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**VILLAGE STUDY REPORT
FOR
LOBE TOWN COMMUNITY**

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The chief council- Daniel Itoh Nyando	74770415
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The regent Chief- Mr Ndoko Philibert	79821012
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The Sanga Moki Pa Ekomo

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LIST OF ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYMS

PRA:	Participatory Rural Appraisal
SDP:	Suggested Development plan.
SWOT:	Strength Weaknesses Opportunities and Treats
NGO:	Non-Governmental Organization.
C I G:	Common Initiative Group.
I O:	International Organization.
SSI:	Semi Structured Interview.
GSS:	Government Secondary School.
GS:	Government School.
HTDDS:	Higher Technical Diploma in Development Studies

ABSTRACT

A village study is a program that is organized by Pan African Institute for Development every year to train participants on the practical skills of carrying and identifying development problems in communities. It is a program organized for HTDDS students as part of the fulfillment for the award of Diploma. In this study students are expected to apply and translate concepts learned in class into practical experiences.

It is for this reason that our team was assigned to carry out a village study which was carried out in the Lobe town community from January to February 2013. Our objective was to diagnose the community together with the people in a participatory manner using the PRA methods and tools like the Venn diagram to know the relationship that exist in the community and how they contribute to the development of the community, and a SWOT analysis, focus group discussion, brainstorming, semi structured interview in which the people identify their problems and together with them we prioritize the problems in order of importance. We came out with two core problems, i.e. insufficient income generating activities and high rate of health related problems. These problems were further analyzed in a problem and objective trees. The community has as its main activity farming, and also the greater population is made up of youths and women and it is a cosmopolitan community. This community has as potentials sand depot at Mongosi fishing Port, laterite gravel, available labor force, community palm plantation, community houses for rent. At the end, we then used the problem and objective trees to come out with SDPs which can be used as project document to solve the problems of the people in the community if effectively implemented by the community. At the end a vital recommendation were made to ensure the success of the projects and to ensure smooth functioning and running of the HTDDS program in future

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CHAPTER ONE

General introduction

1:1. Introduction

1.2. Purpose of the study

This study is a program initiated by the Pan African institute for development to identify the problems faced by communities through a participatory approach where the community becomes actively involved in identifying their own problems and to prioritize these problems in order of preference, to come out with two core problems and suggested development plan for the problems. In doing this a number of activities and tools are required; collection of data background information SWOT analysis, brainstorm, focus group discussion and observation.

1.2. Purpose of the study

The purpose of this village study was to identify the problems faced by this community through a participatory approach whereby the community becomes actively involved in identifying their own problems and to prioritize these problems in order of importance and suggest development plans for two of the problem. Furthermore the studies drills participants to practically apply skills which they have learned in participatory rural appraisal methodologies.

1.3 Scope of the study

This study entails the collection of background information from notables of the community, chief's traditional council women leaders, social groups and institutions in the community. It also requires the identification of problems through identification of problems through village meeting, group discussion, brainstorming, and semi structured interview. Prioritization and analysis of identified problems and also proposed solutions to the problems and also a SWOT analysis of the community i.e. to know their strength, weakness, opportunities and their threats. And to do a transect walk, resource map, seasonal calendar Venn diagram of the community. Furthermore to do a preparation of a suggested development plan and a village seminar.

1.4. Methodology of the study.

In order to gather information in a more systematic and orderly manner, the study used a number of very important PRA tools they could be necessary to diagnose the whole territory.

PRA TOOLS;

Direct observation.

We were able to observe the nature of the environment the relief, the topography, the attitude of the people and their agricultural practices.

Semi structure interview.

We were able to interview some key persons to get their own view and experience in the community like the chiefs the formal divisional officer etc.

Focus group discussion.

Certain group of persons were gathered and topics thrown to get the various opinion of the people in question. This allowed us to get diverse views and opinions that enabled our analyses are complete and diverse.

Venn diagram.

Venn diagram was used to show the extent to which institutions in the community relate to each other like the schools oil mill, traditional council, oil mill, oil factory, pamol, women's group and the traditional council.

Key Informant interview.

This method was use to ask question and carry out interviews with people with great experience in the community like the chief, the elders and key informants.

SWOT analyses.

It was used to analyses the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and the threats of the various institution found in the area. This method allows the community to see its challenges and opportunities in case of developmental project in the community. At the end a general SWOT diagram was used for the community.

Historical timeline.

This method was able to see major events and changes that have been taking place in the territory over the years in the domain of political, economic, social and environmental changes.

Life history.

Life history was equally used as a method whereby, individuals who had stay in the community for long were interviewed to talk about their personal experiences in the community, the problem the face and the transformation and changes that have taken place in the community.

Brainstorming

This method was equally used to diagnose the various opinions of the people especially during Focus group discussions.

Problem tree analysis

This method was used in order to come out with the core problems face by this community and to identify the major causes and effects such a problem in the community

Problem ranking and prioritization

This method was equally used to come out with all the problems faced by the various groups and people in the community and through a participatory approach involving the community these problems were ranked in their order of importance.

Objective analyses

The method was equally used to look at the possible outcomes if the problems faced by the community solved.

1.5. Limitations

- One of the limitations of the study was that at the initial stage it was difficult to gain the cooperation of the community and PRA insiders. Close to one week we were struggling to negotiate their full participation in the whole exercise. Even when the community started cooperating PRA insiders were sometimes irregular.
- Another limitation of the study was that it was very difficult to access the entire community since part of its territory is made up of fishing ports (quarters) found in the maritime areas which means we had to take boats to cross to these area with all the financial expenditure that will be needed to do so. This equally coupled with all the threats of insecurity (Bakassi zone)

CHAPTER TWO

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.2.1 INTRODUCTION

The lobe town community is a community which comes from the Balondo clan as far back in the 17 century with so many cultural diversities. They also practice agriculture as their major economic activity they cultivate food and cash crops. They have the traditional council as their core institution which governs the community and others which work hand in hand with the traditional council. The community enjoys social facilities like electricity, cable network and others which makes life comfortable.

2.2.1. LOCATION.

Lobe town is one of the villages found in Ekondo Titi Sub division of the Ndian Division of the South West region of Cameroon. It is bounded in the north by Ekondo Nene, Masore, Ekondo Titi, Ngolo Metoko, Lipenja Barombi. In the east by Bekora Barombi, Mbongo Ngo 1, Mbongo Ngo 2, In the south by Kumbe Balondo, Illoani. And in the west it is bounded by Bamusso village.

2.2.2. TOPOGRAPHY

The land of lobe town is generally a level land especially at Mongosi, New Layout, and areas occupied by the Pamol estate. Some gentle slopes are found around Kombe Balondo (Rimonia a farming area.

2.2.3. RELIEF

The relief of lobe is characterized by continues level land, gentle slopes, which favors the cultivation of cash crops and also the land have rivers and streams which are used for scooting of sand and fishing and it also have a spotted rocky terrene which generally the relief of the land can be term as a level land from the analysis above. The temperature is hot and the climate is characterized by two seasons but due to climate change the different periods cannot be determined.

2.2.4. SOIL:

The soil type of the lobe town community is the red soil which covers most of the land? The land of lobe town also has other different soil types being the sandy soil and the black soil. In conclusion the lobe town community have its soil type as the red soil which occupies about 70 percent of the land while the black soil and the sandy soil occupies just about 30percent of the land. As seen on the transect on appendix 1

2. 3. HISTORICAL PROFILE

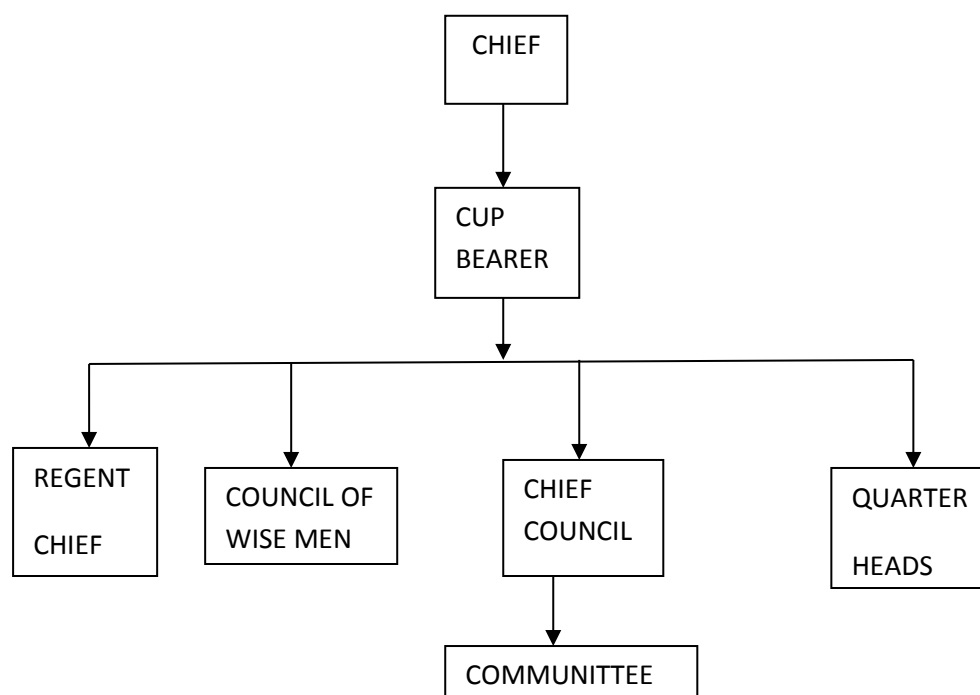
The name lobe originated from a Bobe leaf locally called (bush pepper) which is a special leaf which occupied a majority of the lobe land. When the first whites came to the area they were a lot of Bush pepper. This bush pepper was called Bobe but since the white man could not pronounce it well, they called it lobe. The area was later name lobe.

Lobe is considered as the store of the Balondo man because the first Balondo man first settled in this area. Today the Lobe man is considered as the landlord of the area. The history of a Balondo man could be traced as far back as the 17th century when the first settlers arrived the region. The man who founded lobe town and Village was called Awoh Nani is equally considered as the first chief of the Balondo people. He migrated from the Congo to the present site while fishing. Fishing then became the principal activity of a Balondo man. But the practice of this activity has gradually been abandoned by most lobe people because a lot of witchcraft was practiced in fishing and with the exhaustion of the fish due to bad practices like the use of herbs to poison the water and the fact that tribes like the Nigerians are equally practicing the activity. Today they have diverted to other activities including farming, like the cultivation of cocoyam's, yams and vegetables etc. After the coming of Awoh Nani, as chief many other tribes have equally settled in the area like the Mbongo ngo, Ekwe, and Mbonge. After Awoh Nani, more than 18 chiefs have ruled the Balondo people with Chief Nasacho Freed Gerald and Chief Mulango being one of the predecessors.

2.4 POLITICAL, CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES

2.4.1 Political profile

The lobe town political structure like that of many other villages around is organize as explained below. The chief is the highest authority within the set ups as a link between the community and the government. The chief maintains peace and order in the village and also in cases where the chief is not available he is represented by the regent chief. Actually at moment the chief of the lobe town is resident in Yaoundé. After the chief, the next authority in the setup is the cup bearer locally called Sanga moki who equally takes important decisions concerning the community. The present authority is the regent chief who is represented by the chief counsel who is usually a youth. This is because they believe that he is still energetic to run the activities of the community. The cup bearer then follows. He is the custodian of the tradition of the people. At the bottom of the structure are the community members. It should be noted that lobe town is a very vast village with so many fishing ports or quarters headed by chiefs but these chiefs pay loyalty to the main chief of lobe town.



A POLITICAL STRUCTURE OF LOBE TOWN

A histogram showing the political structure of lobe town

2. 4. 2 Cultural profiles

Inheritance

In the original Balondo tradition, priority is given to a male child this is because they believe that the property remains that of the family forever. If given to a female the property can go to another family since her husband will be the head of the family. A female could only inherit if there is no male in the family. But in cases where there is no child to inherit the property of the father, the fathers family inherits the property. In the culture of the Balondo man it is believed that, in matrimony everything is owned by the man, reason why only the father's family can inherit property. Furthermore, the wife cannot inherit the property of her husband. She can only benefit from her children after they inherit. Now our days there are exceptions to the culture of inheritance allows females especially if the female child is of good character. Some people do give inheritance to their girl children especially if there are of good character. In addition to the above after the death of the father, children only have the right to inherit if the deceased father property where actually he's.

Marriages

The culture guiding marriages in the Balondo tradition has gone through some transformation. In the original tradition a man has to give one goat to the bride's family but today pigs are being used instead of goats. This goat is being shared to various members according to certain prescribe rules. 6 shillings or 6 pence was used for "Knock door". Today 20 thousand is given before the marriage proper. In addition to the amount of money, you have to give salt, oil, rice; it is after paying the 20 thousand that the list of items needed for marriage proper is given to you

Death.

The death of a person in this community was at first celebrated for three days and mourn by the family and friends for forty days, later on it was reduced to twenty day and today it has been brought down to four days of mourning. In the Balondo tradition if somebody dies a bad death like drowning or hanging the person cannot be brought back to the village he or she is buried beside the river or where the incident took place.

Cultural festivals

The balondo people have a cultural festival that is always organized after two years though today it has been change to one year to cleanse the land of all evils and bad things that have being

happening in the community. This takes place usually in the dry season and last for closed to one month after seeing the moon. During this time, nobody is expected to go to the farm. Thus that is why people before this time stock food in their houses that they hope will take them through the period of the festival. If they run out of food, they go and look for food but in silence. In fact everything should be done in silence. During this festival many people are invited to witness the ceremony. It is animated with jujus that come out in the morning and in the evening.

Abortion

In the Balondo culture and tradition abortion is considered as a terrible crime and is highly sanctioned. Any woman who commits abortion is expected to provide the following item for cleansing; country bag, four clay pots, 1 egg, 1 white goat, white cock, one white sheet of loin cloth. This same procedure goes with other crimes like killing. Other punishable crimes are; refusing to eat your wife's food, disrespect of an elder by a youth, committing adultery. The people of Balondo equally practiced adultery though the practice is dying out today with the coming of Christianity and other religion. They used to pay respect to ancestors, special tress. Rivers etc.

Cultural attire

A Balondo man traditional dressing is a loin cloth and a shirt. But today people do wear any dress due to the evolution of modern dressing and new ideas making the community heterogeneous which explains why people today dress differently.

The cultural system of the Balondo man brings harmony, peace and stability which fosters economic development, increased productivity increased per capita income improved standard of living and generally their socio economic life.

2.4.3. Social amenities and related problems

Hydro Electricity power

The lobe town community has hydroelectricity power connection from AES Sonel. However. This electricity supply does not extend to all parts of the village especially to the fishing ports quarters of the village. Furthermore, electricity supply is very unreliable with frequent power shortages. Hardly will the people stay a day without power failure. Therefore people do not fully rely on electricity and so the resolve to other alternative sources of energy like standby generators, bush lamps etc. there is equally need for the provision of sustainable sources of electricity such as a solar plant for the community.

Water supply

There is no pipe borne water available in the Lobe town community. There existed a pipe born water, supplied through the help of an electrical pumping engine but because of inability to manage the water pump got bad and could not be repaired and so most of the taps are not running at moment. They community is now relying on their individual wells and a bore hole that was built by the community with its own problems. The wells are not properly treated and the water easily get dirty when heavily pumped. This nature of the water can lead to common health problems like

stomach disorders, typhoid etc. In addition to this there are some parts of the community like the settlement at mongosi that have neither wells nor pipe born. The community uses the water from the river Meme as their source of drinking water with many of them having stomach ache. This is worse as the hospital is extremely far from this place and with the bad nature of the Lobe-Mongosi road it is difficult to access the health center in Ekondo Titi.

Health center.

There is no health center in Lobe Town. People go to Ekondo Titi to solve their health problems. Some severe cases of illnesses do not get to the hospital on time and the consequence is that some die before reaching the hospital. Others give birth at home due to lack of medical facilities in the community. Even nearby hospitals which they manage sometime to get there they complain that it is too costly. Because of this, they resort to some coping strategies like consulting herbalist and making use of some nurses living in the quarter. There is no common health problem and cause of death in the community.

2.5 Economic background

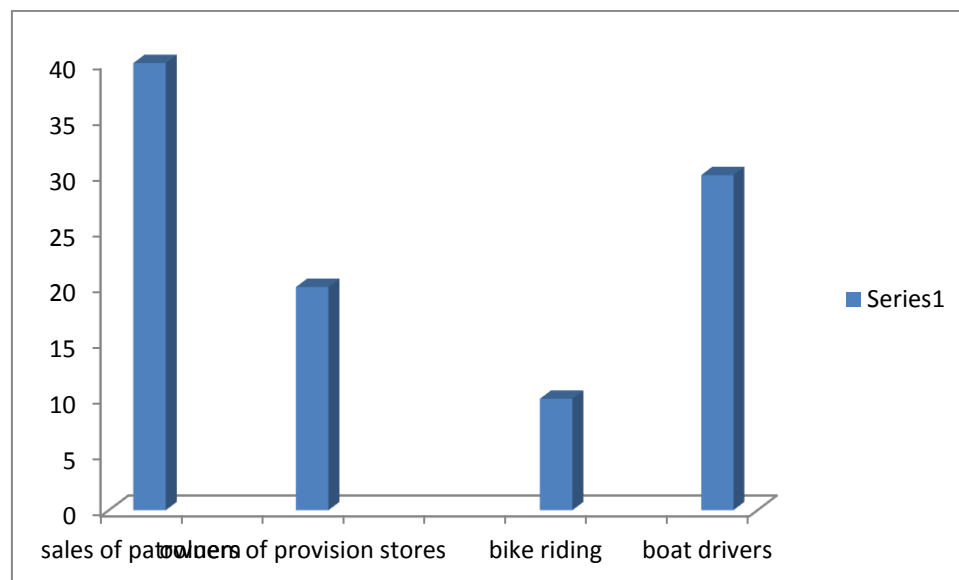
2.5.1. Agricultural activities

The community of Lobe town is an essential agricultural area with most of the inhabitants depending on subsistence and cash crop farming as their source of livelihood. The people cultivate food crops like cassava, yams, Egusi, plantain, cocoyams, vegetables, pepper, okro especially around the banks of River meme. Food crops like cassava are transformed into garri, 'Bobolo' waterfufu for local consumption and marketed, some cassavas are sold directly by community members to the garri factories around the area like the Virtuous Women Group. They equally keep extensive land of palm trees for oil production for sell to neighboring towns, to long distance business men coming from counties like Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Nigeria. The nuts are equally sold to the owners of local oil mills. Some of these palm trees are equally felled for tapping of palm wine and for sale. Other crops that are planted and sold are oranges, grape, tangerines, coconuts, apples etc. They equally rear animals like goats, pigs and fowls, some individuals do hunting of animals and picking of snails which is so much practice in the area especially during the rainy season. Fishing is equally highly practice by individuals and some groups like the Maroki women's group. Apart from these groups it is predominantly practice by Nigerians who have settled in the area. This activity reaches at its peak during the rainy season when catches are always very high. This fish is sold around. Unfortunately this activity is gradually dropping in the community due to exhaustion of fish in the river. This is due to mal practices like poisoning of water using toxic chemicals and herbs with the consequences of indiscriminate killing of aquatic organisms and plants. Some practice witchcraft.

2.5.1. Nonagricultural activities.

The members of the community are equally involved in nonagricultural activities like the buying and selling of petrol. It is a very lucrative business practice by the people. The petrol is bought from the neighboring country Nigeria especially in towns like Ikom, Iking and transported by boat. Boat transport is equally another lucrative activity practice by the people. Some of them work directly as drivers while others own the boats themselves. At least 10.000 francs is the transport fair from Nigeria to the community. Cargos are equally transported in these boats. Apart from this some of the inhabitants involve themselves in the loading and offloading of these goods.

Like most region in Cameroon and neighboring countries where they have been influence with the coming of Chinese bikes, bike riding (Okada) is another profitable income generating activity of the people especially the youths. Since some parts of the community are not yet accessible by vehicles, the bike riders make a lot of money by charging high transport fair especially to the Mongosi Swampy area. Other business activities common in this area are bar (off license), provision stores, restaurants.



Bar chart of nonagricultural activities

CHAPTER THREE:

PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS

Developmental Potentials

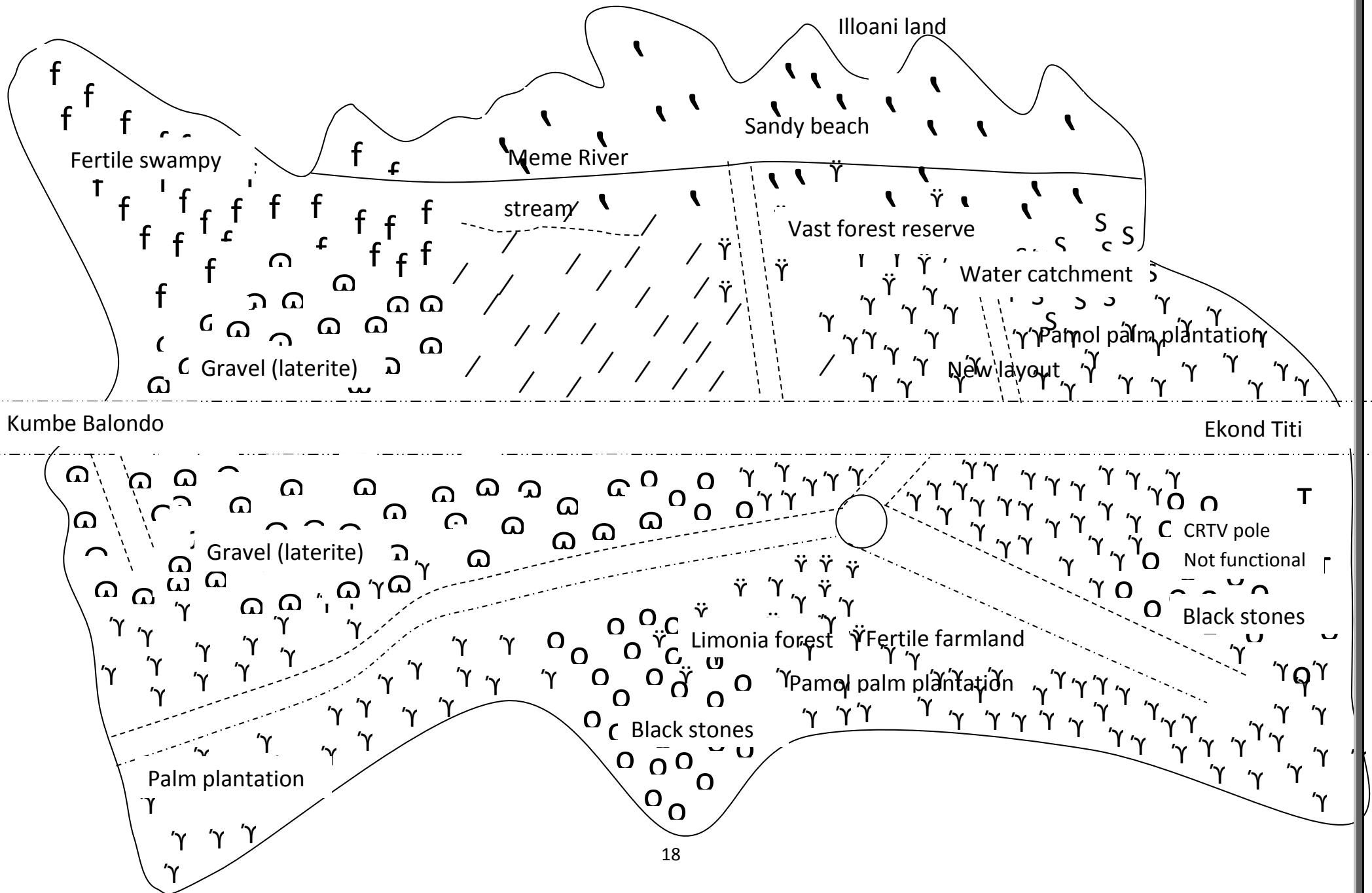
4. 1 Introduction.

Lobe town like most rural communities around the Ndian division is very rich in terms of potentials which serve as the strengths of the community. These potentials when exploited could act a great booster to the development of the community. Though potentials exists in the community, they still do not yet know the importance of these to the community. The major potentials identified in the community could be classified under the economic, social, natural and the social institution in the community.

4. 2 Economic potentials

Lobe town is endowed with a lot of economic potentials. It is known for its numerous beaches like the Mongosi and the mundemba/lobe beach which are very good fishing ports if well exploited and constructed could bring some economic benefits in the area through the transportation of goods to neighboring areas, employment of youths to load and unload goods, working as drivers of fishing boats. Equally the development of some of these fishing ports will act as a source of revenue to the council as operators can always pay rents to the council. Furthermore, the fertile soils that exist in this area coupled with the climatic condition support the growth of very important cash crops like cocoa, palm trees which could boost the economy and living standard of the people. The existence of electricity in the area can act as boost to the development of petty trading like cold stores bars, oil mills to run machines factories etc. the area too has vast farm land for the moment that can act as avenues for people who want to do some form of investment in the area. Though the area has been greatly occupied by pamol, there are still mosaic lands to be exploited. The area of lobe town has a high population density coupled with the fact that it shares border with Ekondo Titi which has a high population density act as a great market for the agricultural produce of lobe town like cassava, yams, Egusi, vegetables, snail's coconuts, oranges etc.

PARTICIPATORY RESOURCE MAP OF LOBE TOWN COMMUNITY



4. 3 Social potentials.

The community has more than ten fishing ports that equally act as touristic sites for tourist to visit the area. It is equally noted for its cultural potentials like the annual and bi-annual festival that is always organized to cleanse the land. During this period jujus and dances like awasajanga, yabekoso, iyenge, male etc display in the public. These cultural diversities could act as touristic attraction to the area and possibly bring revenue. Furthermore, the existence of some groups in the community like the Maroki group could act as a forum to gather people together for development purpose. Equally in the community there is a woman leader (Njanga Moki) who is a member of the traditional council and is in charge managing women affaires can easy bring women in development problems. The community equally enjoys a lot of social potentials cultural dances during birth and death celebrations. Also there are recreational facilities like a field for sporting activities especially football. The growing population of the area can act as a human resource because it provides a strong labor force to the community.

4. 4 Natural resources.

Like most areas find around the Ndian area The area is blessed with so many natural resources prominent among these resources is the sand pit at Mongosi that can help in so many developmental projects in the area like sand for road construction, building of schools, houses on other construction projects. In addition youths could become employed in the removal of sand. The area too has streams and rivers like the meme that could serve as major routes to neighboring countries like Nigeria. Furthermore the area has forest areas that could serve as sources of raw materials for road construction and other infrastructural development around the area. Black stones are equally found in the areas which are useful for road construction. Gravels are equally available for use in filling of swampy road especially around the Mongosi. Areas extending to other fishing ports are covered by Mangroves which serve as source of fuel for household consumption. They equally serve as habitat for aquatic animals like fishes. Fertile red and sandy soils found around this community equally serve as a great natural resource as it support the growth of so many food crops and cash crops around the area like cocoa, plantain, cassava, coconut, cocoyams, palm trees, oranges, Egusi etc.

4.5 village institutions

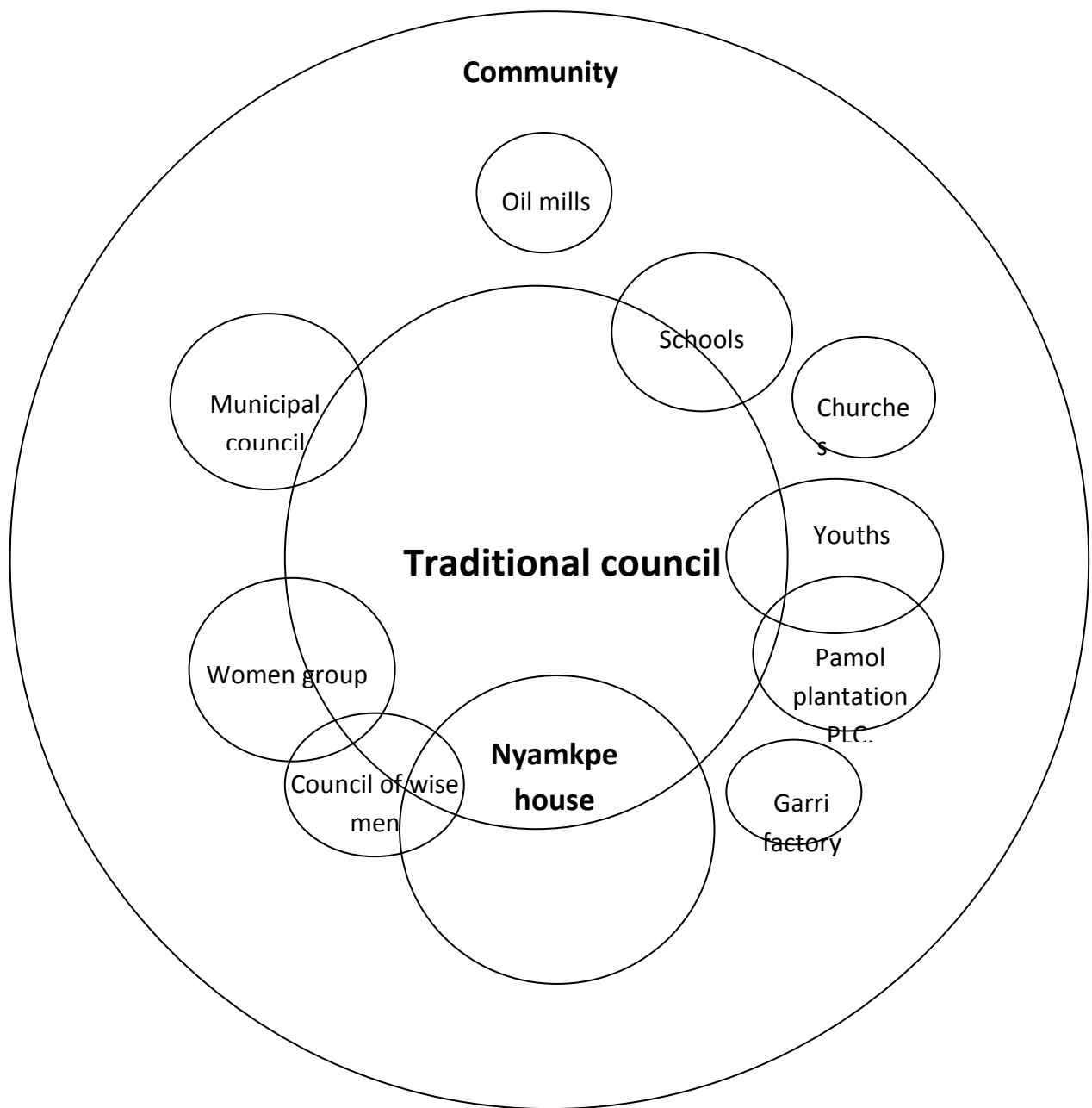
The Venn diagram below expresses the relationship or the link/influence amongst institutions within the lobe community. The circles express the influence or size (power) of an institution. The largest circles represent the community. In this regard, all other institutions do not function in isolation that is there function within the community. It therefore implies all their activities in one way or the other affect the community. The second largest circle/set denotes the chiefdom. This means that incase of any problem they encounter within the community in the process of implementing or carrying out any activity can be reported to the chief who within his authority can see how to intervene.

At the core, there lies the traditional council which has so many interceptions or links with so many institutions that is it has a link with the Nyampke house and following the interception. It therefore implies the house has a greater role in the traditional council. That is matters above the traditional council are referred to the Nyampke house to streamline the efforts put by the traditional council in resolving that matter. Also, policies are designed or formulated from the Nyampke house is

forwarded to the traditional council in the form of instructions for implementation. Also the interception between the council of wise men in the traditional council also has a certain degree of relationship between the two that is, advice and experience might also flow from one institution to another. On the other hand the council of wise men has a relationship with the Nyamkpe house as some of its members that form this council are also part of the Nyampke house. On the other hand, the council of wise men has a relationship with the women group. This is explained as the women leader (Nyanga Moki) at times is called upon or invited in this council. In this regard matters deliberated are carried to the women through their leader. Women at times express their problems through their leader to the council of wise men. On the other hand, the women group has a relationship with the traditional council as information flows from one institution to another as the degree of the interception show how related they might be. Somehow the municipal council in an attempt to carry out any assistance to the community can somehow relate that initiative to the chieftdom and vis a vis the traditional council. Also the traditional council can seek for assistance from the municipal council. Schools also have a link with the traditional council as the traditional council sometimes support the PTA body of the school in their Micro projects. The youths equally have a link with the traditional council. This is evident as the chairman of the traditional council is usually a youth and other youths being members of the council. In a like manner, the youths, has relationship with the Pamol plantation Plc. as some are employed directly or indirectly by Pamol. Pamol equally, has a slight relationship with the traditional council as regard their social corporate responsibility.

Within the chieftdom, and the community there exists institutions such as garri factory, oil mill, and churches that carry out activities that in one way or the other benefits the community.

Above all it is important here to note that, the community represent or has a wider influence as no institution can function in isolation that is without the community.



VENN DIAGRAM FOR LOBE TOWN COMMUNITY

CHAPTER FOUR

Development problems

PROBLEM PRIORITIZATION AND RANKING

3.1 Introduction.

On the bases of the information gathered at both the group and individual level in Lobe town on problems affecting the community, a good number of problems were identified by both the crew and the community and it was prioritize using the simple ranking matrix which was conducted in order to bring up a thorough analysis and come up with core problems.

IDENTIFICATION OF PROBLEM BY COMMUNITY.

By sector

Table 1:

Sector	Problem
Educational institutions(schools)	Insufficient teachers Lack of permanent buildings In ability of parents to attained PTA meetings Laxity of pupils in coming to school In ability of parents to pay fees Increase rates of school drop outs Limited scholarship Inadequate technical skills
Agricultural sector	In adequate land to cultivate Disunity and cohesion with villagers The availability of oil mills and other markets has provoked the stealing of pamol nuts Low agricultural productivity Inaccessible farm to market road
Health sector	Limited access to health care services Expensive cost of drugs and treatments Distant location of hospitals Lost of lives
Social sector	In adequate electricity supply, Unemployment, Insufficient water supply
Financial sector	Lack micro finance institutions
Institutional sector	Lack of cooperative
Economic sector	Limited access to the market
Communication sector	No Cameroon radio and television signals No internet available Limited newspaper and magazine retail centers

By gender

Table 2

GENDER	PROBLEMS
Community women(women and girls)	Inaccessible farm to market roads Closure of the mudemba beach Limited access to a health center Limited supply of electricity Insufficient water supply
Male youths	Unemployment

	Disunity amongst youths and even the community in taking decision School drop-out because of fast money making Inaccessible road to mongosi beach Closure of the mudemba beach
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PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION BY WOMEN

Simple ranking matrix of women

Table 3

Problem identification	Problem scoring	Problem prioritization	Simple ranking
Limited access to market	5	Inaccessibility to Mongosi Beach	1
Limited access to health center	7	Limited access to health center	2
In adequate electricity supply	2	Limited access to the market	3
Inaccessibility to mongosi Beach	22	Lack of cooperatives	4
In adequate potable water	3	inadequate portable	5
Lack of cooperative	4	Inadequate electricity supply	6

The matrixes above shows the problems identified by the lobe town women and prioritize using the simple ranking matrix with the core problem being inaccessibility to the Mongosi beach and the second core problem being the limited access to a health center.

PROBLEM PRIORITISATION AND RANKING

Simple ranking matrix of youths of lobe town

Table 4

Problem identification	Problem scoring	Problem prioritization	Simple ranking
Limited access to land	3	Closure of Lobe/Mudemba Beach	1
High rate of unemployment	4	Inaccessibility to Mongosi Beach	2
Closure of Lobe/Mudemba Beach	8	High rate of unemployment	3
Inadequate cooperation amongst youths and elders	2	Little accountability of community assets	4
Increase rates of school drop outs	7	Limited access to land	5
Inaccessibility to Mongosi Beach	5	Inadequate cooperation amongst youths and elders	6
Little accountability of community assets	4	Increase rates of school drop outs	7

The above table shows the problems, problems scores and problems prioritization of the youths of lobe town. As can be seen from the matrix ranking their biggest is the closure of the Lobe/Mudemba Beach as a result of a government decision. The reason for the closure of the beach will later be seen in the problem tree analyses. This problem was followed by inaccessibility of the Mongosi beach while the last problem identified is increase rates of school drop outs.

Problems and simple ranking matrix of the lobe village meeting

From the village meeting that was finally held in addition to previous findings especially the meeting with the youths and women and with some key informant in the community, the following problems were identified in the community and the core problems were clearly brought as the main problems facing the community

Problem identification	Problem scoring	Population structure		Problem prioritization	Simple ranking
Accessibility to the mongosi sand beach	15	men	22	Accessibility to the mongosi sand beach	1
Limited access to the health center	9			Limited access to the health center	2
Limited access to the market	7	women	10	Limited access to the market	3
High rate of unemployment	4			Closure of the lobe/Mudemba Beach	4
Closure of the lobe/Mudemba Beach	6	boys	20	Lack of infrastructure for schools	5
Poor access to communication	3	girls	8	High rate of unemployment	6
Inadequate technical skills	2			Poor access to communication	7
Lack of infrastructure for schools	5			Limited access to land	8
Limited access to land	3			Inadequate electricity supply	9
Inadequate electricity supply	2			Inadequate technical skills	10
Limited scholarship	1			Limited scholarship	11
Low agricultural productivity	1			Inaccessible farm to market road	12
Inaccessible farm to market road	2			Low agricultural productivity	13

The above table clearly illustrates the core problems faced by this community of lobe town. The first column indicates all the problems that the community face and simple ranking was used to prioritize these problems. These results are reflected in the ratio of men, women, boys, and girls. The problems are rank in order of priority in the last two columns. As seen the matrix above, the two core problems are:

- **in Accessibility to the mongosi sand beach,**
- **Limited access to the health center,**

This shows that the community is suffering greatly from these two problems and the first two problems are the major core problems face by this community. For the purpose of our studies this first two problems will be treated effectively later in the proceeding pages with suggested development plans for the community.

PROBLEMS AND OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS

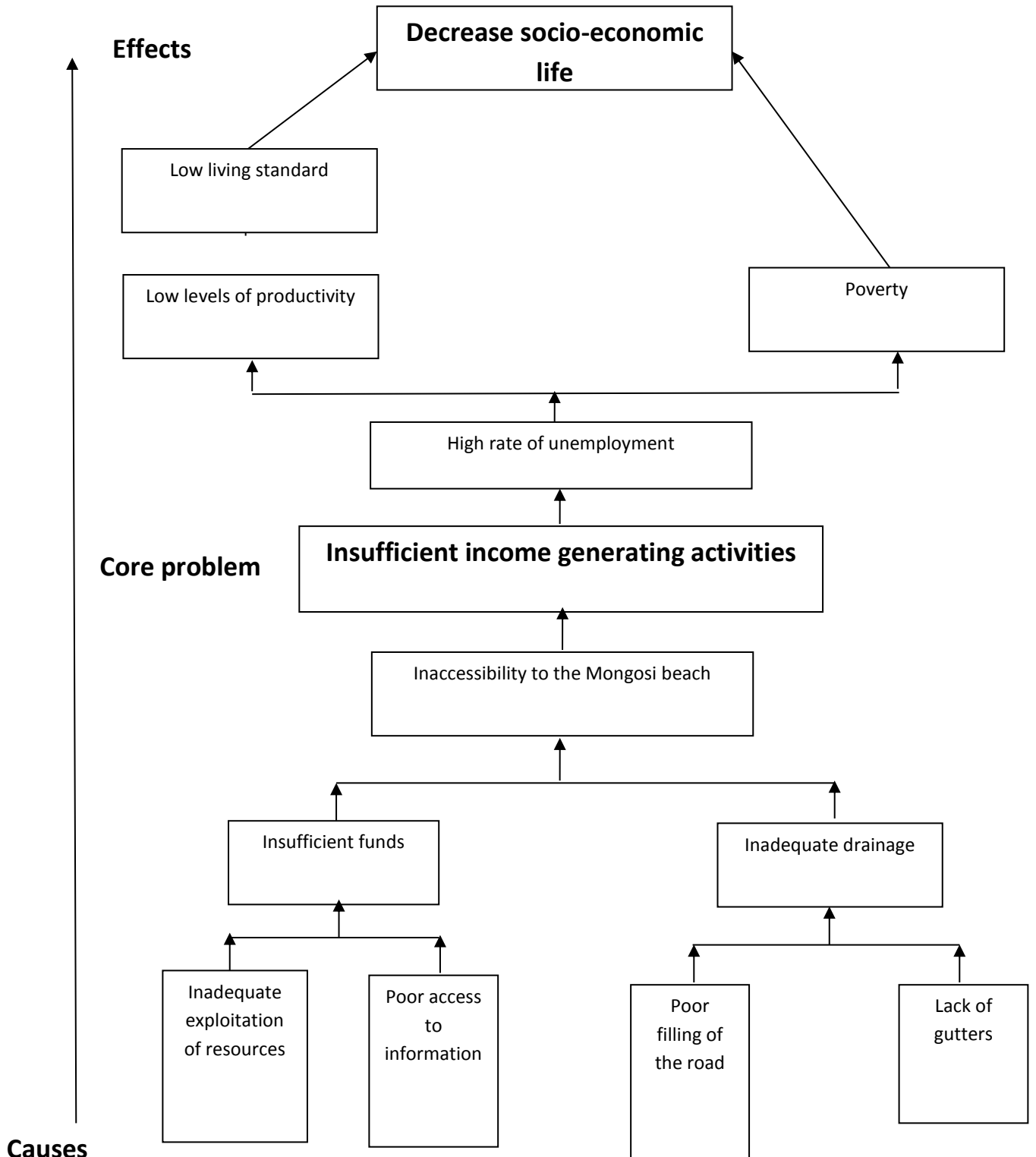
Problem analysis matrix for the community

Problems	Causes	Effects	Coping strategies
in Accessibility to the mongosi sand beach,	Insufficient funds for construction Inadequate drainage system Seasonal nature of road Poor community mobilization	Inadequate exploitation of Mongosi resources Insufficient income generating activities	Bikes during dry season Use of supporting stikes to walk in flood areas.
Limited access to the health center,	Bad roads Distant location of health center from community Government policy	Increase in health cost Increase health related problems Decrease in productivity Loss of lives due to distances	Use bikes for transportation Use available nurses in the community The keeping of basic drugs at home
Limited access to the market	Bad roads Distant location of the market	Increase cost of agricultural productivity Depreciation of perishable goods Stress factor	Increase prices of goods to meet cost of transportation Limited cultivation of perishable goods
Closure of the lobe/Mundemba Beach,	The attack on the army guarding the area The illegal operations in the beach Suspected for the harboring of criminals in Lobe	Shut down of activities at the beach Insufficient income generating activities High crime waves Idle youths Low living standards	Appealing for the reopening of the beach Engagement in agricultural activities to raise money Riding Okadas(bike riding) Migrating to work in other beaches in division
Lack of infrastructure for schools			
High rate of unemployment	Closure of Lobe/Mundemba Beach Inaccessibility to the Mogosi Low educational level	Disgruntle youths Idle youths Low living standards High crime waves High outward migration	Self-employment in farming Migration to other areas
Poor access to communication	Poor television and radio signals Poor roads to the town Few newspaper retail shops	Inadequate information about current job opportunities	The use of mobile telephones The use of males Managing few internets around The use of nearest neighbouring country signals
Limited access to land	Land grabbing by Pamol Poverty Community land occupation	Low agricultural productivity Conflicts and misunderstandings.	The use marshy lands Land rentage Conversion of forest in to cultivable land
Inadequate electricity supply	Low energy supply Technical faults	Destruction of appliances Food decay Disruption of business and social activities	The use of bush lams, light torches Organization of activities during the day Accept the situation as it is
Inadequate technical skills	No technical school No training facilities School drop outs	Unsustainable management of community projects Loss of resources	
Limited scholarship			
Inaccessible farm to market road	Bad nature of the roads	Low productivity	Used of bikes Farming groups Paid labour
Low agricultural productivity	Poor inputs	High prices	

A participatory approach was used to come out with all the problems faced by the community with causes, effects and coping strategies used

After identifying the problems and analyzing the core problem, there was the need to draw up a problem and objective tree which will be of help to enhance the implementation of a proposed suggested development plan for the community.

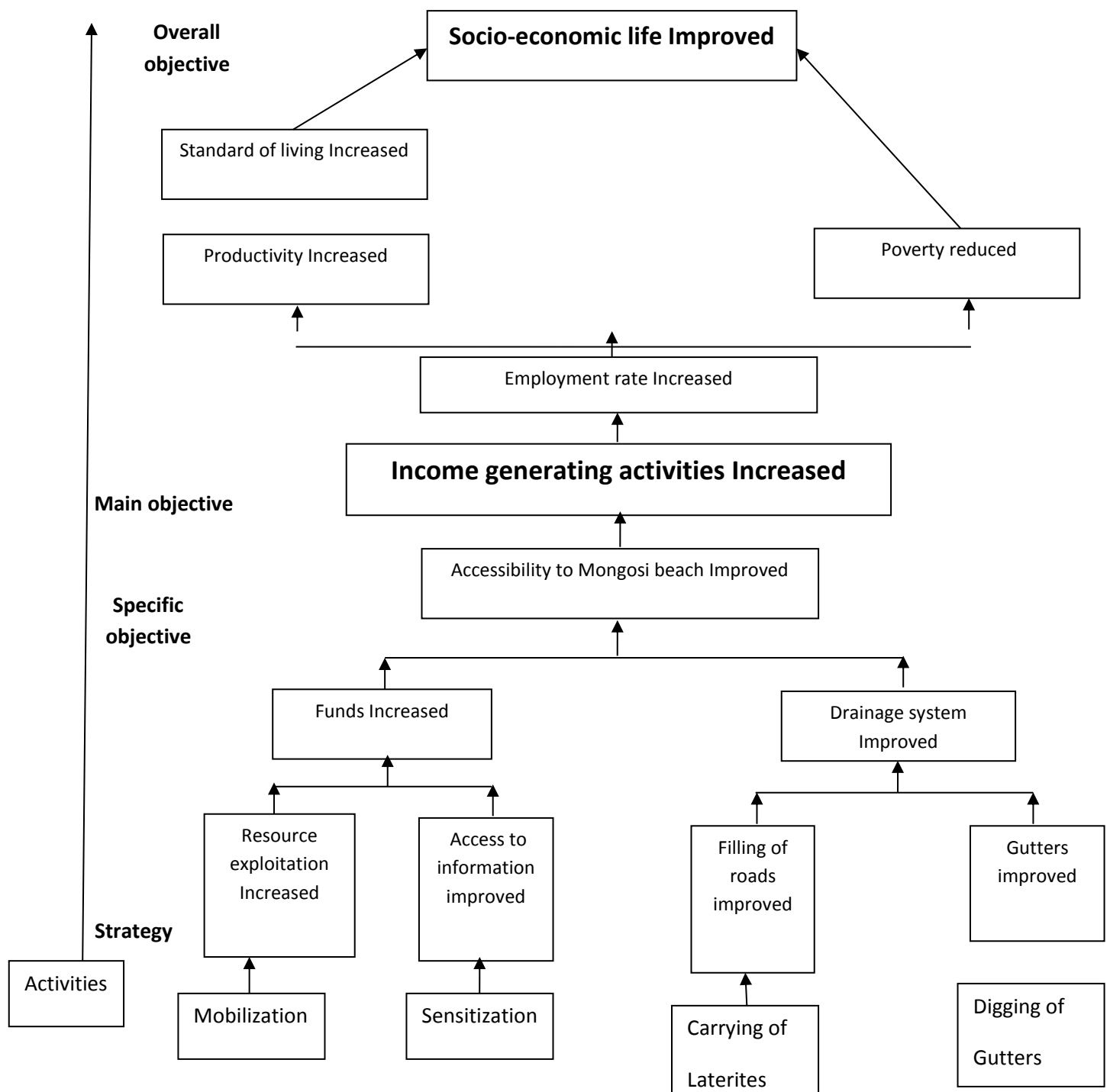
THE CORE PROBLEM TREE OF LOBE COMMUNITY



The above diagram, expresses the problem or the situation faced by the community of Lobe. It has a major or core problem which is insufficient income generating activities. This problem is directly caused by inaccessibility to the Mongosi beach which also is influenced by insufficient funds and inadequate drainage system. This insufficient fund is as a result of inadequate exploitation of resources and poor access to resources. On the other hand, the inadequate drainage system is also caused by poor filling of the road and also lack of gutters on the roads.

If these problems (causes) are not dealt with, the immediate effect will be high rate of unemployment. Which will consequently result to low level of production and poverty? This low level of production leads to low standards of living which will finally leads to decrease in socio-economic life. On the other hand, poverty will also end up contributing to the decrease in socio-economic life.

THE CORE PROBLEM OBJECTIVE TREE LOBE COMMUNITY



The above diagram or tree shows the desired objective in which if realized can help address the core problem of the lobe community. In this diagram it has as its main objective – income generating activity increased. This objective can only be attained if accessibility to Mongosi beach is improved. And for this to happened it can only be as result of, if funds increased and also if drainage system is improved. For funds to increase, this can be attained by increased resource exploitation and improved access to information. On the other hand, improved drainage system can be achieved if filling of the road is improved vis a vis if gutters are improved. All these will contribute to attain the main objective (income generating activities increased). If employment rate increased and poverty reduced and also if productivity increased, with increased standard of living, all this will contribute towards realizing the overall objective (socio – economic life improved).

CHAPTER FIVE

SUGGESTED DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR CORE PROBLEM ONE (LOBE TOWN)

5.1 Introduction

5.2. Problem: insufficient income generating activity

5.2.1 Goal: increase in socio- economic life

Specific objectives: increase accessibility to the Mongosi Beach

strategy	activities	internal	external	Time frame	Out put	indicators	resources			remarks
							H	F	M	
funds Increase d	Mobilization of funds Sensitization on resource management Organize seminars and workshops	Youths Chiefs Men women	NGOS Gov't International organization	Feb-june 2013 1st march – 14 of May 2013	Adequate funds Improve capacity building	by june 30 th 60% of funds be mobilized At least 15 people in the community be trained and achieve management capacities	4 3	100,000 300000	4 bold makers 50 flip charts	If the people are push full and dedicated the project will be realized
drainage system Improved	Feasibility studies Placement of culverts Casting of concretes Gutters back	PRA insiders Youths Women men	Surveyors Technicians Engineers	5 th – 10 june 2013 15 June to 30 th April	Improve drainage system Increase accessibilit y	By sep 15 th they should be at least improvement in drainage About 2/3 of the population should have access to Mongosi beach	4 30 7	100,000 3.150.00 0	30 tons of gravel 150 tons of late rite 30 trips of sand 200 bags of cement	They should be reliable cooperation and collaboration in order to realize the project
Monitoring and evaluation	project document available to the community A follow up	Chief Community	The contracting company NGO I.O	All through the period of execution	Execution properly done	70% of what was plan is rightly executed	10	1000000	Books, diaries etc Project documen t	Community should collaborate with The Gov't, contracting company and evaluators

After having identified the problems facing the community with the help of the problem tree analyses and the problems put forward by the people of the community of lobe, a suggested development plan was proposed to the community using a participatory approach. With this approach as could be seen from the SDP matrix above plans, actions, activities are supposed to be carried out for the successful realization of this project in order to reduce the problem of low income generating activities

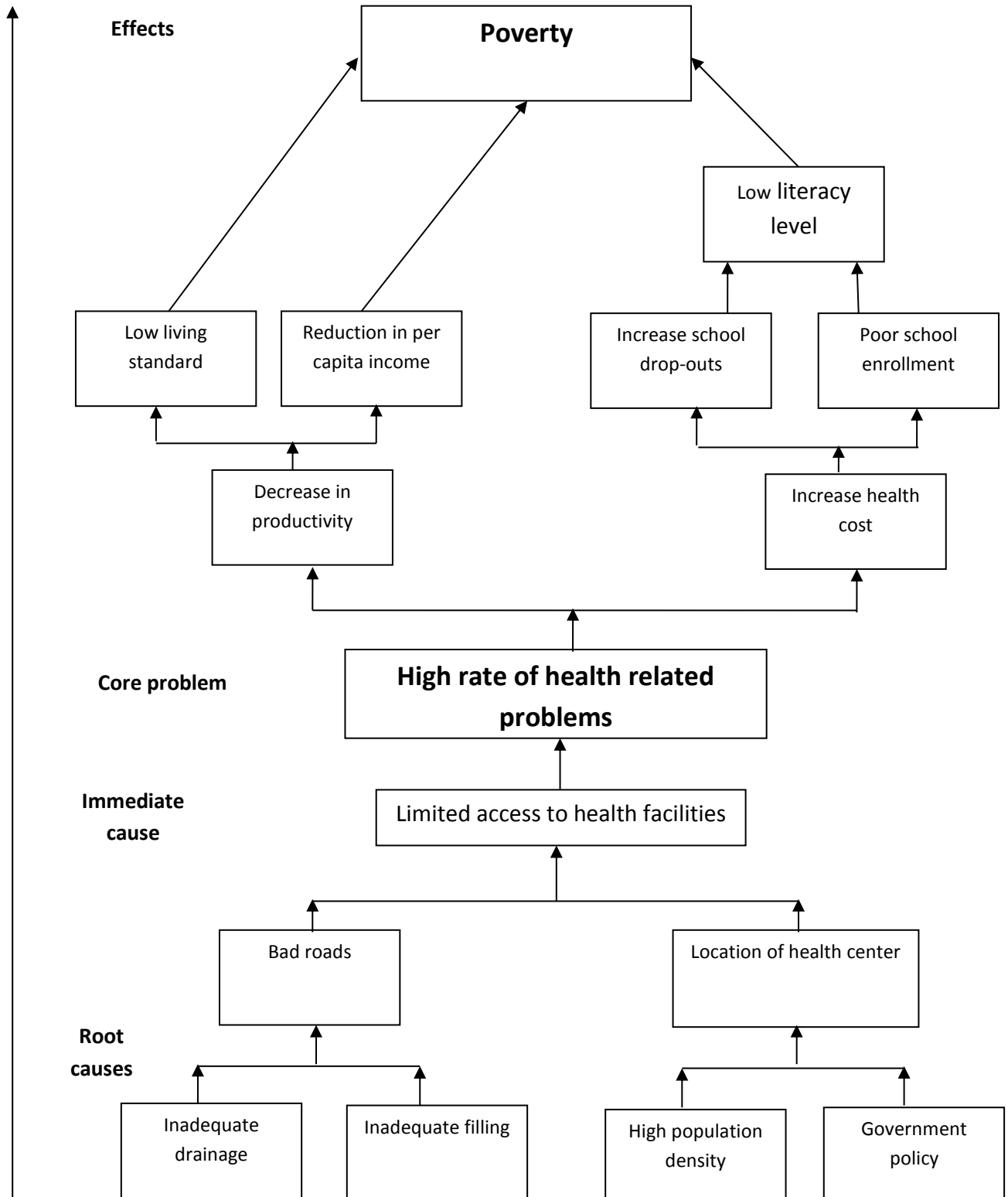
SWOT ANALYSES OF THE PROPOSED SDP

The following matrix demonstrates the strengths potentials opportunities and threats of lobe town. Through a participatory approach the community was able portray points as measure characteristics that could affect the development of the community in one way or the other. Through a community meeting, these facts were presented by some of the community members

Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threats
Sand pit at Mongosi Availability of a quarry at Mongosi Availability of laterite Availability of labour Have a community palm plantation The presence of the community house for rent The availability of electricity	The greater part of the road is swampy The youths are very stubborn Semi-permanent bridges Nature of the road to lobe town Poor radio and TV signals	The village is close to the municipal headquarter They have pamol as their tenants Have a forest area for wood Have a representative in the municipal council	The meme constantly overflow its banks. Inadequate cooperation in the community Low educational level in the community Insecurity around the area vulnerable to health related problems

THE PROBLEM TREE PROBLEM TWO

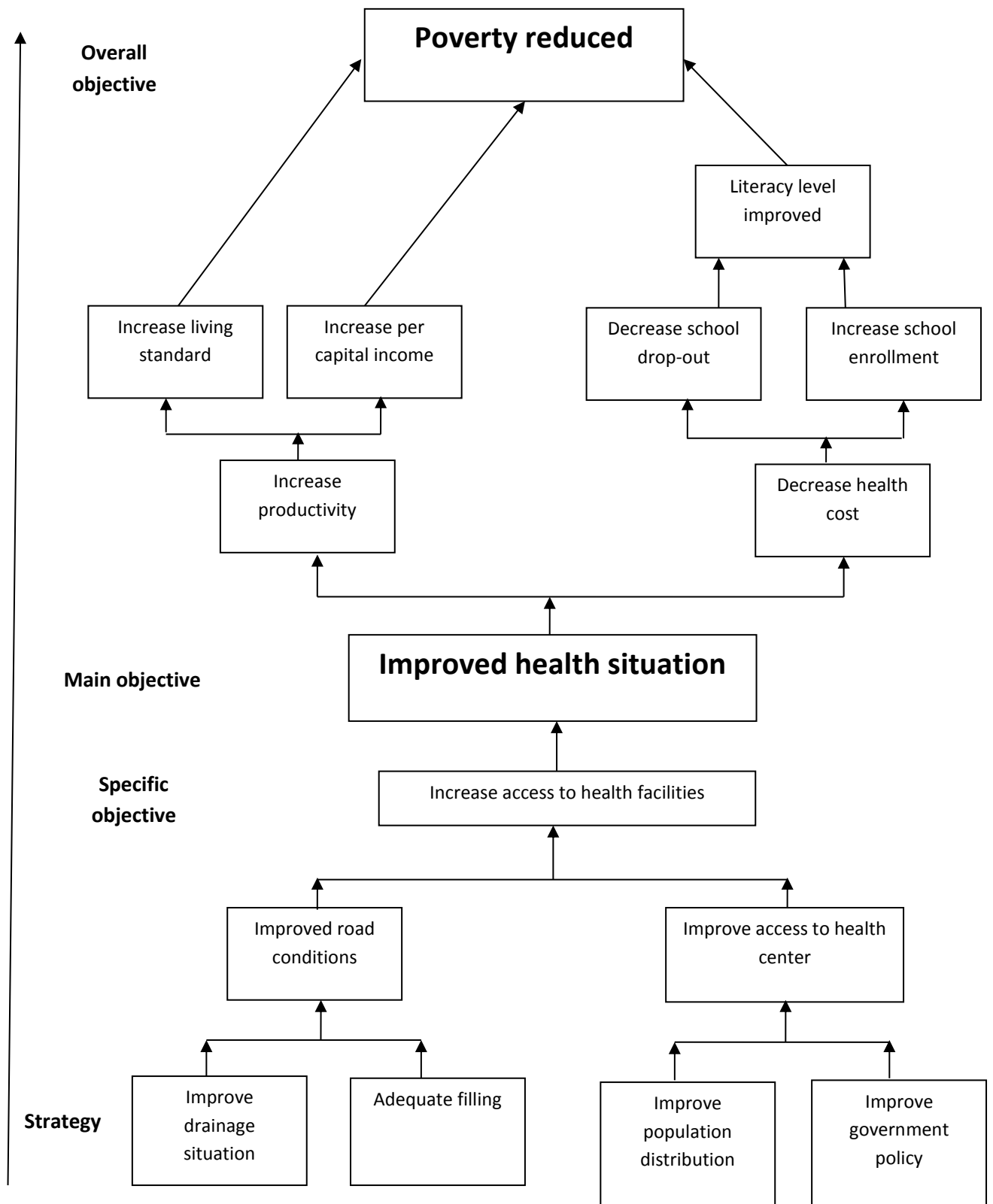
High rate of health related problems



Another second very important problem identified by the lobe community is the high rate of health related problems. They associate this high rate of health problem to a number of factors which they identified the immediate cause as limited access to health facilities. This limited access to these health facilities is as a result of bad roads and the location of the health center. The bad nature of the roads has a number of features such as inadequate fillings and drainage. On the other hand the location of the health center is cause by government policy and the reason for such location was probably because of the density of the population.

Because of this problem a number of effects could be witness in the community. The immediate effects are decrease in productivity and increase health cause. Because of the decrease in productivity living standards and per capita income drop down. Increase health cost on the other hand leads to school drop outs and poor school enrollments. With this kind of situation illiteracy level are definitely high. All these effects culminate into an overall effect which is widespread poverty

OBJECTIVE TREE OF CORE PROBLEM TWO



The diagram above shows the desired objective of the community of lobe town in face of the health related problems they are facing in the community. Improved in the health situation of the community members is very important. This improvement does not take place in isolation but has a number of principal things that needs to be improving upon. Increase access to health facilities which can only happen through improving road conditions and improving access to the health center. To improve upon the road conditions, they have to be an adequate drainage system and adequate filling to render the road freely accessible. Equally, improve access to health center can equally be gotten through improving the population distribution of Ekondo Titi where the population is too concentrated. Government policy could be a vital instrument in improving people access to health facilities. Of course if all these amendments take place the effect as seen on the diagram will be REDUCED.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUGGESTED DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR CORE PROBLEM TWO (LOBE TOWN)

5.1 Introduction

5.2. Problem: high rate of health related problems

5.2.1 Goal: improved health situation

Specific objectives: increase access to health facilities

Specific objective	activities	responsibilities		time	output	indicators	resources			remarks
							H	F	M	
increase access to health facilities	Sensitization of the community	Traditional council/ community	NGO, Gov't I.O	March 5 to march 15 2013	Community be sensitize effectively	At least 70% of the community be sensitize	5 members of the committee	50.000frs	Radio Flip charts	Successful if effectively followed
	Meeting of all stake holders	-chief -councilors -Youths	Elites All secondary stake holders	March 15 to march 31	Stakeholders actively involve	At least 2 stakeholders	4	100000	Texts Pens pencils	Assuming programs well followed successfully
	Mobilization of resources	community		1 April-July 31 2013	Resources mobilized	At least 60% of resources mobilized	5	50000	-	Successfully assuming program followed
	Election of management committee	Traditional council	-	August 1 august 10 2015	Committee elected	Functional from august 15 2013	7	100000	Books Pens files	Successful if program followed
	Rehabilitation of health post	Community labour	Contractors Engineers Technicians companies	August 10 to Nov 10 2013	Health center under construction	Health center be constructed by Nov 15 2013	15	3000000	Cement Sand Rods Gravel pipes	Successful if resources provided
	Buying of drugs and hospital equipment	Stable management committee	-government NGOs I.O	Nov 10 – Dec 10	Drugs Bought and hospital equipped	Drugs available and hospital equip by Dec 2013	5	1500.000	Beds, tables drugs, chairs etc.	Assuming well executed it should be successful
	Recruitment of staffs and kick off of hospital	management committee staffs	Gov't NGOs	Dec 10 jan 2014	Staffs recruited and hospital operational	By Jan 10 hospital go operational	10	200,000	Files	Successful if plan followed

After identifying the problems facing the Lobe town community, with the help of the problem tree we have propose some steps to be taken in other to solve the problems through the SDP which if effectively followed the problem in the community will be properly address.

SWOT ANALYSES OF COMMUNITY FOR PROPOSED SDP

Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threats
Sand pit at Mongosi Availability of a concrete quarry at Mongosi Availability of laterite for filling Availability of labour Have a community palm plantation The present of the community house for rent The availability of electricity Availability of nurses in the community	The youths are very stubborn Semi-permanent bridges Nature of the road to lobe town Poor radio and TV signals	The village is close to the municipal headquarter They have pamol as their tenants Have a forest area for wood Have a representative in the municipal council Have some elites home and abroad who can support	The meme constantly overflow its banks. Inadequate cooperation in the community Low educational level in the community Insecurity around the area vulnerable to health related problems present of some traditional practitioners

The following matrix demonstrates the strengths potentials opportunities and threats of lobe town, through a participatory approach the community was able portray points as measure characteristics that could affect the development of the community in one way or the other. Through a community meeting this facts were presented by some of the community members

CHAPTER SIX: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Conclusion

To conclude the study carried out in the Lobe town community was a very challenging one but very educating. From the findings carried out in the Lobe town community. Lobe town have a very rich culture and also have potentials which needs to be harnessed for the development of the community. Furthermore The community also have a very strong economic stand which If developed properly it will foster the development of the community. The identified problems facing this community with the core and second core problem will be solve if the proposed SDP is effectively implemented there by helping to address the development problems of the community and fostering the development of the community, the Region and the country as whole.

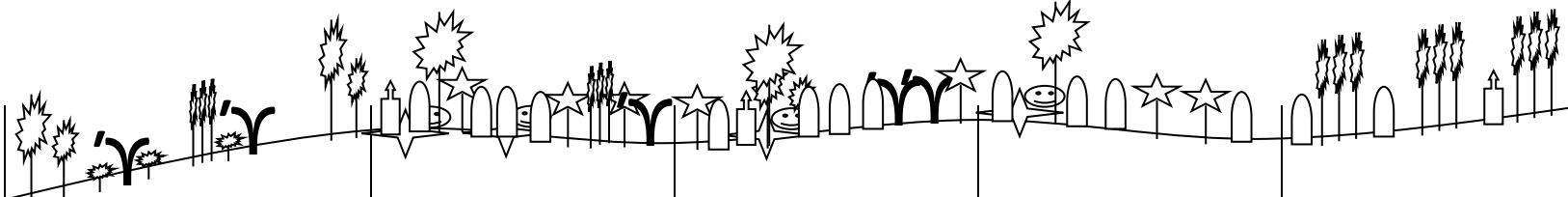
6.2 Recommendations

We recommend that the community in question should endeavor to form a development committee which will be responsible for all developmental project5s in the community. The community should endeavor to implement the proposed SDP which will also help address the developmental problems of the community. We also recommend that the community should employ corporation among themselves and also endeavor seek for the assistance of external bodies in the realization of their projects and should make sure the develop the resources in the community for the development of the community ,the region and the country.

APPENDICES:

TRANSECT DIAGRAM OF Lobe Town

Appendix 1



Items to be observed					
Trees	Palm trees, coconut trees	Palm, coconut, mango and trees. Bamboos.	Coconut, palms, orange tree, pawpaw, plum, lemon and apple tree	Indian bamboos Palm, coconut, orange trees, plum trees. Grape fruit	, coconut trees Palm trees and mango trees
Crop type	Cassava, cocoyam's, plantain, yams	Cassava, cocoyam's, plantain, yams, pawpaw	Plantain, cocoyam, yams, cassava, cocoa, pineapple	Plantain, cocoyam, cassava	Plantain, cocoyam, cassava
Settlement type	Dispersed settlement	Dispersed settlement	Linear settlement	Linear settlement	Dispersed settlement
Soil type	Red soil/ gravel	Red soil, swampy soil	Red soil, swampy soil	Red and swampy soil	Red soil
Vegetation	Grass land	Grass land	Grass land	Grass land	Grassland
Topography	Gently sloping	Level land	Gently sloping	Level land	Gentle sloppy
Livestock	Pigs and fowls	Goats, fowls, pigs	Goats, fowls, pigs	Goats	Fowls, goats
Potentials	Stones, rivers, gravels, streams	Black stones, gravels	Stones, rivers	Stream	Black stones
Institutions		Church, government secondary, nursery and primary school	Oil mill, church	Traditional council hall, oil mill	Garri factory, school, chiefs palace, apostolic church
Activity			Bars, sales of petrol	Stores, restaurant, bars, sales of petrol	Bar
Drainage			Culvert	Culvert	Culvert
Infrastructure				Tap, well, bore hole	Water tank, tow gate, bore hole town hall,
Problems				No portable drinking water	CRTV pole
Road type	Streets	streets	streets not develop	Streets not develop	Streets

Seasonal Calendar for Lobe Town Community												
Topics/activities	Jan	Feb.	mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Rainy season			x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
Dry season	x	x										
Clearing and burning	x	x	x									
Planting of food crops			x	x	x							
Planting of cash crops							x	x	x	x		
Weeding						x						
Harvesting										x		
Tapping	x									x	x	x
Hunting									x	x		
Fishing	x	x	x						x	x		
Picking of snails			x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
Harvesting palm nuts				x	x	x	x	x	x			
When activities at the beach is done	x	x	x	x	x							
Cultural festivals		x	x									

Access and Control Profile				
items	access		control	
	men	women	men	women
Land	x	x	x	x
Water	x	x	x	
Palms	x	x	x	x
Beach	x	x	x	x
Cocoa	x	x	x	x
Labour	x	x	x	x
Education	x	x	x	x
Yams	x	x	x	x
Cassava	x	x	x	x
egusi	x	x	x	x

Daily Activity profile				
time	men	women	Girl/ child	Boy/child
5 – 8 am	Prepare for farm Water nursery Tapping drinking	Prepare kids for school Go to farm	Wash plates Clean the house Go to school Carry water	Carry water Clean surrounding Go to school
8 – 12 am	At business Job site Idle around	Business cooking	Still in school	Still in school
12 – 3 pm	Back from work Light rest	Rest Cooking Supper	Still at school Resting	Still at school Resting
3 – 6 pm	Bathing strolling	Bathing relaxing	Playing eating	Playing Eating
6 – 8 pm	Go to bed visit	Stroll Bed time	Sleep Book work	Book work Sleep
10 pm -12 am	sleep	sleep	sleep	Sleep

