

SOCIAL CAPITAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY IN OSUN STATE

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The Study Area

Sample and sampling procedure: The following towns and villages were covered in the pilot testing programme. These are:

- a. Otan-Ile
- b. Moro
- c. Osogbo
- d. Ikirun
- e. Ara

The five towns indicated above were purposefully chosen to represent the three Senatorial districts of Osun State, as well as Rural-Urban dichotomy of towns and villages in developing countries. Otan-Ile and Moro are from Osun East Senatorial district which is the largest in Osun State. Otan-Ile is a rural agrarian community while Moro is a semi-urban but with considerable rural population town. Osogbo and Ikirun are from Osun Central Senatorial district and are urban centres. Ara is a small rural town from Osun West Senatorial district. Twenty households each were picked purposefully representing the major social and economic interest groups in those communities. Such considerations include rich, poor, farmers, traders, artisans, government workers considerations. It was decided all researchers should move *en mass* into each of the towns and villages covered in the pilot testing. The questionnaire were to be administered patiently in Yoruba language. The researchers were told to be patient and persuasive in seeking the cooperation of households as the process in each household may be time consuming.

Reactions from the Field by Site

Otan-Ile:

- The team was advised to do the questionnaire administration in the evening if we were interested in getting the men at home as most men most have returned from the farm at that time.
- Non-natives were not willing to grant interviews. They kept directing us to the real natives.
- Respondents were generally cautious in answering questions bordering on personal finances.
- The questionnaire is unnecessarily voluminous, some items were repeated. The attempt to interpret some items turned out to be mere repetitions. Example: 2.3 and 6.12.
- Some of the items have no bearing on the daily experience of the local people.

- The concept that the survey is in the interest of the town's people influenced their responses to some questions.
- After two days of interacting with the people we became very friendly with the members of the village. Our work covered a broad spectrum of members of the village cutting across religion, gender, economic status etc. Among those interviewed in Otan-Ile were a chief, many traders, many farmers, driver, teacher, shoemaker, produce buyers. There are four major compounds in the village (Ogbon). Efforts were made to cover the four main divisions of the town.

Moro:

- Lack of cooperation from the respondents because they believe the questionnaire is too voluminous and time consuming. At times we had to resort to buying soft drinks or giving financial tips before the cooperation of respondents could be secured.

Osogbo:

- There was a friendly atmosphere in Osogbo community as regards the interaction among the enumerators and the respondents. Only that there were some resentment on the part of some respondents as the complaints that nothing may be heard of the outcome of the questionnaire again after the much efforts would have been wasted in completing it.
- There complaints that the questionnaire was unnecessarily voluminous. Some of the items such as 3.5, 3.6, 5.6, 6.2 and 6.3 were thought to be unnecessary because respondents regarded them as either being irrelevant to their daily living or they were repetitions. Some items requiring respondents to quote the exact number of days or people were also disliked. In most cases, in this case, adverbs like very many, regularly, frequently, many times and so on were supplied.
- This volume of this questionnaire should be reduced so as not to create burdens for the respondents while answering the questions. This is capable of producing unreliable results.

Ikirun:

- The general observation in Ikirun was that question 1.23 was discovered as the most difficult question.
- Also items 6.2 and 6.3 were difficult to administer on the respondents.

Ara:

- The difficulty in getting the attention of the respondents as they complained that instrument was too voluminous. Not only this, some believed that some items such as 1.6, 1.7, 3.3, 5.23 and 6.14 were too difficult for them. This is true as majority of these residents might have lost count of the frequency of activity due to illiteracy and the idea that there was no need for such count.
- Some respondents that item 1.9 is not really relevant to them as only option D is applicable to the area dominated by peasants.
- Item 1.23 is incomplete as the boxes for the two groups were omitted.

- The list of options on item 12.24 could be increased to include options like: National Leaders; professional colleagues and ancestors.
- Some respondents observed that item 3.4 should be two: the first to ask question on criticism second on fine as the two words have different meanings.
- Political Associate should be added to 4.7 and 4.8 as some respondents mentioned it.
- The volume of this instrument should be reduced s the field officers faced a lot of difficulty in getting respondents seated to react to all the items.