

## Analysis of Factors Enhancing Special Needs People Participation in Recreation and Cultural Tourism Activities in Osogbo Metropolis, Osun State, Nigeria

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### **Abstract**

*Participation in recreation and cultural tourism is a therapy because it is directly related to improving people's quality of life. This study analysed factors enhancing special needs people participation in recreation and cultural tourism activities in Osogbo metropolis, Osun state. A multi-stage sampling technique was employed to select one hundred and ten (110) respondents. Data were collected, analysed and interpreted from questionnaire administered to registered members of JONAPWD, an association of special needs in Olorunda and Osogbo Local Government Areas purposively. This was subjected to statistical analysis using tools such as tables, frequency counts, percentages and Chi-square ( $X^2$ ). Hypotheses tested at 0.05 level of significance shows that there is a significant relationship between compatibility of infrastructure with special needs people status and cultural tourism activities participation. Also, there is a significant relationship between constraints being faced by special need people and cultural tourism participation. It was thus concluded that the major constraints that hinder participation of special needs people in cultural tourism activities include the physical environment, economic conditions and societal attitude in Osogbo Metropolis. It was recommended that in planning of infrastructural projects for special needs people, they should be part of decision making team. Their representative should also be included in implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the development of tourism infrastructural projects. Government (Local, State and Federal) should assist special needs people in cultural tourism participation by providing fund to train interested individuals who wish to acquire specific skills for the production of cultural items such as batik, tie and dye, bead, art work and painting, carving, leather work, pottery and mat weaving which serve as souvenirs and be sold to both local and international tourists to empower this population.*

**Keyword:** *Special Needs People, Participation, Recreation, Cultural Tourism, Activity*

### **1. Introduction**

In recent times, participation of Special Needs People (SNP) in recreation and cultural tourism has been the focus of individuals, the academics, social researcher and society at large. This is not far-fetched due to the fact that the ancient art works of Nigeria and her archaeological heritage located in various culture areas have generated international interest and recognition based on its immeasurable benefits. Cultural tourism is a sub-set of tourism sector showcasing a country's or region's culture. It cuts across material and non-material aspects of culture (Global Impact of Tourism, 2009). Culture is described as a way of life acquired within the society and transmitted through generations. The thinking models of the people living in human societies, defining their belief, norms, custom, language, art and technology, religion practice, political and economic systems, the way they express themselves, styles of dress, ways of producing and cooking foods as well as attitude to life is described as culture. Thus, cultural attractions are indispensable components in Nigeria tourism activities (Okpoko et al, 2002).

Cultural tourism is tourists visit to experience people's ways of life expressed as religious belief, housing pattern, colourful festivals, dance, drama, songs, foods production, language, carnivals, works of art and craft (Brill, Akonga 2003). The cultural assets of Nigeria are amongst the most fascinating in Africa, some of which include Osun Osogbo festival in Osun State; Eyo festival in Lagos; Kano, Katsina, and Kaduna, Durbar festival; Argungu fishing festival in Kebbi State,

Mmanwu, and Calabar festivals in the south eastern Nigeria among others. Nigeria is also enriched with finest collections of Arts and Crafts as well as archaeological relics showing our historical past like Terra-Cotta head from the old Nok Culture, the famous Benin Bronze art works and Yoruba's exciting sculptures. These fascinating great varieties of ancient relics are found in all the branches of Nigeria national museums. Crafts are also symbols of Nigeria's materials and spiritual heritage. Crafts are well integrated into the living pattern of Nigerians and inseparable from their spiritual philosophies. These crafts, therefore, are prized objects for the promotion and preservation of cultural tourism. Nigerian crafts are grouped into textile, pottery and ceramics, fibre crafts, bronze, brass and iron works, wood work, calabash decorations, leather work, sculpture, carving, ivory and jewellery and raffia work (Eja Iwara et al, 2012).

Participation in all forms of cultural tourism sometimes described organised group of people interacting in a structural system and carrying out activities necessary to produce and sustain life. Many Nigerians participate in cultural tourism as a form of relaxation and relief from work pressures or other tensions. Some people enjoy cultural tourism that are highly social and provides opportunity for mingling with people, making new friends and merriment or cooperating with others in group settings. Participation may be viewed as an avenue to acquire specific skills in arts and crafts which in turn can create jobs and generate income for some individuals. Habits to overcome psychological barriers could be reason for some people to participate in cultural tourism. Individuals also take part in cultural tourism that deeply involve forms of culture such as music, drum beating, drama, dance, literature and fine arts as hobbies (Victor-Asaro, 2010).

Recreation and cultural tourism have many worthwhile objectives. It contributes to the satisfaction of basic human needs for creative self-expression; helps to promote total health and longevity of life – physical, emotional, mental and social; provides an antidote to the strains and tensions of life; provides an avenue to abundant personal and family living; reduces self-destruction and anti-social behaviour and develop effective citizenship and vitalizes democracy (Bucher, 2000).

The implication is that special needs people should also have equal access to recreation and tourism activities as a result of immeasurable benefits derivable from participation. It is in this respect that the present study is designed to analyse factors that can enhance special needs people (SNP) participation in recreation and cultural tourism activities in Osogbo metropolis, Osun State.

Realising the enormous benefits associated with participation in tourism activities, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2005 to recognise Osun Osogbo cultural festival and Osun grove as one of the UNESCO World cultural heritage centres. This action was taken as part of tourism development strategies for the state and it was approved. The essence is to increase resident's participation in recreation and cultural tourism activities in the state. In the same vein, the administration of Mr. Rauf Aregbesola, the current governor, introduced Walk to Live Programme; an outdoor recreational activities for all the residents of Osun state every month. This effort, like the previous one, is expected to encourage residents' participation in cultural tourism and recreational activities in the state.

However, several works have focused on the challenges facing tourism participation in Nigeria. Adekitan (2007) asserted that the level of Nigerian residents' participation in tourism activities is insignificant let alone physically challenged individuals' participation. The research of National Commission for Museums and Monuments (NCMM) in 2005 highlighted facilities and infrastructure required for tourism development to include services necessary for tourist's participation. Similar studies conducted by Adedayo (2010); Issa, (2012); Adeniyi (2012) also explicitly explained the socio-economic impacts of Osun Osogbo cultural festival and the facilities required for tourism development in the state. Despite the advantages that may accrue to Special Needs People (SNP) from participation in recreation and cultural tourism activities as an adjunctive therapy in improving their quality of life as affirmed by submission of Adekitan and Omolawon (2011), Special Needs People (SNP) participation in recreation and tourism activities is still very negligible. These previous works have all identified participation in tourism as a veritable way of enhancing the well-being of special needs people (SNP). However, none of these works have deemed it fit to examine the factors that can enhance special needs people (SNP) participation in cultural tourism and recreational activities. The main objective of this study is to analyse factors that would enhance special needs people (SNP) participation in recreation and cultural tourism in Osogbo metropolis, Osun State.

The population for this study consists of all registered members of Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities Osun State chapter (JONAPWD) called special needs people (SNP) in Osogbo metropolis both literate and illiterate. The Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities Osun state chapter (JONAPWD) is under ministry of youth, sports and special needs. This association has branch office in all the 30 local government areas of the state and Modakeke lfe area office. This implies that there are thirty registered JONAPWD association in the state of Osun and Modakeke lfe area office. This association meets two times in a month i.e. every first Friday and the last Friday of every month in the local government council premises of each local government. This study adopted survey design. Survey research design allows the researcher to gather information correctly without influence (Azika, 2001).

Multi-stage sampling technique was used. First stage employed purposive sampling method. This method was used to select Olorunda and Osogbo local government areas from the thirty one existing local government areas in Osun state. Secondly, the use of simple random sampling technique was then employed to select respondents from the available JONAPWD member's list. On the list, each of Olorunda and Osogbo Local Government area has 105 and 116 registered JONAPWD members respectively. 52 and 58 respondents which represent 50% respectively, were randomly selected from each group to have a total number of 110 respondents of special needs people for this study.

Primary data were collected using structured questionnaires containing both open and close ended questions. The drafted questionnaire was given to supervisor and experts in the field for corrections. Their observations, corrections and suggestions were incorporated. The researcher administered 20 questionnaires to the special needs people who would not form part of the research for validity test. The Guttman Split-Half Coefficient was 0.889. This made the researcher to conclude that the instrument is reliable. A hundred and ten (110) questionnaires were distributed to the respondents and all the questionnaires were returned. This was possible because the researcher employed three research assistants and one interpreter for the deaf to conduct the exercise at the two local governments in Osogbo metropolis. This exercise was conducted on two different days with adequate arrangement with the chairman of JONAPWD association in each of the local government areas in Osogbo metropolis. The questionnaires were collected on the spot as researcher and his assistance were with the respondents to help guide them. This feedback represents 100% response. More importantly, this study relied extensively on frequency counts and percentages for data presentation and result interpretation; and Chi square statistical tool for data analysis. However, the investigations which led to the successfully completion of this research is not without some limitations. The challenges encountered by the researcher ranges from employment of four research assistance among which are a sign language interpreter, a photographer and two scholars. The low literacy level of the respondents also posed hindrance to the collection of data. Questionnaire was read and explained to the respondents, while answers were provided by them. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used for the study which comprises of tables, frequency counts and percentages. Hypotheses were tested using inferential statistics such as Chi square.

## **2. Results and Discussions**

Table 1 above shows the distribution of respondents by sex. Finding indicate that 70.9% of the respondents are male while 29.1 are female. This suggests that the number of female members who registered with Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities (JONAPWD) is fewer. This may be as a result of lack of information concerning the existence of the organisation in Osogbo metropolis. It may also be as a result of cultural factor that place the care of woman under their husband which inhibits female from seeking for assistance from outsiders. Table 1 shows the age distribution of the respondents. From the table, there is indication that majority of the respondents fall within the range of active and productive age. The result above shows that (25 - 29), (30 - 34) and (35 -39) age ranges representing 116.4%, 30.9% and 17.3% respectively which means 64.6% respondents were matured. This implies that they can make reasonable decision on their own without any form of bias. The educational level of the respondents reveals that 18.2% respondents received primary school, 37.3% respondents attended secondary school, and 30.0% respondents hold Ordinary Diploma (OND) and National Certificate in Education (NCE). It could also be inferred from this section of the table that 5.4% respondents hold first degree and higher national diploma (HND).Also others 9.1% specifically claimed to hold technical education certificate (NABTEB). From the above analysis, it implies that education is an essential factor for effective understanding of the development in ones' environment. To be aware of innovation somebody needs education. Some of the respondents confessed that they did not know the benefits derivable from cultural tourism participation. However, some of the respondents do not believe that art and craft and other cultural activities serve as income generating (socio-economic) avenues. Table 1 reveals that 37.3% of the respondents were Christians, 59.1% respondents practise Islamic religion and 3.6% respondents believed to be traditional religious worshippers. The finding shows that the majority of the respondents are Muslims. Osogbo metropolis comprises of people practising all the known and acceptable religions in the country, but the implication of the result is that more Muslims are registered JONAPWD members in the study area. However, one may not rule out the fact that there are more Muslims in Osogbo metropolis.

**Table 1:** Frequency Distribution of respondents based on demographic characteristics

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	78	70.9
Female	32	29.1
<b>Age</b>		
20-24	16	14.6
25-29	18	16.4
30-34	34	30.9
35-39	19	17.3
40-44	15	13.6
45 and above	8	7.3
<b>Educational Level</b>		
Primary School	20	18.2
Secondary School	41	37.3
OND/NCE	33	30.0
First Degree/HND	6	5.4
Others	10	9.1
<b>Religion</b>		
Christianity	41	37.3
Islam	65	59.1
Traditional (ATR)	4	3.6

**Source:** Field Survey, 2014.

Results from table 2 shows that 4.5% of the respondents strongly disagreed, 2.7% agreed and 6.4% of the respondents were undecided with the statement that special needs people have equal opportunities for participation in cultural tourism activities in Osogbo metropolis. 27.3% of the respondents disagreed and 59.1% strongly disagreed with the statement. On aggregate, it could be inferred from table 4.2 that majority 86.4% of the respondents were of the opinion that special needs people do not have equal participation opportunities in cultural tourism activities in Osogbo metropolis.

Result from table 2 also reveals that 20.0% of the respondents strongly agreed with the statement that special needs people do participate in cultural tourism activities such as Osun Osogbo festival; also 7.3% agreed and 3.6% undecided, while 40.0% and 29.1% disagreed and strongly disagreed respectively. Out of the total sampled population, 69.1% respondents which represent the majority were of the opinion that special needs people do not participate in cultural tourism activities like Osun Osogbo festival. Table 2 above shows the respondents' responses on availability of literature, music, drum beating and dance in the study area. Findings revealed that 49.1% and 37.3% which represent 86.4% on aggregate confirmed that cultural tourism activities such as literature, music drum beating and dance are available in the study area. 0.9%, 9.1% and 3.6% respondents were undecided, disagreed and strongly disagreed respectively with the statement.

Moreover, table 2 also reveals that 38.2% and 56.4% disagreed and strongly disagreed respectively with the statement that special needs people do participate in Arts and Crafts in order to acquire specific skill and job opportunity. 5.5% of the respondents agreed and no one is undecided. 38.2% and 54.6% disagreed and strongly disagreed with the statement. The findings indicate that majority of the respondents do not know the benefits derivable from knowledge and skills acquired from cultural tourism participation. Skills acquired from Arts and Crafts can help special needs people to create job opportunities and generate income to improve their quality of life. On whether respondents participate in cultural tourism activities like song performance, drum beating and cultural dance or not. 10.0% and 7.3% respectively strongly agreed and agreed with this statement, while majority of the respondents 47.3% and 35.4% disagreed and strongly disagreed that they do not participate in cultural tourism activities in the study area. From this finding, it could be inferred that despite the availability of cultural tourism activities in the study area, the level of participation of special needs people is still low.

**Table 2:** Respondent's view on recreation and tourism activities availability in Osogbo metropolis

Variables	SA Freq. (%)	A Freq. (%)	U Freq. (%)	D Freq. (%)	SD Freq. (%)
<b>Cultural tourism activities</b>					
Special needs people have equal opportunities for participation in cultural tourism activities in Osogbo metropolis	5(4.5)	3(2.7)	7(6.4)	30(27.3)	65(59.1)
Special needs people do participate in cultural tourism activities such as Osun Osogbo festival	22(20.0)	8(7.3)	4(3.6)	44(40.0)	32(29.1)
Literature, music, drum beating and dance are cultural tourism activities available in Osogbo metropolis	54(49.1)	41(37.3)	1(0.9)	10(9.1)	4(3.6)
I do participate in Arts and Crafts in order to acquire specific skill and job opportunity	--	6(5.5)	--	42(38.2)	62(56.4)
I do participate in cultural tourism activities like song performance, drum beating and cultural dance	11(10.0)	8(7.3)	--	52(47.3)	39(35.4)
People with disabilities do participate in recreation and local customs like other citizens in Osogbo metropolis	10(9.1)	7(6.4)	--	25(22.7)	68(61.8)
My relatives do appreciate my participation in cultural tourism such as visit to museum, exhibition, song performance, dance and local festivals	9(8.2)	7(6.4)	10(9.1)	23(20.9)	61(55.5)

**Source:** Field Survey, 2014.

Table 3 above shows that majority 32.7% and 54.6% of the respondents disagreed and strongly disagreed based on the statement that signposts showing space reserved for people with disabilities are made available at cultural tourism and recreational destinations in the study area. Also none of the respondents strongly agreed and 22.7% respondents were indifferent. About 88.2% strongly disagreed with the claim that recreational infrastructure compatible with different disabilities status are present at tourism destination in Osogbo metropolis, while 11.8 % were undecided.

On a general note, 87.3% and 12.7% respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that recreational infrastructures are built to meet different challenges of special needs people in Osogbo metropolis. Table 4.3 also reveals that most of the respondents 81.8% and 13.6% disagreed with the statement that elevators or cable cars are provided at tourism destinations in Osogbo metropolis. Elevator or cable cars can be installed by the government or private investor at cultural destination like Osun Osogbo grove to avail special needs people equal opportunity to view the site. Also, it could be inferred that majority 80.0% and 4.5% which represent 84.5% of the respondents on aggregate strongly disagreed with the statement that security are provided for the disabled persons at cultural tourism destinations in Osogbo metropolis. Data also showed that there were no responses for strongly agreed option. Moreover, statement on whether there are easy accessibility like ramp entrance showing inscription of disability symbols are available or not at recreational and tourism destinations. From table 3 above, 84.6% and 6.4% of the respondents disagreed with this claim while 9.1% was indifferent.

**Table 3:** Compatibility of tourism and recreational infrastructure with special needs people's status

Variables	SA Freq. (%)	A Freq. (%)	U Freq. (%)	D Freq. (%)	SD Freq. (%)
<b>Tourism and Recreational Infrastructure</b>					
Signposts showing space reserved for special needs people are made available at cultural tourism destinations	--	--	14(12.7)	36(32.7)	60(54.6)
Recreational infrastructure compatible with my status are present at tourism destinations in Osogbo metropolis	--	--	13(11.8)	16(14.6)	81(73.6)
Recreational infrastructure are not provided for me at recreation and tourism centres in Osogbo metropolis	98(89.1)	12(10.9)	--	--	--
Recreational infrastructure were built to meet different challenges of disabled people in tourism centres in Osogbo	--	--	--	14(12.7)	96(87.3)
Elevators or cable cars are provided at tourism destinations in Osogbo metropolis	--	--	5(4.5)	15(13.6)	90(81.8)
Security and safety are provided for special needs people at cultural tourism destinations in Osogbo metropolis	--	--	17(15.5)	5(4.5)	88(80.0)
Ramp entrance showing disability symbols are available for easy accessibility at recreational centres	--	--	10(9.1)	7(6.4)	93(84.6)
Hotels and restaurants in Osogbo metropolis have infrastructure compatible with special needs people status	--	--	8(7.3)	10(9.1)	92(83.6)

**Source:** Field Survey, 2014

Table 4 shows respondent responses on the extent of participation of special needs people in cultural event such as the famous Osun Osogbo cultural festival. Findings indicates that 16.4% and 62.7% of the respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed respectively with the claim that special needs people do participate in cultural festivals such as Osun Osogbo. The data from the table 4 also reflect that 16.4% agreed with the statement and 4.5% respondents were undecided. Those respondents that agreed were largely due to proximity to the grove but from all indications, reserved space for easy accessibility of wheel chair is not present at the destination. Findings from table 4 reveal that majority 64.5% and 15.5% of the respondents participated in song performance, music and dance but at different functions. Some participate in live band which accommodate different songs and so sing and dance. Also 9.1% and 3.6% disagreed with the statement those special needs people do participate in song performance and dance in the study area while 7.3% were undecided. Also 55.5% and 24.5% of the respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed respectively with the statement those special needs people do sit in the midst of able people at tourism destinations.

However, 84.6% strongly agreed and 12.7% agreed that special needs people do not participate in visiting museum and gallery in Osogbo metropolis. Findings on whether Osun State cultural centre in Osogbo metropolis have space reserved for special needs participation in her auditorium or not indicates that majority 87.3% and 12.7% strongly agreed and agreed respectively. that the state cultural centre do not have space for special needs people to encourage their being part of cultural events at the destination. Findings with respect to table 4 on responses of respondents on participation of special needs people in art exhibitions reveals that most 89.1% and 10.9% strongly disagreed and disagreed respectively with the statement. There was no single response in support of special needs people participation in art exhibitions.

**Table 4:** Extent of special needs people participation in tourism and recreational activities in Osogbo metropolis

Variables	SA Freq. (%)	A Freq. (%)	U Freq. (%)	D Freq. (%)	SD Freq. (%)
Extent of Participation					
Special needs people do participate in cultural tourism activities such as the famous Osun Osogbo festival	10(9.1)	18(16.4)	5(4.5)	18(16.4)	59(53.6)
Special needs people participate in song performance and dance at tourism destinations in Osogbo metropolis	10(9.1)	8(7.3)	4(3.6)	17(15.5)	71(64.5)
Special needs people do sit together with other normal able people at recreation and tourism destination	9(8.2)	11(10.0)	2(1.8)	27(24.5)	61(55.5)
Special needs people do not participate in visiting museum and art gallery in Osogbo metropolis	93(84.6)	14(12.7)	3(2.7)	--	--
Cultural centres in Osogbo metropolis do not have space for special needs people to participate in cultural events	96(87.3)	14(12.7)	--	--	--
Whenever there is arts exhibition in Osogbo metropolis, special needs persons do participate	--	--	--	12(10.9)	9889.1

**Source:** Field Survey, 2014.

Table 5 above shows the opinion of the respondents based on constraints being faced by special needs people in recreation and cultural tourism participation. From this table majority 90.9% and 9.1% respondents which represent 100 per cent strongly agreed that lack of information on tourism and recreational opportunities are constraints to participation of special needs people in Osogbo metropolis. Another identified constraint from data on table 5 is lack of recreational infrastructure at destinations. Majority 90.0% and 7.3% strongly agreed that lack of recreational infrastructure is a constraint to participation of disabled people in cultural tourism while 2.7% were indifferent. The findings from table 5 of the respondents' responses on statement that insecurity is a threat to special needs people participation in recreation and tourism activities, majority 80.0% and 20.0% on aggregate 100 per cent strongly agreed with this statement. About 84.5% and 18.5% of the respondents which represents the total sample which strongly agreed that accessibility to facilities are constraints to special needs people participation in tourism activities. None of the respondents disagreed with the statement.

From table 5 data shows that majority 90.0% and 9.0% of the respondents strongly agreed that terrorism is a constraint to special needs people participation in recreation and tourism activities. There was no person that disagreed with this claim. This implies that terrorism is a serious constrain to participation of people with special needs in tourism. Table 5 above reveals result of the statement that stigmatization against people with disabilities at tourism destinations as

a constraint to participation in Osogbo metropolis. 89.1% and 9.1% of the respondents strongly agreed that they see stigmatization as an obstacle to special needs people participation in recreation and tourism activities in Osogbo metropolis. Analysis of data on price or cost of participation in tourism and recreational activities reveals from table .5 that exactly 73.6% and 15.5% of the respondents strongly agreed that price of participating in hotels, restaurants and eat outs is high. To experience tourism activities of such is a constraint and relevant agencies should come to the assistance of special needs people. The table also shows 3.6% of the respondents who are indifferent.

Results in table 5 reveals that most 58.2% and 12.7% which represents 70.9% strongly agreed that lack of accommodation facilities compatible with the status of special needs people in hotels are constraints to participation. 18.2% and 4.5% respondents disagreed while 6.4% were undecided. Data in table 5 indicates that 84.5% and 15.5% strongly agreed that lack of tour guide for special needs people at tourism and recreational destinations is a constraint. Thus, tour guide who can use sign language to interpret cultural item objects and give meanings to participation. This finding indicates that there are needs for tour guides who have special education to communicate activities to hearing impaired individuals in the study area. Data from table 5 indicates that 90.9% and 8.2% which represents 99.1% which is the majority strongly agreed that lack of security is a constraint to special needs participation. This means that lack of security is a constraint to special needs people participation in tourism, while 0.9% was undecided. The table 5 above also shows that 70.9% and 22.7% of the respondents agreed with the statement that transportation delay and poor road network are constraints to participation of special needs in tourism activities.

**Table 5:** Constraints faced by special needs people in recreation and cultural tourism participation in the study area

Variable	SA Freq. (%)	A Freq. (%)	U Freq. (%)	D Freq. (%)	SD Freq. (%)
Insufficient or lack of information on tourism and recreational opportunities are constraints to participation of people with disabilities	100(90.9)	10(9.1)	--	--	--
Lack of recreational infrastructure are a constraint to participation of special needs people in Osogbo metropolis	99(90.0)	8(7.3)	3(2.7)	--	--
Insecurity is a threat to people with disabilities participation in recreation and tourism activities in Osogbo	88(80.0)	22(20.0)	--	--	--
Accessibility to facilities are constraints to special needs people participation in recreation and tourism activities	93(84.5)	17(15.5)	--	--	--
Terrorism is a constraint to special needs people participation in tourism and recreational activities	96(87.3)	14(12.7)	--	--	--
Stigmatization against people with disabilities at tourism destinations is a constraint to participation in tourism	98(89.1)	10(9.1)	2(1.8)	--	--
Price or cost is a constrain to special needs participation in tourism and recreational activities like hotel	81(73.6)	17(15.5)	8(7.3)	4(3.6)	--
Lack of accommodation facilities for people with disabilities in the hotels are constraints to participation	64(58.2)	14(12.7)	7(6.4)	20(18.2)	5(4.5)
Lack of tour guide for special needs people at recreational and tourism destinations is a constraint to participation	93(84.5)	17(15.5)	--	--	--
Lack of security is a constraint to special needs people participation in recreation and tourism	100(90.9)	8(8.2)	1(0.9)	--	--
Lack of safety and medical facilities at destinations are constraints to special needs people participation in tourism	105(95.5)	5(4.5)	--	--	--
Transportation delay and poor road network are constraints to participation of people with disabilities	78(70.9)	25(22.7)	7(6.4)	--	--

**Source:** Field Survey, 2014.

Table 6 above indicates that exactly 91.8% and 8.2% which on aggregate is 100 per cent of the respondents strongly agreed that they will participate in recreation and cultural tourism activities if provision is made for compatible infrastructure at destinations. No particular person disagreed with this statement. Also, data from table 6 above shows that majority 90.9% and 9.1% of the respondents were of the opinion that they will take part in recreation and cultural tourism activities provided destinations are equipped with special needs amenities.

However, findings from table 6 reveals that most 94.5% and 5.5% of the respondents claimed that they will

participate in recreation and cultural tourism activities provided their safety is guaranteed at destinations in Osogbo metropolis. Table 6 also reveals there were no responses for strongly disagreed. From the above table 6, it could be inferred that majority 86.4% and 9.1% of the respondents strongly agreed that lack of sufficient information will not make them take part in recreation and cultural tourism activities in the study area. Also, no person disagreed while 4.5% were indifferent. Data from table 6 also shows respondents opinions on the benefits derivable from cultural tourism participation. Most 97.3% and 2.7% of the respondents strongly agreed that they do not know the benefits to gain from playing a role in cultural tourism activities participation. Findings on table 6 also indicates that 18.2%, and 28.2% of the respondents strongly agreed and disagreed respectively with the statement that lack of accessibility to transportation will not let them participate in cultural tourism activities. However, 9.1% and 39.0% of the respondents disagreed and strongly disagreed respectively with the statement while 5.5% were undecided.

Moreover, data from table 6 above indicates that most 86.4% and 8.2% of the respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the statement that they will participate in recreation and tourism activities if health care is provided at destinations while 5.5% of the respondents were undecided. Findings from data collected in table 6 shows that majority 22.7% and 70.9% of the respondents were strongly agreed and agreed respectively with statement that they will not participate in recreation and cultural tourism because of stigmatization or as a worthy of disgrace. 6.4% of the respondents were undecided and none of the respondents disagreed. Result from data in table 6 indicates that 90.9% and 9.1% of the respondents which represents majority strongly agreed that they will participate in recreation and tourism activities if special needs people tour guides are provided. The table further shows that none of the respondents disagreed with this statement. Table 6 above also reveals that majority of the respondents 58.2% and 18.2% which represents 76.4% on aggregate strongly disagreed with the statement that their religion will not make them participate. 6.4% of the respondents were undecided while 4.5% and 12.7% agreed and strongly agreed that they will not participate in recreation and cultural tourism activities because of their religion. This indicates that religion is not a constraint to participation of special needs people in tourism activities.

The response on the statement that attitude of other participants will not make special needs people to take part in tourism activities indicates that majority 70.9% and 22.7% of the respondents strongly agreed with the statement. 6.4% of the respondents were undecided. This implies that discrimination against special needs at tourism destinations is a strong factor inhibiting participation of disabled persons in cultural tourism activities. Findings from table 6 above shows that most 49.1% and 38.2% which represents 87.3% on aggregate strongly disagreed that if participation in cultural tourism activities is not physically doing something they will not participate. It indicates that Special needs people prefer to physically participate in cultural tourism and recreational activities.

**Table 6:** Respondents distribution on factors that enhance participation of special needs people in recreation and cultural tourism.

Variable	SA Freq. (%)	A Freq.(%)	U Freq.(%)	D Freq.(%)	SD Freq.(%)
<b>Special needs people participation</b>					
I will participate in recreation and cultural tourism activities if I am provided with compatible infrastructure	101(91.8)	9(8.2)	--	--	--
I will participate in recreation and cultural tourism activities provided there are destinations equipped with special needs people facilities	100(90.9)	10(9.1)	--	--	--
I will participate in recreation and cultural tourism activities provided my safety is guaranteed	104(94.5)	6(5.5)	--	--	--
Lack of sufficient information will not make men participate in recreation and cultural tourism activities	95(86.4)	10(9.1)	5(4.5)	--	--
I do not participate in recreation and tourism activities owing to no knowledge of the benefits	107(97.3)	3(2.7)	--	--	--
I will participate in recreation and cultural tourism activities if there is subsidy on cost	78(70.9)	25(22.7)	7(6.4)	--	--
I do not participate in recreation and tourism activities owing to lack of accessibility to transportation	20(18.2)	31(28.2)	6(5.5)	10(9.1)	43(39.0)
I will participate in recreation and cultural tourism activities if there are provisions for primary health care at tourism destinations	95(86.4)	9(8.2)	6(5.5)	--	--
I will participate in recreation and cultural tourism activities if there are adequate provision against terrorism	100(90.0)	10(9.1)	--	--	--
I do not participate in recreation and tourism activities because of stigmatization or as worthy of disgrace	25(22.7)	78(70.9)	7(6.4)	--	--



I will participate in recreation and cultural tourism activities if special needs people tour guides are provided	98(89.1)	12(10.9)	--	--	--
I will not participate in recreation and cultural tourism activities because of my religion	5(4.5)	14(12.7)	7(6.4)	20(18.2)	64(58.2)
I do not participate in recreation and tourism activities due to the attitude of other participants to me	78(70.9)	22(20.0)	10(9.1)	--	--
I do not participate in recreation and tourism activities because of my family responsibilities	10(9.1)	13(20.9)	--	10(9.1)	77(70.0)
I will participate if participation is seen as not physically doing something but rather as being where one wants to be	54(49.1)	42(38.2)	6(5.5)	4(3.6)	4(3.6)

Source: Field Survey, 2014.

### 3. Chi Square Analysis of Study Variables

The  $X^2$  test of difference between available cultural tourism activities and special needs people participation shows  $X^2$  value of 32.73,  $p < 0.05$  that there is a significant difference between available cultural tourism activities and special needs people participation is accepted. This signifies that the availability of cultural tourism activities in the study area do not determine special needs people participation. Despite the fact that cultural tourism activities are in abundant in Osogbo metropolis yet the level of special needs participation is not significant. The  $X^2$  test of relationship between compatibility of infrastructure with Special Needs People (SNP) status and cultural tourism participation showed  $X^2$  value of 38.44 that there is a significant relationship between compatibility of infrastructure with special needs people status and cultural tourism participation is accepted. Consequence upon this ( $X^2$ ) test, the acceptance of the null hypothesis implies that provision of infrastructure at tourism destinations in the study area should consider the needs of the special needs people. The  $X^2$  test of relationship between constraints of People with special Needs and cultural tourism participation indicates  $X^2$  value of 30.97 that there is a significant relationship between constraints being faced by special needs people and cultural tourism is accepted. This implies that constraints will not enhance participation. Therefore, constraints serve as barriers which hinder participation of special needs people in cultural tourism activities. Hence, constraints are obstacles to special needs people participation in recreation and cultural tourism in Osogbo metropolis.

### 4. Conclusion

From the results of the study it was revealed that cultural tourism activities such as music, drum beating, dance and literature are available in Osogbo metropolis. The study found out that recreational infrastructure compatible with the status of special needs people are not in place at tourism destinations. Moreover, signposts showing space reserved for people with disabilities are not made available at tourism destinations in the study area. Also for ease of access to participation at cultural tourism destinations ramp entrance with disability symbol are not provided for people with disabilities. The Ministry of Home affairs, Culture and Tourism, Osun state should develop a tourism policy that will accommodate the needs of all tourists both disabled and able-bodied persons to participate without discrimination. This research confirmed three major constraints that prevent participation of special needs people to include physical environment, economic situations and societal attitude. In conclusion, this research has extensively analysed factors that can enhance special needs people participation in recreation and cultural tourism activities in Osogbo metropolis. To improve quality of life of special needs people, participation in cultural tourism activities is imperative. Therefore, eliminating the barriers that constitute constraints to their participation in tourism activities by all stakeholders and providing infrastructure compatible with special needs status will enhance participation. The society at large can equally improve the quality of life of special needs people by changing our attitude towards them.

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