

Transport Planning In Nigeria: A Plea for Incorporating the Gender Factor

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ABSTRACT While there have been an increasing number of efforts to incorporate gender perspectives especially into the health, education and agricultural sectors, much fewer attempts have been made in the transport sector. Thus, this paper addresses the case of transport and gender in Nigeria. Also, this paper evaluates the gender allocation of transport planners/providers/traffic management agencies at the management level in Nigeria and states the need for integrating gender issues into transport planning and policy in Nigeria. Data were obtained from Government agencies such as Nigeria Police Force, Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC), Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority (LAMATA), Lagos State Ferry Services Corporation and Alimosho and Ikeja Local Government Areas (Traffic Management Units). The result of this paper shows that the proportion of women among transport planners in Nigeria is insignificant and that women are not adequately represented among transport planners/providers and traffic management agencies in Nigeria. The findings also reveal that there is no single woman among the traffic management unit (TMU) personnel in Alimosho and Ikeja Local Government Areas of Lagos. The consideration of gender in transport planning is essential to ensure that transport is equitable, affordable and provides access to resources and opportunities required for development in Nigeria.