

Socio-economic implications of Covid 19 on residents of Kokona local government area of Nasarawa State-Nigeria

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Abstract

COVID-19 is a virus that has generated tension and wreckage around the world. The study examines the socioeconomic implications of COVID 19 on Residents of Kokona Local Government Area of Nasarawa State-Nigeria. A social survey design was adopted. A sample of 383 respondents was drawn, using multi-stage sampling techniques including simple random, systematic sampling, clustered and purposive sampling techniques in the selection of electoral wards, towns/villages, main streets, houses, households, and individuals. Primary and secondary data were utilized in the study. The primary data were generated through the use of questionnaires and in-depth interview (IDI). The questionnaires were analyzed quantitatively using tables, frequency, percentage, and data generated through an in-depth interview (IDI) were analyzed to complement and support the quantitative analysis using content analysis and verbal narration. The results show that the Covid-19 pandemic has had a devastating impact on the socio-economic well-being of residents and restrictions imposed by the government at all level to curtail the spread of the virus has affected the income and livelihood of respondents, and consequently their wellbeing. While, the complexity and harshness differ, however, the larger percentage across locations have experienced significant economic shock with limited access to basic needs. It is based on this that the study recommends that there is a need for advocacy and urgent intervention to reduce the incidence of poverty by Governments, humanitarian organizations, and development actors as well as the establishment of effective adaptive and economic activities.

Keywords: Socio-economic, COVID 19, Pandemic, Implication, Coronavirus, Kokona

Introduction

COVID-19 is a virus that has generated tension and wreckage around the world. The COVID-19 plague (hitherto 2019-nCoV) was caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. This plague was triggered in December 2019 in Wuhan city in Hubei Province of China. COVID-19 continues to spread across the world. After the first infections in China at the end of 2019, the Coronavirus disease (COVID 19)



has continued to spread across the world. No continent has been able to escape this virus, which has recorded average mortality of around 2.3% (According to the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 2020). Declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) on 11 March 2020, COVID-19 has become a global emergency, given its impact on the entire world population and the economy. According to scenario simulations of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), global growth could fall by 0.5 for the year 2020. Several other sources are also predicting a fall in global growth due to the direct effects of the COVID-19 outbreak. Several other sources are also predicting a fall in global growth due to the direct effects of the COVID-19 outbreak. The global economy may enter a recession at least in the first half of the year 2020 when adding the direct and indirect effects of the crisis (e.g. supply and demand shocks, commodity slump, fall in tourism arrivals, etc.). However, as the pandemic progresses slowly on the African continent, studies by international organizations have less addressed the socio-economic impact on individual African countries. Indeed, Africa is not immunized from COVID-19¹. In a strappingly associated and integrated world, the impacts of the disease beyond mortality (those who die) and morbidity (those who are incapacitated or caring for the incapacitated and unable to work for a period) has become ostensible since the outbreak. Amidst the decelerating down of the World economy with interruptions to production, the functioning of global supply chains has been dislocated. Establishments across the world, regardless of size, dependent upon inputs from China have started experiencing contractions in production. Transport being restricted and even regulated among countries has further slowed down global economic activities. Most outstandingly, some panic among consumers and firms has distorted usual consumption patterns and created market anomalies. Global financial markets have also been responsive to the changes and global stock indices have plunged.²

With the increasing incidence and case mortality attributable to COVID-19, health systems around the globe are experiencing critical challenges in terms of preventing disease transmission, diagnosing new cases, providing care, and ensuring recovery. These challenges have severely wedged many nations with high income and well-structured health infrastructure, which informs how critically it may influence developing countries, which have disjointed health systems with poor population health outcomes. The growing burden of COVID-19 necessitates an understanding of socio-economic implications in the contexts of developing countries to inform effective policymaking and practice during this pandemic. Although the pandemic is at a less advanced stage in Africa, due to its lesser quantity of international migrants' arrivals relative to Asia, Europe, and North America and strong precaution measures in some African countries. African economies remain informal and very extroverted and vulnerable to external shocks.³ Based on the foregoing, the paper examines the

¹World Health Organization (2020) Critical preparedness, readiness, and response actions for COVID-19

²Rabiu, M.; Kabiru S.A.; Ahmad, A.I. & Samaila, A. (2020). Analysis of the impact of Corona virus outbreak on the Nigeria Economy. *American Journal of Environmental and Resources Economics*. 5 (2)

³Olaseni, V.M & Plasen, A. (2020). Covid – 19 pandemic; Impact of socio – demographic factors and parents life orientation on enforced learning in Nigeria. *An International Multi-disciplinary double blind peer renewed research Journal*. 11.

socioeconomic implications of COVID 19 on Residents of Kokona Local Government Area of Nasarawa State-Nigeria.

Statement of the Problem

It is important to assess the socio-economic implication of COVID-19, although the pandemic is at a less advanced stage in Africa, due to its lesser quantity of international migrants' arrivals relatively to Asia, Europe, and North America and strong precaution measures in some African countries. African economies remain informal and very extroverted and susceptible to external wedges. According to the International Labour Organization, in Nigeria, over 80% of working people are employed in the informal sector. In Nigeria, signifying that the impact of the COVID 19 would be cock-eyed toward those who perform urban informal sector economic activities. Such activities include (but are not limited to) street trading and vending, micro and small scale manufacturing, repair and service provision, home-based enterprises, informal employees of formal enterprises (making daily/weekly wages). For the vast majority of people involved in these economic activities, they are daily-wage earners who either rely on income generated from going to work at a physical location daily/weekly basis, be it as an employee for someone, or as a micro/small entrepreneur. Populaces belonging to the category of people who are most vulnerable to the negative socio-economic shocks surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. Their income-generating activities are more closely tied to the daily impulses of the marketplace. To waggishness, for this group of people, their ability to meet their instant basic needs such as access to food, shelter, and health services, predicated on daily access to face-to-face interactions and customer flow.

Fundamentally, this COVID 19 effectively stops all income-generating activities for people engaged in non-essential services. Moreover, there's the intensifying impact of rising food prices in the country, driven by disrupted food supply chains and panic buying. For this population, faced with a loss of access to income-generating activities, and without the luxury of an income that allows bulk purchasing and the home infrastructure (electricity and adequate refrigeration to store food), the impact of slight increases in the cost of living could be calamitous. For most households whose income stream has been temporarily blocked, they would need to find other means to sustain their livelihoods during this lockdown period. Cue in savings, which is widely known to cushion and help manage the uncertainty that weighs on an individual/household's income. Given the connection between poverty and the informal sector in Nigeria, it is realistic to assume that the informal sector serves as a source of employment for the poor, absorbing low-level education holders, and those unable to secure wage employment in the formal sector. Therefore, income levels are relatively lower for people working in the informal sector. Though it is an avenue to secure a reasonable source of income for people, the informal sector is also riddled with challenges, not least of which is income security.

The interplay of these factors low income and income security, coupled with huge familial responsibilities that are representative of Nigerian households, high cost of living in urban areas, and poor social safety nets, translates to a hand-to-mouth mode of living for urban informal sector workers. For the vast majority of micro and small businesses/daily earners, their earnings are so low that the concept of 'rainy-day savings/investments is a luxury. Income in this population is generally so low that it offers less wiggle room to make choices about how to use money. The urgency to satisfy immediate needs given limited resources blankets the capacity to contemplate a savings/investment plan for the future. This is not to negate the fact that households engage in several consumption smoothing mechanisms. However, for individuals working in this sector, their incomes are only fluid enough to allow them consumption smoothing for periods of anticipated income fluctuations, for example, based on seasons. Some may have savings in forms that do not lend themselves to immediate liquidity e.g. assets. For some micro-entrepreneurs, they might be stuck with the repayment and high-interest loans associated with predatory loans; this is especially pertinent for women who are often the target and recipients of microloans. For households with some savings, some are overburdened (because a large proportion of the population is dependent on a large workforce), and for others, the persistence of the lockdown beyond a certain period will throw them into a precarious situation.

For society at large, the implications could be damning. Overall, these economic and social impacts of the pandemic are set to exacerbate existing societal vulnerabilities. There will be an increase in the persistence and prevalence of poverty with more people being plunged below the poverty line. The gap between the haves and the have not will widen, and existing social and economic divisions will be intensified. There has been an increase in social ills, unrest, and theft that is already being reported due partly to hunger stemming from a loss of jobs, and an increase in the general animosity and resentment that is triggered by socio-economic divides. Security experts have predicted that this is likely to persist well beyond the epidemic.

The empirical literature review shows that there are scanty studies conducted in Nigeria on socio-economic implications of COVID 19 on Residents covered among other issues such: impact of Coronavirus outbreak on the Nigeria Economy, demographic and social impact of COVID-19 in Nigeria, global macroeconomic impacts of COVID-19, the impact of COVID-19 on African Economy, the socio-economic implication of COVID-19 in Nigeria and others. However, no study has been conducted to examine the socio-economic implications of COVID 19 on Residents of Kokona Local Government Area of Nasarawa State-Nigeria. This unexplored area is the gap the study intends to fill

Research Questions

The following questions guided the study

- i. Has COVID 19 pandemic affected the residents' source of livelihood in Kokona Local Government Area of Nasarawa State-Nigeria?

- ii. What are the effects of COVID 19 on the socio-economic activities in Kokona Local Government Area of Nasarawa State-Nigeria?
- iii. What are the coping mechanisms for families during the outbreak of COVID 19 in Kokona Local Government Area of Nasarawa State-Nigeria?

Conceptual Clarification and Theoretical Framework Corona Virus

Corona viruses are seen to be an envelope, positive-sensed single-stranded RNA virus having a nucleocapsid of helical symmetry.⁴The Coronavirus pandemic has been widely acknowledged to be responsible for respiratory and intestinal infections in human beings as noted by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2020 to be a severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS).The viruses seen to be characterized by a pathogenic syndrome with adverse health hazards on the citizens.

The global indicators adopted for operational assessments of confirmed cases as noted by Irina⁵include the number of confirmed cases, number of deaths, morbidity that is, the number of deaths in every one thousand confirmed cases, the mortality rate which means the number of deaths per 100,000 total populations in a given place. The 2019 – n Cov genomics shows that it was as a result of a recombinant virus of SARS – Covand HIV origins making the duo species of viruses showing that their recombinant never had a natural setting thus widely attributed as a product of human genetic engineering.

The symptoms of Coronavirus infections show that the virus becomes active after an incubation period of approximately 5.2 days^{6,7}. However, the average period from when the person is infected to when it becomes active through either being discharged or eventual death largely depends on factors like the age of the patient as well as the immune system. The most common symptoms of persons with Coronavirus pandemic include dry cough, high fever, fatigue, spectrum production, headache, hemoptysis, drypnoea, lymphopenian, and diarrhea ^{8,9,10}.

⁴Suliman, K; Siddique, R; Muhammed A.S. Ashaq, A. Jianbo L; Qian, B; Nadia, B; Mengshou, Z. (2020). The Emergence of a novel Corona virus (SARS – Covid – 19). Their Biology and therapeutic options. *American society for microbiology*.

⁵Irina, E.K. (2020). Demographic and Social issues of the pandemic. *Population and economic 4 (2)*.

⁶Hussin, A.R. &Siddappa, N.B. (2020). The Epidemiology and pathogenesis (Covid19) outbreak. *Journal of Auto-immunity*.

⁷Gvan, Q.L.X, Wv, P; Wang, L. &Zhou,Y; (2020).Early Transmission Dynamics in Wuhan, China of novel Corona virus – infected pneumonia. *Journal of medical*.

⁸Hussin, A.R. &Siddappa, N.B. (2020). The Epidemiology and pathogenesis (Covid19) outbreak. *Journal of Auto-immunity*.

⁹Rabiu, M.; Kabiru S.A;Ahmad, A.I. &Samaila, A. (2020). Analysis of the impact of Corona virus outbreak on the Nigeria Economy. *American Journal of Environmental and Resources Economics. 5 (2)*

¹⁰ Wang, W; Tang, J &Wei, F. (2020). Updated understanding of the outbreak of 2019 novel Corona virus (2019 - n Cov) in Wuhan, China. *Journal of Medical virol. 92 (4)*.

Socio-Economic

Socio-economic is the combination of both social and economic conditions and/or variables. Economic deals with the production, distribution, or management of wealth or about the financial matters of a country, or in the context of household-family, (Onu, Onuche and Onaji, 2016). (Jain, 2012) (cited in Onu et' al 2016) further expands our understandings as stressed that this sector comprises primary, secondary and tertiary sectors. The primary sector refers to the part of the economy that deals with the production of raw materials such as crude oil, timber, grain, or cotton. The secondary sector is made up of mills and factories, turning or transforming raw materials into manufactured or finished goods, like fuel, lumber, flour, or fabric while the tertiary sector refers to services rather than goods, and includes distribution of manufactured goods, food and hospitality services, banking, sales, and professional services like architects, physicians, and attorneys. The economy of an emerging nation like Nigeria is still dominated by primary products such as agricultural produce as well as mineral both of which are exported raw without any refining (Alubo, 2012). Furthermore, Alubo, (2016) portrays a clear picture of the Nigerian economy when he concluded that:

The Nigerian economy is vast and harbours even greater potentials for greatness. These potentials derive from vast resources most of which are untapped. The resources exploited are only in the most basic forms: - petroleum is mined and sold as crude oil without refining, this applies to other minerals. Cocoa is sold in beans while chocolate and other cocoa-based products are imported. These major failings and the collapse of many industries make the Nigerian economy a vast market for goods from all over the world. This fact is recognized worldwide that its huge population make it the largest market in Africa (Alubo, 2016:202)

All the affected areas rely on agriculture as their main economic activity. As true with agriculture in Nigeria, its labour intensive nature means that mass departure could only impede such activities. The various pandemic, especially the COVID-19 in Nigeria impede the basic economic source of thousands and thousands of families. The social aspect, on the other hand, deals with society or its organization or public welfare. In this context, the health, socialization, and psychological characteristics of the family make up the social aspect (Onu, etal 2016).

Theoretical Framework

This paper is positioned within the Eco-social theory. The theory was influenced by the work of proponents of Social Medicine in the 19th and early 20th centuries, such as Louis-René Villermé, Rudolf Virchow, Friedrich Engels, and Karl Marx; as well as by the more recent work of Social Production of Disease (SPD) theorists, including Syden stricker, Goldberg, and Davey-Smith. Eco-social theory, first proposed by name in 1994 by Nancy Krieger of the

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, is a broad and complex theory to describe and explain causal relationships in disease distribution. While it incorporates biological and psychosocial influences on disease occurrence, the theory is also suited to analyze the relationships between social factors and disease development in public health research. The theory assumes that distributions of the disease are determined at multiple levels and that analyses must incorporate historical, political-economic, temporal, and spatial analyses. Eco-social theory weighs materialist and psychosocial positions in society. According to Krieger¹¹ the theory is about an analysis of current and changing population patterns of health, disease, and well-being concerning each level of biological, ecological, and social organization. Promoters of this theory assert that it involves the materialist or social production of disease perspective, which is linked to biology. It also talks about disparity in the experience of health conditions, amid inequality in socioeconomic status.

From the submissions above, we can add that Eco-social theory is multifaceted- it provides the grounds on which human biological construct, social intercourse, and the human environment can be perceived in terms of the effect of disease on these conditions as well as the factors within these conditions that endangered the health, due to the disparity in people's social and economic conditions.

Literature Review

Socio-Economic Implications of COVID 19 on Residents in Nigeria

Characterized as a black swan event and likened to the economic scene of World War Two, the outbreak of COVID-19 (the disease caused by Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-COV-2)) has had a damaging effect on global healthcare systems with a ripple effect on every aspect of human life as we know it. Sohrabi, Alsafi, O'Neill, Khan, Kerwan, and Al-Jabir¹² highlighted the degree of the outbreak with the World Health Organization (WHO) declaring the COVID-19 outbreak as a global emergency on January 30, 2020. In a response to 'flatten the curve', governments have enforced border shutdowns, travel restrictions, and quarantine in nations that constitute the world's largest economies, sparking fears of an impending economic crisis and recession.

Though the economic measures are intended to support the formal sector, it is critical to be conscious of the fact that the informal sector in developing countries contributes to about 35 percent of GDP and employs more than 75 percent of the labour force. The size of informality represents nearly 55% of the cumulative gross domestic product (GDP) of sub-Saharan Africa, according to the African Development Bank¹³ even if further studies showed that it ranges from a low of 20 to 25 percent in Mauritius, South Africa, and Namibia to a high

¹¹Krieger, N (2001). Theories for social epidemiology in the 21st century: an eco-social perspective. *International Journal of Epidemiology* 30(4): 668-677

¹²Sohrabi, C.; Alsafi Z., O'Neill, N., Khan M., Kerwan A., Al-Jabir A (2020). World Health Organization declares global emergency: a review of the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) *Int. J. Surg.* 2020 Apr; 76:71-76.

¹³African Development Bank (AfDB) (2018). *African Economic Outlook* (2018), Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

of 50 to 65 percent in Benin, Tanzania, and Nigeria¹⁴ Apart from the agricultural sector, informality represents between 30% and 90% of employment. Moreover, the informal economy in Africa remains among the largest in the world and consists of a kind of social shock-absorber in major African cities. In many African countries, up to 90% of the labour force is in informal employment.¹⁵ Approximately 20 million jobs, both in the formal and informal sectors, are threatened with destruction on the continent if the situation continues. The destruction of value chains, the lockdown of the population, and the closing of restaurants, bars, retailers, informal commerce, etc. would lead to a disruption in many informal activities.

The Public Health measures aimed at limiting the spread of COVID-19 has largely influenced the various aspects of social human interaction, as well as all sectors of the economy such as the primary sectors (responsible for extracting raw materials), secondary sectors (responsible for the production of the finished product) and the tertiary sectors (all service providers). It has also greatly affected social and familial interactions with reduced interactions among friends and social groups. Nevertheless, more disturbing is the increasing reports of domestic and sexual abuse due to lockdown and quarantine with reports of a 25% increase in calls to help-lines on domestic abuse¹⁶.

The greatest affected primary sectors of the COVID-19 pandemic are the Petroleum and oil industry, as well as the agricultural industry. There has been an increased need for agricultural products, due to increased panic buying with a lower yield of products. The petroleum and oil industry as well suffered some major setbacks initially due to trade disagreements between Saudi Arabia and Russia leading to a great fall in the price of oil. The ban on movement and traveling also affected the consumption of petroleum products. In Nigeria, due to the drop in oil price, the budget review proposal has been sent to the Senate for approval, with a 39% slash in the original budget¹⁷. The manufacturing sectors were badly hit in the pandemic; due to lockdown and quarantine rules as working from home is not a feasible option for this aspect of the economy and limitations in importation being a barrier, especially in countries like Nigeria whose manufacturing industries are hugely dependent on the importation of raw materials especially from China. A reduction of 1.2% production is predicted in the global chemical industry; their worst growth since the financial crash of 2008¹⁸.

The tertiary sector such as the education sectors, finance sectors, hospitality and tourism sectors, sports industry, media and information industry, real

¹⁴AUC/OECD (2019), *Africa's Development Dynamics 2019: Achieving Productive Transformation*, OECD Publishing, Paris/AUC, Addis Ababa <https://au.int/en/afdd2019>

¹⁵AUC/OECD (2019), *Africa's Development Dynamics 2019*:

¹⁶Nicola, M; Alsafi, Z.; Sohrabi, C.; Kerwan, A; & Al Jabir, A. (2020). The socio-economic implications of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19): A review. *International Journal of Surgery* 78: 185-193.

¹⁷Benson, E. A. (2020). How COVID-19 has changed Nigeria's consumer goods & industrial markets-KPMG.

¹⁸Industry week (2020). COVID-19 is coming for the Chemical Industry in 2020, BASF Predicts.

estate and housing industry, and so on continue to feel the brunt of the pandemic outbreak (Nicola, Alsafi, Sohrabi, Kerwan, Al Jabir, 2020). Closure of all schools including primary, secondary and tertiary institutions is one of the major references advised to limit the spread of COVID-19, as school gathering has been proven to be a major means of disease spread during outbreaks¹⁹. Nigeria, due to the divide in the educational system whereby certain services cannot be accessed by people in poor rural settings and some in urban settings. COVID-19 outbreak has hurt businesses, the financial market, and the global financial economy generally, due to uncoordinated international governmental responses causing disarray in the international supply chain²⁰.

Lockdown and self-isolation significantly reduced production, demand, and consumption of certain goods and services. According to Olisah,²¹ the Nigerian businesses affected most are the start-ups and small scale enterprises, consultancy, hospitality, and aviation sectors. The tourism, hospitality, and aviation sectors are arguably the biggest losers in the COVID-19 outbreak era. The World Travel and Tourism Council has estimated that over 50 million jobs may be lost globally due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the sector faces a great risk in that regard with great consequences as the tourism sector accounts for 10% of the World's gross domestic product. The aviation sector is struggling with unprecedented losses as various travel bans have been placed, with only highly essential travels allowed. Some airlines have asked for bailout funds to enable their sustainability, with UK airlines asking for 7 billion Euros. The Asset Management Corporation of Nigeria (AMCON) has also called out for bailout funds for Nigerian airlines to prevent a shutdown of the aviation sector²².

The sports industry as well saw a major halt in activities with postponement and cancellation of major local and international sporting competitions due to the COVID-19 pandemic as large gatherings in stadia and other sports facilities could be a potent means for the spread of the virus. However, the information and research industry has experienced an upsurge as various research bodies and institutions such as The Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), are leading various efforts to develop vaccines and treatment regimens against the COVID-19 pandemic, having been backed and sponsored by large companies and corporations such as the Gates Foundation, Wellcome and Mastercard who have donated several millions of dollars to the efforts being made in the research field²³. While religious gatherings may not be classified as a sector of the economy, religious activities play a significant role in the aspect of social, psychological, and spiritual wellbeing of those who partake in them. The COVID-19 pandemic has also had a significant impact on religious gatherings, even as a gathering of such magnitude tends to be a potent means of viral spread. Thus guidelines such as regulated numbers of worshippers have

¹⁹Adlhoch C, Baka A, Ciotti M, Gomes J, & Kinsman J (2020) Considerations relating to social distancing measures in response to the COVID-19 epidemic. *European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control*.

²⁰Olisah, O. (2020). Businesses most affected by COVID-19 outbreak.

²¹Olisah, O. (2020). Businesses most affected by COVID-19 outbreak.

²²Faus J. (2020). This is how coronavirus could affect the travel and tourism industry.

²³Independent (2020). Sport-by-sport looks at the impact of coronavirus around the world.

been placed on most religious institutions, while those unable to partake due to these regulations can worship online. While the economic impacts of the ban on religious gathering are not determined, the negative social impact has been tremendously enormous on the overall livelihood of the existence of the citizens across the globe. However, a particular factor that is usually important in Public Health discourses, especially in light of the preventative measures and the socio-economic impact of these measures is the mental health of individuals involved.

Public Health emergencies affect people and might lead to fear, insecurity, stigma due to disease, loss of jobs, economic losses, and so on and may lead to certain psychiatric conditions such as depression. This agrees with a study carried out by Brooks, Webster, Smith, Woodland, and Wessely²⁴, in which it was shown that people who have been in quarantine are likely to experience post quarantine stress syndrome. This also agrees with the work carried out by Wu, Fang, Guan, Fan, and Kong²⁵ after the SARS outbreak showed that patients and some hospital employees suffer from post quarantine stress and some lasted for as long as three years after the outbreak. Also, quarantine of health workers usually results in avoidance syndrome, thereby creating a phobia for approaching patients²⁶.

Methodology

Kokona Local Government Area is one of the thirteen Local Government Areas in Nasarawa State. It was created on 4th December 1996 with Garaku is headquartered. The Local Government Area is situated in the Western part of the state. Kokona Local Government Area covers an area of 1,844 km². The Local Government Area is located at an elevation of 350 meters above sea level. This paper adopts a social survey research design. Social survey research design can also be called descriptive research. The design will best reveal facts, interpret, produce, and integrate information, as well as point to their consequences in interrelationships. For purposes of the paper, the study population covers adult males and females ages 18 years and above, living in the study area.

According to the National Population Commission (2020), the population of Kokona Local Government Area is 116,515. The paper employed the sample size of 379 respondents using Krejcie Morgan's formula (1970) which is given as;

²⁴Brooks, S.K, Webster, R.K, Smith, L.E, Woodland L, &Wessely S, (2020). *The psychological impact of quarantine and how to reduce it: a rapid review of the evidence*. The Lancet 395(10227): 912-920

²⁵Wu P, Fang Y, Guan Z, Fan B, & Kong J, (2009). The psychological impact of the SARS epidemic on hospital employees in China: exposure, risk perception, and altruistic acceptance of risk. *The Canadian Journal of Psychiatry* 54(5): 302-311.

²⁶Marjanovic, Z; Greenglass, E.R, & Coffey, S. (2007). The relevance of psychosocial variables and working conditions in predicting nurses' coping strategies during the SARS crisis: an online questionnaire survey. *International Journal of Nursing Studies* 44(6): 991-998.

$$S = \frac{x^2 NP(1-P)}{d^2 (N-1) + x^2 (1-P)}$$

Where;

S= Squared sample size

X² = the table value of chi-square for a degree of freedom derived confidence level (3.81410)

N= the population size (116,515)

P= the population assumed to be 0.5 since this will provide the maximum sample size

d= the degree of accuracy expressed as a portion (0.05)

$$s = \frac{3.814 \times 116515 \times 0.5 (1-0.5)}{0.05^2 (116515-1) + 3.814 (1-0.5)}$$

$$= \frac{111097.053}{293.192}$$

$$= 379$$

(Source; Krejcie & Morgan, 1970)

In collecting data quantitatively, a multi-stage cluster sampling technique was adopted. Firstly, Kokona Local Government Area represented a cluster and from this cluster, seven electoral wards (Agwada, Amba, Bassa, Dari, Garaku, Hadari, KofarGwari, and Kokona) were identified purposefully selected for the study. In each of the selected electoral wards, the snowball sampling technique was adopted in selecting respondents from each of the identified electoral wards (1 respondent above the minimum sample generated) which according to Babbie and Mouton (2012) is acceptable in social research. The paper used a quantitative method of data because enables the researcher to deeply explore the respondents' point of view, feelings, and perspectives and can be used to obtain preliminary information that can be used to develop more concrete quantitative surveys. Data for the study was collected from the Kokona Local Government Area of Nasarawa State-Nigeria. A questionnaire was used for the collection of quantitative data and consists of some questions printed or typed in a definite order on a form or set of forms. The researcher chose the questionnaire instrument because of anonymity, as it gives greater confidence to the respondents to express themselves freely. Also, questions are factually answered, uniformity is achieved due to standardized questions and it facilitates data processing. The questionnaire was administered to the respondents and they have to answer the questions on their own. The questionnaire was structured and constructed in the English language, with the questions being informed by the problem statement. The data was organized and then analyzed with the use of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). Quantitative data analyzed using univariate analysis. The univariate analysis involves the use of descriptive statistics, such as frequency distribution, mean, and percentage. For the in-depth interview (IDI), the purposive sampling technique was employed in the selection of participants for the study. Qualitative data were collected through the use of the in-depth interview. The qualitative data were analyzed using content analysis and transcribed verbatim into English, together with observational notes.

Table 1: Respondents view on whether COVID 19 Pandemic has affected their source of livelihood

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	321	84.7
No	58	15.3
Total	379	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Table 1 presents respondents' views on whether the COVID 19 pandemic has affected their source of livelihood. An overwhelming majority of the total respondents reported that COVID 19 pandemic has affected their source of livelihood. This was affirmed by 84.7 percent of the total respondents. This could be hinged to reduced money in circulation induced by non-payment of salaries, halting some cash assistance meant to support people, more cautious household spending, and uncertainty about the future. This result corroborates the viewpoint that the pandemic has forced many businesses to close, leading to an unprecedented disruption of commerce.

In the in-depth interview (IDI) conducted, there was clear agreement that the COVID 19 pandemic has affected their source of livelihood in the sampled population. An overwhelming proportion of the interviewees' stated that their source of livelihood has been affected and they find it difficult to survive. A businessman captured the general position of the interviewees' as reported below. For instance,

A Businessman reported that:

COVID-19 has dramatically altered the projected national revenue, thus, having multiplier effects on corporate and personal businesses. For instance, in addition to dwindling oil demand, Nigeria has experienced a significant drop in oil prices that led to the loss of revenue. This has affected every segment of the Nigerian economy. Many businesses have collapsed and ruined down we pray this pandemic is over.

Table 2: Respondents' view on the effects of COVID 19 on the Socio-economic Activities

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Reduced Income	183	48.3
Restrictions to income source	62	16.4
Loss of Income	76	20.1
Loss of Job	38	10.0
Not affected	23	6.1
Others	07	1.8
Total	379	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Table 2 shows Respondents' views on the effects of COVID 19 on socio-economic activities. The larger proportion of the respondents accepted that their income has reduced as a result of the spate of COVID 19 pandemic in the world as represented by 48.3 percent of the total respondents in the study population. This could be ascribed to the lockdown imposed by the government to curtail the pandemic in the country.

During the in-depth interview (IDI) a participant who is also a religious leader pointed out COVID 19 pandemic affects the socio-economic activities of the residents in the sampled areas of the study. They explained as thus:

My stable source of income and livelihood has been affected. Nowadays I don't out for business and other activities to earn living because of the plague of the pandemic and the imposition of lockdown by the government. My income has reduced and this has affected me seriously. Things I used to do before now I can't do them again. You know income is very important.

Table 3: Respondents' view on coping mechanisms for Families during the outbreak of COVID 19

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Reduced food ratio	166	43.7
Accepting lower wages	54	14.2
Sales of asset	72	18.9
Child labour	31	8.1
None	42	11.1
Others	14	3.7
Total	379	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Table 3 indicates Respondents' view on coping mechanisms for families during the outbreak of COVID 19. Data from the study revealed that a larger proportion of the respondents now resort to reducing the food ratio during the outbreak of COVID 19 an affirmation of 43.7 percent of the respondents. This could be accredited to the fact that the majority of people earn their livelihoods through the informal economy with little or no insurance against unexpected disruptions. Consequently, unemployment, job losses, and wealth depletion (asset stripping) have a severe notice on the health impacts of the disease. This was established in an in-depth interview (IDI) conducted that a larger percentage of the respondent acknowledged that they have to reduce their food ratio to survive during the outbreak and be able to cope with the new normal as explained by a community leader and a family head:

In this community, many families can't feed their family three square meals since the outbreak of the COVID 19 in the world. Plenty of people have lost their jobs and some can't go out for their daily activities. This has greatly affected us.

I'm a father of three since the outbreak of the COVID 19 I have to reduce the ratio in my house to meet our food need. Before it is three square meals but now I can't provide it again. The situation is very pathetic.

Discussion of Findings

The finding on whether the COVID 19 pandemic has affected their source of livelihood, the paper discovered that COVID 19 has affected the residents of the study area negatively and forced many businesses to close, leading to an unprecedented disruption of commerce. This was corroborated by Faus (2020) that COVID 19 effectively stops all income-generating activities for people engaged in non-essential services. Moreover, there's the intensifying impact of rising food prices in the country, driven by disrupted food supply chains and panic buying. For this population, faced with a loss of access to income-generating activities, and without the luxury of an income that allows bulk purchasing and the home infrastructure (electricity and adequate refrigeration to store food), the impact of slight increases in the cost of living could be calamitous.

Finding on the effects of COVID 19 on the socio-economic activities in the study area revealed that respondents' income has reduced as a result of the spate of COVID 19 pandemic in the world. This was supported by Olisah(2020) that lockdown and self-isolation significantly reduced income, production, demand, and consumption of certain goods and services. Nigerian businesses affected most are the start-ups and small scale enterprises, consultancy, hospitality, and aviation sectors. The tourism, hospitality, and aviation sectors are arguably the biggest losers in the COVID-19 outbreak era.

Study findings regarding coping mechanisms for families during the outbreak of COVID 19, the paper indicate that a larger proportion of the respondents now resort to reducing food ratio during the outbreak of COVID 19, and the majority of people earn their livelihoods through the informal economy with little or no insurance against unexpected disruptions. This was maintained by Chinenyenwa, Adeleye, and Tauseef, (2020) that it has since been projected that Africa would be hard hit by the medium to long-term social and economic impacts of the pandemic which could force families to rethink their coping mechanisms. It could therefore be inferred that the general drop in income level occasioned by the drop in GDP has tended to strike especially the low-income and most vulnerable segments of the society. This has led to stalled economies and exacerbated structural inequities among different social groups. In humanitarian terrain, the majority of people earn their livelihoods through the informal economy with little or no insurance against unexpected disruptions.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The Coronavirus disease has become a severe pandemic and poses many serious challenges at national, regional, and global levels. The consequences, even if they are difficult to calculate, are expected to be enormous given the rapid spread of the Covid-19 and the drastic measures taken by countries whatever their size worldwide. Even if Nigeria is relatively less affected

compared to other countries, for now, the spillover effects from global developments or broken supply chains may still lead to faltering economic activity. Indeed, the high dependency of Nigerian economies vis-à-vis foreign economies predicts a negative economic spinoff for the continent, evaluated at an average loss of 1.5 points on economic growth 2020. Besides, it is practically impossible for the country to take economic advantage of the widespread of Covid-19 in other parts of the world, due to its inability to transform its raw materials to respond to the potential high demand of goods and services of the domestic and international markets. They may act as an additional constraint on Nigeria's productive transformation, by making trade-in value-added more difficult. Regardless of the scenario whether optimistic or pessimistic, Covid-19 will have a harmful socioeconomic effect on Nigeria. The socio-economic impact of the Covid-19 crisis is real. It is therefore essential to inform the populations on the impact and advice policy-makers to better prepare and lessen the adverse impact of the pandemic. In this regard, this paper recommends that:

- i. There is a need for advocacy and urgent intervention to reduce the incidence of poverty by Governments, humanitarian organizations, and development actors as well as the establishment of an effective adaptive mechanism that will foster restoration of life, social and economic activities.
- ii. Diversify and transform their economies by strengthening the productive capacity of the Nigerian private sector to transform raw materials locally. This will also improve domestic resource mobilization and reduce the country's dependence on external financial flows.
- iii. Reposition Nigeria to take full advantage of the changes expected to happen in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis, as major economies will probably diversify their centers of production by shifting at part of them to other regions by equipping youth with skills needed to attract Multinational Enterprises (MNEs) and other global trade players. This has also the benefit of boosting local transformation and effective transfer of technology.

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