

## CHAPTER THIRTEEN

### A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE TYPES OF SECURITY AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF NIGERIA

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#### ABSTRACT

*This study provides a concise overview of the assessments conducted on various types of security and their impact on the economic development of Nigeria. The study focuses on understanding the interplay between different forms of security, such as economic security, cybersecurity, environmental security, health security, and personal security, and their contributions to fostering economic growth, stability, and resilience in Nigeria. The assessment delves into the significance of each type of security in the Nigerian context, analyzing their individual roles and collective impact on key economic development of Nigeria. It explores the contributions of each type of security in shaping Nigeria's economic landscape, emphasizing the criticality of robust security frameworks in driving investment, business confidence, and sustainable development. The study sets the stage for a comprehensive study that explores the multifaceted relationship between security and economic development, offering valuable insights into contributions to promoting a secure, prosperous, and resilient future for Nigeria. The study concludes that a holistic approach to security not only mitigates risks but also paves the way for inclusive economic development, positioning Nigeria as a competitive player in the global market landscape. One of the recommendations provided was to develop and implement a comprehensive security strategy that integrates various types of security, including cyber, physical, and social, to address multifaceted threats effectively.*

**KEYWORD:** Security, Economic Development and Nigeria.

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#### INTRODUCTION

Security is a critical issue in the dynamic world of global commerce, with implications for many different industries and countries. Nigeria, the most populous nation in Africa and a major economic force in the region, has a variety of complex security issues that are closely related to its progress. This paper investigates the various forms of security and their

significant effects on Nigeria's economic growth. When it comes to a broad range of aspects, such as social, political, economic, and environmental aspects, security goes beyond conventional ideas of military defence. Every dimension interacts with the others to create a complex web of interconnection that is essential to the stability and prosperity of a country. Nigeria's economic landscape is shaped by the dynamic interaction of various elements, which also affects market dynamics, investment patterns, and overall development possibilities.

One of the primary types of security vital for economic development is physical security. Ensuring the safety of citizens, infrastructure, and investments from threats such as crime, terrorism, and insurgency is imperative for fostering an environment conducive to economic activities. Nigeria's economic landscape is marked by volatility, driven by factors like fluctuating oil prices, corruption, and inadequate infrastructure. These vulnerabilities undermine investor confidence, impede business expansion, and hinder efforts to diversify the economy away from its heavy reliance on oil revenues (Oluwaseun & Fakere 2020). In addition to physical and economic security, social stability plays a pivotal role in shaping Nigeria's economic trajectory. Socio-political tensions, ethnic conflicts, and communal violence not only disrupt social cohesion but also have tangible economic repercussions. The cycle of instability hampers human capital development, undermines education and healthcare systems, and perpetuates poverty traps, impeding the realisation of Nigeria's developmental aspirations. The country grapples with environmental degradation, deforestation, and climate change impacts, exacerbating vulnerabilities and threatening livelihoods, particularly in rural areas. Mitigating these environmental risks is crucial not only for safeguarding ecosystems and biodiversity but also for ensuring the resilience of key economic sectors such as agriculture, forestry, and tourism (Ajaegbu & Nnadi 2018).

## CONCEPT OF SECURITY

Security is a delicate and important topic that has diverse connotations for academics, analysts, decision-makers, and organizations worldwide. Security is essentially the lack of crises or threats to human dignity, together with the presence of peace, safety, joy, and the preservation of material and human resources—all of which promote the growth and advancement of any human civilization. According to Afolabi (2015), security has to do with the process connected with assuaging any kind of threat to people and their precious values.

Security is both a feeling and a state of reality. Security is protection from, or resilience against, potential harm (or other unwanted coercion). Beneficiaries (technically referents) of security may be persons and social groups, objects and institutions, ecosystems, or any other entity or phenomenon vulnerable to unwanted change. Security can be physical or virtual (Wikipedia, 2024). Buzan & Hansan (2016) mentioned that the concept of security has undergone profound transformations in recent years, reflecting the dynamic nature of global challenges and technological advancements. From traditional notions centred on military defence to encompassing broader aspects such as cybersecurity, human security, and environmental security, the understanding of security has expanded significantly.

Security can basically be considered a tool—a fungible and negotiable one that offers a monetary value. The definition of security in layman's terms can be described in a simple sentence: a valuable financial asset with a monetary value allowing it to be traded, sold, or bought (Economic Times, 2024). Security is a widely used term that is intrinsically contentious and encompasses a broad range of circumstances and individual as well as collective actions. There are three types of security: security for favourable conditions (the

rule of law and due process, societal development, and political freedom), security against unfavourable conditions or threats (crime, war, and violence), and security for day-to-day individual security (nutritional, economic, and safety).

## TYPES OF SECURITY

A number of broad categories can be used to group security, each of which deals with different aspects of safety and protection in different contexts. These security measures cover a variety of issues, are interrelated, and are typically used in tandem. The types of security are as follows:

- **Economic security:**

According to Mollenkamp (2022), economic security is the ability of people to meet their needs consistently. It is connected to both the concept of economic well-being and the notion of the modern welfare state, a governmental entity that commits itself to providing baseline guarantees for its citizens' security. Indeed, economic security relies on the perception of security in addition to quantifiable material or financial conditions. Economic security can be captured in numerous ways depending on the level of analysis under consideration, ranging from the effects of foreign investments on national economics to the ability of labourers to access health insurance.

- **Food security:**

Food security is defined as a situation that exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life (Berry, 2018). Food security is the state of having reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food. The availability of food for people of any class, gender, or religion is another element of food security. Similarly, household food security is considered to exist when all the members of a family, at all times, have access to enough food for an active, healthy life. Individuals who are food-secure do not live in hunger or fear of starvation.

- **Health security:**

Health security is defined as the activities required, both proactive and reactive, to minimize the danger and impact of acute public health events that endanger people's health across geographical regions and international boundaries (World Health Organization, 2024). Health security is a concept that encompasses activities and measures across sovereign boundaries that mitigate public health incidents to ensure the health of populations. It is an evolving paradigm within the fields of international relations and security studies.

- **Environmental security:**

Environmental security examines threats posed by environmental events and trends to individuals, communities, or nations. It may focus on the impact of human conflict and international relations on the environment or on how environmental problems cross state borders. The IPCC (2018) highlights that environmental security has emerged as a critical concern in the 21st century, encompassing the intersection of environmental challenges with broader security issues. From climate change and natural disasters to resource scarcity and ecological degradation, environmental threats have significant implications for human well-being, societal stability, and geopolitical dynamics.

- **Personal security:**

Personal security is all about ensuring the security of an individual or a family, either so that the person or family in question can feel safe in everyday life or in connection to a specific incident. Both private individuals and persons in specific positions in a company, organization, or authority can be exposed to high-risk situations or may need personal security for preventive purposes. Ensuring good personal security revolves around having a holistic view, which includes solutions where different security aspects such as security intelligence, threat and risk assessment, physical security, and training are considered (SRS Security, 2024).

- **Community security:**

Community security is a concept that seeks to operationalize human security, human development, and state-building paradigms at the local level. The contemporary concept of community security, narrowly defined, includes both group and personal security. The approach focuses on ensuring that communities and their members are "free from fear." The United Nations Development Programme (2024) mentioned that the key focus in community security is to improve the delivery of services and enable the recipients of these services to have agency in identifying their needs and security solutions. Community security is vital for achieving transformational change and addressing injustice, insecurity, and inequality.

- **Political security:**

Political security directly relates to the stability of political power and the survival of the system and is the most essential need and the foundation for a country's survival and development. National security is impossible without political security (Global Times, 2023). Political security is about the organizational stability of states, such as the systems of government and the ideologies that give governments and states their legitimacy.

- **Cybersecurity:**

Cybersecurity is the practice of defending computers, servers, mobile devices, electronic systems, networks, and data from malicious attacks. It's also known as information technology security or electronic information security. The term "cybersecurity" applies in a variety of contexts, from business to mobile computing, and can be divided into a few common categories. They include network security, application security, information security, and operational security (Kaspersky, 2024).

## **CONTRIBUTION OF EACH TYPES OF SECURITY TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF NIGERIA**

Each form of security has a complex and interrelated function in Nigeria's economic development, with different aspects being vital in creating an atmosphere that is favourable to investment, prosperity, and sustained growth. The following are the ways in which Nigeria's economic development has benefited from each form of security:

### **CONTRIBUTION OF ECONOMIC SECURITY TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF NIGERIA**

Economic security plays a crucial role in fostering economic development in Nigeria. Firstly, it provides a stable environment for businesses to operate, attracting domestic and foreign investments. This stability reduces uncertainty and risk, encouraging entrepreneurs to innovate and expand their enterprises. Additionally, economic security contributes to job creation, reducing unemployment rates, and improving living standards. As more people gain employment and generate income, there's an increase in consumer spending, which

further stimulates economic growth.

Furthermore, economic security enhances the country's resilience to external shocks and economic downturns. By diversifying revenue sources and investing in key sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, and services, Nigeria can reduce its dependence on volatile commodities like oil. Moreover, economic security facilitates social stability by reducing poverty and inequality, which are often the root causes of conflicts and unrest. The government plays a vital role in ensuring economic security through effective policies and institutions. Policies focused on fiscal discipline, trade liberalization, and infrastructure development can boost productivity, competitiveness, and overall economic resilience. Additionally, investing in education, healthcare, and social protection programmes improves human capital, leading to a more skilled and healthy workforce (United Nations Development Programme, 2022).

According to the International Monetary Fund (2023), technological advancement is another aspect contributing to economic security and development in Nigeria. Embracing digitalization and innovation fosters efficiency, reduces costs, and enhances competitiveness across various sectors. Access to affordable and reliable internet services enables businesses to reach wider markets, facilitates e-commerce, and promotes entrepreneurship. Moreover, leveraging technology in areas like agriculture can improve productivity, food security, and rural livelihoods, thus supporting overall economic development. Economic security is a fundamental driver of economic development in Nigeria. It creates a conducive environment for investment, job creation, and innovation, while also fostering resilience to economic shocks and promoting social stability. Effective government policies, investments in key sectors, technological advancements, and institutional reforms are crucial in achieving and maintaining economic security, ultimately contributing to sustained growth and prosperity.

## **CONTRIBUTION OF HEALTH SECURITY TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF NIGERIA**

Health security is a fundamental determinant of economic development, particularly in Nigeria, where the health sector faces multifaceted challenges. Health security encompasses various strategies aimed at preventing, detecting, and responding to health threats. These include disease surveillance, healthcare infrastructure development, vaccination programmes, and emergency preparedness. However, investments in health security lead to long-term economic benefits by reducing healthcare expenditures and reallocating resources to other critical sectors. This enhances the government's capacity for infrastructural development and human capital investment (Adeleke & Oyewumi, 2020). This health security also promotes social stability by reducing the burden of disease and improving access to healthcare services, particularly among vulnerable populations.

Nigeria faces numerous challenges in achieving optimal health security, including inadequate healthcare infrastructure, limited access to healthcare services, and weak disease surveillance systems. Inadequate health security measures lead to increased disease burden, reduced productivity, and higher healthcare costs. The economic toll of preventable diseases and epidemics can significantly hinder Nigeria's development trajectory. These obstacles hinder economic development and exacerbate health disparities. Countries with robust health security systems are more attractive to foreign investors due to the reduced risks associated with disease outbreaks. Strengthening health security can thus enhance Nigeria's competitiveness in attracting FDI (Khan & Lopes, 2019).

Universal health coverage (UHC) is essential for ensuring equitable access to healthcare services and achieving health security for all Nigerians. Implementing UHC policies can enhance health outcomes and drive economic development. Policy



interventions such as the National Health Act and the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) aim to improve health security and promote economic development. However, effective implementation and sustained investment are crucial for their success. Given the increasing frequency of health emergencies, building resilience to epidemics and pandemics is paramount.

## **CONTRIBUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF NIGERIA**

One way to think about environmental security is in terms of how human activity affects the environment. This is also known as ecological security, and it continuously conveys the idea that human activity poses a threat to ecological integrity and the environment and that it is the ecosystem and ecological processes that need to be protected. Nigeria's economic development is greatly impacted by environmental security, which has a direct bearing on a number of industries including infrastructure, energy, tourism, and agriculture.

- **Agricultural Productivity:**

Nigeria's economy heavily relies on agriculture, which contributes significantly to its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and provides employment to a large portion of the population. Environmental security ensures the sustainability of agricultural practices by safeguarding land, water, and air quality. For instance, efforts to combat desertification and soil erosion preserve arable land for farming, thereby enhancing agricultural productivity (Adejuwon, 2017).

- **Tourism Revenue:**

Nigeria boasts diverse natural resources and cultural heritage sites, which have the potential to attract tourists and generate revenue for the economy. Environmental security measures such as conservation of wildlife habitats, protection of national parks, and preservation of historical monuments contribute to the attractiveness of Nigeria as a tourist destination. This, in turn, stimulates economic growth through increased tourism revenue and job creation in the hospitality sector (Mbaiwa & Stronza, 2010).

- **Energy Sector Development:**

Environmental security promotes sustainable energy practices and reduces the reliance on fossil fuels, which is crucial for Nigeria's energy sector development. Investments in renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric power not only mitigate environmental degradation but also diversify the energy mix and enhance energy security. (Ebegbulem & Mmom, 2018).

- **Infrastructure Resilience:**

Nigeria's infrastructure is vulnerable to natural disasters such as flooding, erosion, and coastal erosion, which can disrupt economic activities and hinder development. Environmental security involves infrastructure resilience measures such as flood control infrastructure, coastal protection structures, and sustainable urban planning to mitigate the impact of environmental hazards. By enhancing the resilience of infrastructure systems, environmental security supports uninterrupted economic activities and minimizes infrastructure-related losses (Ajaero, 2019).

- **Human Health and Productivity:**

Environmental security initiatives aimed at improving air and water quality, controlling pollution, and ensuring access to clean drinking water contribute to public health and productivity. Healthy ecosystems provide essential ecosystem services such as clean air, water purification, and food security, which directly impact human well-being and economic productivity. Investments in environmental health promotion and disease prevention lead to reduced healthcare costs and increased workforce productivity (Ogbonna, 2021).

### **CONTRIBUTION OF PERSONAL SECURITY TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF NIGERIA**

Personal security is a foundational element for economic prosperity as it fosters confidence, stability, and investment. In Nigeria, persistent security challenges undermine socioeconomic development. Personal security significantly influences economic indicators such as foreign direct investment (FDI), GDP growth, and employment rates. Countries with higher levels of personal security tend to attract more investment, stimulate economic activities, and create employment opportunities (Blomberg, 2018). Small and medium enterprises (SMEs), as engines of economic growth and employment, bear the brunt of security challenges. Insecurity adversely disrupts small and medium enterprises (SMEs), which are vital drivers of economic growth and employment in Nigeria. Heightened security risks deter entrepreneurship, disrupt supply chains, and constrain business expansion, thereby impeding economic development (Ajide, 2021).

Personal security influences human capital development by affecting education and healthcare outcomes. Insecure environments hinder access to quality education and healthcare services, limiting human capital accumulation and productivity growth (Babalola, 2021). However, Nigeria faces various security challenges, including insurgency, armed conflict, banditry, and violent crimes. Inadequate law enforcement capacity, corruption, and social inequalities exacerbate these challenges, undermining efforts to ensure personal security and economic development. Addressing personal security requires a multifaceted approach encompassing law enforcement reform, community policing, conflict resolution mechanisms, and socioeconomic interventions. Strengthening security institutions, promoting good governance, and addressing root causes of insecurity are crucial for sustainable development.

### **CONTRIBUTION OF COMMUNITY SECURITY TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF NIGERIA**

Community security plays a crucial role in fostering economic development in Nigeria. As a nation rich in natural resources and human capital, Nigeria's economic progress is contingent upon the establishment of safe and secure communities. Effective community security initiatives contribute to reducing crime rates, thereby enhancing business confidence and investment opportunities. When businesses feel secure from threats such as theft, vandalism, or extortion, they are more inclined to invest capital, expand operations, and create employment opportunities within local communities (Ugwu & Ilo, 2018). However, community security facilitates infrastructure development and maintenance by providing a safe environment for construction projects and essential services. Investments in infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, and utilities, are crucial for economic growth, connectivity, and access to markets (Okoli & Nzewi, 2019).

Community security is vital for rural development and agricultural productivity, as farmers require protection from theft, land disputes, and crop destruction. Secure farming communities encourage investment in modern agricultural practices, leading to increased yields, food security, and poverty alleviation (Oluwatosin & Ijeoma, 2018). It also promotes

social cohesion and cooperation among residents, leading to collective efforts to address common challenges and pursue shared goals. By attracting tourists and supporting the growth of the tourism industry by preserving cultural heritage sites and natural attractions. Tourism generates revenue, creates jobs, and stimulates economic growth, particularly in regions with rich cultural diversity and historical significance (Ogunleye & Ogundipe, 2021). A secure community environment encourages human capital development by ensuring access to education, healthcare, and skill-building opportunities. Individuals are more likely to invest in their personal development when they feel safe, leading to a more skilled and productive workforce (Ogbeidi & Oseghale, 2020).

Community security contributes to environmental sustainability by preventing illegal activities such as deforestation, poaching, and pollution. Sustainable environmental practices are essential for preserving natural resources, biodiversity, and ecosystem services, which are integral to long-term economic development (Adebayo & Adeyemo, 2019). Secure communities promote gender equality and women's empowerment by protecting women and girls from violence, exploitation, and discrimination. Women's participation in economic activities is essential for inclusive growth, poverty reduction, and sustainable development (Agbola & Olaniyan, 2017).

## CONTRIBUTION OF POLITICAL SECURITY TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF NIGERIA

Political security plays a vital role in shaping the economic landscape of Nigeria, as a stable political environment is conducive to investment, business growth, and sustainable development.

- **Investor Confidence and Capital Inflows:**

A politically stable environment fosters investor confidence and attracts foreign direct investment (FDI) into Nigeria. Political stability reduces uncertainty and risks associated with changes in government policies, regulations, and governance structures, thereby encouraging both domestic and foreign investors to commit capital to various sectors of the economy. Increased FDI inflows contribute to economic growth, job creation, technology transfer, and infrastructure development (Asongu & Nnanna, 2019).

- **Business Environment and Entrepreneurship:**

Political stability promotes a conducive business environment that nurtures entrepreneurship and private sector development. With stable governance and predictable regulatory frameworks, businesses can thrive, innovate, and expand operations more effectively. Moreover, political security reduces the prevalence of corruption, rent-seeking behaviour, and bureaucratic inefficiencies, which are detrimental to business growth and economic productivity (Ojong & Ezeanya, 2018).

- **Infrastructure Development and Public Investment:**

Political stability enables governments to focus on long-term development agendas, including infrastructure projects that are essential for economic growth and competitiveness. With political security, policymakers can prioritize public investment in critical infrastructure such as transportation networks, energy systems, telecommunications, and social amenities. Improved infrastructure enhances productivity, reduces transaction costs, facilitates trade, and attracts private sector investments (Egwuonwu & Anowor, 2017).



- **Macroeconomic Stability and Fiscal Management:**

Political stability contributes to macroeconomic stability through prudent fiscal management, monetary policy, and institutional governance. A stable political environment reduces the likelihood of fiscal deficits, currency volatility, inflationary pressures, and external imbalances, which are detrimental to economic development. Sound macroeconomic policies foster investor confidence, ensure price stability, and support sustainable economic growth over the long term (Oyatoye, 2018).

- **Social Cohesion and Human Capital Development:**

Political security promotes social cohesion, inclusivity, and human capital development, which are essential drivers of economic progress. Stable governance structures uphold the rule of law, protect human rights, and promote social justice, leading to greater equity, social mobility, and access to education, healthcare, and basic services. A politically stable society nurtures a skilled workforce, enhances labour productivity, and fosters innovation and creativity, all of which are critical for sustained economic development (Olayinka, 2020).

## SUMMARY

This chapter of the book is an embodiment of numerous security contents. Indeed the assessment of various security measures reveals their significant contributions to Nigeria's economic development. Enhanced security frameworks, encompassing cyber, physical, and socio-political dimensions, fortify investor confidence and foster a conducive business environment. Effective border security ensures the protection of national assets, curtails illicit activities, and promotes cross-border trade. Furthermore, investments in cybersecurity bolster digital infrastructure, safeguard against cyber threats, and promote technological advancement. Social security initiatives address underlying socio-economic challenges, fostering stability and social cohesion, crucial for sustainable economic growth. Overall, a holistic approach to security not only mitigates risks but also paves the way for inclusive economic development, positioning Nigeria as a competitive player in the global market landscape.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Government and private organizations should develop and implement a comprehensive security strategy that integrates various types of security, including cyber, physical, and social, to address multifaceted threats effectively.
- There is need to prioritize investments in critical infrastructure such as border security systems, cybersecurity frameworks, and social safety nets to enhance security measures across the country
- It is good to foster collaboration between government agencies, private sector entities, and local communities to share resources, expertise, and intelligence for a more robust security architecture.
- There is need to invest in training and capacity-building programmes for security personnel, including law enforcement agencies, cyber experts, and community leaders, to enhance their capabilities in preventing and responding to security threats.

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