International Journal of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences2017, 3(1), 13-19 IJHASS

SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION: INVESTIGATING PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN UNCONTROLLED URBAN GROWTH IN NYANYA - A SUBURB OF ABUJA, NIGERIA

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Keywords:
Sustainable Urbanization
Urban Growth

Innovation
Received: 12 October 2016
Accepted: 11 December 2016
Published: 07 February 2017

Abstract.
Sustainable urbanization is said to be key to successful development in urban areas, most especially those that have a rapid population growth. Identifying the various problems caused by the rapid urban growth in developing countries will go a long way in providing basic urban needs such as the maximization of economic efficiency in the use of resources including air, water and soil in the area. This paper thus investigates the issues of uncontrolled urban growth in Abuja, Nigeria by discerning the issues encountered in rural-urban drift in Nyanya, in order to create a humane-living environment that tends towards attaining sustainable development. And to identify and analyse challenges that relate to sustainable development, the cause of increase in population of Nyanya and the need for proper services and infrastructure in the area. The study adopted both qualitative and quantitative methods of inquiry. Data were analysed using appropriate statistical tools and content analysis. The result shows that major challenges encountered in uncontrolled urban growth include: lack of planning policies, poor air quality and traffic fatality. Based on the findings, there is a need for proper growth policies and controlled planning, which can be achieved through the use of modern technology and innovation.

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