

The Effects of Insecurity and Poverty on Human Development at the Municipal Level in the Northern Nigeria

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Abstract

Human development is a factor which every Nation may desire so as to move forward. The term is evidence in growth, its enlarging or expanding scope is acceptable when it brings about a quality of life to the people in a country. Likewise the challenge post by insecurity in Nigeria has assumed a formidable dimension that not only requires a multistate holder approach, as it is being touted in various quarters, in quelling this conflagration threatening Nigeria's statehood, but also necessitates a revival and reinforcement of the nation economy growth which can be done through human resource development. The thirst for blood and the preference for violence in expressing pent-up frustration and disenchantment with the state, its citizens and national totems may be a pointer to the need to revive poverty level and the level of human resource development. Insecurity is caused sometimes by poor socioeconomic culture, political, religious and educational institutions. Therefore the paper concerns itself with the discussion of the concept of poverty and insecurity, Causes of poverty and the effects of it on human resource development, causes of insecurity its effects on human development in Nigeria. It was concluded that inadequate economic growth is the main cause of poverty and insecurity in Nigeria.

Keywords: security, insecurity, poverty, poverty eradication and human development

INTRODUCTION

Human development is a factor which every Nation may desire so as to move forward. The term is evidence in growth, its enlarging or expanding scope is acceptable when it brings about a quality of life to the people in a country. Development has a variety of definitions ranging from the one that refers to an event or happening and even biological changes evidenced in growth. We will be concerned here with the meaning with relationship to the act of improving, enlarging or expanding the scope of a people to enjoy an acceptable quality of life. When this is applied to a nation the sense could be of economic, political, socio-cultural or physical development among others. Development is not just about quantitative change but qualitative. In any effort made to enhance human development the absence of two factors are important; poverty and insecurity

Poverty and insecurity retards development. Poverty in its very broad terms, can be seen as being unable to meet "basic needs" – (physical; such as food, health care, education, shelter etc. and non – physical; such as participation, identity, etc required for a meaningful life (World Bank, 1996). On the other hand it is the duty of a government to keep its citizens safe because like Hobbes observed, only the state has the wherewithal to guarantee security and save society from anarchy (and since government represents the state), the state through its government should provide adequate security to

justify its *raison d'être* (Gaskin, 1996). In this wise, Omede (2012) sees security as a dynamic condition which involves the relative ability of a state to counter threats to its core values and interests. McGrew (1988) holds that the security of a nation hangs on two important pillars which are (1) the maintenance and protection of the socioeconomic order in the face of internal and external threat and (2) the promotion of a preferred international order, which minimizes the threat to core values and interests, as well as to the domestic order.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Some few studies have been carried out to investigate the state of insecurity and poverty in Nigeria, its effects on human resource development. Poverty can be view as insufficient income for securing basic goods and services, while insecurity according to McGrew (1988), the security of a nation hangs on two important pillars which are (1) the maintenance and protection of the socioeconomic order in the face of internal and external threat and (2) the promotion of a preferred international order, which minimizes the threat to core values and interests, as well as to the domestic order. For Beland (2005), insecurity is "the state of fear or anxiety stemming from a concrete or alleged lack of protection." It refers to lack or inadequate freedom from danger. This definition reflects physical insecurity

which is the most visible form of insecurity, and it feeds into many other forms of insecurity such as economic security and social security.

In this paper, insecurity is conceived as a situation where human and national security of a state is compromised by internal or external forces or interests exacerbated by the formers' weak or poor economic, military and/or human resource development conditions. Thus, insecurity and poverty is a continuous threat in the society especially its effect on human development and no empirical studies have been established in Nigeria and in the northern Nigerian in particular. This is the knowledge vacuum that this study would fill.

SIGNIFICANT OF THE STUDY

The findings emanating from this study would therefore be a good contribution to knowledge in this area. By extension, the study of poverty and insecurity and its effects human resource development will provide stake holds with data on how to manage or address insecurity and poverty related issues in, that Poverty and the activities that causes insecurity are associated to rural people and less educated segment of the society. In the same vein the study will help government improve coordination and consultation so as to establish and consolidate political stability. Since it has been observed that political instability and neglect of common man by not involving him in developmental programmes meant for him which can provoke/emanate insecurity and economic setback, resulting into poverty.

Despite all efforts put by the Nigerian Government, more is still needed to be done by the stake holds, that is the wealthy individual who can help the poor by assisting them with capitals and sanitize them to go into businesses and other self- reliance programmes instead of depending on the Government in totally. As long as the populaces' poverty is not alleviated, insecurity will continue to be on a winning side.

The study will also serve as a reference material for any future user.

CONCEPTUAL ANALYSIS

POVERTY: The concept of poverty can better be defined and understood when combine with its causes as well. Universally accepted definition of poverty is the conventional view of it to be as a result of insufficient income for securing basic goods and services. The term "manage" is the general language on the tongue of the populace where people want to expand limited income or money at hand to buy sufficient and enough. The result is just to buy the goods and service that are inferior, less qualified, and not enough to meet the

desired need. Poverty is a failure of functioning of education, health and life expectancy World Bank (1996). Poverty is unable to meet "basic needs physically such as food, health care, education and shelter, while non physically are factors such as non participation in most of the human developmental programmes which are said to be directed towards the poor masses to improve their living standard". But often times these are lip services carried in the media channels rising hope for the masses but at the end of the day they are excluded. They are not allowed any say in such programmes, their contributions are not needed. They may not beware when such development meant for them may start or end. That is to say they are not involved in decision concerning society-economic condition Anyanwu, (1997)

THE FACTORS CAUSING POVERTY

What are the factors that cause poverty and what are the resources that enable development. Poverty is what prevents people from leaving a long, healthy and creative life as well as from enjoying dignity, self-respect and the respect of others.

To remove poverty, we must first understand the factors that generate poverty; then we must generate political and cultural consensus to remove these factors. And generating this consensus is much more difficult than making statements of good intentions about the "removal" of poverty.

Lack of development is often seen as the factor that determines poverty. But in fact it is poverty that also prevents development. So, here we have a chicken-egg situation (does poverty come first or under-development?) we must get out of if we want to tackle the real causes of poverty.

It is ignorance and conflict that lead to the vicious circle of poverty and the lack of development, while, knowledge and cooperation lead to the virtuous circle of prosperity and progress.

Poverty can also arise from changes in average income or changes in the distribution of income. When there is cut in salary, loose of job or source of living or even retirement from well-paid service, then poverty is obvious. Poverty will generally be greater in the country with higher unequally of distribution of income. **According to sociologist** Poverty is an exceptionally complicated social phenomenon, and trying to discover its causes is equally complicated. The stereotypic (and simplistic) explanation persists—that the poor cause their own poverty—based on the notion that anything is possible in America. Some theorists have accused the

poor of having little concern for the future and preferring to “live for the moment”. As the case of Nigeria, others have accused them of engaging in self-defeating behavior. Still other theorists have characterized the poor as fatalists, resigning themselves to a **culture of poverty** in which nothing can be done to change their economic outcomes. In this culture of poverty—which passes from generation to generation—the poor feel negative, inferior, passive, hopeless, and powerless.

The “blame the poor” perspective is stereotypic and not applicable to all of the underclass. Not only are most poor people able and willing to work hard, have they done so when given the chance. The real trouble has to do with such problems as minimum wages and lack of access to the education necessary for obtaining a better-paying job.

More recently, sociologists have focused on other theories of poverty. One theory of poverty has to do with the flight of the middle class, including employers, from the cities and into the suburbs. This has limited the opportunities for the inner-city poor to find adequate jobs. According to another theory, the poor would rather receive welfare payments than work in demeaning positions as maids or in fast-food restaurants. As a result of this view, the welfare system has come under increasing attack in recent years.

SOME CAUSES OF POVERTY IN NIGERIA

Nigeria like other countries has no one cause or determinant of poverty. On the contrary, combination of several complex factors contributes to poverty. They include low or negative economic growth, inappropriate macroeconomic policies, deficiencies in the labour market resulting in limited job growth, low productivity and low wages in the informal sector, and a lag in human resource development. Other factors which have contributed to a decline in living standards and are structural causes or determinants of poverty include increase in crime and violence, environmental degradation, retrenchment of workers, a fall in the real value of safety nets, and changes in family structures (Ajakaiye and Adeyeye, 1999; Ogwumike, 2002 and NPC, 2004).

Poverty especially in the urban area has been made severe by low labour absorption capacity of the nonagricultural sector, especially manufacturing, which is as a result of limited growth of investment and technological innovation. Weak governance which is manifested in corruption, rent seeking, inappropriate planning and neglect of the private sector have contributed immensely to corruption in Nigeria.

THE EFFECTS OF POVERTY ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The effects of poverty are serious. Children who grow up in poverty suffer more persistent, frequent, and severe health problems than do children who grow up under better financial circumstances.

- Many infants born into poverty have a low birth weight, which is associated with many preventable mental and physical disabilities. Not only are these poor infants more likely to be irritable or sickly, they are also more likely to die before their first birthday.
- Children raised in poverty tend to miss school more often because of illness. These children also have a much higher rate of accidents than do other children, and they are twice as likely to have impaired vision and hearing, iron deficiency anemia, and higher than normal levels of lead in the blood, which can impair brain function.

Levels of stress in the family have also been shown to correlate with economic circumstances. Studies during economic recessions indicate that job loss and subsequent poverty are associated with violence in families, including child and elder abuse. Poor families experience much more stress than middle-class families. Besides financial uncertainty, these families are more likely to be exposed to series of negative events and “bad luck,” including illness, depression, eviction, job loss, criminal victimization, and family death. Parents who experience hard economic times may become excessively punitive and erratic, issuing demands backed by insults, threats, and corporal punishment.

Homelessness, or extreme poverty, carries with it a particularly strong set of risks for families, especially children. Compared to children living in poverty but having homes, homeless children are less likely to receive proper nutrition and immunization. Hence, they experience more health problems. Homeless women experience higher rates of low-birth-weight babies, miscarriages, and infant mortality, probably due to not having access to adequate prenatal care for their babies. Homeless families experience even greater life stress than other families, including increased disruption in work, school, family relationships, and friendships.

Climbing out of poverty is difficult for anyone, perhaps because, at its worst, poverty can become a self-perpetuating cycle. Children of poverty are at an extreme disadvantage in the job market; in turn, the lack of good jobs ensures continued poverty. The cycle ends up repeating itself until the pattern is somehow broken.

THE NATIONAL POVERTY ERADICATION PROGRAMME

(NAPEP) was established in 2001 to address the challenges of unemployment in Nigeria and poverty reduction by the year 2010 in line with United States Millennium Development (MDGs). The programme was designed to empower the youth by means of providing training opportunities, skills acquisition, employment opportunities, and wealth creation through enhanced income generation. NAPEP was given a take-off grant of N6 billion and to be used in establishing NAPEP structures in 36 states. Part of the money was also used in the NAPEP employment generation intervention, which leads to the training of 100,000 youths, training over 5000 people in tailoring and fashion design by attaching 50,000 unemployed graduates to various training centers for the acquisition of skills (CBN 2005). It is believed that provision of skills in public and private sectors of the society will translate to entrepreneurship development and self-reliance, in a state of high level of unemployment situation like Nigeria, entrepreneurship development can serve as a solution and a more realistic option to development. Entrepreneurship programmes are being introduced in most Nigerian institutions, intended to increase human capacity for national development.

Navilyn, (1995) in Aluminah, (2010) noted that "our country's economic growth will hinge on our ability to create new jobs through entrepreneurship and that successful entrepreneurship in turn, will require well-trained aspiring entrepreneurs willing to take the helm of ventures creation". It is in this direction that, our Nigerian educational institutions deemed it necessary to embrace the teaching of entrepreneurship. This will make our students ready to face the challenge of creating their own jobs rather than seeking for jobs after graduation. To achieve this objective the educational sector needs to be sanitized and directed towards self-reliance as against the colonial type of education, which was designed to serve the purpose of the missionaries who were interested in creating a class of interpreters, clerks and preachers to satisfy their interest (Bulus, 2010).

The current reforms in the educational system are meant to enhance vocational and technical education to create employment for people by encouraging educational entrepreneurship (Bulus, 2010). The European Commission (2007) in Bulus (2010) defined entrepreneurship education as individual's ability to turn idea into action. This includes creativity innovation and risks taking as well as the ability to plan manage projects in order to achieve objectives. To achieve this, the society needs qualified and capable technical teachers that can impart the technical knowledge to the students.

Dependency Theory: This theory was developed from the works of Karl Marx and expanded by scholars such as Emmanuel, Baran, Rodeny, Frank and Amin. The dependency theory stated that the dependence of less developed countries (LDCs) on developed countries (DCs) is the main cause of lack of development of the former. It focuses on the center-periphery relationship whereby dependence of the periphery on the center has resulted in the poor development of the periphery of the periphery (Hingan, 2007).

The dependency theory in relation to the topic suggests that the inability of the government to project will reflect on the cultures and values of the people which are the major constraints to development. Policies that were sought from western developed economies have been contributing immensely to the development of the country. Indeed, policies are not to be imposed upon people. The failure of the Structural Development Programme (SAP) to revamp the Nigeria economy can be associated with the fact that it was an imported policy which was designed to suit the interest of the west and their domestic agents. Nigeria has highly needed capital for the development of project and thus dependent on the west who dictates almost everything. Over the years Nigeria has been busy implementing western induced policies and the little domestic policies such as the National Directorate for Employment (NDE), Family Economic Advancement Programme (FEAP), National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS), could not be successfully implemented and internally financed largely owing to large scale corruption in the country. Also loans borrowed from the developed societies to finance poverty reduction programmes are diverted by the few.

POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGIES

The poverty Alleviation Programme like other poverty reduction programmes introduced earlier has failed to achieve the target for which it was set. The poverty situation in Nigeria continues to worsen and this motivated the government to embark on an elaborate anti-poverty initiative known as National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) in 2001. NAPEP was created to eradicate absolute poverty in Nigeria through streamlining and rationalization of existing poverty Alleviation Institutions and coordinating the implementation of relevant schemes and programmes. In order to make the institution more powerful and functional, twelve ministries were co-opted into NAPEP. These are the Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development, Education, Water Resources, Industry, Power and Steel, Employment, Health, Works and Housing, Environment, Finance, and National

Planning Commission. Nine agencies were also made integral part of NAPEP. There are as follows: Nigeria Agriculture Co-operative and Rural Development Bank (NACRDB), Universal Basic Education (UBE), River Basin Development Authorities (RBDA), Small and Medium Industries Development Authorities (SMIDA), bank of Industry (BOI), Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN), National Directorate of Employment (NDE), National Primary Healthcare Development Agency (NPHCDA) and Federal Mortgage bank (FMBN). NAPEP was set up with the following objectives: □ To reduce the social unrest occasioned by unemployed youth □ To reposition the private sector so as to make it more productive □ To create opportunities for empowerment and wealth creation □ To invest in education, Provision of social programmes for the vulnerable.

The above objectives of NAPEP were strengthened by the introduction of a new development initiative known as the National Economic Empowerment Development Strategy (NEEDS). NEEDS is conceived as a national driven policy initiative that seeks to address Nigeria's long term goals to poverty reduction, wealth creation, employment generation, and value orientation. NEEDS is heavily linked to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The millenniums Development Goals are a series of eight times bound development goals that seeks to address issues of poverty, Education, Gender Equality, Health and Environment (Ibrahim, 2008). The Musa Yar'Adu'a led government demonstrated her support and commitment to the Millennium Development Goals mission by introducing the Seven Point Agenda. The objective of this programme was to facilitate the achievement of the targets of the MDGs.

One of the specific goals of the MDGs is: Reduce by 50% between 2000 and 2015 the proportion of people whose income is less than one US Dollar in a day. Reduce by 50% between 2000 and 2015 the proportion of people who suffer from hunger. Attempts to eradicate poverty in Nigeria have never shown any positive results. Instead the gap between the haves and have-nots is so wide and alarming. This situation is unfair considering the resources endowment of the country. The weak nature of the leadership is its failure to effectively distribute the nation's resources among the exiting classes is responsible for the impoverishment of Nigeria population.

INSECURITY

To be able to define insecurity, it is pertinent to have a brief discussion on what security is. The first duty of a government is to keep its citizens safe because like Hobbes observed, only the state has the wherewithal to

guarantee security and save society from anarchy (and since government represents the state), the state through its government should provide adequate security to justify its *raison d'être* (Gaskin, 1996). In this wise, Omede (2012) sees security as a dynamic condition which involves the relative ability of a state to counter threats to its core values and interests. McGrew (1988) holds that the security of a nation hangs on two important pillars which are (1) the maintenance and protection of the socioeconomic order in the face of internal and external threat and (2) the promotion of a preferred international order, which minimizes the threat to core values and interests, as well as to the domestic order. For Nwoli (2006), security is an all-encompassing condition which suggests that a territory must be secured by a network of armed forces; that the sovereignty of the state must be guaranteed by a democratic and patriotic government, which in turn must be protected by the military, police and the people themselves; that the people must not only be secured from external attacks but also from devastating consequences of internal upheavals such as unemployment, hunger, starvation, diseases, ignorance, homelessness, environmental degradation and pollution cum socio-economic injustices. Nwagboso (2012) argues that in the long sweep of history, security has been about people and without reference to the security of the individual, security makes no sense at all (McSweeney, (2012). Dike (2010) and Omede (2012) have taken this argument a step further by emphasizing that Nigeria's security should be based on a holistic view which sees the citizens as the primary beneficiaries of every security and developmental deliverable that the state can offer. Thus, Nigeria's security will involve efforts to strengthen the capacity of the Federal Republic of Nigeria so it can advance its interests and objectives to contain internal and external aggression, control crime, eliminate corruption, enhance genuine development, progress and growth and improve the welfare and quality of life of every citizen. As Omede (2012) pontificates further, the nation's security should include the preservation of the safety of Nigerians at home and abroad and the protection of the country's sovereignty. Conversely, insecurity is the antithesis of security and has attracted such common descriptors as want of safety, danger, hazard, uncertainty, want of confidence, state of doubt, inadequately guarded or protected, instability, trouble, lack of protection and being unsafe, and others (Achumba, Ighomereho & Akpor-Oboro, 2013). Achumba et al argue further that these common descriptors point to a condition where there exists a vulnerability to harm, loss of life, property or livelihood. Therefore, they consider insecurity to be a state of not knowing, a lack of control, and the inability to take defensive action against forces that portend harm

or danger to an individual or group, or that make them vulnerable. For Beland (2005), insecurity is “the state of fear or anxiety stemming from a concrete or alleged lack of protection.” It refers to lack or inadequate freedom from danger. This definition reflects physical insecurity which is the most visible form of insecurity, and it feeds into many other forms of insecurity such as economic security and social security.

In this paper, insecurity is conceived as a situation where human and national security of a state is compromised by internal or external forces or interests exacerbated by the formers’ weak or poor economic, military and/or human resource development conditions. The insecurity is an increasingly phenomena that we all can clearly perceive and know that it may have a direct impact on the welfare of a region where its hits. Depending on where one lives, the activities of Boko Haram, communal clashes, religious riots, the Niger Delta etc are threats to life, destruction of lives and properties, productive assets, can have a negative impact on both social and economic lives of the society and human development. Cook, (2011) observed that the growing incidence of this insecurity is highly correlated to the increasingly Vulnerability of households and communities in developing countries, making more difficult the process of recovery.

Many are the negative sides of insecurity. In fact insecurity is the presence of terrorism, they are of one family. Terrorism which is insecurity increases the cost of doing business for both private and public sectors. Resource that would have otherwise been invested in increasing output, fund education, health and other welfare programmes are diverted to crime control and prevention. According to the Nigeria finance minister, Dr NGOZI ONJO IWEALA, key allocation of funds in the 2013 budget include: critical infrastructure (power, works, transport, aviation, gas pipelines and Federal Capital Territory) N497 billion, human capital development (that is education and health) N705 billion, and agriculture/water resource N175 billion. Also over N950 billion was allocated to National security purposes, comprised of N320 billion for police, N364 billion for the army forces, N115billion for the office of the NSA and N154billion for the ministry of interior. A situation where the funds allocated to security alone is almost equal to the funds allocated to education (this day 2013), health and critical infrastructure combined in a fiscal year as is the case with Nigeria, is detrimental to the National Development. The development of a society largely depends on the rate of crime. If the crime rate is high, it could scare away or discourage investors (Adebayo, 2013).

At this point, one can observe clearly that the impact of poverty and insecurity on our human resource development at the municipal level in the Nation (Nigeria) cannot be overemphasized. In many quarters of Nigeria the state (Government) could have taken advantage of the Natural and human resource to utilize them to every body’s benefits. God has blessed Nigeria with vast land for agriculture, cattle raring, mining and also rivers and lakes for fishing activities. Youth with great talents and skills could have been engage to be productive. Instead some “evil elements” in the society have now taken advantage of the poor and ignorant youth by employing them to be “tools” of destructions. They destroy human lives and properties. People are no longer free and safe to carry out their normal and economic activities creating the state of insecurity and retarding development. For instance, culturally, like in some part of southern Borno Blacksmithing and Butchering which are gainful employment are disowned among the Marghi tribe and what had just happened on the 3rd of January in the town of Baga, of Borno State a place where most of the country fishing activities takes place have been devastated and destroyed by the insurgency.

SOME CAUSES OF INSECURITY IN A COUNTRY NIGERIA

Structural Violence

The pervasive violence in Nigeria is structural in nature. Structural violence refers to such unjust situations that clasp citizens in the vice grip of poverty and hunger. These are human rights infractions arising from unjust socio-economic and political systems. They often result in physical and psychological harm. With a direct implication for life expectancy this is certainly a serious driver of insecurity. An interesting interpretation of the current revenue sharing formula as being a source of violence in Nigeria was made recently by the Governor of Nigeria’s Central Bank in an interview with the Financial Times. In that interview the CBN governor compared the receipts of Rivers State between 1999 and 2008 as being grossly more than the combined receipts of two northern states of Yobe and Borno. He deduced that the skewed revenue formula that allows 13% to go to the South region based on derivation principle could be a source of insecurity in the country such as the type driven by Boko Haram. The Financial Times interview surmises that Northern Nigeria’s economy has traditionally depended on the government more than the south. It also notes that a number of the industries set up in the past have either collapsed or had been privatized ‘during a decade of liberal market reforms, power shortages and infrastructure collapse.’

This indicates that the sharing formula does not favour the mentioned states, as they are been underfunded. Lack of enough funds made the citizens poor not been able to graduate their wards from school or create employment for the majority youth compare the south region. The result is that there avail ignorant and destructive elements.

IMPACTS OR EFFECTS OF INSECURITY ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The Nation Nigeria is vast, fondly, being referred to as the giant of Africa. The sting and pledge of poverty and insecurity are all the same everywhere. Their aftermath is always disastrous, it deter (retard) human development. For the purpose of the research I will dwell on the North east of Nigeria, especially the two states of Borno and Yobe. The later was annexed from the former, that is to say they are similar in characteristic same of the Sahel Savannah region. The related cultural people are engaged in Agriculture both for local consumption and commercial. The large number of Nomadic Fulani leaves cattle excretion as manure on farms providing natural fertilizer. This region controls the nation's cattle markets at Gamboru Ngala in Borno and Potiskum in Yobe. Both the cattle markets trades a hundred of thousands cattle. The market holds twice a week especially Potiskum town. Baga town in Bonrno State supplies the Nation with fish through its fishing activities done at large scales. The aforementioned three trades of Agriculture, cattle rearing and fishing activities are some of the economic activities that provide gainful employment to the predominate populace there. Most of the man power involve in these trades are the potential youth, which is a good sources of human development in Borno and Yobe State respectiely. The international community observed that the insurgency conflict in the North East region of Nigeria has left more than 13,000.00 people dead and over one million displaced and homeless. To this, General David Rodriguez head of U.S African command, said the Islamists gains in the battle field are cause for concern and "the number of people displaced is just staggering", (David, 2015). Most of the displaced people are potential youth who are involve in farming and fishing, all agriculturally related. This devastating effect of insecurity has thrown many people out of their profession, causing underdevelopment in the area of agriculturally activities.

"People across all value chains feared movement outside protected areas because of attacks by insurgents," they wrote, explaining that farm workers feared attacks while grazing animals, processors lost workers when families left the conflict zone, and traders began limiting their movements. Meanwhile, the

agricultural sector became a target for militants in need of supplies. Their data shows that cash, food and equipment were more likely to get stolen. Lastly, the danger has made other things like transportation more risky and therefore more expensive, again putting pressure on the economic output. "The impact of [Boko Haram] on the Nigerian economy is localized for now, but the instability has had an effect on the agricultural products from the north and has severely reduced cross-border trade with Cameroon, Chad and Niger," the report says.

However, the impact is still most felt in these northern states, which have always been far from Nigeria's positive development story. Indeed, though the number of Nigerians living in poverty has increased 55 percent in the past decade, the number of Nigerian millionaires topped 15,700 last year, up 44 percent since 2007.

Insecurity may also cause in equalities. The poor who suffer from income fluctuations, and also have limited access to financial services in the aftermath of insecurity may be more phones to reduce consumption and have a decreasing shock in other household indicators as a consequence. In addition there are a number of non poor or close to be who are not insured against from risks and then may fall into poverty as consequence of recapitalizing coping with the shocks depending on the impact and likelihood of falling into poverty of the initial stock as sets and coping mechanisms. Moreover, vulnerability to insecurity is a complex issue, as it is determined by the economic structure, the stage of development, prevailing of social and economic condition coping mechanism, risks assessment, frequency and intensity of disaster etc the impact of all these on the poor could be losing access to some basic services, reversals in accumulation of physical and human capital, and perhaps an increase in child labour and criminal activities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Restoring Security For National Development National dialogue is essential to enable the basis of our relationships as a nation of multiple nationalities to be agreed on. This can be handled on zonal or state basis and finally as a national convocation to compare notes and reach a comprehensive agreement on all facets of national life.

The Government can also create a dialogue forum comprising the traditional rulers; inter religion leaders, the youth wings and the official security operators. Through this, the combination can deliberate on public awareness of peace co-existence to avoid communal violence. Another critical step to be taken must be on

economic empowerment including a special focus on youth employment and education. The current arm of unemployed youths and others who cannot find places in our tertiary institutions is a recipe for insecurity. This needs to be tackled head-on. It is essential that youths be engaged in the process of formulating the strategies drawn up to resolve the situation.

There are basic infrastructural provisions that have direct impacts on security and development. A good example is that of the provision of constant and accessible electric power. 60 percent of Nigerians do not have access to electricity and indeed most of those who do have access depend on private portable electric generators. Cost of productive activities is grossly distorted by a lack of power in the country. With a heightened sense of insecurity shops are forced to close early, while some were utterly destroyed especially in the southern and north-west of Borno and Yobe. Related services such as public transportation provision get restricted. Thus, lack of electricity exacerbates crime, poverty and unemployment in the country.

Corroboration in terms of defense between the neighbouring countries and international communities has to be encouraged. This is with the view to curb terrorism whenever the need arises. Every nation needs a police force that provides a cover for order in the society. A cursory look at our police barracks and police stations show clearly that it is unreasonable to expect our police officers to provide adequate security. They live in rotten environment that are worse than refugee camps. We wonder why police barracks have to be so decrepit whereas those of the military, the air force and the navy are habitable places in Nigeria

The ubiquitous roadblocks that have created obstacle courses on our highways have been a big shame. Apart from the nuisance value created by the rubbish hurled from the bushes to form the road blocks, the flooding of our roads with those roadblocks do not engender a sense of security that would attract business. The security roadblocks along our highway as an effort to deictic crime have caused our road to be cumbersome. They delay and cause havoc to transportation. For instances it takes (as at the time of this write up) more than seven days for a truck loaded with cattle from Gamboru Ngala in Borno state to reach Lagos or Portharcourt in the southern part of Nigeria instead of the former three days before the advent of the insurgency. Sometimes these trucks have to sleep at the gates as a result of curfews, thereby causing some thirsting and starving cattle to die and bringing lost to the trader. For instance, there exist about eleven (11) Roadblocks between Damaturu and

Potiskum only a distance of about 95 kilometers in Yobe State

The presents Government statutory allocation formula has to be revisited so that the violence ravaged (affected) states can be appeased. The state and local government funds alone may not be able to meet the cost of rehabilitation, let alone further development especially educating youth and creation of employment.

CONCLUSIONS

Inadequate economic growth is the main cause of poverty and insecurity in Nigeria. Nigeria economy has a very narrow and weak base, depending mostly on exportation of petroleum crude oil as a major source of income; the agricultural base of the economy had been frustrated and marginalized (Oyeduntan, 2003). High and growing unemployment has also exacerbated the level of poverty in Nigeria. Other factors that have contributed to the level and evolution of poverty in Nigeria include problems in the productive sector, widening income inequality, weak governance, social conflict and gender, intersectoral and environmental issues. Poverty in especially in the urban area has been made severe by low labour absorption capacity of the nonagricultural sector, especially manufacturing, which is as a result of limited growth of investment and technological innovation. Weak governance which is manifested in corruption, rent seeking, inappropriate planning and neglect of the private sector have contributed immensely to corruption in Nigeria. Furthermore, empirical evidence shows that poverty and environmental degradation are inextricably linked in Nigeria, because 75 percent of rural people depend on natural resources for their livelihood, hence environmental degradation and insecurity especially the activities of Boko Haram in the North East reduces opportunities for poor people to earn sustainable income.

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