

Intergovernmental Collaboration and Challenges Associated With Security Management Empirical Evidence From Southwestern Nigeria

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Abstract

The constitutional provision of Nigeria states that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government. However, security management appears to be one of the challenging aspects of intergovernmental collaboration in Nigeria since its return to democratic rule in 1999. This study therefore analysed challenges associated with intergovernmental collaboration on security management in Southwestern Nigeria. Data was obtained from both primary and secondary sources. Systems theory was adopted as the theoretical framework for the study. The findings of this study revealed that deficient synergy among security agencies, insufficient funds to procure security equipment, and inadequate collaboration among the levels of government and security agencies among others were the identified challenges associated with intergovernmental collaboration on security management in the study area. The study concluded that the security of lives and property is an imperative function of the state to ensure sustainable development and growth. The study recommends among others effective collaboration among the levels of government and adequate synergy among security agencies to combat security challenges in Nigeria.

Key words: Intergovernmental Collaboration; Security; Internal Security Management and Challenges of Security Management

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INTRODUCTION

Globally, the issue of security is seen as a core component of human needs. Put differently, the security of lives and property provides one of the essential foundations for a state's sustainable development and progress. A cardinal essence of the state is to guarantee the welfare and safety of its people. Security is necessary for human life in modern states, and the formation of the modern state itself is largely a response to the people's desire for security. Security as a political issue forms the basis of government, which according to Hobbes (1966), is desirable to take mankind away from the state of nature where everybody is at war against each other. In the state of nature, life was solitary, nasty, and short (Deutsch, 1976). The state was founded on an agreement between its people and itself. The state exists to serve the benefit of the people as long as security is maintained, and it is the public's responsibility to respect the state's laws and regulations. However, if the state fails to protect its citizens, it can fight the state with force if necessary (Alumona, 2019).

The provisions of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as amended, on intergovernmental collaboration remain among the most contested issues in the discourse of governance. Since the return to civil rule in May 1999, issues of intergovernmental collaboration whether federal-state or state-local, have become increasingly controversial (Obembe *et al.*, 2019). The stability of the Fourth Republic is regarded as being consolidated or compromised through the dynamics of the nature of intergovernmental collaboration. This is not surprising considering the notion that intergovernmental cooperation is essential to the functioning of all federal systems (Olawoyin & Obembe, 2019). In Nigeria's federal

systems, internal security management is essentially the responsibility of all levels of government in collaboration with security agencies saddled with internal security management to ensure the security of life and property.

Nigeria is Africa's most populous country, with over 250 ethnic groups spread across its six geopolitical zones. Its population is diverse in culture, religion, race, and language (Falola, 2021). The nation appears to be going through a serious internal security crisis, maybe during the last twenty years, as demonstrated by threats to internal order, national cohesion, unity, lives, and property. Security challenges such as kidnapping for a ransom payment, setting ablaze of police stations, killing of security officers, ritual killings, armed robberies, cult violence, destruction of government property, jailbreak attack by unknown gunmen, herders attack on farmland, the unresolved Boko Haram insurgency and banditry have been on the increase, security challenges cut across every part of the country (Oshita *et al.*, 2019).

The issue of insecurity in Southwestern Nigeria has become something of a grave concern to all. The region is plagued by a surge in domestic crime, kidnapping, cybercrime, cultist attacks, armed robbery, herder-farmer conflict, ritual killings, communal crisis, and banditry (Adeleke, 2021). Due to the cases of insecurity in Southwestern Nigeria, the state governors introduced the Southwest security network, known as Amotekun, to strengthen internal security mechanisms. Individuals, communities, associations, and organisations in the region require an environment devoid of threats for the smooth running of day-to-day activities.

The security problem in the region appears unresolvable through a single approach but rather by a multidimensional perspective. Therefore, the need to study and analyse the contributions of governmental apparatus cannot be overstated (Oguntunde *et al.*, 2018); and for a successful outcome, a proactive strategy is required from all security operatives, collaboration from all levels of government and active participation of the citizens. From the foregoing, it is, therefore, necessary to interrogate the security issues in Southwestern Nigeria to determine how the levels of government safeguard the dwellers within their jurisdiction. Against this backdrop, the study examines intergovernmental collaborations and the challenges associated with security management in Southwestern Nigeria.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Intergovernmental Collaboration

The origin of intergovernmental collaboration could be traced to American federalism which began in the nineteenth century, as a result of several obstacles and controversies that occurred between the state's various levels of government as an outcome of the central

government's efforts to carry out multiple programmes for social and economic development. These complexities and challenges necessitated cooperation and collaboration amongst the component levels of government. There are many wrong views and misunderstandings that intergovernmental collaboration barely functions in a federal structure (Conlan, 2017). Glendening (2018), asserted that intergovernmental collaboration is identical to federalism. Krane and Leach (2018) shared the same view as Glendening description of intergovernmental relations, they noted that federalism has taken on a new life, and that is intergovernmental collaboration. Scholars of this school of thought strongly believe intergovernmental collaboration is a substitute term for federalism.

According to Solomon (2014), intergovernmental collaboration can be explained from three perspectives or ideologies. The first school of thought holds the opinion or belief that intergovernmental collaboration can only occur in a federal structure of government, the second holds the opinion or belief that it can occur in both a federal and unitary system of government, while the third holds the opinion or belief that it can be carried out on a global scale. Cicin-Sain (2021) believes that intergovernmental collaboration is essential for the growth and development of the state. In a federal government system, there is a level of relationship between diverse tiers of government.

Intergovernmental collaboration is defined by Stenberg and Hamilton (2018) as a relationship between multiple levels of government. McNabb and Swenson (2021), see it as an amalgamation of organisations, institutions, protocols, and techniques for dealing with the unavoidable overlap and interdependence that characterise the modern existence of governance. Ripley (2019) contends that Stenberg and Hamilton's definition of intergovernmental collaboration as cooperation and coordination between the three arms of government, namely the executive, judiciary, and legislature, as well as between all levels of government and their agencies, and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), is correct. This is done to encourage the highest level of political and social growth possible.

Gerber and Loh (2015) see intergovernmental collaboration as the sequence of administrative, political, and legal relationships designed between tiers of government that have different degrees of influence and sovereign independence. Gerber and Loh further describe the relations as a supportive authority, meaning that the tiers of government should work in partnership (cooperate) to give the social services and social amenities needed. Wright (1988) conceptualised intergovernmental collaboration as involving an interaction system of organisation at the Federal, Regional/State, and Local levels that is established to allow the diverse levels of government to achieve common goals.

Kwon and Feiock (2010) defined intergovernmental collaboration as supporting networks and partnerships that allow the levels of government to contribute efficiently and carry out an ideology to achieve governmental set policies and programmes. This includes coordinating mechanisms, cooperative agreements, executive mechanisms, legislative mechanisms, and judiciary mechanisms that ensure the delivery by governmental machinery. Ishwaran (2012) see intergovernmental collaboration as interactions between the levels of government that ensure the achievement of broad goals. Intergovernmental collaboration occurs through collaboration, partnership, and management among the diverse tiers of government in carrying out governance functions.

SECURITY

Security is a key component of human needs that once established, creates unification in all human regions (economic, political, social, etc.) Then security becomes the foundation for a state's stable and growing development and progress. Security is a complex and important subject that can take on many different meanings based on how it is defined. Security, in its broadest sense, refers to anything that promotes security, harmony, and the protection of both natural and human resources. It also suggests that there are no emergencies or threats to human dignity (Brooks, 2010). The concept of security is subjective, yet it remains an important social aspect or requirement on which a society's success and survival are predicated. Security is a basic human need that everyone wishes for and implicitly strives for. The feeling of security provides not only safety but also freedom. Security, like peace, identity, and other words in international political theory, has many different interpretations.

The primary role of the state is to guarantee security (Hobbes, 1996). Akpomera and Omoyibo (2013) state that conceptually, security precedes the state and the state's existence is aimed at providing security. In the words of Agbonika and Agbonika (2013), security is viewed as being completely free from threat, danger, fear, apprehension, and ambiguity. From this clarification, security essentially exceeds every aspect of human efforts. In general, security protects humans and objects from all threats. Security, according to Ezeah and Osayi (2014), is everyone in a society's thoughtful knowledge and attitude toward the safety of lives and assets. As a result, being security conscious entails being aware of the possibility of attacks, theft, harm, or information gathering that would be done intentionally or unintentionally to safeguard human existence.

According to Bigo and Tsoukala (2008), security is a never-ending task. The vast majority of today's population shares the same yearning for security, but

the fight is complicated by the realisation that, despite humanity's long-standing efforts, safety is not always accomplished. Security is a contested term according to Nwoko (2024); the focus of an investigation should be on national, private individual or international security but there is broad agreement that it refers to freedom from challenges to fundamental principles, both for individuals and groups. Security, has most likely always been connected with protecting the state and its people from injury or extinction, as well as ensuring their long-term survival. This view frequently recognises the state as the sole entity with the primary obligation and legal capacity to safeguard its population and territorial environment (Zabadi, 2005).

National security themes predominate in writing on the American Civil War, which was largely defined militarily and with thinkers and politicians pushing nations' military capacity to deal successfully with the horrific situations they faced. This concept of security has recently been called into question for being overly restrictive and ethnocentric (focused on culture). Some academics in the contemporary era have made a case for a broad definition of security that extends beyond specific national security concerns. In his book *People, States, and Fear*, Buzan (1992) argues for a security paradigm that takes economic, social, political, environmental, and military issues into account. The main problem with global security is finding a safe refuge. Security within the framework of the international order is described as governments' and populations' ability to maintain their distinct identities and moral integrity.

When addressing security, the welfare, existence, and safety of the country are often discussed, and it can be distinguished by the use of individual efforts to attain it (Viotti & Kauppi, 2009). Ozoemena (2009) defined security as the aggregate of acts and measures, including legislative and operational procedures, adopted to maintain peace, stability, and the general well-being of a nation and its inhabitants. It also entails protecting the national interests. Nwanegbo and Odigbo (2013) categorised the different methods for the conceptualisation of human security in the theoretical literature into two major strands; one considers security as a principal duty of a state to provide, which is a neo-realist theoretical component, and the second component considers security as the primary responsibility of non-state actors while dislodging the state as key security provider from a postmodernist or plural perspectives.

Advocates of this security approach contend that the concept of security exceeds mere threats determined by the military approach. This view was equally strengthened by the fact that the government's primary concern should be designed to reflect individual economic security far beyond the state's security. The scholars stated that security does not always imply the absence of threats or

security concerns, but rather the availability of a robust system to mitigate the harms caused by these risks with appropriate timing, pragmatism, and information. Security in this context is a conducive environment for the inhabitants of a given geographical location to carry out lawful activities without fear or intimidation. It is also a safe environment that secures the lives and properties of dwellers within a given area.

THE MANAGEMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY IN THE FOURTH REPUBLIC

As recent events have shown, the security situation in the country is a source of concern for all citizens. It is vital to acknowledge that insecurity challenges affect both elites and the populace. Security challenges such as militancy, kidnapping, cult disputes, political killings, farmers-herders crises, Boko Haram, jailbreaks and other violent crimes have become issues of concern to the Nigerian government and security architecture. The government has taken several initiatives to address internal security concerns since 1999. In response to the mayhem, joint task forces were formed to help bolster internal security and protect people and property. This results in the posting of security officers in high-risk areas either before or after the declaration of a state of emergency. For example, the government has continued to use militarism as a strategy to deal with insecurity in the country. In the view of Okolie-Osemene (2015), when the government uses the military to restore law and order, human rights are at risk (Okolie-Osemene, 2015).

The joint task force was formed to combat domestic violence and to safeguard Nigeria's territory from non-state actors that isolate it from the rest of the world. The military option, which allows the state to defend violence as a valid response to instability aimed at routing non-state actors, inspired this (Okolie-Osemene, 2019). The majority of the military task force stationed in the northeast are security stakeholders and workers. In contrast to the Niger Delta insurgency, which was blamed on politics surrounding oil revenue, the Boko Haram insurgency, which grew under former President Goodluck Jonathan's administration, was blamed on politics and religion because some political elites were unwilling to address security issues to maintain political patronage.

The insurgency's intensification has resulted in casualties and a humanitarian disaster, which may have been made possible by the previously outlined factors (Abolurin, 2012). The majority of rebels blame the government and security forces for their unrest, citing incidents like improper handling of oil revenue and human rights violations. The Boko Haram insurgency spread to other areas of Nigerian territory as a result of the initial failure to contain it. To cope with players that endangered the state's monopoly on violence, the

government established joint security units to oversee the operations of ethnic militias and thugs that had arisen as insecurity agents across the country (Matfess, 2016). Later, in response to the actions of criminals and drug traffickers, who frequently have access to small arms and light weapons, additional security services expanded their engagement in managing such risks. It's important to remember that the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) was formed in 2002 in response to major security flaws to strengthen national security. Since then, the NSCDC has demonstrated its ability to collaborate with other security agencies to protect civilians and critical infrastructure, such as oil and gas facilities.

The security service was particularly critical in gathering intelligence when public order was threatened, such as during the 2012 petrol subsidy fraud. To combat the problem of armed robberies, especially along various routes around the country, the NSCDC has actively participated in a number of joint security operations with the police and army. As the Boko Haram insurgency spreads and more suicide bombings are reported across the northeast, the government must evaluate how to contain and manage the effects of violence while also discovering the possibility of negotiation (Lenshie *et al.*, 2024).

To manage internal security issues successfully, it is also necessary to address some of the issues mentioned by Lenshie *et al.*, (2024), such as police corruption elimination, prevention of nepotism and ethnicity in the security sector, timely promotion of officers, competent reorganisation of the army and other security services, incentive and sufficient funding of security services. If politicians can resolve some of these challenges, the security industry will be better positioned to deal with potential threats to national security. Because everyone, including the wealthy, the poor, citizens, and security personnel, must be secure, society will be safer if steps are taken to rectify weak internal security management.

EMPIRICAL REVIEW

Nnaeto (2016) states that Nigeria has struggled to maintain effective intergovernmental collaboration and good governance. The descriptive study's primary goal was to examine the problems that governments at all levels face in attaining good governance. According to the study, Nigeria's federal structure and lack of power devolution is the reason for the unbalanced relationships between the federal, state, and local levels of government, particularly at the local level. The study also indicated that the vague language of the 1999 constitution, which fails to clarify the devolution of power and the connection between the tiers of government, is the fundamental difficulty in Nigeria's federal system. The study's findings urge that the 1999 constitution, which serves as the last arbiter of the relationship between the three levels of

government, be reviewed and revised to reflect the values of the ideal federal state.

Odisu (2017) examined federalism in Nigeria: a critique. The study utilised a descriptive method for data collection. The study revealed that Nigeria's system of federalism is a radical departure from the theory of federalism identified by Wheare because the central government retains more power than the federating units. It was also determined that the federal government controls the Nigeria Police, the security organisation tasked with keeping the country's laws and order and that state governors who serve as the chief security officers of their states have no authority over the commissioner of police operating within their borders. The study concluded that creating state police would make crime-fighting easier because the indigenous people know their terrain and understand the language.

Ajulor and Ibikunle (2021), examined the Fourth Republic of Nigeria's finances and intergovernmental relations. The study discovered that Nigeria's federal system's revenue allocation sharing formula was unable to settle disputes between the various levels of government. The study also revealed that the local government had limited control over the resources under its authority. The research suggests, among other things, that the country's constitution be revised to give local and state governments the right to manage resources within their jurisdiction without interference from the federal government. Fiscal decentralisation, according to the study's conclusions, would allow successful interactions between Nigeria's levels of government.

Nchuchwe and Adejuwon (2015) focused on intergovernmental financial interactions and the challenges that Nigerian local governments face. According to the study, revenue allocation has a substantial impact on intergovernmental relations in Nigeria, with local governments suffering the most. The study also indicated that resolving financial allocation issues in Nigeria's federal system is a critical factor in determining how long Nigeria's federal system will continue. The research concluded that the revenue allocation method be thoroughly studied in order to maintain fairness.

Olaiya (2016) examined federalism and intergovernmental relations in Africa: retrospect and prospect from Nigeria. The study found that the Northern area of the country was unfairly given more legislative seats than the Western and Eastern regions by the British colonial power. The survey also showed that Nigeria's intergovernmental ties are tense, especially when it comes to local governance. The study concluded that the provision for intergovernmental relations in the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as amended, gives the federal government an excessive concentration of power and resources over other levels of government, which results in a lack of political will

to support an appropriate constitutional amendment. The study recommends sharing revenue allocation equitably to ensure the adequacy and stability of financial resources available to the levels of government, particularly the state and local government in Nigeria.

Awofeso and Obah-Akpowoghaha (2017) worked on the challenges of federalism and its implications for the Nigerian State. The study utilised secondary data and a philosophical approach to data interpretation. The study revealed that corruption, colonial master influence, military incursion in the democratic process, Nigerian elites' manipulations, and the impact of the civil war as challenges confronting Nigeria's federal system. The study concluded that the government should utilise an appropriate means to maintain unity in the country's heterogeneous society. The study recommends resource control for the states to ensure holistic economic development.

Nwagboso (2018) examines Nigeria's problems with internal security in the current decade. Secondary data sources were analysed in the study. According to the study, Nigeria's state has had a number of security problems, particularly since the country's restoration to democratic governance in 1999. The study also state that the country's current level of insecurity, both governments and citizens are on high alert; given the recent string of incidents, scarcely a day goes by without at least one instance of a national security attack. Security concerns that undermine both sovereignty and the economy are the most serious among these are the issues in the Niger Delta, IPOB, Kidnapping, Boko Haram, and Fulani herdsmen. Thus, the study stresses the need for a critical examination of Nigeria's National security policy that is not only integrative/comprehensive in breadth but also takes into account some domestic factors such as political sabotage, poor leadership, religious intolerance, citizen-settler disputes, inadequate security equipment, little governmental attention to insecurity issues, unemployment, inequality, poverty, a rigged electoral system, corruption, uneven federalism, and porous borders as contributing reasons to the country's internal security concerns today.

Alumona (2019) explores the state and internal security management in Nigeria. The results of the study showed how crucial internal security is to the government's ability to run smoothly. The study further revealed that the state's core functions include the promotion of a high standard of living and the creation of political environments that would improve the welfare of the citizenry. As a result, internal security is critical to a country's economy and security. However, because Nigeria lacks a clear internal security policy, the internal component of national security receives little financing attention in terms of procurement of security equipment and training of security personnel. This helps to explain why the country's internal security

has deteriorated so dramatically. The study concluded that the state's ability to effectively defend internal security is hampered by the nature of the underlying ideologies guiding internal security management.

Abdullahi (2020) carried out a study on addressing security challenges: A study of the role of government in security management in Kaduna State, Nigeria. The findings of the study showed that inadequate funding to procure security equipment, inadequate synergy among security agencies, and inadequate commitment of the government to cases of insecurity were the most notable challenges confronting security management in the state. The study concluded that the government contributes significantly to the nature of security challenges management and the security agencies in the state. The study recommends, among others increase in the availability of security personnel in strategic places prone to insecurity, adequate training of security personnel, sensitisation on peace and the importance of a secure environment, and arming vigilante groups.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

In 1953, Easton proposed the political science systems theory. The political system is related to the human body which is made up of a huge number of subgroups, each of which is responsible for a variety of tasks; it is the sum of these tasks that guarantees the entire system runs smoothly. Systems theory can be applied to investigate how the political system interacts with its surroundings (sub-system). Every level of government has a political system (political actors) whose key responsibilities include the security of life and property, controlling and guiding society and ensuring its sustainability, resilience, and endurance through constant interaction, stimulus (input), and responses (output). Political actors are legally recognised as being in charge of the growth of society and, most importantly, the safety of their inhabitants' lives and possessions in a specific political sovereign. To sustain continuity and minimise social unrest, the democratic system requires a suitable input receiver and efficient reactions to environmental issues.

The larger social system or environment and the political system's subsystems are connected, by systems theory, ensuring that both have an impact on and affect one another. Therefore, social pressures, tensions, and dynamics have an impact on how the political system functions and dynamics, just as the system's internal dynamics, operations, and outputs can have an impact on and shape the environment. The ability of a society to change and deal with environmental instability caused by both internal and external aggression, as well as the calibre of its institutions, leadership, and internal operations, all have an impact on a society's ability to sustain stability and order.

METHODOLOGY

Primary and secondary data were utilised for the study. Primary data were collected through the administration of questionnaire and conduct of in-depth interviews. Multi-stage sampling technique was used to select three states in the study area. In the first stage, the states in Southwestern Nigeria were categorised along the axes of Lagos/Ogun, Oyo/Osun and Ondo/Ekiti due to the closeness and proximity. In the second stage, Ogun, Osun and Ondo states were purposively selected due to their capacity to represent the stratified axes. In the third stage, a random sampling technique was used to select one Local Government Area from the three Senatorial District of the selected states amounting to 9 LGAs.

The study population of 3,392 comprised members of the State Security Council (51); members of the Local Government Security Council (135); Nigeria Police Force from Constable to Assistant Superintendent (807); Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps from Constable to Assistant Superintendent (688); Amotekun Corps (562); Police and Community Relation Committee (450); and Vigilante Association of Nigeria (699). Taro Yemane formula was used to drive a sample size of 358 and the proportional to size technique was used to administer the questionnaire to the respondents. In addition, interviews were conducted with 12 stakeholders on security management to complement information obtained through questionnaires. Secondary data for the study were obtained from textbooks, academic journals, articles, seminar papers, newspapers, and the Internet. Data retrieved were analysed using frequency, percentage, mean value, and standard deviation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

To achieve the objective of analysing the challenges associated with intergovernmental collaboration affecting security management in Southwestern Nigeria, participants were asked to agree or disagree with six (6) variables set out to analyse the challenges of intergovernmental collaboration affecting security management in Southwestern Nigeria using Likert scale measurement, such as: Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree and Strongly Disagree. The findings were reported in percentage, frequency distribution, mean value, and standard deviation.

In the distribution, the participants were asked to respond to the assertion that incommensurate intergovernmental collaboration among the levels is a constraint affecting security management in Southwestern Nigeria. In their reactions, 88(26.5%) strongly agreed, and 76(22.8%) of the participants agreed with the assertion; however, 93(27.9%) disagreed, while 76(22.8%) of

participants strongly disagreed with the assertion. This was established by the mean value and standard deviation ($\bar{\chi} = 2.53, SD = 1.014$). This data implies that 169(50.7%) respondents noted that incommensurate intergovernmental collaboration among the levels is a constraint associated with security management in the study area.

With respect to the second assertion, inadequate information on security issues is a constraint associated with security management in Southwestern Nigeria. In their response, 79(23.7%) strongly agreed, and 80(24.1%) of the participants agreed with the variable. However, 94(28.2%) disagreed, while 80(24%) of the participants strongly disagreed with the variable. This data representation shows that slightly above the average of the participants, 174(47.8%) disagreed that inadequate information on security issues is not a constraint associated with security management in Southwestern Nigeria in the study area. The mean value and standard deviation for this variable were ($\bar{\chi} = 2.46, SD = 1.015$).

With respect to the third assertion, 153(45.9%) strongly agreed, and 64(19.3%) participants agreed with the assertion. However, 54(16.2%) disagreed, and 62(18.6%) strongly disagreed with the statement that insufficient funds to procure security equipment is a constraint associated with security management in Southwestern Nigeria. In this respect, this result showed a remarkable agreement level with 65.2% of participants on the assertion. The analytical implication of the data shows that the majority of the participants agreed that insufficient funds to procure security equipment is a constraint associated with security management in the study area with a mean value and standard deviation of ($\bar{\chi} = 3.64, SD = 1.023$).

In the fourth assertion in Table 1, the participants were asked if deficient synergy among security agencies is a constraint associated with security management

in Southwestern Nigeria. This finding showed that 108(32.4%) strongly agreed, and 131(37.9%) participants agreed with the variable. 43(12.9%) disagreed and 56(16.8%) participants strongly agreed to the assertion. This assertion was with a mean value and standard deviation of ($\bar{\chi} = 3.61, SD = .734$). The implication of this data is that the majority of the participants 70.3% affirmed that deficient synergy among security agencies is a constraint associated with security management in the study area.

It was, however, asserted for the participants to either agree or disagree with the statement that lack of accountability in security votes is a constraint associated with security management in Southwestern Nigeria. Responding to the fifth assertion, 78(23.4%) strongly agreed, and 103(30.9%) respondents agreed with the variable. However, 56(16.8%) disagreed, and 96(28.8%) strongly disagreed with the assertion. However, the agreement level of 54.3% of the respondents was substantial to affirm the assertion. This data representation showed that lack of accountability of security vote is a constraint associated with security management in the study area. The mean value and standard deviation for this variable were ($\bar{\chi} = 3.16, SD = .984$).

The participants were asked to respond to inadequate collaboration among the levels of government and security agencies as a constraint associated with security management in Southwestern Nigeria. In their response to the sixth assertion, 96(28.8%) strongly agreed, and 91(27.4%) participants agreed with the variable. However, 80(24%) disagreed, and 66(19.8%) respondents strongly disagreed with the variable. The logical implication of the data shows that 56.2% participants agreed with the assertion, while 43.8% participants disagreed with the statement in the study area with a mean value and standard deviation of ($\bar{\chi} = 3.49, SD = .708$).

Table 1
Intergovernmental Collaboration and Challenges Associated with Security Management Empirical Evidence from Southwestern Nigeria

Variables	Strongly Agree	Agreed	Disagreed	Strongly Disagreed	Descriptive Statistics N= 333	
	f(%)	f(%)	f(%)	f(%)	Mean Value	Standard Deviation
Incommensurate intergovernmental collaboration	88(26.5%)	76(22.8%)	93(27.9%)	76(22.8%)	2.53	1.014
Inadequate information on security issues	79(23.7%)	80(24.1%)	94(28.2%)	80(24%)	2.46	1.015
Insufficient funds to procure security equipment	153(45.9%)	64(19.3%)	54(16.3%)	62(18.6%)	3.64	1.023
Deficient synergy among security agencies	108(32.4%)	131(37.9%)	43(12.9%)	56(16.8%)	3.61	.734
Lack of accountability for security vote	78(23.4%)	103(30.9%)	56(16.8%)	96(28.8%)	3.06	.984
Inadequate collaboration among the levels of government and security agencies	96(28.8%)	91(27.4%)	80(24%)	66(19.8%)	3.46	.748

Source: Fieldwork, 2024

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW ANALYSIS

To complement the quantitative data, an interview session was conducted among key stakeholders. The interviewees provided an outline of challenges associated with intergovernmental collaboration affecting security management in the study area. From the interview responses, the majority of the respondents stated that the major challenges associated with intergovernmental collaboration in addressing security management in Southwestern Nigeria, among others, are interagency rivalry among security agencies and diversion of security votes. The Assistant Commissioner of Police operation in Ondo State stated that there seems to be a gap in information sharing and rivalry among security agencies on who does what and how resulting in inadequate intelligence gathering on security matters.

To corroborate the above statement, the deputy Commandant of Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) Osun State revealed that one of the major challenges confronting Nigeria's security system is unhealthy rivalry among officers of security agencies in terms of role and responsibility of security management. According to him, the security agencies in Nigeria merely exist to operate independently of others with no propensity for mutuality.

In the view of the Special Senior Assistant to the Commissioner of Information Ogun State, stated that inadequate collaboration among the levels of government and security agencies is the major setback for security management in Nigeria. According to the head of the department of social and development in one of the selected local governments, who prefer to be anonymous revealed that the diversion of security vote among the levels of government in Nigeria is a major setback for security management in the country.

The divisional police officer of Ipokia Local Government Area of Ogun State stated that inadequate security equipment and inadequate training for security officers are some of the constraints affecting security agencies in Nigeria in addressing security management. According to him, the equipment available to security officers to combat security challenges is obsolete and not in conformity with international standards. The opinion of the divisional officer of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps Akure North Local Government Area of Ondo State revealed that interagency rivalry among security agencies has relatively put the country's security apparatus in an unhealthy shape as the country continues to experience an increase in insecurity attack across the country on a daily basis.

The divisional officer of the Amotekun Corps, otherwise known as the Southwest security network in Ede North local government area, stated that inadequate commitment to duties and responsibilities and corruption among security agencies are some of the major setbacks

for security management in the country. The Chairman Police and Community Relations Committee Sagamu local government area of Ogun State is of the opinion that inadequate collaboration among security agencies and community members is a major challenge confronting the management of security operations in the country. According to him, community members can easily detect security loopholes due to their adequate knowledge of the environment.

CONCLUSION

The study concluded that insecurity in the country has become a general problem affecting the elite and the populace. In the last decade, there has been virtually no day without the occurrence of insecurity recorded nationwide. The executive governors as the chief security officers of the state are undermined by the letters of the constitution which gave the federal government exclusive rights over security issues, thereby rendering the state governors powerless over the security apparatus within the state. This and more have led to the yearning for the establishment of state police and constitutional amendments to ensure the practice of an ideal federal system in Nigeria.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations are put forward:

To address the issues of managing internal security more effectively, Nigerian governments at all levels should ensure good governance through the provision of public goods, equitable distribution of resources and a determined fight against corruption because poverty, unemployment, and economic marginalisation are some of the root causes of insecurity in Nigeria.

There is a need for adequate collaboration among the level of governments, and security agencies saddled with internal security management. This will go a long way to ensure timely response and proactive actions to curtail insecurity incidences within the country.

There is a need for training, adequate funding, intelligence information sharing, modern equipment, logistics, motivation, and reorientation of Nigeria's security agencies to conform with global best practices. This initiative will improve the operational skills of Nigerian security agencies by creating an environment for them to respond properly to internal security management and other threats.

There is a need for constitutional review to provide a guideline for security vote expenditure at the level of government. This will ensure that the budgetary allocations for security vote available to the executive arms of governments is accountable for in line with the constitutional provision.

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APPENDIX I

Questionnaire Department of Public Administration Faculty of Administration Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife

Intergovernmental Collaboration and Security Management in Southwestern Nigeria

Introduction

This questionnaire is on the above subject. It is for data collection in respect of the above topic as part of my PhD thesis in the Department of Public Administration, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife. Kindly supply the information required in the space provided. All information supplied shall be treated strictly with the principles of confidentiality.

Section A: Bio Data

INSTRUCTION

Please tick the appropriate boxes and fill where necessary in the space provided below.

Sex: Male Female

Age: 21-30 31-40 41-50 51 years & above

Marital Status: Single Married Divorce Widow

Religion: Christianity Islam Traditional Others

Years in service: below 5years 6-15years 16-25years 26-35years

Qualification: FSLC SSCE OND/DIP B.Sc/HND Masters Ph.D Others

Challenges Associated with Intergovernmental Collaboration Affecting Security Management in Southwestern Nigeria

S/N	ITEMS	SA	A	SD	D
7	Incommensurate intergovernmental collaboration				
8	Inadequate information on security issues				
9	Insufficient funds to procure security equipment				
10	Deficient synergy among security agencies				
11	Lack of accountability in security vote				
12	Inadequate collaboration among the levels of government and security agencies				

APPENDIX II

Interview Guide

Your organisation, position/rank, year of service?

What is your schedule of duty with the organisation/institution?

Do you think the citizens are satisfied with the state of security in the state?

What are the challenges affecting security management in the state?

How can the challenges affecting security management in the state be ameliorated?