

**POLICING AND NIGERIA'S NATIONAL SECURITY: IMPLICATIONS FOR
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, (1999-2016)**

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Abstract

This paper examined the prominent role played by the Nigeria police in the security of life and properties and how this affects the development of the society. Its principal focus is on the fact that security is the major determinant of development of any society. It ramified the concepts of policing, national security and national development, how they are intertwined and connected them to the Nigerian society. The structural functionalism theory was the theory employed to explain how the structure of the police force affects the proper functioning of the state. The study relied predominantly on secondary data, newspapers, textbooks, journals and internet sources were consulted. The paper observed the causes of the national security challenges in Nigeria such as corruption, injustice, poverty, decayed and collapsed infrastructure, and socio-religious crises. Furthermore, it examined the correlations between all these causes of insecurity and the crises of underdevelopment in Nigeria particularly in the area of abject poverty, unemployment, lack of functional industries, low foreign investment, diversion of public funds, youth restiveness, religious and social violence. It evaluates the issues raised and concluded that there is a strong link between the crises of insecurity and underdevelopment, and that by maintaining law and order, the police will succeed at fostering national development. The paper recommended the proactive intervention of the government in providing for the needs of the people, the provision of adequate equipment and funds for the Nigeria police to ensure their effectiveness, religious tolerance, patriotism and citizens participation should be encouraged, and an enabling environment should be provided for the sustained entrepreneurial development.

Keywords: *Policing, National Development, Security, Nigeria Police.*

INTRODUCTION

One of the greatest challenges that twenty-first century African states face is insecurity. Of the four arms of the state security system, namely, the Army, Air Force, Navy and Police, the latter has been the most taunted. Ordinarily, the Police Force, being the closest of all the forces to

Val-Ogu *et al.*

civilians, is expected to be the protector and defend the citizenry, as is the case in any genuine democratic country. This unfortunately is not the case in Nigeria. Twenty-first century Africa has been labeled the least developed continent of the world (Omitola & Jiboku, 2009). This thought is not unconnected with the myriad of problems the continent is faced with. On top of these problems in recent times, has been the challenge of insecurity.

Policing denotes the use of agencies set up by law to maintain internal security of the state to promote and sustain democracy and the rule of law. These bodies or organizations play important roles in the execution of national laws made by the government in the pursuit of national interest and the protection of the national image of Nigeria (Maina, 2006). According to Nwanguma (2012, p. 13),

Security forces have failed to tackle crime and insecurity in Nigeria because they suffer neglect. They are poorly trained, under-motivated and ill-equipped to tackle crime and insecurity. Their remuneration and other benefits are not only inadequate but are hardly paid promptly. Police pensions are also stolen. The lives of officers and men are daily exposed to grave risks, and fatality rate among personnel is unacceptably high.

In his views, Nwanguma (2012) believes that the government only finds the police as useful tools to repress critics and opposition in the Nigerian community. Ironically, they are regarded as the 'Friend of the Public'. However, the one-time Inspector-General of Police (IGP) Mr. Sunday Ehindero, in 2005 embarked on a genuine transformation of the Nigeria Police Force with the dream of a new policing characterized by different duties of the police towards the people (Maina, 2006).

In projecting the security image of any country, certain people have vital roles to play in terms of policy making. These people include the Police, the Politicians/leaders and of course, the people. If these roles are not properly carried out, then the safety of such nation would be in jeopardy. The role of the police in the pursuit of a safe environment that allows national development to thrive is what informs this study. Basically, the image of the Nigeria Police has been a questionable one. This is as a result of the recent and ever growing security threats in the country. This has led many Nigerians to doubt the ability of the Nigerian Police as it is perceived that the police is doing little or nothing to address the situation (Mbachu & Eze 2009). This study would shed more light on the role and the importance of the Nigerian Police in ensuring the maintenance of national security. It will also examine the history, and the difficulties faced by the Nigerian Police in their pursuit of protecting the country's security, and the ripple effect these challenges have on national development.

Val-Ogu *et al.*

Nigeria is a populous Black African nation, blessed with an intimidating population of over 170 million people, with wide geographical spread across thirty-six (36) states and a federal capital territory (Akhemonkhan, Raimi and Ogunjirin, 2012). The country is part of the NEKS countries; an acronym for Nigeria, Egypt, Kenya and South Africa, described by analysts as nations with huge untapped markets for foreign direct investment (FDI) in Africa (Alkali, 2008). At independence and several years after, the country was perceived as a relatively secured nation in the West African sub-region because of its steady economic growth and leadership role in the Economic Community of African States (ECOWAS). However, the sudden discovery of crude oil truncated the nation's steady drive towards sustainable economic development, as the focus of Federal government shifted from commercial agriculture to crude oil exploration and exploitation (Dode, 2011).

According to Watts (2009) a total of \$700 billion oil revenues had been accumulated by the Nigerian government since independence. Unfortunately, the massive oil revenues have added little to the living standard of Nigerians. He asserted that 85 per cent of oil revenues earned overtime is shared among the influential political elites, who constitute only one per cent of the population, with the possibility that 40% or more of the national wealth accumulated overtime might have been stolen by the ruling elites, technocrats and policy bureaucrats. While the ruling elites, technocrats and their cronies were busy stealing, embezzling and sharing the nation's oil wealth, the age long peace and security that the nation enjoyed started waning because of threats to national security orchestrated by militant groups with conflicting socio-economic and political agenda. Although generally considered an attractive career, the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) experienced endemic problems with recruiting, training, inefficiency, and indiscipline, and it lacked expertise in specialized fields. Corruption and dishonesty are widespread, engendering a low level of public confidence, failure to report crimes, and tendencies to resort to self-help.

The Nigerian Society is getting more and more insecure, as many people get into serious crimes every day; both citizens and leaders in power. These have not only exposed the deficiencies of the Nigerian police Force to perform its duties and basic functions, namely "prevention and detection of crimes and the apprehension of offenders" (Section 4, Police Act), but have also exposed the urgency of reforming the Nigerian Police structure. National security is an effective tool for ensuring development and attractive foreign direct investment in any society. A breakdown in security, law and order in turn has a ripple effect on the growth and development and for Nigeria to emerge as a great superpower; the importance of national security cannot be overemphasized, which informs the conduct of this study.

The general objective of this study is to examine the influence of the policing and security on national development. However, the specific objectives of this study are to:

- i. Investigate the linkage between security and Nigeria's national development.
- ii. Examining the consequences of ineffective policing on Nigeria's National development.

Val-Ogu *et al.*

- iii. Examining the factors that militate against effective policing and its ripple effect on development.

This study will rely predominantly on secondary data. Content and textual analysis will be used, extensive research based on existing materials, journals, textbooks, newspaper publications, articles, national dailies, magazines. The research design for this study is non-experimental, qualitative, exploratory-descriptive and contextual.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The word *Police* is derived from the Greek word “Polis”, referring that part of non-ecclesiastical administration having to do with the safety, health and order of the state. The Greek *Politeria*, meant the art of governing and regulating the welfare, security needs and order of the city-state in the interest of the public. Although *Police* is derived from the Greek, it was the Romans who perfected the system. The Roman *Politia* meant the same thing as the Greek *Politeria*. It was a symbol of power residing in central Authority (The Nigeria Police Force, 2013). The original meaning of the word *police* refers to the general state of public order and public health of the city (Richardson, 1980: 212). It has also being defined as the civil force to which is entrusted the task of maintaining public order and enforcement of law for the prevention and punishment of its breaches (Alderson, 1983: 163). The concept of policing is related to that of social control and is subject to the same variations in usage and interpretations. Indeed a recent dictionary definition identifies policing as “the function of maintaining social control in society (Wilson, 1993). From these definitions, it is evident that the term *police* mean not only the enforcement of laws and regulations, but also the maintenance of public order, which includes public health, and this cannot be successfully achieved without good civil administration.

Roles of the Police

The primary function of the police is policing which means securing compliance with existing laws and conformity with precepts of social order, (Alemika & Chukwuma, 2003). Policing has always been necessary in all societies for the preservation of order, safety and social relations. The police are agents of the state established for the maintenance of order and the enforcement of law. For Amadi (2004), policing in Nigeria, like what obtains in other countries of the world, is a strenuous and risky task.

Nigeria police performed conventional police functions and was responsible for internal security generally, for supporting the prison, immigration and custom services; and for performing military duties within or outside Nigeria as directed (World Police Encyclopedia, 2004). The Nigerian Police performs the role of protecting and safeguarding the security of life and properties within the internal territorial boundaries of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. This is to ensure peace and stability in the society, and of course, for efficient policing (Jike, 2003).

Val-Ogu *et al.*

In essence, Nigeria Police are mandated to perform a range of tasks: prevention and detection of crime; preservation of law and order; protection of life and property; due enforcement of laws and regulations with which they are directly charged, and military duties (Section 4, Police Act).

Policing and National Security

The basic notion of national security emphasizes the overall security of a nation and nation state in the context of the protection or safety of country secrets and its citizens (Fagbohun, 1990). According to Tadjbakhsh (2008), national security covers critical dimensions, viz: Economic security, Food security, Health security, Environmental security, Personal security, Community security, and Political security. The original meaning of the word police refers to ‘the general state of public order and public health of the city’ (Richardson, 1980: 212). It has also being defined as ‘the civil force to which is entrusted the task of maintaining public order and enforcement of law for the prevention and punishment of its breaches...’ (Alderson, 1983: 163).

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The Nigerian Police performs the role of protecting and safeguarding the security of life and properties within the internal territorial boundaries of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. This is to ensure peace and stability in the society, and of course, for efficient policing (Jike, 2003). According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, 1994), human security may be defined to include such chronic threats as hunger disease and repression. Security means protection from hidden and hurtful disruptions in the patterns of daily life in homes, offices or communities. Security may also be defined as the state of being or making safe secure from danger, etc.

The Nigerian police cannot be ignored in all aspects of law and order. The Policeman occupies a strategic position in the administration of justice. According to Korn and McCorkle (1959), as the policeman discharges his responsibility for crime control, he is the overt symbol of the law. He makes decisions that determine whether or not the machinery of the justice system works, because he holds the key to igniting the criminal justice system. He starts it by arrest, thereby, determining the criminals to be punished.

National Development

Development is the primary goal of every well-meaning government and it is essentially dependent on the level of economic activities in a country; the level of economic activities is in turn enhanced by peaceful coexistence by people. It is people who interact to carry out economic activities through their businesses. Businesses are the vehicle for economic activities that would

Val-Ogu *et al.*

lead to national economic development. It therefore follows that businesses play a great role in the process of development and such role can be hampered in the absence of adequate security as we now find in Nigeria. Development is the process of raising peoples' standard of living from undesirable state to desirable state through application of relevant growth processes in generating favourable condition for the purpose of increasing peoples' self-esteem and freedom to lead quality life, and to overcome certain developmental barriers in order to transcend into comfortable and desirable existence (Alliyu, 2013; Obono, 2010; Olutayo & Omobowale, 2002). The term national development is used to refer to a state of maturity which characterizes a nation-state. This maturity results from the interplay of modern political, economic and social forces and processes which transform diverse people, shaping a common geographical area, from acceptance and allegiance to and participation in a transitional policy to the acceptance and creations of and participation in a modern nation-state. The latter is characterized by governmental machinery capable of commanding loyalty, keeping order, eliciting legitimacy, fostering integration, permitting mass participation; and satisfying popular wants and expectations. (Mac King, 1988:5).

The aims of development are to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all and sundry and to maximize simultaneously, national goals, organizational goals and individual goals that can persist over generations. Insecurity has been identified as one of the obstacles to sustainable development (Call, 2000; Igbuzor, 2011; Ujah & Eboh, 2006). As noted by Akpobibibo (2003) the principle behind development is to make life meaningful to all. Therefore, security is crucial for development. In the absence of security, economic growth and development cannot be sustained as it destroys economic, human and social capital. Under conditions of peace and security, people and government can direct their efforts and resources towards improving human life.

Theoretical Framework

The structural functionalist theory espouses the idea that all societal structures must work hand in hand in ensuring the survival of the society. It is the model of intellectual analysis. This approach is found particularly useful in the comparison of political systems. One of the chief proponents, Gabriel Almond (1950), believed that every political system performs certain functions (Alexander & Adam, 2010). Other proponents of the structural functionalism theory include Robert K. Merton, Talcott Parson, (Gerber, 2010).

Structural functionalism has a lengthy history in both the social sciences (Merton, 1968) and the biological sciences (Woodger, 1948). Functionalism's history goes back to Aristotle's study of the ultimate causes in nature or of actions in relation to their ends. Developed in 17th century France, Baron de Montesquieu's doctrine of separation of powers is also based on the notion of functions that are best undertaken separate from each other as a means of ensuring stability and security. Functionalism became important when Darwin's evolutionary theories began to

Val-Ogu *et al.*

influence thinking about human behavior Darwin conceived of the idea of survival in functional terms. Each function was important to the survival of the whole system. Systems that could not adapt their functions ceased to exist. Other students of human behavior borrowed these ideas, applying them to social affairs. Thus, social Darwinism imported these same functionalist categories into social analysis.

Critics of structural functionalism terminology view it as a translation of Anglo-American political norms in methodological terminology (Susser, 1992, p. 207). Structural functionalism may be in decline as a methodological approach for the study of politics; however, it leaves a set of terms that are still used in political verbiage. Some of those in the functionalist camp (Merton among them) rejected the notion of this decline. Much of what was best in the political research of an entire generation was couched in its terms, (Susser, 1992, p. 207). One of the main criticisms of structural functionalism is that its categories were too undifferentiated to be of real help in actual research (Susser 1992, p. 206). Although Almond's functional classification has greater specificity than the systems approach, it is seen as not much more than a translation of familiar and known phenomena into blandly broad categories. As such it promotes a terminological rather than an essential transformation in the discipline. (Susser 1992, p. 206). Regardless of all the limitations of the structural-functionalism theory, it is still applied in understanding studies related to political science, sociology and other disciplines.

Applicability of Structural Functionalist Theory

The theory aids the comprehension of this research because it studies the interplay between the political and economic system (Nigeria), Structures (The Nigeria Police) and the roles played by these structures in fostering national development. It thus revolves around the three variables of this research work, therefore giving an understanding of the functions played by the Nigerian Police in ensuring National Development.

The subject of study being researched is significant in advancing knowledge on the progress of the law enforcement in providing avenues for the socio-political and economic development of Nigeria, with particular reference to the Nigerian Police. The study seeks to contribute to the existing knowledge on the effect of the operations of the Nigerian police on national development.

THE NIGERIAN POLICE AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Scholars have identified strong links between security and development since the cold war ended (Chandler, 2007; Nwanegbo & Odigbo, 2013). They argued that development cannot be achieved in any nation where there are conflicts, crisis and war. Nigeria is confronted with daunting developmental challenges which include endemic rural and urban poverty, high rate of unemployment, debilitating youth unemployment, low industrial output, unstable and

Val-Ogu *et al.*

deteriorating exchange rate, high inflation rate, inadequate physical and social infrastructure, very large domestic debt, and rising stock of external debt (Ewetan, 2013).

According to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS, 2011), Nigeria's unemployment rate increased to 23.9 percent in 2011 compared with 21.1 per cent in 2010 and 19.7 per cent in 2009. The country has a youth population of 80 million, representing about 60 per cent of the total population with a growth rate of 2.6 per cent per year, and the national demography suggests that the youth population remains vibrant with an average annual entrant to the labour force at 1.8 million between 2006 and 2011. In 2011, 37.7 per cent of Nigerian were aged 15-24 years and 22.4 per cent of those between ages 25 and 44 were willing to work but did not get jobs, (Ewetan, 2013: 41).

The United Nations Children's Fund reports that every day, Nigeria loses about 2,300 under-five year olds and 145 women of childbearing age, making the country the second largest contributor to the under-five and maternal mortality rates in the world, (Ewetan, 2013 : 42).

The appalling failure of successive governments in Nigeria to address challenges of poverty, unemployment and unequal circulation of wealth among ethnic nationalities, eventually caused a revolt against the Nigerian state by some individuals and groups. Such crimes include militancy, kidnapping, bombing, armed robbery, destruction of government properties, among others (Albinus, 2012). The civil unrest led to a breakdown of the peace and order of the country, and the law enforcement agencies charged with keeping the peace, with specific reference to the Nigerian police, were crippled as a result of certain underlying factors. According to Section 4 of Police Act and Decree No. 23 of 1979 Constitution cited by Alemika and Chukwuma (2000: 9), the functions of the Nigeria Police Force are unambiguously stated to include the following:

The Police shall be employed for the prevention and detection of crime, apprehension of offenders, the preservation of law and order, the protection of life and property, and due enforcement of all laws and regulations with which they are directly charged and perform such military duties within or without Nigeria as may be required of them by, or under the authority of this or any other Act. The Nigeria Police Force also have statutory powers to investigate crimes, apprehend offenders, interrogate suspects, prosecute suspects, grant bail to suspects pending completion of investigation or prior to court arraignment, to serve summons, to regulate or disperse unlawful processions and assemblies. The police are also empowered to search and seize properties suspected to be stolen or associated with crime, and to take and record for purposes of identification, the measurements, photographs and fingerprint impressions of all persons...in custody.

From the inception, the modern police institution worldwide had evolved various strategies for delivering services to their citizenry. However, the contribution of the police to the control of

Val-Ogu et al.

crime and maintenance of order today is arguable as studies of police efficiency imply (Reiner, 1992; Barley, 1994). The socio-political and economic landscape in Nigeria has been blighted by the endemic twin evil of crime and violence. According to Osayande (2008), the problems affecting the operations of the Nigerian Police could be classified into two broad factors. They are: external and internal factors.

External Factors

Poor Funding and Mismanagement of Available Funds: According to Kabeer (2014), the Nigeria Police Force (NPF), sometime last year, carried out a recruitment exercise of some 40,000 young men and women to increase the manpower in the force but the appropriate measures were not taken to properly finance, train and equip these young people. To begin with, the Nigeria Police is grossly underfunded to cater for the needs of the existing police officers not to talk of recruits. For instance, the 2004 and 2005 Appropriation Bills did not adequately provide for the police and in 2006 additional officers were recruited to overburden the already under financed force. The Federal Government has failed in its duty to fund police operations. Therefore, the police increasingly turn towards the state government and individuals for their need (Arthur-Worrey, 2013). This in turn, has brought into existence, distrust in the Nigerian Police which has resulted to an image problem.

Lack of Proper Resource Management: The lack of proper resource management has greatly impacted negatively on the police efficiency. These inadequacies in management, according to Alemika (1997), Osaba (1994), and Balogun (2003) are critical in the aspects of manpower, both in quantity and quality. In terms of quality they mean, a number of police personnel who are mostly regarded as ill-literates both in writing and speech.

Creation of Parallel Security Organization: The creation of parallel security organizations with powers for investigation, arrest and detention, undermines the powers of the Nigerian Police as the primary law enforcement agency in the country. Such other security organizations are better funded. In some instances, they have succeeded in challenging the Nigeria police. An example is the National Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) on the control and the regulation of private security guards (Osayande, 2008).

Internal factors

Lack of Accountability: The transparency and accountability of the police depends solely on the level of openness of the government. Transparency refers to the openness of governmental agencies in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of policies, programmes and decisions which implies the compliance of government bodies with the rule of law as well as popular participation. Therefore, the inability of governmental bodies such as the police, to remain accountable to their responsibilities of securing the people and higher authorities, will definitely create room for corruption, mismanagement, arbitrariness and repression in the society and even in the country at large (Alemika, 2004:16).

Val-Ogu *et al.*

Corruption: Corruption which crept into the Nigeria Police Force has gradually assumed greater dimension in recent times. Today not only are individual officers involved in corrupt practices, Police officers also engage in other offences such as, escape from lawful custody, obtaining money from suspects' closure of case files, escorts of contra-banned and stolen goods, stealing from suspects and accident victims, supply of police arms and uniforms to armed robbers for a fee (Osayande, 2008).

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

Some of the major concerns of the poor apart from material deprivations and lack of access to services are their vulnerability to insecurity, crime, police brutality and the denial of their rights to the due process of the law, (World Development Report 2000/2001). After fifty three years of nationhood Nigeria still ranks among the poorest countries in the world, also ranks low in all socio economic indicators such as life expectancy, death rate, access to water, poverty rate, mortality rate, and crime rate, and still carries the tag of a developing economy. Nigeria is a classic illustration of an oxymoron, a poor country in the midst of abundant human and natural resources. The inability of government to provide a secure and safe environment for lives, properties and the conduct of business and economic activities has led to resentment and disaffection among ethnic groups. This has resulted in ethnic violence, communal clashes, and religious violence in different parts of the country that has destroyed lives and properties, disrupted businesses and economic activities, and retarded economic growth and development of Nigeria.

The cost of insecurity in Nigeria is huge and it cuts across every sector of the economy. Economically, insecurity encourages capital flight as many foreign investors are reluctant to invest in Nigeria for fear of losing their money to terrorist attacks. Insecurity continues to take its toll on the economy. In many parts of the country, property worth billions of naira has been destroyed and many businesses have come to a standstill. In addition, many foreign investors have been discouraged from doing business with the country while many have returned to their various countries. There is no investor whether local or foreign that will be motivated to invest in an unsafe and insecure environment. In a globalized world, investors are not only looking for high returns on their investments but also a safe haven for their investments. Thus the alarming level of insecurity in Nigeria has made the economy unattractive to foreign investors, and this has impacted negatively on economic growth and development. There is no nation that can achieve socio-economic development in an environment of socio and physical insecurity, (Chandler, 2007).

The increasing challenge of insecurity in Nigeria has also been linked to failure of leadership to deliver good governance, and secure the welfare of persons on the principles of freedom, equality, and justice. Scholars have identified strong links between security and development since the cold war ended (Chandler, 2007; Nwanegbo & Odigbo, 2013). They argued that

Val-Ogu *et al.*

development cannot be achieved in any nation where there are conflicts, crisis and war. There is a consensus in the literature that security and development are two different and inseparable concepts that affect each other, and this has naturally triggered debates on security-development nexus (Chandler, 2007; Stan 2004). The Nigerian Police has had no choice but to acknowledge the factors militating against its effective and efficient performance and in recent times therefore, there appears to be a growing effort in the quest for ensuring the effectiveness of the Nigerian police force towards the maintenance of peace and stability in Nigeria (Akuul, 2011).

Insecurity discourages investment as it makes investment unattractive to business people. This is because it increases the cost of doing business either through direct loss of goods and properties or the cost of taking precautions against business risks and uncertainty. These costs could have a negative impact on business development and progress. The thick link connecting the insecurity environment and business investment means that insecurity can be a huge obstacle to business investment. Ujah and Eboh (2006) reported a study by World Bank on investment climate in nine African countries in which it was found that 29% of business operators in Africa and 36% in Nigeria perceived insecurity as a major constraint on investment. This situation has the damaging consequence of giving signal to the international community that Nigeria is not a safe and secure place and as such not suitable for investment and business activities. In that case, foreign firms and entrepreneurs would decline to invest and this is particularly important in view of the efforts being made to create the desired atmosphere to attract foreign direct investment. So, it is a strong disincentive to business investment as it scares away potential investors. This is because such environments or economies are considered high risk zones due to the high level of uncertainty about the safety of investment and lives of the managers and their staff.

Clearly, there has been a deterioration of foreign direct investment in Nigeria. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is usually investment targeted at building new factories or investing in actual production activities which create jobs. Foreign investors in the Nigerian economy are moving away from starting new companies or production plants and are buying up shares of quoted companies instead. Figures from the 2010 Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) annual report show a steep 78.1 percent decline in foreign direct investment while also showing a significant 87.2 percent increase in portfolio investment into the Nigerian economy to take advantage of the depression in the Nigeria stock market due to low economic activities. This can largely be attributed to the state of insecurity in the country besides the issue of lack of regular electricity supply, which itself is a source of economic insecurity in the country.

CONCLUSION

This study has been able to establish that there is a common link between national security and national development. Insecurity has a ripple effect on the socio-economic and political development of any country, and safety guarantees progress. Nigeria is not immune to the insurgencies, violent extremism, and trans-national networks which have come to characterize

Val-Ogu *et al.*

the current global and national security environment. Undoubtedly, Nigeria is blessed with abundant human and natural resources to guarantee the accomplishment of sustained development. By maintaining order and enforcing law in consonance with the principles and practices of a democratic society, police will foster entrepreneurial initiative and public safety, which are critical to development and human cooperation in general. It is in these respects that the police can make positive contributions towards national development.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Considering the information that was derived through the analysis of data utilized during the course of this study, the following recommendations are hereby proposed as strategies to improve the efforts of the police in ensuring security and development in Nigeria:

i. Channel of communication: It is important to encourage healthy discussions among individuals, communities and the government. This will be helpful in understanding one another and identifying issues conflict and negotiating peaceful resolution. Situations of misunderstanding are situations that promote strife and crisis. Dialogue respects individual's views, opinions and sense of self-worth. Understanding raises value and productivity.

ii. Equity in Resource Allocation: Conscious effort must be made to equitably distribute the resource of the country. Every segment of the Nigerian project must be carried along and given a sense of belonging.

iii. Enabling Environment: Government must create enabling environment for sustained entrepreneurial development. Youths must be re-educated and given skills that will make them feel useful and vital. In order to prevent the continuous occurrence of crime and criminality in the society, the government should create job opportunities for the youths. Also, there should be an avenue whereby awareness is created among fresh graduates as regards the benefits of entrepreneurship in the society.

iv. Proactive Interventions: There should be proper equipping of the regulatory and enforcement agencies for better proactive interventions to address security problems rather than managing by reactions. The government should improve the standard of living of the people and most especially, the Nigeria police by ensuring that the necessary logistics such as funds, accommodation, and infrastructures like sufficient patrol vehicles, and adequate human resources are made available for effective policing. Also, the job of a Police should be made more attractive to encourage police officers to perform their duties properly and stringent measures should be taken concerning the recruitment and training processes of the Nigeria Police.

v. Patriotism and Citizen Participation: Nigeria should also take responsibility for the security and welfare of their environment by offering vital information to law enforcement agencies that will help them burst crime. To salvage the security situation, citizen participation and co-operation with the Nigerian police cannot be over emphasized. National development and national security are complementary imperative. The later reinforced the former.

Val-Ogu et al.

vi. Religious Tolerance: The Nigerian government should ensure that there is a high level religious tolerance among the people; this goes a long way in curbing religious violence and unrest among the various religious groups.

The government should work hand-in-hand with the police by doing everything in their power to ensure the maintenance of a good security climate in order to attract foreign investors and promote socio-economic development.

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Val-Ogu et al.

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Val-Ogu et al.

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