

**CORRUPTION AN ATTER TO THE ATTAINMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
IN NIGERIA**

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Abstract

The upsurge of the issue in Nigeria is alarming. The threat of corruption remains a worldwide wonder. Corruption cuts across various levels and arms of government including the private sectors. It is important to note that that progressive governments in Nigeria have applied a few procedures planned for dealing with the national economy with the goal of guaranteeing continous economical advancement that would improve the ways of life of the individuals however these systems have been ruined by expanding degrees of corruption. Truly, this is an atter to attaining sustainable development in Nigeria and this shouldnt be treated with kids gloves. On this note, the research contends that the nation needs a submitted, straightforward and reason driven government that is resolved to lessen defilement to the barest least. To accomplish this, the preeminent enemy of debasement in the nation, ICPC and EFCC, ought to be conceded full self-rule and ought to be furnished with a unique court.

Keywords: Corruption, Economic Development, EFCC and ICPC.

Introduction

Notably seen as a deadly worm, corruption an atter that has decreased development nearly to nothing in Nigeria. Corruption according to Independent Corrupt Practices and other Related Offenses Commission (ICPC) (2006) has been the essential explanation for the nation troubles in growing quick. Ribadu (2003) expressed this is the motivation behind why Transparency International has comprised rating of Nigeria as the top three most degenerate nations on the planet (Transparency International, 2013). Today, Nigeria is enriched with bountiful human and characteristic assets yet the nation is staying in extreme poverty. The nation has everything necessary to accomplish feasible sustainable development since she is lavishly invested with human and normal assets especially oil and gas (Ogege, 2014). With a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of USD 75.4 billion and populace of around 180 million as per statistics, Nigeria is among

the four biggest economies in Africa. In Africa, Nigeria is seen as the giant and second wealthiest in sub-Saharan Africa (World Bank, 2007), Nigeria has stayed a nation of extraordinary silliness with steady neediness in the fog of bounty. A reality in that around 74 percent of the people in Nigeria can't benefit from \$1 every day and are categorized as people living under absolute poverty (Koffi Annah, 2000 in Aluyor and Shuaib, 2011; Ogege, 2014). To further brace the above attestation, Nigeria is positioned exceptionally low in Human Development Index (HDI). The United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) in 2008 report that Nigeria's HDI is put at 0.453, which is lower than the normal HDI for sub-Saharan Africa of 0.515 (UNDP 2008). Nigeria is as of now evaluated as perhaps the least fortunate country in the globe with destroying youth joblessness, statistically at ten million adolescents that are happy to work yet can't look for some kind of employment (NBS 2009, Otto and Ukpere 2012 as referred to in Ogege, 2014). Lamentably, corruption remains the attester to accomplishing supportable turn of events. Larger level of the populace need access to fundamental human rights, for example, medicinal services offices, subjective and reasonable instruction, pipe borne water, and power to make reference to yet a couple out of the need foundations ailing in the nation. The overall horrid presentation and the powerlessness of the different systems to accomplish economical sustainability in Nigeria is ascribed to corruption. Ogege (2014) contend that what corruption does is to make authenticity hole in a majority rule agreement. He said constituent corruption makes it outlandish for political race results to mirror the authentic wishes and command of the individuals. This attendants in terrible administration or government at all levels that need validity, authenticity and open certainty. As per him, there two significant ramifications for practical developmental sustainability in Nigeria, he further said electoral corruption makes it impossible for election results to reflect the genuine wishes and mandate of the people. This ushers in bad governance or government at all levels that lack credibility, legitimacy and public confidence. Since political force is traversed degenerate methods, unpracticed and malicious disapproved of pioneers who are not dependable to the predicament of the individuals rule the political field. Such leaders set up organizations and offices that are unequipped for adequately using the region or open assets to offer fundamental types of assistance and different necessities that the individuals of Nigeria particularly the poor are needing. Besides, authenticity hole for practical advancement is that it makes security hole, deceitful races. The powerlessness of the local chiefs to allot assets for the material prosperity of its populace definitely prompts baffled desires and make the individuals inclined to fierce wrongdoings and clashes. Conditions of instability is an obstruction to maintainable sustainable development. Subsequent governments had put in place a plethora of robust development policies and programmes that can indeed steer the nation on a fast track to sustainability. The impressions of their endeavors were made show in the EFCC and the ICPC.

In the expressions of a notable writer as referred to in Keeper (2012) that any individual who can say that corruption in Nigeria is yet to mature can be described as a blockhead; a law breaker or, in all likelihood is not resident in the nation. The circumstance has gotten awful to the degree that as far back as 1993, shielding a normal Nigeria from being degenerate resembles shielding a goat from eating sweet potato (Achebe, 1988). This splendidly clarifies the condition of corruption among Nigerians and why all endeavors to set up an equitable and libertarian culture in the nation flopped from that point onward. Corruption made development to be hindered in Nigeria. Individuals pay off to complete nearly everything in the nation. For example, Tokunbo (1992) suggests the way that you pay off to get your kid into a school, you pay to make sure about a vocation and you likewise keep on paying at times to hold it. You pay 10 percent of each agreement got, you run the duty official to abstain from settling charges, you pay the medical clinic specialist and attendant to get legitimate consideration, and you pay the cops to avoid capture, this index of disgrace can proceed without end. Debasement is the single most noteworthy hindrance to monetary and social turn of events. It subverts advancement by twisting the job of law and debilitating the institutional establishment on which financial development depends (World Bank). It is perhaps the best test of the contemporary world. It sabotages great government, on a very basic level misshapes open approach, prompts the misallocation of assets, hurts the private division and private area advancement and especially harms poor people (Transparency International).

CONCEPTS OF CORRUPTION

There is no commonly concurred definition with respect to what establishes corruption practices. It is a mind boggling and multifaceted marvel that disintegrates the financial and political estimation of any country. Corruption is likewise a worldwide wonder, understandable just in its social setting. There is a developing overall worry over its spread due to such huge numbers of components destitution, wrongdoing, low pace of sparing, joblessness and to make reference to a couple. Therefore, changing open segment and government approaches is basic yet neediness a result of corruption restrains the accessible choices.

Corruption is a social issue found in different degrees and structures in everything except the most crude social orders as set by Stauts (1972) in Iyanda(2012). Like most ideas in the sociologies, corruption doesn't have a solitary all-pleasing definition. Etymologically, the word corruption is gotten from a Latin word "corrumpo" and it truly mean "to break, free worth, foul and pointless". Along these lines it implies loss of virtue or respectability. Ogege (2014) presents that corruption is a moral issue tied down on virtues and direct. Ofoeze (2004) noted that corruption includes "any activity or inaction of any individual, or gathering (open or private) purposely executed to make sure about preferences for oneself, a connection, partner or group(s) in a way that degrade the acknowledged guidelines, ethics, or potentially moral norm or code and hence comprising a tragedy of equity, value and reasonable play". Ekiyor (2005) noted that corruption is an illegal utilization of legitimate influence or impact by an authority of the administration in order to advance himself and additionally some other individual to the detriment of general society, in contradiction of his pledge of office or potentially despite the shows or laws that are in power. Likewise, Corruption is additionally observed as "exertion to make sure about riches or influence through unlawful methods, private increase at public expense, or abuse of open influence for private advantage" (Lipset and Lenz, 2000 as referred to in Keeper, 2012). The ICPC Act 2000 considered corruption to be a multi-faceted phenomenon that ranges from the giving and tolerating of pay off to different sorts of fraudulent rehearses. Likewise from the lawful perspective, the EFCC through Ngwakwe (2009) characterizes defilement from economic point of view as "the peaceful lawbreaker and unlawful action perpetrated with targets of gaining riches wrongfully either independently or in a gathering or sorted out way accordingly disregarding existing enactment overseeing the monetary exercises of government and its organization". The misappropriation of government property or incomes made conceivable through government guidelines (Braguinsky, 1996). The Nigerian President (Muhammadu Buhari) at the Anti-Corruption Summit in London in May 11, 2016 said "Corruption is a hydra-headed beast and a cankerworm that sabotages the texture everything being equal. Otite (1998) defined corruption as the perversion of integrity or state of affairs through bribery, favour or moral depravity. Corruption involves the injection of additional but improper transactions aimed at changing the normal course of events and altering judgments and positions of trust. Gray and Kaufmann (1998) defined corruption as the use of public office for private gains. This includes bribery and extortion, which involves at least two parties, and that which public official, can carry out alone including fraud and embezzlement.

Theories of corruption

Social control theory

Social control theory posits that without effective control measures; deviance becomes the norm; (Weidman, 2007). According to this theory, humans rationalize on what is more rewarding and proceed to take action on that basis. Thus, in the absence of fear of penalty or sanctions, there is nothing to deter people from fraudulently enriching themselves at the expense of others. As this phenomenon snowballs, it actually becomes accepted as a norm: as is currently the case with some forms of corruption in many African countries including Nigeria.

Socio-cultural theory of corruption

This view as stated by Medard (1998) holds that corruption is as a result of imposition of western methods of governance and upholding that system as opposed to our traditional system. Corruption in developing countries is often associated with inharmonious relationship between traditional values and western norms, which are evidenced in modernistic unbridled acquisition tendencies. In the first place, the origin and nature of the public service as a colonial instrument and the inherent contradictions between this and current

nationalistic goals have continued to impede its efficiency, as governmental machinery in the post colonial era. It can thus be concluded that corruption is an imported phenomena which came with colonization.

CORRUPTION AND ITS CAUSES

Several factors can be linked to the corruption causes and its prevalence in Nigeria. Corruption is perpetuated due to the following fact; the syndrome of getting-rich-quick, moral decadence as a result of degeneration and shaky foundations of our moral upbringing and values in the society, unemployment/underemployment, inadequate motivation(job role, remuneration, work environment, high cost of living-housing, feeding, transportation, education, etc), chauvinism-tribal, gender, self-serving tendencies, taste not commensurate with status in life, saving-for-the-rainyday syndrome, large/extended family and manipulation of panel by government to mention but a few.Also, it is a common belief that poverty is one of the major causes of corruption and one cannot but submit to the fact that there a great deal it in the land. In another perspective Paolo (1998) mentioned three principal causes of corruption, which are:

1. Government restrictions and intervention, which lead to excessive profits. These include trade restrictions (tariffs and import quotas), favourist industrial policies (subsidies and tax deduction), price controls, multiple exchange rate practices, foreign exchange allocation schemes, government-controlled credit;
2. Natural resources, e.g, (crude) oil whose supply is limited by nature where huge profits are available to those who extract it; officials who allocate extraction rights are likely to be offered bribes;
3. And to this we may add, lack of adequate and sustainable retirement benefits, under which serving officials would want to provide for their future through corruption and fraudulent practices.

Sustainable Development

Sustainable development infers change which regularly follows a very much arranged grouping and shows basic qualities across nations, Thirlwall (1983). This goals are outlined below :

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable Agriculture
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation, and foster innovation
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification and halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss
16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development

Walter Rodney (1972) in his book named "How Europe Underdeveloped Africa" coherently contended that: Development in human culture is a diserse procedure. At the degree of individual, it suggests increment expertise and limit, more noteworthy opportunity, inventiveness, self-control, obligation and material prosperity... . At the degree of social gatherings, it infers an expanding ability to manage both inside and outer relations... . In the past advancement has consistently implied the expansion in the capacity to monitor

the autonomy of the social gathering Development is a condition of progress and a procedure that clarifies the condition or condition of a general public both in constructive change and change additional time as it occurs in spots and districts where individuals live and work. Conceptualizing advancement as a procedure as per Olaseni (2007) makes the connection with region express since it suggests improvement as happening in places and unevenly in reality. Smith (1987) in Olaseni (2007) saw that improvement alludes to the state of a populace characterized regionally and is interchangeable with so much ideas as way of life, social prosperity or personal satisfaction. Great personal satisfaction is along these lines equivalent with improvement.

The Implications of corruption for Nigeria actualizing her sustainable development.

The major goal of the Nigeria vision 20:2020 is to set the economy on a path of sustainable development to create an economy that can compete with others. But given the current level of corruption in Nigeria, it is most likely that the achievement of this ultimate goal may only be on paper. This is more so because corruption in Nigeria is seen as being official and this has to a greater extent made the implementation of vision 20:2020 a total failure. Corrupt economic practices tend to increase the cost of doing business in the country. For instance, the bribes that sometimes has to be paid to public officials to move their files within a chocked bureaucratic set-up and the percentage mark-up, which corrupt officials take when awarding contracts, etc add up to the total cost of carrying out a given investment, it is clear that the final costs and prices will correspondingly increase both for investors and consumers alike. This cost element can positively discourage potential investors from undertaking business/ investments in Nigeria, since the country is infested with corruption. If the proceeds of corruption are invested within the country, it can generate some multiplier effects, thereby increasing jobs for people. This is not likely to be the case, because of possible demand for accountability. The corrupt resources transferred abroad or used for importation of non-essential goods, acts as a drain on the economy, depriving it of the ability to generate jobs for people domestically. In another sense, the smuggling of foreign made products can cause unemployment by undercutting the competitive sales of the existing legitimate industries thereby forcing them to operate under capacity. In 1983 for instance, heavy smuggling of goods into Nigeria crippled battery, textile, leather, electronics, tobacco and aerosol industries causing thousands of people to be laid off. Thus, the aggregate effects of corrupt acts either in terms of illegally siphoning out the nation's resources or smuggling in those of other nations have direct negative impact on employment (Umoh, 2003). Unfortunately, employment generation is an integral part of the vision – 2020. Corruption leads to a reduction in goods.

CORRUPTION EFFECTS ON NIGERIA'S QUEST FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Corruption impact on all facets of a nation's development are innumerable. The former chairman of the ICPC, Mustapha Akanbi stated inter alia that Corruption is a dangerous foe... The endemic nature and debilitating effect of corruption on the cultural, economic, social and political foundation of the society has been most harrowing and disconcerting (Akanbi, 2004 cited in Orji, 2011). Corruption has been the harbinger of the messy situation in which we find ourselves today and it has always been impacted negatively on the overall development of the country. Orji(2011) gave the following effects of corruption on Nigeria development;

1. It causes brain drain as Oloja (2002) asserts that regrettable, "corruption is one of the reasons for the "brain drain" phenomenon in Nigeria, as talented professionals are leaving the country in search of employment somewhere else.
2. Natufe (2007) said that the corruption is a major hindrance in ensuring good governance and development. He continued that corruption is no doubt an enemy of economic development. He said that in the international scene, it gives a nation and her people a poor image.
3. Ojaide (2000) said that a nation that condones corruption is often besieged with a lot of economic and social vices. In his assertion, he maintained that a corrupt ridden society, trade and commerce cannot thrive, as investors will be unwilling to invest in any trade or business in such country. Thus, corruption discourages honest efforts and valuable economic activities; and it breeds inefficiency and nepotism.
4. In the socio-cultural context, corruption apart from engendering poverty has the capacity of changing the social values of a good and progressive society dramatically to nothing else. This is as a result of crazy

pursuit of wealth, affluences, power and societal recognition. People no longer appreciate the virtues of good morale, conduct and practices. They believe in the reverse order, that the means justifies the end.

Conclusion

As the ideas of defilement and manageable advancement have been examined, the investigation uncovers that the possibility to be prosperous have large amounts of effects; anyway debasement maintains that the impediments hampering the success achievements explicitly is supportable turn of events is one of the significant. Debasement has transformed into high pace of destitution, and other all types of socio-indecencies among the individuals. The diminished pace of improvement has essentially given to absence of reasonable social insurance administrations, subjective and moderate instruction ,and other infrastructural administrations that its populace are significantly needing. (NBS 2009, Otto and Ukpere 2012 as referred to in Ogege, 2014).As the number keep on developing exponentially every year. Formative development is hindered or presumably at a stop in Nigeria contrasted with different countries that are plentifully supplied with the oil raw petroleum like Nigeria. Rather than oil being a gift to the country it has continually being on the opposite side on account of defilement. A few government organizations in the nation have been at one point or the other blamed for misappropriation of open assets or theft by the progressive government. Notwithstanding, accessible proof shows that these assets have not been sensibly utilized or coursed to address the issues of the populace as far as human capital improvement due to elevated level of defilement in the nation. Thus, the examination in its points fundamentally analyzed the reasons for defilement in Nigeria, its negative effects on formative development and the nexus among debasement and economical turn of events.

Recommendations

In light of the above conversations, the examination hence suggests the accompanying;

1. The exercises or projects of the counter debasement organizations in Nigeria, for example, the EFCC and the ICPC ought to be fortified regarding satisfactory preparing and retraining and money.
2. Federal government particularly and the Politicians must quit meddling in the issues of the counter debasement offices in the nation
3. The arrangements that will improve the accomplishment of manageable advancement must be urged to lessen the degree of defilement and destitution and increment the degree of financial development and advancement in all structures.
4. There ought to be free and reasonable political race in Nigeria with the goal that the fair people who might fill in as good examples will be placed chosen into authority positions in order to limit the antagonistic effect of debasement on monetary development in Nigeria.
5. Government ought to guarantee debasement as a subject should be talk on banter by government agents at Federal, State and neighborhood level. This is will make the mindfulness that degenerate practices are against standards, culture and social estimation of the general public.
6. Government ought to define and actualize strategy on the most proficient method to battle neediness and joblessness of the Nigerian populace. This is extreme on the abounding alumni of various colleges in the nation.

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