

# Impact of Corporate Social Responsibility of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West on Lagos State

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## ABSTRACT

It is becoming increasingly clear that organisations can create wealth through the overall wellbeing of the community in which they are established. The study interrogated the impact of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West on Lagos State. The work used a mixed method which incorporates quantitative and qualitative method of data analysis. To achieve this, the study employed the use of questionnaire and personal interview with a view to getting suitable facts from the respondents. One hundred and fifty copies of questionnaires were administered. In addition, five stakeholders were interviewed to generate qualitative data for thematic analysis. The study found that Diocese of Lagos West is a shining light for other religious groups to follow in the area of corporate social responsibility as she has impacted positively on Lagos state. Nevertheless, a number of challenges were found to hinder the effectiveness of the program such as fund paucity, lack of vision, government insincerity and wrong perception among others. The study concluded by recommending revenue generation investment, encouraging more members to key into the program, formulation of friendly policies by the government and orientation of members of the church and community on corporate social responsibility among others.

**KEYWORDS:** Christianity, Corporate Social Responsibility, Evangelism, Host Communities, Lagos state

## INTRODUCTION

Ensuring sustainable, equitable, and balanced development has been one of the century's biggest difficulties (Hohnen, 2007). It is the concern of organizations to assist in addressing prevalent societal issues. Therefore, the health of the societies and environments in which organizations operate is a prerequisite for their success. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has attained a high profile that scholars and social commentators consider it essential for corporations to define their roles in their community of operation (Luo and Bhattacharya, 2006). Organizations are expected to provide the drivers that can build a better world through positive impactful programs

on its host community, its environment and the people generally (Adeyanju, 2012). CRS is rooted in Christianity and the church is meant to be an example for the world to follow (Richard, 1946). According to Griffiths and Paul (2003), the Church's inherent character combines her social duties with her concern for the spiritual well-being of her membership and beyond.

The establishment of Diocese of Lagos West (DLW) with the vision of being a leading Diocese in the Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) in preparing the nation for the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ has made the Diocese to rebrand her welfare mission to positive impact in the life of people and government of Lagos State. The Diocese employed adequate, continuous and aggressive evangelism in which one of the strategies is reaching out to the people or community within and beyond the Diocese with impactful CSR program.

### **Aim and Objectives of the Study**

The main aim of the study was to interrogate the impact of Corporate Social Responsibility of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West on Lagos state, while the specific objectives were to:

- Interrogate the relationship between CSR and evangelism
- Investigate the influence of CSR of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West on Lagos state
- analyze the impact of CSR Program of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West on Lagos state and the Diocese
- Examine the challenges encountered by the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West in discharging her CSR mission in Lagos state

### **Research Questions**

The study answers the following questions at the end:

- What is the relationship between CSR and evangelism?
- What is the influence of CSR of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West on Lagos state?
- What are the impacts of CSR Programs of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West on Lagos state and the Diocese?
- What are the challenges encountered by the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West in discharging her CSR mission in Lagos state?

### **CONCEPTUAL ANALYSIS**

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) became a focus of public attention in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century as the growing concerns of charity and stewardship of organisation was on top burner. In the early 1970s, the word CRS gained widespread usage, despite infrequent abbreviations. The early

conception of the term was influenced by the concepts of stewardship and charity. However, there are numerous definitions due to its popularity, albeit conflict in its definition. As per Crowther and Aras (2008), CSR refers to the deliberate integration of social and environmental issues into establishment operations and stakeholder relationships. In this sense, organizations put in the required effort because they recognize the influence of the environment in which they operate. It is widely held that companies have an obligation to return a portion of their revenues to the community in which they are established. Under the concept of “CSR,” companies take into account the needs of the community and assume accountability for how their actions affect the environment and shareholders in all facets of their business operations. Organizations fulfil this duty by voluntarily making improvements to the standard of living for both their host communities and their workforce. According to the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (1999), CSR is the ongoing commitment made by corporations to uphold moral standards and promote economic growth.

Carroll and Buchholtz (2003) assert that in addition to earning a fair return for investors and abiding by the law, organizations also have moral, ethical, and philanthropic responsibilities. A corporate social responsibility report is increasingly frequently included in the annual report of corporations. The focus of this report is on their non-profit social activities, which typically involve constructive contributions. CSR has gained more awareness recently as a result of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), whose main objective is for corporations to be more conscious of their impact on society. Crowther and Aras (2008) enumerated non-profit motive; whereby decisions are taken according to different criteria; disconnection between resources acquisition and their use; where wants outstrip resources; and involvement of different stakeholders as characteristics of CSR. According to Crowther and Aras (2008), there are three main principles of CSR which are sustainability, accountability and transparency.

## **ANALYSING THE DIOCESE OF LAGOS WEST CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

The Diocese of Lagos West (DLW) was carved out of the old Diocese of Lagos in the year 1999 by the then Primate of the Church of Nigeria, the Most Reverend Dr Joseph Abiodun Adetiloye of blessed memory (Okunnuga and Adefoluke, 2019). The headquarters of the Diocese is located at GRA, adjacent to Police College, at Ikeja. She shares boundary with the Diocese of Lagos

Mainland; the Diocese of Awori; the Diocese of Badagry; Diocese of Ijebu South West and Diocese of Remo all in the province of Lagos. The vision of the Diocese is to be a leading Diocese in the Church of Nigeria Anglican Communion in preparing the nation for the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ while the motto is Christ for all Nations (Enoch, Adeyeye and Orioye, 2019). The phenomenal growth and expansion of the Diocese is attributed to the Diocese's vision of aggressive evangelism and the quality leadership provided by the Pioneer Bishop, Rt. Revd. Dr Peter Awelewa Adebijof blessed memory which religiously pursued by the incumbent Bishop, Rt. Revd. Dr James Olusola Odedeji. DLW engage in various CSR services in Lagos state and its environment such as:

**Healthcare:** In addition to establishing churches and bringing people to the Kingdom of God, the DLW has given the community access to high-quality healthcare (Odedeji, 2019). With the motto "Evangelism through Medical Care," the DLW established the Diocesan Medical Commission with the intention of serving both church members' medical needs and those of the general public. The Medical Commission has been tasked with organizing periodic public health enlightenment with free medical consultation and treatment at no cost to the needy citizens of Lagos State and at subsidized rates for others.

**Education:** The involvement of the DLW in the education sector of the state is a blessing to Lagos state. In all the schools owned and run exclusively by the Diocese, archdeacons, parishes and its Women wing, experienced and qualified teachers with modern infrastructures and conducive learning environments based on godly principles are guaranteed. This development has caused a surge in the number of students that enrol yearly in these schools. It has also reflected in the students' external examination results. This is coupled with annual award of scholarships at the parishes, archdeaconries, and diocesan levels (Agara and Siyanbola, 2019).

**Enlightenment Campaigns:** The diocese participates in education initiatives advocating for morally sound public policies (Enoch, Adeyeye, and Orioye, 2019). It is regarded as a component of the church's social duty to the community. It had hosted a number of conferences and seminars with eminent academics, opinion leaders, and seasoned speakers to address state and national issues.

**Youth Development/Empowerment:** The Diocese invests considerably in the future of the youths. Numerous initiatives aim to address the ongoing hardship that a large portion of the populace endures. It is not just available to Diocese members who fall into this group; the public

is also included (Agara and Siyanbola, 2019). Through the Diocese's Women's Wing, the DLW has set up vocational centres in a number of areas where people 'young and old' are taught a variety of skills and crafts that could lessen the state's poverty rate (Odedeji, 2019). Loans are provided to some of the vocational centre graduates to help them in their chosen fields.

**Gubernatorial Debates and Observers at the Polls:** The destiny of a nation and its citizens are somewhat dependent on the person in charge. The church is a significant partner in any nation's political and democratic processes (Adekoya, 2013). The involvement of DLW in the electioneering process as observer, sensitizer and organiser of political debate among the governorship candidates of different political parties in the state is sacrosanct. The purposes are to sensitize the public on their civic responsibility towards the nation at the election, help the electorates to make informed choices and observe the elections' processes.

**Prison Engagement:** Members of the prison ministry do regularly visit places like the Kirikiri Maximum, Minimum, Female, and Badagry Prisons, among others. Gifts and welfare packages are provided, fines are occasionally paid on behalf of some inmates, and the rehabilitation of released inmates was done through the ministry. These activities are replicated by many of the archdeaconries in the Diocese.

**Partnering with Government:** In times of emergency, the Diocese of Lagos West has been partnering with government in assisting the masses. In 2020, the Diocese donated materials worth more than Five Million Naira and cash gifts to Lagos State to support the fight against the Corona Virus pandemic in the State. As part of the activities to mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Diocese, the Diocese provided twenty (20) industrial boreholes to be maintained for period of five years for different communities in Lagos State (Agara and Siyanbola, 2019).

## **FUNDING OF THE CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAM OF THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF LAGOS WEST**

Funding is an indispensable element of every organisation, church inclusive. The ability of such organisations to perform its functions and attain her goals will ultimately depend on the availability of funds. DLW has some means of generating funds which help in funding the various CRS programs under her episcopacy. Some of the means are discussed below:

- **Assessment Income:** Assessment is the compulsory annual levy imposed on the component parishes (Okeowo, 2019). It is otherwise known as mission fund. It is the major

source of income available for the Diocese to carry out her task. The fund is paid to the Diocese through the accumulated compulsory 40% account dedicated to it. The percentage of this fund is committed to the operation of CSR service.

- **DLW Investments Limited:** The Diocese officially established DLW Investments Limited as an investment firm which is duly registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission. The Diocese makes investments in lucrative ventures, applies for loans on behalf of DLW when necessary, and counsels the DLW leadership on financial matters. This move was not to totally depend on donation and levies to facilitate evangelism program cum CRS (Okeowo, 2019).
- **Covenant Seed:** The Covenant Seed device was officially launched in January 2000. The Diocese's traditional source of income, the Mission Fund, was found to be insufficient to cover ongoing expenses, leaving little to nothing for other costs. As a result, the Diocese realized that action was necessary to enable it to fund its evangelical programs, which led to the creation of the Covenant Seed program (Enoch, Adeyeye, and Orioye, 2019). The proceeds of covenant seed are also majorly used to build churches, upgrade the existing ones and fund CRS projects (Okeowo, 2019).
- **Special Offering:** Apart from the funds the Diocese realise from mission funds, numerous investments and covenant seed, she also enjoys free will offerings from some cheerful givers within and outside the Diocese. This could be special launching, freewill donation, pledges, and secret offering to mention a few (Okeowo, 2019). This could be occasional or when the need arises.

#### **INFLUENCE OF THE CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF LAGOS WEST ON LAGOS STATE AND THE DIOCESE**

- **Job Creation:** The public has benefited from the DLW, especially in the field of capital project developments. The establishment of clinics, schools, conference centres, and vocational centres, among other facilities, which enable individuals to obtain employment and other sources of income (Agara and Sinyanbola, 2019; Odedej, 2019). This has definitely helped to reduce unemployment across the state.
- **Deepening Evangelism:** When the church identifies necessities that are lacking where it is situated and provides it, evangelism is deepened and it enables the people of such communities to be more attentive to the gospel. Since its founding, the DLW has worked

to address issues pertaining to the welfare of both the Diocese's population and the broader public (Michael, 2014).

- **Social Services:** The Diocese has been keenly involved in the provision of essential items to the needs (Nwosu and Maxwell, 2012). The Diocese, either directly or through her numerous parishes, have offered themselves for the good of the society.
- **Deepening Friendship:** The principle of corporate integrity ethics, enable the DLW to reach out to the host communities in their area of operations and this has helped the Diocese to maintain the cordial relationship with Lagos state.
- **Economy:** The DLW is giving to the economy of the state directly and indirectly through services rendered for various communities as a result of corporate social responsibility. Projects rendered in these communities attract direct economic benefits to the businessmen located in those areas. In addition, training programs for handicrafts and other forms of empowerment are being established, along with vocational centres. Through this, the Diocese has produced entrepreneurs who are also contributing to the economy of the state and their host communities (Odedeji, 2019).
- **Positive Impact on the Growth of the Diocese:** Through the CSR, the service to humanity of the Diocese has greatly influence the growth of the Diocese both numerically and spiritually, and has manifested in area of establishment of churches which has led to the rapid increase of the number of churches (Odedeji, 2019).
- **Proximity to Education and Health Care:** CSR service of the Diocese has brought health and education closer to some of the villages under the jurisdiction of the Diocese (Odedeji, 2019). Some of the people in such communities prior to the establishment of such schools and clinics had to travel a distance before they could access them.
- **Political Awareness:** For the first time in the history of Nigeria, DLW organized a debate for all governorship aspirants in the state, which has become a program at every election year. This also includes sensitization and observation of election. The Independent National Electoral Commission's (INEC) registration and certification of these initiatives is an indication that the Diocese's national political activities are being accepted (Enoch, Adeyeye, and Orioye, 2019).

## **CHALLENGES FACED IN DISCHARGING EFFECTIVE CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAM OF THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF LAGOS WEST**

Despite the laudable achievements of the Diocese, a number of challenges were found to hinder the effectiveness of the program such as:

- **Fund Paucity:** Fund usually poses a major challenge to the realization of the goals of any organization, the church inclusive. As laudable as the need for interventions of the Diocese in the areas of need identified in different communities are, they have always been plagued by financial constraints. This makes it practically impossible to meet every need of hosting society.
- **Wrong Perception:** Due to ignorance, many of the top hierarchy members of DLW do not perceive social responsibility as one of the key functions of the church. They have not been exposed to the consciousness of social responsibility (Adedeji, 2021). They believe that social responsibility should be undertaken by the government assisted by large and successful companies, not church. This has really limited the operations of this program.
- **Environmental Challenges:** The perception or notion ‘omoonile’ (land owner/grabber) in demanding compensation from church before they can be allowed to put in place developmental projects do discourage the Diocese which occasionally led the Diocese not to provide those amenities.

### **THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

The study adopts ethical theory as its theoretical framework. The theory emphasizes that the corporation has a moral responsibility toward its stakeholders. Stakeholders are groups in society that are associated with a corporation's operations but do not always own the business (Rhenman, 1964). The theory established that the corporation has a major part in developing its host community and providing an established future for her future generations, while at the same time creating wealth. In view of this, a corporation will not only be working within the legitimate structure of the society but actively work as a partner of the host community (World Business Council for sustainable Development, 1999). The theory therefore enables us to examine and explain the doctrine of give and take. The theory is relevant to the study as it predicts and informs the success of corporate social responsibility. The theory provides a way to anticipate challenges of society and the positive response of the corporation. The inclusive aim of the study is to create more ethically responsible corporations by helping the host communities like Diocese of Lagos



West, and thereby increasing long-term returns for the corporation and all the stakeholders involved.

**METHODOLOGY**

The study employed survey method in carrying out the task. A mixed method which incorporates quantitative and qualitative method of data analysis was adopted, hence the employment of both primary and secondary sources of data. The primary source includes the use of questionnaire and personal interview with a view to obtaining sufficient information from the respondents. One hundred and fifty copies of questionnaires were administered to the five selected archdeaconries, namely Ipaja, Ojodu, Ikeja, Ojo and Somolu. Five stakeholders specifically the administrators (archdeacons) of the selected were also interviewed to generate qualitative data. The secondary source involves the use of journals, magazines, documents, the internet, government publications, and publication of renowned scholars on the subject matter. Quantitative data was analysed through Inferential Statistics version of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS), while the responses of the interviewees were qualitatively analysed through thematic method.

**PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA**

This section deals with data gathered through field work based on the concern of the study “the Impact of Corporate Social Responsibility of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West on Lagos State”. It comprises two sections, the first section analysed data collected through the questionnaire while the second section analysed collected data through interviews conducted.

**Presentation and Analysis of Data through Survey Questionnaire**

The presentation, analysis, and interpretation of the data obtained by the use of questionnaires are the main focus of this subsection. The data was taken from the selected sample of one hundred and fifty (150) respondents.

**Table 1: Questionnaires Administered**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Returned	135	90
Un-Returned	15	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** Researcher Field Survey, 2024

The above revealed that 135 (90%) of the total questionnaires were properly filled and returned, while 15 (10%) were not returned. Thus, the working percentage will be based on the returned one hundred and thirty-five (135) questionnaires.

**Distribution of Responses according to the Bio-Data Information**

This unit presents the demographic profile of the respondents of the study, namely Sex, Age, Marital Status, Educational Attainment and Employment Status.

**Table 2: Demographic Information of Respondents**

<b>Sex</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Male	78	57.8
Female	57	42.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
18-30	16	11.9
31-40	19	14
41-50	47	34.8
51 -60	33	24.4
61 and Above	20	14.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>99.9 (100)</b>
<b>Marital Status</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Married	102	75.6
Single	26	19.2
Divorced	1	0.7
Widow/Widower	6	4.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>99.9 (100)</b>
<b>Academic Qualification</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Secondary	12	8.9
Tertiary	58	43

Post Graduate	65	48.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Community of Residence</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Ikeja	29	21.5
Ipaja	27	20
Somolu	26	19.3
Ojodu	25	18.5
Ojo	28	20.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Relationship</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Church Member/Priest	76	56.3
Community Member	59	43.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** Researcher Field Survey, 2024

Table 2 shows that 57.8% of the total respondents were male while 42.2% were female. In age bracket, 11.9% were between age bracket 18 and 30, 14% fall under-age 31-40, 34.8% were age bracket 41 and 50, 24.4% belong to 51-60 years, while 14.8% were 61years and above. The breakdown of marital status showed that 75.6% were married, 19.2% were single, and 0.7% was divorced, while 4.4% were either widow or widower. Similarly, 8.9% of the total respondents had secondary education, 43% had first degree education while 48.1% had post graduate education. As also depicted by table 2, 21.5% of the total respondents resides in the Ikeja community, 20% resides in Ipaja, 19.3% resides in the Somolu axis, 18.5% resides in Ojodu and 20.7% resides in Ojo area. On the relationship of the respondents to selected area, it was revealed that 56.3% were church members/priests, while 43.7% were community members.

### **PRESENTATION OF DATA ACCORDING TO VARIABLES**

This segment deals with analysis of data according to variables. It interrogates the impact of Corporate Social Responsibility of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West on Lagos State.

#### **Respondents’ Awareness and Knowledge Level of CSR**

This section interrogates awareness and the knowledge level of the respondents about CSR.

1. Rate your knowledge of Corporate Social Responsibilities

**Table 3**

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Very High	39	28.9
High	49	36.3
Average	39	28.9
Below Average	8	5.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** Researcher Field Survey, 2024

As showed above, 28.9% of the total respondents’ awareness and knowledge of CSR were very high, 36.3% were high, 28.9% have average knowledge, while 5.9% awareness were very low. The indication is that a very high percentage of respondents have prior and adequate knowledge of CSR.

2. How long have you heard about Corporate Social Responsibility?

**Table 4**

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Less than a year	29	21.5
1-5 years	32	23.7
5 years and above	74	54.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** Researcher Field Survey, 2024

Table 2 depicted that 21.5% of respondents have heard about CSR in less than a year, 23.7% heard the information within 1-5 years, while 54.8% had about CSR for over 5 years. This indicate that the majority of the respondents have long years of information about CSR.

3. Has Corporate Social Responsibility be part of programs of corporations in Nigeria?

**Table 5**

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
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Yes	70	51.9
No	60	44.4
Partially	5	3.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** Researcher Field Survey, 2024

The table revealed that 51.9% of the total respondents affirmed that CSR has been part of programs of corporations in Nigeria, 44.4% negate the claim as 3.7% partially affirmative the claim.

4. Rate the performance of the Anglican Church in your area in discharging her Corporate Social Responsibility

**Table 6**

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Excellent	41	30.4
Good	62	45.9
Average	25	18.5
Below Average	7	5.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** Researcher Field Survey, 2024

In accordance with table 6, it was deduced that 30.4% of the total respondents rated the performance of the Anglican Church in their area in discharging her CSR as excellent, 45.9% as good, 18.5% as average, while 5.2% rated it below average.

In line with tables 7 and 8 below, be informed that (S/A) stands for Strongly Agree, (A) for Agree, (S/D) for Strongly Disagree, (D) for Disagree and (U) for Undecided.

**Influence of Corporate Social Responsibility on the Community of Diocese of Lagos West**

This unit examines the influence of CSR of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West on Lagos State.

Few statements were raised for the respondents to answer

**Table 7: Influence of Corporate Social Responsibility**

SN	STATEMENTS	S/A	A	S/D	D	U
	<b>Influence of CSR</b>	(%)				

5	One of the means employed by modern day churches in evangelizing its area is reaching out to the people with the impactful CSR program	51.8	21.5	9.6	10.4	6.7
6	The involvement of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West in enlightenment campaigns for good governance and democratic/electioneering process has been able to change the attitude of many Christians in Lagos State to politics and governance.	26.7	44.4	2.2	4.4	22.2
7	Through Corporate Social Responsibility of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West, evangelism is deepened and it enables the people of Lagos State to be more attentive to the gospel.	32.6	54.8	2.2	2.2	8.1

**Source:** Researcher Field Survey, 2024

In accordance with table 7, it was deduced that 51.8% and 21.5% of the respondents strongly agreed and agreed respectively that impactful CSR program is one of the ways employed by modern day churches to evangelise its areas, 9.6% strongly disagreed, 10.4% disagreed, while 6.7% respondents were neutral. It was also showed that 26.7% of the total respondents affirmed strongly that involvement of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West in enlightenment campaigns for good governance and democratic/electioneering process has been able to change the attitude of many Christians in Lagos State to politics and governance, 44.4% and 2.2% agreed and strongly disagreed respectively, while 4.4% disagreed and 22.2% did not subscribe to any opinion. In addition, table 7 indicated that 87.4% of respondents affirmed that evangelism is deepened and enables the people of Lagos State to be more attentive to the gospel through CSR of Diocese of Lagos West, 4.4% opposed to the assertion, while 8.1% were undecided.

### **IMPACT OF CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAM OF ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF LAGOS WEST**

This unit interrogates the impact of the Corporate Social Responsibility of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West on Lagos State. Two statements were raised for possible answer.

**Table 8: Impact of Corporate Social Responsibility**

SN	STATEMENTS	S/A	A	S/D	D	U
	<b>Impact of CSR</b>	(%)				

8	The Anglican Church in your area in her welfare mission is effective and impactful	30.4	51.9	3	5.9	8.9
9	Anglican Diocese of Lagos West has either directly or through her numerous parishes, offered themselves for the good of her constituency	42.2	40.7	3	0.7	13.3

**Source:** Researcher Field Survey, 2024

Above analysis showed that the high percentage of the respondents (82.3%) claimed that the Anglican Church in their areas is effective and impactful in her welfare mission, a small fraction 8.9% of the respondents disagreed with the assertion, while 8.9% did not go for any of the options. Similarly, table 8 revealed that 42.2% and 40.7% of the respondents strongly agreed and agreed respectively that Anglican Diocese of Lagos West has either directly or through her numerous parishes, offered themselves for the good of her constituency, 3% and 0.7% strongly disagreed and disagreed respectively to the statement while 13.3% of the total respondents were undecided.

### **CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED BY THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF LAGOS WEST IN DISCHARGING HER CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY MISSION**

The part examines the challenges the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West encounter in discharging her CSR to Lagos State.

10. Which of these do you consider as a major challenge faced by DLW in effective discharging of his CSR Program?

**Table 9**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Fund Paucity	30	22.2
Lack of Vision	13	9.6
Government Insincerity	47	34.8
Wrong Perception	11	8.1
Environmental Challenges	34	25.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>99.9 (100)</b>

**Source:** Researcher Field Survey, 2024

In line with the table 8 above, 22.2% of the total respondents considered fund paucity as the major challenge faced by DLW in effective discharging of his CSR program; 9.6% picked lack of vision; 34.8% went for government insincerity; 8.1% affirmed wrong perception and 25.2% considered environmental challenge.

## **PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA THROUGH INTERVIEW**

This section presents the report of the interview conducted during the course of the study with the aim of understanding the concern of the study; the impact of Corporate Social Responsibility of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West on Lagos State. Interviews were conducted for five administrators of the selected archdeacons. They are Venerable Blessing David Ajayi from Ipaja Archdeaconry; Venerable Dr Alfred Oluwole Adefoluke from Ojodu Archdeaconry; Venerable Ayo Kolawole Arire from Ikeja archdeaconry; Venerable John Taiwo Adebawale from Ojo Archdeaconry; and Venerable Timothy Oluwadamilare Sunday Ayodele from Somolu Archdeaconry. The data collected are presented and analysed under four themes as guided by four research questions. They are as follows:

- The relationship between CSR and evangelism.
- The influence of CSR of the Anglican of Diocese of Lagos West on Lagos State
- The impact of CSR Program of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West on Lagos State and the Diocese
- The challenges encountered by the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West in discharging her CSR mission

## **THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CSR AND EVANGELISM**

All the interviewees affirmed that CSR and evangelism are currency of the same coins, siblings from the same parents and both involve people. In fact, it is the society that makes the church, and the church is part of the society. God called Abraham and make him a blessing to others so also the church as argued by Ajayi. Taiwo stressed further that both involve human beings working together to achieve a goal of keeping people alive. Quoting him, “in evangelism, we assist people and in CSR we also assist people”. Adefoluke perceived CSR as reaching out to the community by yielding to some of their needs in other to win them to Lord Jesus Christ. As the church is the light of the world, therefore the church must affect the society positively. Arire maintained that the church must show the love she is preaching to people through giving, by this, the society will



want to yield to the message of the church about Christ. Ayodele vividly established the interwoven of CRS and evangelism as the love firstly extends to us by God and the need for the church to extend it to the society. He stressed further that there is no evangelism without CSR.

### **THE INFLUENCE OF CSR OF THE ANGLICAN OF DIOCESE OF LAGOS WEST ON LAGOS STATE**

All the interviewees affirmed that their respective parishes and the Diocese at large has done so much for the community in the area of CSR amongst education supports; free health care and referrals when need arises; numbers of boreholes; and the free water supply. Archdeacons such as Ojodu, Ojo and Somolu also engaged in distribution of clothing and food items for the needy in the society which either comes monthly or annually (Adefoluke, Taiwo and Ayodele, 2022). Infrastructural facilities were also not left out. Parishes such as St. Andrew's Ipaja, St. Paul's Ojodu Abiodun and St. Michael Ojo were also involved in either the repairs, the tarring or interlocking of streets leading to the various parishes (Ajayi, Adefoluke and Taiwo, 2022); provision of power and powering of street lights and occasionally assisting some indigent in payment of electricity bill (Adefoluke and Arire, 2022); and payment for security gates (Ayodele, 2022). Other areas of influence are women empowerment and financial support by Ikeja and Ojo; financial assistance to the Landlord Association at any time of request through Ojodu Archdeaconry. Also, St. Paul's Somolu served as the meeting place of landlord association.

### **IMPACT OF THE CSR PROGRAM OF THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF LAGOS WEST ON LAGOS STATE AND THE DIOCESE**

It is to be noted that the program of CSR of both the Diocese and the parishes have had a great positive impact on the churches in the Diocese of Lagos West. Some of the impacts that were noticed are increase in the growth of the church numerically such as rapid increase in the number of Sunday school from 500 to 1,000 in St. Andrew's Ipaja; increase in numerical strength of adults; showing of appreciation; community attendance in the church and Diocese programs (Ajayi, Arire, Taiwo;2022). A giant stride impact was the conversion of numerous Islam (Muslims) adherents to Christianity at St. Paul's Somolu (Ayodele, 2022) .

## **THE CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED BY THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF LAGOS WEST IN DISCHARGING HER CSR MISSION**

Life is not problem free, so also the Diocese of Lagos West and its parishes in carrying out her CSR faced a number of challenges. The major challenges as attributed by almost all the interviewees is inadequate finance and resources which intermittently restricted the Diocese and the parishes to do more than they wish. According to Arire and Ayodele, another hindrance is ignorance/misconception. This is emanating from the church and the community members, as the former refuse to support the program while the menace of omoonile (land owner/grabber) constitutes threat to the execution of projects in their community. Arire further highlighted some constraints such as opposition of some members like biblical Sambalat and Tobias, lack of financial trust from community members, and insincerity and inability of contractors to deliver the project as promised. Taiwo added general lack of cooperation of the authority; lack of faith and general challenge of belief of the community to such CSR.

## **CONCLUSION**

One of the biggest problems of the government of Nigeria is the challenge of reaching out to the people. It has therefore become pertinent for the Church to contribute in solving the existing problems. The Diocese of Lagos West has been a shining light among many Dioceses of the Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) and other denominations. As a stakeholder in Lagos State, the Diocese of Lagos West has demonstrated the various ways in which the church may support the development of the state. This she is doing with the use of her limited resources. Evangelism is the spiritual feature of the mission of the Diocese which mainly deals with the invitation of non-Christians to embrace the gospel, while CSR remains the social aspect of the mission. Invariably, the latter aid the former in achieving the set goal of the Diocese. Through this, the Diocese is holistically solving societal problems such as poverty, unemployment, illiteracy among others.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

For an effective discharge of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos West CSR program and to further sustain it, the following are suggested:

- The Diocese should engage in revenue generation investment to aid the discharging of her CSR effectively. Separate income should be allocated for CSR projects in the annual budget.
- DLW need to make more members key into the vision through sensitization and encouragement. This will help widen its scope, while more communities will be reached.
- Government of Lagos State should assist and formulate policies that will encourage corporations to assist government in providing social amenities to the communities. Churches should be seen as partners in progress rather than competitors.
- Members need to be educated in the program of CSR that it is not limited to government and successful companies alone, but to be seen as one of the major responsibilities of the church.
- Similarly, the communities need to be reoriented about CRS so as not to constitute nuisance to the implementation of the projects financed by the church. It should be made known to social miscreants that development of the community will yield dividend to the generality of the people more than temporary financial demands.

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