

FEATURES OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF TERRITORIAL COMMUNITIES IN THE CONTEXT OF ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION IN NIGERIA

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These communities are marked by rich cultural diversity, agricultural capabilities, and traditional practices, yet they face significant challenges such as inadequate infrastructure, poverty, weak governance, and environmental degradation. The purpose of the article is to study the peculiarities of the development of territorial communities in Nigeria in the context of economic transformations. This article explores the economic activities and social changes within these communities through the lens of modernization theory, which emphasizes the shift from traditional to modern systems influenced by industrialization, urbanization, and technological progress. Although rural communities are vital to Nigeria's economy, they often experience neglect due to poor leadership, corruption, insecurity, and limited access to essential services. While modernization efforts like infrastructure development, agricultural commercialization, and education reforms have made some headway, obstacles such as cultural resistance, dependence on global systems, and inequality still hinder inclusive growth. The practical significance of the article is the need for localized governance, strategic investments in infrastructure, and customized modernization strategies to unlock the potential of Nigeria's territorial communities. In tackling these challenges, promoting inclusivity, and addressing community-specific needs, Nigeria can achieve sustainable development while maintaining its socio-cultural heritage. One of the ways Nigeria's territorial communities can develop economically is by utilizing the opportunities they have. Territorial communities, which are characterized by differences in ethnicity, geographic location, and socioeconomic status, play an important role in shaping the country's overall development. Lack of access to basic resources, inadequate infrastructure, and insufficient services are obstacles faced by territorial communities. Despite the barriers, Nigeria's local communities are the cornerstone of the country's untapped potential. The great cultural diversity, strengths in agriculture, and local self-help initiatives are all ingredients for success if they are well developed.

Keywords: territorial communities, economic transformation, rural development, social capital, investments.

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Statement of the problem. The development of territorial communities in Nigeria is essential for the country's economic transformation, but this process encounters significant challenges due to socio-economic inequalities, governance inefficiencies, and limited access to resources. As Nigeria shifts from an oil-dependent economy to a more diversified economic structure, grassroots participation in development processes has become increasingly important. Territorial communities, with their distinct cultural, geographic, and administrative identities, play a crucial role in achieving inclusive growth. However, ongoing issues related to resource allocation, infrastructure, and human capital development impede their ability to contribute effectively to national progress. Previous research has underscored the relationship between local governance and economic transformation. Olaniyan et al. [23] pointed out the inefficiencies in local governance structures that hinder community development by mismanaging resources and failing to align federal policies with local needs [23, p. 56]. Likewise, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, 2022) observed that although decentralization policies, like the Local Government Autonomy Bill, have been proposed, their implementation is often inconsistent,

worsening disparities in service delivery and development outcomes. Additionally, insecurity and political instability in regions such as the North-East and North-West have disrupted development efforts, leaving many communities unable to engage in or benefit from national economic transformation initiatives.

Despite these findings, there is still a gap in understanding the complex relationship between economic transformation and the development of territorial communities in Nigeria. Most existing studies tend to concentrate on macroeconomic policies and national-level outcomes, often neglecting the real-life experiences of territorial communities and their unique developmental challenges. For example, while the National Bureau of Statistics [20] has reported improvements in key economic indicators like GDP growth and poverty reduction, these figures do not reflect the uneven distribution of benefits between rural and urban areas [23, p. 78]. Furthermore, there is a lack of research on how the cultural and social dynamics within these communities affect their ability to engage with and adapt to economic changes. Filling these gaps is essential for creating effective policies that connect national goals with local realities. Current community development strategies often

take a one-size-fits-all approach, which fails to consider the diverse socio-economic and cultural contexts of Nigeria's territorial communities. Additionally, the contributions of local stakeholders, such as community leaders, women's groups, and youth organizations, in promoting development are still not thoroughly examined in the literature.

Analysis of recent research and publications. The development of territorial communities in Nigeria is closely linked to the country's ongoing economic transformation, which presents both opportunities and challenges. As Africa's largest economy, Nigeria is working to shift from an oil-dependent economy to one that includes agriculture, technology, and manufacturing. These changes have significant effects at the local level, where communities must adjust to new patterns of resource distribution, job structures, and infrastructure improvements. It is essential to understand how economic transformation interacts with community development to tackle the socio-economic inequalities that continue to exist in Nigeria. Territorial communities in Nigeria are characterized by their geographical, cultural, and administrative boundaries, making them vital for grassroots development. With more than 250 ethnic groups and a large land area, the diversity of these communities presents both opportunities and challenges for achieving unified development. The economic transformation in Nigeria has led to the introduction of new policies and initiatives, such as the National Development Plan 2021–2025, which aims to promote inclusive growth by empowering local governments to meet the specific needs of their communities [15, p. 34]. Despite these initiatives, significant disparities in access to education, healthcare, and infrastructure persist between rural and urban areas, affecting the speed and quality of community development.

The connection between economic transformation and the development of territorial communities is made more complex by governance challenges. Initiatives like the Local Government Autonomy Bill are designed to strengthen local governments, yet issues such as ineffective policy implementation and poor resource management have stalled progress note A. Olaniyan, S. Olaleye and T. Akintoye [23, p. 56]. The gap between federal policies and local conditions often leaves communities struggling with poverty, unemployment, and inadequate access to essential services. Closing this gap necessitates not only improved governance frameworks but also active involvement from community members in the decision-making process. Additionally, the importance of human capital development in fostering economic transformation at the community level cannot be overlooked. Investments in education, vocational training, and entrepreneurship initiatives have shown to be effective in empowering individuals and alleviating poverty [20, p. 78]. Nevertheless, many territorial communities, especially in northern Nigeria, encounter obstacles such as insecurity, gender disparities, and cultural constraints that hinder their ability to fully capitalize on these opportunities. Tackling these challenges requires customized interventions that honor the distinct cultural and socio-economic realities of these communities.

The economic transformation in Nigeria has significantly impacted the development of local communities. As the country seeks to diversify away from an oil-dependent economy, various communities are adjusting to these new economic conditions. E. Nwankwo, I.O. Osokoya highlight that effective local governance is essential for maintaining the progress made through economic reforms, as it allows communities to leverage their resources for development [21, p. 23].

In light of economic restructuring, there has been a strong focus on the importance of community engagement in the development process. Local communities are increasingly seen as key players in driving economic activity. The Nigerian government has launched several initiatives aimed at empowering these communities, fostering a sense of ownership among residents. O. Okwuashi notes that community-led efforts not only stimulate economic growth but also strengthen social bonds, providing a pathway to sustainable development [22, p. 45].

The potential of territorial communities in Nigeria to drive national economic transformation is significant. From agricultural centers in the Middle Belt to growing technology hubs in urban areas like Lagos and Abuja, the resilience and creativity of local communities are essential to Nigeria's economy. To fully harness this potential, a comprehensive strategy is needed that includes policy reform, infrastructure improvements, and social inclusion. By focusing on the development of these communities, Nigeria can foster a more balanced and sustainable economic transformation that benefits everyone.

Formation of the objectives of the article (task statement).

The purpose of the article is to study the peculiarities of development of territorial communities in Nigeria in the context of economic transformations at the present stage of its development. Solving this problem requires the following tasks:

- to investigate community level economic dynamics and development;
- to investigate economic dynamics and development at the community level;
- to substantiate the theoretical foundations of the peculiarities of the development of territorial communities in Nigeria.

Summary of the main research material.

Territorial communities. Territorial communities are essential for local self-governance, acting as the main entities responsible for functions and powers at the local level [26, p. 23]. They significantly contribute to boosting economic activity and enhancing the welfare of citizens through effective strategic planning [26, p. 25]. The idea of territorial communities includes political, social, and economic aspects, with their legal status shaped by specific rights and responsibilities [16, p. 45]. These communities are self-organizing groups that have their own customs, standards, and shared objectives [17, p. 56]. The growth of territorial communities can be seen as a process with clear stages [17, p. 58]. In the realm of devolution, the term "territorial policy communities" has come into play, referring

to geographically defined groups of actors within and across various policy areas. The success of territorial communities hinges on their capacity to adapt to evolving paradigms and tackle local challenges [17, p. 60].

Territorial communities are defined by their geographical boundaries and consist of populations that engage in social, cultural, economic, and administrative interactions within a specific area. They serve as the basic units of societal organization, which can include rural villages, towns, or urban neighborhoods, where people share common interests and resources. These communities often act as the main link between individuals and government structures, playing a crucial role in the implementation of development initiatives and the promotion of local growth. In Nigeria, these territorial communities are incredibly diverse, reflecting the country's ethnic variety, cultural traditions, and geographic differences, all of which shape their developmental paths. The idea of territorial communities goes beyond just physical locations; it also encompasses social bonds and a shared identity. As noted by MacQueen et al. [17], a community is characterized by a sense of belonging, mutual trust, and interdependence among its members. This understanding resonates with the structure of Nigerian territorial communities, where social networks and traditional leadership significantly influence decision-making and conflict resolution. These communities depend on kinship ties, religious connections, and shared cultural practices to foster unity, which in turn impacts their ability to tackle developmental issues like poverty, education, and healthcare disparities [15, p. 34].

Territorial communities play a vital role in both local and national development. They often serve as centers for production, trade, and innovation, especially in agriculture and small-scale industries. In Nigeria, rural communities are key players in the agricultural sector, making significant contributions to food security and job creation [20, 2023, p. 78]. However, these communities often encounter structural challenges, such as poor infrastructure, limited access to financial resources, and vulnerability to environmental threats like flooding and desertification. In contrast, urban communities face issues like housing shortages, overcrowding, and social inequalities. These economic and environmental factors highlight the necessity for targeted policies that cater to the specific needs of territorial communities, enhancing their development and resilience. Additionally, territorial communities are essential for governance and the delivery of public services. Decentralization efforts, such as the Local Government Autonomy Bill in Nigeria, seek to empower these communities by providing them with more control over resources and decision-making [23, p. 56]. However, the success of these reforms relies on the ability of local governments to engage with community members and tackle their distinct challenges. Research indicates that when communities are actively involved in governance, the results tend to be more inclusive and sustainable. This underscores the need for establishing institutional frameworks that encourage the participation of territorial communities in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of development initiatives. By harnessing their unique strengths and addressing

their challenges, territorial communities can significantly contribute to achieving national development goals.

Economic transformation in Nigeria. Nigeria, often called the "Giant of Africa," has experienced significant economic changes over the past few decades. Despite its abundant natural resources and skilled workforce, the country has encountered numerous challenges that have impeded sustainable growth. However, recent trends suggest a movement towards a more diversified economy, a shift that could ultimately position Nigeria as a key player on the global economic stage. A key feature of Nigeria's economic transformation is the move away from reliance on oil. Traditionally, oil has been the cornerstone of the Nigerian economy, accounting for nearly 90% of foreign exchange earnings and about 70% of government revenue [30, p. 45]. However, fluctuations in oil prices and the global shift towards renewable energy have prompted the Nigerian government to explore alternative revenue sources. The agricultural sector has been a focal point, with initiatives designed to enhance local production and decrease food imports. According to the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, agricultural output has seen significant growth in recent years, resulting in improved food security and job creation [15, p. 34]. The rise of the tech sector is another significant aspect of Nigeria's economic transformation. Lagos, the commercial heart of Nigeria, has developed into a vibrant tech ecosystem, drawing both local and international investment. Startups like Paystack and Flutterwave have gained global recognition, highlighting Nigeria's potential in fintech and other technology-driven fields. The World Economic Forum (2022) noted that Nigeria boasts the largest number of startups in Africa, showcasing the country's increasing capacity for innovation and entrepreneurial spirit. This digital revolution not only fuels economic growth but also opens up better employment opportunities for the youth of Nigeria.

Infrastructure development is a vital area that needs focus in Nigeria's journey toward economic transformation. While there have been investments in roads, railways, and power systems, challenges still exist. The National Bureau of Statistics reported that inadequate infrastructure costs Nigeria around \$29 billion each year. Enhancing infrastructure is crucial for boosting trade, attracting investments, and improving overall productivity. The government's ongoing efforts to upgrade the rail systems and enhance electricity supply are important steps that could lead to stronger economic growth.

In May 2023, till date a new administration of Bola Ahmed Tinubu launched significant reforms aimed at stabilizing and boosting the economy. Among the key actions taken were the major removal of the gasoline subsidy and the alignment of the exchange rate with market realities. These reforms were designed to yield fiscal and economic advantages, and early signs indicate positive results, including a decrease in the fiscal deficit from 6.2% to 4.4% of GDP over the course of a year. The World Bank projects economic growth of 3.3% in 2024 and 3.6% by 2025, although challenges such as inflation and the necessity for job creation persist [30, p. 12]. Tabular analysis illustrating the Economic Transformation in Nigeria as seen in Table 1.

Table 1

Economic transformation in Nigeria

Area	Past Situation	Current/Future Trends
Agriculture	Predominantly subsistence farming, low mechanization	Increased mechanization, agribusiness expansion
Industrialization	Weak manufacturing sector, reliance on imports	Growth of local industries, diversification efforts
Infrastructure Development	Poor road networks, unreliable electricity supply.	Investments in roads, railways, and power projects.
Financial Sector	Limited banking services, weak credit facilities	Expansion of fintech, mobile banking, and credit access
Employment and Workforce	High unemployment, reliance on public sector jobs.	Growth in entrepreneurship, digital economy jobs.

Source: author's presentation

Nigeria's path to economic transformation is marked by numerous opportunities and challenges. Key drivers of growth include increased diversification, the emergence of the tech industry, and improvements in infrastructure. By implementing effective policies and fostering collaboration between the government and private sector, Nigeria can tap into its immense potential and position itself as a leader in the African economy. As the country works through its transformation, maintaining progress and tackling ongoing challenges will shape the future of its economic landscape.

Community level economic dynamics and development.

Economic activities at the community level are essential for shaping local culture and enhancing well-being. In rural areas, directing development efforts towards larger communities can stimulate more economic activity due to greater multiplier effects. Farming communities often show higher levels of interdependence and concern for reputation, not just among farmers but also among non-farmers, through their involvement in collective activities [27, p. 78].

Territorial communities in Nigeria are confronted with numerous challenges that impede their development and stability. A major concern is the ongoing insecurity and violence affecting different regions. For example, the northeast has been severely impacted by insurgencies,

resulting in widespread displacement and disruption of community life. As of November 2020, around 2 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) were reported, with 91% of the displacements linked to ongoing conflict, particularly in Borno State. Another critical issue is the environmental degradation caused by oil exploration, especially in the Niger Delta. Communities in this area have experienced contaminated farmlands and water sources due to oil spills. The exit of international oil companies has raised worries about the cleanup of existing environmental damage, with concerns that local entities may not have the capacity to tackle these complex problems. The migration from rural to urban areas intensifies these problems, as cities struggle to accommodate the growing number of people seeking better opportunities. Together, these challenges weaken efforts for rural transformation and underscore the urgent need for leadership focused on development, enhanced accountability, and active community involvement in tackling the intricate issues confronting Nigerian territorial communities. A detailed examination of the economic dynamics and development at the community level as illustrate in Table 2.

Theoretical framework. *Modernization theory.* The idea of ranking development levels of human societies according to certain criteria has existed at least since the

Table 2

Economic dynamics and development at the community level

Factor	Description	Impact on Economic Development
Social Capital	Networks, relationships, and trust within a community.	Encourages cooperation, resource sharing, and collective problem-solving, fostering economic resilience.
Local governance	Leadership, policies, and decision-making at the community level.	Effective governance promotes transparency, accountability, and strategic resource allocation for development.
Infrastructure	Roads, electricity, water supply, and communication networks.	Good infrastructure enhances productivity, connectivity, and access to markets.
Access to Finance	Availability of credit, savings, and investment opportunities.	Facilitates business expansion, entrepreneurship, and economic inclusion.
Human Capital	Education, skills, and workforce development.	Higher literacy and skill levels improve employability and innovation.
Economic Diversification	Variety of economic activities and industries in the community.	Reduces dependence on a single sector, increasing economic stability.
Market Access	Availability and accessibility of local and external markets.	Better market access encourages trade, higher incomes, and economic growth.
Natural Resources	Availability and sustainable use of land, water, and minerals.	Responsible resource management supports long-term economic viability.
Cultural and Social Norms	Traditional beliefs and societal behaviors affecting economic activities.	Some cultural norms may encourage cooperation, while others may limit economic participation (e.g., gender roles).
Community Participation	Engagement of residents in decision-making and development efforts.	Inclusive participation fosters ownership, sustainability, and trust in development initiatives.

Source: author's presentation

times of classical antiquity, but it ultimately began to acquire its scientific dimension only in the 19th century. It was then that the first scientific schools appeared, which began to consider the problems of socio-economic and political development of various human societies and to put forward certain general concepts of their socio-political evolution. Finally, the paradigms of research in this area emerged only in the 20th century, which was due to both scientific and purely political factors. One of the most influential approaches in this area was the consideration of socio-economic and socio-political development based on the 'modernity' / 'traditionalism' dichotomy, which became the basis of the concept of modernization.

The basis of modernization theories, for which Talcott Parsons (1902–1979) and Edward Shils (1911–1995) are usually considered to have been the founding figures, despite some differences between each of the individual theories of this circle, is the idea that human societies develop in accordance with a certain evolutionary perspective. The main differences between a 'modern society' and a 'traditional' one, according to Parsons, are the dominance of the industrial sphere over agriculture, individualism over collectivism, secular science and philosophy over mythology and religion, the presence of a developed division of labour and the predominance of individual social status over hereditary ones, as well as of universalism over particularism.

Modernization theory suggests that society's progress from traditional to modern frameworks through processes like industrialization, urbanization, and the integration of advanced technologies. This theory emphasizes the changes occurring in Nigerian territorial communities, especially the transition from subsistence farming to commercial agriculture and agro-industrial practices. Rostow (1960) points out that the shift from traditional agrarian systems to modern economic structures is a crucial stage in development. In Nigeria, government initiatives such as the Anchor Borrowers' Program have promoted agricultural commercialization, empowering rural communities economically and decreasing their dependence on traditional farming methods [7, p. 23]. Education is essential in the modernization process, as it provides individuals with the necessary skills for economic transformation. Inkeles and Smith argue that education is vital for nurturing modern values, innovation, and entrepreneurship. In Nigeria, the growth of educational institutions and vocational training programs has enhanced human capital development, particularly in rural regions. For instance, initiatives like Teach for Nigeria strive to close the educational gap in underprivileged communities, aligning with the modernization theory's focus on education as a catalyst for progress [24, p. 78].

Infrastructure development plays a vital role in modernizing territorial communities. Theorists of modernization emphasize that essential services like roads, electricity, and water supply are crucial for economic growth. In Nigeria, both federal and state governments have made significant investments in rural electrification and road construction through initiatives such as the Rural Access and Mobility Project (RAMP), which aim to link communities with markets and essential services. These

initiatives reflect the principles of modernization theory by fostering economic participation and enhancing living standards [6, p. 12]. Urbanization and migration are key components of modernization that are particularly visible in Nigeria. As Lewis (1954) predicted, industrialization tends to spur rural-urban migration, contributing to the expansion of urban areas. However, this trend has led to overcrowding in cities and a lack of development in certain rural regions. The issues arising from urban migration highlight the necessity for balanced territorial development, a core aspect of modernization theory. Initiatives like Integrated Rural Development Projects seek to mitigate urban migration by creating economic opportunities in rural settings [13, p. 56].

Cultural adaptation poses a significant challenge in the modernization of Nigerian communities. The process of modernization often requires changes to traditional norms, including land inheritance laws and gender roles, which can be met with resistance. In Nigeria, certain cultural practices can restrict women's access to economic resources, such as land, thereby limiting the potential for inclusive development. Overcoming these cultural obstacles is essential for effectively implementing modernization principles.

Modernization theory also points out the dangers of relying on global systems. Frank (1967) criticized modernization for fostering dependency on outside markets and technologies. While Nigerian territorial communities gain from global trade and technology, they often encounter vulnerabilities like price fluctuations in international markets. The dependence on imported machinery and fertilizers for farming further exemplifies this reliance, underscoring the necessity for localized solutions to achieve sustainable development [11, p. 23]. Moreover, effective governance is crucial for modernization, as sound policies can drive economic transformation. Lipset (1959) argued that political stability and good governance are essential for development. In Nigeria, initiatives such as the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) aim to modernize the economy through reforms in education, health, and infrastructure. However, challenges in execution and corruption impede the full achievement of these objectives.

In summary, applying modernization theory to the economic development of Nigeria's territorial communities reveals a blend of progress and obstacles. While advancements have been made in areas like infrastructure, education, and agricultural commercialization, issues such as inequality, cultural resistance, and dependence on global systems continue to exist. For sustainable development, modernization efforts need to be adapted to local contexts, ensuring inclusive growth and cultural preservation, as suggested.

Sustainable development theory. Sustainable Development Theory came about in the late 20th century as a reaction to the increasing concerns over the environmental, social, and economic issues arising from unrestrained industrialization and globalization.

Sustainable development theory rests on three main pillars: economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental protection. For local communities in Nigeria, these principles are especially important given the country's heavy

dependence on natural resources and the stark differences in socio-economic conditions that exist across various regions. By focusing on participatory methods and fair distribution of resources, this theory offers a solid framework for tackling community challenges like reducing poverty, managing resources effectively, and building capacity.

In Nigeria, local communities are grappling with issues like poverty, poor resource management, and the impacts of changing economies. Sustainable development theory provides a way for these communities to adjust to economic shifts while also protecting their natural resources and encouraging inclusive growth. For instance, enhancing agricultural productivity in rural regions while also safeguarding ecosystems fits right within this framework. Programs like the Nigerian Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) show how these sustainable development principles are put into action to tackle these challenges [19, p. 12].

Conclusions. One way for the territorial divisions to Nigeria to develop economically is to take advantage of opportunities that they bring. Territorial communities characterized by differences in ethnic backgrounds, geographic location, and socio-economic positions are important in shaping the overall development of the country. Nevertheless, the lack of access to essential resources, inadequate infrastructure, and insufficient numbers of services are the obstacles these areas face in several ways.

The rise and fall of the different communities caused by the economic progress are mainly due to the lack of political inclusivity, poor governance, and urban-biased economic activities. Moreover, the reasons such as one is poverty, there are not enough infrastructure and the institutions are weak, and access to education and healthcare is limited that make the problem of economic inequality even worse. The

problem of unsound management of local resources and the non-consideration of area-specific needs become a big issue that prevents these communities from contributing to Nigeria's economic growth effectively.

Despite the barriers, Nigeria local communities are the cornerstone of essential untapped potential of the country that can be applied in a sustainable way. The great cultural diversity, agricultural strengths, and local self-help initiatives are the ingredients for success in case they are well supported.

Recommendations:

1. State Government should enhance local governance by shifting decision-making power to communities, allowing them to tackle their specific challenges and manage resources more effectively.

2. There should be an infrastructure Development the focus on investing in critical infrastructure such as roads, electricity, water supply, and digital connectivity to connect urban and rural areas, promoting economic growth and inclusivity.

3. The need for economic diversification to encourage the diversification of local economies by backing agriculture, small businesses, and tourism. Offer technical training and financial support to empower local entrepreneurs.

4. There should be equitable resource Allocation Guarantee a fair and transparent distribution of national resources, paying special attention to marginalized groups, to help reduce economic inequalities and foster balanced regional development.

5. Establishment of community-based Development Programs Launch participatory development initiatives that involve community members in the planning and decision-making processes, concentrating on education, health, and skills training to build human capital and improve economic prospects.

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ОСОБЛИВОСТІ РОЗВИТКУ ТЕРИТОРІАЛЬНИХ ГРОМАД В КОНТЕКСТІ ЕКОНОМІЧНИХ ТРАНСФОРМАЦІЙ В НІГЕРІЇ

Трансформація територіальних громад Нігерії має важливе значення для сталого розвитку, оскільки ці території мають потенціал для стимулювання національного зростання. Ці громади відзначаються багатим культурним розмаїттям, сільськогосподарськими можливостями та традиційними практиками, але вони стикаються зі значними проблемами, такими як недостатня інфраструктура, бідність, слабе управління та погіршення навколишнього середовища. Мета статті полягає в дослідженні особливостей розвитку територіальних громад Нігерії в контексті економічних трансформацій. Ця стаття досліджує економічну діяльність і соціальні зміни в цих спільнотах через призму теорії модернізації, яка наголошує на переході від традиційних до сучасних систем під впливом індустріалізації, урбанізації та технологічного прогресу. Хоча сільські громади є життєво важливими для економіки Нігерії, вони часто зазнають нехтування через погане керівництво, корупцію, відсутність безпеки та обмежений доступ до основних послуг. Хоча зусилля з модернізації, такі як розвиток інфраструктури, комерціалізація сільського господарства та реформи освіти, досягли певного прогресу, такі перешкоди, як культурний опір, залежність від глобальних систем і нерівність, все ще заважають інклюзивному зростанню. Практичне значення статті полягає в необхідності локального управління, стратегічних інвестицій в інфраструктуру та індивідуальних стратегій модернізації для розкриття потенціалу територіальних громад Нігерії. Вирішуючи ці виклики, сприяючи інклюзивності та вирішуючи специфічні потреби громад, Нігерія може досягти сталого розвитку, зберігаючи свою соціально-культурну спадщину. Одним із способів економічного розвитку територіальних громад Нігерії є використання можливостей, які вони мають. Важливе значення у формуванні загального розвитку країни мають територіальні громади, які характеризуються відмінностями в етнічному походженні, географічному розташуванні та соціально-економічному становищі. Відсутність доступу до основних ресурсів, невідповідна інфраструктура та недостатня кількість послуг є перешкодами, з якими стикаються територіальні громади. Незважаючи на бар'єри, місцеві громади Нігерії є наріжним каменем невикористаного потенціалу країни. Велике культурне розмаїття, сильні сторони сільського господарства та місцеві ініціативи самодопомоги є складовими успіху, якщо вони добре розвинуті.

Ключові слова: територіальні громади, економічна трансформація, розвиток сільських територій, соціальний капітал, інвестиції.

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