Migrants' Remittances and Economic Growth Nexus: Evidence from Nigeria

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Abstract
The paper investigates the empirical impact of Migrants' Remittances on Economic Growth in Nigeria. The study uses secondary data sourced from central Bank of Nigeria Bulletin (Various issues), World Bank fact book. The study applied descriptive statistics and trend analysis, test for the unit root for the variables and the co-integration technique on annual data between 1988 and 2017. The result of the unit root test shows that all the variables are stationary at first difference, they can only sustain shock passed on them for a short period of time. The co-integration result shows that there is no long run relationship among the variables. As a result, the study confirms the negative impact of Remittances on Economic Growth. In other words, Remittances in Nigeria during this period do not improve the living standard of the people in Nigeria. Based on the findings, the study recommends that government should put in place policies that will discourage migration, working environment should be conducive and attractive.

Keywords: Real Gross; Domestic Product; Remittances; Expenditure.

Introduction

It is well known fact that the exodus of educated and highly trained Africans from the continent is a big blow to growth and development. Nigeria witnessed rise in the number of her medical personnel to the developed counties in the 1980s. According to the Nursing and midwifery council of Nigeria (NMCN, 2012), United State of America has the highest number of medical personnel migrating to the developed nations, follow by United Kingdom and Canada.

Nigeria play a big role in African migration to the North American countries, Europe and the Golf Countries yet Nigeria is also a destination to some of the migrants from the sub Saharan countries (Adepoju, 2004). Nigeria is faced with both Positive and negative dimension of African migration in the area of brain drain and remittances. Acute shortage of medical doctors and other health workers remained a challenge in Nigeria. Many health workers are exiting service. Reports show that no fewer than 300 medical doctors from various public hospitals, among others, left service in 2017. According to the Nigerian Medical association president, the mass exodus of doctors abroad is worrisome. An estimated 35000 Nigerian Doctors are practising abroad out of 72000 registered with the medical and dental council of Nigeria. The United States and the United Kingdom are the top destinations of migrant doctors. The country has continued to maintain poor doctor-patient ratio of 1:4000 and current migration has worsened the ratio. Nigeria is using her resources to train doctors and professionals that will leave to work in foreign countries. What are those things attracting and pushing professionals outside? (the pull and the push factors). The push factors are those factors that force the individual to move voluntarily and, in many cases, they are forced because the individuals may risk something if they stay. Push factors may include conflict, poor remuneration, poor work environment, poor economic activity, lack of job opportunities and political intolerance. Then the pull factors are those factors in the destination countries that attract the individual or group to leave their home country. Such as better economic opportunities, more jobs, and the promise of better life often pull people into new location.

On the other hand, remittances have also play significant role in poverty reduction and economic growth in Nigeria, especially in the rural area. Nigeria is a major recipient of Remittance in Africa. In 2008, the developing nations were the top receivers of remittances. The total remittances of 2007 were estimated to be $328 billion and there is possibility that some were not channel through official sources (World Bank 2009). The remittances contribute significantly to the GDP of the developing nations. This is in view of the

revelation that Nigerians abroad contributed US$7billion to the growth of the economy in the year 2008 and she was the sixth highest destination of remittances from her citizens living abroad (World Bank, 2008).

The level of migration in recent time has been on the increase and this is worrisome to government who has made concerted effort to end the mass exodus, especially in the medical and skilled individual. Despite the numerous incentives put in place, its level is still alarming and unabated. Several scholars have written so many things in this regard and have used different methodologies. Can migration and remittance propel economic growth? Does it have any effect on the recipient country? These and many other questions begging for answers prompted this study which will be looking at the nexus between remittances, migration and economic growth. This paper is divided into five sections. Section one is the introductory aspect while section two looks at literature review. Section three dwells on the methodology, section four is the presentation of data and discussions. Finally, chapter five is conclusion and recommendations.

Economic Theories on Remittance and Economic Growth

Depending on this debate of remittance, two separate views or school of thoughts was created; optimist and pessimist views. The optimists agreed in that remittances have a positive effect on the remit receiving country through reducing poverty and stimulating the economic growth. According to the pessimists' view, remittance does not burst economic growth, rather it retards the economy through increasing dependency on the foreign countries by remit receiving countries and making extreme consumption (Englama, 2009). Both views help for the theory of remittance and lead the economic concept of remittance to be linked to the theory of migration.

Classical Theory (1950s and 1960s)

According to classical theory, the inflow of huge capital and industrialization will foster their economic growth and increase modernization. In developing countries migrants are seen as the agent of change and they actively promote migration because, it accelerates investment and it accelerates exposure of rational, democratic ideas, modern knowledge and education.

Neoclassical Theory

As Neoclassical, unconstrained labour migration would lead to scarcity of labour, resulting in a higher marginal productivity of labour and increasing wage levels in migrant sending societies. Capital flows, including remittances are expected to go in exactly the opposite direction as labour migration, thus developmental role of migration is entirely realized.

Structural and Dependency Theories

They stated that migration would result in dependency on the global political economic systems dominated by the powerful (Western) states. Migration was seen as having ruined traditional peasant societies by undermining their economies and uprooting their populations. Migration is detrimental to the economies of underdeveloped countries, but also as the very cause of the "development of underdevelopment".

Social Network Theory

The theory considers remitters been conscious to social relation besides the economic considerations to send money. Accordingly, they remit based on the following: first, transfer may be reciprocally as the migrant is accumulating social obligation from the people to whom they remit in the form of child care, transfer of goods with traditional or sentimental value. Second, the migrant remitting maybe conforming to moral values learn as being a member of the group. Finally, remitters increase their social visibility in the sending and receiving countries, in addition to avoiding the sanctions by the social group if they do not remit.

Theory of Self Interest

In the case of pure self-interest migrants send their money in order to compensate their family for the past expenditures their families spend on them for education and for the cost related to the migration process. They also remit money to purchase durable commodities, invest in housing, land and other fixed asset business activities.

Portfolio Diversification Theory

The decision to remit is sometimes influenced by the offer of a risk-return option to be weighed against local sources of income. One of the determinants of the return is the rate of interest that the remitter will receive on funds e.g. positive real interest rate. Consideration of interest rate differential on comparable deposit account offered in host and home countries, black market exchange premium, the return on real estate in the home country, inflation rates and other returns.

Relationship between Remittance and Economic Growth

The discussion on the significant impact of remittance on the economy is still a subject of concern amongst many economists today. Some is of the view that remittance has no significant impact on the economy, they argued that the money sent was spent for consumption purpose rather than spending on productive assets (Stahl and Arnold, 2006). They went further to argue that remittances even distort rather than promoting economic growth and structural change, because they may point government policies in the wrong direction away from measures of improving structural changes and rendering competitive the remittance recipient countries (Glytsos, 2002). In the same vein, those supporting the idea that remittance has a positive impact on the economy reason outs through the development of financial institutions Fayissa (2008), it's used as foreign exchange In countries of high emigration, remittances may induce structural transformation that has both economic and social implications on poverty, income distribution and economic welfare, which are impacting on consumption patterns and savings with ultimate effects on growth and trade (Glytsos, 2002). Worker' remittance has a significant impact on the economy regardless of whether it is used for consumption or investment. As Ratha (2005) stated that the inflow of remittance to developing countries were the largest share of GDP and often the improvements in policies and relaxation of foreign exchange control encourages the use of remittance for investment in the 1990s.

The literature review identifies the various ways through which remittances have impact on economic growth. Remittances increase the household income thereby promoting economic growth. An increase in income leads to increase in consumer spending, assets accumulation, self –employment and investment in small and medium scale businesses. There is possibility of emigration to have positive impact on economic growth and this can be possible in Developed Nations, which usually have a higher ability to transfer knowledge, technical know-how and skills when emigrants return to the country of origin, or to divert remittances in order to create new opportunities in the private sector. A negative impact of emigration results if the developing countries of origin suffer from brain drain and start to depend on remittances

There are different schools of thought that provide explanation on the impact of remittances on economic growth in developing countries. The two major schools on remittances include Neo-liberal-functionalist and Historical-structuralism perspectives. The Neo-liberal functionalist postulated that remittances play a positive role in empowering individual household, community and country as a whole, (Skeldon 2002, Ratha, 2003). They believed that remittance play a crucial role in raising the capital market activities and help in providing productive infrastructure, as well as raising the effective demand for goods and services. While the historical-structuralism sees remittances as been responsible for creating dependant relation between the sending and the recipient countries (Portes and Borocz,1989). Remittances are considered as factor that created serious inequality in household and macro-economic distortions especially in low income countries. The role of Africans in Diasporas in promoting macro-economic development through remittances cannot be overemphasized. According to Maimo and Ratha (2005, p332), they submitted that

"the total volume of remittances to developing countries in 2001 was US 72.3 billion dollars nearly one-and-half times net official development assistance (ODA) in that year, which totaled US 57.5 Billion". This clearly explained the growing importance of remittances as a veritable source of finance for the developing countries, since the figure clearly exceed the ODA.

There are characteristic of Remittances that makes it distinct and resilience. The remittances flow when compared to other inflows like foreign direct investment (FDI), official development assistances (ODA), portfolio equity etc, is resilient stable flow. The other flows fluctuate but remittances increase (Ratha, Mohapatra & Silwal, 2010). Also, Ghosh (2006), noted that "at the aggregate level, remittances have proved to be more stable than most of other resource inflows to developing countries in recent years". The resilience is an avenue of income which could be relied on. But contrary to the above, remittances have often been viewed as an unreliable source of the external finance because it will decrease as the migrants settle at their new location. (Merkle and Zimmermann 1992, Gosh 2006). But this remittance decay hypothesis has been challenged by many scholars including (Brown, 1997), believed that remittance decay hypothesis could not be sustained because over time remittances remain a relatively stable flow of capital. Some have criticized remittances on the moral ground as chami et al, 2003, as they put it "since remittances take place under asymmetric information and economic uncertainty, then there exists a significant moral hazard problem". They present results which indicate there is a negative relationship between the remittances and economic growth and that remittance present more hazard problem than any other forms of financial flows. Even, more devastating impact of remittances was even presented by Aggarwal et al (2005, P4), where it was pointed out that remittances have more serious set-back on demand for credit and development of credit institutions, most especially, if such finances are directed to the government and which may not impact on private sector, and private sector have being admitted in literature to be an engine of growth. This argument is valid when such remittances are used to purchase government securities. It has also in literature that remittances have serious problems while of remitting to the home countries by the migrants

Empirical Review

Ratha (2003), concludes that remittances increase the consumption level of rural households, which might have substantial multiplier effect because they are more likely to be spent on domestically produced goods. John (2011) worked on Migration, Remittance and development in origin countries: evidence from Nigeria from 2000 to 2010. Linear regression (OLS) and Co-Integration tests were used to analyse the study and it was established that there is positive relationship between Remittances and Economic Growth in some Sub-Saharan African Countries. The study recommended that strategy to maximize the benefits of remittances while minimizing their negative repercussions. Then the Government should design policies to mitigate the adverse income distribution consequences of remittances. Ali (2012), studied on the relationship between Remittances and Economic Growth using panel data from MENA countries over period of 1980-2009. The study shows that remittances enhance economic Growth by encouraging human capital.

Shimus (2013), attempted to find the relationship between remittances flow and Economic Development using time series data of 1976 to 2007. The researcher used the two model time series Econometric approach bound testing auto regressive distributed lag models or unrestricted error correction model and Engel Granger two steps procedure for co-integration test. The study found out that remittance is not a significant contributing factor for the GDP/Capital both in the short run and the long run for Bangladesh.

Danmola & Abba (2013) studied the impact of net migrants Remittance on Economic Growth: Evidence from Nigeria between 1982 and 2010. Seemingly unrelated regression (SUR) and ECM analysis were used. It was established that remittances provide immediate income for difference households and believed that the impact can only be meaningful if it contributes to Economic Growth in Nigeria. The researchers recommended a well-developed and organized financial sector that are more competitive in nature.

Tassew andRao (2016) focused on the impacts of Remittances on Economic Growth in Ethiopia from 1981 to 2013. The study used ARDL model for its time series estimation. The study reveals that there is a short run significant impact on remittance on Economic Growth while it affects the economy negatively. The study went further, the appropriate policies should be put in place.

Dietmar and Adela (2017) studied on the impacts of the Remittances and Economic Growth: An econometric model. The study used panel dada set of six Remittances receiving Countries from 1999 to 2013. Their findings identified empirically that there is a relationship between remittances and Economic growth in these Countries. The result suggests that Remittances have positive impact on Growth and this impact increases at higher level of remittances relative to GDP.

Moses and Ali (2017) investigated the effects of migrant Remittances on the Economic Growth of Cameroon. Least square method of multiple regression was used to analysed it and it was established that migrant Remittances was positive related to Economic Growth and insignificant. Other variables like Consumption Expenditures, Government Expenditures and exports were found to be positively and significantly explain Economic Growth. The study also recommended that Government Expenditures on major infrastructures should be increase also there is need for prudence in the management of funds sent home by migrants

Methodology

The study was designed to be descriptive in nature. Co-integration technique was employed as the main analytical tools. The unit root test was also applied to ascertain the stationarity properties of the series so as to correct every instability that may exist in time series data. The long run relationship that exists among the variables was tested with the Johansen co-integration, vector error correction model and pair-wise granger causality test.

The functional relationship between our variables is as follows:

RGDP= f(MREM, GETE, EXR)

The model, in its explicit (linear) form, is specified as:

$RGDP_t = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 MREM + \alpha_2 GETE + \alpha_3 EXR + U$

From the model, the researchers expect that; $a_1 > 0$, $a_2 > 0$, $a_3 > 0$

Testing Techniques and Procedures Augmented Dickey Fuller (ADF)Test for Unit Root [I(0) and I(1)]

The series of the study were tested for a unit root using the standard augmented Dickey-Fuller (ADF) test which holds that: for a time series the ADF test requires the following regression carried out under three conditions:

i. A random walk process which is defined as;

ii. A random walk process with drift which is defined as;

iii. A random walk process with drift around a stochastic trend which is defined as;

where,

= the difference operator; = the random error term.

The ADF test considers a null hypothesis of an I(1) process against the alternative of an I(0) process. Time Series Co-integration

The multivariate co-integration test was used to assess the long run equilibrium linkages among the variables in the system. Co-integrated variables, if disturbed, will not drift apart from each other and hence, possess a long run equilibrium relationship. Testing for the existence of co-integration among economic variables with the Johansen (1991, 1988) maximum likelihood test requires the following procedure:

Results and Discussion

In this section of the study, results and discussions are done. The relevant data used in this study is shown in table 4.1. First, the section captures the trend analysis of the various variables in the model. Thereafter, the empirical results were presented and analyzed.

Data Presentation

Table 1: Nigeria's RGDP, MREM, GETE, EXR

YEAR	RGDP	MREM	GEE	EXR
1988	272	41	802.3	83.7
1989	293	40	1719.9	75
1990	275	30	1962.6	69.9
1991	686	54	1265.1	59.1
1992	645	35	1676.3	49
1993	546	2	6436.1	53.6
1994	578	4	7878.1	99.1
1995	793	5	9421.3	157.7
1996	1273	2	12136	204.5
1997	1618	4	12136	232.7
1998	1713	5	13928.3	269.2
1999	1861	9	23047.2	68.3
2000	496	1	44225.5	69.3
2001	570	1	39884.6	77.2
2002	598	1	100240.2	77.5
2003	748	12	64755.9	72.8
2004	798	21	72217.9	74.6
2005	983	68	92594.7	85.3
2006	1245	102	12941.9	90.6
2007	1591	54	137478.3	89.7
2008	1823	58	163977.5	99.3
2009	2234	47	137156.6	92
2010	1959	47	170770.6	100
2011	2365	76	335837.9	100.4
2012	2583	39	348400	111.6
2013	2798	50	110000	119
2014	2997	54	110000	127.5
2015	3222	1072	100000	126.6
2016	2726	744	106667	116.2
2017	2180	275	105555.7	105.4

NOTE: i) RGDP=Real Gross Domestic Product.
ii) MREM= Migrants' Remittances
iii) GETE= Government Expenditures on Tertiary Education
iv) EXR = Exchange Rate

Source: CBN Statistical Bulletin (Various issues), World Bank Fact Book

Figure 1 shows the trend of Nigeria's Real Gross Domestic Product (RGDP), Migrants' Remittances (MREM), Government Expenditure on Tertiary Education (GETE), and Exchange Rate (EXR) from 1988 to 2017. The time series plots of the variables in table 4.1above is presented in figures 1,2, 3 and 4

Figure 2 shows that the values of Nigeria's Real Gross Domestic Product (RGDP) increased from 272 billion in 1988 to 686 billion in 1991 before declining to 546 billion in 1993. It rose to 1861billion in 1999 and dropped drastically to 496 in 2000. It rose steadily to 2234 billion in 2009 and declined to 1959 billion in 2010. It got to its peak of 3222 billion in 2015 before a concurrent drop in 2016 and 2017. See figure 4.1 below.

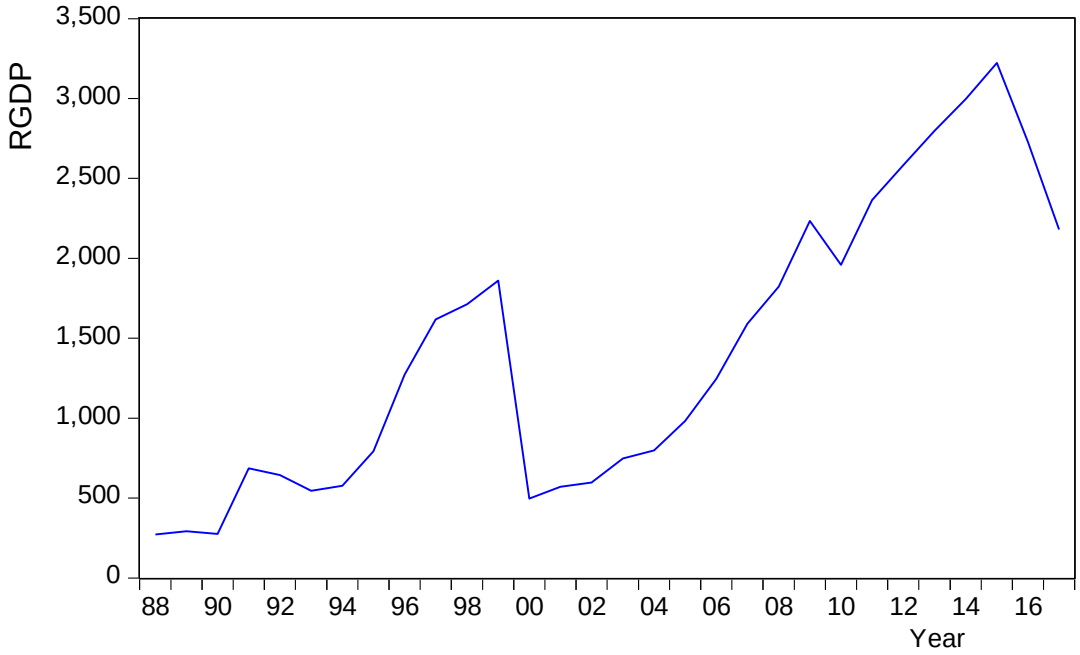

Figure 1: Time series plot of Nigerias' RGDP (1988-2017)

Figure 2 shows that the trend of migrants' remittances has been fluctuating during the time under review. It stood at 41 million in 1988 and declined to 20 million in 1993. It came as low as 1 million in 2002 before increasing again to 102 million in 2006. In 2007, it reduced to 54 million in 2007 and reached its peak in 20015 before declining to 744 million and 275 million in 2016 and 2017, respectively. As shown in the figure below.

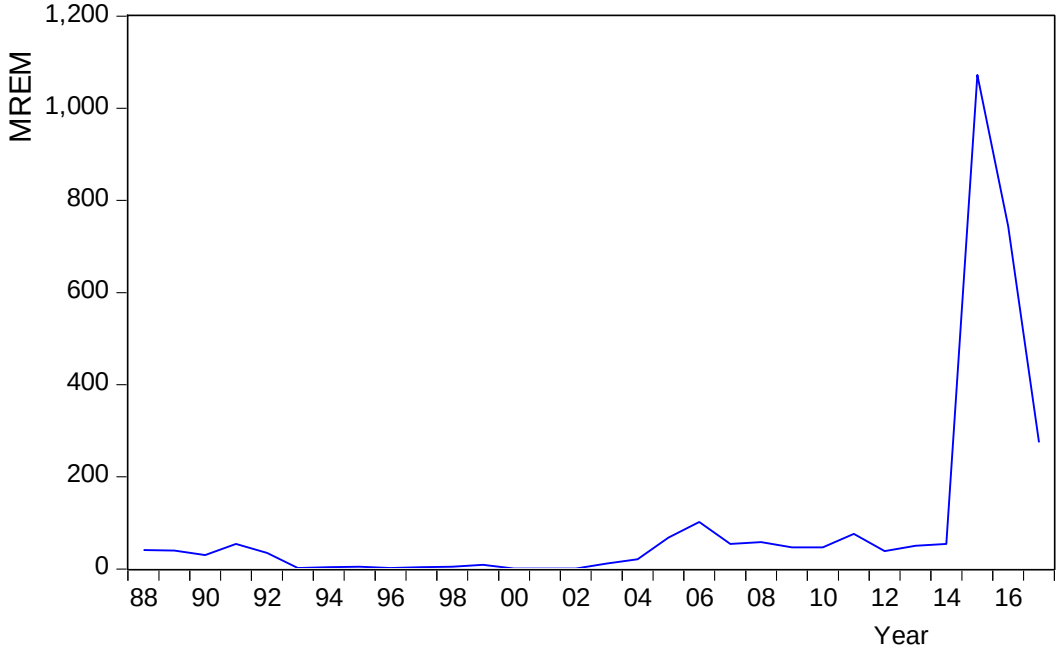

Figure 2: Time series plots of Migrants' Remittances (1988-2017)

Again, in figure 3, Government Expenditure on Tertiary Education increased from 802.3 million in 1988 to 44225.5 in 2000 before declining to 39884.6 in 2001. In 2002, it rose to 100240 million before declining to 12941.9 in 2006. From 2007 it started rising steadily and got to its peak of 335837.9 million in 2011. Then, it started witnessing steady declined to 105555.7 in 20017.

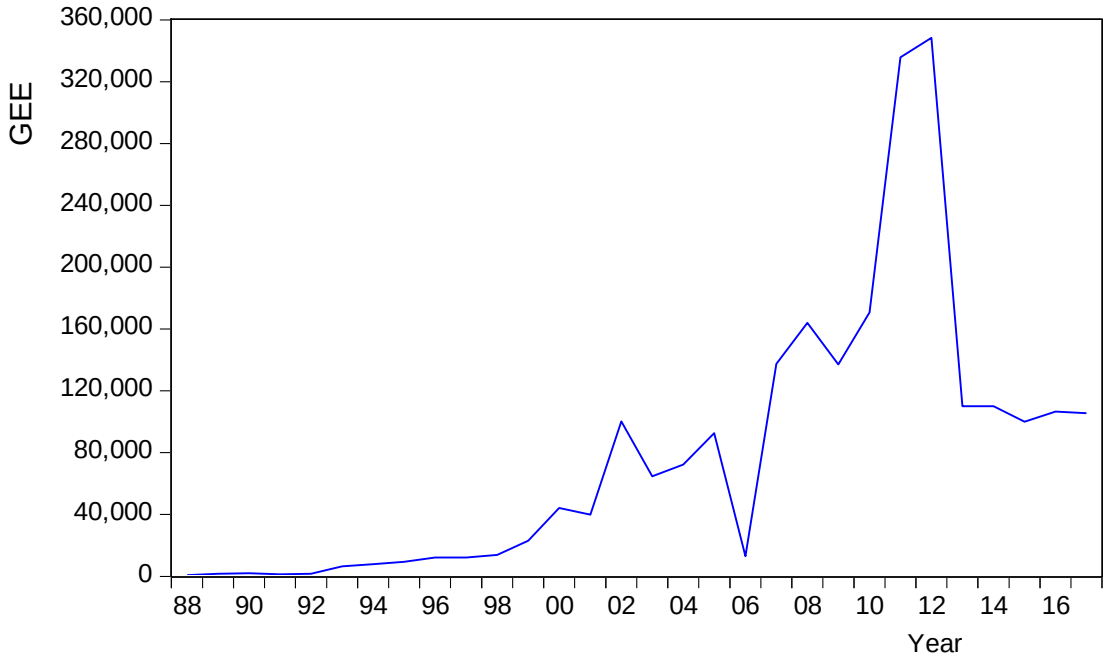

Figure 3: Time series plots of Government Expenditure on Tertiary Education (1988-2017)

Finally, Figure 4 shows that exchange rate decreased from 83.7 in 1988 to 49 in 1991before getting to its of 269.2 in 1998 before dropping to 68.3 in 1999.It climbed again to 127 in 2014 before dropping in 2015,2016 and 2017.

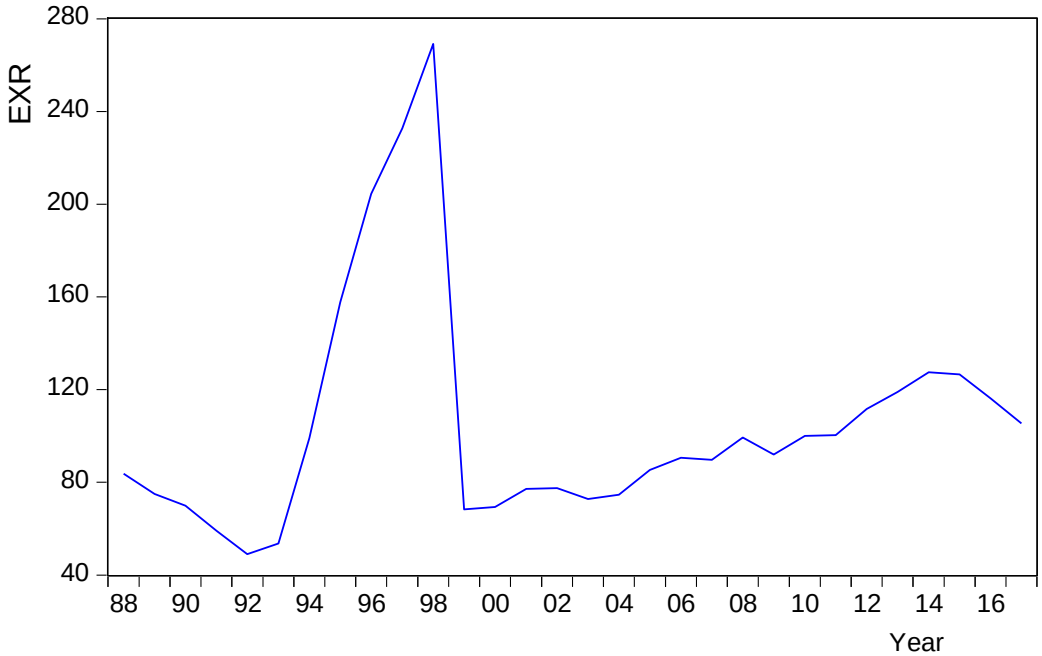

Figure 4: Time series plots of Nigerias' Exchange Rate (1988-2017)

Table 2: Descriptive Statistics

	RGDP	MREM	GETE	EXR
Mean	1415.633	98.43333	78170.45	105.2267
Median	1259.000	39.50000	54490.70	91.30000
Maximum	3222.000	1072.000	348400.0	269.2000
Minimum	272.0000	1.000000	802.3000	49.00000
Std. Dev.	907.1291	230.0818	89885.56	50.84691
Skewness	0.435038	3.414187	1.648380	1.844097
Kurtosis	1.897579	13.67180	5.589585	5.995328
Jarque-Bera	2.465458	200.6424	21.96822	28.21846
Probability	0.291496	0.000000	0.000017	0.000001
Sum	42469.00	2953.000	2345114.	3156.800
Sum Sq. Dev.	23863615	1535191.	2.34E+11	74976.84
Observations	30	30	30	30

From the descriptive statistics, the mean shows that RGDP has 1415.633, migrants' remittances are 98.43333, Government expenditure on tertiary education is 78170.45 and exchange rate had a mean of 105.2267. The median for RGDP is 1259.000, MREM is 39.50000. GETE 54490.70 while exchange rate had a median of 91.30000. The maximum statistics showed 3222.000 for RGDP, 1072.000 for MREM, 348400.0 for GETE and 269.2000 for EXR. The minimum for RGDP is 272.0000, 1.000000 for MREM, 802.3000 for GETE and 49.00000 for EXR.The standard deviation which are the measures of dispersion spread in each of the series are given as 907.1291 for RGDP, 230.0818 for MREM, 89885.56 for GETE and 50.84691 for EXR.Again, one important observation in the table is that the skewness which is a measure of asymmetry of the distribution of series around its mean are all positive except RGDP which shows that the distribution has a long right tail.The Kurtosis statistics that measures the peakedness or flatness of the distribution of each of the series shows that the values for most of the variables are greater than 1 on the average. This implies that the distribution is peaked relative to normal. Hence, the need for ADF and another test.

UNIT ROOT RESULT
SERIES: RGDP, MREM, GETE, EXR
Table 3: Unit Root

	AT LEVELS		**AT FIRST DIFFERENCE**		**ORDER OF INTEGRATION**	**SUMMARY**
VARIABLE	**ADF STATISTIC**	**5% CRITICAL VALUE**	**ADF STATISTIC**	**5% CRITICAL VALUE**		
RGDP	**-1.863394**	**-2.967767**	**-5.116654**	**-2.971853**	**I(1)**	**Stationary**
MREM	**-1.378477**	**-2.967767**	**-5.289120**	**-2.971853**	**I(1)**	**Stationary**
GETE	**-2.048089**	**-2.967767**	**-7.233411**	**-2.971853**	**I(1)**	**Stationary**
EXR	**-2.191676**	**-2.967767**	**-4.505378**	**-2.971853**	**I(1)**	**Stationary**

Source: Author's computation using E-View, 2019

The Augmented Dickey- Fuller (ADF) unit root test in above table shows that Real GDP (RGDP), Migrant

HYPOTHESIZED NO. OF CE(S)	EIGEN VALUE	TRACE STATISTIC	0.05 CRITICAL VALUE	PROB.**
None *	0.488132	40.49277	47.85613	0.2053
At most 1 *	0.327714	21.74149	29.79707	0.3131
At most 2 *	0.271793	10.62348	15.49471	0.2357
At most 3 *	0.060343	1.742738	3.841466	0.1868

Remittances (MREM), Government Expenditures on Tertiary Education (GETE) and Exchange Rate (EXR) are stationary at first difference and this implies that they integrated of order one and it also shows that they can only sustain any form of shock passed on them for a short period of time.

Table 4: **Trace Test**

The result of the Trace test presented in table above indicates co integrating equation(s) at the 0.05 level.

MAXIMUM EIGEN VALUE TEST

SERIES: RGDP, MREM, GETE, EXR

Table 6: Maximum Eigen

HYPOTHESIZED NO. OF CE(S)	EIGEN VALUE	MAXIMUM EIGEN STATISTIC	0.05 CRITICAL VALUE	PROB.**
None*	0.488132	40.49277	47.85613	0.2053
At most 1*	0.327714	21.74149	29.79707	0.3131
At most 2*	0.271793	10.62348	15.494771	0.2357
At most 3*	0.060343	1.742738	3.841466	0.1868

Source: Author's computation using E-View, 2019

The result of the maximum Eigen value test in the table above indicates co-integrating equations at 5% critical value. However, according to Johansen and Juselius (1996), they suggested that the result of the trace statistics should be upheld when there is a conflict between the maximum Eigen value and the trace statistics.Hence, the long run relationship among the variables will be determined by the normalized co-integrating coefficient with the highest log likelihood in absolute term. The result is presented in Table 7:

Table 7: Normalized Co-Integrating Coefficients: One Co-Integrating Equation

LOG RGDP	LOG MREM	LOG GETE	LOG EXR
1.000000	**-0.184893**	**-0.182395**	**-0.698099**
	(0.04080)	**(0.04312)**	**(0.17931)**

Source: Author's Computation Using E-View, 2019

Log Livelihood

From the above table, the co-integrating equation is specified thus:

$RGDP = -0.184893MREM_{t-1}-0.182395GETE_{t-1}-0.698099EXR_{t-1}$

The above equation represents thee Normalized co-integrating highest log livelihood in absolute terms. The above equation reveals that Migrant Remittances (MREM), Government expenditures on Tertiary Education (GETE) and Exchange rates (EXR) have negative relationship with the Real Gross Domestic Product (RGDP) in Nigeria and this implies that a unit increase in MREM reduces the RGDP by 0.184893 and a unit increase in GETE will decrease the RGDP by 0.182395, also a unit increase in EXC will cause the RGDP to reduce by 0.69. These negate the apriori expectation.

Discussion of Findings

This study sets out to empirically investigate the relationship between Remittances and Economic Growth in Nigeria, using an annual time series data which spans through 1988 to 2017.

From analysis of the empirical results, it revealed through the unit root test that Real Gross Domestic Product (RGDP), Migrants Remittances (MREM), Government Expenditures on Tertiary Education (GETE) and Exchange rate (EXR) are stationary at first difference. Also, the co-integration test shows that the independent variables Migrant Remittances (MREM), Government Expenditure on Tertiary Education (GETE), and exchange Rate (EXR) have no long run relationship the dependent variable Real Gross Domestic Product (RGDP).

The findings imply that migrants' remittances do not boost economic growth but retards it since the needed manpower to foster economic growth are out of the country. Again, they only send little money for feeding and upkeep which is not enough to achieve the desired economic growth in the country. The finding is in line with the works of Shimus (2013), Danmola& Abba (2013), Tassew, & Rao. (2016) that there is no long

run relationship between migrants' remittances and economic growth. Again, a negative relationship between both.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The Objectives of the study was to explore the relationship among the Migrant Remittances (MREM), Government Expenditure on Tertiary Education (GETE), Exchange Rate (EXR) and Real Gross Domestic Product (RGDP) in Nigeria. Model was developed to examine impacts of Migrant Remittances on Economic Growth in Nigeria. The Explanatory Variables of Migrant Remittances (MREM), Government Expenditure on Tertiary Education (GETE) and Exchange rate (EXR) were found to exert an insignificant negative impact on Economic Growth in Nigeria contrary to the apriori expectations. We conclude that remittances has negative impact on Economic Growth and that it is good only for private individuals and are not funds meant for Government projects.Based on the findings, the government should put in place policies that discourage migration, working environment should be made to look attractive and conducive, the pay package should be made to be the equivalent to other countries, local contents (professionals) should be encouraged and celebrated, etc. A well-designed policy intervention that will improve education and enhance infrastructural development should be put in place.

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