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**Rasheed Mutairu Akande**  
Ph.D. Department of Physical  
and Health Education,  
Emmanuel Alayande College of  
Education, Oyo, Oyo State,  
Nigeria

## Management variables as factors for grassroots sports development among public secondary schools students in Oyo federal constituency, Oyo State, Nigeria

**Rasheed Mutairu Akande**

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### Abstract

This study examined management variables as factors for grassroots sports development among public secondary schools students in Oyo Federal Constituency, Oyo state, Nigeria. Multistage (Purposive, stratified, quota, proportional and simple random) sampling techniques were used in selecting 1600 participants from public secondary schools in Oyo Federal Constituency of Oyo state. The descriptive survey research design was adopted for the study while a validated self developed questionnaire with reliability Co-efficient value through Cronbach's alpha was used to collect data for the study. They were Management Facilities Variable Scale (MFVS), Management Equipment Variable Scale (MEVS), Management Personnel Variable Scale (MPVS) and Grassroots Sports Development Scale (GSDS) with the following reliability values 0.81, 0.79, 0.70 and 0.73 respectively. The demographic data of the respondents were analyzed with frequency counts and simple percentages while inferential statistics of multiple regression was used to test the hypotheses. The two null hypotheses tested at 0.05 level of significance were rejected which showed that facilities, equipment and personnel as management variables were relatively and compositely significant to be factors for grassroots sports development among public secondary schools students in Oyo Federal Constituency, Oyo state, Nigeria. It was however, recommended that facilities, equipment and personnel should be provided in the schools for regular sports practices among the students. Also, School authority should rehabilitate and repair existing sports facilities and equipment respectively for students in order to encourage and permit them to use their leisure time for sports.

**Keywords:** management, variables, grassroots, sports and development

### Introduction

Grassroots sports refer to participation in a non-profit sports programme by amateur at a local level sometimes in an association or club for normal everyday exercise outside the organized professional teams. Participation in grassroots sports has potential of benefitting the young athletes physically, psychologically and socially Merkel, (2013) [6]. In terms of physical benefits the effects of sports in the human physiology has been extensively acknowledged (Lee *et al*, 2014) [5], which includes reduction in the rate of obesity among the children through physical activities. Sports development refers to the gradual increase, attainment and advancement of sport from low level to a higher level with due recognition and consideration of the factors that promote the realization and actualization of sports development (Mohamed, 2017) [7]. These factors include: facilities, equipment, personnel among others. Therefore, Deemua and Alaubi, (2018) [2], opined that grassroots sports development is the exposure and practice of youths and young adults, male and female within rural and urban communities areas of the country in sporting activities and skills demonstration for optimal performance. The availability of standardized sports facilities and equipment is an integral parts of grassroots sports development. According to the Federal Republic of Nigeria's Sports Policy (2009) [3], it is the responsibility of the Local Government Councils to ensure the grassroots sports development, which cover primary and secondary schools and community sports as well as recreation. The Local Government put in place facilities, equipment and programmes for the encouragement of sports. Awoma, Okakah and Arainwu (2015) [1], said that most of our play grounds were no more in existence and many schools were without sporting facilities and equipment unlike the case before. Some years back, sports grounds were converted into residential uses and the few ones available especially in educational institutions are not

**Corresponding Author:**  
**Rasheed Mutairu Akande**  
Ph.D. Department of Physical  
and Health Education,  
Emmanuel Alayande College of  
Education, Oyo, Oyo State,  
Nigeria

properly maintained. Talabi (1998) <sup>[9]</sup> opined that the attainment of a world class status in sports is a reflection of the presence of top standard equipment and facilities. He further said that Nigeria as a developing nation in particular, wish to be at the same level of the development with developed countries sports-wise overnight, but that while developed countries are putting so much into building excellent facilities and providing standard equipment as well as creating conducive environments for their athletes, developing country such as Nigeria seem to lag behind in the provision of the necessary amenities. He further stressed that one area of very poor start is in the provision of standard facilities and equipment while the few provided are obsolete, not functional or substandard. Additionally, in achieving the objectives of grassroots sports development, place of officials cannot be over emphasis because of its paramount to the programme. There is need to recruit right personnels that is, coaches and sports organizers to all the Local Government Headquarters to enable them reach the local level including schools and discover the hidden talents, Deemua and Alaubi, (2018) <sup>[2]</sup>. However, the success and failure of any grassroots sports development could be attributed to provision of right facilities, equipment and personnel. Grassroots sports development would require facilities in all sports in our schools which are responsibility of the government, individuals and private organizations.

### Statement of the problem

Grassroots sports development are the driving force behind higher levels of activities in local communities that gives opportunities for young boys and girls to participate in sports in those days, precisely in 70s and early 80s. Then, many secondary school students were motivated and encouraged with existing sports facilities, equipment and personnel, in which teachers help to identify these raw talents among the students during intramural sports which they later nurture and train to represent their schools and community in extramural competition respectively. Nowadays reverse is the case, because there seems to be a lack of commitment and passion for grassroots sports development in our schools and local communities. School's Boys and Girls nowadays prefer to use their leisure time for frivolous activities such as abuse of drug, violence, fraudster (yahoo yahoo) and molestation among others. The aforementioned frivolous activities were

possible because of grassroots sports development were left unattended to and this has caused non progressive development in the areas of facilities, equipment and personnel which are pillars of grassroots sports development that encourage students as well as community boys and girls to demonstrate their talents. It is on this note that researcher intends to ascertain management variables as factors for grassroots sports development among Public Secondary Schools Students in Oyo Federal Constituency, Oyo State, Nigeria.

### Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were tested in this study:

- Facilities, Equipment and Personnel as management variables will not relatively be significant factors for grassroots sports development among public secondary schools in Oyo, Federal Constituency.
- Facilities, Equipment and Personnel as management variables will not compositely be significant factors for grassroots sports development among public secondary schools in Oyo, Federal Constituency.

### Methodology

The descriptive survey research design was adopted for this study. The population for this study consists of Staff (Physical and Health Education teachers) and students of public secondary schools in four local governments that constitute Oyo federal constituency, Oyo. The sample size for this study was one thousand and six hundred (1600) respondents sampled through purposive, stratified, proportional and simple random sampling procedure, while a validated self developed questionnaire with reliability Co-efficient value through Cronbach's alpha was used to collect data for the study. They were Management Facilities Variable Scale (MFVS), Management Equipment Variable Scale (MEVS), Management Personnel Variable Scale (MPVS) and Grassroots Sports Development Scale (GSDS) with the following reliability values 0.81, 0.79, 0.70 and 0.73 respectively. The demographic data of the respondents were analyzed with frequency counts and percentage while inferential statistics of multiple regression was used to test the hypotheses at 0.05 alpha level.

### Results and discussion of the Findings

**Table I:** Name of the schools, Local Government, Frequency and Percentage

Name of the Schools	Local Government Area	Frequency	Percentage
Olivet Baptist High School, Oyo.	Oyo East	580	36.25
Ojongbodu Grammar School, Oyo.	Oyo West	340	21.25
Ansaru-deen High School, Opapa, Oyo.	Atiba	340	21.25
Fiditi Grammar School, Fiditi, Oyo.	Afijio	340	21.25
Total	4	1600	100.00

Table I revealed that 580 participants (36.25%) were from Olivet Baptist High School, Oyo, while 340 participants

(21.25%) each from other three schools sampled from Oyo Federal constituency.

**Table 2:** Age of the Respondents

Age	Frequency	Percentage
10 – 14	468	29.25
15 – 19	964	60.25
20 – 24	146	9.13
25 above	22	1.37
Total	1600	100

Table II showed that 468 participants (29.25%) fall between ages 10 – 14, 964 (60.25%) were between 15 – 19 years, 146

(9.13%) were between ages 20 - 24 years, while, 22 (1.37%) were 25 years above.

**Table 3:** Status of the Respondents

Status	Frequency	Percentage
Physical and Health Education Teachers	16	1.00
Basic Secondary School (JSS I-II) students	1170	73.13
Senior Secondary School (SSS I-II) students	414	25.87
Total	1600	100.00

Table III showed that 16 (1.00%) participants were Physical and Health Education Teachers, while 1170 (73.13%) participants were in basic secondary school seven while 414 (25.87%) participants were in senior secondary school two.

### Testing of Hypotheses

This section dealt with testing and analysis of each

formulated hypothesis.

**Hypothesis 1:** Facilities, Equipment and Personnel as management variables will not relatively be significant factors for grassroots sports development among public secondary schools in Oyo, Federal Constituency.

**Table 4:** Shown the relative contributions of Facilities, Equipment and Personnel as management variables factors for grassroots sports development among public secondary schools in Oyo, Federal Constituency.

	Coefficients				T	Sig.
	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients			
	B	Std. Error	Beta	Std. Error		
(Constant)	7.725	.543			4.113	.000
Management variable of facilities.	.061	.055	.074	.062	1.231	.000
Management variable of Equipment.	.038	.031	.023	.021	1.712	.000
Management variable of Personnel.	.041	.057	.076	.064	2.872	.000

Table 4 showed the unstandardized and standardized regression weight of the, the standard error of Beta ( $\beta$ ), the Beta ( $\beta$ ), the value of t for the regression of independent variables of Management variable of facilities, Management variable of Equipment and Management variable of personnel on dependent variable of grassroots sports development and significant P value. The table above revealed that the B-value of Management variable of facilities, was (.061), Management variable of equipment, was (.038) and Management variable of equipment, was (.041). These showed the level of contribution of Management variable of facilities, Management variable of equipment and Management variable of personnel for grassroots sports development among public secondary schools in Oyo, Federal Constituency. Their standardized regression weight Beta ( $\beta$ ) were Management variable of facilities, (.074), Management variable of equipment, (.023)

and Management variable of personnel, (.076) which showed relationship between Management variable of facilities, Management variable of equipment, and Management variable of personnel for grassroots sports development among public secondary schools in Oyo, Federal Constituency Their t-values were Management variable of facilities, (1.231), Management variable of equipment, (1.712) and Management variable of personnel, (2.872), at significant levels of Management variable of facilities, (.000), Management variable of equipment, (.000) and Management variable of personnel, (.000), respectively.

**Hypothesis 2:** Facilities, Equipment and Personnel as management variables will not compositely be significant factors for grassroots sports development among public secondary schools in Oyo, Federal Constituency.

**Table 5:** Shown the composite contributions of Facilities, Equipment and Personnel as management variables will not compositely be significant factors for grassroots sports development among public secondary schools in Oyo, Federal Constituency.

ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	99.784	2	10.472	8.786	.000
Residual	5642.134	95	6.852		
Total	5741.918	97			

R = .514

R Square = .331

Adjusted R Square = .253

The table 5 above showed significant composite contributions of Management variable of facilities, Management variable of equipment, and Management variable of personnel for grassroots sports development among public secondary schools in Oyo, Federal Constituency. It could be observed that the correlation was (R = .514). The adjusted R-square indicated that 25.36% of the variance accounted for Management variable of facilities, Management variable of equipment, and Management variable of personnel, for grassroots sports development among public secondary schools in Oyo, Federal Constituency.

Also, the table showed the effectiveness of the prediction with the F-ratio 8.786 and significant alpha (.000). Based on the finding, the result showed significant composite contribution of management variables as factors for grassroots sports development among public secondary schools students in Oyo Federal Constituency, Oyo State, Nigeria therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected. It could therefore, be said that management variables of facilities, equipment and personnel when combined together would contribute to the grassroots sports development among public secondary schools in Oyo, Federal Constituency.

## Discussion

Based on the above finding, the result was in line with the opinion of Igbanugo (2010) <sup>[4]</sup> who opined that the availability of the right quality of sports facilities is a vital part of sports development and success to grassroots sports development. Similarly, Anyanwu and Asogun (2006) submitted, they observed that provision of adequate facilities in schools for sports and other recreational activities will motivate the pupils to actively participate in sports thereby enhancing their health status.

The result further showed that management variable of equipment significantly contributed to grassroots sports development. The finding was similar to the opinion of Morakinyo (2000) <sup>[8]</sup> who postulated that lack of sports equipment in the educational system would only serve to discourage students from participation and students would not be enthusiastic since there would be no enabling environment to express this natural play urge. Additionally, the finding further revealed that in achieving the objectives of grassroots sports development, in Oyo Federal Constituency, place of personnel cannot be over emphasis because of its paramount to the programme. There is need to recruit right personnel that is, coaches and sports organizers to all the Local Government Headquarters to enable them reach the local level including schools and discover the hidden talents, Deemua and Alaubi, (2018) <sup>[2]</sup>. From the above discussion, it could be ascertained that these management variables are very pertinent to grassroots sports development because of their immense contributions observed from the responses of the respondents. However, in those days secondary schools students with talents in one or more area of sports were encouraged and developed in such sports with the availability of existing facilities and equipment as well as commitment from the sports master or mistress. But nowadays, reverse is the case when the existing sports facilities and equipment needs to be rehabilitated and replaced respectively, while the sports personnel now, are neither adequate nor available, all these affects grassroots sports development among public secondary schools students, today.

## Conclusion

On the basis of the findings of the study, the following conclusions were drawn:

That management variables factors of facilities, equipment and personnel relatively contributed to grassroots sports development among public secondary schools students in Oyo Federal Constituency, Oyo State, Nigeria and when combined together they also, have composite contributions to grassroots sports development among public secondary schools students in Oyo Federal Constituency, Oyo State, Nigeria

## Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations were made that:

- Government, Alumni, Private and Corporate organisations must come to the aid of public secondary schools by constructing befitting sports facilities and maintaining the existing ones towards enhancing grassroots sports development.
- Provision should be made for sports equipment through donations and procurement by donors (Alumni members, Politicians, individual and cooperate organization) and governments respectively in all secondary schools for grassroots sports development.

- Personnel for sports, that is, coaches and sports organizers should be recruited in mass in order to scout for young and talented boys and girls at secondary school level towards grassroots sports development.

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