KIN NETWORKS AND MIGRATION IN SAGBAMA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF BAYELSA STATE

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Abstract
The study explores the impact of kin networks on migration in Sagbama Local Government Area of Bayelsa State. The Social network theory of migration formed the theoretical base for this study. The survey research design was employed to investigate this phenomenon among 380 respondents. The non-probability (snowball technique) sampling technique was used in selecting 13 migrants' streams in Sagbama Town through the questionnaire instrument. Analysis of the data collected for the study was based on frequency distribution table and simple percentages; chi square and multiple linear regression at 0.05 level of significance using SPSS version 20.0 The result showed that most migrants moved to Sagbama Town stage-by-stage. Also, significant influence of kin networks was found to be the major motivating factor of most migrants. The study concluded that kin networks are fundamental in migrants' movement in the study area. It was therefore, recommended that development of rural areas should be set as priority agenda by government.

Key words: Kin networks, migration, coping strategies, Network theory, Social Support etc

Introduction
Historically, migration process has been characterized and continues to be characterized by the mobility of individuals or groups of individuals from one place to the other. In most cases, individuals who migrate are usually drawn from the same village, clan, caste or parish of the same origin. In fact, the existing social connections within these groups usually help migrants in different ways when they move from their

respective places of origin to a new destination. These connections nevertheless, provide social, psychological and economic support to the migrants (Munshi, 2014).

To moderate the devastating effects of urban unemployment, social scholars have described the role played by migrant community networks in supporting their members at the place of destination both historically and in the contemporary economy. However, it is difficult to provide credible statistical evidence that these networks support migration and improve the outcomes of their members at the dsestination. This is because the size and composition of the migrant network respond to changes in the destination economy that directly determine the outcomes of the migrants. Indeed, any relationship between migrants' outcomes and network characteristics could, in that case, be exclusively bogus (Munshi, 2014).

Again, the degree of network is largely dependent on the pre-existing relationship between the migrants and the kin, at the same time, the migrants' outcomes are determined by the migration decisions depending on multiple factors such as individual's gender and position within a social network (Curran andSaguy 2001). As Quinlan observes, kinship is often the basis of social networks in most developing nations. Hence, it may have important implications for migration. Buttressing this point, Quinlan concluded in his study of the people who moved from Bwa Mawego in the Commonwealth of Dominica that there is an association between patri- and matrilateral kin networks and sex differences in the probability of leaving Bwa Mawego (Quinlan, 2005).

Several other studies have also shown considerable number of research works over the years in one way or the other that social networks were not only found to be fundamental to internal migration but also essential in international migration (Brettell, 2000). To Dolfin and Genicot (2006), social networks are now widely recognized to be very influential in migration decisions. Similarly, Vertovec (2002) added that, this is not surprising since networks provide channels for the migration process. Tilly (1990), in his historical overview of immigration into the United States, stated that 'networks migrate,' and that the effective units of migration are neither individuals nor households but sets of people linked by acquaintance, kinship, and work experience.' Boyd (1989: 641) summarizes much of the network approach to migration:

> *Networks connect migrants across time and space. Once begun, migration flows often become self-sustaining, reflecting the establishment of networks of information, assistance and obligations which develop between migrants in the host society and friends and relatives in the sending area. These networks link populations in origin and receiving countries and ensure that movements are not necessarily limited in time, unidirectional or permanent (Boyd, 1989: 641).*

Furthermore, Vertovec (2002) again pointed out the importance of networks in migration and stated that social networks are crucial for finding jobs and

accommodation, circulating goods and services, as well as psychological support and continuous social and economic information for new migrants. It also guides migrants into or through specific places and occupations. He further stated that local labour markets can become linked through specific networks of interpersonal and organizational ties surrounding migrants. In similar vein, Portes (1995: 10) proposed that migration itself "can be conceptualized as a process of network building, which depends on and, in turn, reinforces social relationships across space." In other words, he asserts that migration is a process that both depends on, and creates, social networks (Portes, 1995).

Nevertheless, a large number of literature (e,g Davis and Winters 2001; Munshi, 2003) has shown that more extensive friend and family networks of previous migrants encourage migration. Yet there has been little research investigating the mechanism by which networks exert such effects empirically. This study takes the advantage of this gap in knowledge to investigate kin networks and migration in Sagbama Local Government Area (LGA) of Bayelsa State.

Theoretical Framework: Social Network Theory of Migration
For the purpose of this study, the social network theory served as the theoretical framework. According to this theory, the initial migration moves of a country's pioneers, non-migrants in the origin areas become connected to migration destinations, where better employment opportunities as well as increased chances for socio-economic upgrading are thought to be found. Furthermore, given the desirability of the destination and the access gained through social networks with previous migrants, the flow continues beyond the 'pioneers', as previous migrants mediate the migration of friends and family. Additionally, according to this theory, migrant networks facilitate the moves of newcomers by providing information about the new society and assistance, for example, with housing and employment (Massey, Arango, Graeme, Kouaouci, Pellegrino and Taylor, 1993; Massey, Arango, Hugo, Kouaouci, Pellegrino and Taylor, 1998; Pellegrino, 2004).

Using the Brazilian migration history, the network theorist opined that the importance of social networks could be identified especially for the case of *Valadarenses* going to the United States (Fusco, 2002 cited in Meeteren and Pereira 2013), Brazilians going to Spain (Solé *et al.*, 2011 cited in Meeteren and Pereira (2013), Brazilians moving to Japan (Zell and Skop, 2011), or Brazilians migrating to Portugal (Padilla, 2006). Again, scholarly thought on the role of networks in the growth of international migration is strongly influenced by Massey and colleagues' study of Mexican migration to the U.S (Massey, Arango, Hugo, Kouaouci, Pellegrino and Taylor, 1998) and their theory of 'cumulative causation'.

According to Massey and colleagues (1998), persistent growth in migration flows is strongly entrenched in migrant networks as 'sets of interpersonal ties that connect migrants, former migrant and non-migrants in origin and destination areas through ties of kinship, friendship and shared community origin.' Although reference is made to the significance of other migrant supporting institutions in facilitating

migration, within social network theory, migrant networks are central to theorising and as a result most of the empirical research that has been undertaken which still maintains the strand (Garip and Asa, 2012 in Meeteren and Pereira, 2013).

However, Boyd (1989) and Massey et al. (1993) formulate a new approach to the sociology of migration on the basis of networks. Drawing on the notion of social networks, they concluded that social networks are embedded on the approach of economic sociology (Granovetter, 1973). That is to say, the meso-level of households, kinship networks and social networks associate the social structure to the individual decision-maker.

This theory posits that, social network paves the way for establishing transnational migration networks. Also, given the multiplier effect of social networks, they may result in a migration chain. Informal networks help migrants to finance their travel, to find a job or accommodation. Migration networks enable migrants to cross borders, legally or illegally (IOM, 2003: 14). Personal relations which connect migrants, former migrants and non-migrants with each other in the places of origin and destination increase the probability of international labour migration in connection with circular migration and chain migration processes. As social networks are extended and strengthened by each additional migrant, potential migrants are able to benefit from the social networks and ethnic communities already established in the country of destination.

Research in migration has established that social networks are commonly an important determinant of migration plans and the choice of destination (Boyd, 1989). Being embedded in social networks, thus, has a significant influence on migration decisions. According to Hugo (1981: 188), Social and cultural factors determine firstly whether migration takes place; secondly in what form migration takes place, i.e. whether it is permanent or circular; thirdly the choice of destination; and fourthly migrants' experiences in their new environment. The demographic structure such as the size of family, age and sex, stage in the life cycle, and various aspects of the social structure of families such as kinship patterns, influence the availability, expectations, motives and incentives with regard to migration (Meeteren and Pereira, 2013).

Therefore, these four components of migration motivation affect migration decisions. Indeed, the family is an important determinant of migration. This becomes especially evident when considering the influence on migration motives of the individual's role in the family, the socialization within the family, and the social network provided by the family. This means that the central significance of the social context with regard to decisions by potential migrants is expressed in different ways. Munshi (2014) came up with the following hypotheses that may influence community and kinship ties on migration decisions.

1. *Affinity hypothesis* This means that the existence of relatives and friends at the place of residence reduces the tendency to migrate. Non-economic factors such as close links to a community, strong local kinship ties, high investments in a community as well as assimilation difficulties in a new community, all reinforce

the tendency not to migrate. Social networks at the place of residence are a preventive factor.

2. ***Information hypothesis*** This hypothesis states that when relatives and friends are already living in different places, the propensity to migrate increases. In addition, migration to these places becomes more attractive because the living conditions (such as job opportunities) are known. Therefore, the larger the distance between the place of origin and the place of destination, the less information circulates. The more social relations one has at the place of destination and, consequently, the more information channels these relationships provide, the more influential such information on the decision to migrate. Social networks at the place of destination are a pull factor.

3. ***Facilitating hypothesis*** This hypothesis states that relatives and friends promote and channel migration to their own places of residence by facilitating adjustment to the new location, e.g. job search, material support, encouragement, provision of new social ties and so on. Social networks at the place of destination are a pull factor.

4. ***Conflict hypothesis*** In this hypothesis, intra-familial conflicts within the community also cause migration. Social networks at the place of residence can therefore serve as a push factor.

5. ***Encouraging hypothesis*** This hypothesis states that families may encourage members of their family to migrate for work, e.g. as a strategy to secure the household income. As such, social networks at the place of residence are a push factor. A systematic model is needed to formulate the influences of migration networks on migration decision-making. As social networks can be seen as a push or a pull factor, it needs to be established exactly how social networks affect migration, and an integrated model needs to be developed. One important step in this direction involves the concept of social capital.

Figure 1: The conceptual framework illustrating the links between rural migrants and kin networks and support

Source: Authors' Idea
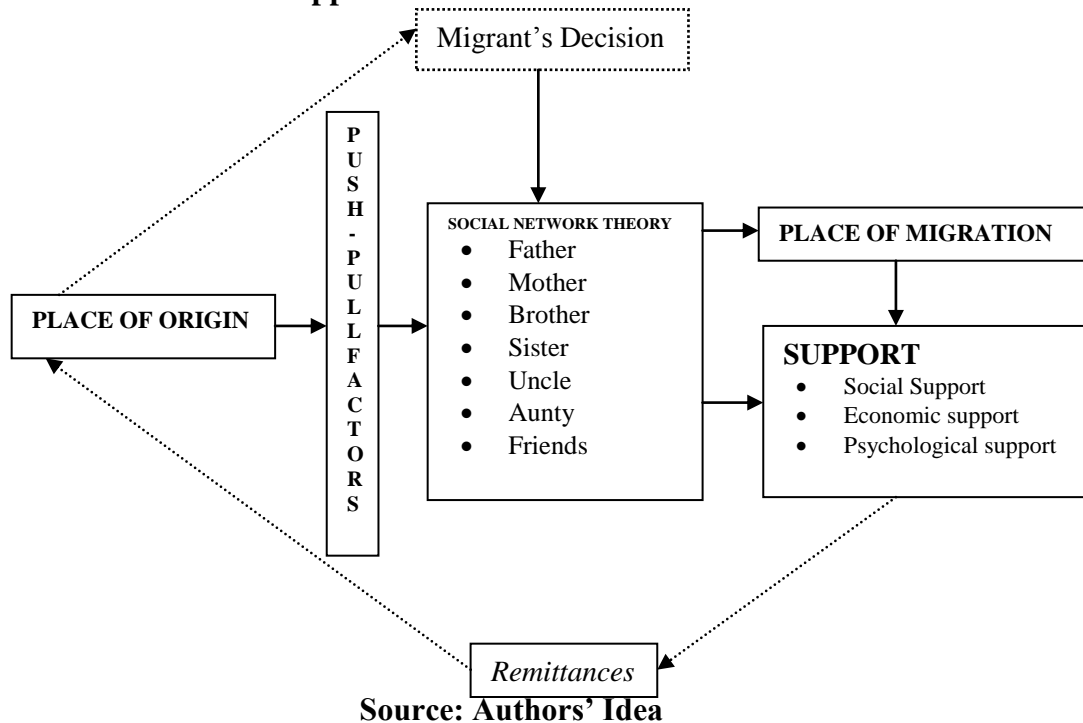
Methodology

The research design adopted in the study is survey design. This research design was adopted based on the fact that only the representation of the entire population of study was sampled and administered with the instrument of data collection utilized for the study. Besides these, it helps to facilitate researcher's study in reaching logical conclusion without necessarily covering the entire population of study at a minimum cost relative to quantitative method of data collection.

The study population includes migrants from rural areas located within Sagbama LGA. While Sagbama will remain the study destination, all other selected rural areas of the local government will serve as the places of origin. Be it as it may, it is quite difficult to get the exact data of immigrants in Sagbama town due to poor migratory record in the study area, but the population of Sagbama LGA as at 2011 population projection by the National Population Commission (NPC), is 216, 028 (See NBS, 2010). As such, it is assumed that at least 50% of immigrants in Sagbama town, being the headquarters of Sagbama LGA would be from its rural areas purported to be related either by blood or marriage to form a formidable kin networks. However, the criteria for inclusiveness in the study were therefore migrant streams from rural areas of the local government whose ages were ranged between 15 and 70 years, males and females. In the context of migrant streams, the rural immigrants in Sagbama must have stayed at least 6 months prior to this survey. Conversely, the exclusion criteria for the study was that any migrant whose age was less than 15 years old or above 70 years old

were not to be included in the study, as well as migrants whose origins could not be traced to any of the selected streams within the local government area.

The sample size for the study was drawn from selected migrant streams at Sagbama town. And due to the difficulty or unavailability of migrants' accurate data in the local government area, Conchran's (1977) sample size formula was used to calculate and arrive at 385 with an addition of 2% attrition that may be encountered during the field work making it 390.

Considering the nature of the study area, two sampling techniques were utilized to draw out the sample population. Firstly, in the study area, there are fourteen wards including the study destination (Sagbama) according to Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). Among the fourteen (14) wards, 13 communities were selected, one from each of the wards except the ward in Sagbama being the study destination using simple random technique out of the list of all rural communities in these wards. These [13 communities] now formed the migrant streams to which individual migrants were drawn for the survey in Sagbama town.

Secondly, individual immigrants in the town were selected using a snowball sampling technique after which the communities of rural immigrants were randomly selected. To select individual rural immigrants in Sagbama town, Home Town Associations (HTAs) and churches were located before individual rural immigrants were identified and selected for the study.

The method of data collection adopted for the study was basically a structured questionnaire. In this instrument, a structured questionnaire was used to gather quantitative data from all respondents. With the sample population calculated for the study in table 3.4, three hundred and ninety two copies of questionnaire were made and administered to the respondents in a close-ended format. However, the questionnaire was structured and categorized into five (5) sections comprising section A (demographic profile of the respondents); section B (Rural migrants' migration history to Sagbama town); section C (Reasons for migration to Sagbama town); Section D (influence of kin networks [A-4 point scale category of response – strongly agree (4), agree (3), disagree (2), strongly disagree (4); and section E (kin networks and supports for migrants).

The method of data analysis was strictly based on quantitative method. The quantitative data analysis was based on three statistical tools using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20.0.

Table 1: Matrix showing quantitative data analysis by statistical tools

S/N	Statistical methods used	Methods Explained	Statistical Tools Used
1.	Univariate analysis	One variable analysis	Frequency distribution table and simple percentage and charts
2.	Bivariate analysis	Two variable analysis	Chi square and cross-tabs at p< 0.05.
3.	Multivariate analysis	Two or more variables	Multiple regression at p<0.05.

Results and Findings

Socio-Economic Characteristics of the Respondents

Table 2 shows the distribution of respondents by age group. It was revealed that the mean age of the respondents is put at 38.9±15.55, while the age group (45 years and above) remains the largest percentage (37.9%) of respondents, followed by age group 30-34 years old (21.1%), and the third largest percentage is age group 20-24 years old (11.6%). This means that majority of the respondents are adults.

Table 2: Distribution of Respondents by Age Group

Age Group		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	15-19	30	7.9	7.9
	20-24	50	13.2	21.1
	25-29	44	11.6	32.6
	30-34	80	21.1	53.7
	35-39	12	3.2	56.8
	40-44	20	5.3	62.1
	45 and above	144	37.9	100.0
	Total	380	100.0	

Table 3 shows the distribution of respondents by gender. The table indicates that there were 55.3% of female respondents and 44.7% of male respondents. This suggests that there were more female migrants in Sagbama when compared to male migrants.

Table 3: Distribution of Respondents by Gender

Gender		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	170	44.7	44.7
	Female	210	55.3	100.0
	Total	380	100.0	

Table 4 reveals the distribution of respondents by marital status. The table shows that more than majority of the respondents (40.5%) were never married (single) when compared to 38.9% of the respondents who were ever married. This suggests that most migrants in Sagbama are still single.

Table 4: Distribution of Respondents by Marital Status

Marital Status		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Never Married	154	40.5	40.5
	Ever Married	148	38.9	79.5
	Separated	22	5.8	85.3
	Divorced	18	4.7	90.0
	Widow	38	10.0	100.0
	Total	380	100.0	

Table 5 indicates the distribution of the respondents by educational attainment. It shows that 32.9% of the respondents have attained secondary education, 28.7% said others, which included those with diploma qualifications and those that are yet to complete their tertiary education. Also, 18.4% of the respondents signified tertiary educational level, 13.9% indicated primary education while only 6.1% of the respondents signified no formal education. This means that majority of the respondents are educated when compared to those with no formal education.

Table 5 Distribution of Respondents by Educational Attainment

Educational Attainment		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	No formal education	23	6.1	6.1
	Primary	53	13.9	20.0
	Secondary	125	32.9	52.9
	Tertiary	70	18.4	71.3
	Others	109	28.7	100.0
	Total	380	100.0	

Table 6 reveals the distribution of respondents by occupation. As the table shows, 20.0% of the respondents were students, 17.4% of them said they engaged in farming/fishing, 13.9% of them were civil servants. This implies that out of the total percentage of the respondents, majority of the respondents are students when compared to other categories of migrants in Sagbama.

Table 6: Distribution of Respondents by Occupation

Occupation		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Civil servant	53	13.9	13.9
	Self-owned business	46	12.1	26.1
	Private worker	40	10.5	36.6
	Farming/fishing	66	17.4	53.9
	Students	76	20.0	73.9
	Unemployed	57	15.0	88.9
	Others	42	11.1	100.0
	Total	380	100.0	

Rural Migrants' Migration History to Sagbama
The first objective of the study was to examine the migratory history of the migrants from their respective places of origins to Sagbama. Table 7 first shows the pattern of movement of migrants to their destination. As such, it was revealed that more than half the percentage of the respondents (61.1%) moved stage by stage to Sagbama when compared to those who moved directly to Sagbama town.

Table 7: Distribution of Respondents by Whether Migrants moved Directly to Sagbama

Direct Movement		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	No	148	38.9	38.9
Valid	Yes	232	61.1	100.0
	Total	380	100.0	

In a further analysis of those that indicated stage-by-stage movement to their destination, table 8 revealed that 56.0% of them moved from their villages, and then to urban centre before moving to Sagbama, while 44.0% of those that indicated stage-by-stage said they moved from their villages to another village before they finally moved to Sagbama town. This is still buttressing the fact that stage migration is prominent among migrants in Sagbama.

Table 8: Distribution of Respondents by Stages of Movement to Sagbama (n=232)

Stages of Movement		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	village to village then to sagbama	102	44.0	44.0
Valid	Village to urban then to Sagbama	130	56.0	100.0
	Total	232	100.0	
	N/A	148		
Total		380		

Furthermore, table 9 presents the analysis of respondents by the number of years spent so far at their arrival to the destination prior to this study.

Table 9: Distribution of Respondents by the Number of Years Spent at their Destination

Number Years Spent at Destination		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	1year	4	1.1	1.1
	2years	54	14.2	15.3
	3years	49	12.9	28.2
Valid	4years	82	21.6	49.7
	5years	88	23.2	72.9
	6+years	103	27.1	100.0
	Total	380	100.0	

It was revealed that more than half percent of the respondents havespent more than three years at the destination as indicated by 6 years plus (27.1%); 5 years (23.2%); 4 years (21.6%); 3 years (12.9%); 2 years (14.2%), and 1 year (1.1%). Putting it differently, majority of the migrants have stayed in Sagbama more than 3 years when compared to those that have spent less number of years.

Reasons for Migration to Sagbama

This section elicited various reasons for migrants' movement to Sagbama town. This was estimated using multiple linear regression analysis. Table 10 shows the model summary of the estimation. As presented below, all predictors explained about 44.9% of the factors predisposing migrants' movement to Sagbama Town.

Table 10: Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.449[a]	.202	.176	.443

a. Predictors: (Constant), Housing purposes, Urban life style, Ecclesiastical reason, Political situation, Children education, Employment, Social amenities, Commercial purposes, Higher education, Good communication, Good road networks, Marriage
b. Dependent Variable: Direct to Sagbama

Table 11: Table Showing the ANOVA of the Model

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
	Regression	18.252	12	1.521	7.742	.000[b]
1	Residual	72.105	367	.196		
	Total	90.358	379			

a. Dependent Variable: Direct to Sagbama

b. Predictors: (Constant), Housing purposes, Urban life style, Ecclesiastical reason, Political situation, Children education, Employment, Social amenities, Commercial purposes, Higher education, Good communication, Good road networks, Marriage
Also, table 4.14 shows the ANOVA of the model that the variables are statistically significantly related at F=7.742; df=12 and p-value=0.000.
Table 12 reveals the estimated model of the reasons for migrants' movement to Sagbama Town. The table shows that all predictor variables are significantly related to direct movement to Sagbama Town except for political situation (β=0.092; p-value=0.1190); good communication network (β=-0.087; p-value=0.1730); children education (β=-0.055; p-value=0.3790); ecclesiastical reason (β=0.055; p-value=0.3420); commercial purposes (β=0.045; p-value=0.4910).

Table 12: Estimated Model of the Reasons for Migrants' Movement to Sagbama Town

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
(Constant)	1.213	0.209		5.803	**0.000***
Higher education	-0.173	0.063	**-0.175**	-2.758	**0.006***
Employment	-0.208	0.064	**-0.212**	-3.270	**0.001***
Social amenities	-0.376	0.066	**-0.377**	-5.691	**0.000***
Political situation	0.093	0.059	**0.092**	1.564	**0.1190**
Good road networks	-0.183	0.079	**-0.178**	-2.318	**0.021***
Good communication	-0.093	0.068	**-0.087**	-1.364	**0.1730**
Urban life style	0.252	0.080	**0.175**	3.162	**0.002***
Marriage	-0.172	0.085	**-0.175**	-2.021	**0.044***
Children education	-0.064	0.073	**-0.055**	-0.882	**0.3790**
Ecclesiastical reason	-0.054	0.057	**-0.055**	-0.952	**0.3420**
Commercial purposes	0.093	0.135	**0.045**	0.689	**0.4910**
Housing purposes	-0.286	0.067	**-0.289**	-4.260	**0.000***

a. Dependent Variable: Direct to Sagbama *Significant at 0.05

Influence of Kin Networks
In an examination of the influence of the kin networks of the migrants in Sagbama Town, multiple linear regression analysis was estimated. Table 13 shows the model summary of the estimation. As presented below, all predictors explained about 47.5% of the factors predicting kin networks to Sagbama Town.

Table 13: Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.475[a]	.226	.209	.434

a. Predictors: (Constant), Friends, Aunty, Uncle, Spouse, Sister, Brother, Father, Mother

b. Dependent Variable: Direct to Sagbama

In addition, table 14 shows the ANOVA of the model that the variables are statistically significantly related at F=13.38; df=8 and p-value=0.000.

Table 14: Table Showing the ANOVA of the Model

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
	Regression	20.417	8	2.552	13.538	.000[b]
1	Residual	69.941	371	.189		
	Total	90.358	379			

a. Dependent Variable: Direct to Sagbama

b. Predictors: (Constant), Friends, Aunty, Uncle, Spouse, Sister, Brother, Father, Mother

Table 15: Estimated Model of the Kin Networks for Migrants to Sagbama Town

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	3.114	0.372		8.366	**0.000***
	Spouse	0.005	0.022	**0.013**	0.245	**0.8070**
	Father	-0.258	0.042	**-0.525**	-6.153	**0.000***
	Mother	-0.068	0.042	**-0.141**	-1.624	**0.1050**
	Uncle	0.094	0.038	**0.127**	2.453	**0.015***
	Aunty	-0.092	0.041	**-0.205**	-2.222	**0.027***
	Brother	-0.121	0.033	**-0.321**	-3.612	**0.000***
	Sister	0.156	0.039	**0.321**	3.973	**0.000***
	Friends	-0.472	0.060	**-0.465**	-7.858	**0.000***

a. Dependent Variable: Direct to Sagbama

Table 15 reveals the estimated model of the kin networks for migrants' movement to Sagbama Town. The table shows that all predictor variables are significantly related to direct movement of migrants to Sagbama Town except for spouse (β=0.245; p-value=0.8070), and mother (β=-0.127; p-value=0.1050).

Kin Networks and Migrants' Supports

This section examines the relationship between kin networks and migrants' supports at first arrival as well as their coping strategies. In order to achieve this, table 16 examines the relationship between kind of social supports at first arrival of migrants and kin ties by cross-tabulating the two variables. The result shows that the two variables are statistically significant at chi square (9.477), degree of freedom (3) and p-value (0.024). This suggests that the stronger the kin ties of migrants with their relatives in Sagbama before migration, the higher the percentage of various types of social supports migrants enjoy at the destination.

Table 16: Kind of Social Supports at First Arrival * Kin Ties Cross-Tabulation

Kind of Supports		Kin Ties		Total
		Weak kin ties	Strong kin ties	
Kind of supports at first arrival	Social support	48 45.3%	58 54.7%	106 100.0%
	Financial support	24 48.0%	26 52.0%	50 100.0%
	Psychological support	46 41.8%	64 58.2%	110 100.0%
	All of the above	32 28.1%	82 71.9%	114 100.0%
Total		150 39.5%	230 60.5%	380 100.0%

Chi Square=9.477; df=3; p-value=0.024 *Significant at 0.05

Furthermore, table 17 presents the coping strategies of migrants at new arrival by cross-tabulating it with the degree of kin ties at the destination. It was revealed that the relationship between the two variables are statistically significant at chi square (32.423) with the degree of freedom of 3 and p-value=0.000. This means that the degree of kin ties between migrants and their network of host relatives determine the degree of coping strategies migrants will adopt at the destination.

Table 17: Coping Strategies at New Arrival * Kin Ties Cross-Tabulation

		Kin Ties		Total
		Weak kin ties	Strong kin ties	
Coping strategies at new arrival	Menial Jobs	30 33.7%	59 66.3%	89 100.0%
	Sales boy/girl	26 26.8%	71 73.2%	97 100.0%
	Vocational training	74 59.7%	50 40.3%	124 100.0%
	Nothing	20 28.6%	50 71.4%	70 100.0%
Total		150 39.5%	230 60.5%	380 100.0%

Chi Square=32.423; df=3; p-value=0.000 *Significant at 0.05

Discussion of Findings

This section discusses the major findings of the study in line with the literature and theoretical framework adopted in the study. Findings on the pattern of movement of migrants to Sagbama showed that majority of the migrants moved to Sagbama stage-by-stage and that most had previously moved to urban centres before migrating to Sagbama Town when compared to those who had earlier migrated to the villages. In fact, majority of the migrants were reported to have spent more than three years at the destination in aggregate. This corroborates Ekpenyong (1999) that stage migration is dominant in most regions in Nigeria and this explains why most rural-urban movements by school leavers are first to the migrants' local government administrative headquarters then to the state administrative capital before subsequent migrations take place.

In terms of the factors influencing migrants' movement to Sagbama Town, findings revealed that migrants were motivated by various reasons to have migrated to Sagbama Town. These include higher education, employment opportunities, social amenities, good road networks, urban life styles, marriage, and housing problems experienced at the origins. This finding confirms Munshi (2014) hypothesis that there are a number of factors that serve as pull factors for migrants to move from their respective places of rural origins to urban centres.

Relative to the influence of kin networks on the movement of migrants to Sagbama Town, kin networks have been found to be significantly related to the movement of migrants to Sagbama Town. This is however found in tandem with the study of Munshi's (2014) affinity hypothesis that the existence of relatives and friends at the place of destination motivates people to migrate as well as the existence of

relatives and friends at the place of residence reduces the tendency to migrate. It also confirms Boyd (1989) and Massey *et* al (1998) postulations that social networks of migrants are strong determinants of migration plan and the choice of destination of the migrants.

In line with the kin networks and migrants' supports at first arrival, findings revealed that significant relationship existed between kind of social supports at first arrival of migrants and kin ties. This confirms earlier study conducted by Grossman (1991: 67) that "networks facilitated, stimulated and even helped to shape the migration process at all stages from the dissemination of information through the black South to the settlement of black southerners in northern cities".

Conclusion

Having explored the impact of kin networks in migration of people to Sagbama Town, it is therefore obvious that kin networks is still significant in the movement of people from their respective rural areas to Sagbama Town. Indeed, kin networks is essentially fundamental in the coping strategies of migrants at their arrival at Sagabama Town due to the cultural shock they are bound to face at their first arrival ranging from accommodation challenges, feeding among others. In other words, kin network is practically important for people's coping strategies at their new arrival at new destination.

Recommendations

Based on the above conclusion, the following recommendations have been made;

Firstly, in order to ease the pressure of migrants in Sagbama Town, there should be balanced development of communities or suburbs of communities in Sagbama Local Government Areas. Secondly, employment opportunities should be created in the rural areas in order that Sagbama Town would not be overpopulated in the nearest future.

Additionally, efforts to fully support new migrants by the government in collaboration with their kins should be engendered.

Finally, social networks among relatives should be made stronger so as to help to improve on the well-being of less-privileged migrants in the Local Government Areas.

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