

SLUM MANAGEMENT AND INSECURITY IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY (FCT): AN EMPIRICAL PERSPECTIVE

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Abstract

The study was set out to examine the effect of slum management on insecurity in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). A cross sectional survey design was employed where one hundred and seventy-three questionnaires were designed and administered to staff and management of the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Sustainable Development Goals (SSAP-SDGs) and National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) in Abuja. Simple regression analysis and Analysis of variance (ANOVA) using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS, ver.21) was utilized for the analysis of data collected for the study. The findings show that there is a positive significant relationship between slums management and insecurity in the FCT. Based on the findings, the work recommends that, government agencies saddled with the responsibility of managing villages outside the city centre (slums) should ensure that these villages are developed and slums are reduced to the barest minimum within and around the FCT in order to improve security level in the city centre

Keywords: Slums, Cities, Slums Management, Infrastructure and Insecurity

Introduction

Cities are populous communities that usually have structures, beautiful and modern buildings, good road network, landmarks and modern facilities. A city usually have a city centre where government and business takes place and places called suburbs where low income earner live around outside the city centre. Cities are large human settlements that can be defined as permanent and densely settled places with administratively defined boundaries whose members work primary on non-agricultural task but generally having extensive system for housing, transportation, sanitation, utilities, land use and communication facilities which facilitate the clustering of people in and around the cities for an enhance standard of living(Abang,2018).

Cities are sources of creativity, technology and engines for economic which offer the lure of better employment, education, health care, and culture and contribute disproportionately to national economies. As a result, a lot of movement is usually witnessed from rural areas to cities or urban areas. This movement may lead to development of slums in the cities (McMichael, 2000).

Over the years the term slum has come to describe overcrowded urban areas exhibiting ubiquitous poverty, poor quality or even makeshift housing, unsanitary conditions leading to the spread of disease and lack of security resulting from a concentration of criminal activity. The term is used to describe sprawling informal settlements that grow organically in- and around cities as people migrate from rural areas to the city in search of greater economic opportunities (UN-HABITAT, 2007).

The demonstration effect of superior standard of living prevailing in the urban areas has also concerned not only the population from minor settlements, but also the rural migrants to almost all the major urban centres ensuing in the emergence of slums even in the sensitivity of the cities. These slums occur due to various factors including, the shortage of developed land for housing, the prices of land being beyond and above the reach of urban poor; large effect of population, rural migration to cities in search of jobs; and insufficient provision of basic services and infrastructural services in the urban areas (Shatkin, 2016).

The emergent of slums in the FCT is the direct outcome of better economic opportunities accessible in the cities and towns. However, rapid and often unplanned urban growth is often associated with poverty, environmental degradation and population demands that outstrip service capacity (Moore, Gould & Keary, 2003). In this context, the relationship between slums management and insecurity in the FCT becomes imperatives.

Statement of the Problem

The physical problems of slums manifest themselves in the form of open drains, disorganized layout of structures and roads and apathy in the disposal of garbage. Social or human problems include lack of privacy, imminent conflicts which are bound to arise when people are in close proximity, almost impinging on the space of each other and a related sense of insecurity. The occasional brawls that take place may lead to law and order problems at times. The vulnerability of slum population to indulge in petty crimes and take umbrage in the “politically secure” environment can also not be ruled out and the dense, impenetrable population clusters of almost homogenous groups provide an ideal set-up for criminal and criminality thereby leading to insecurity in the federal capital territory (FCT).

Past studies have qualitatively and theoretically examined the influence of sustainable development on insecurity using different dimensions and measures with inconsistent findings. Moreover, most of these studies did not include slums in their model and particularly these studies also did not adopt quantitative survey research method with most of the studies employing secondary data and case study method (Ewetan, Olabanji & Ese, 2014; Zhang & Zhang, 2014; Makarchuk, 2014; Njoku & Nwachukwu, 2015; Hepzibah, 2016; Otolorin, 2017; Oguchi, 2018). This study, therefore, seeks to fill this gap by empirically examining the effect of slum management on insecurity in FCT-Abuja using quantitative cross-sectional survey research.

Research Objective

The objective of this paper was to empirically examine the effect of slum management on the security situation in the Federal Capital Territory

Statement of Hypothesis

The understated null hypothesis is postulated for validation and to guide this study

H0₁: *There is no significant relationship between slum management and the insecurity in the Federal Capital Territory*

Literature Review

Concept of Slums Management

The concept of slum has been in existence since the 19th century and has been defined differently by most slum experts. The UN-Habitat is the major international body with wealth of knowledge on issues relating to slums. The UN-HABITAT (2007) defines a slum as a household which is not structurally sound and lacks durability, where inhabitants have no access to running water and sanitation facilities, safe drinking water and land tenure security. Adedayo and Malik (2015) agree to the above definition as they specifically consider slums as settlements with poor condition of houses in terms of poor housing materials and inadequate provision of social amenities. Slums are predominantly located in city centers and sprawling urban centers where residents are mostly middle income earners (Baker, 2008). Another dimension of slum given by UN-Habitat was with regards to its recognition by government institutions.

Most slums are often unrecognized during their formations and only get the attention of city authorities after they have grown out of control (UN-HABITAT, 2007). The coverage for this description involves persons living below the poverty line as well as persons, although living slightly above the poverty line, still inhabits slums. These slums were once middle income settlements or fertile lands left fallow but were neglected by local authorities and have now got to the state of disrepair (UN-HABITAT, 2007). Marshall (2008) described the term according to the environmental conditions of the settlement. A settlement is considered a slum if it is exposed to floods, landslides, diseases, toxic industrial waste and air-pollution. There are other problems associated with slums such as lack of access to roads, footpaths, street illumination, drainage, electricity, garbage collection, and socio-economic assistance

Concept of Insecurity

The concept of insecurity connotes different meanings such as: absence of safety; danger; hazard; uncertainty; lack of protection, and lack of safety. According to Beland (2005) insecurity is a state of fear or anxiety due to absence or lack of protection. In the view of Akin (2008) security

refers to “the situation that exists as a result of the establishment of measures for the protection of persons, information and property against hostile persons, influences and actions”. Achumba, Ighomereho and Akpan-Robar (2013) define insecurity from two perspectives. Firstly, insecurity is the state of being open or subject to danger or threat of danger, where danger is the condition of being susceptible to harm or injury. Secondly insecurity is the state of being exposed to risk or anxiety, where anxiety is a vague unpleasant emotion that is experienced in anticipation of some misfortune.

Insecurity embraces all measures designed to protect and safeguard the citizenry and the resources of individuals, groups, businesses and the nation against sabotage or violent occurrence (Ogunleye, Adewale, Alese & Ogunde, 2011). According to Igbuzor (2011) it demands safety from chronic threats and protection from harmful disruption. Security however, can be described as stability and continuity of livelihood (stable and steady income), predictability of daily life (knowing what to expect), protection from crime (feeling safe), and freedom from psychological harm (safety or protection from emotional stress which results from the assurance or knowing that one is wanted, accepted, loved and protected in one’s community or neighborhood and by people around. It focuses on emotional and psychological sense of belonging to a social group which can offer one protection).

It is generally argued that security is not the absence of threats or security issues, but the ability to rise to the challenges posed by these threats with expediency and expertise. Insecurity on the other hand, is the antithesis of security. However, because of the very many ways in which insecurity affects human life and existence, the concept of insecurity has usually been ascribed different interpretations in association with the various ways which it affects individuals (Okpaga, Ugwu & Eme, 2012). Some of the common descriptions of insecurity include: want of safety; danger; hazard; uncertainty; want of confidence; doubtful; inadequately guarded or protected; lacking stability; troubled; lack of protection; and unsafe, to mention a few. All of these have been used by different people to define the concept of insecurity.

Empirical Review

Slum management and Insecurity

Shahbaz, Sbia, Hamdi and Ozturk (2014) study explores the relationship between economic growth, electricity consumption, slums and environmental degradation in case of United Arab Emirates (UAE) The study covers the quarter frequency data over the period of 1975–2011. We have applied the ARDL bounds testing approach to examine the long run relationship between the variables in the presence of structural breaks. The VECM Granger causality is applied to investigate the direction of causal relationship between the variables. Our empirical exercise reported the existence of co-integration among the series. Further, the author found an inverted U-shaped relationship between economic growth and carbon dioxide emissions i.e. economic growth raises energy emissions initially and declines it after a threshold point of income per capita

(EKC exists) Electricity consumption declines carbon dioxide emissions. The relationship between slums and carbon dioxide emissions is positive.

Masters, Djurfeldt, Haan, Hazell, Jayne, Jirström and Reardon (2013) examined the effect of slum management and economic developments have made global agriculture increasingly differentiated. Many hinterland farms remain largely self-sufficient, while farms closer to markets become increasingly specialized and linked to agribusinesses. Both semi-subsistence and commercialized farms remain family operations, with the few successful investor-owned farms found mainly for livestock and crops processed on site such as sugar, tea and oil palm. Meanwhile, demographic transition drives rapid change in farm sizes with less land available per family until non-farm opportunities expand enough to absorb all new workers. Asia as a whole has now passed this turning point so its average farm sizes can rise, while in Africa average farm sizes will continue to fall for many years, posing special challenges in both hinterland and commercialized areas.

Pinjie, Fenyu and Bo (2012) empirically analyzes the long-term effects of slums on total employment, urban employment and rural employment and the dynamic influence process through using the co-integration theory, impulse response and variance decomposition. The results show as follows: there are the long-run equilibrium relationship between slums and them, namely total employment, urban employment and rural employment, and the former has positive effects on the latter, but the impetus of slums on urban employment is much larger than that on total employment and rural employment; the short-and mid-term effects and long-term effects of slums on employment are not inconsistent; in the short-and mid-term, the effect of slums on urban employment is growing, but slums has inhibiting effects on total employment and rural employment rather than positive promoting roles.

Martínez-Zarzoso and Maruotti (2011) paper analyzed the impact of slums on carbon dioxide emissions in developing countries from 1975 to 2003. It contributes to the existing literature by examining the effect of slums, taking into account dynamics and the presence of heterogeneity in the sample of countries. The results show an inverted-U shaped relationship between slums and carbon dioxide emissions. Indeed, a slum is negative for low slums levels, which is in accordance with the higher environmental impact observed in less developed regions.

Theoretical Review

Theoretically, this study is interplay between Sustainability Theory and Entitlement Theory of insecurity.

Sustainability Theory

The concept sustainability can be traced back to 1970 and later popularized by world commission on environment development (WCED) a branch of United Nations. The concept is founded on economic theory known as theory of environmental limit whose brain child was

Thomas Malthus (1766-1834) and David Ricardo (1772-1823). The argument in their theory is that resource in the environment that we live is finite (White, 1996 & WCED, 1987). In the WCED report, namely our common future, the concept sustainable development and sustainability began to take shape and later became popular with environmental conservation. According to WCED, sustainable development is a development that meets the needs of current generation without compromising the ability of future generation to meet their own needs (WCED, 1987). In the context of this study therefore, the concept sustainability is about people being able to maintain and sustain the project or programme outcome by their own assets or resources while not compromising the needs of future generation.

Looking at the focus of this study, sustainable development theorist informs us that in order to identify community needs and set priorities, there is a need to determine community preferences and balance competing interests. In this argument, people and their social institutions must be included in the community planning process to increase the probability of achieving a successful and sustainable outcome because lasting change generally comes from local involvement (Chaskin, 2001; Nyaguthii & Oyugi, 2013). Many good programmes fail because the proponents have never stopped to assess community capacity or asset before rolling out the programmes. Long-term goals of the sustainable development should seek to empower people, increase community participation, foster social cohesion, enhance cultural identity, strengthen institutional development, and promote equity and fairness (Carol & Cory, 2001).

Sustainable development theory suggests that human and social capital should be treated much like natural resources. Efficient and effective use of these resources provides long-term, sustainable benefit to local communities (CEC, 2013). The investigation in this study borrows from sustainable development theorist emphasis that capacity assessment is crucial foundation for community participation in development projects. Following this argument, sustainability of project outcome, maintenance of project deliverables processes, resource mobilization capacity and human capacity establishment have been selected as key indicators for community development sustainability. In the following section, theoretical framework on specific indicators of community project management capacity and community development projects sustainability are discussed.

Entitlements Theory of Insecurity

Sen's theory of entitlements to food and livelihoods approach to insecurity study is popular in the recent time. The entitlement approach to hunger assesses the ability of people to command food through the legal means available in the society, including the use of all available production possibilities, trade opportunities, inheritance and transfer entitlements and other methods of acquiring food (Sen, 1981). Sen (1981) argues that hunger could occur even when there is enough food to feed the entire community and those who suffer from hunger are those who fail to convert their 'exchange entitlements' into food.

A good deal of the mortality associated with famines actually resulted from diseases that can be brought under control by decent public health systems (Flynn & Behrman, 2002). A free press and an active political opposition constitute the best early-warning system. Since famines seldom affect more than 10 per cent of the population, governments usually have the resources to deal with them (Sen, 1999).

Sen (1991) also points to the importance of economic growth and the diversification of rural incomes. Growth generates jobs and tax revenues, allowing governments to fund social protection and relief schemes, while diversification allows poor families to manage risks by reducing their reliance on any one source of income (Green, 2008). Green pointed out that the reducing hunger, like mitigating the impact of natural disasters, requires action by the state and self-help by hungry people (Kavka, 1991). The state can intervene to improve livelihoods or head off a crisis, can put in early-warning systems to spot signals such as spiraling food prices and, if necessary, can provide food or other forms of social protection (Min, 2007). Poor people themselves are best placed to anticipate problems in feeding their families, and to urge authorities to act (Green, 2008).

Methodology

This research article adopted the cross-sectional survey research designed where one hundred and seventy-three questionnaires was designed and administered to the respondents in the office of the senior Special Assistant to the President on Sustainable Development Goals (SSAP-SDGs) and National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) in Abuja where data for the study was collected once without repetition using stratified random sampling technique due to the departmental grouping in the study institutions The questionnaire for independent variables was adapted Stevens (2005) scale which was based on extent to which government has realized *sustainable development*. It was measured using a five point likert-like scale. The dependent variable, insecurity was measured using previously validated scale adapted from Quakenbush (2011). Data collected for this study were analyzed using simple statistical tables with percentages; the postulated hypothesis was tested using the simple regression and ANOVA which is useful for situations to classify subjects based on values of a set of predictor variables.

The model for this study functionally was given thus;

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + e$$

Where;

Y = Insecurity

X₁ = Slums

β_0 = Constant

β_1 = Intercept of Independent Variables

ϵ = Standard Error term.

The ‘a priori expectation’ in the model is that the independent variable slum is expected to have a positive effect on insecurity. The mathematical expression is represented as; $\beta_1 - \beta_2 > 0$ implying that a unit increase in the independent variables will lead to increase in insecurity by a unit. Thus, regression was employed in the study to forecast relationship between variables and estimate the influence of each explanatory variable to the dependent variable.

Findings and Discussions of Results

Data Presentation

Hypothesis: Slums has no significant effect on insecurity.

Table 4.1: Correlations between slums and insecurity

		Slums	Insecurity
Slums	Pearson Correlation	1	.593**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	214	214
Insecurity	Pearson Correlation	.593**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	214	214

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

As shown in Table 4.1, slums had a positive association with is measured in terms of the level of insecurity. Which was statistically significant ($r = 0.593$, $n = 214$ $p < .01$).

Table 4.2: Regression analysis of the extent to which slums affects insecurity

Model Summary^b

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change
1	.593 ^a	.351	.348	.94819	.351	114.870	1	212	.000

a. Predictors: (Constant), Slums

b. Dependent Variable: Insecurity

ANOVA^a

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	103.276	1	103.276	114.870	.000 ^b
	Residual	190.603	212	.899		
	Total	293.880	213			

a. Dependent Variable: Insecurity

b. Predictors: (Constant), Slums

Coefficients^a

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	1.386	.181		7.643	.000
	Slums	.557	.052	.593	10.718	.000

a. Dependent Variable: Insecurity

The linear regression analysis in Table 4.2 models the effect of slums management on insecurity. The coefficient of determination (R^2) and correlation coefficient (R) in the model summary table shows the degree to which slums affects insecurity. The results of the linear regression indicate that $R^2=0.351$ and $R= 0.593$, this is an indication that slums has a strong linear effect on insecurity in Nigerian capital market. This implies that 35% variation in insecurity is explained by slums.

ANOVA test table above also reveal that slums have significant effect on insecurity. Since the P value is actually 0.000 which is less than 5% level of significance. From the Coefficients table above, a Pearson correlation of 0.593 was obtained which indicates that there is a relationship between slums management and insecurity at 0.000 level of significance, to establish the relationship between slums and insecurity, a linear model of the form $y=a +bx$ was used. “Y” insecurity; “a” and “b” were constants, while “x” was slums. The proposed regression model thus becomes: $Y = 1.386 + 0.557X_1 +\epsilon$. This implies that an increase in slums by 1 unit increases insecurity by 0.557 units.

As shown in ANOVA Table 4.2, the probability of the null hypothesis being correct is extremely small (less than 0.05), so the null hypothesis was rejected, and the conclusion is that there is a statistically significant effect of slums on insecurity in Nigerian capital market.

Discussion of Findings

This study was designed to determine the effect of slums management on insecurity in the Federal Capital Territory. The result of the findings shows that there is a significant effect of slums management on insecurity in the FCT. Specifically, the result shows that there is a positive significant relationship between slums management and insecurity in Abuja. This is in line with the findings of Akinyetun (2017) that found a positive impact of slums and insecurity.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Slum management is critical in controlling the emigrating insecurity in the FCT. This study showed that there is a strong relationship between effective slums management and insecurity, which implies that an effective and efficient slum management in mostly the area councils outside the city centre will lead to an enhance and improved security level in the FCT. Therefore, it can be concluded that effective slums management have a positive effect on Insecurity in the FCT. Based on the findings of the study, the article recommends that government agencies saddled with this vital responsibility should ensure that effective slums management which entails bring infrastructures and social amenities to the six area council and its environs is key to the improvement of security in and around the federal capital territory. Based on the limitation, a similar study could also be carried out focusing on factors influencing insecurity and data should be collected from people living in Abuja.

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