

The Rate of Youth Unemployment and Its Effects on National Security

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Unemployment has been a major problem in most countries in the world. Nigeria, as a developing country is witnessing high rate of youth unemployment which has become one of the major threats to its national security. The study examines the types and causes of youth unemployment in Nigeria, its effects on national security and ways to tackle unemployment as a means to improve the level of national security. Also, a statistical rate of youth unemployment by states in Nigeria from 2004-2008 was analysed. The findings showed that one of the major reasons for unemployment is that the growth of education has far outstripped the growth of the economy in which the supply of jobs cannot meet the demand of the graduates moving out of the tertiary institution. The study concludes that youth unemployment is a menace in the country that deserves governmental and societal solicitude.

Keywords: unemployment, youth, national security, Nigeria

Introduction

Unemployment and national security are major issues in the world today. According to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) data, the number of young unemployed between the ages of 15 and 24 has reached 74.2 million in 2008, accounting for 40 percent of total unemployment. Due to this fact, the number of unemployed youth was projected to reach 78-90 million as at the end of 2009. The ILO (2007) report showed that the proportions of world unemployment are steadily increasing and that the number of those without jobs remained at an all-time high of more than 195 million, or 6.3 percent, in 2007. For instance, during that period (2007), the Middle East and North Africa were the regions with the highest unemployment rate in the world at 12.2 percent, followed by sub-Saharan Africa at nearly 10 percent. East Asia's unemployment rate of 3.6 percent remained the lowest. The report affirmed that population growth, especially in South Asia, the Middle East, North Africa, and Sub-Saharan Africa, was putting a lot of pressure on job creation. The report concluded that half of all workers in the world—some 1.4 billion working poor—lived in families that survived on less than \$2 a day per person. These people worked in the vast informal sector—from farms to fishing, from agriculture to urban alleyways—without benefits, social security, or healthcare. Over 550 million lived on \$1 or less per day. In absolute terms, it is estimated that there are about 122 million youths on the African continent (Echebiri, 2005; Chigunta, 2002). Therefore, projections of the population growth into the 21st century indicated that the proportion of youths, in relation to the overall population, will continue to grow (Okafor, E.E.,

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2011, p. 362). According to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), recent statistics show that unemployment rate in Nigeria has increased to 23.9 percent during the first half of the year 2011. In addition, to the already daunting statistics of over 43 million unemployed youths, an additional 1.8 million people joined the long queue. This was attributed to fresh entrants to the job market and worker layoffs across all sectors of the economy in the year (<http://www.thenationonline.net/2011/index.php/news-update/26353-unemployment-rate-in-nigeria-hits-23-9-per-cent.html>).

Hence, this alarming rate of youth unemployment tell on the level of insecurity in the country whereby youths are involved in terrorism, kidnapping, armed robbery, theft etc. Youth unemployment is no doubt one of the biggest problems in Nigeria threatening its national security, considering the inability of the government to adequately engage the teeming youth population to be productive.

On the other hand, national security is the requirement to maintain the survival of the state through the use of economy, diplomacy, power projection, and political power. National security initially focused on military strength of a country. The concept was developed mostly in the United States of America after the World War II. But presently, the concept has encompassed non-military security such as economic security, energy security, food security etc. Security threats can come in any form. The present security threat in Nigeria is that the Boko Haram terrorist attacks on the government and the country at large. The upcoming threat to its national security is the issue of youth unemployment which demands attention from the government.

In other words, job/employment security is essential because in order to possess national security, a nation needs to possess not only economic security, energy security, food security but also employment security for its youth population. Thus, employment opportunities are included in national security for without it, national security is incomplete. Therefore, there is a need to look into the effect of youth unemployment on national security and the possible solution to it for the sustainability of national security.

Theoretical Framework

Frustration-Aggression Theory

This theory which John Dollard and his research associates initially developed in 1939 has been expanded and modified by scholars like Leonard Berkowitz (1962) and Aubrey Yates (1962). It appears to be the most common explanation for violent behaviour stemming from inability to fulfill needs. This theory states that aggression is not just undertaken as a natural reaction on instinct as realists and biological theorists assume, but that it is the outcome of frustration and that in a situation where the legitimate desires of an individual is derived either directly or by the indirect consequence of the way the society is structured, the feeling of disappointment may lead such a person to express his anger through violence that will be directed on those he holds responsible or people who are directly or indirectly related to them.

In addition, scholars point to the difference between what people feel they want or deserve to what actually get-the “want-get-ratio” (Feierabends, I.K.R. & Nesvold, B.A., 1969) and difference between “expected need satisfaction” and “actual need satisfaction” (Davies, C.J., 1962). And where expectation does not meet attainment, the tendency is for people to confront those they hold responsible for frustrating their ambitions. This is the central argument that Ted Robert Gurr’s relative deprivation thesis addressed in saying that “the greater the discrepancy, however marginal, between what is sought and what seem attainable, the greater will be the chances that anger and violence will result” (Gurr, Ted R., 1970, p. 24).

A good example of the way in which frustration leads to aggression can be seen in the teeming youth unemployment in which after the youth population are feeling that they are getting less than what they deserve from the government, most of them resort to stealing, terrorism, kidnapping, vandalizing oil pipelines etc.

Structural Conflict Theory

This theory has two main sub-orientations. The first is the radical structural theory represented by the Marxist dialectical school with exponents like Marx and Engels, V.I., Lenin, etc. The second is the liberal structuralism represented by Ross (1993), Scarborough (1998) and the famous work of Johan Galtung (1990) on structural violence. It is also sometimes similar to transformative theory, which addresses the reactions of individuals, groups, cultures, institutions and societies to change.

The main argument of the structural conflict theory is that conflict is built into the particular ways societies are structured and organised. The theory looks at social problems like political and economic exclusion, injustice, poverty, disease, exploitation, inequity etc. as sources of conflict. Structuralists maintain that conflicts occur because of the exploitative and unjust nature of human societies, domination of one class by another, etc. . This case is made by Friedrich Engels, Karl Marx, Joseph Lenin and Mao Tung (1997), who blame capitalism for being an exploitative system based on its relations of production and the division of society into the proletariat and bourgeoisie. The exploitation of the proletariat and lower classes under capitalism creates conflict (Shedrack, G.B., 2006, p. 41).

The emphasis of structural theory is that part of the social problems facing the country is the issue of youth unemployment which have degenerated into conflict and as well affecting the efficacy of the national security. The act of exploitation by the government on the resources of the country which supposed to have been a means of creating employment for the unemployed youths has been a source of conflict (Shedrack, G.B., 2006, p. 41).

Conceptual Discourse

Unemployment

The concept of unemployment dates from the end of the 19th century and is closely associated with the rise of industrialized wage economies. Before that time, persons without work were indiscriminately described as unemployment regardless of the reason. The downturn in the world economy that began in the 1870s and continued until the mid-1890s forced a large number of workers into idleness; such conditions eventually led to a new approach to unemployment, one that emphasized its involuntary nature (Odusola, A.F., 2001). Unemployment is the condition of one who is capable of working, actively seeking work, but unable to find any work. The International Labour Organization (ILO) defines the unemployed as numbers of the economically active population who are without work but available for and seeking work, including people who have lost their jobs and those who have voluntarily left work (World Bank, 1998). This definition does not account for the percentage of unemployed youth across the world. While some developing countries and developed countries are experiencing higher rate, some are at the moderate/lower level.

The *Guardian Newspaper* reports that in the United Kingdom, the current statistics postulates that the number of jobless youth between 16 and 24 years old is now 1.02 million. The office for National Bureau of Statistics in United Kingdom said there were a total of 2.62 million unemployed people in the quarter, the highest total since 1994 which left the unemployment rate at a bigger than expected 8.3 percent, the highest

since 1996. This equally means that at the end of the next semester or session, additional young people are churned out of academic institutions with “high hopes” of employment opportunities.

According to the Central Bank of Nigeria (2003), the national unemployment rate, rose from 4.3 percent in 1970 to 6.4 percent in 1980. The high rate of unemployment observed in 1980 was attributed largely to depression in the Nigerian economy during the late 1970s. Specifically, the economic downturn led to the implementation of stabilization measures which included restriction on exports, which caused import dependency of most Nigerian manufacturing enterprises, which in turn resulted in operation of many companies below their installed capacity (Akintoye, I.R. , 2008). This development led to the close down of many industries while the survived few were forced to retrench a large proportion of their workforce, furthermore, the Nigerian Government also placed an embargo on employment. Particularly, from 1980 to 1984, the total disengagement from the Federal Civil Service rose from 2,724 to 6,294 respectively (Akintoye, I.R., 2008). The depression in the economy was caused by mismanagement of public funds and corruption by the leaders to the detriment of the society which added to the rate of unemployment. The Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) adopted in 1986 had serious implications on employment in Nigeria. As unemployment rate declined from 7.1 percent in 1987 to 1.8 percent in 1995, it rose to 3.4 percent in 1996, and hovered between 3.4 and 4.7 percent between 1996 and 2000 (Douglasson, G.U. & Gbosi, A., 2006). This indicates discrepancy in the rate of unemployment and the failure in the policy of the government to tackle the problem. Also, the analysis implies that people who have been majorly affected by unemployment are those without basic education. For instance, 76.8/80.6 percent of the unemployment in 1974 and 1978 respectively were people with or without primary school education.

According to National Bureau of Statistics, the national unemployment rates for Nigeria between 2000 and 2009 showed that the number of unemployed persons constituted 31.1% in 2000; 13.6% in 2001; 12.6% in 2002; 14.8% in 2003; 13.4% in 2004; 11.9% in 2005; 13.7% in 2006; 14.6% in 2007; 14.9% in 2008, and 19.7% in 2009 (National Bureau of Statistics, 2009). In 2010, the figures rose to 21.1 percent and 23.9 percent in the first half of the year 2011. The total number of unemployed Nigerians rose from more than 12 million in 2010 to more than 14 million in 2011, with the figure increasing by 1.8 million between December 2010 and June 2011. As in October, 2012, the Statistician General of the Federation, Dr. Temi Kale (2012), said that “20.3 million Nigerians are currently jobless and not employed in any form of job”. Indubitably, a majority of the youths in the country falls into this category. The country’s unemployed youths roam the streets on a daily basis in search of greener pastures. They continue to hope against hope that the “haves” will have mercy on them and give them their job dream jobs. While on the other hand, the “haves” and their accomplices in government continue to retain the vacancies most especially in federal parastatals for their children who are yet to complete their education in higher institutions of learning all in the name of federal character. The National Bureau of Statistics defines the unemployment rate as the percentage of Nigeria’s labour force that is qualified to work but did not work for at least 39 hours in the week preceding the survey. The total labour force is made up of people aged between 15 and 64 years and excludes students, home-keepers, retired persons, stay-at-home parents and persons unable to work or not interested in work (National Bureau of Statistics, 2010).

From the above data, youth unemployment is a lingering issue which is affecting most of the dependent rate that are expected to care for their parents in the future but still struggling to be independent. Though, there is no coherence in the data, but it show that the youth is at the disadvantage side in the economy which in turn affects the level of our national security.

The difficulties that the youths faced in the labour market comprise not only unemployment, but also underemployment. That is, working long hours under informal, intermittent, and unsecured work arrangements, working below their potential in low-paid, low-skilled jobs without prospects for career advancement. There are many youths whose education or training makes them overqualified for their jobs and find it hard to get their positions upgraded to be commensurate with their qualifications. This has led most youth to falsify their age and years of experience.

National Security

The concept of national security is ambiguous. There is a need to look into the concept of security itself. The concept of security is highly complex. Individuals and States have different definitions on the concept of security based on the value placed on what aspect of security—economic security, social security, political security and territorial security. Security is commonly based on fear of actual and potential attacks on public authorities, persons and properties. To a certain degree, security has objectively definable physical aspects, such as whether a country's borders are safe from attack and whether a state is able to guarantee a reasonable degree of law and order so that citizens can live free from physical harm. At the same time, there is also a more subjective dimension to the notion of security—the degree to which people perceive themselves to be secured from harm.

The concept of national security of a country is strongly influenced by the country's unique particularities—most importantly, the country's historical experiences. For instance, a country that has been traumatised by repeated attacks from neighbouring states laying claim to its territory will have a different approach to national security to a country that has never been attacked. Moreover, a country's geographical characteristics and its natural resources also influence national security thinking. For example, a state that is landlocked will have different national security needs to a state with a long coastline, and a country with no oil and gas resources will consider energy security a higher priority on its list of national security concerns than a state that is partly self-sufficient when it comes to meeting its energy needs (Brown, M., 1996).

At the academic level, national security is an intricate network of systems of defense measures, aimed at ensuring the safety of governments, the state and their nationals. Through overt and covert measures of military intelligence operations, under-cover disruptions of the sinister activities of men and women with misplaced consciences, the security of the people, their state and governments is ensured.

National security includes the strength of a nation's infrastructure, the foundation upon which the continuous growth of the society depends. It includes strong societal and moral codes, the rule of law, stable government, social, political, and economic institutions, and leadership. The strength of a nation also requires investments in science, engineering, research and development, and technological leadership. National security must include a healthy market-based economy, with a strong base of globally competitive products and services that produce jobs. This economy must include sound government policies to promote responsible choices and reduce our debt, and grand strategies for energy and environmental sustainability, science and technology leadership (at least in some areas), human capital capabilities, manufacturing, and the industrial base. National security goes to the very core of how we define who we are as a nation and a free society. It concerns how we view our world responsibilities (Ronis, R.S., 2011).

Therefore, national security is the pivot on which the prosperity, governance and the general welfare of the citizens of any country turns. In other words, security considerations are paramount to transform Nigeria into a country that is economically and politically stable.

Types of Unemployment

There are three types of unemployment. They are:

Frictional unemployment: This is a short-term, often voluntary form of unemployment as a result of movements of people between jobs and regions. Short-period unemployment brought about by workers' changing of jobs. This minimum level of unemployment, which coexists with job vacancies, occurs even when an economy is at full employment and is a feature of all types of national economy. Labour market policies can reduce this type of unemployment by making job information more available and accurate and by subsidizing search costs.

Structural unemployment: An imbalance across labour markets arises when demand for labour of one kind or in one region rises while demand for labour of another kind or in another region declines, and labour supplies fail to adjust. This form of unemployment is caused by a difference between the structure of employment vacancies and the structure of unemployment, which usually brought about by technological change. This is when unemployed persons have different skills from those being demanded by employers or when the labour markets are located in a different place from a potential employer.

The key reason behind structural unemployment is the mismatch between the skill earned by the unemployed (labour supply) and the needed skills of employers (labour market demand). The mismatch comes about because the unemployed are unwilling or unable to change skills or to move to a location where their skills are in demand. As a result, it becomes very costly to match workers with jobs and unemployment is often prolonged. For example, businesses in a certain area may require young people with advanced ICT skills. A young person living in this area but without these skills will have difficulty finding a job—his/her skills are not matched to the demand. On the other hand, a young person with the required skills set but living in an area where these are not in demand because employers, who are looking for agricultural workers, will have an equally difficult time finding work or may become underemployed.

Skills mismatches are generally caused by two factors. Firstly, at a general level, the school curriculum may not provide the skills employers are looking for. In most educational systems, there is still a clear lack of practical and experiential learning as well as of teamwork learning. Experiential learning is very rarely used, as an effective way of gaining knowledge and experience, yet it is probably the most powerful way of learning entrepreneurship. Moreover, teachers and university professors often have only limited experience in, and understanding of, small businesses and self-employment. So they are not adequately trained or educated to teach entrepreneurial skills to young people. Secondly, the absence, or inaccuracy of Labour Market Information (LMI), i.e., information on what skills are in demand and where jobs are, will lead to many young people making a choice of career that is not based on the realities of the labour market.

Cyclical unemployment: This varies in duration and intensity. It is usually associated with a depression of the business cycle and occurs when the labour supply exceeds the over-all demand for labour. Recurrent unemployment occurs at particular phases of the business cycle, starting with the downturn from a boom. This unemployment is caused by a deficiency of aggregate demand and is associated with a fall in the number of job vacancies.

Causes of Youth Unemployment in Nigeria

The level of unemployment and under-employment in the country has gotten to an unbelievable state. One major reason for this is that the growth of education has far outstripped the growth of the economy, so that the

supply of jobs cannot meet the demand for them. The result is that school leavers and graduates drift to the towns in search of jobs. Few lucky ones are employed but the vast unemployed majority roams the streets and therefore has a higher tendency to resort to crime. This class constitutes a source of potential danger to the State (Audu, B.N., 2011). According to the one the Nigeria's daily newspapers, *Nigerian Tribune* states that the Boko Haram sect is recruiting undergraduates and minors. According to the source, the group had decided to change the design of the outlooks of its operatives from usually heavily bearded, Arab-looking folks to the clean-shaven western-looking young men; who could easily escape the psychological tests of security operatives. And through the advice and tactical training from the Al-Qaeda in Islamic Magreb and Al-Qaeda in Arabian Peninsula, they had decided to change its usual style by recruiting underage and undergraduates (14-16 years) who could be used in intelligence gathering and also help to penetrate some high capacity targets. This shows the level of frustration from the unemployed youth who have constituted a threat to the national security of the state because an idle hand is the devil's workshop. If the rate keeps increasing, it can lead to revolution. Several scholars (Adebayo, 1999; Alanana, 2003; Echebiri, 2005; Ayinde, 2008; Morphy, 2008; Awogbenle & Iwuamadi, 2010; Okafor, 2011; anyadike et al., 2012) have postulated diverse reasons behind youth unemployment in Nigeria; however, there are some salient issues of importance.

Firstly, lack of work experience. Employers often look for more than educational qualifications to ascertain that a young person will perform well. This is one of the major challenge facing unemployed youths. Many youths don't have any working experience, they move from one level of educational attainment to another i.e. from primary school to secondary school to the higher institution. Most of them only believe in certificates and qualifications. Many of them do not create time to either develop their skills (i.e., those who really know their skills) or gain practical knowledge on their course of study. This makes them academically qualified for the job but incapable for the work.

Another cause of unemployment is lack of job search skills. This is a situation when there are job applications or vacancies in which a young person did not know how to write a Curriculum Vitae (CV) or how to present himself in a positive light in recruitment interviews or not knowledgeable on how to explore vacancies on the internet. On the other hand, a young person might find it is difficult in getting work through references from previous employers or colleagues who might be likely to know the "right" people.

The issue of "connection" is one of the major reasons of youth unemployment. Connection is when a young person knows an important personality in the society who will get him connected to the desired company he want to work or where the important personality has power to influence them to employ the young person. Due to this fact, many youths who did not have any connection but with good grades roam the street and trust God to connect them. This issue of connection allows for favouritism between the children of the elites in the society who have influence and the children of the average/poor citizens who did not know anybody. Thus, the requirement of been employed in Nigeria is not by good grades alone but by knowing an influential person in the society.

Furthermore, there is lack of career information and vocational studies. Many youths are not aware that completion of studies is not the only criteria of being employable, but being an entrepreneur. However, entrepreneurial skills and vocational studies are not taught in schools and higher institutions, emphasis is just only on course of studies. Therefore, there is a need for adequate career information on the course of studies on the level of employability rate in the labour market and vocational studies (i.e., related skills to one's career or job) which should be added into the school curriculum. The advantages of being an entrepreneur should be

taught and promoted so that hopes of those young entrepreneurs who face the risks of starting their own business should be nurtured.

Moreover, lack of durable government policies to tackle the fast growing population of unemployed youth is a major problem. Although, as Nigerian population keeps increasing, unemployed youths are also increasing, yet government has failed to come up with a concrete solution on how to solve this persistent problem. As a result of this, youth have lost confidence in the government and this has caused frustration, psychological problem, and aggression.

In addition, unfavourable business environment for local and foreign investors has increased the unemployment rate in Nigeria because many companies and business factories have folded up due to the incessant power failure, inconsistent government policies, lack of adequate security, deplorable state of road network, bankruptcy etc. As a result of these, the few private companies left with government establishments cannot absorb the teeming unemployed graduates. This has led to competition for the limited vacancies. That is why thousands of youths unemployed will be jolting for few positions in a company that is recruiting.

Effects of Unemployment on National Security

Increase in Crime Rate

The level of crime rate in the country is overwhelming. Many unemployed youth have become instrument of evil in the hands of the politicians in perpetuating their hidden agenda before, during and after the election. For instance, in the 2011 presidential election, over 500 lives were lost including nine youth corps members and thousands of lives and properties were displaced mostly in the northern part of the country. In addition, many ethno-religious crises were perpetuated by the youth. Therefore, the high level of crime rate weakens the national security of the country which poses threat to lives and properties.

Civil Unrest and Internal Aggression

It could be recalled that the Arab Spring that happened recently was carried out by restive youths who were frustrated by the way their countries were governed. What is the likelihood that such revolution cannot be carried out by the teeming youth of the country? In addition, we need to recall the role of the restive youth in the Niger/Delta region before the declaration of amnesty by the Federal government. These youths constituted a menace in the society by terrorizing and kidnapping oil workers and foreigners to demand for huge ransoms. Many lives and property were lost during the period of their restiveness. Currently, kidnapping is the latest self-employment unemployed youth are engaged in. Several politicians, actors/actresses, young ones, aged etc. have been victims in the hand of kidnappers. Despite several arrests carried out by the police, the business of kidnapping keeps flourishing every day. Many youth have turned themselves to “area boys” engaging in nefarious activities and a ready evil instrument for the politicians during political activities.

Moreover, there has been increased involvement of youth in numerous anti-social activities. Figures supplied by the Nigerian Prisons Service (National Bureau of Statistics, 2009, p. 248) actually confirmed this. For instance, persons admitted into the prisons by age group between 2004 and 2008 showed that as regards the youths between the ages of 16 and 20 years old, 31,700 youths were admitted in 2004. Others include: 40,170 youths (in 2005); 19,122 (in 2006); 16,236 (in 2007); and 25,317 (in 2008). As regards the youths between ages of 21 and 25 years old, 39,045 youth were admitted in 2004; 34,600 (in 2005); 28,705 (in 2006); 57,736 (in 2007) and 28,049 (in 2008). Also, for persons between ages of 25 and 50 years old, 63,100 persons were

admitted in 2004; 65,140 (in 2005); 75,491 (in 2006); 80,134 (in 2007) and 73,071 (in 2008) (Nwokwu, M., 2012). All these figures show that a large number of youths are into criminal activities largely as a result of unemployment. These actions constitute civil unrest and also an indication of internal aggression by the restive youth which can degenerate to revolution and undermine the national security of the nation if prompt and permanent solution is not given to it by all stakeholders in the country.

Table 1

National Unemployment Rates by State as on 31st December, 2004-2008

State	2004(Percent)	2005(Percent)	2006(Percent)	2007(Percent)	2008(Percent)
All Nigeria	13.4	11.9	13.7	14.6	19.7
Abia	9.7	7.9	13.5	10.9	14.5
Adamawa	16.7	21.4	17.9	11.9	29.4
Akwa Ibom	14.4	14.4	15.3	13.5	34.1
Anambra	9.5	9.8	10.8	11.1	16.8
Bauchi	25.1	29.7	23.9	7.3	37.2
Bayelsa	14.0	20.9	16.0	6.9	41.5
Benue	11.7	18.6	10.8	67.4	8.5
Borno	3.6	6.3	5.8	7.8	27.7
Cross River	11.6	11.1	16.9	11.8	14.3
Delta	10.8	4.5	13.8	18.9	18.4
Ebonyi	11.9	7.5	10.9	11.5	12.0
Edo	6.5	9.9	8.6	5.1	12.2
Ekiti	7.9	7.5	8.7	15.6	20.6
Enugu	22.0	27.4	20.0	11.5	14.9
Gombe	15.2	22.8	15.6	10.5	32.1
Imo	19.3	16.5	21.5	7.6	20.8
Jigawa	19.8	19.1	21.6	17.4	26.5
Kaduna	15.9	12.1	14.1	5.9	11.6
Kano	22.5	19.1	19.4	12.7	27.6
Katsina	22.1	23.8	19.3	5.8	37.3
Kebbi	19.9	19.9	15.2	11.8	12.0
Kogi	11.8	8.7	12.5	16.5	19.0
Kwara	4.2	2.9	7.5	16.4	11.0
Lagos	16.1	6.5	15.5	10.2	19.5
Nassarawa	6.9	8.7	8.1	7.6	10.1
Niger	3.5	0.2	3.6	17.0	28.0
Ogun	1.9	2.5	2.3	3.9	8.5
Ondo	6.8	6.2	6.7	5.8	14.9
Osun	1.2	1.9	2.7	6.3	12.6
Oyo	3.1	5.3	4.3	6.5	14.9
Plateau	1.6	2.8	2.9	8.7	7.1
Rivers	11.2	7.0	25.0	4.7	27.9
Sokoto	4.5	4.1	6.4	12.1	22.4
Taraba	13.6	3.4	14.0	5.9	26.8
Yobe	10.1	8.0	13.6	19.9	27.3
Zamfara	61.3	51.1	50.8	12.8	13.3
FCT Abuja	5.9	6.5	16.4	16.4	21.5

Note. Source: National Bureau of Statistics (2004-2008).

The Rise of Insurgent Groups

An insurgent group can be defined as a set of rebellious people that shares common belief system or ideology in a particular society. A typical example is the Boko Haram sect. Several scholars (Oyeniyi, 2009; Albert, 2010; Idowu, 2013) have written about the sect however, it should be noted that most (if not all) of the members are youth that are involved in the terrorism. Many lives and property worth millions of naira have been destroyed since 2004 up till date most especially in the northern part of the country. Currently, the federal government is attempting to give amnesty to the Islamic sect, but the question is does that put an end to insurgent group? Is it another means of providing jobs for a group of restive youth or a form of youth empowerment scheme? The government should understand that the higher the rate of youth unemployment, the more frustrated youth will be increasing and forming a rebellious group that will wage war against the state of his injustice, exploitation, inequity and every state apparatus including its national security.

Increase in Cybercrime

Cybercrime is a term for any illegal activity that uses a computer as its primary means of commission. The U.S. Department of Justice expands the definition of cybercrime to include any illegal activity that uses a computer for the storage of evidence. Cybercrime can take many shapes and can occur nearly anytime or anyplace. Criminals committing cybercrime use a number of methods, depending on their skill-set and their goal.

The Council of Europe's Cybercrime Treaty uses the term "cybercrime" to refer to offenses ranging from criminal activity against data to content and copyright infringement (Krone, T., 2005). However, Zeviar-Geese (1997) suggests that the definition is broader, including activities such as fraud, unauthorised access, child pornography, and cyber stalking (Zeviar-Geese, G., 1997). The United Nations Manual on the Prevention and Control of Computer Related Crime includes fraud, forgery, and unauthorised access in its cybercrime definition (United Nations, 1995).

The menace of cybercrime has dented the image of the country before the international communities. Onadipe notes in his article concerning a recent study by a research firm, Chatham House. The study showed that Nigerian scams cost the British economy about £150 million a year. However, the cost to society goes beyond just losing money, claimed British Police. Some victims have attempted suicide, while many others watch their marriages crash and their businesses go bankrupt. Further findings also revealed that Australians lost at least \$36 million a year to Nigerian scammers according to Detective Superintendent Brian Hay of Queensland Police Fraud Squad, Australia. Hay disclosed that Australians sent about \$3 million a month to Nigeria of which at least 80% was fraud-related. Also, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) claimed to have thwarted internet scams that would have left victims with losses running into five billion. This was achieved during covert operations targeting cybercrime activities in various parts of the country (Onadipe, R., 2012).

From the afore mentioned, it is evident that cybercrime can cover a wide range of attacks. Many youths are involved in this despicable act due to the high rate of unemployment, and they go to the extent of charming themselves so that the law would not catch up with them. Some of the youth opine that they are involved in it to pay back the colonial masters for exploiting the country. In addition, it should be noted that the people behind cybercrime are geniuses in which if such youth channel their knowledge in the right direction (people like Mack Zuckerberg of the Facebook and Google founders: Sergey Brin and Larry Page), it can add to the growth

and development of the country technologically. This indicates that a nation needs to pay more attention to the youth for its survival and advancement.

It Undermines Economy Security

Economic security is a major element of national security. It is composed of basic social security which pertains to health, education, social protection as well as work-related security. No matter how we look at national security, there can be no question of the need to include the economic viability of our nation. It is important to note that without capital, there is no business; without business, there can be no profit. Without profit, there is no jobs and without jobs, there is no taxes, and there is no military capability.

Economic security is a major phenomenon that must be pursued as part of the formidable aspect in securing the country. Nigeria is the second largest economy in Africa yet the effect of unemployment tells on the economic growth. The youth that are supposed to be productive agents of the economy and be the greatest assets in terms of human resources are still dependent on their parents, relatives or friends. Hence, the high rate of youth unemployment renders economic security ineffective. A recent statistics shows that only about 20 million Nigerians have sustainable and regular jobs, out of a population of about 162 million. This simple statistic causes the country a loss of about two trillion dollars annually from the absence of commercial activities that ordinarily should have taken place but did not. The security implication of over 20 million unemployed youths is unimaginable. Therefore, the government needs to devise policies that will stimulate economic growth that would increase human capital development and productivity output.

Recommendations and Conclusion

Vocational training: There should be frequent seminars, workshop for self-employed youths by the government and private bodies with little or no fee. Education and skills policies at an early age can prevent youth unemployment by tackling it at the roots. From an efficiency perspective, every government has budget restraints and is likely to agree that investing in young people not yet in the labour market ensures a longer payback period. It is better to prevent than to cure.

Business environment: Government should make the business environment friendly for local and foreign investors, so that there would be increase in job opportunities for the youths. A suitable business environment for sustainable youth employment requires the following: provision of basic social amenities, political, economic and institutional stability, good governance, social dialogue, investment in infrastructure, investment in health care, investment in education and skills development, access to financial services, information and communication technology, support for Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) development, policies promoting productivity and competitiveness, flexible labour market policies and the absence of red tape, safety net for failed start-ups.

Also, most youths possess job-hunting skills. This refers to a set of “generic” or “soft” skills, such as self-management, team working, and communication. This expression also often refers to more than just skills. Personal traits and characteristics also play an important role in employability as these determine the way in which someone uses his/her employability skills. The most important personal attribute is a positive attitude, including a willingness to take part and openness to new activities and ideas. Employability skills are: communication skills, honesty/integrity, teamwork skills, strong work ethic, analytical skills, flexibility/adaptability, interpersonal skills, motivation/initiative, computer skills, organisational skills, leadership skills, and self-confidence.

Entrepreneurship education is not only a means to foster youth entrepreneurship and self-employment but at the same time to equip young people with the attitudes (e.g., more personal responsibility) and skills (e.g., flexibility and creativity), necessary to cope with the uncertain employment paths of today's societies. To create or develop an enterprise culture, it is crucial that young people have an "entrepreneurial mindset". They must have the skills and knowledge to start a new business. They must possess personal qualities such as creativity, responsibility, initiative, taking risks, rising to challenges. They must be aware that there are ways to make a living that goes beyond traditional employment.

There should be provision and access to soft loans by government and private bodies with little or no interest rate. There should be eligibility criteria for giving out loans to unemployed youths such as having a business plan, demonstrating commitment and responsibility, having reasonable equity participation and demonstrating an ability to repay the loan required. Thus, government should implement policies so as to bring about good governance in the country.

In addition, government should diversify from oil to other sectors that will improve employment prospects for young people such as communication, manufacturing, mining, ICT, agriculture etc. . Also, government should be committed in removing all obstacles to economic growth and private enterprise in order to bring about new innovation.

In conclusion, the main sectors in employment creation for the youth are the private sector/companies, public sector and self-employment. Hence, private and public sectors should work hand-in-hand to bring about sustainability of national security by generating employment for the teeming youth. Also, self-employment is a concrete path to career development, and policies that help create young entrepreneurs are an effective way to tackle youth unemployment.

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