

FACILITIES/EQUIPMENT AS PREDICTOR OF SPORT DEVELOPMENT IN EDO STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The study examined if facilities/equipment is predictor of sports development in Edo State, Nigeria. The study aimed at examined how facilities/equipment would be a predictor of sports development in Edo State. The ex post- factor design was adopted for the study, and the main research instrument used was a modified closed ended Likert type questionnaire, which was validated. The reliability of the instrument was employed using crumbach alpha to determine the internal consistency of the questionnaire and 0.84 was obtained. The data was analyzed using regression statistical analysis set at 0.08 alpha level. The finding was that, facilities/equipment did not significantly predict sports development in Edo State , Nigeria. ($B=-.172, t=-1.167, \text{sign. } T=244, P<0.05$). The null hypothesis was therefore accepted . Based on the finding was recommended among others that the development of sports facilities should be planned and taken in phases having in view the various sports and the cultural interest of the people, while also, provision of sports equipment should be enhanced through planned annual target. Government should solicit and encouraged interest private individual, for the development of sports in Edo State.

Keywords: Facilities/equipment, predictors, sports development.

INTRODUCTION

It is common knowledge today that the attainment of World class status in sports is a reflection of development objective of a country. This national objectives has been postulated by the Edo State Sports Development Policy (2009) National Sports Development Policy (1989) and vision (2010) sports development initiatives. It seems, however that policy objectives are very clear, corresponding action seen not to fully on ground towards goals realization.

This perhaps explain the gap between intended sports development objective becoming a World class sporting nations warrants the availability enabling of facilitating inputs of various categories (Ojeme,2000). These inputs according to Ojeme (2000) defined them as the intrinsic and extrinsic technology of sports; who characterization includes sports facilities

and equipment.

Having the right quality and quantity sports facilities and equipments is an integral parts of sports development. To a large extent, this is partly what makes the difference between the sports culture of developed and developing nations. In the developed world, sports facilities and equipment of the appropriate standard are available of promote the athletes performance (Ojeme,2000).In support of this view, Talabi (1998) opined that most developing countries wish to arrive at the level of developed countries over night. While developed countries are putting so much into providing excellent facilities, equipment and conducive environment for athletes, developing countries seems to lag behind in the provision of these amenities and expect their players or athletes to excel in the international arena. Development countries are not paying enough attention to starting well so, ending up finishing badly or poorly.

Ekpe (2011) opined that, it is difficult to separate the standard of sports in a particular country from the standard of facilities available for the training of athletes. In Nigeria and Edo State in particular, it is easy to see that the level of facilities available in the state and in the country cannot cope with the number of athletes in the state and the country in general. Its therefore not surprising that immediately a Nigerian goes abroad their performance improve tremendously.

Facilities and equipment occupy such available place in all the ramifications of sports administration. Many research works on facilities, equipment, personnel and maintenance show that the areas are deficient and that sports management in the state and the country at large cannot function adequately (Awosika, 1996). The availability of adequate equipment and facilities play a major role in sports development. It would not be important to achieve satisfactory results from athletes, whose training facilities are inadequate or substandard which in actual fact will not compliment the work of the coach. Good sports programmes can function at full effectiveness only when they are supported with effective equipment in good conditions (Aluko,1999). Athletes have come to realize that improved performances and development of special skills which can earn them better incentives can be enhanced through better sports facilities and modern equipment.

Ojeme (2000) opined that the realization or actualization of our nation's sports development objectives for becoming a world class sporting nation warrants the availability of enabling or facilitating input of various categories. He further defined these inputs as the intrinsic and extrinsic technology of sports as the inherent requirement for the conduct of sports such as the physical skills and material equipment required for sports experience.

Training facilities as well as frequent and great numbers of competitions are those major factors which place the United State Based athletes in better standard than the home based. Availability of facilities and equipment determine the standard and the success of a sports programme. We lack facilities and equipment and this account for one of the major reasons why Nigerian migrate to overseas. If facilities could be developed with all necessary opportunities, Nigerian athletes will cease to drift overseas (Omo-Osagie,1986).

In support of this view, Adamu (2002) stated that facilities and adequate provision of equipment have been identified as the major problems facing the Nigeria athletes because they performed better with facilities abroad with those at home. Awoma (2005) opined that, provision of adequate facilities and equipment is as important as providing adequate incentive for the athletes. Good sports programme can only functions at full effectiveness when they

are supported with sufficient equipment in good conditions. The scarcity sporting facilities and equipment and supplies constitute a big cog in the wheel of successful administration of sports in Edo State and Nigeria at large. It is noted that most our athletes lack exposure to modern sophisticated infrastructures and facilities for training. Adisa (2004) opined that sports men and women generally exhibit high sports achievement and encouragement due to the presence of adequate facilities and equipment. Dankadai (2011). stated that many of our play grounds have disappeared and most schools have no sporting facilities and equipment as was the case before. Over the years, sports grounds were converted into residential purposes and the few ones that still exists especially in educational institutions are not properly maintained. Therefore, the main purpose of this research is to investigate if facilities/equipment would predict sports development in Edo State, Nigeria, while the specific objectives of the study is to find out whether facilities/equipment predicts development in Edo State.

RESEARCH QUESTION

The research question generated to guide the study is, would facilities/equipment be a predictor of sports development in Edo State?

Hypothesis

The hypothesis was formulated and tested for the study: facilities/equipment would not significantly predict sports development in Edo State, Nigeria.

METHODOLOGY

Population

The Population of this study is eight hundred and ten (810) which comprise two hundred and thirty nine (239) administrative cadres, two hundred and twenty (220) coaches and three hundred and fifty one(351) programs athletes of Edo State sports council (Edo State sports council, 2010).

Sample

A sample size of four hundred five (405) which comprise administrative cadre of one hundred and twenty (120), coaches one hundred and ten (110), and program athletes one hundred and seventy five (175) representing 50% of the entire population were used for the study.

Instrumentation

The instrument for data collection a self developed modified Likert type questionnaire named facilities/equipment as predictor of sports development item (F.E.S.D.I)Which sought information on predictor of sports development in Edo State. The scoring mode of the questionnaire is a closed- ended questionnaire on a four point modified Likert scale type in positive form score thus; strongly Agree 4, points, Agree 3 points, strongly disagree, 2 point, disagree, 1 point and the adopted questionnaire was given to experts in the area of study through the supervision for content validity. Their comments, criticisms and suggestions are incorporated in the final cop of the questionnaire that was approved by the supervisor before administering it to the respondents.

The questionnaire items were drawn from only the variable contained in the research hypothesis, four hundred and five (405) copies of the questionnaire forms were produced and admitted to the participant used for the study. In order to reach the participants, four trained research assistants were deployed to various associations in the sports council to administer the questionnaire forms by hand. Three hundred and seventy two (372) were retrieved out of which three hundred and fifty four (354) representing 84.4% were duly and properly filled and those returned ones were used for the analysis of the data for the study.

Data analysis

The data were analyzed using descriptive statistics of frequency counts and percentage for the research question, while descriptive statistics of analysis of variance (ANOVA) was used to assess if there were significant differences in facilities/equipment as predictor of sports development in Edo State, Nigeria. 0.05 level of significance was used for the statistical test of significance.

Result

Would facilities/equipment be a predictor of sports development in Edo State, Nigeria?

Table 1: Response of Facilities/ Equipment as Predictor of Sports Development

Response	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Total
Sports Manager	9 24.3%	27 73.0%	1 2.7%	37 100.0%
Coaches	79 79.0%	21 21.210%	0 .0%	100 100.0%
Athletes	96 55.5%	66 40.2%	2 1.2%	164 100.0%
Sports official	10 50.5%	10 50.0%	0 .0%	20 100.0%
Others	11 34.4%	21 65.6%	0 .0%	32 100.0%
Total	205 58.1%	145 41.1%	3 .8%	352 100.0%

The results displayed on table 1 indicate the percentage responses of respondents on the research question of this study. The result revealed that 205 (58.1%) of the respondents strongly agree while, 145 (41.1%) agree from the respondents facilities/equipment predict sports development while 3(0.8%) disagree that facilities/equipment did not predict sports development in Edo State. Based on the modification of Likert scale in this table, the midpoint of acceptance and rejection of the result of the variable is that, the two highest points of the percentage of the table are accepted while the lowest point are rejected.

Table 2: Regression Analysis on Facilities/Equipment as Predictor of Sports Development in Edo State**COEFFICIENT**

Model	Unstandarized Coefficients	Standardize Coefficients		
	B Std error	Beta	t	Significant
1 (Constant)	1.300 .81		7.188	.000
Facilities/equipment	-.172 .147	-.088	-1.167	.244

Dependent variable: sports development (y)

Non significant predictors= facilities/equipment

Hypothesis: facilities/equipment would not significantly predict sports development in Edo State, Nigeria.

The relative of effects of facilities/equipment on sports development Edo State, Nigeria are shown in this table. The table shows the regression weight (B) the standard error of estimate SEE (B) and the T. ratio associated with facilities/equipment. As show in the table facilities/equipment is nor a significant predictor of sports devilmnt in Edo State, Nigeria n(B=-.117,t=-1.167, sign .T=244, P<.0 0.5. The null hypothesis is therefore, accepted. The finding obtained in the table of this study reviewed that facilities/equipment did not predict sports development in Edo State, Nigeria. The finding in Table 1 shows that 58.1% and 41.1% of the respondent, strongly agree and agree respectively that facilities/equipment predicts sports development in Edo State, Nigeria while 8% disagree that facilities/equipment would nor significant predict sports development in Edo State, Nigeria, sports facilities and equipment is not significant predictor of sports development in Edo State of Nigeria.

DISCUSSION

It is common knowledge today that the attainment of world class status in sport is a reflection of development objectives of a country. The findings in table two confirmed the earlier studies of the national objective which has been postulated by the Edo State sports development policy (2009), National sports Development Policy (1989) and vision (2010) sports development policy initiatives. It seems, however that while policy objective are very clear, corresponding action seems not be fully on ground towards goals realization. This perhaps explains the gap between intended sports development goals and actualization of the state and the country's sports development objectives of becoming inputs of various categories (Ojeme, 2000).

In the developed world, sports facilities and equipment of the appropriate standard are variable to promote the athletes performance (Ojeme, 2000). In support of this view, Talabi (1998) opined that most developing countries wish to arrive at the level of developed countries over night. While developed countries are putting so much into providing excellent facilities, equipment and conducive environment for athletes developing countries seems to lag behind in these amenities and expect their players or athletes to excel in the international arena. He further stated that one area of poor start is in the provision of facilities. Facilities are virtually not in existence and when available they are grossly poor or substandard.

However, Asagba (2001) opined that, often time we refer to our sportsmen who were no bodies while here at home but not sooner they step out of our shores, than they becomes household names. There is no magic abroad, it is only as a result of the availability of modern equipment and facilities, back up with scientific training plans. Many research works on facilities, equipment personnel and maintenance shows that these area are deficient, and that sports management in the state and the country at large cannot function adequately some of the other problems are lack of qualified personnel, misuse of the funds, substandard qualities among others (Awosika, 1996). The findings in the study further revealed that Edo State lack sports facilities hence despite the fact that the responses in table one indicated that 58.1% and 34.2% strongly agree and agree respectively that availability of sports facilities could predict sports development, table two which sought determine if facilities does not significant predicts sport development in Edo State.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The findings of this study confirmed that facilities/equipment is a predictor of sports development. The study revealed that the status of spots development in Edo State is at lowest ebb due to the following.

1. Inadequate facilities/equipment and also absence of good maintenance habits of the few facilities and equipment. The few availability facilities and equipment are not constantly maintained apart from few ones that was recently renovated by the government.

Therefore the following recommendations are made to improve sports development in Edo State.

1. The development of sports facilities be planned and taken in phases having in view the various sports and the cultural interest of the people.
2. Provision of sports equipment should be enhanced through planned annual target, while also private interested individual should be solicited and encouraged.

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