



**INSECURITY IN NIGERIA: CHALLENGES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ECONOMY**

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Abstract

The issue of insecurity across the globe especially the third world nations can't be overemphasized due to the fact that it has become a menace to the development of nation's economy. It therefore becomes a necessity for nations to implement policies that will enhance economy development in the midst of the various challenges posed by insecurity. This study examined insecurity: challenges and implementation of sustainable development of the economy. The purpose of the study was to evaluate the challenges of insecurity in Nigeria and to examine sustainable economic development through effective implementations of policies. The study sample consisted of 502 respondents selected through a simple random probability sampling. Questionnaires were used to obtained data for the study through an online survey tool. The obtained data were analyzed through Multiple Linear Regression Analysis with the aid of Statistical Tool for Social Sciences. The findings of the study revealed that insecurity challenges influenced the economy development of Nigeria and also sustainable economic development in the midst of challenges of insecurity can be achieved when effective policies are formulated and implemented. The study recommends that the issue of insecurity should be taken seriously by both the government and the citizens to achieve sustainable economic development. Additionally, the government should formulate and implement workable policies that will guide against insecurity as well as boost the contributions of various sectors towards the country's economic development. Finally, the government should utilize intelligence network that will deal with the failure of various security clusters and militants groups.

Keywords: *Insecurity in Nigeria, Challenges, Implementation, Sustainable Economy Development*

1. INTRODUCTION

Many researchers today have taken the issue of consistent rise in insecurity being a great menace to the economic development in Nigeria as a great concern as this issue as well has been found to be one of the major problems that most developing nations are faced globally (Adofu and Alhassan, 2018). Furthermore, Udoh (2015) said as far as Nigeria is concern, insecurity as been the major fear and regular “song” in the mouth of Nigeria’s citizens. This implies that majority of the citizens are subjected to danger or injury either directly (on individual or group of individuals) or indirectly (on properties). The effect of insecurity is very obvious as it presents itself in the destruction of few available infrastructures needed for the industrial growth and development of the nation. No country of the world can develop without the needed prerequisite for growth and development. With the huge outlay of government resources spent on curbing the menace of insecurity and the attendant destruction of the few existing infrastructure, one can assume that the challenges that insecurity posed to development is enormous.

It is the anxiety one experience when one feels vulnerable and insecure. Several illegal armed groups, ethnic militia groups, religious fundamentalist and fanatics, are evidence of insecurity in Nigeria. These have given birth to series of bombings, murder, arson, armed robbery, corruption, injustices that we hear everyday. It is clear that these happenings are negatively affecting Nigeria politically, religiously and culturally. Religious organizations and other humanitarian agencies are losing confidence on the law enforcement agencies. This issue has been critically examined in this paper, through library research and views from the media (Udoh, 2015).

Ewetan and Ese (2014) asserts that despites the insecurity challenges being faced in almost all the states across the nation, Nigeria is also confronted with daunting developmental challenges which pose serious threat to economic development. These developmental challenges when vividly looked into were traced to the general issue “insecurity challenges” and the developmental challenges are “endemic rural and urban poverty, high rate of unemployment, debilitating youth unemployment, low industrial output, unstable and deteriorating exchange rate, high inflation rate, inadequate physical and social infrastructure, very large domestic debt, and rising stock of external debt” (Ewetan, 2013).

There was new hopes and optimism anticipated by Nigerians as a result of the return of the civil rule due to the fact that it was generally believed that democracy usually ascertain freedom, liberty and equity as well as justice that will further foster the security of lives and properties and this further envisaged to influence Nigeria's economic growth and development. However, these hopes and optimism were cutoff as the reverse has been experienced (Ebipre and Wilson, 2020). Nigeria today is presently considered as one of the poorest nations in the world dilapidated by unemployment and insecurity. For instance, Aganga (2009) observed that over ten million Nigerians were unemployed by March 2009 and that unemployment is running at about 19.7 percent on the average. These figures geometrically increase yearly with less realistic efforts by the managers of the state to abate the rampaging menace.

According to Otto and Ukpere (2012), Nigeria, like many other developing countries, about 70% of the population lives in poverty, majority of the population seems to lack access to basic amenities such as pipe born water, health care facilities, electricity and affordable quality education. The poor development status of Nigeria no doubt breeds atmosphere of frustrated expectations and foster widespread indignation on the part of those that are trapped in vortex circle of abject poverty.

Objectives of the Study

The purpose of the study was to evaluate insecurity in Nigeria, challenges and implementation of sustainable development of the economy. Other specific objectives are stated below:

1. To examine the challenges/causes of insecurity in Nigeria; and
2. To examine sustainable economic development through effective implementations of policies.

Research Questions

The following research questions were formulated and answered in the course of the study:

1. What are the various challenges/causes of insecurity in Nigeria?
2. Does sustainable economic development feasible through the effective implementations of security policies?

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

Insecurity Conceptualized

Generally, the complete opposite of security is insecurity. It is pertinent to state that for better understanding of what insecurity entails, there is need to firstly understand what security is all about. Oladimeji and Folorunso (2007) view security as the “condition or feeling of safety from harm or danger, the defence, protection and absence of threat to acquire values.” This implies that security brings about safety or absence of harm or danger and protection of lives and properties. According to Buzan (1991) in Awowode (2010) the major factor that poses threat to individual not excluding the state at both national and international levels via political economic, social and the environment is insecurity. To other scholars, security is the absence of threat to acquire values or tendencies that would undermine national cohesion and peace as criteria for the determination of the meaning of security.

Oche (2001) in Umaru, Hamza and Ali (2015), conceptualized security is the freedom from danger or threat to a nation’s ability to protect and develop itself, promote its cherished values and legitimate interest.... And enhance the well-being of its people. Thus, security is the freedom from or the absence of those tendencies which could undermine internal cohesion and the corporate existence of a nation and its ability to maintain its vital institutions for the promotion of its core values... as well as freedom from danger to life and property. Security is simply the existence of conditions within which individuals in a society can go about their normal daily activities without any form of threat to lives and property (Igbuzor 2011, Akin 2008). Anything devoid of this constitutes a challenge to security.

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 socioeconomic injustices (Adofu and Alhassan, 2018).

Other the hand, according to McGrew in Adofu and Alhassan (2018) , the security of a nation relies on the maintenance and protection of the socioeconomic order in the case of internal and external threat and the promotion of a preferred international order, which minimizes the threat to core values and interests, as well as domestic order. Insecurity can also be viewed as the situation in which there is lack of effective measures with the aim of protecting lives and properties. This implies that the situation where the lives of the individuals, properties, information are not protected can be termed as insecurity. Insecurity is simply a situation in which individuals in a given society cannot go about their daily activities as a result of threat to and harmful disruption of their lives and property. Insecurity is the state of being subject to danger or injury. The anxiety that is experienced when one feels vulnerable and insecure. Ezemonye (2011) affirms the above definition of insecurity as “a state of being not secure, lack of confidence”. To enable us understand this term, we now turn to the meaning of the word ‘insecure’ which the Advance English Dictionary defines as ‘not confident about yourself or your relationships with ^other people; not safe or protected’. This definition further expounds the meaning of the term to include not just the general meaning but it touches the individual person “not being confident about oneself” (William, 2015).

Achumba and Akpan (2013) defines insecurity as “the state of being open or subject to danger or threat of danger, where danger is the condition of being susceptible to harm or injury as well as the state of being exposed to risk or anxiety, where anxiety is a vague unpleasant emotion that is experienced in anticipation of some misfortune.” From these definitions of insecurity, it can be clearly stated that those affected by insecurity are not only uncertain or unaware of what would happen but they are also vulnerable to the threats and dangers when they occur. In the context of this paper insecurity is defined as a breach of peace and security, whether historical, religious, ethno-regional, civil, social, economic,

and political that contributes to recurring conflicts, and leads to wanton destruction of lives and property (Ewetan, 2013).

According to Beland (2005) insecurity entails lack of protection from crime (being unsafe) and lack of freedom from psychological harm (unprotected from emotional stress resulting from paucity of assurance that an individual is accepted, has opportunity and choices to fulfill his or her own potentials including freedom from fear.

Some scholars has extended their views expressed above by saying 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 (Dike, 2010 and Omede, 2011). Nigeria's security should encompassed efforts channeled towards the strengthening of 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 (Nwanegbo and Odigbo, 2013).

The Concept of Sustainable Development

According to Thirlwall in Adofu and Alhassan (2018), development implies change, and this one sense in which the term development is used, that is to describe the process of economic and social transformation within the countries. This process often follows a well ordered sequence and exhibits common characteristics across countries. But if development becomes an objective of a policy, the important question arises of development for what? A concept of development is required that embraces the major economic and social objectives and values that the societies strive for. This is not easy.

One of the best attempt at conceptualizing development is that of Goulet in Adofu and Alhassan (2018), who distinguishes three basic components or core values in this wider meaning of development, which he calls; life-sustenance, self-esteem and freedom. According to him, life-sustenance is concerned with the provision of basic needs, self-esteem is about feeling of self-respect and independence, as no country can be regarded as fully developed if it is exploited by others and does not have the power and influence to conduct relations on equal terms, and freedom which refers to freedom from the three evils of want, ignorance and squalor so that people are more able to determine their own destiny.

Now to what sustainable development entails, as stated in Umaru, Hamza and Ali (2015) sustainable development is a multidimensional concept that is conceptualized in many ways. However, the widely used one that is consensually stressed by the Bruntland Commission (1987) and the United Nations World Committee on Environment and Development 1992. Both defined sustainable Development as development that meets the needs of present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable development is a two-way relationship between development and environment. Another conceptualized consideration that has contextual relevance to this paper is the one of Chinsman (1994) which added “human” to sustainable development. According to him, sustainable human development is centred on the variables and elements of human development. Sustainable human development is nothing but a dynamic framework that meaningfully provides people with job options, eliminates poverty and ensures equitable distribution of wealth in a society.

Sustainable Development remains mainsprings of growth and development that are well known which increase the quantity and quality of resources of all kinds. Countries are poor because they lack resources or the willingness and ability to bring them into use. The problems posed by underdevelopment cannot be solved without cost. It would be reassuring to think, however, that advances in growth theory, coupled with more detailed knowledge of the source of growth and the refinements of techniques for resources allocation, have increased the possibility of more rapid economic progress than hitherto (Adofu and Alhassan, 2018, Umaru, Hamza and Ali, 2015) .

FORMS AND CAUSES OF INSECURITY IN NIGERIA

Nigeria over many decades has been rampage with various militia groups that posed serious security threat to the citizenry as well as the Nigerian government. This in no small measure has contributed to regarded growth of the economy due to continuous loss of lives and properties. It becomes important to state and discuss the various forms and causes of insecurity in Nigeria.

1. Militant Form of Insecurity Challenge

Nigeria is embedded with various militant/agitation groups that has in one way or the other posed a serious threat to lives and properties across the nation. According to Pullah and Wilson (2020) these agitation groups are as follow: the Movement for the survival of the Ogoni people (MOSOP), founded by Ken Saro-Wiwa. Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), Niger Delta People Volunteer Force (NDPVF) led by Mujahid Dokubo-Asari and Niger Delta Vigilante (NDV) led by Ateke Tom amongst others (Amaizu, 2001).

Major Causes

Militant form of insecurity in Nigeria can be traced to the underlisted roots:

- **Porous borders:** The Nigeria borders has been found to be porous in the sense that there is free flow of migrants from other countries to Nigeria through our unguarded borders. This has also permitted the entrance of criminals that end up forming the militant/agitation groups causing problems to lives and properties in Nigeria (Ebipre and Wilson, 2020).
- **Increase of Arms and Ammunitions:** In most of the Nigeria's air and sea ports, in most cases several arms and ammunitions imported by some so called "unknown" individuals has been found in very large quantities. This arms and ammunitions at the end, are being grabbed and used by criminals who apply same in their nefarious activities in the country thereby making life insecure for the people of their locality (Awowole, 2010).
- **Militancy** – According to criminal law, militancy is violence, illegal force or the illegal use of unjustified force or the intimidating effect created by the threat of this act. This word became pronounced in Nigeria when the Niger Deltans took up arms against government exploitation and environmental degradation of their area due to oil exploration and exploitation. This does not only exist in the Niger Delta area. Other parts of the country have witnessed militants who commit atrocities worse than the youths of Nigeria Delta whose area is given the 'brand name'.

2. Terrorism Form of Insecurity Challenge

Worthy to mention here is the activities of Boko Haram insurgency that were characterized by bombing, kidnapping, shooting amongst others. It is pertinent to state that the Boko Haram insurgency is targeted towards the destruction of both lives as well as properties especially in the Northern and Eastern region of the country. This terrorist group seeks to impose Sharia Law in the Northern states of the country. This implies that their aim is to abolish western education, modern science, culture etc. According to Ebipre and Wilson (2020) when the history of Boko Haram group was examined, assert that the group was founded in 2002 in Maiduguri by Utaz Mohammed Yusuf. In 2004, it moved to Kanama in Yobe state, where it set up base called „Afghanistan“ used to attack nearby Police stations and killing police officers (Awowole, 2010). And lots of its members that speak Arabic comes from neighbouring Chad, the group strongly believe in the Quranic phrase which says “anyone who is not governed by what Allah has revealed is among the transgressors”. The activities of the Boko Haram group constitute serious insecurity challenges in the contemporary Nigeria state. The activities of members of this group which have raised critical questions among investors on the safety of their investment in Nigeria, this ranges from killing of innocent Nigerians, raping of women, to bombing of major cities and police stations in the northern part of Nigeria, particularly, Borno, Kano, Bauchi, Yobe, Adamawa, Abuja, among others.

Armed banditry has emerged as one of the most devastating security challenges in Nigeria, particularly in the Northwest region (Zamfara, Katsina, Sokoto, Kaduna, Kebbi) and parts of the North-Central states (Onuoha, 2024). Unlike ideologically driven insurgencies, banditry is primarily criminal, driven by economic motives such as ransom, cattle rustling, and extortion (Institute for Security Studies, 2024). Estimates suggest around 30,000 bandits operate in loose gangs, often using forests as hideouts and motorcycles for rapid strikes (Mbah et al., 2025). Their activities have resulted in thousands of deaths (over 13,000 between 2010 and 2023 in some assessments), massive displacement (hundreds of thousands to over a million in the Northwest), and the creation of ungoverned spaces that undermine governance and development (OCHA, 2024).

Major Causative Factors

- **Illegal Armed groups** – Illegal importation of arms and ammunitions has made possession of arms by individuals and groups very easy. We can name groups like Niger Delta Militants, Oodua Peoples Congress, ‘Bakassi Boys’, MASSOB not excluding the Boko Haram sect, etc that possess arms and ammunitions. It becomes important to state that the wrongful possession of these arms and ammunitions has been used negatively to hampered the security of lives and properties across the country.
- **Wrong Political Ambition:** Globally, many of the members of the political parties have been found to do whatsoever it takes to get to power. “Ben Okolo writing from Johannesburg, South Africa observed that “the current crisis which started in Bauchi and has engulfed other states in the north has elements of theocratic ambitions in it”. The perpetrators of the violent activities in parts of the country are operating with a hidden agenda. They have the intention of enthroning their own type of government which is selfish, criminal and unpatriotic as Nigerians. With such ambition they can try to make the country ungovernable or insecure.” (Williams, 2015). This has also been found to be another contributory factor to the manifestation of terrorist form of insecurity in Nigeria.
- **Electioneering:** In most countries across the globe, election period has been found to be the period when such nation faced serious national security challenge. This is because this period, efforts are being intensified by political leaders and members to win the support of the public, thereby obtaining more voters to win the election. William (2015) noted that the general anxiety over the nation’s security is germane and should be a source of concern to the government”

3. Kidnapping and Armed-Robbery Forms of Insecurity Challenge

Kidnapping and Arm Robbery in Nigeria today is one of the major challenges that is being faced in the country. This is because jobless youth found this as an avenue to make money. Kidnapper’s victims in most cases are kept in order to get ransom from their family members and thereafter released them. This situation was pervasive shortly after 2007 general elections in Nigeria. This is partly because the youths that were used as political thugs by politicians during the 2007 general elections subsequently engaged in kidnapping as means of livelihood after the elections. Indeed, confession by those apprehended

indicated that some politicians in these states supplied guns to youths for the purpose of rigging the 2007 general election (Williams, 2015). This adversely affected the economic growth in Nigeria as many business men and manufacturing companies relocated to other countries, this pathetic situation got to a crescendo, when school were closed for fear of kidnappers as several students and pupils were kidnapped in Aba in 2010.

4. Ethno-Religious Forms of Insecurity

The crisis found in Plateau, Jos, North Central part of Nigeria has been found to be traced to social, religious as well as tribal one (Oladoyinbo, 2007). It is discovered that politics is the major cause of some of this crisis that erupted in that part of the country. There is no need for some people to use all means to dominate others or use people to subjugate others. Thus, this ethnic religious crisis has claimed numerous lives of Nigerians and property worth billions of naira.

Major Causes

- **Religious fanaticism/extremism** – Religious fanaticism and extremism have been among the major cause of insecurity in Nigeria. The recent incidences of attack on churches and Christians in Northern part of the country by Moslem extremists have rendered several states in the north unsafe for life and properties. Religious violence has been responsible for the collapse of one political order or the other throughout history (Williams, 2015). It has given rise to assassination and tempted assassination of various Heads of State or government in recent times....leads to irretrievable breakup of internal harmony, and leads to foreign intervention. (Agi, in William, 2015).

- **Ethnic violence** - We have heard in some area like Plateau and Benue States reprisal attacks by ethnic militia unleashing insecurity in these areas. While security in some parts of the country, like the South-south, southeast and the southwest has been compromised, the northern zone that has always shown a propensity for violent conflicts did not disappoint security watchers. Starting with the usual religious/ethnic oriented conflicts to the Jos ethnic/religious/political conflicts of 2008 till date, the northern states have shown that security of persons and properties is still far from being realized.

- **Desire to actualize ethnic agenda** – This has become a phenomenon in Nigeria society today. Because of certain unsatisfactory or unfavourable situation politically, economically, developmentally and so on they would want to be separated from Nigeria. We hear of, Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) in the South, Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB) in the South East, Oodua Peoples Congress (OPC) in the West, BOKO HARAM in the North, BAKASI BOYS, Fulani HERDSMEN, and VIGILANTE groups all over the country. Each one of these groups has reasons for their agitation (Michael Ezemonye. Vanguard, Dec 02, 2011)

5. Economic Form Of Insecurity

The state of the economy can also contribute to the issue of insecurity especially in the third world countries which Nigeria is inclusive. This is because the standard of living of the citizens of the country can be either positively or negatively influenced by the economic condition of the country. Therefore, it can be said that economic state can also pose challenges to the security of lives and properties in the country.

Major Causative Factors

- **Unemployment:** The consistent rise in crime rates in Nigeria especially since the mid-1990s can be traced to the issue of high rate of unemployment, economic decline, and social inequality, which are abetted by inefficient and corrupt police and customs forces (Robert Stock (2008 Encarta Entry). The idle minds became devil's workshop. These people who are mostly youth are easily recruited into militant groups and trained in to rob, kill, kidnap, smuggle, hijack to mention but a few. Accurate unemployment rates are difficult to obtain and generally mean little in a society where many who work are marginally employed and where begging is a socially accepted occupation.

- **Oil Bunkering:** Nigeria has been known as one of the largest oil producing nation across the globe. But sadly, illegal oil bunker activities has been the order of the day as majority of the citizens want to improve their standard of living at any cost. This activity is promoted by the state of insecurity in the country. This is back-up with criminals who are ready to die in Nigeria water-ways. This therefore makes the coastal areas of our oil producing states unsafe.

- **Labour activists:** The findings of William (2015) shows that in 2012 the Nigerian Labour Congress call for a nationwide strike as a result of increase in price of fuel by government. They accused the government of insensitivity to the suffering of the people as well as ignoring the insecurity challenges in the country. Peaceful protests by Labour and other civil society groups have severally been high-jacked by miscreants and inflicted pains on people and made life in our cities insecure.

3 METHODOLOGY

The study adopted both descriptive and survey research design. The choice of the design is to give the group of people that represent the population of the study the opportunity to give their opinions concerning the subject matter of the study. The sample of this study constituted of randomly selected 502 citizens across Nigeria. The main instrument used for this study is a structured questionnaire sent to the respondents through an online survey tool. The instrument was validated by experts and the test-retest method was used to test the reliability of the instrument. The obtained data were analyzed through Multiple Linear Regression Analysis with the aid of Statistical Tool for Social Sciences.

4. DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

Research Question 1: What are the various challenges/Causes of Insecurity in Nigeria? Table 1. Data Analysis based on the various challenges/causes of Insecurity in Nigeria?

Challenges/Causes	SA	%	A	%	D	%	SD	%	Total	Remark
Unemployment	225	44.8	108	21.5	19	37.8	150	30.0	502	Agreed
Porous Border	300	59.8	18	35.9	40	79.7	144	28.7	502	Agreed
Wrong Political Ambition	300	59.8	100	19.9	2	0.4	100	19.9	502	Agreed
Kidnapping	250	49.8	82	16.3	100	19.9	70	13.9	502	Agreed
Ethnic Violence	200	39.8	200	39.8	50	10.0	52	10.4	502	Agreed
Desire to actualize ethnic agenda	300	59.8	18	35.9	40	79.7	144	28.7	502	Agreed
Increase of Arms and Ammunitions	300	59.8	100	19.9	2	0.4	100	19.9	502	Agreed

From table 1 above it can be seen that majority of the respondents believed that unemployment being rampant in the nation is one of the challenges/causes of insecurity in Nigeria. The analysis showed that 44.8% strongly agreed, 21.5% agreed, 37.8% disagreed and the remaining 30.0% disagreed respectively.

Furthermore, with the issue of porous border that permits the migration of people to the country is another the causative factor and challenges of insecurity in Nigeria, 300 respondents strongly agreed with the statement, 18 respondents agreed with the statement, 40 respondents disagreed with the state while the remaining 144 respondents strongly disagreed with the statement.

Additionally, Wrong Political Ambition was also one of the identified causes of security challenges in Nigeria. The results revealed that 59.8% strongly agreed, 19.9% agreed, 0.4% disagreed and the remaining 19.9% strongly disagreed respectively.

Finally, ethnic violence, desire to actualize ethnic agenda as well as increase of arms and ammunitions across the nation were found to be the contributory causative factor to insecurity challenges being faced in the nation.

Research Question 2: Does sustainable economic development feasible through the effective implementations of security policies?

Table 2: Summary of the analysis from the collected data

Model Summary									
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change
1	.415 ^a	.172	.169	4.055	.172	52.748	1	502	.000

a. Predictors: (Constant), Women education

The model summary for sustainable development shows that the adjusted R^2 is .172 indicate that only 17.2 of the variation in the dependent variable. This means that security policies implementations can only account for 17.2% of the variation in sustainable development. The remaining 82.8% is accounted for by other variables not included in the model.

ANOVAa

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	867.347	1	867.347	52.748	.000 ^b
	Residual	4176.586	501	16.443		
	Total	5043.934	502			

a. Dependent Variable: Sustainable Development

b. Predictors: (Constant), Security Policies

The ANOVA statistics with respect to sustainable development revealed that the f-statistics is 52.748 and is significant ($P < 0.000$) at the 5% level of significance ($F_{1, 254} = 52.748$). The null hypothesis is therefore rejected and the alternative is accepted. This implies that sustainable development can only be obtained through the implementation of effective security policies.

5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Insecurity has been found to be hamper the development of Nigeria economy and can be attributed to many factors such as unemployment, porous borders, ethnic violence, terrorism as well as inability of the Nigeria government to allocate resources effectively and efficiently to bring development in the frontline sectors of the economy. Underdevelopment presents itself in the form of unemployment and lack of infrastructural facilities breed insecurity. Nigeria can overcome her insecurity situation by refocusing her policy to be more human centred. This is the fact that has been shown by the forgoing analysis.

The severity of the level of insecurity calls for a concerted and well-articulated security policies to address the hydra-headed and deep-rooted problem. Analyst have suggested the need to understand the causes of insecurity so as to target the right solution to addressing the problem. Such solutions should be long lasting and all encompassing to avoid the

frequent recurrence. Contemporary intra-state conflicts cannot be prevented, resolved, or managed exclusively through preventive diplomacy, political negotiations, peace-making, peacekeeping, and the use of force. They have complex causes (social inequality, state failure, human rights violations, resource predation, etc.) which require correlated international assistance in areas including sustainable economic growth, good governance, human rights protection, and environmental preservation.

The study recommends that the issue of insecurity should be taken seriously by both the government and the citizens to achieve sustainable economic development. Additionally, the government should formulate and implement workable policies that will guide against insecurity as well as boost the contributions of various sectors towards the country's economic development. Finally, the government should utilize intelligence network that will deal with the failure of various security clusters and militants groups, thereby fostering the security of lives and properties.

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