

Insecurity in Nigeria and Ensuing Consequences to Entrepreneurial Development

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ABSTRACT

In this study, insecurity in Nigeria and its consequences to entrepreneurial development were examined. For more than 10 years, the country has been subjected to security challenges that range from Boko Haram and their Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) counterparts to unknown gunmen and bandits. Simultaneously, there has been an alarming increase in the national rates of unemployed youths and graduates. Furthermore, there has been a lack of basic development in infrastructure, such as electricity to enhance national industrialisation and entrepreneurial development to create employment opportunities, thus stifling attempts to spur the economic revival of the seventh most populated nation worldwide. This review of the major insecurity issues in Nigeria, is meant to enhance understanding of the socio-economic problems affecting Nigeria. The history of insecurity in Nigeria, its nature and origins, and the consequences are discussed with some solutions suggested to improve the current situation.

Keywords – Nigeria, Insecurity, Entrepreneurial, Boko Haram, Poverty, Banditry, Unemployment, Corruption

INTRODUCTION

Among the topics that would generate the highest number of literary works and contributions, insecurity in Nigeria would be the top contender. With the most recent attack on a Kaduna-bound train on 28 March 2022, where public records demonstrated that more than eight people died and more than 26 were injured, it is astonishing that insecurity in Nigeria has not won the infamy award for highest literary engagement on a disheartening topic. Casually listening to the daily news would depict the level of damage insecurity has inflicted on the country. Dedicated news followers rarely have a good day after listening to the early morning news as it almost always involves a recent attack or the aftermath. The attackers are merciless in all regions: armed robbery in the southwest, insurrection and secessionists in the southeast, southern oil bunkering, middle-belt farmer–herder clashes, terrorism in the northeast, and banditry in the northwest. Kidnapping and other evolving crimes also jostle for notoriety in every part of the country. There is an epidemic of insecurity in Nigeria, and the country is in prime position to be declared the most insecure nation in the world.

History of Insecurity in Nigeria

Tracing the history of insecurity in Nigeria is akin to tracing Nigerian history depending on what one seeks. Calls for secession and internal insurrection originated before the Nigerian civil war, while farmer–herder clashes stem from the early days of independent Nigeria. Insurgency and terrorism began in the past two decades and banditry has arisen even more recently.