

**ASSESSMENT OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECT OF CENTRE FOR
EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH CONSERVATION OF PRIMATE AND NATURE
(CERCOPAN) ON ECOTOURISM IN AKAMKPA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA
OF CROSS RIVER STATE, NIGERIA.**

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Abstract

The study sought to assess the socio-economic effect of Centre for Educational Research Conservation of Primate and Nature (CERCOPAN) on Ecotourism in Akamkpa Local Government Area of Cross River State, Nigeria. The study adopted the descriptive survey method and obtained data from a sample of 325 respondents sampled through the stratified sampling technique. Data was using a structured questionnaire. Data was analysed using mean, standard deviation and one way analysis of variance. Results show that A statistically insignificant difference exists between eco-tourism activities of CERCOPAN and tourist attraction to the five villages that made up of the host community. An insignificant statistical difference exists between CERCOPAN'S conservation activities and socio-economic well-being of the 5 villages of the host Iko Esai community. A statistically insignificant influence exists between CERCOPAN'S conservation activities and health conditions of the 5 villages of the host Iko Esai community. It is recommended among others that CERCOPAN should partner with the community in the overall project planning and implementation since the livelihood of the people is so much dependent on the forest to avoid future disagreement between the host community and CERCOPAN as a means of transparency in the conservation project.

Key Words: *Conservation; Ecotourism; Socio-economic; primates; forests.*

Introduction and background of the study

Forests are vital to life on Earth. The leaves of plant transfer water into the atmosphere and when the leaves decay, the leaves form food for many organisms. The concentration of Carbon IV Oxide is reduced in the process of photosynthesis within the forests throughout and acts as an important buffer against climate change. World diverse array of plants which could be used as timber, food, medicine, many Communities and help them to survive. Presently forests around the world, forest within developing countries are under threat. Despite the major roles forests play in the world environment, economic and health; man, and animal continue to lose forest. The Worldwide Fund (2001) reported that about the size of the 36 football fields per minute of forest disappear to activities like logging, and farming. Deforestation is especially severe in some of the world most biologically diverse regions such as the Amazon, Borneo and Sumatra, the Congo-Basin, and the Russian Far East. Nearly half of the world's original forests

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have been lost (Worldwide Fund, 2001). The high rate of forest disappearance and its adverse effect on the environment has been a serious concern to many scholars, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and environmentalist. According to Sharma (2009), the total forest cover of the world in 1975 was nearly 7000 mega hectares. By 1990 it was reduced to 2890 mega hectares. It is estimated that a major reduction will be in the tropics and subtropics at 40.2% and only 0.6% in temperate areas (Worldwide Fund, 2001). In the tropics and subtropics, maximum reduction would be 50% in Asia and the Pacific. That rate was attributed to population explosion in these areas (Sharma, 2009). According to NEST (1991), the tropical rain forest was originally 1600 mega hectares amounting to a reduction of 41.4% maximum reduction. 41.4% of this 63.3% was recorded in India. In India, nearly 80% of the country was covered with forest around 300BC. Waves of migrants came to India, many of these were from fewer countries and changed the whole landscape, (Sharma, 2009). Holden (2008) opined that rainforest occupies about 4 million km² and held's around one-third of the global biodiversity. Pointed out that Nigeria has a total land area of 985,213square kilometres of which 773,783sq kilometres were in the Savanna Zone 75,707sq kilometres are in the derived Savanna Zone and 133,717sq kilometres are in the forest zone. In 1975 the total area of forest of all types in the country was estimated at about 360,000square kilometres or about one-third of the country's total land area (NEST, 1991). According to Worldwide Fund (2001) only 13% of the world's forests are protected, and many of these are still threatened from encroachment and degradation. Worldwide Fund encourages the establishment of new protected areas and the creation of networks of protected forest and corridors between them. These networks improve the forests resistance, allow animals and plants lives to access, migrate, disperse across multiple areas, and ensure that healthy ecosystems remain. Anijah, (2001), reported that 13% of Nigeria's rain forest areas was intact and about 75 percent of the intact forest was in Cross River State. Studies have shown that Akamkpa where Iko Esai is located has one of the largest vegetation. The forest plays a major role in the normal functioning of the environment and the economic sustenance of mankind due to its richness in fauna and flora species. It can be said to be of immense value and support to human existence (Cunningham and Sango, 2001). However, over the years, the world has witnessed few devastating consequences such as global warming, ozone layer depletion, drought, and desertification. To combat these situations, several Governments and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) have undertaken various programmes to ensure forest conservation. According to Anijah (2001) some of the NGOs are:

- i. International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), which acts as an umbrella for NGOs involved in nature conservation;
- ii. The World Wildlife (WWF) is an international organization that is embarking on conservation of wildlife and nature;
- iii. Tropical forest of Puerfo Rico- is a VS forest services, caring for forest and nature.
- iv. International Rainforest Conservation Organizations (IRCO) involves in improving the world's largest funder of tropical forest conservation;
- v. Nature Conservation (NC) the Nature Conservancy supports other conservation nongovernment organization to buy and manage high priority land in Australia, Trust for Nature (TN) Trust for Nature is on a mission to enable people bequeath land or money for conservation and for the purchase of Bush for Conservation;
- vi. Bush Heritage Australia (BHA) is organization currently owns and manages 26 reserves

through Australia; and vii. Centre for Educational Research Conservation of Primate and Nature (CERCOPAN), which will be the case study for this research. In the light of the above, CERCOPAN's attempt in conserving Iko Esai community forest will highlight the socio-economic implications and effects of this conservation by CERCOPAN to the host community since their forest resources are the main stay of its economy these forest resources dominated the land use since farmland and logging were encroaching to the forest land.

Statement of the Problem

Forest resources are indiscriminately exploited particularly from the areas that are not tagged "reserved." This is the problem faced by Iko Esai Community in Akamkpa Local Government Area, Cross River State. CERCOPAN had agreed to manage 400 hectares of Ikot Esai Forest area which is called CORE AREA. This core area is reserved or restricted from use. The forest area that is opened for community use is called "Research Area" and is 3000 hectares which is the total land available of the host community. The Iko Esai people depended on the Research area for their livelihood. This led to the problems of overexploitation, deforestation, loss of biodiversity, endangered species of plants and animals, degradation of water ways, the drying up of shallow streams, massive hunting activities, bush burning, unsustainable timber-based activities and disappearance of forest cover. Other problems are habitat loss, unsustainable forest management, illegal logging and undermining of environmental functions. All these have harmful effects on the potentials of Ecotourism in Ikot Esai. But do the locals understand the impacts of the above? What is the perception of the host Iko Esai Community about conservation programme of the core forest area that is protected by CERCOPAN? These questions arise, considering that these settlements have been deprived of their daily livelihood of farming, hunting, and gathering in the core area and the research area has been overexploited overtime. The host community might one day change their mind regarding their forest resources for exploitation. If there is a major difference in the benefit derived from the activities of CERCOPAN in the 5 villages that make up of Iko Esai, since they jointly own the 400 hectares of forest conserved by CERCOPAN. It may lead to conflict between the villagers and CERCOPAN which may disturb the whole conservation plans of CERCOPAN. Against this background, this study was carried out to ascertain the assessment of socio-economic effect of Centre for Educational Research Conservation of Primate and Nature (CERCOPAN) on Ecotourism in Akamkpa Local Government Area of Cross River State, Nigeria.

Aim and Objectives of the Study

The main purpose of the study was to assess the socio-economic effect of Centre for Educational Research Conservation of Primate and Nature (CERCOPAN) on Ecotourism in Akamkpa Local Government Area of Cross River State, Nigeria. Specifically, the study has the following objectives:

- i. To examine Ecotourism activities of CERCOPAN on the host community,
- ii. To evaluate the effects of Ecotourism on socio-economic activities of the host community, and
- iii. To evaluate the influence of CERCOPAN's activities on the health of the people of the host Ikot Esai community.

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Research Questions

The following research questions were raised to guide the study.

- i. Is there a difference in the benefits derived from Ecotourism activities of CERCOPAN in the 5 villages of Iko Esai Community.
- ii. Is there a difference in the socio-economic benefit in the 5 villages of the host community.
- iii. Is there a significant difference in the health benefit in the 5 Villages of the Host Community.

Research Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were formulated to guide the study.

- i. There is no significant difference in the benefits derived from Ecotourism activities of CERCOPAN in the 5 villages of Ikot Esai Community.
- ii. There is no significant difference in the socio-economic benefits in the 5 villages of the host community.
- iii. There is no significant difference in the health benefits in the 5 Villages of the Host Community.

Methodology

This study adopted the descriptive survey design. This method was considered appropriate because it enabled the researcher to use sampled opinions to test hypotheses about the influence of CERCOPAN'S activities on the people of the host Iko Esai Community. The population for the study comprised all the 4968 people in all the five villages that make up Iko Esai Community as shown on table 1 (CERCOPAN Household Survey, 2009). A sample size of 325 households drawn through stratified random sampling techniques was used for the study. Firstly, the five villages that make up Iko Esai Community were identified and demarcated. Secondly, sixty-five (65) households in each of the five villages were randomly selected using simple balloting method. Thirdly, a member in each of the sixty-five (65) households in each of the five villages was randomly assigned the research instrument. This method ensured that each member in each of the five villages that make up Ikot Esai Community had equal and independent chance of being selected to participate in the study.

Table 1: The spread of the population of the five Villages in Ikot Esai Community.

Villages	Population
Ebontema	1082
Eyeyen	1051
Otonikpang	1004
Nsidung	932
Heaven	899
Total	4968

Source: CERCOPAN'S Household Survey (2009)

A structured researcher-developed instrument tagged “assessment of benefits of CERCOPAN'S Activities Questionnaire” (ABCAQ) was used to gather data for the study. The instrument had two main sections. Section 1 contained personal data information such as village, gender, educational level, and occupation of respondents. Section II contained twenty-five (25) item statements based on a four-point Likert-type scale. 1 - (SD) Strongly Disagree, 2-(D) Disagree, 3 - (A) Agree, and 4- (SA) Strongly Agree. The twenty-five (25) items on section II of the instrument was sub-divided into 3 sections according to the variables they were meant to measure as follows: Items: 1-5 measured economic benefits of CERCOPAN'S activities to the host community. Items 6-10 measured health benefits accruable to the host community. Items 11-20 measured benefits of Eco-tourism to the host community.

Results and Discussion

Data obtained were organized and analyzed around the research questions and hypotheses. Each of the hypotheses was tested using relevant statistics as follows:

Ho1: There is no significant difference in the benefit derive from eco-touristactivities of CERCOPAN in the 5 villages of Ikot Esai community.

Ho2: There is no significant difference in the socio-economic benefit in the 5villages of the host community.

Ho3: There is no significant difference in the health benefit in the 5 villages of the host community.

Table 2 Raw data of eco-tourism activities

Ecotourism activities	Ban of primate in core area	Primate rehabilitation	Tourist visit to rhoko	Research centre	Educational centre
Ebontema		25	1	2	1
Eyeyen		0	1	1	1
Otonikpan		0	1	0	1
Nsidung		0	1	0	1
Heaven		0	1	0	1
Total	5	25	5	3	5
		Primates		Building	Building

Ecotourism Activities

CERCOPAN has prohibited the people in the 5 villages from hunting of primate in the core area that is conserved by CERCOPAN since monkeys are seen as an endangered species. In Primate Rehabilitation CERCOPAN has returned 25 monkeys back to the wild (enclosure) which is located at Ebontema as indicated in the Table 2 CERCOPAN also engages tourist and conservationist that visited the Rhoko Research Centre for research work and this research

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centre, 2 centres are located at Ebontema and 1 in Eyeyen. The table also shows that each of the villages has an educational centre in Iko Esai.

Ban of Primates: This is recorded as 1 in Table 2 to show the presence of Ban of Primate in the villages, since this cannot be quantified.

Tourist Visit: This is recorded as 1 to show the presence of this in the village, since the villagers have not kept an accurate record of tourist that visited the villages, but the entire tourist that visited CERCOPAN have been recorded in the annual report presented by CERCOPAN.

Table 3: Raw data of socio-economic

Socio economic activities	Snail farming	Employment of locals by cercopan	Baking	Piggery farming	Sewing
Ebontema	3	5	2	1	3
Eyeyen	2	3	2	1	2
Otonikpan	2	3	2	1	3
Nsidung	2	2	2	1	3
Heaven	2	2	2	1	2
Total	11	15	10	5	13
	people	people	people	people	people

Socio-economic Activities

The above table shows that CERCOPAN has introduced snail farming as an alternative source of livelihood to the host community, 3 people were trained in Ebontema, 2 people in Eyeyen, 2 in Otonikpang, 2 in Nsidung, and 2 in Heaven which means 11 people were trained in snail farming in Iko Esai Village.

Employment by CERCOPAN: The study has shown that Iko Esai people have been employed in CERCOPAN, some of the hunters were employed as forest guards and tourist guards in the forest others as education officer, security, and a community development officer. Table 5.2 shows that 5 people were employed in Ebontema, 3 in Eyeyen, 3 in Otonikpang, 2 in Nsidung and 2 in Heaven. Baking, as a way of engaging in the none forest production, 2 persons each were trained in baking in each of the 5 villages.

Sawing training was also carried out as an alternative source of livelihood in the host community. 3 people from Ebontema, 2 from Eyeyen, 3 from Otonikpang, 3 from Nsidung and

2 from Heaven with the total of 13 people that were trained in sewing in the 5 villages of the host community.

Table 4: Raw data of health

Health	Construction of borehole	Environmental education and awareness	Construction of pit latrine	Health education	Free medical care
Ebontema	1	5	3	3	0
Eyeyen	0	6	2	3	0
Otonikpan	0	5	3	2	0
Nsidung	0	6	3	3	0
Heaven	0	7	2	2	0
TOTAL	1	28	13	13	0
	Borehole	Seminar meetings	Latrine	Pit Seminars	

Health

Construction of bore hole: CERCOPAN has constructed one hand pump borehole in Iko Esai Community, and this bore hole is located at Ebontema. This was done to provide a portable drinking water to the host community CERCOPAN observed that the people drink from the same stream they washed with. Table 5.3 above shows that only Ebontema owns borehole in Ikot Esai Community.

Environmental Education & Awareness: The above data shows that CERCOPAN has organized Environmental education seminars to educate the host community about forest resources and how they purify the air they breathe, and a personal hygiene, and issues about health and environment. This seminar was conducted (5) times in Ofonikpang, (6) six times in Nsidung and (7) Seven in Heaven.

Construction of Pit latrine: Table 4 shows that CERCOPAN has constructed pit latrine to reduced mosquito bites and malaria in the host community, 3 of the pit latrines were constructed in Ebontema, 2 in Eyeyen 2 in Otomkpan 3 in Nsidung and 2 in Heaven. Health Education: Table 4 also shows that CERCOPAN has organized health talk in the various villages about how to avoid malaria, Cholera, typhoid fever and HIV/AIDS. CERCOPAN has done this 3 times in Ebontema, 3 in Eyeyen, 2 in Ofonikpang 3 in Nsidung 2 in Heaven. The table shows there is no record of free medical services in the host community.

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Data Analysis and Results

Ho1:

There is no significant difference in the benefit derived from ecotourist activities of CERCOPAN in the 5 villages of Ikot Esai community. This hypothesis was formulated to test the influence of eco-tourism activities of CERCOPAN on tourist attraction to the host Ikot Esai community in Akamkpa Local Government Area of Cross River State, Nigeria. To test the hypothesis, Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was employed.

Table 5: Analysis of Variance of eco-tourism activities of CERCOPAN on tourism attraction to the host Iko Esai community.

Analysis

Ecotourism Activities	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Ebontema	30	2.2333	.77385
Eyeyen	4	3.2500	1.70783
Otonikpang	3	3.0000	2.00000
Nsidung	3	3.0000	2.00000
Heaven	3	3.0000	2.00000
Total	43	2.4884	1.16235

ANOVA

Ecotourism Activities	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F-ratio	Sig.
Between Groups	6.628	4	1.657	1.256	.304
Within Groups	50.117	38	1.319		
Total	56.744	42			

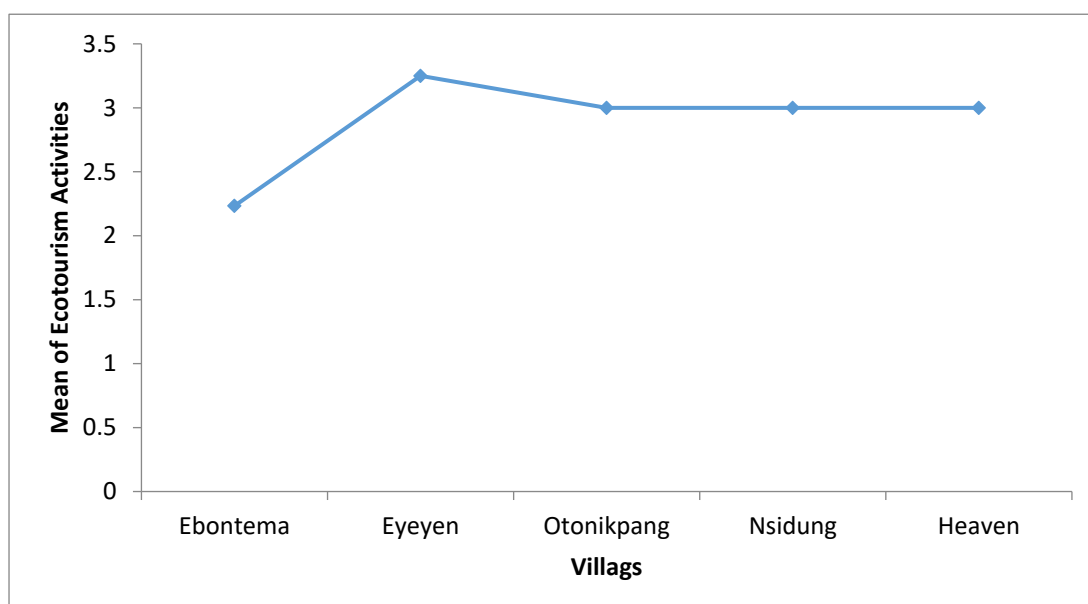


Figure
1:
Eco-

tourism benefits of CERCOPAN by Ikot Esai community

Interpretation:

The result from the analysis above indicates that there is no significant difference between the means of the 5 villages towards their benefit in eco-tourism activities of CERCOPAN because $f(df=4,38) = 1.26$ and $P = 0.30$, greater than the alpha level of significant of 0.05 (i.e., $p = 0.30 > 0.05$). NOTE: df means degrees of freedom.

The null hypothesis was retained, this implies that eco-tourism activities of CERCOPAN does benefit the 5 villages in an equal proportion both analysis and bar chart support this result.

Ho2:

There is no significant difference in the socio-economic benefit in the 5 villages of the host community. This hypothesis was formulated to test the significant influence of CERCOPAN's activities on socio-economic wellbeing of the host Ikot Esai community in Akamkpa Local Government Area of Cross River State, Nigeria.

Table 5.5 Analysis of CERCOPAN'S socio-economic activities on the host Ikot Esai Community.

Descriptive

Socio Economic Activities	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Ebontema	14	2.7143	1.48989
Eyeyen	10	2.8000	1.47573
Otonikpang	11	3.0000	1.54919
Nsidung	10	3.1000	1.59513
Heaven	9	2.8889	1.53659
Total	54	2.8889	1.47516

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ANOVA

Social Economic Activities	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	1.087	4	.272	.117	.976
Within Groups	114.246	49	2.332		
Total	115.333	53			

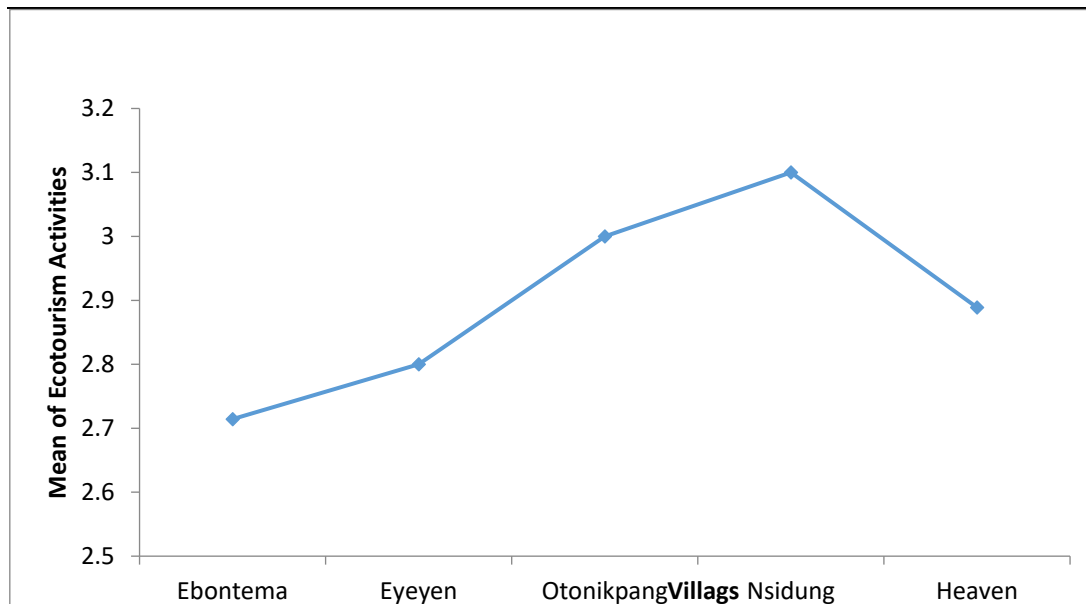


Figure 2: Socio economic benefits of Ikot Esai community

Interpretation:

The result from the analysis above indicates that there is no significant difference between the means of the 5 villages towards their benefit in Social Economic activities of CERCOPAN because $f(df=4,49) = 0.12$ and $p = 0.98$, greater than the alpha level of significant of 0.05 (i.e., $p = 0.98 > 0.05$). The null hypothesis was retained, this implies that socio-economic activities of CERCOPAN does benefit the 5 villages in an equally both analysis and bar chart support this result.

The result of data analysis reveals a significant influence of CERCOPAN'S activities on socio-economic benefits of the host Ikot Esai community. The calculated t-value (0.30) at 0.05 level of significance and degree of freedom of 299 was found to be less than the critical t-value (1.96). The null hypothesis that had predicted no significant influence of CERCOPAN'S activities on socio-economic wellbeing of the host Ikot Esai community was retained. This implies that the activities of CERCOPAN significantly influence socioeconomic wellbeing of the host Ikot Esai Community in Akamkpa Local Government Area of Cross River State, Nigeria. Both analyses and bar chart support this result.

Ho3:

There is no significant difference in the health benefit in the 5 Villages of the Host community. This hypothesis was formulated to test the influence of conservation activities of CERCOPAN on the health conditions of the host Ikot Esai community.

Table 5: Analysis of influence of CERCOPAN'S conservation activities on Health conditions of Host Ikot Esai Community.

DESCRIPTIVE

Health Activities	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Ebontema	5	3.0000	1.58114
Eyeyen	10	3.0000	1.49071
Otonikpang	15	3.0000	1.46385
Nsidung	20	3.0000	1.45095
Heaven	25	3.0000	1.44338
Total	75	3.0000	1.42374

ANOVA

Health Activities	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	.000	4	.000	.000	1.000
Within Groups	150.000	70	2.143		
Total	150.000	74			

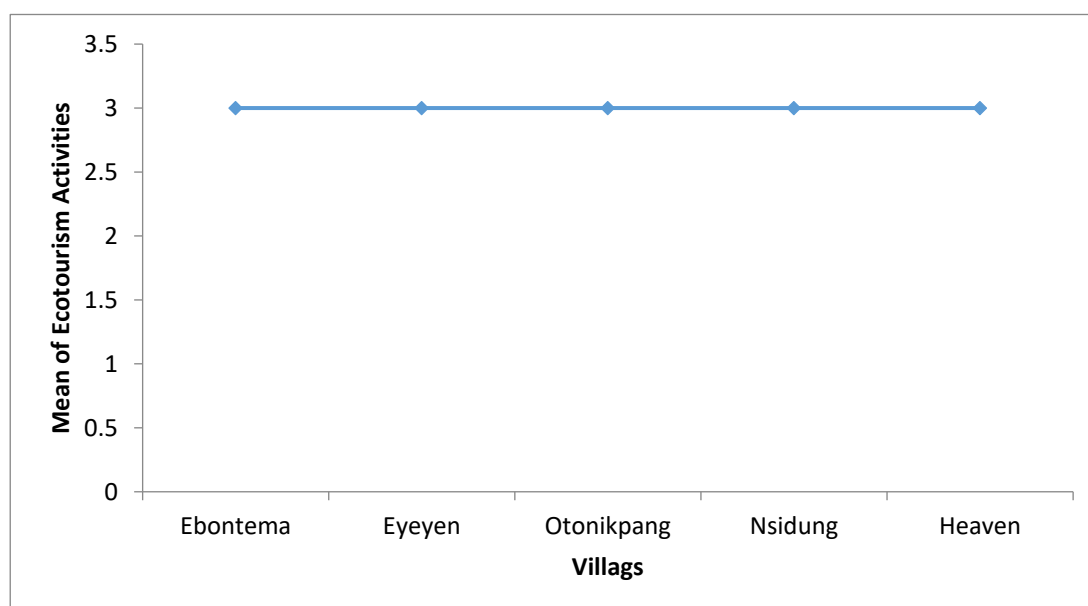


Figure 3: Health benefits of CERCOPAN by Iko Esai community

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Interpretation:

The result from the analysis above indicates that there is no significant difference between the means of the 5 villages towards their benefit in health activities of CERCOPAN because $f(df=4,70) = 0.00$ and $p = 1.00$, greater than the alpha level of significant of 0.05 ($p = 1.00 > 0.05$). The null hypothesis was retained, this implies that health activities of CERCOPAN does benefit the 5 villages in an equally both analysis and bar chart support this result.

The result of data analysis in Table 5 reveals a statistically insignificant difference on CERCOPAN'S conservation activities on the health of people in the 5 villages of the host Iko Esai community in Akamkpa Local Government Area of Cross River State, Nigeria. The null hypothesis that had predicted no statistically significant differences of CERCOPAN'S Conservation activities on the health of people of the host Ikot Esai community was accepted. This implies that the conservation activities of CERCOPAN influences health conditions of the host Ikot Esai community equally, both analysis and bar chart support this result.

Summary of Major Findings

- A statistically insignificant difference exists between eco-tourism activities of CERCOPAN and tourist attraction to the five villages that made up of the host community.
- An insignificant statistical difference exists between CERCOPAN'S conservation activities and socio-economic well-being of the 5 villages of the host Iko Esai community.
- A statistically insignificant influence exists between CERCOPAN'S conservation activities and health conditions of the 5 villages of the host Iko Esai community.

Discussion of Results

Eco-tourism Activities of CERCOPAN and Tourism Attraction to the Host Iko Esai Community.

Analysis of data reveals an insignificant difference of Eco-tourism of socio-cultural and economic well-being of the people in the 5 villages of the host Ikot Esai Community. This resulted in the retention of the null hypothesis that had predicted no statistically significant influence of Eco-tourism on the socio-economic well-being, Ecotourism, and health of the people of the host Ikot Esai Community. This finding supports earlier study finding by Bisong (2001a) that conservation and sustainable development positively affect people living in rural areas as it tends to regulate the rural people's access to conservation benefit thereby providing them of alternative means of livelihoods,

CERCOPAN'S Conservation Activities and Socio-economic Well-being of the Host Ikot Esai Community

The findings of data analysis on Hypothesis One show that CERCOPAN'S conservation has an insignificant difference in economic influence on the 5 villages of the host Ikot Esai

Community. This resulted in accepting of the null hypothesis. This finding agrees with CERCOPAN Community Newsletter (2005) that had noted that youths in the host Ikot Esai Community had been provided alternative livelihood through apprenticeship training in driving, sewing, baking, snail farming, bee keeping, chicken and piggery farming which have proved to enhance economic well-being of the host Ikot Esai Community members. Besides, on the spot assessment by the researcher has revealed that CERCOPAN has provided conservation and development fund which is managed by a democratically elected committee meant to improve economic well-being of the host Ikot Esai Community. The local people are equally employed as guards who now earn salaries.

CERCOPAN'S Conservation Activities and Health Conditions of the Host Ikot Esai Community

Analysis of data reveals an insignificant health influence of CERCOPAN'S activities on the health conditions of the 5 villages in host Ikot Esai Community in Akamkpa Local Government Area of Cross River State, Nigeria. This resulted in accepting of the null hypothesis which had predicted no insignificant difference of CERCOPAN'S activities on the host Ikot Esai Community. This finding agrees with Rethinking Community-based Conservation (2004) and Emeh (1996) earlier findings that construction of ventilated pit latrines, construction of culverts by CERCOPAN have helped to reduce drastically, mosquito bites and the danger of malaria infection among the people of the host community. World Development Report (1992) and CERCOPAN'S Community Newsletter (2005) earlier findings that the provision of potable drinking water through sinking of boreholes and free veterinary services for livestock in the host community by CERCOPAN has improved the health and living conditions of the people also agree with the finding of this study. World Development Report (1992) also stated correctly that seminars and workshops have often been organized by CERCOPAN for the host community to educated them on the dangers of water borne and other communicable diseases and the need to practice healthy lifestyle among the people of the host Iko Esai Community.

Conclusion

Based on the findings, it was concluded that the host Iko Esai Community has benefited in ecotourism, economically, health wise from CERCOPAN conservation activities. Both the analysis (ANOVA) and chart (Bar chart) employed support the above results.

Recommendations

Although CERCOPAN is trying to conserve the forest of Ikot Esai community, with the programme listed in previous chapters. It is important to note that CERCOPAN activities partially affected the livelihood of the community but not on the average because the community has not been fully involved in sensitive matters like what international donors give to CERCOPAN in attempt to conserve the forest and primates. It is strongly recommended that CERCOPAN should partner with the community in the overall project planning and implementation since the livelihood of the people is so much dependent on the forest to avoid future disagreement between the host community and CERCOPAN as a means of transparency in the conservation project. Thus, they need to change their approach.

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- (i) It is recommended that CERCOPAN should improve on the livelihood project of the community.
- (ii) It is recommended that the Host Community review their agreement with CERCOPAN to ensure they have a strong representation.
- (iii) The Federal, State and local governments should rise to the challenges of forest conservation and should not be left in the hands of NGOs alone. The existing laws and decree on forest is not fully implemented and monitored. Government should make a policy that will take over this project as developed by these NGOs and CERCOPAN should not be allowed to have a free hand in promoting their personal motives.
- (iv) Local people should be gainfully employed and pay rolled by CERCOPAN. Seminars and workshops should be organized for Ikot Esai people on resource management.

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