

Resettlement and Dynamics of Rural Change in Jebba Lake Basin, Nigeria

R.A. Olawepo

*Department of Geography, University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria
E- mail: ralfabbey @ yahoo.com*

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ABSTRACT Resettlement in Jebba resulted from the creation of Jebba Lake in the early 80s to allow for construction of a new hydroelectric dam on the River Niger. Consequently about 6,000 rural residents from 42 villages were evacuated and resettled into 21 planned settlements. Resettlement was used as a tool for accelerated rural development with provision of some social infrastructures that brought changes into the new amalgamated villages. This study identified some of the dynamics of resettlement as well as sought the reaction of the evacuees about their satisfaction. About 30% of the rural household heads were interviewed through questionnaire administration and their reactions show encouraging improvement inputs in their new settlements, deprivation in the area of land, properties as well as dislocation of customary occupations were identified.