

## **Human Migratory Pattern: An Appraisal of Akpabuyo, Cross River State, Nigeria.**

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**ABSTRACT:** This study assessed migration in Akpabuyo Local Government Area (LGA) of Cross River State, Nigeria. The source regions of migrants in the area were identified; the factors that influence their movements, as well as the remittances of migrants to their source regions were ascertained. A total of 384 copies of questionnaires were systematically administered with a frequency of 230 and 153 samples for migrants and non-migrants respectively. Amongst other findings from the analyses, it was established that Akpabuyo is home to migrants from other LGAs and States, especially BakassiLGA and EbonyiState. There were also migrants from other countries such as Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea. The Pearson's correlation analysis depicted significant relationship ( $P = 0.012$ ) between distance to Akpabuyo and the number of migrants that come into the area, implying that distance significantly influences migration to Akpabuyo. Furthermore, the Correspondence Analysis (CA) showed a weak association between the pull and push factors in the area, buttressed by the chi-square test which showed insignificant statistical similarity ( $p = 0.118$ ). It was also established that migrants remitted 74% of their income to their source regions. The study thus recommended proper documentation of the flow of migrants from various source regions as well as their activities to enable proper planning, policy and decision making. Also, the study of migratory movements should not be tilted toward rural to urban migration as is mostly the case. More studies should consider otherwise and mapping migratory movements should be encouraged for more efficient decision making process.

**Keywords:** Migration, movement, push and pull, remittance, Akpabuyo.

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### **I. BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY**

Migration is a human activity that has been practiced from time immemorial. It is an instinctive and deliberate activity that man had to perpetuate for his survival and wellbeing. The act of migration is still practiced today and is evident all over the world as no people are exempted from the practice. People migrate for different reasons, some merely for vacation and recreation and most to work and earn a living. There are other groups that move to other places for academic, medical and other reasons. The term migration in itself involves movement of people for different reasons across different places (Osondu, Ibezim, Obike and Ijiomah, 2014). It is generally, a process in which an individual or a group shift their residence temporarily, semi-permanently or permanently from one location to another. It involves the crossing of national boundaries, in the case of international migration and the crossing of administrative boundaries within a country, in the case of internal migration (Eboh, 2002). Internal migration can be classified by the major streams (rural to rural, rural to urban, urban to rural and urban to urban); by distance covered (short, medium and long distance) or by administrative boundaries (intra and inter provincial, state or district movement). Also, migration can be classified by duration of stay at destination into short-term, medium-term and permanent or long-term residence, sometimes based on intentions regarding duration of stay at the destination (Ogbuanya, 2000).

There is usually a much greater degree of migration within developing countries than there is in developed climes (Waugh, 1995). Typical illustrations of this are the rural-urban and rural-rural movements, the latter being the most evident. This human behavior has remained a major driver of population change in most societies of the world. Whether at the international or local, developed or developing levels, it appears to be a deliberate decision or attempt by the migrant to reap social or economic benefits associated with changing locations. In Africa, migration is not a homogeneous phenomenon; the situation is dynamic, complex and its

general features are as yet gradually unfolding (Adepoju, 1987). The history of the continent is rich in accounts of various forms of movements across and within national boundaries promoted by trade, slavery, evangelism, pastoralism, natural disasters and warfare (Mabogunje, 1972; Addo, 1974). Such factors have influenced the composition, direction and characteristics of movements.

Population explosion is also an important factor that has a symbiotic relationship with migration as well as socio-economic development. In Nigeria, for example, like other developing countries, increase in population has been linked with migration. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, 2009) reported an alarming percentage increase of 103 percent in the number of in-migrants compared to just 57.3 percent increase in the country's population within the period of the same years. A central and tangible link between migration and well as socio-economic development is remittance. Evidence suggests that remittances, which is the money that migrants earn in destination areas and send back to their places of origin has gained in importance (International Fund for Agricultural Development, 2007). It is noteworthy that 5 of the top 10 remittance-receiving countries are developed countries, clearly illustrating significant participation of developed country migrants in labour mobility arrangements between countries (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, 2009). However, the impact of remittances to local development is complex, varied and has not been extensively studied. Remittances are more often used for consumption than investment. Migration serves first to assure survival. In the best of cases, it helps to improve daily life, but rarely does it concern itself with development. (International Fund for Agricultural Development, 2007).

The study of migration has in recent decades become more important due to its impact on demographic, social and economic status of many countries at national, regional and district levels. Unfortunately migration data, especially internal migration data, are more difficult to access because of the absence of internal regional boundaries in most countries. Even where such boundaries exist, little or no data are collected (Mkhwanazi, Dlamini, Mahinda, Gule, Tumkaya and Okorie, 1993). However, migration data are important because they provide information on the diverse origin of rural migrants, socio-economic attributes, adjustment processes, types of activities migrant engaged in and their spatial distribution which are needed for regional planning in the country (Adepoju, 1986). This is because plans and policies formed based on these information will always ensure that the potentials of the rural migrants are judiciously harnessed in order to achieve development.

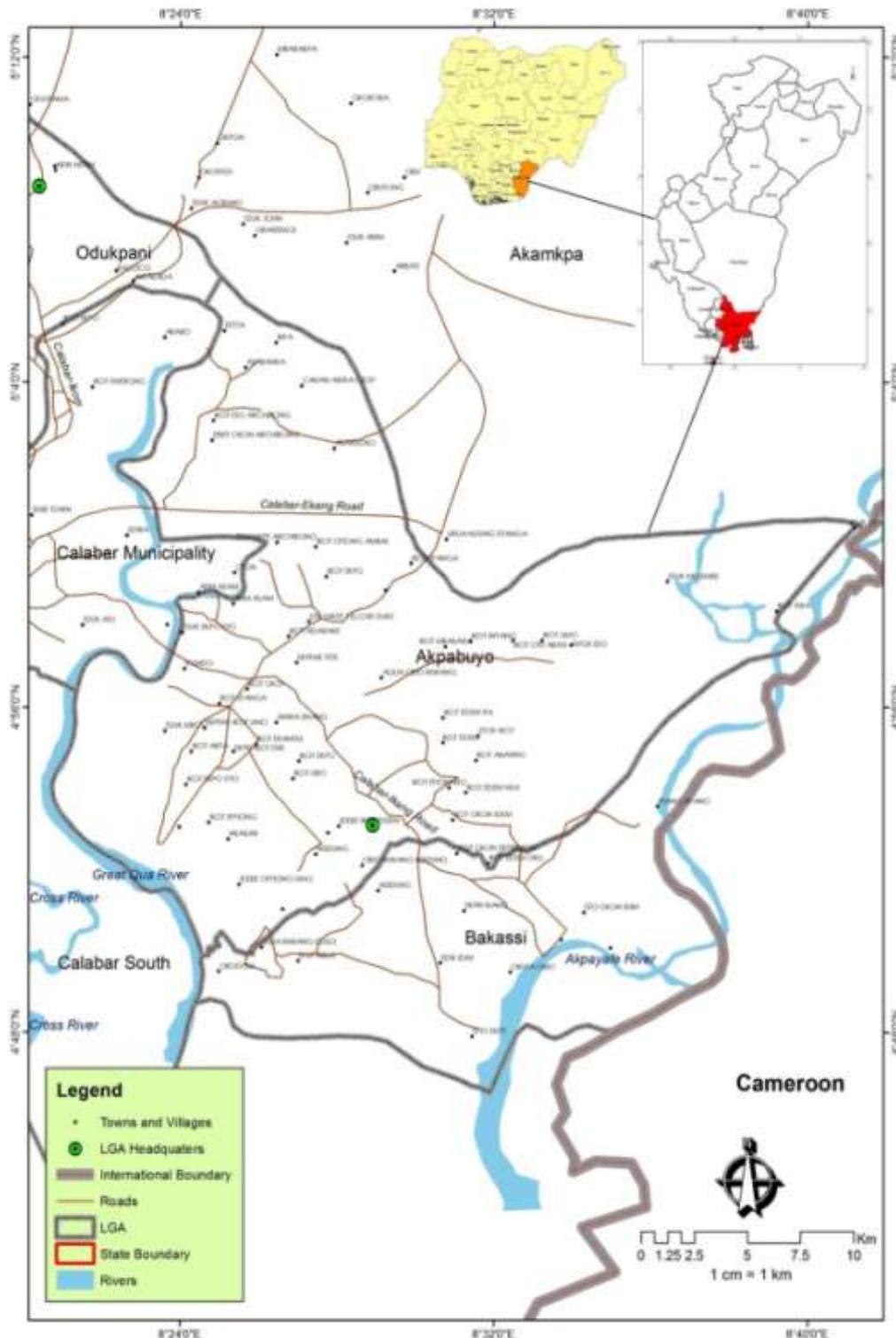
In view of the complexity of migration, there is necessity for in-country-specific studies. The immense paucity of data and information on internal migration especially with respect to source region or origin of migrants, remittance of migrant income to source origin and push and pull factors to and from host areas. Therefore, there is an urgent need for studies on the structure and characteristics of internal migration and contributions of migrants to source and host regions. This is because, till recently, the literature on internal migration in Africa gives the impression that migration is synonymous with rural-urban movements, a misconception that reflects the concerns of policy-makers who daily face and try to solve the problems exacerbated by migrants located in the major cities (Adepoju, 1987). This study thus addresses migration within the context of the broader spectrum. It represents a significant departure from existing studies which usually focus on migration in partial isolation, most of which concentrate on urban areas as the destination of migrants and not much attention is given to movements to rural or semi-urban areas, which also serve as origin and destination of migration in some cases (Adepoju, 1979). This becomes necessary because a vast portion of Akpabuyo Local Government Area (LGA) is rural like most of Cross River State and Nigeria. Thus, the basis of this study to assess migration in Akpabuyo with regards to the source region of migrants, remittance of migrant income to source origin and push and pull factors to and from host areas.

Also, forced migration has emerged as an important aspect of migration research in Nigeria. Akpabuyo is concerned in this regard as it shares boundary with the troubled Bakassi LGA, where a large number of persons were abruptly displaced due to national boundary issues. Notably, there is a dearth of data on this form of migration. The available data are often not current or accurate, due to the sudden and unplanned nature of forced migrations. Mapping the direction and flow of labour migrant into Akpabuyo hence becomes necessary as it would provide a picture of the share of the displaced persons that migrated from the Bakassi area.

Akpabuyo Local Government Area was created out of Odukpani Local Government Area in 1991 and became the 14<sup>th</sup> and 589<sup>th</sup> Local Government Area in Cross River State and Nigeria respectively. It is located in the Calabar Agricultural Zone with its headquarters at Ikot Nakanda. There are twenty-eight (28) villages in Akpabuyo and ten (10) council wards. The area is politically located at the southern senatorial district and lies spatially between latitude 4°51' North and 5°41' South and longitude 8°25' West and 8°32' East of the Equator. The area measures approximately 789.440 square kilometers and a total population of 96,724 in 1991 according to the National Population Commission (NPC) report and an increase to 271,325 in 2006.

The primary economic activities in the area are farming and fishing. Hence, it is known as the food basket of Cross River State (Itam, Ajah and Agbachom, 2014). The major agricultural products are cassava, cocoyam, kola nut, oil palm, maize, etc. Other economic activities are palm wine tapping, processing of wild

palm fruits, tailoring, welding, trading, processing of cassava into *gari* and *fufu* for sale. Natural resources also abound in Akpabuyo. The area is rich in mineral deposits such as petroleum, gold, limestone, sand, salt, etc, all of which are available in commercial quantities for prospective explorers (Itam, Ajah, Agbachom, 2014). The siting of the UNICEM cement industry in the vicinity of Akpabuyo is also a major boost to the economy of the area.



**Figure 1:** Akpabuyo LGA showing sampled Communities (Source: Office of the Surveyor General, CRS, 2016)

## **II. LITERATURE REVIEW**

Migration has been studied extensively by local and international scholars recently and in the past. These studies encompass migratory patterns, economic implications, push and pull factors, etc. A few of such studies are reviewed herewith. Akay, Giulietti, Robalino and Zimmermann (2012) studied the Rural Urban Migration in China (RUMiC) looking at remittance, using the Urban Household Survey (UHS), the Rural Household Survey (RHS), and the Migrant Household Survey (MHS). The data covered rural-to-urban migrants, randomly sampled from 15 of the major urban destinations in China comprising of 5000 migrant household, which provided an accurate representation of the migrant population, including temporary workers. Their findings were that migrants experienced welfare gains by sending remittances, and that the impact of remittances is significant only for those migrants who moved within the province and for those who would like to eventually return back home, aspects which capture both physical and psychological proximity to the family left behind.

In the same vein, Danmola and Wakili (2013) studied the impact of net remittance on economic growth in Nigeria, examining the resultant incomes that are being sent back home and the cost of transferring the remittances. The research employed the use of Seemingly Unrelated Regression (SUR) analysis and Error Correction Model, and it was deduced that there was a significant relationship between net remittance and economic growth. But the impact of Remittance, it was noted, can only be more meaningful and contribute to economic growth of Nigeria, only if financial institutions are well organized and be made more competitive to provide remittance services at reduced cost.

Further, Thet (2012) studied the Pull and Push Factors of Migration in Monywa capital city of North-West command in India, Myanmar and China trade route. The study adopted two-stage stratified cluster sampling method to collect the required information. Factor analysis was used to detect the important push and pull factors of migration, among 389 sample households. Result from the study showed that a better living condition is the first and most significant factor with maximum percentage of variance which motivates the people to migrate to Monywa Township. The second most-important factor was better public service, which was also a push factor because the reasons for migration are that the level of service in their previous location was poor. Subjects also were dissatisfied with public transportation of their previous location and a lack of safety in previous places. Third significant factor was better environment, which includes moving because of dislike of cultural/recreational facilities and the behavior of a neighbour.

Likewise, Aworemi, Abdul-Azeez and Opoola (2011), studied the factors influencing rural-urban migration in Lagos metropolis. Using 15 out of the 20 LGAs which make up Lagos metropolis, they were purposively categorized based on perceived migrant's population and six of these were randomly selected within their categories. Data were collected by the use of pre-tested interview guide to elicit information from the respondents in the study areas. Also, logistic regression model was adopted for the data analysis. Results revealed that unemployment, education, family reasons, inadequate social amenities in the rural communities, avoidance of boredom in agriculture and health reasons are the major factors influencing rural-urban migration in the study area. The study however recommended that to stem down the rate of the migration, functional amenities such as pipe borne water, electricity, recreational facilities should be provided in the rural areas. Good educational facilities and qualified teachers should be made available in the rural areas. Agro-allied industries must be set-up in the rural areas in order to provide job opportunity for the rural dwellers.

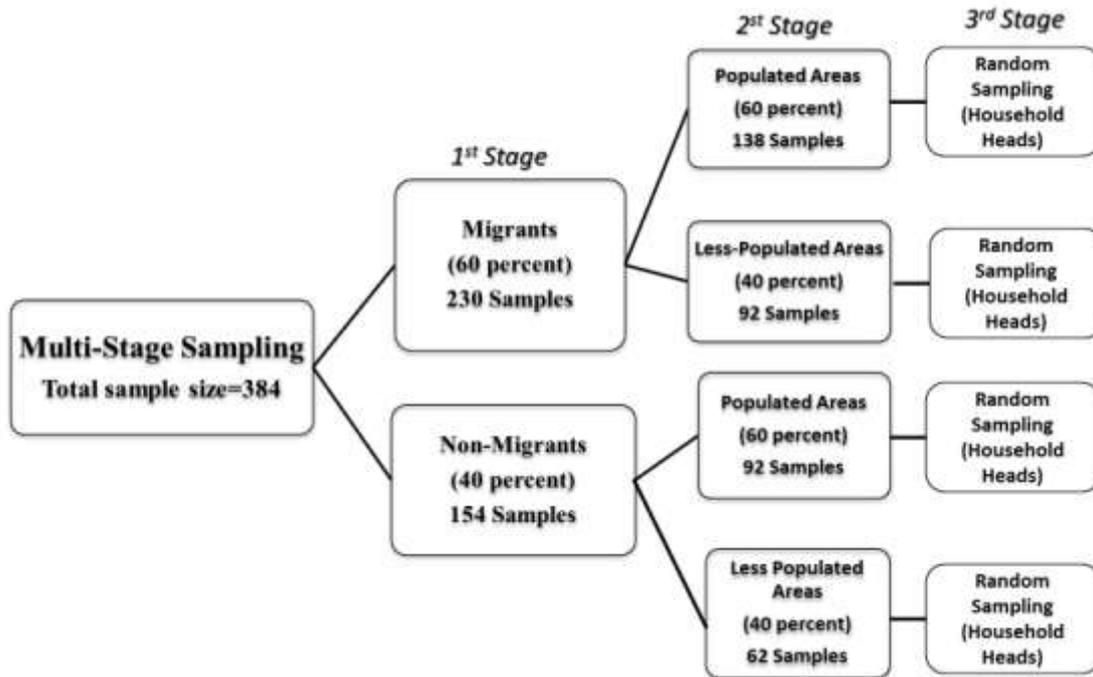
### **Mapping Migratory Movements**

Tobler (1984), embarked on the experiments in migration mapping by computer. He submitted that migration maps represent patterns of geographical movement by arrows or bands between places, using information arriving in "from-to" Tables. Maps that show patterns of geographical movement function as particularly effective illustrative and research tools, he further stated that the areas between which a migration, or other movement, occurs are connected by a "band" whose width represents the quantity moved. The author noted further that what is new today is that computers can aid in the construction such bands in a number of ways, but the final result is always the same, similar to highway traffic maps that show the actual movement along each link.

## **III. MATERIALS AND METHODS**

Primary and secondary data were adopted for this study. The primary data source was the questionnaire instrument. The copies of the questionnaires were administered to respondents in the study area during a field survey. Some of the primary data include the source region of respondents, average monthly income of migrants, economic activities indulged by migrants, etc. The secondary data sources include excerpts from journals, articles, theses, books, etc. Also are the 1991 and 2006 census data from the NPC. A 2015 United States Geological Surveys (USGS) Google Earth Landsat imagery was also relevant for delineating the area into

populated and less populated zones for proper sampling. Data of local governments, states and national boundaries were acquired from the Office of the Surveyor General, Cross River State, to further aid in mapping the source and stream as well as estimated distance travelled by migrants to the Akpabuyo. A total of 384 samples were drawn from the total sample population in line with Smith's (2000) procedure. Migrants and non-migrants were sampled alike. The multi-stage sampling technique was used as summarized in Figure 2. As shown, a total of 230 migrants were sampled and 153 non-migrants.



**Figure 2:** Sampling technique summarized (Source: Authors field work, 2016)

#### IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

##### 4.1 Socio-economic attributes of migrants and non-migrants in Akpabuyo

Revelations on the educational status of the migrants in the area shows that 8.7 percent have no formal education, 7.0 percent have primary education, 53.5 percent have secondary education and 30.9 percent have acquired tertiary education. Also, 5.2 percent of migrants are industrial workers, 32.6 percent are farmers, while civil servants constitute 16.5 percent. The migrants who are into business are 27.4 percent and 8.57 percent are involved in other activities. The number of hours that migrants spend working each week was also figured out. 25.2 percent of the migrants work less than 20 hours per week, while 27.8 percent spend between 20 to 40 hours and 35.2 percent spend 40 to 60 hours, whereas 10.9 percent of migrants sampled spend 60 to 80 hours and only 0.9 percent spend more than 81 hours per week working. The summary of the analysis reveals that 35.2 migrants of the sampled population are vibrant young personnel who are capable of working longer hours.

The result of investigation on the educational status of non-migrants revealed that 3.9 percent have primary education only and 56.9 percent, while 39.2 percent had tertiary education. Further analysis shows that the literacy level is not high among the sampled population. In addition, in-depth investigation was carried to know the nature of non-migrants employment in the area. A total of 9.2 percent work in industries, 18.3 percent are civil servants while 30.7 percent are into business. 7.2 percent are entrepreneurs and 28.1 are involved in farming activities. Also, analysis on the number of hours non-migrants spend working every week revealed that 16.3 percent spend less than 20 hours, 38.6 percent spend 20 to 40 hours and 26.8 percent spend between 40 to 60 percent working per week, still 60 to 80 hours is spent by 17.6 per cent, while only 0.7 respondent spent 81 hours and more per week.

##### 4.2 Source Region of Migrant Labourers to Akpabuyo LGA

The pattern of migration to Akpabuyo was also assessed. This was achieved by examining the various origins of migrants to the area. Table 1 shows the source regions and number of migrants from outside Cross River State to the Akpabuyo. Figure 3 is also a pictorial representation showing same locations. The field survey revealed that 2 people migrated from Adamawa, Enugu and Osun states. There were also migrants from Sokoto and Kano states. Bayelsa, Anambra, Kaduna, Imo, Benue, Rivers and Abia were not left out of the visitors to Akpabuyo. Akwa Ibom recorded as much as 20 migrants while Ebonyi state had 22, the highest number of

migrants to the area. There were also persons from other countries, such as Cameroon, a neighbouring country which had 7 migrants and Equatorial Guinea, an Atlantic Ocean Island country south of Akpabuyo, which had 1 person in the area. The number of migrants from neighbouring Cameroon shows that there is some level of economic and social interaction between Cross River State and Cameroon.

Further, Table 2 and Figure 4 show the source regions and number of migrants to Akpabuyo from other LGAs within Cross River State. The output from the field survey shows that Abi and Bekwara had the least number of migrants to the area with 1 visitor each. Calabar Municipality provided 18 visitors, 19 from Odukpani, 22 from Calabar South and 24 migrants from Bakassi LGA, recording the most number of visitors to the area. None of the sampled respondent was from Obanliku, Obubra and Obudu LGAs.

**Table 1:** Source region of migrants to Akpabuyo LGA from outside Cross Rivers State

Migrant Source Region	WARDS										Total
	Atimbo East	Ikot EdemOd	Atimbo West	Ikang North	Ikot Nakand	Ikang South	Ikang Central	Idundu	Eneyo	Ikot Eney	
Adamawa		1							1		2
Enugu				1		1					2
Osun				1		1					2
Sokoto				1		1	1				3
Kano			1	1		2					4
Bayelsa	2						1	1			4
Anambra		1			2	1		2			6
Kaduna			1		2	2					5
Imo			1	2		2					5
Benue	1				4	2					7
Rivers			1	1	2	2	1				7
Cameroon	1			1		2	2	1			7
Abia	2		2	2	2	2	1				11
Akwa-Ibonyi	2	2	2	1	3	2	2	2	1	3	20
Equatorial Guinea	1	3	2	2	5	2		2	2	3	22
TOTAL	9	7	8	11	18	23	4	4	3	6	93

Source: Authors field work, 2016

**Table 2:** Source region of migrants to Akpabuyo LGA from within Cross Rivers State.

Migrant Source Region	WARDS										Total
	Atimbo East	Ikot EdemOd	Atimbo West	Ikang North	Ikot Nakand	Ikang South	Ikang Central	Idundu	Eneyo	Ikot Eney	
Abi					1						1
Yakurr			2								2
Bekwara						1					1
Biase		1		1		1					3
Etung					1	2					3
Boki					1		3			1	5
Ogoja				2	1	1			1		5
Akamkpa		1	2	2		1					6
Ikrom		2		2		2					6
Yala					1	2	1	3			7
Calabar	2		3	2	2	1	4	1	1	2	18
Odukpani	2	2		2	4	2	2		3	2	19
Calabar	2		2	1	3	2	9	3			22
Bakassi	2	2	2	2		5	7	4			24
Total	8	8	11	14	12	19	26	12	8	9	127

Source: Authors field work, 2016

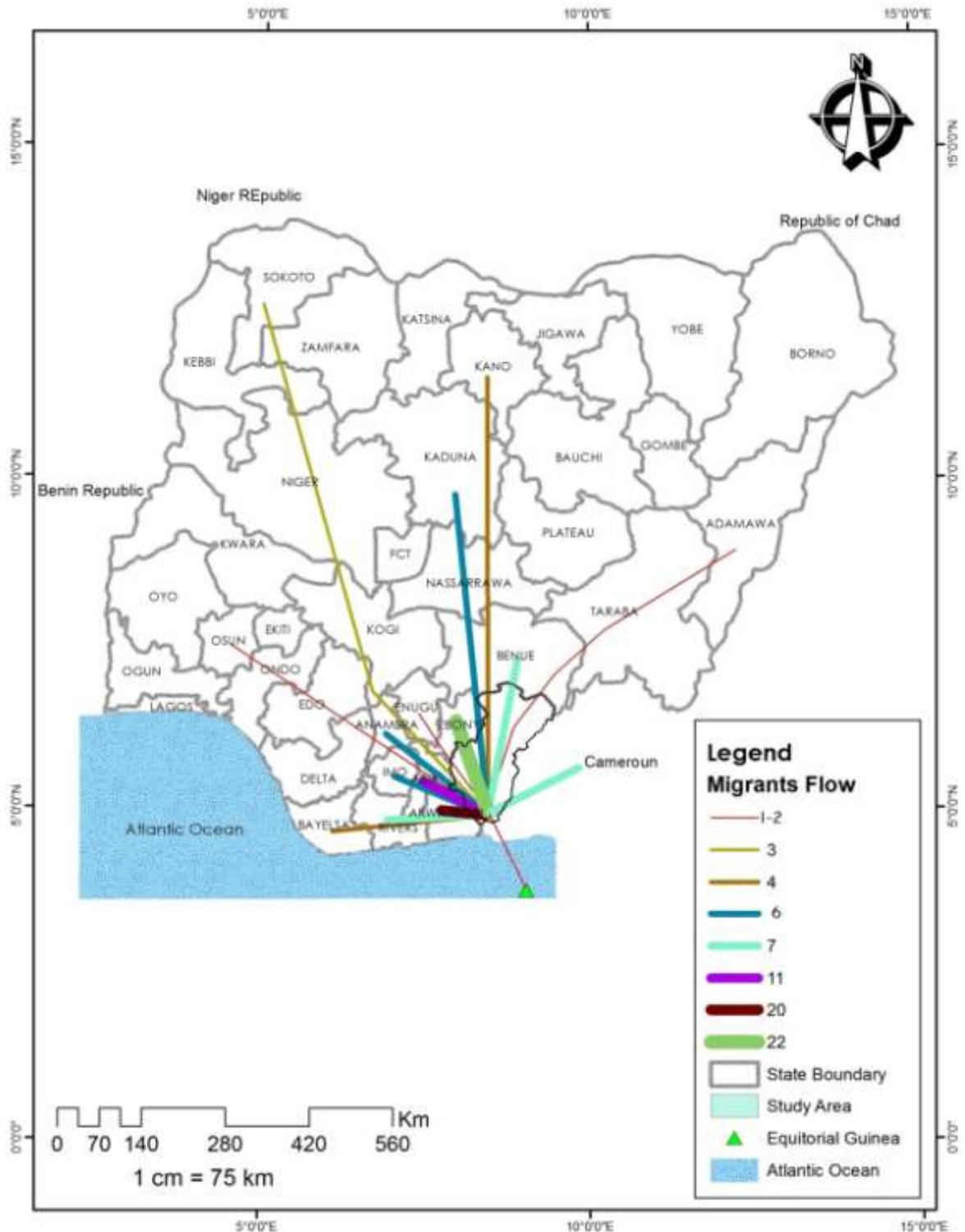
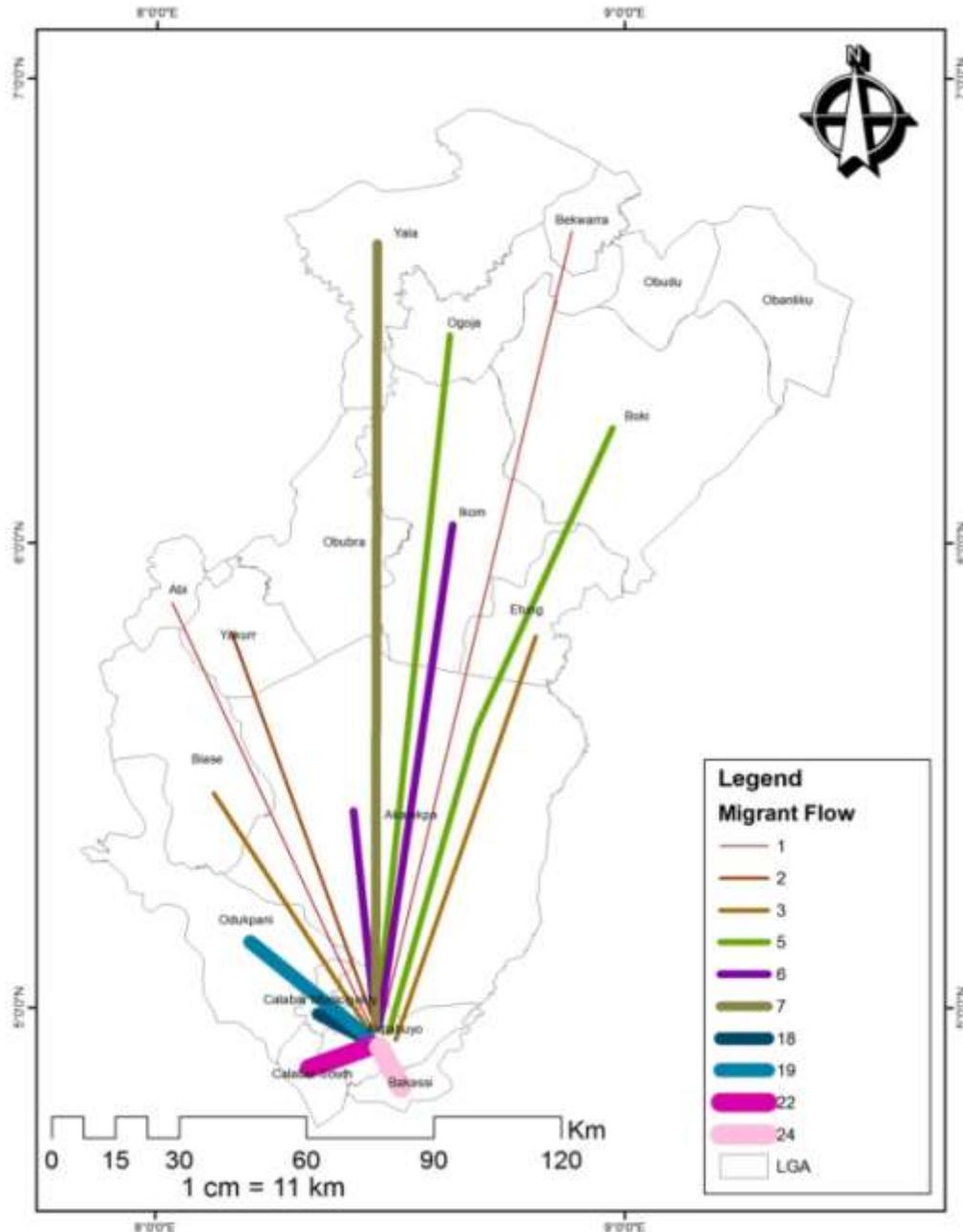


Figure 3: Source Region of Migrants to Akpabuyo LGA from outside Cross Rivers State  
Source: Authors field work, 2016



**Figure 4:** Source Region of Migrants to Akpabuyo LGA from within Cross Rivers State  
Source: Authors field work, 2016

Further, the association between distances of migrant's source regions and Akpabuyo was assessed. A hypothesis was stated that distance does not significantly influence migration to Akpabuyo LGA. It aimed to find out if distance is a determining factor in the movement of migrant labourers to the area. The underlining question here is; as distance increases, does number of migrants increase or reduce? The field survey showed that migrants travel to Akpabuyo LGA from virtually all parts of the country and from other countries as well, being a border community. Table 3 shows the number and distance covered by migrants from other states in Nigeria as well as Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea while Table 4 depicts migrants from other local government areas within Cross River state. The data of the distance to Akpabuyo which was measured 'as-crow-flies' and the number of migrants derived from the field survey were used to infer if distance significantly influences migration to Akpabuyo.

The result of the Pearson Product-Moment Correlation coefficient analysis as depicted in Table 5. The output of the analysis shows there was significant relationship ( $p = 0.012 < 0.05$ ) between distance to Akpabuyo and number of migrants that come into the area. A p-value less than the alpha level as derived in this analysis implies that the variables are dependent, thus significant statistical relationship exists. This means distance

significantly influences migration to Akpabuyo LGA and thus, the alternate of the stated hypothesis is accepted. This is buttressed by the fact that areas farther away from Akpabuyo have less flow of migrants to the study Area.

<b>Table 3:</b> Average migrant travel distance to Akpabuyo from outside Cross Rivers State			<b>Table 4:</b> Average migrant travel distance to Akpabuyo from within Cross Rivers State		
Migrant Source Region	Distance to Akpabuyo (Km)	Number of Migrants	Migrant Source	Distance to Akpabuyo	Number of Migrants
Adamawa	629	1	Abi	113	2
Enugu	201	1	Bekwarra	196	2
Osun	514	1	Yakurr	101	3
Sokoto	953	2	Yala	186	6
Kano	730	3	Biase	69	3
Bayelsa	262	3	Etung	101	2
Anambra	212	4	Boki	154	5
Kaduna	534	4	Ogoja	166	4
Imo	165	5	Akamkpa	50	6
Benue	258	5	Ikom	120	6
Rivers	164	6	Calabar Mun.	13	18
Abia	117	10	Odukpani	36	19
Akwa-Ibom	74	19	Calabar	16	24
Ebonyi	160	22	Bakassi	11	27
Cameroon	165	6			
Equatorial	138	1			

Source: Authors field work, 2016

**Table 5:** Correlation result for association between distance and number of migrants to Akpabuyo

	Distance to Akpabuyo	Number of Migrants
Distance to Akpabuyo	Pearson Correlation	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	-.451*
	N	.012
Number of Migrants	Pearson Correlation	-.451*
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.012
	N	30

\*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Source: Authors field work, 2016

### 4.3 Pull and Push Factors of Labour Migrants into the Study Area

Analysis revealed the percentage of respondents that were attracted by specified pull factors to the study area. A total of 16.1 percent of respondents migrated to Akpabuyo to seek for job, while 13.9 percent went because for schooling. 26.1 percent of the migrants attested that they moved down to the study area because of marriage (family) and further 9.6 percent because of ownership of farm land. Also, 17percent migrated to the area because of farm work employment. Social amenities and trade attracted 16 percent in all. The frequencies for the pull factors are shown in Table 6. Further analysis showed that 32.2 percent of migrants left their previous locations because of lack of social welfare and 23 percent because of displacement due to crisis, while insecurity at home of origin and displacement due to natural disaster were reasons for 13.8 percent and 11.7 percent respectively.

Daily, as people migrate into Akpabuyo, people also emigrate. This informed the assessment of indigenes intention to migrate out of the area and their possible reasons for such movement. Analysis revealed in Table 6 that out of 153 respondents sampled, 15.0 percent have intentions to migrate to seek for jobs, while 15.0 percent because of educational pursuit and 23.5 percent will migrate because of family. Unavailability of farmland makes will force 7.8 percent to migrate, whereas farm work employment and social amenities outside Akpabuyo would distract 13.1 and 13.7 percent respondents respectively. More so, 7.8 percent attributes their reason to trade. For 17 percent of the indigenes, there are no thoughts of emigrating, explainable by the concept of topophilia. These groups have strong attachment to their ancestral homes and families while some others are tied to their jobs, which might not avail them the opportunity to think of migrating in the meantime.

The Correspondence Analysis (CA) was adopted to test if similarities exist in the push and pull factors to and from Akpabuyo LGA. A null hypothesis was stated that there is no significant similarity in the push and pull factors to and from Akpabuyo LGA. As shown in Table 6, the same variables were used for both the pull and pull factors so that they can correspond. However, the values of each of the variable differed according to

what was derived from the field survey. This analysis aimed to deduce if the forces that attracted people to Akpabuyo were similar to those that made people leave the area.

The output from the CA displayed in Table 7 shows the summary of the analysis. Figure 5 depicts the plot showing how both variables correspond. Firstly, the significance of dependency is assessed. The Chi-square analysis on the summary table shows that the  $p=0.118$  ( $>0.05$ ). Here the  $p$ -value is greater than the significant level alpha value, thus an indication that there is no significant statistical similarity in the push and pull factors to and from Akpabuyo. Also, the bi-plot (Figure 5) shows less proximity of the factors to each other, a scattered distribution of the points indicates that the pull and push factors are weakly associated. This means that the people are less likely to migrate into Akpabuyo for the same reasons indigenes would want to emigrate. Going by the foregoing, there is enough evidence to accept the stated null hypothesis.

**Table 6:** Variables used for CA

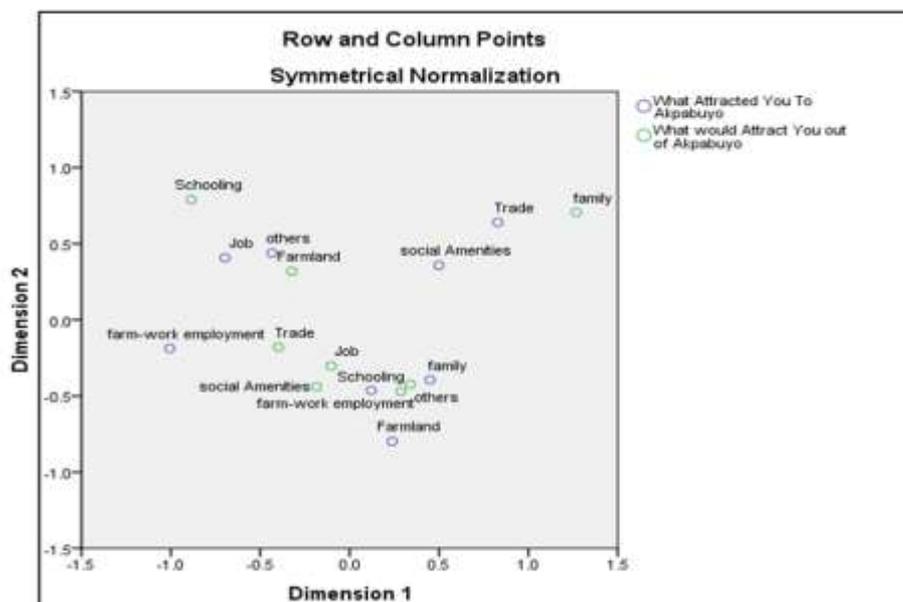
Pull Factors		Push Factors	
	Frequency		Frequency
Job	37	Job	23
Schooling	32	Schooling	23
Family	60	Family	36
Farmland	22	Farmland	12
Farm-work employment	39	farm-work employment	20
Social Amenities	30	Social Amenities	21
Trade	7	Trade	12
Others	3	Others	6
Total	230	Total	153

Source: Author's field work, 2016

**Table7:** Summary of correspondence analysis

Dimension	Singular Value	Inertia	Chi Square	Sig.	Proportion of Inertia Accounted for	Confidence Standard Deviation	Singular Value Correlation 2
1	.425	.181			.454	.063	.484
2	.329	.108			.272	.057	
3	.220	.048			.122		
4	.165	.027			.068		
5	.127	.016			.041		
6	.114	.013			.032		
7	.065	.004			.011		
Total		.398	60.928	.118	1.000	1.000	

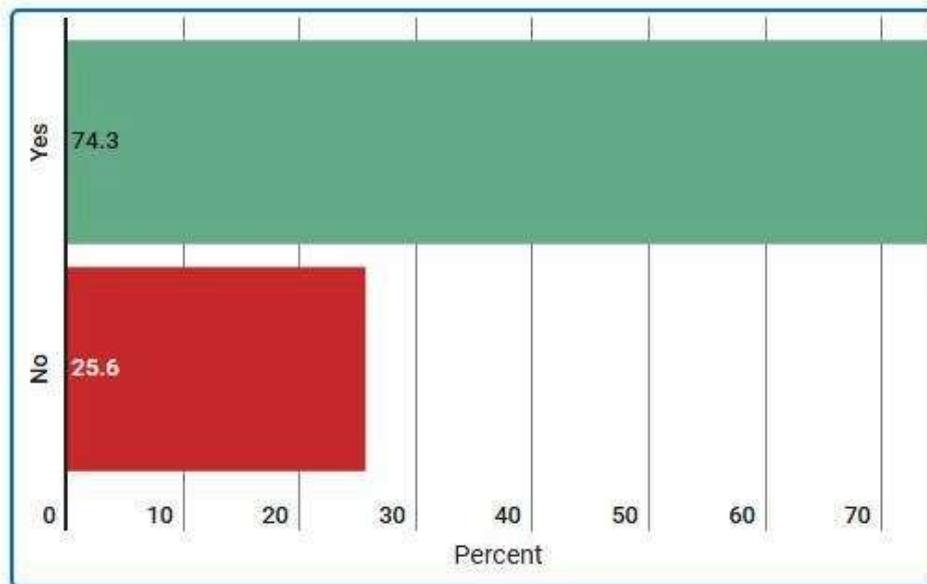
Source: Authors field work, 2016



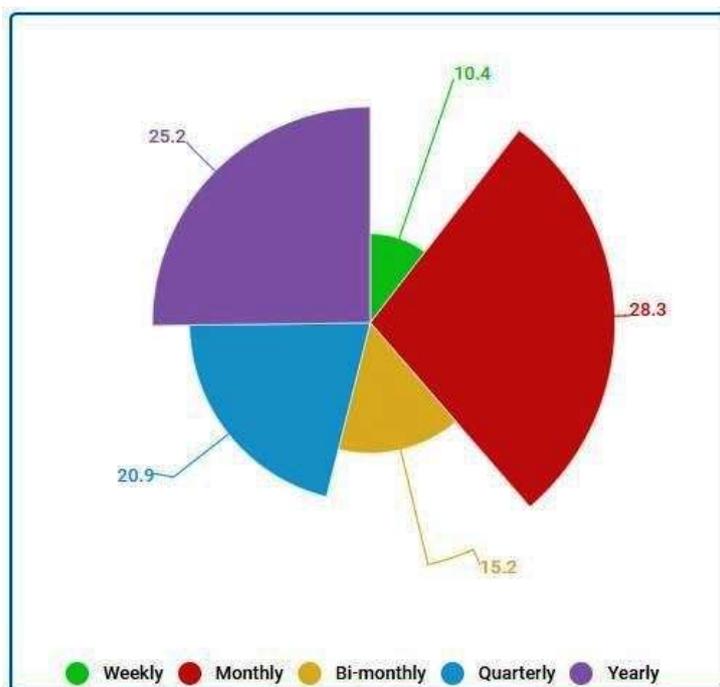
**Figure 5:** Correspondence analysis plot (Source: Authors field work, 2016)

#### 4.4 Migrants Income Remittance to Source Regions

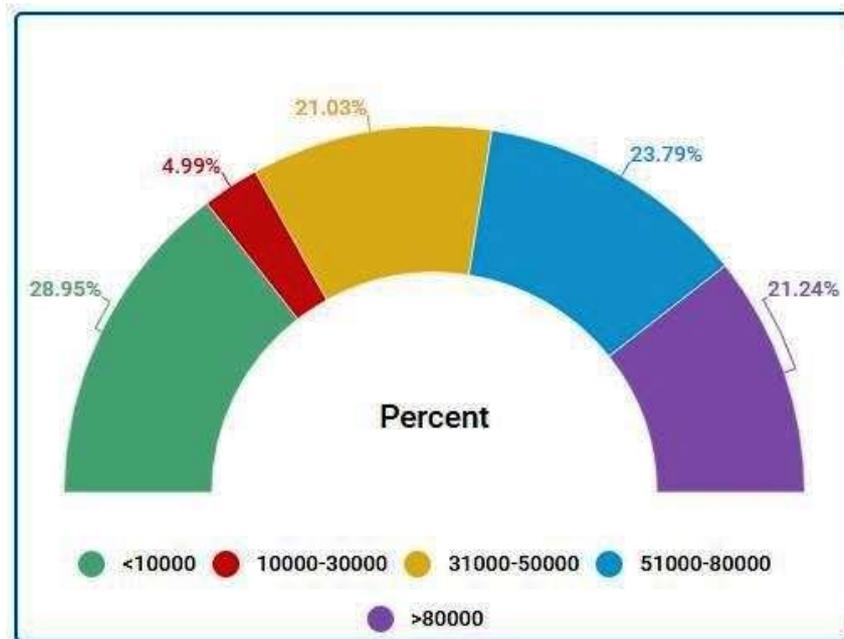
The study examined if migrants remit monetary income to their source region. Information derived shows that 171 respondents making up 74.3 percent usually send money to relatives and friends at their former locations, while 58 respondents representing 25.2 percent have not been sending money back home (Figure 6). This is likely due to the fact that, for some of them, their income might not be substantial for them to cater for themselves and for second and third parties or for the fact that they are at Akpabuyo with their family (dependents). Likewise, the researcher enquired the frequency at which remittances are made for those who agreed to have been sending money home. Figure 7 revealed that 10.4 percent send money weekly, 28.3 percent monthly, 15.2 percent bi-monthly, while 20.9 percent sent money on quarterly basis and finally 25.2 percent of the total sampled people sent money yearly. Also, as shown on Figure 8, 40.9 percent of respondents remit less than 10,000 Naira, 39.6 and 18.3 remit between 10,000 to 30,000 Naira and 30,000 to 50,000 respectively. Only a total of 3 percent remit more than 50,000 to their source regions.



**Figure 6:** Migrants who make remittance (Source: Authors field work, 2016)



**Figure 7:** Frequency of remittance (Source: Authors field work, 2016)



**Figure 8:** Average amount remitted (Source: Authors field work, 2016)

## V. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study revealed that Akpabuyo is home to migrants from near and far such as other LGAs in Cross River State, States in Nigeria as well as neighbouring countries such as Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea. Distance proved to significantly influence migration to Akpabuyo and people were less likely to migrate into Akpabuyo for the same reasons indigenes would want to emigrate. Remittance level was high with as much as 74 percent of migrants remitting money back to their source regions. This no doubt would have positive economic implications on the source regions. GIS analytical techniques also proved to be efficient for mapping migratory movements to Akpabuyo LGA, aiding to prove that distance significantly influences migration to the area.

It is thus recommended that the government and other relevant agencies must take up the responsibility of documenting the flow of migrants from various source regions as well as their activities to enable proper planning, policy and decision making. Also, in as much as migrants accrue income and remit some of same to their source regions, they are still key players in the socio-economic development of Akpabuyo LGA. The inflow of migrants to the area should be encouraged. The existing road network should be improved upon and natural water ways should be used for transportation. More so, the study of migratory movements should not be tilted toward rural to urban migration as is mostly the case. More studies should consider otherwise and mapping migratory movements should be encouraged for more efficient decision making process.

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