renaissance is on African’s development and the engagement of African with the industrialized countries.  

At this point Mbeki Thabo, Obasanjo and Bouteflika chaired the OAU, the G-77 countries and the Non-aligned movement (NAM), this made it easy to present their new Africa agenda to the G-8 leaders at the TICAD I in Japan. “By the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) II in 1998, the concept of ownership and partnership was established as a principle of cooperation between Africa and the international community.”

“At the world economic forum meeting in Davos, the MAP was drawn up and received by the OAU. The Omega Plan initiated by President Wade was presented to the Franco-African summit in Cameroon.”  

The Omega Plan basically is a blueprint for investment in different areas of infrastructural and educational development while the MAP concentrated on a new and different approach about business management. The Omega Plan was integrated into the MAP to ensure the delivering of certain developmental programmes in key sectors such as

- Infrastructure, which covers Energy, Transport, ICT, Water and Sanitation; Agriculture and Food; Peace and Security; Science, and Technology; Trade and Market Access, including, Tourism and Environment and Human Development – which includes Health, Education and Water and Sanitation. In addition, there is a focus
on Governance and State Capacity Building which are the conditions for sustainable development, while Gender and women empowerment is central to all programmes.\textsuperscript{8}

There was another document which was presented by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Mr. K.Y. Amoako at the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of Africa Ministers of Finance in Addis Ababa November 2000, known as the Compact for Africa’s Recovery.\textsuperscript{9} Nadudere opines that the Compact is a document that will lead to the formation of a ‘Forum of African leaders’ for the renewal of the African continent.\textsuperscript{10} Eventually, the Compact became the tool that merged the MAP and the Omega Plan into the New African Initiative (NAI). The Compact also became an essential basis for the enhancement of the Africa partnership with the industrialized countries. In July 2001, the OAU Heads of State and Government inaugurated an implementation committee, made up of fifteen (15) Heads of State to manage the affairs of the NEPAD initiative\textsuperscript{11} and in October 2001 the NAI was renamed NEPAD.

The NEPAD initiative is based on democracy, good governance, and human rights for sustainable development in Africa. According to Irikana et al “a good and accountable government means a commitment to sound economic governance and the eradication of corruption”.\textsuperscript{12} Another important aspect is the principle of ownership and partnership of NEPAD. The NEPAD initiative calls all Africans to take ownership of the continent and its development. Paragraph 51 of the NEPAD’s document states that; “NEPAD will be successful only if it is owned by the African peoples united in their diversity.”\textsuperscript{13} The NEPAD initiators also created a close tie with other international partners who share similar development agenda with NEPAD to
support projects and programmes in Africa. The partnership is to enable the international community complement the efforts made towards African development by Africans; and to integrate Africa into the global economy to bring sustainable development. Paragraph 8 of the NEPAD document states that “NEPAD is a call for a relationship of partnership between Africa and the international community, especially the highly industrialized countries, to overcome the development chasm that has widened over centuries of unequal relations.” The partnership began between Africa and the industrialized countries when Mbeki appealed to them to support the programmes of Africa that are geared towards the realization of sustainable development. In response to this appeal, the G8 agreed to assist in solving the developmental issues challenging Africa. The guiding principles of the partnership are; fairness, respect and the integration of Africans into the globalized world.

Several frameworks were designed to foster the developmental process of the initiative on the continent. These framework includes; the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA), the Short Term Action Plan (STAP) for infrastructure, the Consolidated Plan of Action in Science and Technology, the Environment Action Plan (EAP), the Capacity Development Strategic Framework (CDSF) and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) for the advancement of democracy and good governance in Africa, among others. These frameworks touch every area of the NEPAD sectoral priorities which are the bases for transformation in Africa.
The NEPAD is a socio-economic programme of the AU, which has the responsibility of assisting the AU in designing and formulating policies for regional programmes and also provides technical staffs for the AU.\textsuperscript{17} The AU as the supervisory body of NEPAD ensures a close cooperation between the AU and NEPAD. In 2010, the NEPAD Secretariat was integrated into the AU, this integration led to the creation of the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), as a technical body of the AU.\textsuperscript{18} The NPCA is tasked with the responsibility of coordinating and monitoring the implementation of regional projects, mobilized partners to support the developmental projects and to conduct research on projects.\textsuperscript{19}

### 2.1.1 NEPAD Objectives

The main objectives of the NEPAD initiative include:

- To eradicate poverty: African population continue to suffer in extreme poverty, denying the population the opportunity of realizing a sustainable growth where half of the African population live in less than a dollar ($1.00) per day. The NEPAD initiative aimed to eradicate poverty in the Africa continent by 2015 in which the African population will live in a dollar per day;

- To place African countries, both individually and collectively, on a path of sustainable growth and development: The African continent is underdeveloped and so the NEPAD initiative aims to put in place necessary frameworks and programmes, building capacity, reconstructing the health sector to reduce and prevent diseases, eradicate poverty, reduce corruption and conflict among the African countries either collectively or individually;

- To halt the marginalization of Africa in the globalization process: Due to Africa’s serious underdevelopment, there is a continuous marginalization of the region and her people.
The NEPAD initiative seeks to stop this marginalization and to integrate Africa in the globalization process at the international community; and

- To promote the role of women in all activities: NEPAD seeks to enlarge the role of women in the socio-economic development of Africa by strengthening their capacity in specific areas like vocational skill training and education and by ensuring their participation in African issues and politics.\textsuperscript{20}

### 2.1.2 Sectoral Priority Areas

The priority areas are conditions for socio-economic development in Africa, which touches every aspect of the NEPAD objective. The priority areas cover what need to be done within a short period of time. That is, it covers the short term programmes of the NEPAD initiative. The priority area is sub-divided into three (3) parts, which include; the Conditions for sustainable development; Policy reforms and increased investment and Mobilizing resources.

a) Establishing the conditions for sustainable development: African leaders acknowledged that a transparent and accountable government, a peaceful nation and continent, appropriate management of funds and resources, cooperation and integration in the region are conditions for sustainable development. These can be ensured by peace and security, democracy and sound political governance, economic and corporate governance and regional cooperation and integration. This sectoral priority entails three NEPAD initiatives which are the Peace and Security Initiative (PSI), Democracy and Political Governance Initiative (DPGI) and Economic and Corporate Governance Initiative (ECGI).
• Peace and Security: This condition for sustainable development is handled by the peace and security initiative. Peace and security is a means of addressing the political and social exposures on which conflict is evitable. The Peace and Security Initiative (PSI) is to build a strategy that will manage all aspects of conflict in the region.21

• Democracy and Sound Political Governance: African leaders recognized that growth is impossible without the presence of democracy and good governance in Africa. Democracy and good governance is best expressed through free and fair elections, that is, allowing citizens to freely elect their leaders. The Democracy and Political Governance Initiative (DPGI) seeks to achieve this sectoral priority by strengthening the political and democratic programmes of African countries, popular participation, accountability, transparency, promotion of human rights and the rule of law in accordance with the African charter and any other human instrument.22

• Economic and Corporate Governance: This is expected to ensure a proper means of management of funds and implementation of developmental programmes and the promotion of economic growth in Africa. African leaders realized that, African countries lacked the necessary policies in this aspect of governance. In order to address this, the Economic and Corporate Governance Initiative (ECGI) was setup. The ECGI seeks to promote a set of strong and vital programmes within a particular time frame to improve the quality of economic and public management as well as corporate governance in Africa and among African countries.23

• Regional Co-operation and Integration: African leaders seek to expand the resources, cooperation and market competition of some small size African states. The small size nature of these states has kept them underdeveloped with limited investment, limited
market access which resulted in a very low export. The conditions of these states drew all African states to put their resources together and foster regional development, which will also strengthen the sub-regional grouping in the African continent and in the international arena.24

b) Policy reforms and increased investment deals with four of NEPAD initiatives which includes Infrastructure Initiative, Human Development Initiative, Agricultural Initiative and Environmental Initiative in the following sectors:

- **Bridging Africa’s infrastructural gap as it is a major condition for economic growth in Africa:** Infrastructure as a problem slows production, hinders market access and competition and it is a serious problem to economic growth in Africa. Infrastructure includes energy, ICT, road, railway, seaport, airport, water pipeline and sanitation. The Infrastructure Initiative aims to close the digital divide and invest in information and communication technologies by creating reliable services. In energy, it sees to increase the supply of energy and to make energy accessible and affordable in Africa. In the area of transport, it aims to reduce delays in the movement of persons, goods and services and to enhance trade and economic activities. In the aspect of water and sanitation, it aims at providing hygienic water consumption and a safe environment for Africans.25

- **Adopting Human Resource Development Initiative aimed at reversing Africa’s brain drain, reducing poverty, improving health and bridging the educational gap in Africa:** The human resource development initiative seeks to reduce the rate of poverty in Africa by
assisting other poverty reduction institutions; encourage the poor in participating in poverty reduction strategies and to reduce the poverty rate among women. On the issue of bridging the educational gap, the focus is to provide basic and secondary schools for children who are within the age, improve school teaching curriculum, provide ICT for schools and the training of teachers. The health sector also aims to ensure a good health system to support the control and prevention of diseases and to help improve health literacy among the people in Africa.\(^{26}\)

- The NEPAD initiative adopted the Agricultural and Environmental Initiative to tackle the vast and complex nature of the agricultural and environmental sectors in Africa: There was a need for a redress of the agricultural system, since it was faced with the issue of food security. The Agricultural Initiative needed to address this issue to ensure good food production with a better nutritional standard, by tackling the inadequacy of the agricultural sector.\(^{27}\) The main idea of the Environmental Initiative is to eradicate poverty and contribute to sustainable development and to reduce desertification and preserve wetlands.\(^{28}\)

- Highlighting the importance of preserving and promoting indigenous culture as it constitutes a part of Africa’s development. This sectoral priority seeks to protect and nurture the indigenous knowledge of Africa.\(^{29}\)

- The NEPAD science and technology platforms aims to foster regional cooperation by developing and utilizing expertise at the center of excellence, to collect information and to achieve growth in the manufacturing and industrial sectors in Africa.\(^{30}\)
c) Mobilizing resources - this sectoral priority involves the Capital Flow Initiative, which deals with the mobilization and inflow of resources from both domestic and international partners by: Increasing domestic savings and investment; improving Africa’s share of global trade; attracting more Foreign Direct Investment (FDI); and increasing capital flows through further debt reduction and enhanced aid, which are aimed at achieving an annual growth of seven percent (7%) to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of reducing poverty by half the African population, which can only be achieved by filling the resource gap of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by twelve percent (12%).

2.1.3 NEPAD Principles

Some basic principles were outlined by the initiators of NEPAD to enable African countries collectively and individually achieve the objectives of the NEPAD initiative. These basic principles include:

- Good governance as a basic requirement for peace, security and sustainable political and socio-economic development in Africa: A major principle of NEPAD is good governance which is a basic tool for all African countries, both individually and collectively to place the African continent on a path of sustainable development.

- Partnership between and amongst African people: African leaders recognizes that Africa cannot develop faster without increased cooperation, coming together collectively to partner with their various resources.

- African ownership and leadership on development: This requires a broad and deep participation by private and public sector, as well as individuals of the society in the
development process of Africa. For sustained development to take place in Africa, then Africans must initiate and lead the process of development in the continent.

- Forging a new partnership with developed countries: African leaders recognized that Africa cannot develop without the assistance of the globalized world. They ensure that this new partnership changes the unequal relationship between Africa and the developed world.

- Anchoring the development of the continent on the resources and resourcefulness of the African people: Continents and State are not developed on the resources of other continents and states. With this in mind, African leaders saw that sustainable development of the continent is only possible when it is anchored on the resources within and of Africa.

- Acceleration of regional and continental integration: With the small size of African countries economy, there is the need for socio-economic and political integration among African countries. It is to take advantage of the situation and to share their resources to improve the economy of Africa smaller states.

- Commitment to ensuring that all partnerships with NEPAD are linked to MDGs and other agreed goals and targets. This ensures that all the strategies of NEPAD to improve the living standard of Africans is linked to the MDGs.\textsuperscript{32}

\section{NEPAD Structures}

The NEPAD initiative has a number of structures that govern and implement the projects and programmes in Africa. These structures include the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee (HSGIC), the Steering Committee and the Secretariat.
2.2.1 Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee (HSGIC)

The HSGIC comprises of Fifteen (15) states. The composition includes; the Five (5) founding member states, who are the permanent members and the other Ten (10) states have been selected from the regional groupings of the AU (Central, Eastern, Northern, Southern and Western Africa) with each region represented by three (3) countries. The Committee is responsible for the execution and implementation of NEPAD top decisions and policies. These Heads of State meet every four months for their annual meeting and it is headed by a Chairman. “The HSGIC now consist of twenty (20) AU member states elected by the Assembly from the Five (5) AU regions, Eight (8) AU recognised Regional Economic Communities (REC’s) and Five (5) lead partner institutions namely AfDB, APRM, UNDP, UNECA and UN-OSAA. The committee made recommendation to the au assembly for endorsement.”

2.2.2 The Steering Committee

The Steering Committee “is the intermediary body comprises of personal representative of the Heads of State and Government that serve as an interface between the HSGIC and the NEPAD agency, and they meet four times in a year.” The Steering Committee is tasked with the development of terms of reference for identified programmes and projects and it oversees the secretariat. The Steering Committee is headed by a Chairman.

2.2.3 Secretariat

The Secretariat is made up of five (5) persons based in Pretoria and headed by a Policy head. “The secretariat oversees the functions of liaison and coordination, administration and logistics and it outsource works on technical detail to lead agencies and continental experts.” The total
number of 5 persons as secretariat of the NEPAD initiative for the whole of Africa is a little number compared to the number of challenging issues that faces the continent. The secretariat has a task team, which is led by the 5 founding member states. The task team comprises of the NEPAD initiatives, which include; Peace and Security, Democracy and Political Governance Initiative (South Africa); Economic and Corporate Governance, Banking and Financial Standards, Capital Flows Initiative (Nigeria); Market Access and Agriculture Initiative (Egypt); Human Resources Development Initiative (Algeria) and Infrastructure (Senegal).³⁸

2.3. NEPAD Working towards Africa’s Development

The process of transformation in a continent, country and institution takes a gradual process and can sometimes be complicated. NEPAD is not expected to completely transform the African continent within a short period, but it has achieved a lot in implementing its programmes from the beginning of its formation. In reviewing the achievement of NEPAD towards the development of Africa, I will be looking at the sectoral priority areas. They include: Agriculture, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Health, Education and Infrastructure, as they are the basic conditions for growth and development in Africa.

2.3.1 Agriculture

Africa faces several challenges in the agricultural sector, especially in food security, which frequently leads to food shortages in Africa. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) stated that twenty-six percent (26%) of Africa’s population is undernourished.³⁹ It also states that thirty two (32) out of thirty five (35) countries with low
Human Development Index (HDI) are in Africa, while one third of Africa’s population lives in entire hunger. The African leaders faced with these challenges and its effects toward the development of Africa decided to find solutions to them. In July 2003, the African leaders created the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). It is an initiative meant to bring transformation in the agriculture sector in Africa. The goal of the CAADP is “to eliminate hunger and to reduce poverty through agriculture.” To pursue this goal, the AU leaders seek to achieve six per cent (6%) increase in agricultural production by 2015 and to increase by ten per cent (10%) the national budget allocated to the agricultural sector by 2008.

The CAADP in its first decade has achieved its two targets in pursuit of its objectives or goals, especially the six per cent (6%) increase in agricultural produce. Rice production in Africa increased from three hundred and seventy thousand tonnes (370,000) to six hundred and ninety three tonnes (693,000) between 2007 and 2013 and the annual food importation decrease from 32 million dollars ($32,000,000.00) to 15 million dollars ($15,000,000.00) between 2007 and 2013. Rwanda, which was the first country to sign the CAADP, has made a significant growth, in which their maize production increased in five (5) folds. It rose to two hundred and thirteen per cent (213%), that is, maize production has increased from less than 0.8 tonnes per hectare to 2.5 tonnes. Sierra Leone has increased its production to 5.3%. Countries like Tanzania and Malawi, amongst others have also made success in the 6% increase of agricultural production.

The NEPAD initiative has also put in place other initiatives to tackle famine and hunger. These include the Partnership for African Fisheries (PAF) and the Fertilizer Support Programme. The
PAF is to help the fishery sector in Africa design their policies and plans. So far, they have implemented projects in Sierra Leone and Ghana, while the Fertilizer Support Programme is to provide chemical fertilizers to small scale farmers to enhance crop production. However, the success of NEPAD in the agricultural sector seen not to have succeeded in its second objective, of allocating 10% of national budgets to the agricultural sector. This means nations are not responding to the call.

2.3.2 Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

The NEPAD I.C.T programme is a programme adopted by the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee in 2003, to tackle those factors that impose serious constraint in integrating Africa into the global world. Those factors include “high internet access cost, regional and international telecommunication traffic and low bandwidth.”\(^{46}\) The NEPAD ICT programme “aims to complete an optic fibre ring around Africa and establish connection between all African countries and to the rest of the world through submarine cable systems.”\(^{47}\) The main objective of the NEPAD ICT is “to bring together the African continent by harmonizing ICT Infrastructure initiatives across the continent, enabling trade, social and cultural interchange to take place with ease and affordability and ultimately assist Africa to Bridge the Digital Divide.”\(^{48}\)

NEPAD launched the e-Schools Initiative, to improve the teaching and learning system of both teacher and students in primary and secondary schools in Africa using ICT. This initiative has progressed in its objectives through the NEPAD e-Schools demonstration project, where twenty
(20) countries in Africa and more than eighty (80) schools were involved in this project. Computer laboratories were built for each school with about twenty (20) computers, peripheral devices such as printers and scanners and a server with a good networking infrastructure.49 The NEPAD initiative also established the ICT Broad band Infrastructure Programme with the aim of connecting the Africa with the rest of the world through broadband optimal fibre. The programme initiated a two cable system, a Submarine and a Terrestrial cable system, which have been completed.50 Some of these are the East Africa Submarine System (EASSy), the optic fibre from Algeria to Nigeria and the ICT optic fibre network in Rwanda, amongst other.51

2.3.3 Health

One other NEPAD priority area, which NEPAD has looked into, is the area of health. According to Asante, “NEPAD recognizes health as one of the most serious consequences of poverty, social exclusion, marginalization and lack of sustainable development in Africa.”52 The NEPAD Health Strategy came into being to assist the continent and states on their health system. To achieve this, NEPAD outlined a number of objectives. They are as follows:

- Improving healthcare systems in Africa and reducing the burden of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. This includes providing member states with strategic guidance, capacity building opportunities and promoting an African agenda for health.
- Increasing the number of trained and motivated health workers in Africa. NEPAD works with global and regional partners to promote health education to improve the base of skilled professionals in this sector.
• To ensure that affordable essential medicines are available to all Africans. The focus here is to build regional partnerships in improving the regulation, access and quality of medicines.\textsuperscript{53}

The health sector has achieved a number of its objectives. First it published a strategic document with the aim of advancing the pharmaceutical sector of the continent.\textsuperscript{54} The NEPAD initiative has contributed to the African health sector through the training of nurses and midwives across Africa countries. NEPAD provided 5 million dollars ($5,000,000.00) to Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) for the training of nurses and midwives in community health nursing, trauma nursing, mental health nursing, maternal and child health.\textsuperscript{55} NEPAD has also established health centers in some countries with at least one of the specialist health programmes. The countries which have benefitted include Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, Congo and Rwanda.\textsuperscript{56}

\subsection*{2.3.4 Education}

Education is an aspect under the Human Development Initiative and its importance cannot be over emphasized. The World Education Forum organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on Education For All (EFA), held at Dakar in 2000 clearly captured the importance of education. Thus NEPAD saw the importance of education for Africa at this World Education Forum – EFA. The EFA report on the world level of illiteracy shows “that 799 million adults are illiterate and 103 million children are out of school not learning to read and write; many of those who enroll drop out without adequate literacy skills and most young people who complete school have few prospects for meaningful
With these issues in the world, Africa holds the largest number of illiterates and school dropouts. In line with this, African leaders saw the need to fuse a policy on better education into their policies and plans. This is because they realized that better education such as vocational skills, reading and writing are weapons and solutions to achieving sustainable development in Africa.

The educational sector aims to achieve certain objectives, in order to bridge the educational gap in Africa. These objectives are:

To ensure that all children of school going age are in primary schools by 2015; to promote gender equality in primary and secondary schools; to keep teachers and learners HIV/AIDS free and provide support to those infected or affected by HIV/AIDS; to promote open and distance education for teacher development and capacity building in the public sector and modernize education by assisting in the reconstruction of education infrastructure in post conflict environments.

The NEPAD Education programme has implemented and achieved some of its policies and objectives in the education and training sector in Africa. Some of these achievements are the formation of NEPAD Basic Education and Education for All Project, which is to ensure basic education for all school-aged children from primary to high school; and to provide science for all schools. The NEPAD initiative introduced a Distance Education and Teacher Training Development project in Southern and Central African regions. The main purpose is to train teachers, to increase the number of qualified teachers in these sub regions. So far, contracts have been signed with four (4) African Universities (University of South Africa, African Virtual University, Commonwealth of Learning and the National Open University of Nigeria), in order to begin the training project.
Another achievement in the area of education is The NEPAD School Feeding and Nutritional Programme, established for the feeding of primary and secondary school pupils’ in Africa. The programme has taken stage in some countries. In Ghana for instance, the programme covers at least one school in each of the districts, which has helped to increase the number of enrollment and attendance to schools. Also NEPAD established a mathematical and science education project in the post conflict environments of NEPAD countries.\textsuperscript{63}

2.3.5 Infrastructure

One major challenge of Africa’s underdevelopment is inadequate infrastructure. This has led to an increase in transaction cost, reduced access to markets and hinders regional integration. In order to find solutions to these gaps, African states established the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA), the Short Term Action Plan (STAP) and the Medium-to-Long-Term Strategy Framework on infrastructural development. NEPAD through the African Development Bank (AfDB) and other development partners organized funds to finance their infrastructural project.

The STAP have achieved several projects in the continent, these projects include the Southern African Power Pool, Integrated Development of the Eastern Nile Project. In the area of water supply, NEPAD has 22 water projects underway in seven river basins.\textsuperscript{64} A great emphasis has been placed on road transportation as the major means of movement of both persons and goods in the region to facilitate trade. For these, attention has been paid to the Trans-African Highway System and other road transport projects such as, the Enugu-Abalukeke-Mamfe Road Project,
Akatsi-Aflo section and the Akatsi-Dodze Neope Road of the Tema-Aflo Road Rehabilitation Project and the Mali-Burkina Faso-Ghana Road Project.\textsuperscript{65} There has also been construction of the Dakar-Ndjamena-Djibouti Rail/Road Project, North-South Corridor Road/Rail Project, Brazzaville Bridge Road/Rail Project and the Nigeria-Algeria Gas Pipeline.\textsuperscript{66}

The NEPAD Infrastructural Project Preparation Facility (NEPAD-IPPF) was setup in 2004 and governed by the AfDB. It aims to assist African countries in preparing infrastructural projects that will foster regional trade and integration. So far, infrastructural projects have been approved by the AfDB for implementation, while some of them have been completed. Some of these completed projects are: Benin-Togo- Ghana Electricity Interconnection Project, Kenya-Uganda Oil Pipeline Project, Zambia-Tanzania-Kenya Power Interconnection Project, OMVG Electricity Project, ItheziThezi and Kariba North Bank and Ghana-Burkina Power Interconnection Project, among others.\textsuperscript{67}

\section*{2.4 Africa Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)}

The most innovative and politically problematic strategy in the Democracy and Political Governance Initiative (DPGI) is the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM). The APRM is an AU initiative, initiated by the NEPAD HSGIC in 2002 and was adopted in 2003 as a flagship programme of NEPAD to oversee the implementation of good governance in Africa.\textsuperscript{68} The APRM is a self-monitoring voluntary mechanism, setup by African leaders to encourage states to accede to it, which will serve as a commitment on the part of African states to coordinate best governance practices in Africa. Murithi described the APRM as “a commitment to self-
monitoring and accountability for promoting inclusive governance and constitutional government by relying upon peer pressure in which governments monitor each other. The main objectives of the APRM are

To foster the adoption of policies, standards and practices that lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated sub-regional and continental economic integration through experience sharing and reinforcement of successful and best practices, including identifying deficiencies and assessment of requirements for capacity building.

The APRM has four thematic areas as its focus in development, they include, democracy and political governance which provide accountability in government, free and fair and equal participation of citizens. The next is the economic governance which provides transparency in the financial management of government agencies to increase economic growth; this is followed by corporate governance which promotes cultural values, beliefs and practices to enhance socio-economic growth; and finally, the socio-economic development, which tackles poverty and underdevelopment through peace and security and democracy and good governance. The APRM is mandated to ensure that the agreed values of these four (4) thematic areas are being conducted in participating states. However, the practices of the states must not contradict that of the thematic areas.

The AU has decided to fully integrate the APRM into the AU as an autonomous entity, taking into consideration that the APRM is a voluntary institution of the member States of the AU. It exercises control over its finance; and that its processes, structure and administration is based on the standard procedures of the AU. Asante stated that as at March 2013, seventy six per cent
(76%) of the African population has been covered by the APRM and 34 countries in Africa has acceded to the APRM and seventeen (17) has been peer reviewed.\textsuperscript{74}

\textbf{2.5 Conclusion}

This chapter has discussed/examined the background factors leading to the formation of the NEPAD initiative, its objectives, structures, principles, priority areas and some of its achievements. It could be seen from the above discussion that efforts have been made by NEPAD in terms of health, education, agriculture, ICT, infrastructure and the APRM on the African continent. However, more needs to be done. To further identify what NEPAD has done in specific countries, this study chooses Nigeria, one of its founding members as a case study. The next chapter of this study looks at Nigeria’s experience with the NEPAD initiative.
Endnote

5 Ibid. P. 153.
6 Ibid. P.154.
10 Ibid.
14 Ibid. P. 3
19 Ibid.
20 NEPAD document (2001) P.1
21 Ibid. P. 16
25 Ibid. P. 21-27
26 Ibid. P. 27-31
27 Ibid. P. 32
28 Ibid. P. 33
29 Ibid. P. 34
30 Ibid. P. 35

Ibid.


Ibid.


A lecture presented by Prof. Asante S.K.B at Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy (LECIAD) 2014.
CHAPTER THREE

NIGERIA’S EXPERIENCE WITH NEPAD

3.0 Introduction

Nigeria is one of the founding members of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) initiative as well as one of the few African countries that are putting in efforts to actualize its objectives in their jurisdiction. It could be argued that the success of NEPAD in a particular state can be based on the progress being made in integrating NEPAD priorities into the national development programmes to domesticate and enhance the effective realization of its objectives in those countries. In view of this, the purpose of this chapter is to examine Nigeria’s experience with the NEPAD programme. The chapter will specifically look at a brief country profile of Nigeria, the relevant structures that have been put in place by Nigeria to mainstream NEPAD objectives into its socio-economic policies, the specific programs, policies or projects that are being implemented to realize NEPAD’s objectives in Nigeria and finally the factors that are impeding the realization of NEPAD objectives in Nigeria.

3.1 Country Profile of Nigeria

Nigeria is referred to as the ‘Giant of Africa’, because of its size, political and economic position in Africa. It has a population of more than 170 million, making Nigeria the largest populated country in Africa. Nigeria is rich in crude oil, niobium, tin, coal, zinc, limestone, iron ore and lead. It has a strong and large economy with a GDP of 80.2 trillion Naira ($80,200,000,000,000.00) which is $501 billion ($501,000,000,000.00) and a per capita...
income of $2,720 ($2,720,000.00).\(^4\) Nigeria is a leading oil producing country in Africa, of which ninety per cent (90\%) of oil and gas account for its export, while eighty per cent (80\%) accounts for government revenue.\(^5\) Nigeria is an effective player in the affairs of Africa such as promoting Pan-Africanism, regional integration and has contributed immensely in terms of material, diplomatic, military, human and natural resources on the African continent.

Additionally, Nigeria is a Federal Constitutional Republic comprising 36 States with its Federal Capital Territory (FCT) being Abuja. The 36 states are further divided into 774 Local Government Areas (LGAs). Initially at independence, Nigeria was divided into only three (3) states but the current numerous states lay claims to the country's tumultuous history and the difficulties of managing such a heterogeneous national entity at all levels of government.\(^6\) Nigeria shares land borders with the Republic of Benin in the West, Chad and Cameroon in the East and Niger in the North. Its coast in the south lies on the Gulf of Guinea in the Atlantic Ocean. It could be seen that the federal system as practised in Nigeria gives some form of autonomy to the 36 States; and this is the main reason why the Nigerian NEPAD office has appointed NEPAD coordinators for all the States\(^7\).

Despite its rich natural resources and large economy, the country is faced with social, political, economic, security and religious issues, such as poverty of which seventy per cent (70\%) of Nigerians live in extreme poverty; disease- Nigeria is numbered the world’s second largest country with HIV/AIDS after South Africa; unemployment; corruption- bad governance, and weak constitutional law; lack of infrastructure- roads, water and sanitation; terrorism and
religious crisis. These challenges that face Nigeria has slowed the achievement of sustainable development in Nigeria. Nigeria is one of the 42 underdeveloped countries in sub-Saharan Africa as indicated by the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiated by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The introduction of NEPAD in Africa, gave Nigeria another opportunity to participate in the affairs of Africa, to bring about development both in Africa and in Nigeria. Nigeria participated with the other four (4) founding states that led to the establishment of NEPAD. Since its creation, Nigeria has being an exponent of the NEPAD initiative.

3.2 Nigeria’s Role in the Birth of NEPAD

Since Nigeria got its independence in 1960, its foreign policy has been centered on Afro-centrism. The change of government from military rule to a democratic rule never diverted the policy of Nigeria towards Africa. However, this afro-centric nature of Nigeria was showed in the formation of NEPAD, as it was one of the founding states of the NEPAD initiative. On 23rd October, 2001, the New Africa Initiative (NAI) was renamed NEPAD with the conclusion of its policy framework in the Federal Territory City of Nigeria, Abuja.

Olusegun Obasanjo as the then President of Nigeria worked to see to the formation, implementation and success of the NEPAD initiative. Olusegun Obasanjo became the first Chairman of the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee (HSGIC) of NEPAD, while Nigeria was leading two other positions at the NEPAD initiatives- the Capital Flow Initiative and the Economic and Corporate Governance Initiative. Nigeria provided the
Chairman for the African Business Round Table, Alhaji Bamanga Tukur; he was tasked to promote the NEPAD business programmes in the private sector. Nigeria provided the Deputy Chairman for the Committee on Infrastructure and Nigeria has also helped to foster a close relationship between NEPAD and the G8 and other developed nations. Nigeria, as a contributor to African affairs, is one of the key financial contributors to NEPAD. In 2005, it contributed 15 million Naira (#15,000,000.00) for capital expenditure and 63 million Naira (#63,000,000.00) for overhead cost.

3.3 NEPAD Nigeria Objectives

The main objectives of NEPAD Nigeria are:

- To popularize the NEPAD priority programme areas among Nigerians: The NEPAD Nigeria office aim to promote the activities and programmes of NEPAD in Nigeria among Nigerian;

- To facilitate the integration of NEPAD programmes within sectoral policy-making and implementation bodies in Nigeria: The NEPAD Nigeria seeks to identify and coordinate significant public sectors in Nigeria to mainstream the NEPAD programmes into this sectors at the federal, state and local government levels to implement NEPAD programmes at the national level;

- To facilitate civil-society and private-sector ownership of NEPAD and participation in NEPAD programmes: The NEPAD Nigeria aim to coordinate civil society groups and the private sector in Nigeria to own and partner with NEPAD and also to be involved in the implementation of its NEPAD programmes in Nigeria;
To increase the capacity of the NEPAD Nigeria office in the implementation of the NEPAD programme: The NEPAD Nigeria office seeks to act as a liaison house of NEPAD in Nigeria to implement NEPAD programmes and projects and to follow up on the policies, projects and recommendations made at conferences and meetings at the NEPAD secretariat. To achieve this task, NEPAD Nigeria intended to increase its capability.

### 3.4 NEPAD Structure in Nigeria

The United Nations General Assembly saw the important role played by states in the integration of Africa. As a result, the UN General Assembly on 4\(^{th}\) November, 2002 adopted the resolution 57/7 to encourage state governments to establish NEPAD offices at their national and local levels.\(^1\) The Resolution provides that

> African countries should be committed to integrate the priorities of NEPAD into their national polices and development planning frameworks, in order to maintain full ownership and leadership in developing and utilizing such policies and frameworks and to mobilize domestic resources in support of the New Partnership.\(^2\)

Based on the above, the NEPAD Nigeria office is the national focal point of NEPAD in Nigeria, which is charged with “the responsibility of identifying, partnering and working with all sectors in the society, both public and private, including international organizations to develop, implement and promote the programmes of NEPAD.”\(^3\) The office is also tasked with the responsibility of taking NEPAD to the grassroots and coordinating the activities of NEPAD in the country. Since Nigeria is a federal constitutional republic, the Governors of the 36 States...
have been given the authority to appoint their own NEPAD coordinators. However, the study revealed that since Nigeria’s adoption of the NEPAD programme in 2003, there are still States that have not appointed NEPAD Coordinators or that have NEPAD institutions that have been dormant for several years. The following are few of the States that have appointed NEPAD Coordinators and these include, Anambra, Enugu, Abia, Bayelsa, Benue, FCT, Borno, Ebonyi, Imo, Rivers and Yobe States.16 There are about 25 states that are yet to appoint NEPAD Coordinators or have not thought of appointing one.

Subsequently, in looking at the chain of command in NEPAD Nigeria, it could be seen that the NEPAD Nigeria office is headed and coordinated by a Senior Special Assistant (SSA) to the President. He/she is the Programme’s General Manager and Coordinator. The SSA work with the Secretary to the Government of the Federation to design and implement the programmes and activities of NEPAD in Nigeria.17 Another important official in the implementation of NEPAD is the President’s Personal Representative (PPR) on the NEPAD Steering Committee. The PPR is a Commissioner at the National Planning Commission (NPC) tasked with the coordination of the activities of NEPAD in Nigeria. The PPR deals with international and continental issues rather than national issues at the NEPAD Nigeria office. The SSA and PPR send their final reports to the President of Nigeria on issues of the NEPAD initiative.18 In addition to the above, a very important office in the NEPAD chain of command is the State Coordinators. These individuals take charge and spearhead all the activities of NEPAD within their various States. They also liaise with the NEPAD national office in the implementation of specific priority programmes and for other important instructions.
Further, within the state level, some states like the Rivers State for instance have appointed NEPAD Focal Point Officers (FPOs). These FPOs have been appointed in all the Ministries, Departments and Agencies in Rivers State in order to ensure partnership with their various bodies in implementing projects and programmes to achieve the common goal of improving the lives of Rivers State people. Not only this, NEPAD Rivers State in addition to the FPOs has appointed Local Government Liaison Officers (LGLOs). As a matter of fact, NEPAD Rivers State has appointed LGLOs in all the 23 Local Government Councils in the State. The LGLOs are to build strong partnerships with the Local Government Councils and the grassroots and to ensure that the NEPAD Action Plans are effectively implemented all over the States. The critical role of the LGLOs is to serve as mediators between the Agency, the Local Governments and Traditional rulers to ensure that all stakeholders are involved in the various developmental projects and programmes that NEPAD will be executing in the near future. It could be said that the FPOs and LGLOs appointed by NEPAD Rivers State to aid in the realization of NEPAD’s objectives in the state has made NEPAD very vibrant in Rivers State and it is therefore not surprising at all that State Coordinators from Imo and Bayelsa States paid visits to learn the implementation strategies of NEPAD Rivers State.19

Apart from the above, there are formal government ministries and agencies that assist NEPAD national focal points in Nigeria include, the Ministry of Integration and Cooperation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,20 the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD), Federal Ministry of Education, Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, while
other important agencies are the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) at the national level.\textsuperscript{21}

### 3.5 Specific Projects/Programmes to Realize NEPAD objectives in Nigeria

In identifying specific projects or programmes of NEPAD Nigeria since its inception in 2003, concentration will be placed on sectoral priority areas like Education, Agriculture, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Peace and Security and Environment and Sanitation.

#### 3.5.1 Education

In line with the NEPAD Education Initiative, NEPAD Nigeria is collaborating with the Federal Ministry of Education and Federal Ministry of Science and Technology in the implementation of the NEPAD e-schools programme.\textsuperscript{22} Aside that, some states have adopted specific projects in the educational sector to help in the socio-economic wellbeing of the citizenry. For instance the selection of Port Harcourt as United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO’s) World Book Capital of 2014, has led NEPAD Rivers State to institute and embark upon a ‘One Million Book’ Project for schools and libraries in the State. The implementation of this project is still ongoing with partnership from relevant organizations. Items that have been donated and still ongoing include Science, Mathematics, English and other textbooks. Over 30,000 books have been donated so far.\textsuperscript{23} Some of the institutions that benefitted from this kind gesture include but not limited to Community Secondary School, Ulakwo in Etche Local
Government Area of Rivers State, Holy Rosary Secondary School, Port Harcourt, Rivers State
School of Nursing and Midwifery, located at Rumueime, Port Harcourt and Rivers State
University of Science and Technology, among others.  

In the Sokoto State for instance, there is in place the poverty eradication project. Education is the
main strategy being used to ensure that skills are acquired as a form of poverty alleviation for the
youth and other vulnerable groups in the state. The Programme is aimed at training thousands of
jobless youth with relevant skills in other to enable them become self-employed. Of recent over
1000 youths were trained in shoe making, Carpentry, tailoring and pomade making. This project
is to run till 2015.

3.5.2 ICT

NEPAD Rivers State has organized ICT workshops for students in most of the educational
institutions within the state. An example is the Community Secondary School, Otapha in
Abua/Odual Local Government Area. Also another sensitization programme on ICT by the
NEPAD Rivers State was organized at the Government Secondary School, Oyigbo, in Oyigbo
Local Government Area. These sensitization seminars were dubbed “ICT and U”, which was
designed to improve ICT awareness among students of primary and secondary schools across the
State.
3.5.3 Agriculture (CAADP)

The CAADP is an agricultural programme of the NEPAD initiative, which is created to address the food security and nutrition in Africa, as well as increasing the African economy through agriculture, as already seen in chapter two. The Nigeria CAADP was created in 2009 and its implementation process started in 2011 as a long term agricultural programme with that needed the commitment and partnership of the government. The establishment of CAADP in Nigeria took certain review and strategic processes as outlined by the continental CAADP. The implementation of the CAADP in Nigeria was determined by the commitment given to the Nigeria Agricultural Investment Plan (NAIP), in which the investment plan was based on attaining the ten per cent (10%) national agricultural growth. The NAIP had some key developmental framework areas. These include: Developing Agricultural Policy and Regulatory Systems (DAPRS); Agricultural Commodity Exchange Market (ACCOMEX); Raising Agricultural Income with Sustainable Environment (RAISE); Maximizing Agricultural Revenue in Key Enterprises (MARKETS); and Water, Aquaculture, and Environmental Resource Management Programme.

The implementation of the CAADP principles in Nigeria has resulted in some successes in Nigeria’s agricultural sector. The implementation of these principles has also led to some changes in the agricultural policies, from development undertaking to agriculture as a competitive business venture. The CAADP initiative created awareness about the NEPAD programme in Nigeria, mainly among the political elites and the policy makers in the country. The CAADP has been able to inspire investment and donor partners for Nigeria, one of such
donor partners is the Joint Donor Statement that was signed between Nigerian and developmental partners from outside the country and continent. Significantly, states like Benue, has instituted the Yam and Cassava Processing Projects and the Smart Agro Project, to improve the agricultural system in the State since more than fifty per cent (50%) of the population are farmers. It is expected that, such specific projects will improve the living standard of the people which will eventually augur well for the socio-economic development of Nigeria.

3.5.4 Peace and Security

The State Government of Sokoto as part of measures to provide employment for the youth established the State Neighborhood initiative with a view to enhance security awareness and ensure relative peace in the various communities across the state. Under the scheme youths are selected from various Local Government Areas and they are expected to undergo Para- Military Training for the purpose of assisting their communities to reduce the crime rate. Additionally, Benue State Community Management project is another initiative to ensure peace and security. This projects aims at deepening the capacities of community organizations for peace in Benue state to effectively address conflicts involving pastoralists and farming communities.

3.5.5 Environment and Sanitation

In the Yobe State for instance, there exist the waste management project which is similar to the grassrooots and waste management project at the Federal Capital Territory at Abuja. These projects under the NEPAD initiative are aimed at ensuring that the generation, disposal and
recycling of solid waste is sustainably carried out in these states to bring out some benefits. Incremental successes are being realized in terms of the sanitation conditions in Yobe and Abuja.

3.5.6 African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)

The APRM is a programme organized by African leaders, to be a voluntary assessment system for African states to mutually assess their governance practices in order to achieve peace and security, democracy and political governance, economic governance and regional integration in Africa. The APRM principles of good governance practices and thematic areas include Democracy and Political Governance, Economic Governance and Management, Corporate Governance and Socio-economic Development.  

Nigeria as one of the initiating leaders of the APRM as a flagship programme of NEPAD, has been at the forefront of its implementation and success since its establishment. It has also contributed financially to the mechanism. Nigeria was one of the first countries to accede to the APRM on 9th March, 2003 and at the same time sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of the APRM. In order to implement the APRM, Nigeria set-up national structures to control the implementation of the APRM process in Nigeria. This structure includes the Secretariat to the Government of the Federation (SGF), Chief and Commander of the order of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (CFR) member of the national institute (nmi) as the National Focal Point (NFP), 22 member National Steering Committee (NSC) to oversee the implementation of the APRM national process and 31 members National Working Group (NWG). The NWG at the time comprised 31 members representing the following sectors: the government, civil society, media, legislature, academia, trade unions, women’s
groups and the private sector.\textsuperscript{35} In 2007, the NWG number was expanded to 250.\textsuperscript{36}

In regards to the implementation of APRM objectives, APRM Nigeria mandated five Lead Research Organizations (LROs) to conduct a country self-assessment on the APRM thematic areas, at the end of the country self-assessment, they prepared a Country Self-Assessment Report (CSAR) and the draft of the National Programme of Action (NPoA), summited to the APRM panel in 2008.\textsuperscript{37} In February 2008, the Country Review Mission (CRM) from the regional APRM secretariat visited Nigeria for the review process. The review centers were divided into 16 in all the 36 States in Nigeria including the Federal capital city,\textsuperscript{38} and in September 2008, Nigeria was reviewed.\textsuperscript{39}

NEPAD/APRM was successful in Nigeria in a number of activities during the review process. The country APRM succeeded in hosting a number of stakeholder workshops, one of these workshops was the December 2004 consultative workshop held in Abuja. The workshop was held to discuss the pre-test and domestication of the APRM master questionnaire and the general APRM process in Nigeria.\textsuperscript{40} The APRM Nigeria brought out an information, education and communication strategy, as a multimedia strategy to increase the understanding of stakeholders about APRM in Nigeria. There was also the distribution of 40 million copies of the executive summary of the APRM CSAR in the major languages of Nigeria for the public.\textsuperscript{41} The Nigerian Governor’s Forum, through the APRM guiding principles, were able to set up a State Peer Review Mechanism (SPRM) to assist states in improving their developmental projects and programmes, the SPRM was then launched in 2011. Despite the review process that was carried...
out by the APRM and the launch of the SPRM in Nigeria, the governance system still remain in
corruption, misappropriation and mismanagement of funds, amongst others.

3.6 Challenges of Nigeria’s Experience with NEPAD

There is steady progress being made to realize NEPAD objectives in Nigeria. However,
challenges abound and that partly explains why the full impact of NEPAD is not being realized
in Nigeria. The discussion below takes into consideration factors constraining Nigeria from
realizing the full impact of NEPAD in the nation.

3.6.1 Lack of Communication with the NEPAD Regional Office and Nigeria Focal Points

One major challenge identified by this research is the lack of communication between the
Nigeria National Focal Point and the NEPAD Secretariat. This has made the implementation of
NEPAD programmes and policies in Nigeria slow. The Special Adviser to the President on
NEPAD, Ambassador Fidelia Njeze on the World stage news said though Nigeria has been a
fiscal contributor and a co-founder of the NEPAD initiative, it has not benefitted because of the
total disconnection and lack of communication of the NEPAD Nigeria office and the NEPAD
Secretariat.\textsuperscript{42} Also the level of interaction between NEPAD Nigeria and the Focal Points Officers
at the Federal Ministry, Departments and Agencies (FMDA’s) and at the Local Government
Areas is low and has not been effective in Nigeria.\textsuperscript{43} This low level of communication have
deterred the domestication of NEPAD’s activities in Nigeria, which shows that for NEPAD to be
successful in Nigeria, communication between the NEPAD regional office and that of NEPAD
Nigeria and the Coordinating Offices at the state and Local Government levels must be greatly improved.

3.6.2 Lack of Technical/Qualified Staff

Ezeoha states that, “what appears to be the only visible presence of NEPAD in Nigeria today is the existence of an advocacy organ (NEPAD Nigeria) under the presidency, as well as coordinating offices at the state and local government levels.” NEPAD in Nigeria is known by its signpost or building structure. A typical example is the Zonal National Youth Service Corp (NYSC) Secretariat in Wurno Local Government Area (LGA), Sokoto state, where the office with the inscription on the door ‘NEPAD’ was never opened for once, neither were there staffs to maintain the place. Thus, this lack of technical and qualified staff in NEPAD Nigeria, especially in their coordinating offices at the state and local government levels have slowed down the implementation process of NEPAD in Nigeria. There must be recruitment of qualified staff to take up position in NEPAD Nigeria. This will help reduce the unemployment rate in Nigeria and contribute towards the attainment of NEPAD goals in Nigeria.

3.6.3 Lack of Awareness

The NEPAD initiative has not been well communicated to the general public. To some, the initiative does not exist, since they believe it only existed for a while and then collapsed. On the other hand some citizens have never heard about it or its developmental opportunities. For instance the Nigeria three key federated private sector institutions; the National Association of
Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (NACCIMA); the Manufacturers’ Association of Nigeria (MAN); and the Nigerian Employers Consultative Association (NECA), which constitute the overall private sector and that control the economy activities in the country are unaware of NEPAD opportunities. Additionally, a report by the United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa shows that the NACCIMA, MAN and NECA are not aware of the opportunities that NEPAD programmes and projects offer to Nigeria and Nigerians. The lack of awareness may be as a result of the lack of communication between NEPAD Nigeria and the private sector, or between NEPAD developmental partners and the private institutions in Nigeria. The ordinary man in the Nigeria community fall under the category of those who have not heard about the programme before or those who think the initiative has collapsed. This lack of awareness about the initiative to the public and private sector of the Nigeria community has made it difficult to gain the cooperation of these entities in the implementation of NEPAD programmes and projects in Nigeria.

3.6.4 Lack of Funds

The reliance of NEPAD on foreign partnership for funds has slowed the implementation of NEPAD programmes and projects in Nigeria. The World Bank, European Union (EU), G8 and bilateral donors have all increased their pledges of assistance through debt cancellation, Official Development Assistance (ODA) and the net flow of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to Africa and Nigeria for that matter. Also Brazil, India and China pledged to assist NEPAD on its developmental programmes, but these pledges have not been met and the funds for NEPAD projects from donor countries are sometimes delayed. For Ezeoha, the delay is as a result of the
international economic crisis which has crippled the financial capacities of most donor countries to Africa. This situation however hindered the level of development in Nigeria. Also NEPAD has done little to mobilize resources from within Africa, this shows that so much reliance have been placed on the international donors. It could be deduced that policies are being put in place for the implementation of developmental programmes but the flow of funds from donors are on standstill; therefore the process of implementation is also on a standstill.

3.6.5 Lack of Infrastructure

Nigeria as a nation lack adequate infrastructures to enable NEPAD to be effective. Such infrastructures include; road and railway transport, electricity, constant water supply and telecommunication. These challenges have hindered Nigeria from being competitive and taking part in the NEPAD free market policy. This is a big blow for Nigeria as it cannot experience the impact of NEPAD in that direction.

The roads and railway networks in Nigeria are bad and some have been abandoned for years. This has restricted free movement of persons, goods and services in the country. The lack of electricity and shortage of water supply has made Nigerian’s to adapt to a system called ‘I pass my neighbor’, that implies that in a neighborhood, all houses have a little generator which supply electricity to their homes, as a result of the failure of the Power Holding Company Nigeria (PHCN) to supply electricity. The dysfunctional state of the Water Corporation in Nigeria has left households with little or no choice but to provide their water through the construction of boreholes to supply water to their houses. In some areas, residents have to buy water from
commercial vendors, while some only rely on the local well. In the area of telecommunication, phone calls from Nigeria to other parts of the world are expensive, with very bad reception, owing to poor services rendered by service providers. Also, the cost of running a business, the cost of governance and the cost of human development and interaction increases due to lack of infrastructure. These challenges have made several multinational companies to relocate to other parts of Africa, therefore leaving Nigeria uncompetitive and unproductive in the regional and international market and unable to partake in the NEPAD free market policy.

3.6.6 Insecurity

The insecurity level in Nigeria has a direct correlation with the ineffectiveness of NEPAD in the country. The insecurity in Nigeria started from the Niger Delta region in 2007 by a terrorist group called the Militants. The militants vandalized and seized oil wells and they also kidnapped multinational personnel. In 2010, another terrorist group emerged in Nigeria, an Islamic sect called Boko Haram. The group advocated for the abolition of western education in the northern part of Nigeria. According to Lauren of the Congressional Research Service in the United States, Boko Haram has contributed to the deteriorating security conditions in the north of Nigeria and seeks to capitalize on local frustrations to discredit the government. At present, the group has accounted for about 15,000 deaths, with the kidnap of 200 female students who are still in the hands of these terrorists in the northern parts and middle belt of Nigeria. Boko Haram directs their attacks especially on churches. This has worsened sectarian tensions across Nigeria and their close ties with other international terrorist groups have increased the threat posed on Nigerians and beyond. This threat of insecurity in the country has challenged the effectiveness of
NEPAD in Nigeria. Some of its projects in these conflict areas are either abandoned by NEPAD personnel for security reasons or are abandoned due to lack of funds which are spent in resolving this conflict. This insecurity issue has left the NEPAD initiative handicapped.

3.6.7 Inadequate Policies and Co-ordination at the State Level

NEPAD as an initiative of the AU has its own objectives, programmes, policies, projects and participates at the regional, sub-regional and national level, with partners at the continental and international level who provide resources for the implementation of the initiative. The success of the implemented programmes is determined by the effective coordination of States and participants by adopting the NEPAD policies into the national plan and working towards the implementation of the policies.

Nigeria seem to have made attempts to infuse the NEPAD polices into its own national plan, but appropriate strategies to realize its implementation has been a problem. This is as a result of the overlapping Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in Africa and other international institutions which Nigeria as a sovereign nation belongs to. Membership of these institutions demands other commitments from Nigeria, hence making it difficult to satisfy all. This has sapped Nigeria’s energy to implement NEPAD effectively thereby making the process slow and ineffective.
3.6.8 Lack of Commitment of the Political Leaders

Nigeria’s leadership to a large extent has contributed to the problems that have challenged the achievement of NEPAD’s programmes, aims and objectives. For instance, the dominance of the military in Nigeria’s politics with some of them metamorphosing to be civilians to be president have weakened civilian rule in Nigeria.\(^{53}\) This weakness has worked against the effective implementation of NEPAD’s programmes. It has also hindered NEPAD’s good governance and sustainable development agenda to be realized in Nigeria.

It could also be seen that the domination of the military in Nigerian politics has made good governance very difficult to achieve. This has brought in its wake the challenge of transparency, accountability and corruption. An example of this is the Obasanjo administration. As a former military president in Nigeria, a co-founder of the NEPAD initiative and the first HSGIC of NEPAD, former President Obasanjo during his term of office tried to review the Nigerian constitution to enable him serve a third term as president. This act made him not committed to the NEPAD guiding principle of good governance and practices in Nigeria.

A scenario at Imo State also reveals another example of lack of commitment by political leaders in the realization of NEPAD objectives in Nigeria. Determined not to continue the funding of NEPAD, the Owelle Okorocha administration reduced the monthly allocation from 6 million (#6,000,000.00) to 2 million Naira (#2,000,000.00) when a new Special Adviser to the Governor on NEPAD, Queeneth Okiehe was appointed.\(^{54}\) As if that was not enough, in March 2012, the State government (Imo State) decided to stifle life out of the agency (NEPAD) and starve workers of their monthly income and salaries irrespective of the fact that most of them were
employed during the Achike Udenwa regime in Imo State. One wonders why a State Governor would put up such a hostile attitude towards an initiative that is deemed to alleviate his populace from their socio-economic predicaments.

3.6.9 Corruption

Corruption has become a major canker that has plagued the public service in almost all African States and Nigeria is not an exception. Based on this, anti-corruption institutions have been created to fight against corruption in Nigeria. These institutions are the Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC) and the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC). The EFCC has made tremendous progress in the arrest of crime offenders, especially political elites, but none of this arrest has been convicted and prosecuted. Akume et al opines that the EFCC as a Commission of anti-corruption has been used “as a tool for silencing dissenting political voices in Nigeria.” A case in point is that of a police officer in 2012, who stole millions of Naira from the Nigerian police pension office and refused to pay police pensioners. He was caught and taken to court. In some weeks, he was asked to pay the sum of 700 hundred thousand Naira (#700,000.00) as a bail. This incident is a clear indication of the lack of commitment on the part of our political leaders who believe they have all the authority to themselves to do whatever they wish to do, without fear of punishment or prosecution from the state. This act of corruption has hindered the effectiveness of NEPAD in Nigeria.
3.7 Conclusion

From the ensuing discussion it could be realized that not much is being done to mainstream NEPAD in the socio-economic development initiatives in Nigeria. Mention can only be made of the One Million Books Project and the Sensitization Programmes on ICT and HIV/AIDS by NEPAD Rivers State. Also available is Sokoto State Neighborhood Initiative and Poverty Eradication Project; the Benue State Yam and Cassava Processing, Smart Agro and Community Management Projects; the Abuja Grassroots and Waste Management Project and the Yobe State Waste Management Project. It is obvious that only few states, that is, Rivers, Sokoto, Benue and Yobe States out of the 36 states are making steady progress in mainstreaming NEPAD into their socio-economic development agenda. The next chapter summarizes the key findings of the discussion, draws a conclusion and offers some recommendations for the betterment of the implementation of NEPAD in Nigeria.
Endnotes


5 Ibid.

6 ”Constitutional review: Nigeria needs broader representation”. 6 December 2012.


10 Ibid.


15 Ibid.


18 Ibid.


22 Ibid.


28 Ibid. P.14

29 CAADP Post compact review: Nigeria. Technical review report. 13 June 2010

30 Akande, T., op-cit. P. 15

31 Ibid.
37 Ibid. P. 11
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47 Challenges and prospects in the implementation of NEPAD (2007). RCM-Africa. P. 37
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50 Ibid. P. 23
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CHAPTER FOUR

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter summarizes the findings of the work, concludes and gives recommendations based on the findings.

4.1 Summary of Findings

The study set out to find the NEPAD structures in Nigeria that are helping in socio-economic development, the specific projects or programmes being implemented in Nigeria to realize the NEPAD objectives and the challenges that NEPAD Nigeria is confronted with. The analysis revealed that the basic structures to ensure that NEPAD is implemented are available in few of the States. That is to say, some of the States have in place their NEPAD Coordinators. The findings, however, revealed that NEPAD Rivers State happens to be the only state that has in place all the requisite structures in its jurisdiction. This explains why NEPAD Rivers State is vibrant and effective and has become a model NEPAD State for the other States in Nigeria.

Further, the analysis clearly pointed out that specific projects or programmes are being implemented in Nigeria through NEPAD. These include the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP); African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM); the NEPAD e-
School Programme; in Rivers State One Million Books Projects; Benue State Smart Agro Project, Yam and Cassava Processing Project and Community Management Project; Sokoto State Neighbourhood Initiative and Eradication of Poverty Project; Yobe State Waste Management Project; Abuja FCT Grassroots and Waste Project, among others. However, the findings revealed that there are still many of the States that have their NEPAD being dormant or are yet to initiate a programme.

Additionally, the analysis revealed that numerous challenges surround NEPAD’s implementation in Nigeria and that partly explains its ineffectiveness in the country. The findings revealed that there is a lack of connection between the NEPAD Nigeria’s office and the NEPAD Regional offices. This disconnection between NEPAD Nigeria and its smaller NEPAD Regional Office has rendered NEPAD Nigeria Office unable to perform to the best of its ability. Domestically, Focal Point Officers (FPOs) and Local Government Liaison Officers (LGLOs) that are expected to help liaise and coordinate NEPAD projects or activities at the Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies and also at the Local Government Areas are inadequate. Only states like Rivers have such arrangements in place.

Not only the above, the analysis revealed that NEPAD Nigeria is more of an advocacy organ than implementer of socio-economic policies to improve the living standards of Nigerians. Other states in Nigeria only have inscriptions and sign post with no impact being felt; for instance the Zonal National Youth Service Corp (NYSC) Secretariat in Wurno Local Government Area,
Sokoto State, where the office with the inscription on the door NEPAD that was never opened and their staff nowhere to be found is a case in point.

Additionally, the analysis brought to light that another challenge to NEPAD Nigeria is its lack of awareness. The analysis revealed that majority of the populace are unaware of NEPAD, even the 3 key federated private sector institutions, that is, National Association of Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mine and Agriculture (NACCIMA), Manufacturers’ Association of Nigeria (MAN) and Nigerian Employers Consultative Association (NECA). Again, the analysis further brought to light that lack of funding and overreliance on foreign donors for funds has not augur well for NEPAD implementation in Nigeria. Not all, lack of basic social infrastructure such as constant supply of electricity, transportation networks, adequate water supply, etc. are making NEPAD implementation extremely difficult and that explains the reason why the Cassava and Yam project, the Smart Agro Project, among others are not making significant impact.

Another relevant factor that constrains Nigeria’s NEPAD initiative revealed by the findings is the issue of insecurity. The analysis clearly points out that NEPAD projects in these conflicts prone and insecure areas are abandoned by NEPAD personnel for security reasons. Finally corruption cannot be left out, as the findings revealed that it is one of the major problems mitigating NEPAD Nigeria’s progress as the little moneys budgeted to carry out project are drastically reduced or channelled into individual coffers as the case in Imo State reveals.
4.2 Conclusion

In conclusion the challenges confronting Africa and Nigeria for that matter border around the issues of conflict, famine, poverty, disease, bad governance and corruption. It was the expectation of the AU to tackle these prevailing challenges through the NEPAD initiative. The Nigerian case leads to the realization that with more than a decade of NEPAD’s existence in the country, a little has been achieved so far. Majority of the states in Nigeria still without the necessary structures to ensure the realisation of NEPAD in their jurisdictions. Despite the somewhat hopeless situation, hope should not be lost. All stakeholders, that is, private, public, donor partners, international organisations, among others must join the campaign to support in the objectives of NEPAD on the Continent and in Nigeria.

4.3 Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations are offered;

- A NEPAD enabling law can be enacted in Nigeria and this law further domesticated in the laws of the various States within the country so that it gives NEPAD in the various States the legal backing to accelerate the implementation of NEPAD objectives.

- A NEPAD fund that is managed by an independent body, devoid of government interference and influence, should be set up by the government; with contributions from the various States governments, together with donor partners and the private sector. This fund when put in place and properly managed, key NEPAD projects could be financed without waiting solely for the government and international donors.
• For a more effective implementation of the NEPAD CAADP in Nigeria, the Nigeria agricultural sector should set up adequate policies and financial budget for agriculture in Nigeria. An adequate policy will lead to an increase in agricultural produce, which will create more market and export, with less import of agricultural products.

• The Federal government should organize an awareness creation for all States government within Nigeria. Through this, the desire for the NEPAD initiative in the long run can develop the needed commitment and zeal to carrying out NEPAD programmes in their various jurisdictions. A serious awareness of NEPAD developmental activities to the public and private sector should also be created to enhance NEPAD activities in Nigeria, which will transform NEPAD from being NEPAD at the regional or national level to NEPAD of the people.
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