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Investigating Impact of Tertiary Institutions on the Host Communities: A case study of the Federal Polytechnic, Nasarawa

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Abstract

Tertiary Institutions do not exist in isolation but they are often sited within rural or urban communities. To some people, town-gown relationships are regarded as sources of annoyance, crime and difficulties while other perceived them as drivers of intellectual, artistic, cultural and economic benefits to both the Institutions and their host communities. The study examines the impact of the Federal Polytechnic, Nasarawa on its host community. Respondents were selected using a random sampling strategy among the students of the Department of Crime Management of the Institution. The study applied descriptive analysis, factor analysis and Pearson's correlation coefficient to analyze the data collected through the questionnaires. Results of the study show that the presence of the Institution has significant impact on the development of physical infrastructures and facilities, economic activities and social relations within the host community. However, the respondents noted that physical infrastructural development of the host community is generally low while the social relations and economic activities in the Nasarawa are perceived to be high. The study culminates by recommending to the Government, philanthropists and corporate organizations to address the issues of poor road networks, incessant electricity supply, fluctuating telecommunication networks, inadequate potable water supply, poor waste disposal facilities and uncomfortable transport services to promote eco-friendliness, high quality education and training, attract international students and boost local economy in the host community.

1. Introduction

Tertiary Institutions across the world are considered as producers of human capital, technology transfer centres and major contributors to the development of local communities. Through these citadels of learning, cutting edge research studies, economic, physical and social development are promoted while innovative projects or programmes are executed in the interest of the public (Idris et al., 2022). Tertiary Institutions are not living in isolation of the society. Their locations do affect the multidimensional aspects of the host communities and stimulate generation of new and productive ideas. Tertiary Institutions contribute to the rapid expansion of the society and in great value to the development of the host communities (Fatoki, 2017). The benefits of siting tertiary Institutions in any location also include creation of job and business opportunities for all categories of workers. Through proper engagement and interaction, they are expected to play a vital role to integrate various groups residing in the communities, promote social development and cohesion between them (Fatoki, 2017; Akpotor, 2018).

The quintuple helix model, which is an extension of triple helix model of innovation

has been used to discuss the importance of civil society, natural environment, government, academia and industry as pillars and focal points of initiatives, policies and practices within host communities of tertiary Institutions. It highlights the steps involved in the production and circulation of scientific knowledge and innovation to advance development strides in the societies. The model supports interactions among its components so that as investment flows into the education systems from governments, new knowledge are created and human capital are developed. Furthermore, the flow of new knowledge and human capital into the industry lead to value creation, production of new sustainable products and new jobs are created. The sustainable practices and corporate social responsibilities from the industry create environment where the humans live in balance with the nature and encourage transition from linear to circular economy. The new knowledge is disseminated through civil society to promote green lifestyles and environment in the society for sustainable development. The transmission of new knowledge into the society and circulate back into the education system is illustrated

in the quintuple helix model of innovation (Carayannis et al., 2010).

Generally, communities with tertiary Institutions are more developed than other communities without one. They are seen as places where economic, political, cultural and social activities thrive. Previous research studies on the impact of tertiary institutions on the host communities focused mostly on Universities in different countries of the world. For instance, Olaniyi et al. (2012) examined the impact of Tai Solarin University of Education (TASUED) on the land use changes in the host communities. The results of the study showed that the establishment of the Institution had improved the socio-economic, physical and ecological development of the host community in terms of spatio-temporal changes of the communities that has increased by at least 20%. In another related study, Lazzeroni and Piccaluga (2015) analysed three communities in Europe hosting Universities from the knowledge and economic, relational and cultural perspectives. The authors found that the Universities contributed to urban development in the host communities. It was proposed that the policies to improve living conditions, provide adequate building spaces

for the innovative companies, promote smart services and high tech facilities, local or global connection, support internationalization of students and staff, social space for active citizenship, generation of economic ideas and cultural development models should be formulated.

Furthermore, Kleinsmith and Horn (2015) found that improvement in the local economy, employment, human capital, social character and real-estate market are some of the positive impact of a new University on its host community in Kimberly, South Africa. The authors identified that there might be shortage of accommodation due to increase in demand by the students. Fatoki (2017) assess the social economic impact of Osun State University multi campuses on their host communities within the context of social and economic factors. It was discovered that the siting of the tertiary Institution led to improve standards of living for the people living within the host community, expansion of employment opportunities, harmonious co-existence among the indigenes and non-indigenes, and rapid growth in their population. Iguodala and Igbineweka (2018) conducted a study among six Universities in Nigeria to examine their capacity to perform

their corporate social responsibility. The result of the descriptive analysis showed that the performance of corporate social responsibility is low. It was suggested that Nigerian Universities should adjust their curricula, training, and research activities to respond to the needs of their host communities.

Egwu et al. (2019) assessed how Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, Nigeria is influencing mutual coexistence and development within the host community. It was found that the presence of the Institution has helped to build the capacities of the local residents, boost economic activities, enhance physical development and attract social and religious events in the host community. The study proposed that future studies should be extended to other host communities of the tertiary Institutions in the South East region in Nigeria. Asafo-Adjei & Buzzelli (2022) examine how the new dimension of experiential learning is impacting the relationship between the Universities and their communities. Experiential learning enables students on internship, work-integrated learning (co-op placements), and community-engaged learning to apply theoretical knowledge, develop transferable skills, improve their

career engagement and employability, and collaborate with communities meaningfully. The study found that a dynamic and reciprocal relationship is emerging that connects the University principally to its host community for knowledge transfer. The learners that undertook experiential learning are more workplace-ready than before they started the programme.

Recently, in Abdulmalik and Letswa (2022), the impact of Lapai community in Nigeria on the Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University was examined based on data collected using interview and questionnaire methods. The study discovered that the host community is friendly and positively support the University to achieve its research goals with little or no benefits received in return by the host community. Amoah and Anomah (2022) assessed the benefits of the University of Health and Allied Sciences, Ho, Ghana to its host community. The perception of the respondents is that the host community has benefitted from the operation and establishment of the University in terms of increased access to education, employment creation and improvement in the local economy. The community engagement plan, incentives structures and alignment of

the University programmes to the needs of the local economy are recommended to improve town-gown relationship. Idris et al. (2022) assessed the impact of six tertiary Institutions on their host communities in Niger State, Nigeria. The research shows that the Institutions have significantly improved the economic wellbeing of their host communities but have also led to housing scarcity, food shortage and high transit fares. Ariwodola et al. (2023) discussed the impact of intervention programme of the Redeemer's University of Nigeria and its role in the corporate social responsibility to the host communities and the university system's development. The study found that the programme enhanced the image of the university, encouraged communication and community development and provided jobs and scholarships to the residents of the host community.

From this analysis, there are little or no studies that have investigated how TVET Institutions affect their host communities particularly from the point of view of physical infrastructures and facilities, economic activities and social relations. Specifically, the study intends to examine the impact of the Federal Polytechnic,

Nasarawa on the development of physical infrastructures and facilities in the host community. The study will further identify the impact of the Institution on the economic or commercial activities within the host community. The study will also seek to determine the social relations among all the residents in the host community. It would show how the style of living, values, cultural values, diversity and social events of the host community have been transformed or reshaped by the Institution.

To conduct the study, the following research questions were proposed and analysed:

1. *Has the presence of the Institution affected the development of physical infrastructures and facilities in the host community?*
2. *Has the presence of the Institution enhanced the economic activities in the host community?*
3. *Has the presence of the Institution improved the social relations within the host community?*

The following null hypothesis was tested at 0.05 level of significance:

H_{01} : There is no significant relationship between the Institution and the development

of physical infrastructures and facilities in the host community?

Ho₂: There is no significant relationship between the Institution and economic activities in the host community?

Ho₃: There is no significant relationship between the Institution and social relations within the host community?

It is envisaged that the study will be useful to tertiary Institutions, regulatory agencies, urban planning authorities, government, and the general public to pay attention or improve town-gown relationship, encourage community engagement, and develop strategies to foster greater positive impact of the tertiary Institutions on their host communities.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1 Description of the Study Area

Nasarawa is one of the big towns located within Nasarawa State of Nigeria. It is the headquarters of Nasarawa Local Government Area. Nasarawa town is located within the guinea savannah vegetation belt of Nigeria surrounded by Kurape and Haderi Rivers. It shares boundary with Toto, Abuja FCT, Keffi, Doma and Loko, a port of Benue River. It is located on approximately latitude of 8.53° N and longitude of 7.71° E.

It is a multi-ethnic town where the residents are living in harmony and governed traditionally by the Nasarawa emirate council. The land area of Nasarawa local government area is about 5,704 km sq. The entire local government has an estimated population of less than five hundred thousand people. The main commercial activities in Nasarawa are farming, trading and mining of solid mineral resources. The study area covers Nasarawa town where the Federal Polytechnic, Nasarawa is located (Ujih et al., 2016).

The Federal Polytechnic, Nasarawa was established on 1st July, 1983 by the Federal Government of Nigeria. The key mandate of the Institution is to train students in the critical fields needed by the Nigerian economy. It started academic operations with two schools and seven departments in 1984. Presently, the Institution has grown to have more than seven Schools with over thirty academic departments. It offers several programmes in the traditional and emerging fields such as Management, Engineering, Environmental Design, Applied Sciences, Information and Communications Technology, Arts and Design, Communications, Social Sciences

and Agricultural Technology from its main and only campus (FPN, 2024).

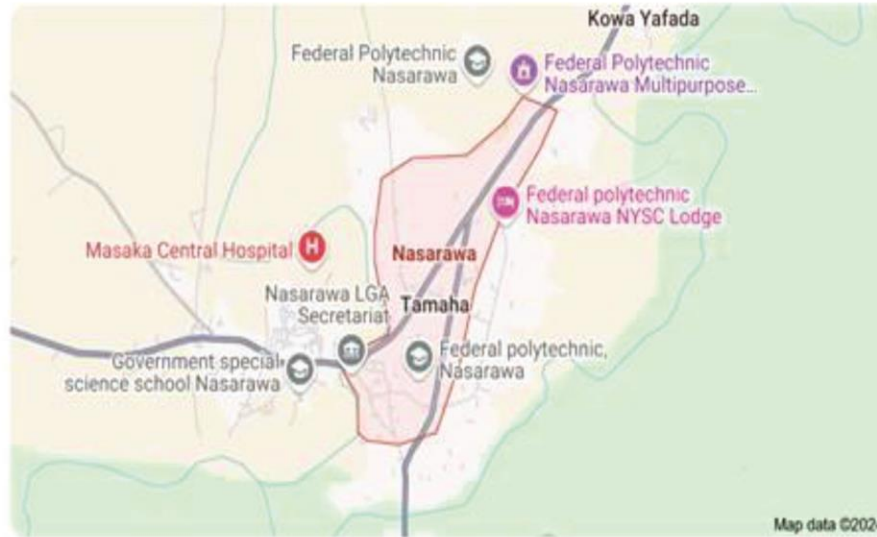


Figure 1 Map of Nasarawa Town (Source: Google Map)

2.2 Methodology

The survey research methodology was adopted to collect relevant data for the study. In order to make the study as cost effective as possible, non-probability sampling technique was used to select willing respondents among the students of the Department of Crime Management of the Federal Polytechnic, Nasarawa. A questionnaire titled “Tertiary Institutions Impact on the Host Communities Questionnaire (TIIHOCOQUE)” was used as the instrument for data collection. The first section was designed to collect the demographic information about the students.

The second part contained the constructs of the development of physical infrastructures and facilities. The respondents rated their view on each item on 5-point Likert scale. The third section of the questionnaire has the constructs of the economic activities. The respondents rated each item based on their perception. The last section of the questionnaire has constructs of the social relations that the respondents rated each item on the same scale.

The soft copies of the proposed instrument were sent to two experts to evaluate it in terms of the contents and relevance to what

it is expected to measure. Their inputs were included in the final draft that was administered to the respondents. The mean point of the 5-point scale is 3.0 and set as the benchmark to determine how the Institution is affecting the host community. Values “below” and “above” 3.0 would be regarded as “low” and “high” respectively. The data collected to answer the research questions were analysed using simple descriptive analysis while the research hypotheses were tested using Pearson product moment correlation test at 0.05 level of significance. A total of 400 questionnaires were distributed to the respondents but 365 questionnaires were returned and properly administered by the respondents. This is equivalent to 91% response rate. The mean, standard deviation, percentages and inferential statistics were used to analyse the data obtained from the respondents.

2.3 Physical infrastructures and facilities

Physical infrastructures are long term and capital-intensive assets with long life cycle that creates social benefits for the residents, citizens and even international visitors. They are required for all kinds of household, commercial and industrial activities.

Examples of physical infrastructures or infrastructure assets are transport, telecommunications, water, sanitation, energy and safe waste disposal facilities. They are considered as the foundation on which the economy of a nation is built. Thus, the development of the physical infrastructures and facilities is regarded as one of the most important aspect of socio-economic development and competitiveness of a thriving community (Baldwin & Dixon, 2008).

2.4 Economic activities

The basic economic activities of any economy involve production, consumption and capital formation. These three activities are interrelated and interdependent. Production is centered on making of goods and services to satisfy human wants. On the other hand, consumption is the use of goods and services produced by the manufacturers using the factors of production. The last aspect of the economic activities is capital formation or investment. It is the part of the production output that is not consumed but allocated to expand production and increase marketing activities. Any decrease in production of goods and services, decrease the quantity available for consumption and capital formation and vice versa.

The three major groups of economic activities are agriculture, industry and services. They differ in terms of utilization of raw materials or natural resources, the type of production process they apply, their final products they offer, scale of operations, and the share of the resources used or contribution to national income. Every economic activity requires material input even when their value is regarded as small compared to the entire process. Moreover, in all economic activities, processing of the input either in concrete or abstract form will take place with the help of machines and/or human beings. Delivery of the output and persons involved are part of the economic activities through any affordable and reliable means of transportation to the consumers or technological channels especially for digital services. Finally, information involves acquisition and utilization of knowledge, processing of data, financial and operational records, official and informal communications, compliance to regulations and decision making process (Kenessey, 1987).

2.4 Social Relations

Social relations develop through a process and activities in which the special needs of

man are satisfied. These needs include the need for belonging to something, the need for love, self-estimation and success. It is a reference to the ultimate end of fulfilling human needs. Social relations and interaction result from interaction between individuals and their social environment or organizations. This varies from one individual to another depending on the prevailing situations. Social relations are meant to transmit a specific idea or meaning through the process of communication. Social relations enable individuals to exchange benefits among each other and thus achieve a very satisfying level of psychological balance. Also, there may be some negative forms of social relations that tend to bring disputes among individuals or groups. This could degenerate into hostile feelings, enmity or disagreements. The strongest social relations exist within the family. The most popular level of social relation is individual-to-individual interactions. It is based on the social interaction among individuals whose their behaviors are similar or love each other. Social relations among people play a great role in the development of the functional social interactions which depends on the organized activities among the individuals

and his group or other groups (Kitishat & Freihat, 2024).

3. Results and Interpretation

3.1 Presentation of Results

The frequency distribution presented in Table 1 showed that 54.5% of the respondents are within the range of 16 and

20 years, 43% of the respondents were within the range of 21 and 25 years, 2.1 % of the respondents were within the range of 26 and 30 years while the 0.4% fell above 30 years. This distribution is satisfactory for this study as it showed majority of the students are young school leavers with little or no employment experience.

Table 1 Distribution of respondents by age

S/N	Age Classes	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
1	16-20 years	199	54.5	54.5
2	20-25 years	157	43.0	97.5
3	25-30 years	8	2.1	99.6
4	Above 30 years	1	0.4	100
Total		365	100	100

Source: Authors' fieldwork, 2024

From Table 2, it could be observed that among the responses received, 31.79% were female students while 68.21% of the respondents were male students. This shows that there was fair gender inclusion in the results of the study.

Table 2 Distribution of respondents by gender

S/N	Sex	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
1	Male	249	68.21	68.21
2	Female	116	31.79	100
Total		365	100	100

Source: Authors' fieldwork, 2024

In Table 3, an overwhelming response of 98.4% was obtained from the respondents who were singles. Nevertheless, 0.8% of the respondents were married, none of the respondents was a divorcee and 0.8% of the respondents were widows. This marital status distribution can be attributed to the large number of the students that are below 25 years.

Table 3 Distribution of respondents by marital status

S/N	Status	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
1	Single	359	98.4	98.4
2	Married	3	0.8	99.2
3	Divorce	0	0	99.2
4	Widowed	3	0.8	100
Total		365	100	100

Source: Authors' fieldwork, 2024

The frequency distribution in Table 4 indicated that 7.1% were living in the hostel accommodations within the campus of the Polytechnic while 92.9% were living in the private hostel accommodations and residences outside the Institution. It could

be deduced that majority of the students of the Institution are accommodated outside the Institution due to many factors such as personal preferences, inadequate bed spaces, peer influence and fear of breaking hostel regulations etc.

Table 4 Distribution of respondent by their residential location

S/N	Residential Accommodation	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
1	On campus	26	7.1	7.1
2	Off-campus	339	92.9	100
Total		365	100	100

Source: Authors' fieldwork, 2024

3.2 Reliability Test

Cronbach's Alpha was used in this study to determine the reliability of the data obtained from the respondents. The Cronbach's Alpha value usually lies between 0 and 1. Values above 0.5 show that the constructs would be accepted for further analysis (Egwu et al, 2019). The results in Table 5

show that the constructs are above 0.5. Social relations have the highest value of 0.7466, followed by physical infrastructures and facilities with a value of 0.7208 and economic activities has the lowest of values of 0.7192. Thus, the three constructs were accepted for further analysis.

Table 5 Reliability of the research constructs

Measure	Number of Items	Cronbach's Alpha	Average inter-item covariance
Physical infrastructures and facilities	8	0.7208	.3767817
Economic activities	8	0.7192	.3462479
Social relations	6	0.7466	.4937044

3.3 Exploratory Factor Analysis

This study further applied exploratory factor analysis to identify the common factors that influence each construct and tends to facilitate covariance of the constructs. The items with loading factor less than 0.30 would be removed from analysis. The results of the factor analysis were shown in

Table 6. All factors of physical infrastructure and facilities constructs were loaded. Therefore, they are valid enough to represent the relationship between the Institution and the development of physical infrastructures and facilities in the host community.

Table 6 Factor analysis of physical Infrastructures and facilities' constructs

S/N	Indices	Loading Factor
1	Medical facilities	0.7475
2	Students' hostel accommodations	0.8432
3	Fuel and gas filling stations	0.8412
4	Electricity supply	0.8412
5	Road network	0.5545
6	Telecommunication network services	0.6660
7	Potable water supply	0.5818
8	Waste disposal facilities, environmental sanitation and recycling services	0.6366

The Table 7 shows that all factors of the economic activities' construct were loaded. Loading factors were above 0.3. Therefore, they are valid enough to represent the relationship between the Institution and the economic activities in the host community.

Table 7 Factor Analysis of economic activities' constructs

S/N	Indices	Loading Factor
1	Open Markets to sell and buy goods	0.5909
2	Shopping malls and groceries shops	0.5130
3	Banks, mobile money operators and POS agents	0.8394
4	Part-time or casual employment	0.7712
5	Agricultural activities	0.6459
6	Transport services	0.6287
7	Small and medium enterprises (SMEs)	0.7103
8	Food and canteen services	0.6641

The Table 8 shows that all factors of the social relations' constructs were loaded. Loading factors were above 0.3. Therefore, they are valid enough to represent the relationship between the Institution and social relations within the host community.

Table 8 Factor analysis of social relations' constructs

S/N	Indices	Loading Factor
1	Cross cultural communication	0.5449
2	Security personnel and facilities	0.6545
3	Hospitability and friendliness	0.4713
4	Religious co-existence and harmony	0.6256
5	Sporting, fitness and recreational activities	0.5757
6	Shows, concerts and events	0.6159

3.4 Findings

Research Question 1: *Has the presence of the Institution affected the development of physical infrastructures and facilities in the host community?*

In order to answer the research question 1, the respondents assessed the degree to which the Institution affected the physical infrastructures and facilities indices of the host community on a 5-point Likert rating scale. Their responses were analysed using descriptive statistics and the results are presented in Table 9.

Table 9 Descriptive analysis of the respondents on the physical infrastructures and facilities of the host community

S/N	Indices	Total	Mean	Standard deviation	Remarks
1	Medical facilities	1281	3.5192	1.2318	High
2	Students' hostel accommodations	1341	3.6840	1.2090	High
3	Fuel and gas filling stations	1317	3.6181	1.2463	High
4	Electricity supply	826	2.2692	1.1802	Low
5	Road network	706	1.9395	1.4513	Low
6	Telecommunication network services	787	2.1620	1.0901	Low
7	Potable water supply	814	2.2362	1.1447	Low
8	Waste disposal environmental sanitation and recycling facilities	1058	2.9065	1.3492	Low
Mean Total		1016.25	2.7918	1.2378	Low

N = 365, mean = 3

According to the analysis in Table 9, the overall rating of the physical infrastructures and facilities was low (2.79). The respondents rated the areas such as medical facilities, students' hostel accommodation, and fuel and gas filling stations as high while the respondents' rating of the electricity supply, road network, telecommunications services, potable water supply, and waste disposal and sanitation facilities were low.

Research hypothesis 1: There is no significant relationship between the Institution and development of physical infrastructures and facilities in the host community

To test the first research hypothesis, Pearson product moment correlation was carried out to show whether there is no significant relationship between the Institution and development of physical infrastructures and facilities of the host community. The result of the analysis in Table 10 shows that there is a significant relationship between the Institution and physical infrastructures and facilities of the host community ($r = 0.0490$; $p < 0.05$) that cover the areas of medical facilities, students' hostel accommodations, fuel and gas filling stations, electricity supply, road network, telecommunication network services and potable water supply. It means that the null hypothesis was rejected.

Table 10 Pearson correlation analysis of relationship between the Institution and the physical infrastructures and facilities of the host community

Variable	Coefficient	Significance	Remark
Physical infrastructures and facilities development	0.1031	0.049	< 0.05

Research question 2: Has the presence of the Institution enhanced the economic activities in the host community?

In order to answer the second research question, the responses of the respondents on the degree to which the Institution is boosting the economic activities in the host community on a 5-point Likert rating scale were analysed. The results of the descriptive statistics are presented in Table 11.

Table 11 Descriptive statistical analysis of the respondents on the economic activities of the host community

S/N	Indices	Total	Mean	Standard deviation	Remarks
1	Open markets to sell and buy goods	1421	3.9038	1.0544	High
2	Shopping malls and groceries shops	1307	3.5906	1.1134	High
3	Banks, mobile money operators and POS agents	1493	4.1016	1.0003	High
4	Part-time or casual employment	1224	3.3626	1.2488	High
5	Agricultural activities	1203	3.3049	1.2322	High
6	Transport services	992	2.7252	1.3550	Low
7	Small and medium enterprises (SMEs)	1163	3.1950	1.2209	High
8	Food and canteen services	1148	3.1538	1.2935	High
Mean Total		1243.88	3.4172	1.1898	High

N = 365, mean = 3

From the analysis in Table 11, the perception of the respondents regarding the influence of the Institution on the economic activities in the host community was high (3.41). The highest mean of the respondents rating was observed in the Banks, mobile money operators and POS agents (4.10), followed by open markets to sell and buy goods (3.90), then shopping malls and

groceries shops (3.59), then part-time or casual employment (3.36), followed by agricultural activities (3.30), then small and medium enterprises (3.19) and finally food and canteen services (3.15). However, the mean of respondents' rating was lowest on the transport services rendered in the host community (2.72).

Research hypothesis 2: There is no significant relationship between the Institution and economic activities in the host community

To test the second research hypothesis, the results of the Pearson product moment correlation of the data were computed using Stata 15. Table 12 indicated that there is a significant relationship between the Institution and economic activities in the

host community in terms of open markets, banks and mobile money operators, transport services, small and medium enterprises and food and canteen services.

The null hypothesis is rejected. Therefore there is sufficient evidence to show that the Institution is influencing the economic activities in the host community.

Table 12 Pearson correlation analysis of relationship between the Institution and economic activities of the host community

Variable	Coefficient	Significance	Remark
Economic activities	0.4505	0.000	< 0.05

Research Question 3: Has the presence of the Institution improved the social relations within the host community?

In order to answer third research question, the responses of the respondents on the social relations within the host community on a 5-point Likert rating scale were analysed. The results of the descriptive statistical analysis are presented in Table 13.

Table 13 Descriptive analysis of the respondents on the on the social relations within the host community

S/N	Indices	Total	Mean	Standard deviation	Remarks
1	Cross cultural communication	1243	3.4148	1.2110	High
2	Security personnel and crime control	1111	3.0521	1.3565	High
3	Hospitability and friendliness	1256	3.4505	1.2310	High
4	Religious co-existence and harmony	1355	3.7225	1.0870	High
5	Sporting, fitness and recreational activities	1395	3.8324	1.1094	High
6	Shows, concerts and events	1217	3.3526	1.3222	High
Mean		1262.83	3.4708	1.2195	High

From the findings in Table 13, the extent to which the Institution contributed to the social relations within the town was found to be high (3.47). The highest mean of the all respondents rating was observed in sporting, fitness and recreational activities (3.83), followed by religious co-existence and harmony (3.72), then hospitability and friendliness (3.45), then cross cultural communication (3.41), shows, concerts and events (3.30), then security personnel and facilities (3.19).

Research Hypothesis 3: There is no significant relationship between the Institution and social relations in the host community

To test the third research hypothesis, the results of the Pearson correlation test in Table 14 were obtained. It shows that there is a significant relationship between the Institution and social relations within the

host community. Therefore, the null hypothesis for the study is rejected. It therefore shows that the Institution is affecting the social relations' within the host community.

Table 14 Pearson correlation analysis of relationship between the Institution and social relations within the host community

Variable	Coefficient	Significance	Remark
Social relations	0.5675	0.0000	< 0.05

3.5 Discussions

Tables 9 and 10 present the findings on how the presence of the Institution has affected the development physical infrastructure and facilities of the host community. The overall rating of the respondents was low on physical infrastructures and facilities in the host community. The medical facilities, fuel and gas stations, and students' hostel accommodations in the host community were rated high by the respondents. It

means that there are adequate medical facilities, students' hostel accommodations and fuel and gas filling stations in Nasarawa to take care of their needs. For instance, there are several pharmacy stores, State-owned Medical Centre, a well-equipped Polytechnic Medical Centre, several private clinics with healthcare workers to attend to patients in the host community. On the housing accommodations, there are on-campus hostel accommodations, students'

village and diverse private hostels for the students to live in the host community which are affordable. In addition, there are fuel and gas filling stations that sell fuel and cooking gas to the residents of the host community and travellers. However, the respondents rated the electricity supply, telecommunication network, road network, potable water supply, waste disposal facilities to be low.

The authors agree with the rating of the respondents. The electricity supply in the town is not stable and most households, commercial centres and offices depend on generators and photovoltaic solar power solutions for electricity. Although, there is a large water reservoir in the town but there is no potable water flowing to residences in the town. The community depends on wells, bore holes and water vendors to survive. The telecommunication services in the town are rated low. The telecommunication signals are not strong in the host community. The population density around the campus is too high for the quality of signals there to be effective. Furthermore, the increasing population of people living in the community leads to substantial generation of domestic wastes. Wastes are indiscriminately dumped in the

neighborhood due to lack of proper waste disposal facilities in the town. The inadequacy of waste disposal facilities and services is affecting eco-friendliness and increasing land pollution in the host community. The study found that there is a significant relationship between the Institution and the development of physical infrastructures and facilities of the host community. This agrees with the findings in Lazzeroni & Piccaluga (2015), Olaniyi et al. (2012), Egwu et al. (2019) and Amoah & Anomah (2022).

Tables 11 and 12 shows the findings on how the Institution influenced the economic activities of the host community. The overall rating of the respondents was high. In specific terms, open markets to sell and buy goods, shopping malls and groceries shops, banks, mobile money operators and POS agents, part-time or casual employment, agricultural activities, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), food and canteen services are rated high and satisfactory. The perception of the respondents on the host community is that the Institution has contributed to the growth of the open markets in the town. Shopping malls and shops have been built to offer services to the residents of the host community. The

presence of the Institution in the community has attracted three money deposit banks, microfinance bank, several mobile money operators and POS agents to render basic banking services to everyone. The Institution has also stimulated increased agricultural activities and food and canteen services to meet the demands of the students living in the host community. The respondents also rated both small and medium enterprises and availability of casual or temporary employment for the job seekers in the host community as high. It is however noted that the respondents rated transport services in the host community to be low. This is expected because the most common transport service within Nasarawa town is the commercial motorcycles while tricycles operate mostly within the Polytechnic campus. There are no taxis or shuttle buses operating within the town. Thus, safe and comfortable transport service is perceived difficult for the students who may not wish to ride commercial motorcycles everywhere they want to go due to the risks associated with them. The authors agree with the rating of the respondents on the economic activities in the host community. The study found that there is a significant relationship between the Institution and the economic activities in the

host community. This agrees with the findings in Kleinsmith & Horn (2015) and Fatoki (2017).

Tables 13 and 14 shows the results of how the Institution has influenced social relations within the host community. The findings showed that the social relations within the host community are rated high. In terms of cross cultural communication, security personnel and crime control, hospitability and friendliness, religious co-existence and harmony, sporting, fitness and recreational activities, shows, concerts and events, the respondents perceived them to be high and satisfactory. This implies that the host community is a peaceful, safe, accommodating and sociable town. There is religious tolerance within the host community. There are social events that take place regularly for the residents to relax, unwind or have good time together after stressful days at work. The residents have opportunities to engage in outdoor games like soccer, snookers, basketball, table tennis, local indoor games and watch live soccer matches at viewing centres. It is a place for all and sundry to choose lifestyles that suit their tastes, resources and culture. It has developed over the years to become a plural society with mutual respect

for each other. The study found that there is a significant relationship between the Institution and social relations of the host community. This agrees with the findings in Fatoki (2017) and Egwu et al. (2019).

4. Conclusion

Tertiary Institutions are known for providing specialized education to the students, support research endeavors of academic staff and offer community services to encourage societal economic development. Apart from teaching, learning and research activities that take place in the tertiary Institutions, they also contribute to cultural, social economic and financial development of their host communities. They generate new knowledge and innovation essential for national development. While, it has been established that employment of local residents, admission opportunities, improved standard of living, affordable and qualitative education, infrastructural development, basic social amenities are some of the gains of the host communities, they could be negatively characterized by high cost of living, indecent dressing, high demand for the basic social amenities and criminal activities.

The study was undertaken to examine the impact of tertiary Institutions on their host communities with the Federal Polytechnic, Nasarawa in focus. The perception of the respondents on the influence of the Institution on the host community in terms of development of physical infrastructure and facilities, economic activities and social relations were investigated. The study established that there is significant relationship between the Institution and the development of physical infrastructures and facilities, economic activities and social relations within the Nasarawa Community.

The current study has a number of limitations. Firstly, the respondents were limited to only one Department of the Institution for effective coordination but limits the generalization of the results of the study. Future research should be conducted to include more Departments of the Institution. In addition, the study should be extended to more than one Institution and in different contexts to determine in a holistic way in which tertiary Institutions influence their host communities especially in both rural and urban settings across the country. It would also be necessary to investigate the opinion or perception of the community members on the influence of tertiary

Institutions on them. In this study, paper based questionnaires were used, although the response rate was satisfactory, but it is suggested that future research should use online research questionnaires to obtain the responses of the respondents.

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