# Insecurity in Nigeria: Implications for Sustainable National Development in Nigeria

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**Abstract**
That the security situation in Nigeria has become enormous and complex is no longer in doubt. To tackle insecurity, it is important to identity and investigates its sources/causes. This paper isolated and clarified the different causes/sources of insecurity in Nigeria. These sources have been attributed to quite a number of factors. The factors have been classified into external and internal. Beyond the external – internal dichotomy, sources of insecurity have also been grouped into remote and immediate. The paper identified insecurity as a major obstacle to sustainable national and educational development in Nigeria. In order to check insecurity in Nigeria, the paper recommended the following: issues of social inequity, deprivation and unemployment should be addressed, right to self-determination should be recognized, security methodology should be made proactive, and there should be genuine improvement in governance and rule of law.
**Key words:** Insecurity, sustainable national development.

**Introduction**
**Security:** The freedom from danger, care intimidation, apprehension, the feeling or assurance of safety, peace of mind or absence of fear, and the certainty or assurance of the good life or welfare – constitutes one of the fundamental objectives and indeed the foremost responsibility of every government and the state. In Nigeria, the constitution unequivocally spelt out as a fundamental objective and directive principle of state policy that "the security and welfare of the people (of Nigeria) shall be the primary purpose of government" (Section 14 (2) (b) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999). Nigeria in recent times has witnessed an unprecedented level of insecurity. No wonder national security has become an issue for government, prompting huge allocation of the national budget to security. According to Azazi (2011), in order to check the crime rate in Nigeria, the federal government has embarked on criminalization of terrorism by passing the anti-terrorism Act in 2011, installation of computer-based Closed Circuit Television cameras (CCTV) in some parts of the country, enhancement of surveillance as well as investigation of criminal related offences, heightening of physical security measures around the country aimed at determining or disrupting potential attacks, strengthening of security agencies through the provision of security facilities and the development and broadcast of security tips in mass media. Despite these efforts, the level of insecurity in Nigeria is still high and the country has been consistently ranked low in the Global Peace Index (GPI, 2012), signifying poor state of insecurity in the country as indicated in table 1 below:

**Table I: Nigeria and other West African Countries on the Global Peace Index Ranking (GPI).**

| S/N | Country | GPI Score 2009 | GPI Rank 2009 | GPI Score 2010 | GPI Rank 2010 | GPI Score 2011 | GPI Rank 2011 | GPI Score 2012 | GPI Rank 2012 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Ghana | 1.76 | 52 | 1.78 | 48 | 1.75 | 42 | 1.81 | 50 |
| 2 | Sierra Leone | – | – | 1.82 | 53 | 1.90 | 61 | 1.86 | 52 |
| 3 | Burkina Faso | 1.91 | 71 | 1.85 | – | 1.83 | 51 | 1.88 | 56 |
| 4 | Gambia | – | – | – | 79 | 1.91 | 62 | 1.96 | 74 |
| 5 | Senegal | 1.98 | 80 | 2.03 | – | 2.05 | 77 | 1.99 | 78 |
| 6 | Guinea | – | – | – | – | 2.13 | 92 | 2.07 | 92 |
| 7 | Guinea Bissau | – | – | – | – | – | – | 2.11 | 95 |
| 8 | Liberia | – | – | 2.15 | 99 | 2.16 | 97 | 2.13 | 101 |
| 9 | Mali | 2.09 | 96 | 2.24 | 109 | 2.19 | 100 | 2.13 | 102 |
| 10 | Benin | – | – | – | – | – | – | 2.23 | 114 |
| 11 | Niger | – | – | – | – | 2.36 | 119 | 2.24 | 116 |
| 12 | Mauritania | 2.48 | 124 | 2.39 | 123 | 2.43 | 130 | 2.30 | 125 |
| 13 | Cotd'lvoire | 2.34 | 117 | 2.30 | 118 | 2.42 | 128 | 2.42 | 134 |
| 14 | Nigeria | 2.60 | 129 | 2.76 | 137 | 2.74 | 142 | 2.80 | 146 |

**Source:** Adapted from Global Peace Index (2009 – 2012).

## The State and Security

The state is generally presented as a people organized for law and development in a given territory. As a result, the state requires the element of the people, law and order, territory and development, encapsulated in sovereignty to operate. The state serves utilitarian purposes hence is not end in itself. The purpose of the state is to ensure secured people for development. The term security has been used to mean protection against, or safety from a future risk of severe deprivation, injury or death and requires rules, order and impartial adjudication and application. Security according to Achumba, Ighomereho & Akpo-Robaro (2013) refers to a situation that exists as a result of the establishment of measure for the protecting of persons, information and property against hostile persons, influences and actions. It is the existence of conditions within which people in a society can go about their normal daily activities without any threat to their lives or properties. It embraces all measures designed to protect and safeguard the citizenry and the resources of individuals, groups, businesses and the nation against sabotage or violent occurrence (Achumbo et al, 2013). Security is the protection against all forms of harm whether physical, economic or psychological. It is however argued that security may not be absence of threats or security issues but the ability to rise to the challenges posed by threats with expediency and expertise. Security cannot therefore exist without provision for national security. Aggressive and repressive states can be major sources of human insecurity and a greater source of human suffering.

National security is concerned about those governmental institutions that seek to ensure the physical protection and safety of their citizens, their equal access to the law and protection of from abuse. There are two sets of government systems and institutions concerned with national security. The first component consists of the traditional instruments of national security, namely: the criminal justice system (police, justice and correctional services/prisons) the military and the intelligence community. The second and more important, relates to the nature of governance, its institutions and rules, norms and values that underpin it – as well as the efficacy thereof (Thamos, 2008). Human security according to Pam Sha (2005) defines security in terms of an integrated idea of positive peace, human rights and sustainable development. It is related to the enhancement of livelihoods of all people at risk; the values of the respect of human rights, the dignity of the individual, respect for diversity, community empowerment, decentralized forms of government, peace and co-existence and the accountability and transparency of actions aimed at the betterment of livelihood (Human Security Report, 2003). These values aspire towards the creation of an enabling environment for development of people at risk, a minimum social security net for those in need, clear vision and approach to participation and empowerment and milestones for the achievement of those aspirations (Thamos, 2008). The promotion of Human Security is realized through freedom from want and fear.

## National Security

National security refers to the absence of threats to core values and the prevention of public disorders. Security could be seen at two levels, namely; the state and individual. Individual security has to do with core values such as job security, social security, security against national disaster whereas at the state level, security connotes the safeguard of the territorial integrity of the state against internal and external aggressors (Atoyebi, 2003). Thamos (2008) noted that national security is to feel safe, which safety should stand guaranteed by the political dispense in such a way that wars may be less likely and the normal conditions among states may prevail. National security also envisages preparations for all sorts of defence which may appear as preparedness for war. Nweze (2004) conceptualized national security as the preservation, protection and the guarantee of the safety of life, property, wealth of the citizenry and measures to guard against threats to national sovereignty. It equally implies freedom from danger to life and property and people to pursue legitimate interest within the society (Bassey, 2004).

## Insecurity and sources of insecurity in Nigeria:

**Insecurity:** Given the fundamental presentation of security, insecurity is the presence of and or apprehension of those tendencies that could undermine internal cohesion and corporate existence of the nation and its ability to maintain its vital institutions for the promotion of its core values and socio-political objectives, as well as meet the legitimate aspirations of the people. It also implies the presence or apprehension of danger to life and property, and the presence of a non-conducive atmosphere for the people to pursue their legitimate interest within the society. It embodies the presence, or apprehension of threat to, and or direct violation of security. It implies threat to individual security, state security and security of the environment. Imobighe (2003) identified threats to internal security in Nigeria to include: religious/political intolerance, management of resources, subversion and sabotage, espionage, smuggling, alien influx, armed robbery, mutiny/coupd'etat, civil unrest, revolutionary insurgency. Some common descriptors of insecurity according to Achumba et al (2013) include: want of safety, danger, hazard, uncertainty, want of safety, doubt, inadequately guarded or protected, lack of stability, troubled, lack of protection and being unsafe. Beland (2005) defined insecurity as a state of fear or anxiety stemming from a concrete or alleged lack of protection ie lack or inadequate freedom from danger. These definitions reflect 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. It is however depressing that Nigeria is yet to develop a credible security policy in the face of serious, threatening, internal security challenges (Ekoko & Vogt, 1990).

## Sources of Insecurity in Nigeria

Nweze (2004) identified sources of security threats in Nigeria to include: militarism, and military experiences, ethnic/religious pluralism, unemployment, poverty and failure of governance, socio-economic inequalities and demographic factors, small arms and ammunition trafficking, migration and indigene question in Nigeria, Nigeria's socio-economic status in Africa and the illegal alien issues, globalization, porous security heritage and external influence. It is necessary to distinguish between different causes as each may require different remedy. Like in other countries, the sources of insecurity in Nigeria can be traced to a number of factors. Beyond the external-internal dichotomy, sources of insecurity can equally be classified as either remote or proximate and immediate. In Nigeria, the challenge is not so much about external sources but rather that of internal sources. Hence the focus of the paper was on the internal sources.

## Remote (root) factors
### a) Lack of Institutional Capacity
There is apparently a breakdown of institutional infrastructure. The foundations of institutional framework in Nigeria according to Achumba et al (2013) are very shaky and have resulted in the deterioration of state governance and democratic accountability, thereby paralyzing existing set of constraints including the formal and legitimate rules nested in the hierarchy of social order. According to Igbuzor (2011), the state of insecurity in Nigeria is a function of government failure. This is manifested by the inability of government to deliver public services and provide the basic needs of the masses. Lack of basic necessities in Nigeria has created a pool of frustrated people who are easily ignited by any event to become violent. It is argued that Nigeria has the wherewithal to provide for her people, but corruption of public office holders has made this impossible. Nigeria according, to Hazen & Horner (2007) is a 'paradox of plenty', a very rich country with very poor people. With this kind of situation, insecurity of lives and properties is bound to arise/occur.

### b) Pervasive Material Inequalities and Unfairness
Great disparities in life chances is major root cause of insecurity in Nigeria. Inequity and unfairness have given rise to grievance by a greater number of people. Some sections of the people may feel marginalized in government development policies, and political offices and this may become a source of disaffection and resentment. According to Onuoha (2011), a large number of the Nigerian people have become frustrated and lost hope, particularly the youths who have taken to violence.

### c) Ethno-Religious Conflicts
Among the various ethnic groups and religious in Nigeria have arisen distrust and lack of confidence. According to Hazen & Horner (2007), Salawu (2010) and Igbuzor (2010, ethno-religious conflict is a major source of insecurity in Nigeria. Frequent and persistent ethnic conflicts and religious clashes between the two dominant religions (Islam and Christianity) present the country with a major security challenge. In every part of Nigeria, there exist ethno-religious conflict which according to Ibrahim & Igbuzor (2002) have arisen as a result of new and particularistic forms of political consciousness and identity often associated with ethno-religious identities. As Adagba et al (2012) have noted, claim over scarce resources, power, land, chieftaincy, local government council, control of markets and sharia among other trivial issues have resulted in large scale killings and violence among groups in Nigeria.

### d) Conflict of Perceptions between the Public and Government
Over time, there has been a standing mismatch between public and government perceptions. A situation which often results in the reaction of the public to the excesses of the military regimes which governed Nigeria has created sensitivity by those in government as public intrusion matters of state. Frequently, on every given incident, public and government reactions diverge. The media have not helped matters in such situations. Such reports have always been capitalized upon in sophisticated ways by various groups, some of which are violent to incite public clamour for a change and immediate reaction through strategically provocative violence. The truth is that the media has contributed to exacerbate insecurity or perception of insecurity in Nigeria. The pen, it is said, is mightier than the sword.

### e) Weak Security System
This arises from inadequate equipment for the security arm of government both in weaponry and training. This is in addition to poor attitudinal disposition of security personnel. In most cases, security personnel lack the

expertise and equipment to handle such situations in a way to prevent them from occurring. Even when this exists, some personnel get influenced by ethnic, religious or communal sentiment and are usually swallowed by their personal interest to serve their people, rather than the nation. People as a result become saboteurs of government effort by supporting and fuelling insecurity through either lacking vital security information or aiding and abetting criminals to acquire weapons or to escape the long arm of the law.

**f) Loss of Socio-Cultural and Communal Value System**
The traditional value system of the Nigerian society like most other African societies according to Clifford (2009) is characterized by such enduring features as collectivism, loyalty to authority and community, truthfulness, honesty, hardwork, tolerance, love for others, mutual harmony, and co-existence and identification of individual with one another. Other distinctive features of the Nigerian traditional society are abhorrence for theft, incest and high values for life. Stealing was considered extremely disgraceful and lives were highly valued. All these values which made society secured and safe have all gradually been discarded or lost. New obnoxious values have succeeded the lost ones. We are often acquainted with 'modernity and civilization'. Most traditional Nigerian endearing values and morals have been traded off for western values which is a dangerous precedence.

**Immediate and Proximate Factors:**
**a) Porous Borders**
One major immediate factor which has aggravated insecurity in Nigeria is the porous frontiers of the country, where individuals are largely untracked. The porosity of the Nigerian borders has serious security implications for the country. Given the porousness of our borders as well as weak security system, weapons and small arms get into Nigeria easily from other countries. Small arms and light weapons proliferation and the availability of these weapons have enabled militant groups and criminal gangs to have easy access to arms (Hazen & Horner, 2007). According to Edeko (2011), Nigeria is estimated to host over 70 percent of about 8 million illegal weapons in West Africa. Due to the porosity of Nigerian borders, unwarranted influx of migrants from neighouring African countries such as Republic of Chad, Niger and Benin has become possible. These migrants who are mostly young men according to Adeola & Oluyemi (2012) are some of the perpetrators of crimes in Nigeria.

**b) Rural/Urban Drift**
The migration of jobless youths from rural to urban centre also causes insecurity in Nigeria. According to Onuoha (2011), Nigeria is one of the countries in the world with very high rural/urban drift. Most urban areas in Nigeria have grown beyond their environmental carrying capacities and existing infrastructure and this has resulted to increased poor quality of the living conditions. Out of frustration due to over population, these youths are drawn into crime.

**c)Social Irresponsibility of Companies**
Corporate social irresponsibility is a set of actions that increases externalized costs and/or promotes distributional conflicts. Companies engage in corporate social responsibility (CSR) in order to offset corporate social irresponsibility. The rise of terror groups in some parts of the country is directly related to the neglect of social responsibility. Thus was the case in the Niger Delta Region crisis.

**d) Unemployment/Poverty**
As a result of high level of unemployment and poverty among Nigerians, particularly the youths, they are adversely attracted to violent crime. Adagba et al (2012), Nwagboso (2012) noted that the failure of successive administrations in Nigeria to address challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequitable distribution of wealth among ethnic nationalities are the major causes of insecurity in Nigeria.

**e) Terrorism**
Today, terrorism is the most fundamental source of insecurity in Nigeria and its primary source is located in religious fanaticism and intolerance, particularly in moslem dominated states of Nigeria. Terrorism which is a global phenomenon was defined by Sampson & Onuoha (2011) as 'the premeditated use of threat or violence by an individual or group to cause fear, destruction or death, especially against unarmed targets, property or infrastructure in a state, intended to compel those in authority to respond to the demands and expectations of the individual or group behind such violent acts'. Terrorism in Nigeria is an islamic insurgence with a political undertone by a faceless group based in the northern region of the country, which calls itself Boko Haram, which takes into account the legitimate political, social and economic grievances of the northern population. According to Oluokun (2014), Nigeria has lost up to 1,500 lives in the north since 2009 since the insurgency of Boko Haram.

Many theories have explained the terrorism challenge in Nigeria both in terms of personal motives of the terrorists, the underlying causes of terrorism and the values of the communities that host terrorism and sustain it. The theories according to Adagba et al (2012) commonly linked terrorism in Nigeria to religious, socio-political, economic and cultural parameters. Implicitly, while terrorism may have originated from islamic

fanaticism, it is now driven as much by other factors such as inequalities and lack among Nigerians. The current challenge of terrorism to physical security is threatening the very foundation of the Nigerian nationhood. The sources of insecurity in Nigeria have been summarized by Kufour (2012) as located in four factors, namely: political conflicts, unbalanced development that involves horizontal inequalities, religious/ethnic distrust and leadership failure. The crime statistics in Nigeria as was reported by CLEEN (2012) and the summary of activities of Boko Haram and the number of attacks and victims from 2009 – 2012 as was noted by Achumba et al (2013) are as indicated in tables II & III below:

**Table II:**      **Statistics of Crime in Nigeria from 2000 – 2008**

|  | Year | Theft | Armed Robbery | Kidnapping | Assassination | Fraud |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2000 | 29,127 | 1,877 | 243 | 1,255 | 7,927 |
| 2 | 2001 | 40,796 | 2,809 | 349 | 2,120 | 10,234 |
| 3 | 2002 | 35,231 | 3,889 | 337 | 2,117 | 9,134 |
| 4 | 2003 | 33,124 | 3,497 | 410 | 2,136 | 9,508 |
| 5 | 2004 | 37,289 | 3,142 | 349 | 2,550 | 9,532 |
| 6 | 2005 | 46,111 | 2,074 | 798 | 2,074 | 9,580 |
| 7 | 2006 | 41,901 | 2,863 | 372 | 2,000 | 6,395 |
| 8 | 2007 | 21,082 | 2,327 | 277 | 2,007 | 5,860 |
| 9 | 2008 | 23,927 | 2,340 | 309 | 1,956 | 5,058 |

**Source:** Summary of crime statistics in Nigeria (2000 – 2008), CLEEN (2012).

**Table III:** Summary of Boko Haram Attacks, Location and      Number of Victims

| S/N | Date of Attack | State | Location of Attack | Number of Victim |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 27Th July 2009 | Yoba | Location of Attack | 4 killed |
| 2 | 13th Mar. 2010 | Plateau | Attack on Jos, Plateau State | 300 killed |
| 3 | 1st Oct. 2010 | Abuja | Explosion near Eagle square, Abuja | 12 killed |
| 4 | 24th Dec. 2010 | Plateau | Bomb attack in Bark in Ladin, Plateau state | 8 killed |
| 5 | 31st Dec. 2010 | Abuja | Explosions at Mogadishu Mkt, Abuja | 10 killed |
| 6 | 21st Jan. 2011 | Bornu | Attack on Alh. Modu Gubio (Gov. Candidate, ANPP) | 7 killed |
| 7 | 2nd Mar. 2011 | Kaduna | Residence of Mustapha Sandamu, Rigasa | 2 killed |
| 8 | 30th April 2011 | Yobe | Damaturu, Yobe State | 1 killed |
| 9 | 8th April 2011 | Niger | Bomb explosion at INCE office, Suleja | 8 killed |
| 10 | 26th April 2011 | Bauchi | Army Barrack in Bauchi State Bombed | 3 killed, many injury |
| 11 | 29th May 2011 | Abuja & Zaria | Multiple bombings in Northern Nig. | 13 killed, 40 injury |
| 12 | 7th June 2011 | Borno | Multiple bombings in Maiduguri | 5 killed, many injury |
| 13 | 16th June 2011 | Abuja/Bornu | Nigerian Police Hqs bombed, | 7 killed/vehicles damaged |
| 14 | 20th June 2011 | Katisna | Kankara police station stormed by Boko Haram | 7 killed |
| 15 | 9th July 2011 | Borno/Niger | Bloody clash between the military and Boko Haram | 35 killed, many injury |
| 16 | 12th July 2011 | Bornu | Boko Haram attack in military patrol vehicle | 5 killed |
| 17 | 15th July 2011 | Borno | Multiple explosions in Maiduguri | 8 killed |
| 18 | 25th July 2011 | Maiduguri | Bomb explosion near the palace of traditional ruler in Maiduguri | 8 killed |
| 19 | 26th Aug 2011 | Abuja | Bombing of the United Nations building in Abuja | 25 killed & 60 injured |

| 20 | 12th Sept 2011 | Bauchi | Bomb attack on police station, Misau | 7 killed |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 21 | 17th Sept 2011 | Borno | Brother-in-law of Mohammed Yusuf, Babakura Fugu shot dead by Boko Haram | 1 killed |
| 22 | 3rd Oct 2011 | Borno | Baga market in Maiduguri attacked | 3 killed |
| 23 | 4th Nov 2011 | Yobe | Multiple attacks by Boka Haram in Damaturu, Yobe state | 150 killed |
| 24 | 27th Nov 2011 | Yobe | Book Haram attack in Geidam | 7 killed |
| 25 | 24th Dec 2011 | Plateau | Bombing in Jos | 80 killed |
| 26 | 25th Dec 2011 | Niger | Christmas Day bombing in Madalla | 50 killed |
| 27 | 27th Jan 2011 | Adamawa | Christ Apostolic Church in Mubi attacked by Boko Haram | 37 killed |
| 28 | 20th Jan 2012 | Kano | Multiple attacks in Kano | 250 killed |
| 29 | 26th Jan 2012 | Kano | Sabon Gari in Kano State attacked | Luxury buss burnt, many killed, |
| 30 | 7th Feb 2012 | Kano | Bomb blasts in Kano market/military barracks | 5 killed |
| 31 | 8th April 2012 | Kaduna | Easter Day church bombing | 38 killed |
| 32 | 17th June 2012 | Kadnuna | Multiple attacks on churches | 12 killed & 80 injured |
| 33 | 7th Aug 2012 | Kogi | Attack on Deeper Life church | 19 killed |
| 34 | April, 2012 | Kano | University worship centre, Bayero University Kano | 15 worshipers killed |
| 35 | Oct' 2012 | Adamawa | Federal Polytechnic, Mubi | 26 students killed |
| 36 | 15th April, 2014 | Yobe | Federal Government Girls College, Buni Yadi | 59 students killed |
| 37 | 14th April, 2014 | FCT, Abuja | Nyanya Motor Park | 75 killed, 124 injured |
| 38 | 15th April, 2014 | Bornu | Girls Senior Secondary School, Chibok | 130 girls abducted 2 security men killed |

**Source:** Adapted from Achumba, Ighomereho & Akpor-Robaro (2013), Security challenges in Nigeria: Implication for business activities, Oluokun, A. (2014): Terror returns to Abuja, The News Magazine, Lagos.

**Table IV:** Summary of hostage taking as a result of insecurity in the NDR, Nigeria

| S/N | Month/Year | State | No of hostage victims | Place of hostage taking | Parent/subsidiary coy hostage victims attached to | Total No. OF Victim |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Oct, 2006 | Akwa-Ibom State | 8 | Near Eket | Bristol Helicopter coy | |
| 2 | 3rd June, 2007 | Akwa-Ibom State | 7(one killed) | Ikot Abasi | Aluminuim Smelting coy, Nig. | 15 |
| 3 | August 2003 | Bayelsa State | 18 | Middleton & Pennington Offshore Platforms | Chevron Texaco | |
| 4 | Dec 2004 | Bayelsa State | 1 | Ekeromor LGA | SPDC | |
| 5 | 10th Jan. 2006 | Bayelsa State | 4 | EA Oil Platform | SPDC | |
| 6 | July, 2006 | Bayelsa State | 4 | Ekeremor LGA | Trico supply Coy (A Norwegian firm) | |
| 7 | June, 2006 | Bayelsa State | 1 | Gbarian, near Yehegoa | West Minister Dredging Int'l. | |
| 8 | June, 2006 | Bayelsa State | 8 | Ekeremor LGA | Peak Petroleum (SPDC Contractus) | |
| 9 | June, 2006 | Bayelsa State | 24 (8 military officers included) | Ogboinbiri | Agip (NAOC) Flow station | |
| 10 | Nov. 2006 | Bayelsa State | 2 | Bilabiri | Norwegian Oil Service Coy | |
| 11 | 7th Dec, 2006 | Bayelsa | 4 | Town Brass | AGIP (NAOC) | |

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| | | State | | (Terminal) | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12 | 10th Jan. 2007 | Bayelsa State | 9 | Ogu, Yenegoa | Daewoo Nig. Ltd | |
| 13 | 24th Jan. 2007 | Bayelsa State | 9 | Sagbama | Chinese National Petroleum Coy (CNPC) | |
| 14 | March 2007 | Bayelsa State | 2 | Okolobiri Yenegoa | SETRACO Nig Ltd | |
| 15 | March 2007 | Bayelsa State | 3 | Koluama I | LTD | |
| 16 | 1st May, 2007 | Bayelsa State | 6 | Funiva Oil Field | Chevron | |
| 17 | 25th May, 2007 | Bayelsa State | 10 | Sangana, Akassa | Nig Ltd | 131 |
| 18 | 1999 | Bayelsa State | 26 (including soldiers) | Ogboinbiri | Agip | |
| 19 | 1999 | Rivers State | 2 | Ewhen flow station (Ahoadu West) | Helicopter Pilots | |
| 20 | 1999 | Rivers State | 1 | Egbolom Abua | N/A | |
| 21 | 1999 | Rivers State | 1 | Night Club, GRA, Yenagoa | Tidex Nig. Ltd | |
| 22 | 2005 | Rivers State | 1 | Mbiama | Daewoo Nig Ltd | |
| 23 | 2006 | Rivers State | 2 | Yenagoa | Daewo Nig Ltd | |
| 24 | 11th May, 2006 | Rivers State | 3 | PH | Saipem (Agip) contractor) | |
| 25 | 20th June 2006 | Rivers State | 2 | Yenogoa | Beaufort International | |
| 26 | July, 2006 | Rivers State | 1 | Yenagoa | Bufinger & Berger (B & B) | |
| 27 | 4th Aug 2006 | Rivers State | 3 | Yenagoa | N/A | |
| 28 | 9yj Aug 2006 | Rivers State | 4 | Yenagoa | N/A | |
| 29 | August, 2006 | Rivers State | 2 | Yenagoa | International Dredging Coy | |
| 30 | 13th Aug, 2006 | Rivers State | 4 | Yenagoa | B & B | |
| 31 | 16th Aug, 2006 | Rivers State | 1 | Yenagoa | N/A | |
| 32 | 24th May, 2006 | Rivers State | 1 | Yenagoa | Saipem Nig Ltd | |
| 33 | Oct, 2006 | Rivers State | 25 | Cawthorne Channel | SPDC Contractor | |
| 34 | 22nd Nov, 2006 | Rivers State | 7 | 50 KM off the coast of Rivers State | ENI-SPA, A subsidiary of Agip Oil Coy | |
| 35 | Jan, 2007 | Rivers State | 5 | Emohua, Rivers State | Sichuan Communication Coy | |
| 36 | Jan, 2007 | Rivers State | 2 | PH | Nigerian Navy Officers | |
| 37 | Jan, 2007 | Rivers State | 2 | Yenagoa | Pivot G.i.s Coy | |
| 38 | Feb, 2007 | Rivers State | 1 | Yenagoa | ELF Petroleum Nig Ltd | |
| 39 | Feb, 2007 | Rivers State | 1 | Yenagoa | Wife to an Iranian | |
| 40 | 17th Feb, 2007 | Rivers State | 4 | Yenagoa | Missionaries | |
| 41 | 18th Feb, 2007 | Rivers State | 3 | Yenagoa | Hydro-drive Coy | |
| 42 | March, 2007 | Rivers State | 1 | Yenagoa | Julius Berger PLC | |
| 43 | 30th April, | Rivers | 1 | Ubima, Rivers State | Former Gov. Omehias Mum | |

| | 2007 | State | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 44 | 2nd May, | Rivers State | 11 | Ayama, Rivers State | Daewoo Eng & Constr. Coy | |
| 45 | May, 20072007 | Rivers State | 6 | 55 miles off the coast of Rivers State | ENI SPA | |
| 46 | 5th May, 2007 | Rivers State | 1 | Yenagoa | Belarusian women, married to a Nigerian | |
| 47 | 19th May, 2007 | Rivers State | 2 | Yenagoa | A Petrochemical firm | |
| 48 | 1st June, 2007 | Rivers State | 7 | Yenagoa | Indorama Petrochemical Coy | |
| 49 | 3rd June, | Rivers State | 4 | Yenagoa | Schlumberger Coy | |
| 50 | 8th June, 2007 | Rivers State | 1 | Yenagoa | Mordant Marine Coy | |
| 51 | June, 2007 | Rivers State | 3 yrs old child | Elekahia PH R/S | A private school | |
| 52 | 18th Feb, 206 | Delta State | 9 | Koluama | Wlbros Coy | |
| 53 | Jan, 2007 | Delta State | 24 | Chanomi Creek | Baco Liner Ship ping Coy | |
| 54 | Jan, 2007 | Delta State | 7 | Near Oker- enkoko | Global Offshore International | |
| 55 | 8th May, 2007 | Delta State | 4 | Okan Oil filed | Chevron Nig Ltd | |
| 56 | May, 2007 | Delta State | 1 | Enerhen junction Yenagoa | Niger Cat (Oil Service Coy). | 45 |

**Source:** Niger Delta Development Monitoring and Corporate Watch (NIDDEMCOW) (2007). Annual Statistical Bulletin.

### Implications of Insecurity in Nigeria for Sustainable Development

Sustainable development is defined as 'development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs' (UN, 2010). It has been variously conceived in terms of vision expression, value change, moral development, social reorganization or transformation, process towards a desired future or better world (Gladwin, Kennelly & Tara-Shelomith, 1995). According to Gladwin et al (1995) development is unsustainable when an enlargement of human choice excludes, disconnects, promotes inequity, reflects imprudence or raises insecurity. 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 unturn 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 lead to national economic development. The aim of sustainable development are to ensure safe and healthy environment for all and sundry, and to maximize simultaneously national goals and individual goals that can persist over generations. According to Akpobibibo (2003), the principle behind sustainability is to make life meaningful for all. Insecurity has however been identified as one of the critical obstacles to sustainable development (Igbuzor, 2011). Security is therefore crucial for sustainable development. Without security, economic growth and development cannot be sustained as insecurity destroys economic, human and social capital. It is only when there is peace and security that people and government can properly direct their efforts and resources towards improving human life.

Security and development are also related in the sense that being a public good, the imperative to maintain security competes with other public goods such as education, health and infrastructure for public funds. Expenditures on security are therefore an essential component of development process. For instance, the use of resources to strengthen a country's security system could have been useful in other relevant areas. Insecurity is therefore a drain on local and national resources at the expense of development and peoples' well-being and thereby has adverse consequences on economic growth and development (Nwagboso, 2012). So, in the absence of any real threats to security, expenditures on security can be reduced significantly, to allow national and local governments to channel more resources to other public goods to improve quality of life of the people. In addition, insecurity destroys existing infrastructure and does not provide environment for further infrastructural development, and a safe environment for economic activities by individuals to give them economic empowerment that will enable households not only to cater for present generations but for the future generations. Insecurity in Nigeria according Kufour (2012) may cost her the leadership role in Africa in terms of development. As a result, she may lose her rightful position as 'giant of Africa' from whom other African countries could benefit or copy as a role model. He noted further that where there is no security, there will be no liberty and where there is no liberty, life may not be meaningful, forcing the society back to the Hobbesian state where life is short, brutish and nasty.

## Conclusion

So far, the insecurity situation in Nigeria and its implications for sustainable national and educational development have been examined. The concept of security, insecurity and national security were defined. Sources of insecurity in Nigeria were divided into two, namely – remote/root causes and immediate/proximate factors. Immediate causes included lack of institutional capacity, pervasive material inequities and unfairness, ethno-religious conflicts, weak security system and loss of communal values. The immediate causes are porous borders, rural-urban drift, social irresponsibility of companies/corporate organizations, unemployment and terrorism. Insecurity was identified as a major obstacle to sustainable national and educational development in Nigeria particularly in the Niger Delta and North east regions. For the full potentials of the country to be directed towards achieving sustainable development, adequate measures should be put in place to check insecurity.

## Recommendations

1) Government should as a matter of urgency address the issue of poverty, social inequality, lopsided development, deprivation, unemployment, environmental degradation and other genuine agitations of the people.
2) The right to self-determination is a universally acknowledged right. The tenets of federation recognizes these inherent and legal rights. These realities should be considered in the Nigerian constitutional development.
3) Government should reconstruct and improve its security methodology to be dominantly intelligent, preventive and proactive oriented.
4) There should be genuine and observable improvement in governance, the rule of law, democratization of development.
5) There should be a comprehensive decentralization of government structures and functions to involve all people and interests.
6) Government should accelerate the pace of development – development in the context involves creation of an economy with relevant social, economic and physical infrastructure for business operations and industrial growth, to provide gainful employment, high level education infrastructure and medicare for the people.
7) There should be radical change in values from the current order for without a change in value and a return to the truth, people will continue to suffer deprivation and injustice which will cause disaffection and dissatisfaction, consequently creating insecurity.
8) There should be development of a more balanced security strategy to counter violent crimes and local terrorism (Boko Haram). This approach will not only break their communication and interactive network, but also disarm them of resources and locating their base, their sponsors and intelligent power houses.
9) Every religious group should tolerate each other and worship centre should not be used as avenues for instigating members to become violent or engage in activities that can disrupt the peace of the country.
10) Communities should strive to live peacefully with one another and should be vigilant of strangers in their localities to check the excesses of criminals.
11) Civil societies should play the roles of critic, catalyst and advocate for peace, raising public awareness/consciousness on the disastrous effects of insecurity.
12) Parents should give good direction, monitoring and counseling their children/wards on their well-being, academic/career pursuit, choice of peers and association. Parents should show good examples to their children and provide their needs.

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