

MAPPING CAPABILITIES OF INDUSTRIALIZATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AKWA IBOM STATE, UYO, NIGERIA.

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KEY WORDS

Maps / Data Production, Map Contents and Role of Cartography & geodata.

INTRODUCTION

The fact that the present Akwa Ibom State was created on 23rd September, 1987 from the region Southern Bight of Bonny formerly called Cross River State whose creation was in the year 1975, would not be forgotten in the history of States creation in Nigeria. It could also worth mentioning that the states of Akwa Ibom and Cross River had their initial origin from South Eastern State in 1967, at the inception of the Nigerian Civil War, a gesture to avoid disintegration of the country between 1967 and 1970, the Civil War years. By September 1987, the area of studies had ten Local Government Areas which has now been increased to thirty one Local Government Areas, an opening yardstick to foster industrialization and sustainable development.

In spite of the above vision statement, investigation had proved that before the State creation on the 23rd September, 1987, they were few industries sited around some localities in the then Cross River State. These industries were to yield industrial dividends to the people where they were located for enhancement of socio-economic activities and sustainable developments, unfortunately nearly all of them folded up before and shortly after Akwa Ibom State was created. The locations for the ailing industries were in Ikot Ekpene for Sunshine Batteries and International Biscuits Industries Ltd., Qua Steel Industry Ltd was at Eket, Asbestonite Industry in Oron, Abak haboured Pamil Industry Ltd., while Quality Ceramics Ltd was in Uyo and Peacock Paints Ltd was situated at Etinan. The years these industries were established and in the other hand when they faced ailing and folded up finally.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this submission revolves on mapping capabilities of Industrialization for sustainable development on locations of Industries based on source of local raw materials in Akwa Ibom State.

METHODOLOGY

Methodology for data collection involved elaborate field work, interviews and distribution of questionnaires, published records while some visual representations took to tabular forms and maps. Four hundred (400) copies of questionnaires were randomly distributed in the virgin Local Government Areas where Akwa Ibom State was created in 1987. On the whole, three hundred and sixty questionnaires were retrieved. Data was analyzed using simple percentage calculations to determine the acceptability of respondents towards industrialization of the State for sustainable development.

THE STUDY AREA

The geographical co-ordinates of Akwa Ibom State lies within Latitude 4o30'N and 5o30'N and Longitude 7o30'E and 8o20'E. Akwa Ibom State is bounded in the North by Abia State, in the South by Bight of Bonny, in the East by Cross River State and in the West by Rivers State. See figures 1 and 2. The State has a land mass of 7,245,935 Sq Km (Uyo Master Plan 1991) and a population of 3,920,208 million people (NPC 2006). The area is rich in oil mineral resources and ranks 1st among the oil producing States in Nigeria

MAP PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES

Two maps were used in this study. Figure 1 whose history has been given in the background introduction of this work had its original scale on 1:950,000 and became reproduced to scale 1:750,000 while figure 2 which was formerly on scale 1:900,000 witnessed its turned out to scale 1:700,000. Two of the maps passed through Cartography and GIS Technology, (Obot 2005), (Mohd Din and Ahmad 2008). They were scanned, Geo-referenced, and digitized to create a digital database using Arc View 3.1 software. Other map layers in the database included those of Bight of Bonny (Water Body), Local Government Area delineation, text and colours that were also registered on the map face ended reproduction techniques.

RESULTS

The results showed 99.96% of respondents in the study area accepting that industries should be established in Akwa Ibom State to usher in sustainable development. A careful look on the analysis of data also indicated that respondents from the investigated area provided positive yearnings for immediate future plans to industrialize the State based on the presence of local raw materials.

CONCLUSION

Ø Cartography and GIS Technologies has proved an inevitable source for producing maps which serve as tools for planning any project of industrialization for sustainable development.

Ø A careful study of our raw materials sources has been mapped out to suit the type of industries and their locations in the designated Local Government Areas.

Ø The benefits of Industrialization to the State had also been critically examined that will keep all the indigenes busily employed to manage their personal affairs than depending on gratis to commit crimes against development.