

is caused by their remote geographic location or other factors.

(e) Inadequate access to education, health and water services. This emanates from inadequate social services delivery which consequently results in the inability of the poor to live a healthy and active life and take full advantage of employment opportunities.

(f) The destruction of the natural resource endowments which led to reduced productivity of agricultural, forestry and fisheries. This often resulted from the desperate survival strategies of the poor as well as inadequate and ineffective public policy on natural resource management;

(g) The inadequate access to assistance by those who are the victims of transitory poverty such as drought, floods, erosion, pests and war. This was brought about by lack of well conceived strategies, and sources, and

(h) Inadequate involvement of the poor in the design of development programmes. This is often exacerbated by the non-involvement of the representatives of the poor communities or beneficiaries in discussion, preparation design and implementation of programmes that will affect them.

These multidimensional causes of material and non-material deprivation make poverty to be very pervasive in the country. Two approaches can be used to analyses the poverty profile of Nigeria. These are the Eclectic Approach and the Living Index Approach to poverty profile.

ECLECTIC APPROACH

Issues relating to poverty in Nigeria have long been of great concern to many. For instance, the Nigerian Economic Society (NES) organised an annual conference in 1975, the theme of which was "Poverty in Nigeria". This conference examined related issues, but attempts were not made to use the conceptual framework and measurement toward ameliorating the incidence of poverty (Ogwumike 1991). Using micro data of 980 households in Borno, Imo and Oyo States and complemented by FOS data, Ogunike derived some poverty lines for Nigeria. This derivation was based on the weekly requirement of an average household size of six members. The food poverty line derived was N38.00 per head per month or N456.00 per head per year. The overall basic needs income (poverty line) was estimated at N47.44 per head per month or approximately N569.00 per head per year. And using income head obtained from the survey, the study estimated that 46 million were living in poverty as at 1986. As a point of emphasis if this result is assumed to approximate reality of poverty in Nigeria then the country is chronically poor with about 59 percent of her citizens adjudged poor.

In another study, Ogunike and Ekpeyong (1995) using the eclectic approach