

Youth and Nigeria's Internal Security Management

- [Authors](#)
- [Authors and affiliations](#)
- Moses M. Duruji
- Faith O. Olanrewaju
- Favour U. Duruji-Moses

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Chapter

First Online: 24 July 2019

Abstract

One of the major challenges confronting Nigeria is insecurity which hinders national development. The problem of insecurity includes menace of ethnic militias across the country, insurgency in the north, militancy in the Niger Delta, kidnapping, armed robbery and cultism all over the country. The government and other partners recognise that national security is a precondition for maintaining the survival, growth and development of a State. It is also well known that the army of unemployed and idle youth population of the country is the major group perpetrating these security problems across the country. Given the realisation of the government that the problem of insecurity needs to be tackled as panacea to the socio-economic development of the country, several solutions have been applied. The option of youth empowerment is believed to possess the capacity of not only keeping the youth busy but putting food on their table and thereby making incentive to engage in actions that promote insecurity unattractive. The youth empowerment programmes including the Amnesty Programme, YouWin and N-Power, among others, were some of the programmes implemented. What is the impact of these programmes as a strategy of managing insecurity in the country? To what extent are these programmes impacting on the socio-political and economic development of the country? What are the challenges in the implementation of these programmes? This chapter attempts to provide answers to these questions. The data used in this chapter were collected largely from documentary materials and analysed using descriptive analysis.

Keywords

Youth Empowerment programmes National security Insecurity

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Cite this chapter as:

Duruji M.M., Olanrewaju F.O., Duruji-Moses F.U. (2019) Youth and Nigeria's Internal Security Management. In: Oshita O., Alumona I., Onuoha F. (eds) Internal Security Management in Nigeria. Palgrave Macmillan, Singapore. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-13-8215-4_29

- **First Online** 24 July 2019
- **DOI** https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-13-8215-4_29
- **Publisher Name** Palgrave Macmillan, Singapore
- **Print ISBN** 978-981-13-8214-7
- **Online ISBN** 978-981-13-8215-4
- **eBook Packages** [Economics and Finance](#) [Economics and Finance \(R0\)](#)
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EUR 159.99

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