



The Impact Of Insecurity On Agricultural Production In Katsina State: A Case Study Of Batsari Local Government Area

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ABSTRACT

World over, agriculture is considered as the bedrock of every economy, and is pivotal to national development. Unfortunately the wave of insecurity in form of armed robbery, kidnappings for ransom has threatened the production of food and cash crops in Katsina state, thus causing massive unemployment, food and cash crops shortages. Therefore this study examines the impacts of the menace of insecurity on agricultural production in Katsina state, a case study of Batsari local government area. The study adopts the application of five point likert scale questionnaire, applied on randomly selected farmers in Batsari local government. Multiple regression statistical method was applied to analyze the data retrieved from the respondents. The survey significantly revealed a positive relationship between insecurity and grains production, insecurity and tuber agricultural products production, and a positive relationship was found between insecurity and other agricultural produce in Batsari local government area in Katsina state. The study recommends that the present community security watch corps established by the state government should be reorganized by increasing their number, by providing them with stronger arms to confront the present critical situation. The study also recommends that responsible individuals within the front line local governments should be legalized to hold arms under the constitutional provision, section 33(2) (a), and penal code, section 59-67, and criminal code section 286-293 for self-defense. This will boost the local security in the front line local governments, and minimize the level of insecurity. The study recommends that, Nigeria's executive and policy makers and even private partnerships should make conscious efforts to revive and transform the agricultural sector from its largely self-subsistence state in to a modern, mechanized sector, as well as a holistic rejuvenation and revamping of the agricultural financing, through the creation soft, and interest free agricultural loans to ensure a relatively, profitable agricultural productivity and prosperity in Katsina State, Nigeria and by extension Africa.

Keywords: agricultural productivity, insecurity,

INTRODUCTION

Historically, Agriculture in Nigeria has been the most important sector of the economy based on the fact that our ancestors were sustained primarily on farming as their major occupation. Agricultural sector development is considered to hold the key to economic development for most Sub-Saharan countries including Nigeria (Olukunle, 2013). This is because it contributes immensely to the growth and development of Sub-Saharan economies as it provides food and raw materials to non-agricultural sectors

of the economy. Additionally it provides employment opportunities to a vast majority of unemployed people and serves as an avenue via which valuable foreign exchange can be earned through the export of agricultural products. As observed by the (WDR, 2008), Agriculture can work in harmony with other sectors to produce foster growth, reduce poverty, and sustain the environment by its contribution to development as an economic activity, as a livelihood, and as a provider of environmental services, making the sector a unique instrument for development. It is in line with this that (Ogen, 2007), states that the agricultural sector has the potential to be the industrial and economic springboard from which a country's development can take off. Thus, the importance of the agricultural sector to the development and growth of any economy cannot be over emphasized and that is why many nations place great importance on its development and enhancement.

However, the wave of insecurity in Katsina State in form of Banditry, armed robbery, kidnapping for ransom, cattle rustling has rocked and threatened the development of agriculture. This development does not only affect the production of food stuff, cash crops, and employment opportunity for our teeming youth, but also livestock production, fishing and the marketing of farm produce. Furthermore, the scourge of insecurity has affected the production of raw materials for our local industries.

Problem Statement

Nigeria in recent times has witnessed an unprecedented level of insecurity in many forms. In the southeast it appears in form of the indigenous people of Biafra, in the southwest it appears in the form of the creation of the state of Odudua State, in the northeast Boko haram has pronounced itself, in the northwest and north central, the tragedy appears in form of banditry, armed robbery, kidnappings for ransom, cattle rustling.

Katsina state, being one of states in the north western Nigeria, the insecurity is occasioned by rural banditry, armed robbery, and kidnappings for ransom, cattle rustlings, thus affecting negatively the agricultural activities of the residents of twenty three local governments of Katsina state. Batsari being one the affected local governments is negatively affected by insecurity, affecting negatively not only the agricultural production, but even the sociopolitical background of the people of the area is adversely affected.

Hence this study is going to investigate the negative impact of insecurity on grains production, tuber products, and non-tuber agricultural products in Batsari local government in Katsina state.

Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study includes the followings.

1. To identify the negative impact of insecurity on grains production in Batsari local government in Katsina state.
2. To determine the negative impact of insecurity on the production of tuber produce in Batsari local government in Katsina state.
3. To identify the negative impact of insecurity on the production of other produce in Batsari local government in Katsina state.

Research questions

- 1- What is the negative impact of insecurity on grains production in Batsari local government in Katsina state?
- 2- What is the negative impacts of insecurity on tuber produce in Batsari local government in Katsina state?
- 3- What is negative impacts of insecurity on other produces in Batsari local government in Katsina state?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Concept of Insecurity

Insecurity is a global phenomenon, its nature in both national and international arena is changing rapidly. In the cold war era, it was a major problem between one country and another, but after the post-cold war era, the problem turn to be a mighty concern and challenge within different countries. In recent times, the

issue of insecurity seemed to be lesser between countries, but greater within countries. Divergent views have emerged in the academia on the concept of insecurity. Nevertheless, Best, (2006) defined insecurity, as degenerated stage of conflict, threat to human security, intensive violence characterized by fighting, death, and injury. Ogunode, (2021) argued that insecurity is state of condition in life of a social system, unit, organization or society in which the existence of a problem assumes a critical dimension to the extent that the survival or existence of the social system or structure is threatened.

Sources of insecurity.

The ugly phenomena of insecurity has a unique sources, and has presently affected the world like a thunderstorm. It's on the basis of this that, Ikeke, (2014) categorizes it in to two, the violent and non-violent conflicts. He further argued that violent conflicts are thoughtful violence leading to unswerving attack on people's physical or psychological integrity, which involves all kind of homicide, extermination, confrontation, law breaking, massacre, assassination, insurgencies and terrorism. He further argued that, violent conflicts emerged from all forms of coercive or brutal actions concerning bodily or emotional misery when one or two persons, groups, parties, community involved in discrepancies that led to disputes and struggle over scarce resources. He further remarked that, in this category of violent conflicts, they are cases of armed robbery, abduction for ransom, stealing, and torture, political riots, assassinations, and rape, religious and ethnic conflicts.

In the case of non-violent conflicts, Ikeke, as cited in United Nation Development Programme, (1994), includes food, economy, healthcare, personnel, community, political and environmental security. He further described non-violent conflicts as associated in non-failure of political leadership to adequately provide essential services for people which includes, building of good road networks, healthcare facility, running tap water, nourishing food, befitting shelter, good accommodation, employment opportunity for all, electricity and good education.

In defining insecurity, Hobbes observed that, only the state has the ability to guarantee security and save society from anarchy (and since government represents the state), the state through its government should provide adequate security to justify its *raison d'être* (Gaskin, 1996). In this wise, Omede (2012) sees security as a dynamic condition which involves the relative ability of a state to counter threats to its core values and interests. McGrew (1988), holds that the security of a nation hangs on two important pillars which are: (1) the maintenance and protection of the socioeconomic order in the face of internal and external threat. (2) The promotion of a preferred international order, which minimizes the threat to core values and interests, as well as to the domestic order. However, Nwolise (2006), sees security as an all-encompassing condition which suggests that a territory must be secured by a network of armed forces. Similarly, to Otto and Ukpere (2012), security relates to the presence of peace, safety, happiness and the protection of human and physical resources or the absence of crisis.

Insecurity is a general term refers to a state of being subjected to fear, threat, danger, molestation, intimidation, harassment in all aspects. For example, insecurity can be conceived as threats to the state which often accounted for the race for arms and nuclear weapons to defend the state as opined by Ajodo *et al.* (2014). According to Saliu *et al.* (2007), human threats of life emanate not only from situation of violent conflicts but also other non-conflict sources. Thus; insecurity is a situation of fear or anything that causes fear, harm, or has the capability to cause fear, harm, and injury, destructions to an individual, group or nation.

The concept of insecurity connotes different meanings such as: absence of safety; danger; hazard; uncertainty; lack of protection, and lack of safety. According to Beland (2005), insecurity is a state of fear or anxiety due to absence or lack of protection. Achumba *et al.* (2013), also define insecurity from two perspectives. Firstly, insecurity is 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. Secondly insecurity is the state of being exposed to risk or anxiety, where anxiety is a vague unpleasant emotion that is experienced in anticipation of some misfortune.

Beland (2005), also defined insecurity as —the state of fear or anxiety stemming from a concrete or alleged lack of protection. It refers to lack or inadequate freedom from danger. This definition reflects

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. In this study, insecurity is conceived as a situation where human and national security of a state is compromised by internal or external forces or interests exacerbated by the former's weak or poor economic, military and/or human resource development conditions. Best, (2006), looked at insecurity as a degenerated state of conflict, threat to human security, intense violence, characterized by fighting, death and injury. He further looked at it as a state or condition in life of a social unit, system, organization or society in which the existence of a problem assumes critical dimension to the extent that the survival or existence of the social system or structure is threatened.

Because of the divergent views on insecurity, Ikeke, (2014) categorizes insecurity as violent and non-violent conflicts. In his argument, he described violent conflict as a thoughtful violence leading to unswerving attack on people's physical and psychological integrity, which involves all kind of homicide, extermination, confrontation, law breaking, massacre, assassination, insurgencies and terrorism. He further described non-violent conflict as the failure of political leaderships to adequately provide essential services for people, which includes, building of good road network, good healthcare services, good drinking water, nourishing food, befitting shelter and accommodation, employment opportunity for all and good education.

Security Challenges in Nigeria.

Nigeria is not at war at in the real sense, but the massacres resulting from various forms of insecurity qualifies it to be regarded as conflict-ridden political society. Nigeria has consistently recorded deaths of over 1,000 from various conflicts unleashed by various armed groups across the country for decades. The Nigeria security tracker and the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project (ACLED) had estimated that about 34,260 and 37, 535 lost their lives through various forms of conflicts in the advent of Boko Haram. These deadly activities in the north eastern Nigeria has been a serious threat to not only lives, but even has an implication to food security (Campbell Harwood, 2018).

Since 2014, there emerged another deadly activity of Fulani herdsmen masquerading as farmers and cattle rearers, but in the true sense they are killers, murderers, kidnappers, armed robbers, carrying militia expeditions against farming communities, destroying and vandalizing all forms of economic activities, committing all kind of atrocities against innocent lives and souls (Kwaja & Ademola 2018) Their deadly activities is being triggered by the nonchalant attitude of the Nigerian government despite the fact that the international community tagged them as terrorists. The support of some sociocultural groups such as The Miyatti Allah Kautal Hore, The Miyatti Allah Cattle Breeders Association of Nigeria, and the Fulani Nationality Movement as well as the silent support of Nigerian President, Muhammadu Buhari, is the main source of courage for the deadly Fulani herdsmen. Despite the view of Nigerians that the presidency is protecting the Killer herdsmen, nothing has been done to their nefarious activities (The International Crises Group, 2017, & Amnesty International, 2018).

Concept of Agricultural Productivity

According to Fulginiti and Perrin (1998), agricultural productivity refers to the output produced by given level of inputs in the agricultural sector of a given economy. More formally, —it can be defined as the ratio of value of total farm outputs to the value of total inputs used in farm production. Agricultural productivity is measured as the ration of final output in appropriate units to some measure of inputs (Iweala, 2013).

Singh and Dhillon (2000), suggested that —yield per unit should be considered to indicate agricultural productivity. Agricultural productivity refers to the increase in per capita output of agricultural produce within an economy during a given period of time. Most economist and statisticians tend to use the annual trends due to its precise and articulate information it tends to offer. The output of agricultural products tends to fluctuate over a period of time thereby necessitating the need for it to be studied or monitored.

Historically has been the most important and crucial sector of every Nation's economy, based on the fact that our ancestors were sustained primarily on farming as their major source of livelihood. Although the production then was with the aid of crude implements compared with what is obtained today, yet they

were not just able to produce food crops such as yam, cassava, maize, millet, sorghum and soya beans for their personal consumption so that there was no need for food importation, but Nigeria was considered as one of the major exporter of agricultural products in the world, despite the limitation of using crude implements to respond to time.

Agriculture comprises of the main fields of human activities concerning the primary production of food and cash crops, livestock, fishing, forestry and marketing of products. The role of agriculture in any economy is well articulated in many literatures of both developed and the developing economies, because it promote economic development by increasing availability of food and labor for local industries, it also expand market for industrial goods. It raises the level of savings and capital formation, and also earnings foreign exchange from export increases. Nigeria has been viewed by experts as an agrarian country with about 70% of her population engaged in in one form of agricultural activity or another (Central Bank of Nigeria, 1999) and provides two-thirds of Nigerians who are low income earners (Usman 2006). While the northern part can guarantee the production of cereals, such as sorghum, maize, millet, groundnuts, cowpea, and cotton. The middle belt and the south have the potentials to produce root and tuber crops, such as cassava, yam, cocoyam and other crops like plantain (Abdullah, 2003). In addition to crops, the country is also able to develop livestock, fisheries, forestry and wildlife.

Empirical Review

Adebisiet *al.* (2017), carried out a study on an appraisal of Boko Haram's insurgency on the agricultural sector in Nigeria. They adopted the time series data analysis research method, while descriptive statistics and t-test were used to analyze the secondary data before and during the insurgency. The result of their findings showed that agricultural value added to the GDP was high before Boko Haram disruption and has reduced during the period of insurgency. Based on their findings, the study recommends that government should take legal and justifiable action to ensure that the ills caused by Boko Haram to the agricultural sector are addressed and farmers encouraged with better incentives to go back to farm.

Ojogho and Egware (2015), also carried out a study on the impact of insurgency on agricultural development in Nigeria. Using secondary time-series data they collected on Nigerian agricultural share of GDP, infant mortality rate, CO₂ emission from fuel combustion and level of food production as proxies for agricultural transformation for the years, 1960-2011 the Nigerian civil war, Boko-Haram, Niger-Delta, Fulani herdsmen insurgences were used as proxies for insurgency. The data were analyzed using the Vector Error Correction Model (VECM) after testing for stationary, co-integration and lag selection using the Augmented Dickey-Fuller (ADF), Johansen and the Schwarz's Bayesian Information Criterion (SBIC) statistics respectively. They were able to discover from the result that the VECM had a unit decrease in previous year food production level would increase the share of agriculture to GDP by 4.26% the following year while a shift from non-insurgence to insurgence in any year by Boko-Haram, Niger-Delta and Fulani herdsmen reduced the share of agricultural contribution to GDP by 17.56%, 19.45% and 17.47% respectively. A similar shift from non-insurgence to insurgence in any year by Boko Haram and Fulani herdsmen insurgences reduced food production level, on average, by 10.21 and 4.69 tons respectively while a shift from non-insurgence to insurgence in any year by Niger-Delta crisis and Fulani herdsmen increased CO₂ emission, on average, by about 5% and 8% respectively. They also inferred from the result that agricultural development should be all-embracing since its component elements have a long-run equilibrium relationship, that insurgence indirectly impact on agricultural development through its effect on the change in food production level, the share of agriculture to GDP, CO₂ emission from fuel combustion and infant mortality, and that attempt at ignoring the insurgence by any sect from any region, whether religious, cultural, or communal was also a threat to agricultural development.

A research was also conducted by Alesami & Odefadehant (2022) on "the impact of insecurity on agricultural food loss in Nigeria". The survey examined the impact of insecurity on agricultural food loss in Nigeria using the time series data from 2011- 2020. Regression analysis was employed to evaluate the relationships between the dependent variables of insecurity and the agricultural food loss. The results indicated that R² value of 0.42 which implies that 42% of the proportion of variation in Agricultural

Domestic Products (AGDP) was explained by the independent variables. Also the results revealed that CIR and UNEMP were negatively related to agricultural productivity. The survey finally recommended that the government and private, policy makers should all round up together to address the menace of insecurity and improve agriculture in Nigeria.

A survey was conducted on effects of insecurity on agricultural productivity in Nigeria, A case study of Gombe State, by Eneji, Babagario s&Agri, (2019). The study examines the effects of insecurity on agricultural productivity in Nigeria, a Case Study of Balanga local government in Gombe State. The study adopted the ordinary least square methods of multiple regression analysis of time series data using Agricultural Gross Domestic Products (AGDP) as dependent variable, while poverty, unemployment, and crime rate were used as independent variables. The survey demonstrated a positive relationship between the dependent and the independent variables. The survey finally recommended that the menace of insecurity must be contained and agriculture must get improved from self-sustained to a modern mechanized sector.

METHODOLOGY

This aspect of the research is concerned with the method and procedures employed in carrying out this study. Hence this research adopted a quantitative research approach, using five leaker scale questionnaire, applied on major and medium scale farmers in Batsari local government area in Katsina state. Random sampling method was applied to select the population of the study.

RESULT PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

Table 1: Insecurity VS grain production

| N | r | α | P-value | Remark |
|----------|----------|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 50 | -0.83 | 0.05 | 0.001 | significant |

Table 1 shows that correlation coefficient $r = -0.83$ indicating that there is strong negative relationship between insecurity and the quantity of grains produce in Barsari Local Government. This shows that the higher the insecurity the lower the grains production.

Table 2: Insecurity VS tuber production

| N | r | α | P-value | Remark |
|----------|----------|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 75 | -0.76 | 0.05 | 0.020 | significant |

Table 1 shows that there exist a negative significant relationship ($r = -0.76$) between the level of insecurity and the amount of tuber produced in Batsari Local Government Area. This shows that an increase in insecurity resulted in the decrease in tuber Agricultural Products in Batsari Local Government Area.

Table 3: Insecurity VS other produce

| N | r | α | P-value | Remark |
|----------|----------|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 75 | -0.76 | 0.05 | 0.005 | Significant |

Table 3 shows that there is a negative significant relationship ($r = -0.76$) between the level of insecurity and the quality of other produce in Batsari Local Government. This shows that increase in insecurity resulted in the decrease in other Agricultural products in Batsari Local Government Area.

The data was analyzed through the statistical package for social sciences (SPSS). And a linear regression statistical method was used to measure the relationship between the Dependent variable of insecurity and the Independent variables of grain farmers, tuber produce farmers, and other non-grain and non-tuber farmers.

DISCUSSIONS OF THE FINDINGS

From table 1, the results of the regression analysis, demonstrated through the correlation coefficient $r=0.83$ indicated that there is strong positive relationship between insecurity and agricultural grains production in Batsari local government area in Katsina state. The P-value of 0.001 also indicated the statistical fact that, the higher the insecurity, the lower the quantity of grains production.

From table 2, shows the correlation coefficient $r=0.76$ statistical regression fact that, there exists a positive significant relationship between the level of insecurity and the quantity of tuber agricultural products in Batsari local government in Katsina State. The P-value 0.002, demonstrated the statistical fact that the higher the insecurity, the lower the production of the tuber agricultural products in Batsari local government in Katsina state.

From table 3, shows the correlation coefficient $r=0.76$ regression statistics demonstrated a significant relationship between insecurity and the non-grains, and non-tuber agricultural products in Batsari local government area of Katsina state. The table also showed that the higher the insecurity, the lower the production of non-grains and non-tuber agricultural products in Batsari local government in Katsina state.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of the above findings and analysis, it can be concluded that, insecurity has a significant positive relationship with agricultural production in Batsari local government in Katsina state. The research demonstrated how positively insecurity affected agriculture in the affected local government, in that the higher the level of insecurity the lower the agricultural production.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the empirical research conducted on the impact of insecurity on agricultural production in Katsina state, a case study of Batsari local government area in Katsina state, its expedient to propose the following recommendations.

- 1- The Nigerian government should strategically invest in the security sector by consistently equipping the Nigerian security personnel with the updated weapons to counter the insecurity situation in Nigeria.
- 2- The Nigerian state should as matter of urgency walfarized the Nigerian security institutions by consistently reviewing their salaries and other benefits, by ensuring consistent trainings and re-trainings in the best global preventive intelligence gathering and security practices rather than the less fruitful counter insurgency approach.
- 3- With the establishment of the community security watch corps in Katsina State by the state governor, there is urgent need by the state governor to improve their welfare, provide them with weapons proportionate with the ones used by the insurgent groups, as provided by the Nigerian constitution.
- 4- The state should in matter of urgency improve and encourage agriculture by conspiring in private partnership with local and international investors to invest enough resources in agriculture, and provide farmers with modern farming implements.

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