

INSECURITY AND ITS EFFECT ON FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN NIGERIA, 1999-2020

*Nkechinyere T.A. Onyekwere **Ikenna Odoemena

Abstract:

Nigeria has unconsciously joined other sovereign nations of the world currently witnessing an upsurge in insecurity. The country has had its own fair share of decline in foreign investment flows with its concomitant effect of economic downtimes as a result of insecurity. In recent times insecurity in Nigeria has assumed different dimensions ranging from wanton destruction of lives and properties of the nation. This work took a look at the spate of insecurity and its effect on the flow of foreign direct investment in Nigeria. The study covered the period 1999 Q1 to 2020 Q3 and relied mostly on secondary source of data obtained from authoritative journals, academic articles, newspaper publications and the internet. The analytical technique adopted in this study shall be mainly the descriptive technique which shall employ the use of narrations and tables and which shall be done in the body of the work. The emerging result after theoretical and empirical reviews revealed a negative correlation between insecurity and foreign direct investment in Nigeria. The two variables clearly exhibited dialectical opposition to each other. Where there is high insecurity phenomenon, foreign direct investment flows are limited and the reverse holds too. In conclusion, the study recommended that for the country to move along the trajectory of growth and development, there is the obvious need to overhaul the entire security architecture in the country. A pragmatic, proactive and just on time measure to curb insecurity need to be urgently initiated and sustained in the country for economic growth.

Keywords: Foreign Direct Investment, Insecurity, terrorism, Boko Haram, Economy, Nigeria.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Foreign direct investment generally called FDI in economic parlance refers to direct flow of investment from one country to another.

The investment flow can comprise of equity, capital, reinvestment of earnings (plough backs) and capital. It is a cross border investment which is between two people or between two nations with one party having a significant degree of influence on the management of the investment. In economic literature and corroborating World Bank definition of FDI, ownership of 10% interest or more of the ordinary share of voting stock gives the criterion for determining the existence of a direct investment relationship.¹

* **Nkechinyere T. A. Onyekwere**, LL.B, BL, LLM, Principal Lecturer, Department of Social Sciences, Federal Polytechnic Nekede, Owerri Imo State Nigeria, ntaonyekwere19@yahoo.com; 08034104731.

** **Ikenna Odoemena**, Senior Lecturer, Department of Social Sciences, Federal Polytechnic Nekede, Owerri Imo State Nigeria, 08028380483.

¹ Addison Wesley Publication *World Bank Report 2022*

The table below highlights a 5-year trend in FDI patterns in Nigeria.

Year	(FDI) \$	Trend in %
2016	3.18b	20.13 decline
2017	2.41b	30.12% decline
2018	0.78b	67.87% decline
2019	2.31b	197.34% increase
2020	2.39b	3.4% increase

Source: World Bank 2022

The increase in FDI witnessed in 2019 came as a result of review of major economic policies initiated by the federal government in the wake of economic recession of 2016/2017. The economic policies included some tax concessions and slight improvement in security issues.

However, this trend slid as the rate of insecurity continued unabated resulting in total strangulation of FDI flows into the country.

In 2022, FDI in Nigeria decreased by 159.20 billion in the second quarter of 2022 (CBN Bulletin 1st quarter).

Dunning noted that multinational corporation engage in FDI for three basic advantages viz: ownership advantage, location advantage and internationalization advantages.² For a firm to fully reap the benefit of firm specific advantages location advantages is usually given top priority.

Insecurity and insurgency scuttles the location advantages expected by foreign investors in Nigeria. The business environment of potential investors is a major factor in determination of the firm's survival.

More often than not, FDI is undertaken by foreign nationals for economic interest. In considering the option of stepping away from one's usual familiar terrain to foreign country, investors consider a lot of variables. One of such variables is the security of their investment.

This is in conformity with the usual economic/business survey carried out prior to location of enterprise. In view of this, adequate assessment must be carried out by the investor of the security situation in the country of his interest.

² J. Dunning, *Multinational Enterprise and the Global Economy* (Addison Wesley Publications 1992).

Nigeria has been noted as a terrorist nation. Not only that there has been a massive exodus, closure or relocation of existing Multinational Corporation in the wake of security challenges in Nigeria, insecurity has succeeded in discouraging many from finding it expedient to invest in Nigeria.

Insecurity has continued to be topical issue in socio-economic political discussions on pages of newspapers and journals. The media space is replete with gory details of terrorist attacks ranging from devastation of oil facilities and other critical public infrastructure to hostages, torture and outright killing of innocent citizens of the country. Scores of human capitals have fled the country. Nigeria has lost quite a good percentage of their GDP to insecurity and the list is endless.

Vanguard News of August 3, 2022 reported of a marathon meeting of the service chiefs over the state of insecurity in Nigeria.³ The paper went for further to state that Nigeria is no longer attractive to foreign investors.

In like manner, **ThisDay** newspaper of October 26, 2022 reported that insecurity has penetrated rural communities and has stifled economic activities, mostly farming.

The Guardian of July 7th 2019 reported that the persistent issue of insecurity in Nigeria has been fingered as a major reason behind foreign investors pulling out their investment. The same Guardian Newspaper in their publication of 17th February, 2022 reported that business experts disclosed that the country is missing so many opportunities of attracting foreign direct investment due to insecurity.⁴

1.2 Objectives of the Study

The poor state of the Nigeria economy attributable to the prevalence of terrorism and other forms of insecurity is a source of concern for all. No growth (economic, social political or scientific) can be recorded in an environment full of security hazards. This situation informed the writer's interest to undertake the study. This study has the objective of identifying causes of insecurity in Nigeria and proffering workable solutions for economic growth of the nation.

³ J. Agbakwuru and K. Omonobi K and H. Omuro 'Insecurity: Nigeria no longer attractive for FDI' *The Vanguard* 4th August, 2022 p.g 4

⁴ M. Ogune, Nigeria losing foreign investments to rising insecurity, Businesses warn, *Business Guardian* 17th February 2022 p.g 5

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Definition Terms

a. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

World Bank (1996) defined FDI as investment that is made to acquire lasting management interest (usually 10% of voting stock) in an enterprise and business operating in a country other than that of the investor. It is a company from one country carrying out physical investment in another country. The investment can be in the form of building factories, buying of equities or stock, transportation, banking, insurance, agriculture, education, shipping services etc.

Graham and Spalding (1995) noted that FDI can also mean direct acquisition of foreign firm either totally or percentage of its stock.

b. Insecurity.

Insecurity defines a state of being open to danger or that of lack of protection. It denotes a state of uncertainty or anxiety about oneself with lack of confidence. The state of being open to danger or threat is associated with public life in Nigeria today. Insecurity in the Nigerian context therefore is synonymous with lack of confidence, self doubt, timidity, nervousness, inhibition, apprehension and fear on account of terrorist activities.⁵

Different faces of insecurity in Nigeria polity includes religious conflicts between Christians and Muslims, suicide bombers, border clashes, cyber crime, armed robbery, kidnapping, domestic violence, extra judicial killings, herder-farmers clashes, ritual killings, banditry, extortion, marginalization, sexual harassment/rape to mention but a few.

2.2 Theoretical Underpinnings

Economists, industrialist and managers of high business organizations have continued to emphasize the benefits derivable from the presence of FDI in any country. The benefit ranges from transfer of technology, income, employment, acquisition of relevant technology skills to

⁵ I.Achumba and O. Ighomereho and S. Akpor, 'Security Challenge in Nigeria and their implications for Business Activities and sustainable Development' [2013] *Journal of Economics and sustainable development*, vol.4. No. 2 p. 80

overall economic development. These benefits corroborate with the economic principles of free trade or trade liberalism.

Viotti and Kauppi noted that the idea of trade liberalism condemns government interference in the market because such interference could result to harm in the society.⁶ They noted that trade liberalism in ordinary sense also mean liberty under the law. Its focus is on human nature which is competitive in positive way. The state is therefore expected to play limited role only in area of maintaining stable political, social and economic environment. This means it is the duty of the state to provide all round conducive environments for all to operate and pursue their individual goals without any interference from external or third parties.

Classical economist, Adam Smith and David Ricardo laid emphasis on the role of the individual entrepreneur who should not be constrained by the state or civil groups in the pursuit of his legal business.

Dunning and Waltz emphasized the freedom an individual has to pursue his legitimate goal in the society.⁷ They introduced the term 'Transnational' being an extended use of liberalism.

Trade liberalism also mean free market enterprises across national boundaries. It emphasizes the increasing role or multinational corporations (MNC) in the global economic growth and development.

Slaughter and May (2015) opined that FDI may acquire voting power of an enterprise in an economy by incorporating in wholly owned subsidiary of firm in another country. He can acquire shares in associated enterprise through merger and acquisition of different business enterprises. The duo noted that there are three (3) types of FDI that is common viz;

- i. **Horizontal FDI:** This arises when a firm duplicates the activities going on in his home country in a host country through FDI.
- ii. **Platform FDI:** This is a foreign direct investment from the source country to a destination country, the purpose of which is to export to a third country.
- iii. **Vertical FDI:** This arises when a firm through FDI moves either upstream or downstream in different value.

⁶ P. Viotti & M. Kauppi, *International Relation Theory* (5th Longman publishers 2012)

⁷ K. Waltz, *Theory of International Politics* (1979).

The socio-economic importance of FDI to both developed and developing economies is the reason why emphasis is always placed on it.⁸

FDI contributions to an economy could be summarized as follows:

a. GDP growth:

An indicator of economic development is economic growth. Economic growth is synonymous with growth in manufacturing production, growth in agricultural and agro-allied production, fishery and tourism steel and mining activities, transportation etc. all these activities enhances the growth of the GDP.

b. Increase in Foreign Exchange earning.

Todaro (1977) observed that FDI encourages inflow of technology and skills and fills the gap between domestically available supplies of foreign exchange and government revenue.

c. Emergence of New market.

Graham and Spalding (1995) also noted that FDI provides a firm with new markets and marketing channels, cheaper production facilities, access to new technology, production skills and financing. It also promote economic growth of both countries by first providing local economy with foreign skills and technology and second advancing the economic base of the investor country: Onu (2012).

2.3 Flash Points of Insecurity in Nigeria

a. North East Geopolitical Region

For a decade, the North Eastern part of the country has been enmeshed in violent insecurity situation. The situation crystallized into deadly attacks such as bombing of churches and mosques, suicide bombings, kidnapping, banditry as well as indiscriminate use of fire arms.

ThisDay Newspaper of August 9, 2022 reported of the break of Kuje prison leading to so many inmates breaking loose and escaping to unknown locations.

⁸ E.Lim 'Determinants of and Relationship between FDI and Growth: A Summary of Recent Literature' [2001]*IMF Working paper No. 175 International Monetary Fund*

Boko Haram held sway and the violent clashes between Boko Haram sect and Islamic State of West African Province (ISWAP) sect led to series of killings and massive destruction of lives and properties in the North Eastern region.⁹

Enders and Sandler noted that investors are of the opinion that political stability and civil security in the host country is a vital factor when considering their choice of investment locations and deciding the amount and volume of investment in that country.¹⁰ In the North Eastern region, the spate of ethno religious conflicts, socio-economic and political violence increased with the return of civil rule in 1999.

Global terrorism data base (2014) reported that the country recorded 1094 violent attacks between year 2000 and 2012, claiming over 200 lives across the country.

b. Niger-Delta Region

Olusola (2013) noted that militants and insurgent activities in the Niger Delta area of Nigeria is fuelled by frustration created by economic and developmental deprivation. The lukewarm attitude of the government and the MNCs to the developmental needs of the region gave rise to the emergence of militant pressure groups such as Movement for the Emancipation of Niger Delta (MEND), Movement for Survival of Ogoni People (MOSOP), Ijaw Youth Congress (IYC), Movement for the Actualization of Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB) and PANDEF. The region has been subjected to environmental degradation and sheer marginalization over the years.

Ejibanu (2007) and Brisbie (2021) pointed out the high rate of employment and total neglect of this area, their rich oil deposit notwithstanding.

The insecurity situation led to series of pipeline vandalization and other critical government infrastructure and establishment.

2.4 Empirical Review

Nigeria FDI 1970-2020

Year	Inflow	GDP	Year	Inflow	GDP
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⁹ I. Aghedo and O. Osumah, 'Bread, not Bullet. Boko Haram and insecurity management in Northern Nigeria' [2014]. *African study Monograph*

¹⁰ W. Enders and T. Sandler, *Terrorism and Foreign Investment in Spain and Greece* (Kykles 1996) 49, 331-335.

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	(US\$ Billion)	(%)		(US\$ Billion)	(%)
1970	0.21	1.63	1996	0.50	0.98
1971	0.29	3.11	1997	0.47	0.86
1972	0.31	2.48	1998	0.38	0.55
1973	0.37	2.46	1999	1.00	1.69
1974	0.26	1.03	2000	1.14	1.64
1975	0.47	1.69	2001	1.19	1.61
1976	0.34	0.93	2002	1.87	1.96
1977	0.44	1.22	2003	2.01	1.91
1978	0.21	0.58	2004	1.87	1.37
1979	0.31	0.66	2005	4.85	2.19
1980	0.74	-1.15	2006	4.85	2.06
1981	0.54	0.33	2007	6.04	2.19
1982	0.43	0.30	2008	8.19	2.41
1983	0.36	0.38	2009	8.56	2.90
1984	0.36	0.38	2010	6.03	1.67
1985	0.49	0.66	2011	8.94	2.18
1986	0.19	0.35	2012	7.70	1.55
1987	0.61	1.16	2013	5.56	1.09
1988	0.38	0.76	2014	4.69	0.86
1989	1.88	4.28	2015	3.06	0.63
1990	0.59	1.09	2016	3.45	0.85
1991	0.71	1.45	2017	2.41	0.64
1992	0.90	1.38	2018	0.78	0.20
1993	1.35	4.85	2019	2.31	0.51
1994	1.35	5.79	2020	2.39	0.55
1995	0.34	0.76			

Source: World Bank 2022

Nigeria recorded the highest inflow of foreign direct investment in 2009 and a corresponding improvement in the contribution of FDI to Gross Domestic Product (GDP).¹¹ Experts have attributed this to relative peace and industrial harmony in Nigeria during this period. During this period, political discontentment was reduced to barest minimum. Tribal, religious and ethnic uprising was not at alarming proportion.

The general election that ushered in Alhaji Umaru Musa Yar'Adua as the president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria stirred little or no protest. No doubt, this scenario stirred up foreign investors interest towards investing in Nigeria.

¹¹ A. Ali, 'Security and Economic Development in Nigeria Since 1960' [2013] *Kuwait Chapter of Arabian Journal of Business and Management Revived* 2(6) 1-7

On the other hand, the country recorded an all time low foreign direct inflow in 1974 of only \$0.26B worth of FDI in the country. The lowest FDI contribution to GDP was in 2018. The statistics gathered during these periods (2012-2020) indicates that FDI in Nigeria is nearly non-existent. Due to insecurity, mostly company's nationals found it expedient to relocate while intending ones were discouraged.

This Day of 12th June 2022 reported the following statistics on insecurity cases currently taking place in the country.¹²

1. The massacre at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church Owo, Ondo state where over one hundred worshippers lost their lives as a result of the attack by insurgents.
2. The paper also reported that the first quarter of the year 2022, data from the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission, (NIPC) showed Nigeria is losing its attraction to promoters of FDI. NIPC revealed that the value of investment announcements in the first three months of 2022 was \$8.41B. This is a 69% or 2.58billion lower than what was announced the first quarter of 2021. In the same vein, National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) showed that FDI generated in 2021 was the lowest the country has recorded in 10 years. The largest capital importation from the NBS report reflected that FDI fell by \$332 million to 698.7million in 2021 from \$1.028b in 2020.

2.5 Insecurity and FDI

It is natural to develop fear and anxiety that insecurity would have a critical and undesirable impact on FDI inflow to any country it affected. Survey indicate loss of investors confidence occasioned by security imbalance. This has necessitated outflows of capital.

At present, Nigeria is branded security risk in view of high level of insecurity such as militancy, ethno religious violence, terrorism, insurgency and kidnapping all or which scuttle foreign investors confidence to invest in the country.¹³

Wagner noted that in spite of the fact that growth of global terrorism on the minds of foreign corporate decision makers when contemplating investment, it has not prevented many of them from investing in the developing countries.¹⁴ The line of profit and desire to establish trade partnership across national countries is often a motivational force than perceived

¹² F. Akanbi, 'Insecurity kills investors appetite in Nigeria' *This Day News Paper 12th June 2022 p.g 3*

¹³ Crain N & Crain W (2006) Terrorised Economies. *Public choice 125,317-349*

¹⁴ J. Wagner, 'Exports, Foreign Direct Investment and productivity' [2006] *Evidence from Germany Firm Level Data Economics Papers, 13,347-349.*

political and security risk. In support of this notion, 2005 UNCTAD world investment report shows that FDI flows to the developing economies surged by 200 percent between 2000 and 2004, up from 18 percent to 36 percent of global FDI. At the same time, FDI flows to developed countries decreased by 27 percent from 81 percent to 59 percent of global FDI. Other writers on this issue brought to the fore questions about the determinants of FDI location.¹⁵ In the view of these authors, main determinants of FDI location includes agglomeration effects, infrastructure effects, factor cost effect and market access effect¹⁶.

Agglomeration effects results from positive linkages among projects and the major incentive is spillover effect created by research and development as well as supply of and demand for intermediate goods.

Chen observed that most developing countries succeeded in attracting FDI by introducing special economic zones such as the construction of new road, like Tinapa in Calabar and China Town in Lagos.¹⁷ This infrastructure according to these authors help FDI investors to have their startup cost reduced. All these factors in collaboration with market size influence inflow of FDI more often, incidents of terrorism, insurgency, banditry and kidnapping not deterring the investors. After all, business is all about risk. The higher the level of risk, the higher the prospects of return.¹⁸

Therefore, insecurity in Nigeria could be mitigated by the provision of adequate infrastructure and attractive economic policy which can motivate foreign investor to defy the risk and seek for a fortune in a country other than theirs. Insecurity in Nigeria is a symptom of the failure of the various security institutions in the country. Nigeria has over the years developed various hierarchies in the security architecture who are constantly trained and retrained to brace up for any security challenge. The effectiveness of the training are

¹⁵ P. Buckley, J. Clegg, 'FDI, Regional Differences and Economic Growth: Panel Data Evidence from China Trans-national Corporation' [2002] 11(1) 1—28 *CBN statistical Bulletin Various Issues*

¹⁶ L.Coughlin and J. Tenza and V. Anomdee 'State characteristics and the location of foreign Direct Investment within United States' [1991] *Review of economics and statistics* 73, 675 – 683.; L. Chen and Y. Kwan, 'What are the determinants of location of FDI? The Chinese Experience' [2002] *Journal of International Economics* 51, 379-400. J. Friedman, D. Gerlowski & J. Silberman, 'What attracts Foreign multinationals corporations? Evidence from plant location in the United States' [1992] *Journal of Regional Services* 32,403-418. *Global Terrorism Data base (2014) Measuring the impact of Terrorism in Nigeria.*

¹⁷ C. Chen, 'Regional determinants of Foreign Direct Investment in Mainland China' [1996] *Journal of Economic Studies* 23, 18-30.

¹⁸ Amaizu J, (2011) Reps propose life Jail for Kidnappers, Hostage-takers. *Nation Newspaper, October 20 p.g*

questions begging for answers given their oversight duties of detection, prevention and control of crimes/insecurity which has failed Nigerians.

3.0 Effects of insecurity on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Nigeria

One of the macroeconomic objectives of any nation is economic growth. One major way of attracting and sustaining economic growth is the flow of foreign investment to an enabling environment¹⁹. It is often paramount that an investor will be motivated to shift his productive capital to a foreign country when he had carried out a proper assessment of the safety of his investment.²⁰

The effects on insecurity on FDI in Nigeria could be summarized under the following subheads.

a. Capital Flight:

Capital flight refers to short-term speculative capital outflows which may be as a result of political, financial or economic crisis. Capital flight leads to disappearance of wealth usually associated with a sharp drop in the exchange rate of the affected country. This fall is particularly damaging when the capital belongs to the people of the affected country. Not only are citizens burdened by the loss in the economic devaluation of their currency, but their assets have lost much of their normal to a foreign investor, this could simply take the form of relocation of capital to a country where insecurity is minimal.

However, the overall effect of capital flight is the decrease in the purchasing power. The presence of capital flight indicates the need for policy reforms. Capital flight from developing countries such as Nigeria aggravates the shortage of resources for development leading to a decline in domestic investments as well as a reduction in the potential tax receipts of the government. One of the determinants of capital flight is political stability.

b. Revenue Loss:

Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) report of 1999 to 2005, revealed there was a steady pattern of growth in investment in Nigeria both in the oil and non-oil sectors of the economy. But investment in the oil sector recorded a decrease of 20% between 2006 and 2008 due to the intensity of militant activities. This led to a sharp drop from 3.2 million barrels per day to 1.2 million barrels per day as a result to militant activities like sabotage, bunkering, hostage

¹⁹ B.Bloomberg and A. Orphanides, 'The Macroeconomic consequences of terrorism'[2004]*Journal of Monetary Economics*, 51, 1007-1032

²⁰ Olubukola Adesina, 'Unemployment and Security challenges in Nigeria' [2013] *International Journal of Humanities and social science* Vol. 3 (7) 153

taking and kidnapping. A review from NBS and NIPC and experts from the oil industry agreed that oil production experience a drop because of supply disruption, vandalism and eventual relocation of critical human capital from Nigeria to other foreign locations. This insecurity phenomenon in the Niger-Delta and North Eastern part of the county affected the spread of investment. Nigeria's economy depends heavily on the proceeds from oil revenue. The oil sector contributes over 90% to GDP. Following the increase in insurgency, militancy and kidnapping activities, the investment in the oil sector dropped resulting to loss of potential revenue. No doubt, the slow pace of investment in Nigeria foreign exchange earning sector is a tantamount to revenue decline.

The growth of foreign direct investment in the non-oil sector also suffered the same setback. Shoprite Nigeria is a subsidiary of Shoprite Group of Companies. The South African retail outlet represents the retail sector of Foreign Direct Investment in Nigeria. The company was rated as the number one retailer in Africa and the Middle East by Deloitte Global Powers of Retailing Survey in 2015.

This assessment was done considering the spread of the retail company globally. The Kano outlet of Shoprite was opened in 2013 with a purpose to flag off the Kaduna branch in 2014. However, Kano outlet suffered a major bomb attack in 2014. The outlet was closed down and the opening of the Kaduna branch suspended.

In a field survey, FDI chances in the North was revealed to be below 5%. This is because some of the few companies with production outlet, warehouse and installations suffered major terror attacks and scores of properties and personnel loss. Other sectors of the economy such as telecommunication, construction, tourism etc suffered a decline in the flow of foreign investment. Overall, the security challenges hampered economic growth in Nigeria by its effect on potential revenue.

c. **Insignificant Contribution to GDP**

The Guardian Newspaper of Tuesday 17th February, 2022 reported that Nigeria has lost a lot of FDI due to insecurity challenges. In a statement by Olaniyi Matthew Olayiwola, the situation has affected transport, commerce and trading companies because of insecurity. Foreign investors are finding it difficult to introduce their capital into Nigeria and the economy is deeply affected. The security situation is also making it difficult for the country to exchange what is being produced. In a statement to Olaniyi Matthew Olayiwola, "there are so many people that a very rich in the country and are capable of having so many industries,

but they believe that they establish any firm and crises erupted, their establishment might be set ablaze. If insecurity challenges are properly addressed, every other thing will fall in place that is, Investors will be motivated to come.

Citing communication gap and lack of information as major factors causing insecurity in the country, the scholar advocated for adequate collation of data in a bid to tackle insecurity. The contributions of FDI to the nation's GDP has suffered a setback because Nigeria is developing economy who cannot perform without relying on the inflow of foreign investment. Where the inflow is affected, their percentage contribution to the overall GDP is bound to drop.

d. **Absence of Technology Transfer**

In the times past, Nigeria has benefited from the wealth of experience of technically advanced personnel from developed countries of the world. The entrance of personnel from countries like Germany, UK, America, Australia, Japan and host of others in pursuit of one business activity or the other has ultimate bequeathed some to Nigeria technical knowledge in construction management, electrification and even medicine. Insecurity challenges in Nigeria not only killed the interest of these expatriate towards investing in the country, but even forced to existing ones to relocate their capital. It is of note that firms like Michelin, Crocodile machetes, Witt and Bush etc all located in Nigeria have all stopped operations. The expatriate personnel who contribute in training Nigerian in relevant skills have all left the country as a result of insecurity.

4.0 CONCLUSION

Having gone through this analysis, it is imperative that the issue of FDI in Nigeria has been subjected to mere theoretical exercise that yields no result. For this reason, we called for urgent and dedicated attention towards implementing the measures recommended in this study.

The implementation of those measures can ultimately reverse the negative trend of loss of investors' confidence in the country. It is very important that a concerted effort aimed at tackling insecurity in the country will be of immense benefits to all the citizens of the nation who can endeavor to move about their businesses without fear of death or destruction of their property. This alone can guarantee the economic growth and development of Nigeria.

5.0. RECOMMENDATIONS

Nigeria has been rated as a terrorist nation in recent times. Nigerians themselves admit the fact that their country is full of security challenges. Urgent measures need to be introduced to curb it. Every problem in life has a solution and not beyond redemption. In the light of this, this paper recommends the following measures as a way mitigating insecurity challenges in the country.

1. Policy Reform and Patriotism

The policy reform refers to the general overhaul of the entire security architecture of Nigeria. The constitution of the security apparatus of the nation should not be beclouded with ethnic, religious or political sentiments. We are aware that security is an issue that affects all and sundry. Where the appointment of security personnel is biased, collaboration in their activities may be hindered.

All the tribes, groups and other interests must have their representation in the discussion of security matters. If we are to move towards an egalitarian and prosperous nation, this reform policy especially in the area of security is paramount. Patriotism is the bedrock of nation building. Patriotism is a word that makes an individual, citizen or a group see the nation before his/herself. Reports have it that the management of insecurity in Nigeria has either been given a lip service or sabotaged by those charged with the responsibility. Stories abound of diversion of security votes and complicity leading to a lapse in the coordinated attack on the insurgents and their sponsors.

2. Effective Management of Nigeria's Borders

It has been observed that Nigeria's borders are porous and ill managed. There has always been influx of people and materials from countries bordering with Nigeria. These set of people trace their way into the country without proper immigration clearance or permission only to cause disruption of economic activities. One solution to insecurity in Nigeria is the fortification of Nigeria's borders. It is of note that criminals use the borders to penetrate the country to unleash harm and terror to Nigerians. In view of this, the Nigerian Immigration and services are reminded of the need to beefed up their activities especially at the borders. It is of note that those who enter the country through the border may not necessarily have documents to show that they are legitimately granted access into the country. The government must make concerted effort to recruit, train and deploy adequately equipped customs and immigration personnel across borders. There is need for government to devise a

more effective security technology such as body cameras, smart license plate readers, smart vehicle underbody scanners and more.

3. Leadership Development

A visionary leadership in the country at this period of this challenge is of utmost priority. Those aspiring to lead this nation must as a matter of priority understand the present insecurity challenge and proffer solutions as soon as possible. Nigeria's future leadership should be for people who can convey to their people the idea of a common citizenship, regardless of tribe, gender, religion, economic and social status.

4. Building a Proactive Law Enforcement Personnel

The obvious need to collect and monitor information for the purpose of fighting insecurity in Nigeria is of great importance. Government at all levels cannot compromise the enforcement of the law. Hence, it is their primary responsibility to ensure adequate protection of lives and properties of the people they govern. All threats to lives and properties to citizens of her country must be reported, investigated and appropriately closed out with dispatch.

Conflicts among groups, be it tribal, religious or political should be investigated with a view to nipping them in the bud before they degenerate to crisis.

5. Education

Education is a major prerequisite for any form of development. Comprehensive education involves teaching, training, learning, instruction and guidance to develop one's skills, understanding and perceptions. This is very much needed for national development.

The curriculum we use in our schools should be broad-based including topic relating to crime and nation building. Government in addition to intensifying their emphasis on science and technology, should explore other areas of human undertaking such as simple crime detection, prevention and control in our school curriculum. The impact of education can go a long way towards changing the perception that killing and destruction of lives is not the right way of achieving one's ambition.