

SMALL AND MEDIUM SCALE CONFECTIONERY INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY IN ADAMAWA STATE-NIGERIA

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Abstract

The consequences of confectionery industries' activities on the environment leave the environment fairly poor. These events originate by the discharge of waste as well as mining. Environmental degradation has been and continues to be a major factor causing damage to the environment, which affects the environmental productivity. The objective of this study is to examine the impact of the activities of small and medium scale confectionery enterprise on environmental quality in Adamawa state with specific reference to bakeries. The structured questionnaire was administered on sample of one hundred and fifty (150) members of the public and fifty (50) workers of bakery industries from Mubi and Yola metropolis respectively to obtain data for the study. The data was subjected to percentage (%) analysis and the Z-test to analyse and test the hypotheses respectively. The result signifies that the bakery's operators in Adamawa State are not aware of environmental laws and policies; majority of those who claimed to be aware of such laws and policies do not comply with them. They are more concerned with profit maximization than environmental protection. The study recommends that environmental impacts assessment should be made compulsory for industries whose operations have negative environmental impacts. In addition, training programs such as lectures and seminar on environmental management should be organized for the owners and employees of such industries. Wide public relation/publicity should be given to available environmental laws and policies in the state.

Keywords: Adamawa, Confectionery Enterprises, Environmental Quality, Environmental Degradation, Environmental Protection, Small Scale Business

Introduction

The consideration given to Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (SMEs) in Nigeria arises after the understanding that they occupy dominant place in economic development. The rationale is that they tend to resolve the problems of slow growth, unemployment, underemployment, and poverty through the process of industrialisation and economic growth (Okongwu, 1986; Wiklund, 1998; Okafor, 2000; Aderibigbe, 2001; Ajayi, 2003; Adrangi,

Allender, & Anderson, 2003; Ogujiuba, **Ohuche, & Adenuga, 2004 Ayeni-Agbaje & Osho, 2015**). SMEs employed over 60% of the workforce force in Nigeria, likewise, 70% to 80% of regular necessities in the country are not high-tech products, but basically manufactured with little or no automations (World Bank, 1995; Salami, 2003; Peterise 2003; Bolarinwa, 2007; Iyang & Enuoh, 2009). For example most of the products and services available in Nigerian markets emanated from SMEs. Odubanjo (2000); Nnanna, (2001) Aremu and Adeyemi (2011); Safiriyu and Njogo (2012); Akintunde (2015); Akugri¹, Bagah and Wulifan (2015); maintain that SMEs has assisted in the improvement of rural infrastructures, improved in the standard of living of rural occupants, employment generations, exploitation of native technology and revenue increase for government (Wahab & Ijaiya, 2006). In agreement with these views, Okwuise, (2008) also opines that, SMEs help to increase per capital income. Therefore, SMEs inspire real and capable deployment of indigenous resources and technological know-how.

However, despite the entire positive significant of SMEs on the environment, the environment suffers from their activities day in day out, which causes damages to the environment. This shrinks the output from the environment (**Mayomi, 2009**; Kasum, 2010). SMEs cover wide range of business activities some of which have environmental impacts. The harm to the environment by businesses is the haphazard release of waste product into the environment and deforestation which can lead to environmental degradation. These waste products take the forms ranging from solid, liquid to gaseous releases, for instance smoke, waste disposal, by-products, and noise (Baltimore 1987 as cited in **Mayomi, 2009**. Alternatively it has to do with mining and quarrying activities, bush burning and tree felling especially in Adamawa State.

Confectionery enterprises' operations add considerably to these problems and the effect of those operations is the matter of concern in this study.

Though the mining business is a key factor to this problem in Nigeria, some manufacturing businesses too are not exceptional. Even though they are not mining directly, the methods in which their waste products, raw materials (fire wood), noise, and smoke are managed as in the case confectionery enterprises could be a source of degradation.

Despite studies conducted on SMEs (Odubanjo, 2000; Onwumere, 2000; Nnanna, 2001; Ogujiuba **et al.**, 2004; Bolarinwa, 2007; Okwuise, 2008; **Ayeni-Agbaje&Osho, 2015**; Ogechukwu, Oboreh, Umukoro&Uche, 2013; Eigbiremolen&Igberaese, 2013; Etuk, Etuk, &Baghebo, 2014), little attention has been given to the impact of the operations of confectioneries enterprises on the environment including the health of the people engaged in such activities and those living around places where such activities are carried out. The augment in number of confectionery enterprises leads to the extent to which such enterprises take into cognisance the environmental impacts of their activities. Also it is not clear if confectionery enterprises are aware of the pollutions they are releasing into the environment. The Bakeries operations are among those businesses that have undesirable environmental influences. Such impact may include pollutions and deforestation which leads to degradation especially due to the source of raw materials (fire wood) and their location very close to residential buildings respectively. Members of the public are complaining of pollutions, and they are not aware of where to forward the environmental problems due to inadequate environmental policies and laws guiding the activities of Bakeries in the State. Therefore, the objective of this study is to examine the impact of the operations of small and medium scale confectionery enterprise on environmental quality in Adamawa state with specific reference to bakeries. However, the precise objectives are to:

- I. analyse various ways by which confectionery enterprises degrade environment;

- ii. assess the response of confectionery operators towards environmental protection and health regulations;
- iii. examine the growing awareness of confectionery enterprises about environmental laws and policies; and
- iv. Assess the impact of confectionery enterprises on environmental pollution.

Literature Review and Theoretical Framework

Concept of SMEs

SMEs have no usually accepted definition since the grouping of businesses into large-scale or small-scale can be prejudiced and qualitative in nature. For instance, in countries like USA, Britain, and Canada, small-scale business is defined in relation to annual turnover and the number of paid workforces (Ekpenyong & Nyong, 1992). In Japan, it is based on the category of business, paid-up capital and number of paid workers (World Bank, 1995). In Nigeria, there is no definite meaning that differentiates small scale enterprise from medium-scale enterprise. According to Zaradeen, (2001) SMEs is a business defined in relation to owners' resources, retained earnings, trade credit and short-term bank loans, devoid of access to capital market or long-term loans, with fifty (50) paid workforce or less capital outlays of five million (N 5m). In addition, Itodo (2006) identified SMEs based on their financial power, workforces and operational competences. However, table 1 below provides definitions of micro, Small and Medium Scale Enterprises by Nigerian government and some private agencies.

Figure 1: Micro, Small and Medium Scale Enterprises Definitions

	Assets Excluding Real Estate (₦ million)			Annual Turnover (₦ million)			Number of Employees		
	Med	Small	Micro	Med	Small	Micro	Med	Small	Micro
CBN	<150	<1		<150	<1		<100	<50	
NERFUND		<10							
NASSI		<40	<1		<40			3-35	
Min. of Business	<200	<50					<300	<100	<10
NASME	<150	<50	<1	<500	<100	<10	<100	<50	<10
Arthur Andersen				<500	<50				

Source: World Bank, 2002

Notes: **CBN:** Central Bank of Nigeria; **SMIEIS:** Small and Medium Businesses Equity Investment Scheme; **NERFUND:** National Economic Recovery Fund; **NASSI:** National Association of Small-scale Businesses; **NASME:** National Association of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises.

Therefore, based on the above descriptions, it is logical to state that micro, small and medium business is a business that is originally possessed and managed, with small number of workforces, less paid-up capital and comparatively low sales volume. However, despite the disparity in the comparative classifications of micro, small and medium scale enterprises, the enterprises has some mutual characteristics: First, they need small capital base in general, in spite of the business and the country of based; secondly, the ownership and management are held by individual or family and thus decision making are frequently subjective; thirdly, the rate of business mortality is high, probably due to reason of low capital, scarce market information, absence of relationship between business life and promoter and low level of operation; and finally, in practice, the management or proprietor hardly differentiates his private fund from the company's funds and this mainly contributes to the incompetence and non-performance of many enterprises.

Concept of Environment

The concept of environment was perceived by Robbin and Coulter, (2000) as an institutions or forces that are outside the organisation and possibly affect the organisation performance. Small and Medium Scale Enterprises can be seen as a system. This is because it is consist of symbiotic influences including individuals, groups, attitudes, motives, formal structures, interactions, goals, status authority (Kenyon, 1993 cited in Itodo, 2009). In view of this, the SMEs' is an open social system that made up of internal and external environments. These reveal that in a classified system; the manager is truly accountable for coordinating the structure in imperative to realise the organisational goals.

From the above definitions therefore, it is logical to view environment as internal and external forces or situations surrounding an organization which control the survival of business organizations and the nation at a particular time.

Environmental Degradation

Environmental degradation can be a deterioration of the atmosphere through depletion of resources. Johnson, *et al*, (1997) view it as any disturbance to the environment perceived to be harmful or undesirable. When the environment becomes injured, environmental degradation can be believed to happen. Environmental degradation occurs once habitats are devastated and natural resources are worn-out, the environment is upset (Etuonovbe, 2009).

Environmental Pollution

This transpires whenever possibly harmful substances are released into the atmosphere. Pollution can be caused principally by human activities; nevertheless it can also be a natural process. It is typically categorized according to the receiving agents of air as emission, water as effluent and land as dumps and disposal (Ukpong, 1994). Pollution can be categorized into three major categories namely: air pollution, water pollution and noise pollution.

Environmental Protection

Environmental protection can be a practice of defending the environment, on individual, organizational or governmental level, for the benefit of the natural environment and (or) humans. Official Statistics of Finland (OSF), (2011) viewed it as the measures taken by an enterprise whose primary aim is to collect, process, reduce prevent eliminate the emissions, waste or other environmental hazards.

Therefore, from several definitions given above, it is logical to conclude that environmental protection is an action designed to look after the environment

and defending it from damage caused by human or industrial activities. Protecting environment will help to reduce environmental damage which can be a sensible approach to business that can have more profits (Rogers, 2009)

Theoretical Framework

It might be assumed from Middleton, (1995) suggestion which predominantly refers to uniting, that there could only be theoretical explanation for the removal of resources from environment in the proportional benefit of the removed resources and in the ability to ensure that the environment is generally not damaged. This implies that the benefit from mining, for instance, must be worth the impact of mining on the environment and damages done to the environment if the environment could be restored.

In relation to corporation activities, social contract theory and quality of life theory explained the relationships (Ramanathan, 1976). Social contract theories viewed the business as an integral part of the society that the society supports and is expected to follow the law of that society (Van der Laan, 2009). In view of this, it is expected that they contribute to the society proportionately enough to what the society has given to them. Quality of life theory is about the expectation of society. 'Unrestrained economic development...evident from environmental pollution and social ills triggered society's negative attitude towards industrialisation'. Industrialisation tends to be associated with environmental pollution and social ills and therefore seen to reduce quality of life and increase social costs. The extent to which an organisation balances back the quality of life of people in the environment where it operates is a good yard stick for measurement here.

Research Methodology

In this survey, the population of the study are sixty (60) bakeries listed with National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) in Mubi and Yola Metropolis Adamawa State, and the members of public. The

sample size is thus, given below using Yamani formula for determining sample size:

Table 2: One-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test of the activities of confectionery enterprises on environmental degradation in Adamawa State

N			146
Normal parameters	a, b	Means	2.25
		Std. Deviation	.885
Most extreme		Absolute	.348
Differences		Positive	.216
		Negative	-.348
Kolmogorov-Smirnov Z			4.210
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)			.000

a. Test distribution is normal

b. Calculated from data

Using a significance level of α at 0.05 the null supposition was rejected thereby accepting the alternative hypothesis that says the activities of confectionery enterprises has significant effect on environmental degradation. This implies that activities of confectionery seriously degrade environment in Adamawa State via source of raw materials like fire wood where people are cutting of trees unnecessary and pollutions.

Table 3: Test of the confectionery operators' response toward environmental protection in Adamawa State

N			50
Normal parameters	a, b	Means	1.50
		Std. Deviation	.763
Most extreme		Absolute	.404
Differences		Positive	.404
		Negative	-.256
Kolmogorov-Smirnov Z			2.856
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)			.000

a. Test distribution is normal

b. Calculated from data

With a significance level of α at 0.05, the null hypothesis was cast-off. Thus, accepting the alternative hypotheses that state; the response of confectionery operators toward environmental protection is significance. Hence, the confectionery operators have optimistic response toward Environmental protection. In order words, it reveals that the operators highly consider environmental protection as meaningfully activities.

Table 3: Test of the awareness about environmental laws and policies in Adamawa State

N			50
Normal parameters	a, b	Means	2.78
		Std. Deviation	.5507
Most extreme		Absolute	.488
Differences		Positive	.332
		Negative	-.488
Kolmogorov-Smirnov Z			3.450
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)			.000

a. Test distribution is normal

b. Calculated from data

Using a significance level of α at 0.05, the null hypothesis was rejected. Consequently, accept the alternative one, which means that the growing awareness of confectionery enterprises about the environmental laws and policies is significance. In order words the level of awareness of confectionery operators about environmental laws and policies is adequate.

Table 4: Test of the effects of confectionery enterprises on environmental pollutions in Adamawa State

N			146
Normal parameters	a, b	Means	2.58
		Std. Deviation	.1618
Most extreme		Absolute	.233
Differences		Positive	.233
		Negative	-.164
Kolmogorov-Smirnov Z			2.818
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)			.000

a. Test distribution is normal

b. Calculated from data

With a significance level of α at 0.05, we discard the null hypothesis hence, accept the alternate hypotheses that state, Confectionery enterprises have significance effects on environmental pollutions. This implies that the confectionery enterprises in Adamawa State have contributed immensely to environmental pollutions (i.e. noise, smoke, water and land) which also result into degradation.

According to respondent all these regulations are applicable to any businesses in Nigeria and they federal laws, polices or regulators even though there State laws and polices but in the case of Adamawa State there are not; these regulations are not also localized. Based on the analysis, the

bakery operators are not aware of such regulators due to inadequate awareness and publicity on the environmental issues in the State. An effort has not been made enlighten the operators about the laws and policies. These agencies are only in theory, not practical in nature.

Summary of the Findings

The following are the major results of this study: Based on the analysis, the bakery operators are not aware of such regulators (Environmental Regulatory Agencies) due to inadequate awareness and publicity on the environmental issues in the State. An effort has not been made to enlighten the operators about the laws and policies. These agencies are only in theory, not practical in nature. Further investigation revealed that those who claimed to be aware of the laws and policies were not really aware of such policies since they fail to explain some of the provision of the law. Also the environmental sanitation is not regarded as a policy that ensure effective environmental product in the bakery business in Adamawa State. It was also revealed that, the operators are more concerned with profit maximization than environmental protection; indifferent attitude towards environmental protection affects the health of workers in bakery businesses and the operators of the businesses do not carry out environmental impact analysis of the activities of their business.

The above results are in agreement with the enforcement findings of the federal environmental protection agency. The findings of their compliance monitoring in Nigeria's businesses in 1995 show that out of about 1000 inspections carried out, only 18% compliance has been achieved (Odubela&Omoniyi, 1995). The 18% compliance recorded was mainly in large scale businesses. Oladije (1988) advocate the view that low level of compliance is related to lack of awareness when he asserts that 'the work of making awareness for environmental protection and sustenance has continued to be ad hoc and certainly boring. Compliance can only be

guaranteed when sufficient efforts are made to publicize and convince people who understand the significance of compliance. People in Adamawa State engage in different economic activities in order to increase their quality of life. As they seek to improve the quality of their lives, there is also a need to protect the environmental system which is also the foundation of the well beings. Bakery businesses covers wide ranges of business operations, which some of them have pessimistic environment impacts. These impacts include industrial pollutions. Increase in the number of businesses might lead to strengthen industrial pollution particularly if environmental laws and policies are not adhering to.

An additional major concern is the location of businesses that have pessimistic environmental impacts very close to residential building, food markets and major roads. This added significantly to air, water, land and noise pollutions which causes very serious health problems. It should be noted that many of the harmful effects of SMEs can be mitigated or reduced without threatening the viability and growth of the business (Environmental Literacy council, 2005) cited in Okwuise, (2008). The wastes encountered in the bakery businesses include ashes, charcoal, and liquid. The combustion of such wastes contributes environmental degradation. Pollutions resulting from these wastes are dangerous to human health. The argument of the research is that effective resource management is very important not only to political and economic activities but also to environmental stability. It is also reiterated that a major solution to environmental crises is to promote environmental awareness strategies.

Conclusion

It is becoming obvious to government and policy makers that the role of SMEs is very imperative to the economic growth of Nigeria. SMEs play a wonderful role in their day-to-day operations. They provide employment opportunities, generate revenue for the government, alleviate poverty, ensure efficient utilization of local resources, deployment of local saving and asset, and many more.

Irrespective of all the contributions of SMEs in the environment, the environment suffers from their activities on a daily basis. Though the businesses considered in this study do have both optimistic and pessimistic impacts on the environment. The optimistic impacts are more in the nature of social services to their host communities and job opportunities for the country. However, of greater importance to this study are the pessimistic impacts of the selected businesses on environment. Pollution of environmental elements resulting from uncontrolled operations of the bakery businesses has obstructed destructively to environment of Adamawa State that also results into environmental degradation.

Regardless of the vital role played by SMEs in economic growth and development, efforts should be made to guarantee that their activities do not risk on environment. This can be ensured if suitable actions are taken to guarantee strict conformity with environmental laws and policies. Environmental impact assessment should be made obligatory for SMEs whose activities have pessimistic environmental impacts.

Recommendations

The study recommends the followings in order to safeguard the environment from the opposing effects of bakery businesses:

- i. Environmental impact assessment should be made compulsory for businesses whose activities have negative environmental impact.
- ii. Training programs on environmental management should be organized for operators and owners of bakery business in the state for example seminar on environment management.
- iii. Micro finance institutions should encourage environmental protection by requesting their clients who want financial assistance to describe the general environmental effects of the businesses and strategies to minimize such effects.
- iv. Educating the public on the importance of environmental protecti

should be the core value of the government at various levelsthrough mas and print media, churches, mosques, and community-based organizations.

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