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Significant Factors Causing Construction Delay of Roads in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria

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ABSTRACT: This research focus on the study of causes of construction delay of road projects awarded by the Niger Delta Development Commission in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria. The Cronbach Alpha Collection (CAC) was employed to test the questionnaires used for data collection and they were found to be statistically significant. The reliability analysis employed the use of interclass correlation of coefficients, multivariate analysis of variants (MANOVA) and the box test (Covariance Matrix). Out of the sixty-three (63) delay causing factors examined, Explorative Factor Analysis confirmed twenty - One (21) as significant from client's perspective from owner-, contractor-, consultant-, project-, material-, and external-related factors.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) budget annually averages above Seven Billion Dollars (USD 7B) on infrastructures and about 75% of this budgetary estimate is deployed for road projects. In the course of its existence since year 2000, Niger Delta Development Commission has constructed more than 3300 roads in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria as part of the National road network (Ekere, 2017).

The Nigerian economy is almost exclusively dependent on oil revenue from the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria (NDRMP, 2006), and oil exploration activities has negatively affected the region due to degradation of the eco-system resulting in loss of mainstream local economy such as agriculture and aquaculture. The NDDC was thus established by an act of parliament in the year 2000 as an interventionist agency to bridge the prevalent infrastructural and human capacity gap with a mission "to facilitate the rapid, even, sustainable development of the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria into a region that is socially stable, economically prosperous, ecologically regenerative and politically peaceful" (NDRDMP, 2006). However, there have been knocks, jabs, negative comments, as well as unfavourable assessments and evaluation from stakeholders including end-users. Complaints range from poor quality of executed road projects to high cost and long-time overrun (Sunjka and Jacobs, 2013; Ogbeide (2021); Ogbeide et al, 2021b). And to a large extent, the observed poor performance of the Commission's significantly impacts on available national resources, thus affecting the country's construction industry and in turn, the national economic growth. Thus, in this study, client's opinion on the causes of road construction projects awarded by NDDC is in focus wherein, project managers and directors managing road projects in the Commission represent the client. The benefit from this study would be a catalyst on the potential increased attractiveness of the region as a location for investment in new plants and projects, resulting in improvement in the local economy and standard of living of the inhabitants of the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria. This study will also be useful to all parties involved in road construction projects, especially in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria. Additionally, the identification of the significant factors causing road construction delay would enhance optimized investment decisions in deploying resources to achieving effective mitigation strategies.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A construction project can either be a new project; a part of an ongoing project, program or portfolio; an upgrade of an existing project; a service to achieve a result; and, construction research activities (Ogunfidodo, 2014). Honrao and Desai (2015) categorised six causes of delay to include causes related to contractor, causes related to owner, causes related to consultant, causes related to service and utilities, causes related to government regulations, and causes related to external environmental factors. But Aibinu&Jagboro (2002); Assaf and Al-Hejji (2006); Sambasivan and Soon (2007); Wei (2010); Ibironke et al (2013) and Dinesh (2016) instead recognised eight causative factors of time overruns



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to include: client -, contractor -, consultant -, material -, and project - related factors. Others are equipment, labour and external factors.

Construction delay in Nigeria has been a subject of investigation by many researchers (for example: Emeka, 2016; Abisuga et al, 2014; Mohammed and Isah, 2012; Ubani, et al, 2012; Ibironke, et al, 2013; Aibinu and Jagboro, 2002). Mohammed and Isah (2012) studied the causes of delay in Nigeria Construction industry by the use of 150 questionnaires. Only 127 were returned for ranking delay analysis. The authors found that design errors, inadequate planning and use of unqualified professionals were the significant factors causing delay of construction projects in Nigeria. Owolabi et al (2014) investigated the causes and effect on project construction delivery time. Using random sampling technique, 150 questionnaires were distributed of which 93 were returned. The factors causing delay as identified in their study include: lack of fund to finance the project to completion, change in drawings, lack of effective communication among parties involved, lack of adequate information from Consultants, slow decision making, Contractors insolvency, variations, project management problems, mistake and discrepancies in contract document, equipment availability and failure, mistake during construction, bad weather, fluctuation in price of building materials, inappropriate overall organisational structure linking delay to the project and labour. In another study, Abisuga et al (2014) investigated the perception of indigenous and multinational construction firms as it concerns construction delay in Nigeria. With the study conducted in Lagos, their findings revealed five top influencing factors causing construction delays to include: cash flow problem, shortage of construction materials, clients financial difficulties, inadequate consultant experiences, and incompetent project team. Sunjka and Jacobs (2013) studied the causes and effect of construction delays in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria (NDR) and identified significant causative factors. They include: youth unrest, militancy and communal crises, inadequate planning by the contractors, delay or non-payment of compensation to the communities, wrong choice of consultants and contractors by the clients, weather condition, poor contract management by the consultants, late identification and resolution of drawings and specification errors and omissions by the consultants, lack of community buy-in, poor contract management by the consultants, inappropriate design by the consultants, unrealistic contract duration by the clients and poor coordination of subcontractors by the contractors. However, the study suffers from some weaknesses which included the fact that captured data and its analysis did not cover the entire Niger Delta Region as the study was domiciled in Port Harcourt, Nigeria. Secondly, not all part of the NDR was accessible for the study due to youth restiveness and militancy. Also, the small sample size used in their study may not permit the deductions of reliable conclusions as alluded to by the authors.

Construction delay is also a research area universally. In a study conducted in Bahrain, Hasan et al (2014) covered 47 causes of delay. The study concluded that improper planning and inexperienced manpower were the major delay causing factors among construction industry practitioners whereas, the project owners were found to be mainly deficient in impactful decision making. In Pakistan, Haseeb et al (2014) obtained questionnaire inputs from Government Agencies, Service suppliers and Contractors. All three parties identified insufficient funds, change orders and contractor capability as significant delay causing factors. While Mullah and Waghmare (2015) identified two main reasons for construction delay attributable to contractors as poor site management and poor planning, Motalab and Kishk (2010) confirmed at least five delay causing factors to include change orders, slow decision making by client, lack of capability by client representative, construction financial difficulties, and late delivery of materials, This study is therefore justified by the need to fill the gaps created in the above referenced studies, including that of Sunjka and Jacobs (2013), and to derive updates to the period covered by this research.

III. RESEARCH METHOTHOLOGY

The research was implemented according to the flow chart given in Figure 1 as adapted from Aziz (2013). A quantitative systematic literature methodology as proposed by Pickering and Jason (2014) was employed. This involved identifying keywords related to the study and systematically running electronic searches using the keywords. Filtering of the results were carried out to ensure their relevance to the subject (Emam et al, 2015). The coverage of the questionnaire includes selected latent and indication factors of causes of road construction delay, and the questionnaires were distributed to project managers and project directors in the Commission as client representatives. All respondents had a substantial knowledge and experience in road management and construction projects of the Commission since they have been involved with supervision and monitoring of road projects at both operational and strategic levels in the organisation, hence had a fair knowledge of issues bedevilling road projects awarded by the Commission. The questions on a Likert rating scale involved recording the contribution of each variable to delay on a scale of 1 (not significant) to 5 (extremely significant) used by respondents in rating the impact of the road construction delay indicators. The questionnaires were collected from the participants within a period of 1-6 months after distribution. This approach removed any undue pressure from the respondents and gave them the freedom to fill-in the



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questionnaires as truthfully as possible. The valid data were analysed by the Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) software. This involved data processing and analysis and exploratory factor analysis (EFA). A total of 200 questionnaires were distributed to the client's representatives out of which 162 were returned.

Table 1 shows the latent constructs of causes of construction delay while Figure 2 shows themeasurement models for causes of delay. In Figures 2, the path arrows show the hypothetical relationship among the dependent variables and the independent variables (measured indicators). The rectangular shapes indicate the observed variables that are the individual items on the questionnaire survey.

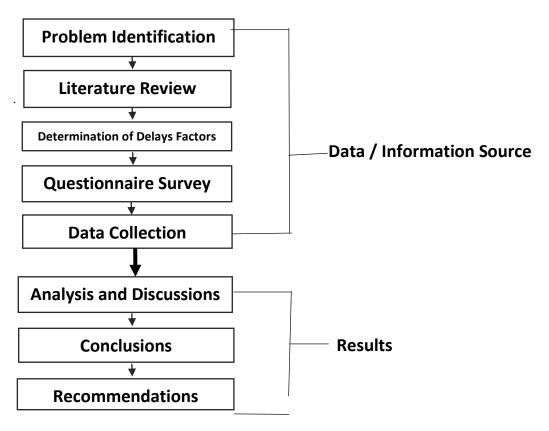


Figure 1: Main Research Activities and Methodology (adapted from Aziz 2013)

Table 1: Latent Constructs for road construction delay causing factors

Latent	Cod	Indicators	Source		
Constructs	e				
OWNER	A1	Delay in progress payments for certified	Mutalab&Kishk (2010), Omoregie& Radford (2006),		
CONTRIBUT	A2	works	Omoregie& Radford (2006), Mutalab&Kishk (2010),		
ED	A3	Change orders by owner during	Haseeb et al (2014)		
FACTORS		construction			
	A4	Late in revising and approving design	Enshassi et al (2009)		
		documents			
	A5	Delay in approving drawing and sample	Sambasivan& Soon (2007)		
	A6	materials	Haseeb et al (2014), Lyer& Jah (2006),		
	A7	Poor communication and coordination	Mutalab&Kishk (2010), Hasan et al (2014),		
	A8	between Owner and other parties	Abedi et al (2011b), Doloi et al (2012)		
	A9	Slowness in decision-making process	Sohu et al (2017)		
		Bureaucracy in client's organization			
	A10	Type of project bidding and award	Omoregie& Radford (2006), Mutalab&Kishk (2010),		
	A11	(negotiation, lowest bidder, etc.)	Sunjka& Jacobs (2013)		
		Delay in project site hand-over			



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	A12	Poor site monitoring & contract	Sohu et al (2017)		
	A13	management Project relocation	Pickavance (2010), Chapman et al (2016).		
		Wrong choice of consultant/contractors			
		Ineffective delay penalties (OWN-13)			
CONTRACT	B1	Difficulties in financing project	Haseeb et al (2014), Enshassi et al (2008)		
OR	B2	Delay in mobilizing to site	Omoregie& Radford (2006), Haseeb et al (2014)		
CONTRIBUT ED	В3	Conflicts in sub-contractor's schedule in execution of Project	Omoregie& Radford (2006), Sunjka& Jacobs (2013),		
FACTORS	B4	Rework due to errors during construction	Chaudhry et al (2014)		
	B5	Inadequate Planning/scheduling of works	Sunjka& Jacobs (2013), Hasan et al (2014)		
	В6	Conflicts between contractor and other	Lyer& Jah (2006)		
	В7	parties due to non-excusable delays Poor site management and supervision	Sunjka& Jacobs (2013), Hasan et al (2014)		
	B8	Wrong Choice of bankers	Mutalab&Kishk (2010)		
	В9	Improper construction methods and	Mutalab&Kishk (2010), Enshassi et al (2008)		
	B10	equipment	Haseeb et al (2014), Lyer& Jah (2006)		
		Inadequate contractor's experience			
CONSULTA	C1	Delay in approving major changes in the	Sunjka& Jacobs (2013), Sambasivan& Soon (2007),		
NT	Cı	scope of work	Mohamid (2011)		
CONTRIBUT	C2	Unclear and incomplete drawings and	Omoregie& Radford (2006)		
ED		specifications	-		
FACTORS	C3	Inadequate experience of consultant	Pourrostam& Ismail (2011), Sunjka& Jacobs (2013)		
	C4	Mistakes and discrepancies (due to errors and omissions) in design documents	Omoregie& Radford (2006)		
	C5	Delays in producing design documents	Omoregie& Radford (2006), Sambasivan& Soon		
	C6	Insufficient data collection and survey	(2007)		
		before design	Enshassi et al (2008),		
	C7	Late in performing inspection and testing	W. 1W. (2012)		
	C8 C9	Defective BEME Poor site supervision & associated Project	Wong and Vimonsatit (2012) Mohamid (2011)		
	C	management Problems	Chileshe&Fianko (2012), Hasan et al (2014)		
PROJECT	D1	Legal disputes between various parties	Pickavance (2010)		
RELATED	D2	Ineffective penalties for inexcusable	Pickavance (2010)		
FACTORS	D3	delays	Sunjka& Jacobs (2013)		
	D4	Delay or non-payment of Right-of-Way ROW) Compensation payment to owners	Alaghbari et al (2007)		
	D÷	of properties	Assaf& Al-Hejji (2006)		
	D5	No budgetary provision / removal from			
	D6	budget	Mohamid (2011)		
		Unrealistic project construction duration			
		as specified in the Contract Deficiency in BEME (PRJ-6)			
MATERIAL	E1	Shortage of construction materials in	Mutalab&Kishk (2010), Assaf& Al-Hejji (2006)		
CONTRIBUT		market (bitumen, cement and steel)	,,		
ED	E2	Changes in material types during	Wu et al (2017), Mitikie et al (2017), Nagaraju et al		
FACTORS	Б2	construction and Specifications	(2012)		
	E3	Inadequate procurement planning of materials	Manavazhia&Adhikarib (2002)		
	E4	Quality problem with procured material	`		
	E5	Fluctuation in price of construction	Enshassi et al (2008), Assaf& Al-Hejji (2006)		
ЕОПИРИЕМ	E1	materials (MTR-5)	Omoregie& Radford (2006), Haseeb et al (2014)		
EQUIPMEN T	F1 F2	Equipment breakdowns Shortage of equipment	Haseeb et al (2014) Manavazhia&Adhikarib (2002)		
CONTRIBUT	F3	Low level of equipment-operator's skill	Nagaraju et al (2012)		
COMMENT	1.0	25 " level of equipment operator's skill	Tragataja ot at (2012)		



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ED	F4	Low productivity and efficiency of	Sambasivan& Soon (2007)		
FACTORS		equipment			
	F5	Difficulty in transporting equipment	Manavazhia&Adhikarib (2002)		
	F6	Unavailability of special equipment	Mutalab&Kishk (2010), Enshassi et al (2008)		
LABOUR	G1	Shortage of labour	Mutalab&Kishk (2010), Haseeb et al (2014).		
CONTRIBUT	G2	Unqualified work Force	Haseeb et al (2014), Hasan et al (2014) Nagaraju et		
ED	G3	Low productivity level of labour (LBR-3)	al (2012)		
FACTORS			Pourrostam& Ismail (2011), Enshassi et al (2008)		
EXTERNAL	H1	Different or unexpected geo-technical	Mutalab&Kishk (2010),		
FACTORS	H2	conditions during construction			
	НЗН	Delay in obtaining permits from	Omoregie& Radford (2006), Mohamid (2011)		
	4	municipality			
	H5H	Effect of rain on construction activities	Sunjka& Jacobs (2013), Lyer& Jah (2006)		
	6H7	Changes in Government/Governing			
	H8H	Board regulations and laws	Sambasivan& Soon (2007), Assaf& Al-Hejji (2006)		
	9H1	Delay in performing Milestone inspection			
	0H1	& certification	Oribuyaku (2016), Sohu et al (2017)		
	1	Fraudulent practices and corruption	Enshassi et al (2008)		
		Labour unrest and public strikes	Sunjka& Jacobs (2013), Assaf& Al-Hejji (2006)		
		Youth unrest, communal crisis, militancy	Sunjka& Jacobs (2013)		
		Lack of community buy-in	Mutalab&Kishk (2010).		
		Lack of periodic meetings among client,			
		contractor and Consultant	Sunjka& Jacobs (2013)		
		Political interference (EXT-11)			

IV. ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

EXPLORATORY FACTOR ANALYSIS

Exploratory factor analysis is a statistical technique that is used to reduce data to a smaller set of summary variables and to explore the underlining theoretical structure of the phenomena. It is used to identify the structure of the relationship between the variables and the respondents. In this case, exploratory factor analysis was employed to explain the opinions of the client with regards to causes of construction delay of road projects awarded by NDDC in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria

INFERENTIAL STATISTICS FOR CAUSES OF CONSTRUCTION DELAY

This was used to test the co-linearity of the selected delay causing factors. The selected causes of construction delay were used as the independent variable while the respondent views were used as the dependent variable. The null and alternate hypothesis of inferential statistics were formulated as: H0: No significant difference in the selected causes of construction delay according to client's opinion, and H1: Significant difference exists in the selected causes of construction delay according to client's opinion. The analysis was performed at 95% confidence interval Thus, for p < 0.05, the null hypothesis is accepted and it is concluded that no significant difference exists among the selected causes of construction delay. But for p > 0.05, the null hypothesis is rejected and it is concluded that significant difference exists among the selected causes of construction delay. Descriptive statistics of the selected causes of construction delay based on inferential statistics is presented in Table 2a and 2b respectively



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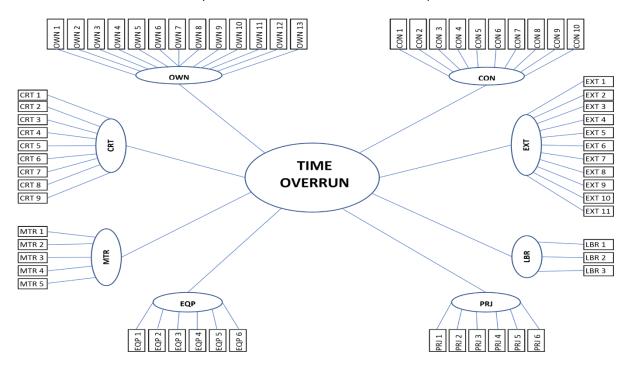


Figure 2: Initial Measurement model for causes of road construction delay

The difference in the computed mean and standard deviation as observed in Table 2a-b revealed the difference strength of the selected causes of construction delay from the view of the client. The levene test as presented in Table 3 was employed to test for equal variance or homogeneity of variance.

With a p-value of 0.691 (p > 0.05), the null hypothesis was rejected and it was concluded that significant difference exists among the selected causes of construction delay according to the client view. On whether to finally accept or reject the null hypothesis, analysis of variance (ANOVA) table was generated and presented in Table 4

From the result of the analysis of variance, it was observed that the p-value is > 0.05 (p = 1.000). For p > 0.05, the null hypothesis was rejected and the alternate hypothesis was finally accepted and it was concluded that significant difference exists among the selected causes of construction delay according to the client view.

SIGNIFICANT DELAY CAUSING FACTORS

To select the significant cause of construction delay according to the view point of the client, the mean plot of performance was generated and presented in Figure 3.

From the client view as observed in Figure 3, owners contributed factors, contractor contributed factors, consultant contributed factors, project related factors, material contributed factors and external factors were the major factors that mostly cause delay in construction of road projects awarded by NDDC. A breakdown of the significant causes of construction delay is presented in Table 5.



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Table 2a: Descriptive statistics of client's view of the causes of construction delay.

CLIENT	CLIENT'S VIEW							
					95% Confidence Interval for Mean			
	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Minimum	Maximum
A1	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
A2	5	13.20	9.094	4.067	1.91	24.49	0	21
A3	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
A4	5	13.20	8.167	3.652	3.06	23.34	0	20
A5	5	13.20	12.911	5.774	-2.83	29.23	0	27
A6	5	11.60	13.795	6.169	-5.53	28.73	0	35
A7	5	13.20	13.312	5.953	-3.33	29.73	0	30
A8	5	13.20	10.545	4.716	.11	26.29	0	24
A9	5	14.40	11.718	5.240	15	28.95	0	30
A10	5	13.80	11.541	5.161	53	28.13	0	30
A11	5	13.20	9.576	4.283	1.31	25.09	0	26
A12	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
A13	5	13.80	4.817	2.154	7.82	19.78	10	22
B1	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
B2	5	13.80	9.391	4.200	2.14	25.46	0	22
B3	5	14.40	15.694	7.019	-5.09	33.89	0	31
B4	5	13.20	11.777	5.267	-1.42	27.82	1	29
B5	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
B6	5	13.80	13.480	6.028	-2.94	30.54	0	34
B7	5	13.80	15.336	6.859	-5.24	32.84	0	31
B8	5	13.20	10.756	4.810	16	26.56	0	25
B9	5	11.80	14.429	6.453	-6.12	29.72	0	34
B10	5	12.00	14.071	6.293	-5.47	29.47	0	36
C1	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
C2	5	12.80	7.596	3.397	3.37	22.23	0	19
C3	5	12.60	9.343	4.179	1.00	24.20	3	28
C4	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
C5	5	13.20	9.011	4.030	2.01	24.39	0	25
C6	5	11.60	7.537	3.370	2.24	20.96	0	19
C7	5	13.60	10.597	4.739	.44	26.76	2	25



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Table 2b: Descriptive statistics client's view of the causes of construction delay continue

C8	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
C9	5	13.20	7.950	3.555	3.33	23.07	0	21
D1	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
D2	5	13.20	2.775	1.241	9.75	16.65	11	18
D3	5	13.80	5.541	2.478	6.92	20.68	7	21
D4	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
D5	5	13.80	18.171	8.126	-8.76	36.36	0	44
D6	5	13.80	9.365	4.188	2.17	25.43	0	23
E1	5	14.40	11.718	5.240	15	28.95	0	30
E2	5	13.40	18.050	8.072	-9.01	35.81	0	44
E3	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
E4	5	13.80	11.054	4.944	.07	27.53	2	28
E5	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
H1	5	13.20	19.058	8.523	-10.46	36.86	0	46
H2	5	14.40	10.359	4.632	1.54	27.26	0	26
H3	5	13.80	13.646	6.102	-3.14	30.74	0	32
H4	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
H5	5	13.80	12.194	5.453	-1.34	28.94	0	31
H6	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
H7	5	13.20	10.183	4.554	.56	25.84	0	25
H8	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
H9	5	13.60	12.033	5.381	-1.34	28.54	3	33
H10	5	13.20	10.710	4.790	10	26.50	0	26
H11	5	15.60	15.274	6.831	-3.37	34.57	3	36
Total	270	14.01	11.625	.707	12.62	15.41	0	46

Table 3: Levene test statistics of client's view for causes of construction delay

	Test of Homogeneity of Variances							
Ш	CLIENT'S VIEW	_CLIENT'S VIEW						
	Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Siq.				
Ш	.715	9	37	.691				
Ш								

Table 4: Analysis of variance parameters of client's view for causes of construction delay

ANOVA						
_CLIENT'S VIEW						
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Siq.	
Between Groups	168.311	62	2.715	.017	1.000	
Within Groups	39239.200	252	155.711			
Total	39407.511	314				



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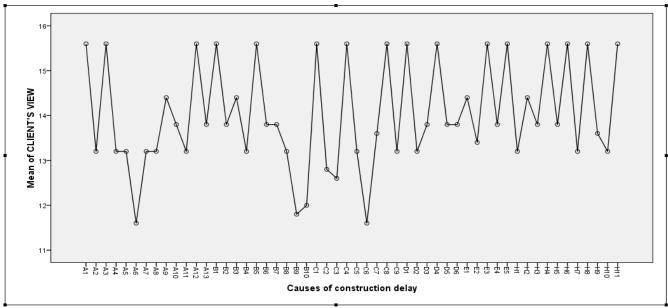


Figure 3: Most important cause of construction delay according to Clients view

Table 5: Significant causes of construction delays according to client view

S/n	Codes	Latent	Construction delay indicators
1		variables	
1	A	Owner	Delay in payment for certified works
		contributed	Late in revising and approving design document
		factors;	Wrong choice of consultant/contractors
2	В	Contractor	Difficulties in financing project
		contributed	Conflicts in sub-contractor's schedule in execution of works
		factors;	Rework due to errors during construction
			Inadequate planning/scheduling of works
3	С	Consultant	Delay in approving major changes in the scoop of work
		contributed	Mistakes and discrepancies (due to errors and omissions) in design documents
		factors;	Late in performing inspection and testing
			Defective Bill of Engineering Measurement and Evaluation (BEME)
4	D Project		Legal disputes between various parties
		related factors:	Delay or non-payment of Right-of-Way ROW) Compensation payment to owners of properties
		ractors,	No budgetary provision/removal from properties
5	Е	Materials	Inadequate procurement planning of material
3	L	contributed	1 1
		factor	Shortage of construction materials in market (bitumen, cement and steel)
		Tactor	Fluctuation in price of construction materials
6	Н	External	Changes in Government/Governing Board of regulations of laws
		factors	Fraudulent practices and corruption/diversion/misappropriation
			Political Interference
			Youth unrest, communal crisis, militancy

V. CONCLUSION

The study identified twenty-one (21) significant factors from the sixty-three (63) factors investigated as causing construction delay of road projects awarded by NDDC. They are: *Owner contributed factors*: delay in payment for certified works, late in revising and approving design document, wrong choice of consultant and contractors; *Contractor contributed factors*: difficulties in financing project, conflicts in sub-contractor's schedule in



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execution of works, rework due to errors during construction, inadequate planning/scheduling of works; *Consultant contributed factors*: delay in approving major changes in the scoop of work, mistakes and discrepancies (due to errors and omissions) in design documents, late in performing inspection and testing, defective Bill of Engineering Measurement & Evaluation; *Project contributed factors*: legal disputes between various parties, no budgetary provision /removal from budget and delay/non-payment of compensation to owners encumbered; *External factors contribution*: changes in government/governing board regulations and laws, Political Interference, fraudulent practices and corruption (fund diversion and misappropriation), youth & communal unrest and militancy; and Materials contributed factors are: inadequate procurement planning of material, Shortage of construction materials in market (bitumen, cement and steel) and, fluctuation in price of construction materials.

Though Sunjka and Jacobs (2013) had earlier confirmed some of the above delay causing factors as significant for road projects executed in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria, this research work however identified other delay causing factors not captured in their study that relates especially to the timely completion of road projects. They include: change orders by owners during construction, no budgetary provision /removal from budget, changes in successive government/governing board regulations and laws, fraudulent practices and corruption (fund diversion and misappropriation), inadequate procurement planning of material and, fluctuation in price of construction materials.

VI. RECOMMENDATION

Confirmatory Factor Analysis should be carried out to determine the critical factors causing construction delay of road projects awarded by the Commission in the Niger Delta Region. This will enable an efficient deployment of resources to reducing and/or mitigating road construction delay in the region.

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