

E. Research Question 4: What are the perceived benefits associated with men and women involvement in rural development projects in Atakunmosa-West Local Government of Osun State?

Data in Table V shows that among female respondents, 100.0 % will benefit from good health service, good water supply, better transportation, easy disposal of farm produce, increase in standard of living, willingness to participate, good communication among people, increase technical know-how, easy identification of needs and reduction in mortality rate. However, among the male, 100.0 % will benefit from good health service, good water supply, better transportation, willingness to participate, good communication among people, increase technical know-how, easy identification of needs and reduction in mortality rate while 98.3 % benefited from easy disposal of farm produce and increase in standard of living. This shows that most of the male and female respondents perceived benefits from involvement in rural development projects which will aid their active involvement in rural development projects. Johnson et al. (2003) found similar result in the study of impact of user participation in agricultural and natural resource management research in developing countries.

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The study was carried out to determine gender differences in rural dwellers' involvement in developmental projects in Atakunmosa-West Local Government of Osun State. It was discovered that both men and women involved in some developmental projects like FADAMA, construction of road, construction of maternity etc., which may be because of perceived benefits derived from involvement in rural developmental projects. However, men were well involved while women were poorly involved, which may be due to different problems encountered at different levels of involvement and their demographic characteristics. A close look at the entire work especially at the findings made in the course of the study reveals that there is a gap in the level of involvement of male and female gender in the development of the Nigerian society. This less involvement of the female folk has contributed in no small measure to the backwardness of the country despite the enormous resources with which the country is endowed. It has to a great extent slow down the pace at which the communities grow and develop.

Based on the findings the following recommendations are made

1. The government and non-governmental organization should introduce more gender responsive projects to rural areas in order to ensure active and equal involvement of both men and women.

2. Extension services should be strengthened by the government in order to determine the gender role in a social system and to identify their needs in order to incorporate them in the planning and implementation stages of rural development projects.
3. The government should give adequate support to the rural dwellers by providing technical assistance to complex rural development projects which the people might want to embark upon in order to enhance their socio-economic conditions.
4. Efforts should be intensified by government to take functional literacy campaign for men and women farmers to the nooks and crannies of rural areas where these men and women reside in the study area.
5. Women should be encouraged by all stakeholders to be actively involved in physical development activities by giving them adequate recognition and attention so that they can have that sense of belonging to involve.

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