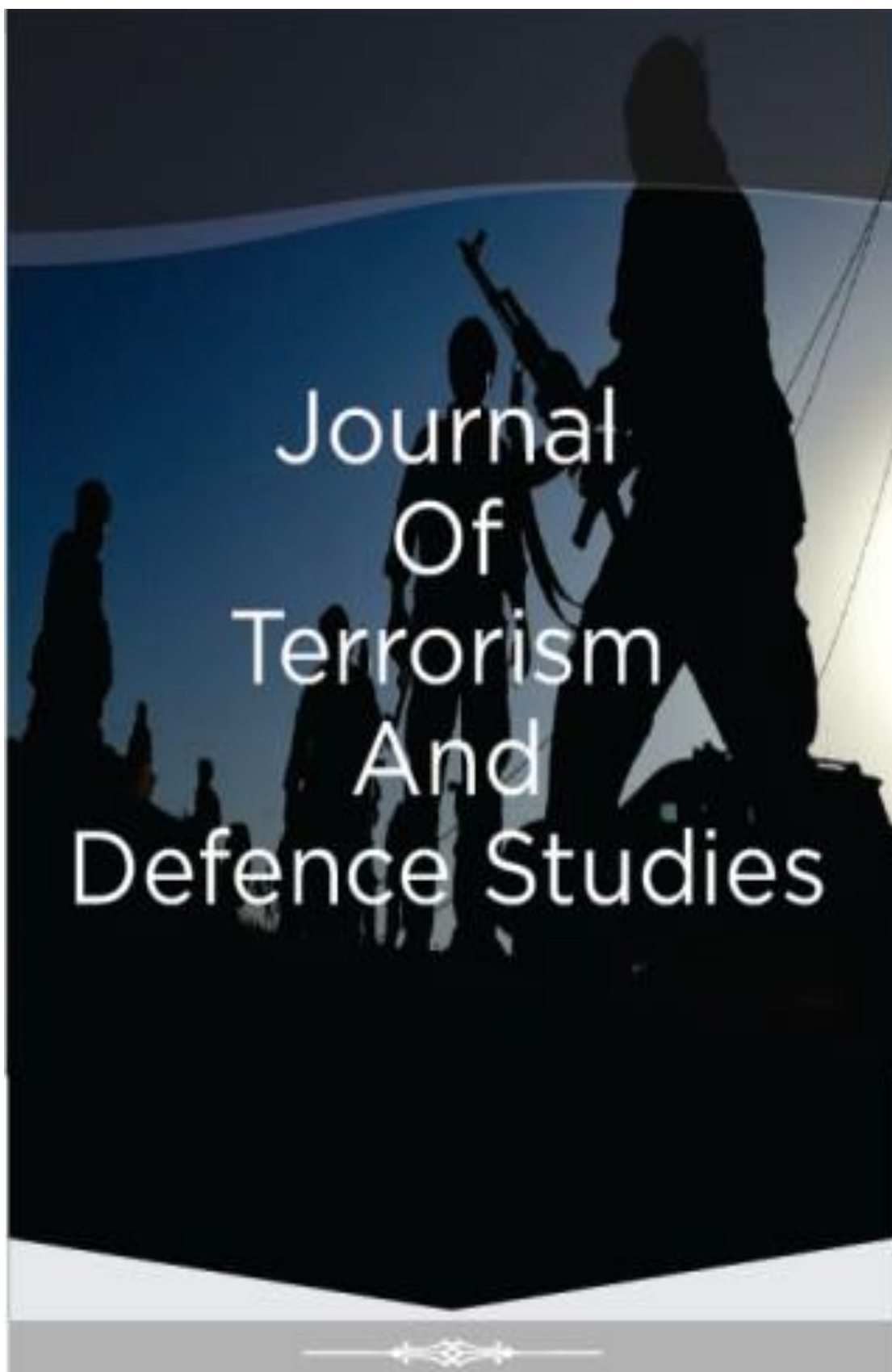




DOI: <https://doi.org/10.69778/3007-7176/2026/3.1/EN>

Editorial Note

Rethinking Security Beyond the Bullet

The Journal of Terrorism and Defence Studies inaugurates this issue with a bracing premise: that security is not merely a tactical problem but a philosophical one. The five articles collected here, spanning Nigerian poverty dynamics, West African coups, and the axiology of peacebuilding, collectively argue that the defence community must move beyond kinetic metrics toward structural and ethical diagnostics.

Nwadike and **Ani's** lead article, *Insecurity and Poverty in Nigeria 1980–2024*, establishes the volume's empirical spine. Using simultaneous equation modelling, they demonstrate that terrorism activity indices directly affect both undernourishment and agricultural output. The policy implication is stark: security spending without poverty reduction is self-limiting. Their call for "security literacy" as a national strategy reframes defence as a civic, not merely coercive, enterprise.

Gontor's *Axiology of Peacebuilding* elevates the discourse into political philosophy. The critique of liberal peace orthodoxy that elections and markets do not automatically produce stability is timely given recent coups in Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Guinea-Bissau (the seventh since 2020, which Njoku documents). Gontor's proposal to elevate National Peace Institutions to statutory "Policy Governors" with veto power over conflict-generating legislation is provocative and, in the post-kinetic era, necessary. Peacekeeping opens the gate; axiological governance inhabits the house.

The econometric rigour continues in Nwadike et al.'s VAR analysis of security shocks on Nigerian investment growth (1980–2024). Their finding of positive shock elasticity meaning security disruptions produce measurable, persistent negative responses in investment offers quantitative grounding for what field officers already know: insecurity is a tax on development. The recommendation that security literacy become a "fundamental national strategy" echoes the lead article, suggesting intra-volume consensus.

Njoku's *ECOWAS at 50* provides the geopolitical canvas. Seven coups since 2020, the exit of AES states, jihadist expansion, and renewed great-power resource competition threaten fifty years of regional integration. The Regional Security Complexes framework usefully centers Nigeria as a pivotal state. But the article quietly asks: if ECOMOG's peacekeeping legacy is to survive, what happens when the guarantor state faces its own profound internal crises? That question hangs over the entire issue.

Gontor's second contribution, *Prevention of Post-Election Conflict in Africa*, completes the architecture. Comparing ECOWAS, SADC, IGAD, ECCAS, and AMU, it argues that post-election violence stems not from flawed ballots but from structural injustices exclusion, patrimonialism, and weak accountability. RECs cannot prevent what they cannot diagnose. The insistence on "positive peace" (justice, inclusion, accountability) rather than mere ceasefire is the volume's unifying ethical thread.

Taken together, these five articles move terrorism and defence studies away from exclusive focus on insurgent tactics and toward the deeper question: what makes a political order worth defending? The answer emerging here; value-based governance, security literacy, empowered peace institutions, and regionally anchored conflict prevention is not soft. It is hard in a more demanding way.

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.69778/3007-7176/2026/3.1/a1>

INSECURITY AND POVERTY IN NIGERIA 1980 - 2024

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ABSTRACT

Globally, the twin problem of poverty and insecurity in Nigeria has become so pervasive that both government and citizens are overwhelmed. This situation has contributed to the deepening conditions of the people in the midst of plenty, with the attendant effects on national development. The recent development in security studies has led to the emergence of a new concept called “human security” which focuses on an individual’s safety in a country. To date, Nigeria still experiences security challenges at the hand of Boko Haram, a terrorist sect with the agenda to impose Sharia law on secular Nigerians. Therefore, this research. Thus, this study focused on insecurity and poverty in Nigeria, from 1980-2024. The objectives of the study are; to investigate the effect of Nigeria total terrorism activity index on the poverty level in Nigeria economy, to examine the effect of total terrorism activity index on number of people undernourished in Nigeria, to ascertain the effect of total terrorism activity index on agriculture aggregate food production output index in Nigeria. The study adopted simultaneous 2 stage equation model, unit root, Co-integration test, Granger Causality Test diagnostic to analyze the data. The results show that; terrorism activity Index has effect on Number of People Undernourished in Nigeria which proven the presence of poverty level in Nigeria. Terrorism activity Index has strong positive effect on agricultural aggregate Food Production output index in Nigeria. Based on the results, the research recommended that; Nigeria governments that have limited public funds, or limited tax revenue, should fund security programs and should prefer to use security literacy as a national strategy for poverty level reduction because it is relatively cheaper to educate the population about effect of insecurity on poverty level and the benefits of using formal security services. For Nigeria to achieve the zero hunger targets of 2030 by MDG, CBN, ministry of agriculture and defense minister must work together towards protection and securing live, properties and agro-economic values in Nigeria. Nigerian should fight insecurity at all level without political under turn.

Keywords: insecurity, poverty and Nigeria

Background to the Study

Insecurity has become one of the most pressing challenges facing Nigeria, significantly shaping the socio-economic landscape of the country. Over the last two decades, various forms of violent activities such as terrorism, insurgency, banditry, kidnappings, communal clashes, and herder-farmer conflicts have intensified across multiple regions of Nigeria, particularly in the North East and North West. These persistent security threats have disrupted economic activities, displaced millions of people, and undermined local and national development efforts (Nguavese and Oluwatoyin (2025).

Poverty in Nigeria remains pervasive despite the country's substantial natural and human resources. According to recent poverty assessments, a significant proportion of Nigerians experience deprivation across various dimensions, including education, health, employment, and living standards (Akindoyin and Obafemi (2025). The persistence of insecurity has exacerbated this situation by undermining the ability of households and communities to engage in productive activities, access basic services, and sustain livelihoods. Areas affected by frequent violent incidents often see reductions in agricultural output, business closures, and restricted mobility, which collectively erode income levels and increase vulnerability to poverty (Victor Ushahemba Ijirshar, Isaiah Iortyom Udaah, Bridget Ngodoo Mile, Joyce Seember Vershima and Abba Adaudu.(2025).

The relationship between insecurity and poverty is bidirectional. On one hand, poverty creates conditions that make individuals more vulnerable to recruitment by violent groups, as economically marginalized citizens may turn to criminal activities for survival. On the other hand, insecurity exacerbates economic deprivation by destroying assets, displacing populations, and restricting access to education, health services, and employment. The impact of insecurity on poverty is both direct and indirect. Directly, insecurity disrupts agricultural production and market activity, leading to increase in food prices. Indirectly, insecurity drives up government expenditure on security at the expense of social services that could alleviate poverty. (Alexander and Ibrahim, (2025). Consequently, insecurity in Nigeria has undermined national efforts to achieve global development goals. The ongoing violence across several states has made the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to poverty (SDG 1) and hunger (SDG 2) more elusive, as instability deters investment, impedes agricultural productivity, and discourages youth from engaging in productive economic activities (Nwagbo, Azubuike and Ezeakoakor, (2025).

Despite numerous government initiatives aimed at poverty reduction and security enhancement, the persistence of insecurity continues to slow Nigeria's development trajectory. Understanding the impact of insecurity on poverty is therefore crucial for designing effective policies that address not only immediate security threats but also the structural conditions that

entrench poverty and vulnerability within societies (Ben, (2026). Therefore, effective interventions must encompass improved governance, economic empowerment initiatives, investment in human capital, and robust security reforms to break the insecurity poverty cycle and promote sustainable development in Nigeria.

Statement of the Problem

The situation of poverty level and food insecurity in Nigeria is aggravated by socio-economic factors like unemployment rate, business collapses, rising input prices, decreasing output prices and escalating food costs. Furthermore, critical environmental issues play a role in this dilemma, including the destruction of crops by fire, insufficient rainfall and flooding pest and disease invasions that result in failed harvests, and various forms of insecurity, such as terrorism, banditry, conflicts between farmers and herders and among others (Osabuohien, 2021; Anser et al, 2021; and Oyawole et al, 2020).

Notwithstanding the federal government policy interventions programmes over the past six decades, the National Bureau of Statistics poverty Index report (2024) stated that **2 million** children suffer from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in Nigeria in 2024. Data also shows that **7.3 million** women of reproductive age were affected by acute malnutrition in 2022 while in the northern part of Nigeria malnutrition prevalence of 25.9% among the elder's were recorded. This could implies failure of Nigeria government policy interventions performance due to a combination of factors including; weak

implementation, lack of coordination, insecurity in the country and inadequate infrastructure. These issues could be said to hinder the effectiveness of programs aimed at boosting agricultural production, ensuring food security, and addressing malnutrition (Adedoknu 2021).

There is also this predicament rising from the corruption-related act of politicians and poor impact assessment records has greatly restricted the productive capabilities of Nigeria's, resulting in immense human suffering that sparked the hunger protest on October 10, 2024 (Idiku, Angba, and Ushie, 2022). Currently, more than 9 million individuals in Nigeria are experiencing food insecurity which is by definition an evidence of poverty (AFO, 2024).

Meanwhile, the issue of insecurity and the need for protection is not a recent development and it has been handled with politics in Nigeria. Scholars like (Wolfers (1962); Yibaikwal, (1988); Nwolise, (2006) have seen it narrowly from the angle of the inability to protect not only life and properties but other economic values previously acquired. Whereas, on a broader note, (Braithwaite,(1988) and Ochoche, (1997)) implied that to understand insecurity, its antithesis which encompasses the military and non-military dimensions as well as the people's well-being must be considered first.

Scholars also identify a cyclical relationship between poverty and insecurity, where economic deprivation fuels social discontent, leading individual's especially unemployed youth to engage in criminal or violent

activities, which in turn deepens insecurity and further suppresses economic opportunities. This complex interplay underscores the nature of the problem, where poverty and insecurity reinforce one another, impeding national development and undermining efforts to achieve sustainable socio-economic progress (Alexander and Ibrahim, (2025).

However, to ensure food security and reduction in poverty level in Nigeria, Federal Government recurrent expenditure budget on national internal security has recorded steady percent increase from 2010 to 2024 as follow; ₦299.11 billion in 2010 then escalated to ₦280 billion in 2011; ₦322 billion in 2012, then rise with figures such as ₦345 billion in 2013, 361 billion in 2014, ₦397.5 billion in 2015, ₦1.04 trillion in 2016, ₦1.13 trillion in 2017, ₦1.28 trillion in 2018, ₦1.33 trillion in 2019. **2020 -2023:** Total security allocations continued rising: ₦1.66 trillion in 2020, ₦1.86 trillion in 2021, ₦2.49 trillion in 2022, ₦2.98 trillion in 2023 and then rise to ₦3.25 trillion in 2024 (CBN Statistical Bulletin, (2024).

Again, Nigeria Government programmes in her efforts to alleviate poverty level and improve the performance of agricultural sector has initiated these programmes; payment of negative income tax by the low income earners whose total annual income is less than N10, 000 in 1982 to 1990, Directorate for Food, Road and Rural Infrastructure, National Directorate of Employment (NDE) Youth, Better Life Programme (BLP), People's Bank of Nigeria (PBN), Family Support Programme (FSP), Subsidy Reinvestment and Empowerment Programme (SURE-P), third National

FADAMA Development (FADAMA III) Project for Nigeria, N-Power Programme and other. In spite of these aforementioned intervention policy programmes, Nigeria is being ranked as the 168 poorest nations among 188 UN member nations in the world (Olawoyin 2024). Thus the relevance of this study insecurity and poverty in Nigeria become clear.

Research Questions

1. What is the effect of total terrorism activity index in Nigeria on the poverty level in Nigeria economy?
2. What is the effect of government expenditure on poverty in Nigeria?
3. Does Nigeria terrorism activity index have significant effect on agricultural aggregate food production output index in Nigeria economy?

Objectives of the Study

1. Investigate the effect of Nigeria total terrorism activity index on the poverty level in Nigeria economy.
2. Assess the effect of government expenditure on poverty in Nigeria.
3. Ascertain the significant effect of total terrorism activity index on agriculture aggregate food production index in Nigeria.

Statement of Hypotheses

There is no effect of total terrorism activity Index on l poverty level in Nigeria economy.

H₀₂: Government expenditure has no effect on poverty in Nigeria.

H₀₃: Total terrorism activity index has no significant effect on agriculture aggregate food production index in Nigeria.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Poverty refers to an economic condition in which people lack sufficient income to obtain certain minimal level of health services, food, housing, clothing and education generally recognized as necessary to ensure an accepted standard of living (Jimada, 2008 cited in Yambe, 2016). On the whole, poverty can be classified as 'absolute' or 'relative' poverty. Absolute poverty is the number of people whose earnings fall below the \$1.25 per day that is internationally established poverty line (World Bank, 2011). On the other hand, Relative poverty refers to a condition in which individuals or households are considered poor in comparison to the living standards of the wider society in which they live, rather than based solely on Seen (1999).

Insecurity

Insecurity means the state of being exposed to attacks. It is a state of anxiety and palpable fear (Awojobi, 2014). Generally speaking, insecurity refers to a state of being subjected to fear, threat, danger, molestation, intimidation, harassment etc. of all aspects (Tella, 2015).

The intricate relationship between poverty, insecurity is a pressing concern in many societies.

Usman & Mukhtar, (2024) argue that insecurity undermines economic stability and human wellbeing. The security-development nexus posits that insecurity disrupts economic growth and social welfare, leading to higher poverty levels. This theoretical framing

is supported by evidence that insecurity limits labour mobility, disrupts markets, and increases transaction costs for businesses.

Poverty fuels insecurity, which in turn causes poverty. These vicious (poverty and insecurity) undermines democratic institutions and processes. Conversely, democratic governance provides a framework for addressing poverty and promoting stability. To Zoaka (2020) poverty is the primary driver of Nigeria's significant insecurity challenges. Emma, David and Iroko (2017) opined that poverty and insecurity are deeply entrenched, interconnected challenges hindering Nigeria's social, political, and economic progress. Ndubuisi-Okolo and Theresa (2019) specifically noted that insecurity and poverty are major obstacles on industrialization and sustainable economic development in Nigeria. Shehu and Baiyi (2020) opined that poverty, unemployment, corruption, inadequate education, laziness, and environmental degradation poses significant challenges to human security across various dimensions, such as economic security, food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security, and political security.

Oladoyin et al., (2024) argue and highlight the cyclical relationship between poverty and insecurity, where high poverty levels increase vulnerability to recruitment by violent groups and criminal networks. This relationship is underscored in broader analyses of the poverty-insecurity nexus, which argue that governance deficits, structural inequality, and

corruption exacerbate both conditions. Poverty has presumably always been understood as a multidimensional problem, yet traditional, it has been measured uni-dimensionally with income or expenditure. This is based on the assumption that the income level could capture fairly well whether people were able to achieve certain minimum thresholds in a variety of dimensions such as nutrition, clothing and housing. But studies in recent years have been witnessing growing consensus regarding the shortfall of income poverty measured (Sen, 1992).

Empirical Literature Review

Nwagbo, Samuel N. C., Azubuike Callistus Francis and Ezeakofofor, Abraham (2025) studied on *Insecurity and Attainment of Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 2 in Nigeria*. Their objectives was interrogated how insecurity affects the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals 1 (Hunger) and 2 (Poverty) in Nigeria which was based on the target to end hunger and poverty by 2030 and the precarious situation of these two important phenomena in Nigeria's development trajectory. Their study was anchored on Maslow's theory of Needs and Systems Theory. They obtained their data through documentary sources of literature, and it was analyzed using an explanatory method of data analysis. Their results revealed that insecurity has made the efforts of the United Nations (UN) through Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end hunger and poverty in Nigeria by 2030 unattainable. That the insecurity situation in Nigeria is aggravated by the high level of unemployment, especially

among the youth and the non-availability of basic infrastructure to drive economic development. They recommended that youth unemployment must be curbed through investment in the critical infrastructure, like roads, power, schools, health and social justice.

Victor et al (2025) studied *effect of insecurity on agricultural Output in Benue State, Nigeria*. The researchers employed descriptive survey design, and 400 respondents were purposively selected from insecurity-prone local government areas, namely, Guma LGA, Agatu LGA, Gwer LGA, Gwer-West LGA, Katsina-Ala LGA, Logo LGA, Ukum LGA and Kwande LGA. Their data were collected through the administration of a questionnaire and were analyzed using t-tests and structural equation modelling (SEM). The results revealed that the monetary value of crop and livestock output decreased during periods of insecurity. Furthermore, the study showed that insecurity has an adverse effect on crop and livestock output. Based on their findings, they recommended that the government deploy more security personnel, establish community policing initiatives, and employ modern surveillance technologies to deter criminal activities in insecure areas.

Akindoyin, and Obafemi, (2025) studied on the *evaluating the impact of insecurity on Nigeria's National Development Since the fourth republic*. Their study objective explores the interplay between persistent security challenges and the country's socio-economic progress. The study Utilized the descriptive approach, drawing on secondary qualitative sources from

government reports, academic literature, and field studies, the research argues that addressing insecurity requires holistic and inclusive strategies that integrate military responses with socioeconomic reforms, community engagement, and regional cooperation. The study findings revealed that increment of public spending on security, weakening of state institutions and loss of public trust in governance are some of the economic and socio-political impacts of insecurity on Nigeria's national development. The study concluded that to alleviate the effects of insecurity on national development, it is imperative to tackle the underlying reasons of discontent, such as poverty, inequality, and ineffective governance in Nigeria.

Nguavese Tracy Dzungwe and Obadahun simon Oluwatoyin (2025) studied *Multi-Dimensional Poverty and the State of Human Insecurity in Nigeria: A Comparative Analysis*. They study objective focuses on 2022 Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) assessed four key indicators; health, education, work, and shocks, and living standards-revealing of Nigeria. The study adopted a qualitative methodology, utilized comparative data analysis to explore the relationship between multidimensional poverty and human insecurity. The study findings indicated that multidimensional poverty is disproportionately higher in the northern. This disparity exacerbates inequalities, limiting access to essential resources such as income, healthcare, education, and adequate living conditions. The study concluded by recommending the strengthening of

institutional frameworks through collaborations between the government, private sector, and civil society.

Peter and Zhizhi (2023) examined the nexus between poverty and insecurity and the effects on sustainable national development in Nigeria, hinging on the frustration-aggression and relative deprivation theories as frameworks of analysis. In doing this, they employed the qualitative content analysis approach and rely mainly on secondary sources of data such as textbooks, journal articles, periodicals, conferences papers and the internet, etc. However, they study reveals that a plethora of factors such as corruption, bad governance and policy inconsistencies have led to majority of the citizenry wallowing in abject poverty culminating to the blazing level of insecurity characterizing the Nigerian state in recent years. They recommended from the findings, some far-reaching strategies or measures of addressing poverty and insecurity challenges, including good governance, sartorial and institutional reforms, effective policy and programme formulation and implementation relating to poverty and security in Nigeria.

Illo, Akanmu, and Osman, (2023) investigated on the impact of the Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria on human security. The objective of their study responses were collected through a qualitative approach using in-depth interviews. Findings indicate that the terror activities of Boko Haram have led to the death of thousands of lives, loss of properties, shortage of food supply, and an increase in number of

internally displaced people in the affected regions. They concluded that the insurgency has an adverse effect on indispensable factors that constitute human security such as health, education, food and nutrition, small business enterprises, and human rights and liberty.

Mario Fernandes, Palupi Lindiasari Samputra (2022) explored linkages between food security (FS) and economic growth (EG). They used a systematic mapping review to analyze the relationship, using 26 previous research results from 780 articles. Database from Google scholar, Science Direct, Elsevier, and JSTOR with a limited date range on published information from 2004-2021. Their result shows an empirical gap in the relationship between FS and EG with 76.92% supporting the correlative relationship between FS and EG, while the other 19.23% claimed that there is no correlation, and 3.85% (one study) explored the relationship between EG and FI (Food Insecurity).

Blessing Adedokun (2021) examined on the Nigeria's food insecurity and its implications on sustainable development goal (SDG2) with the COVID-19 pandemic. Using the quantitative and qualitative methods to analyzed the results. The paper concluded that while food insecurity was being experienced before the pandemic with 9.1% of the Nigerian population severely food insecure between 2017 and 2019, nevertheless, the outbreak of the disease exacerbated the insecurity people faced in accessing food items, leading to 58% of Nigerian households to experience acute food insecurity. It also stressed that this

analysis has a negative implication on the progress being made on SDG2 and the attainment of the Goal by 2030. The author recommended among others that, there is need for public-private partnership on agricultural food value chain programs which at the long run translates to ending hunger.

Idiku, Angba, and Ushie (2021) examined on food insecurity challenges and sustainable agricultural development in Nigeria. The study objectives include examining the causes and effects of food insecurity in Nigeria, identifying policies formulated, and evaluating the policies in order to make appropriate recommendations. The study employed sample population method using Anna Over analysis. The study found that the root causes of food insecurity include: poverty, corruption and national policies that do not promote equal access to food for all; and also that the country lacks storage and mechanization facilities and thus spends substantial income from oil on food importation. They recommended that there is need for a strong political will to transform the predominantly small holders to become efficient in their operations.

Methodology

For this study, Causal Comparative or Ex-post Facto Research Design was adopted. Time series data, 2(SLS) model, Granger causality and other econometric diagnostic test were conducted to ensure the robustness of the findings with the application of E-views econometric analyses package

Theoretical Framework

This study has drawn its root in the concept of market failures assumptions of the model of perfect competition by neoclassical economists. In a perfectly functioning market, individuals and households would have access to the resources they need to meet their basic needs. Whereas, when markets fail to allocate resources efficiently, due to factors such as inadequate income or lack of infrastructure and insecurity, food insecurity can result. This perspective highlights the importance of addressing market failures through targeted interventions and policies to ensure that individuals have access to sufficient and nutritious food. The study as well, anchored on the endogenous growth model theory. Endogenous Growth Theory model assumed that economic growth is generated from within the economic system through purposeful investment decisions, innovation, human capital accumulation, and knowledge spillovers. These assumptions imply that economic growth is not predetermined by external forces but can be influenced by deliberate policy choices and social investments. Meanwhile, we note that the first example of including undernourishment in a Neoclassical or production function "AK" endogenous growth model is Arcand (2001), upon whom we anchored our study model.

Model Specification

In this study, we examined the empirical reviews conducted by Victor Ushahemba Ijirshar, Isaiah Iortyom Udaah, Bridget Ngodoo Mile, Joyce Seember Vershima, Abba Adaudu (2025), Akindoyin, and Obafemi,

(2025) to ensure their relevance to our study. We therefore integrate the poverty level with the presence of insecurity activities index, in a linear model. However, there is a reciprocal relationship exists among these variables; poverty level, agriculture sector outputs food production index, and terrorism index in Nigeria. This interdependent among the variables can be illustrated through a revised specification that is structured as a simultaneous equation model, articulated as follows:

$$PCI = F (ASFPI)$$

... 1

$$ASFPI = F (PCI)$$

... 2

$$TERI = F (PCI)$$

... 3.

$$NPUI = F (TERI)$$

... 4

Equations [1, 2, 3, and 4], represent a simultaneous equation model. Thus, to expand equation [1 to 4], then obtaining its implicit form of substituting for the variables, we have the model as:

$$PCI_t = \alpha_{11} + \alpha_{12}EDAI_t + \alpha_{13}GEAS_t + \alpha_{14}NPUI_t + \alpha_{15}CFPI_t + \alpha_{16}ASFPI_t + \alpha_{17}TERI_t + \epsilon_{1t} \dots 5$$

$$ASFPI_t = \alpha_{21} + \alpha_{22}EDAI_t + \alpha_{23}GEAS_t + \alpha_{24}NPUI_t + \alpha_{25}CFPI_t + \alpha_{26}TERI_t + \alpha_{26}PCI_t + \epsilon_{2t} \dots 6$$

$$TERI_t = \beta_{31} + \beta_{32}EDAI_t + \beta_{33}ASFPI_t + \beta_{34}NPUI_t + \beta_{35}CFPI_t + \beta_{36}GEAS_t + \beta_{37}PCI_t + \lambda_{3t} \dots 7$$

$$\text{NPUT}_t = \beta_{41} + \beta_{42}\text{TERI}_t + \beta_{43}\text{EDAI}_t + \beta_{44}\text{ASFPI}_t + \beta_{45}\text{RGDP}_t + \beta_{46}\text{CFPI}_t + \beta_{47}\text{PCI}_t + \lambda_{4t} \dots 8$$

Where, poverty level proxy of per capital income (PCI) in Nigeria, Insecurity proxy to terrorism index in Nigeria (TERI), Food availability is proxy with agriculture sector outputs food production index (ASFPI) and utilization is proxy by number of people undernourished index (NPUI), Clement-changes is proxy with environmental disaster on agriculture sector index (EDAI), Real gross domestic product (RGDP), Government expenditure on

agricultural sector (GEAS), Government expenditure on security sector (GESS) and Cost of food is proxy with Consumer food price indices (CFPI).

The a-priori assumption: the (PCI) is assumed to have a negative relationship with (EDAI), (TERI), and (NPUI). Whereas, (PCI) is assumed to have a positive relationship with (ASFPI), (GEAS), (GESS) and (CFPI). It important to note that (GEAS), (GESS) and (CFPI) were employed as instrumental variable in model. Meanwhile, employing the order necessary sufficient condition of simultaneous equation model we have the table below.

Table 3.1 Simultaneous Equation Model Identification

Equation	k	m	G	k-m	g-1	k-m = g-1
Equation 1	9	6	4	9-6 = 3	4-1 = 3	Over identified as 3>2
Equation 2	9	6	4	9-6 = 3	4-1 = 3	Over identified as 3>2

From the simultaneous equation model identification table, it became clear that the two equations are exactly identified. Based on this, we proceed to employed two-stage Least Squares technique (2SLS) to estimate our model.

Sources and Method of Data Collection

The data used for this study were secondary sources from Central Bank of Nigeria Statistical (CBN) Bulletin, National Bornu of statistic (NBS) and World Bank data base for the period: 1980 to 2024.

Presentation of Results and Analysis

Unit Root Test

Table 4.1: Augmented Dickey Fuller (ADF)

Series	ADF Statistic at Level	ADF Statistic at 1st Difference	5% Critical Level	Probability Values	Order of Integr ation
PCI	-2.108556	-6.181786	-4.186481	0.0000	I(1)
TERI	-3.559759	-6.756432	-4.180911	0.0000	I(1)
ASFPI	-0.807715	-4.458373	-4.186481	0.0049	I(1)
EDAI	3.035186	-7.513856	-4.205004	0.0063	I(1)
NPUI	1.356737	-4.247390	-4.186481	0.0085	I(1)
GESS	-2.282325	-6.765903	-4.186481	0.0038	I(1)
CFPI	1.523514	-4.613471	-4.219126	0.0006	I(1)
GEAS					I(1)
RGDP	3.473719	-9.360180	-4.243644	0.0000	1(1)
P	-1.798455	-21.15655	-4.205004	0.0000	

Source: *Extracted from Eviewsv9.0.*

Result in table 4.1, shows that all the variables in the model [PCI, TERI, ASFPI, EDAI, NPUI, GESS, CFPI, RGDP and GEAS] are stationary after the first differencing. In other words, were integrated at order one I(1).

Engle –Granger Single Equation Cointegration Test

Table: 4.2: Series: PCI TERI ASFPI EDAI NPUI GESS CFPI GEAS RGDP

Dependent	tau-statistic	Prob.*	z-statistic	Prob.*
PCI	-5.111001	0.0303	-35.01864	0.1622
TERI	-6.010081	0.0605	79.61271	1.0000
ASFPI	-3.442737	0.8788	-16.23598	0.9509
EDAI	-3.738348	0.7912	24.81364	1.0000
NPUI	-2.579686	0.9895	-12.67276	0.9890
GESS	-3.551473	0.8487	-20.05743	0.8514
CFPI	-3.464665	0.8731	-18.94444	0.8877
GEAS	-10.93244	0.0000	-64.71622	0.0000
RGDP	-16.08468	0.0000	-44.34897	0.0163

Source: *Extracted from Eviewsv 9.0.*

Result from table 4.2 shows that the Tau-statistic value for [PCI, ASFPI, TERI and RGDP are [-5.111001, -6.010081, -3.442737 and -16.08468] and their probability values [0.0303, 0.0605, 0.8788 and 0.0000] were significant respectively. Therefore, we reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternate hypothesis that the series were co-integrated in the long run.

Table 4.3: Summary of Granger Causality Test

Null Hypothesis:	Obs	F-Statistic	Prob.
TERI does not Granger Cause PCI	43	3.08851	0.0572
PCI does not Granger Cause TERI		4.08455	0.0247
ASFPI does not Granger Cause PCI	43	3.52527	0.0394
PCI does not Granger Cause ASFPI		2.33118	0.0762
EDAI does not Granger Cause PCI	43	4.09631	0.0245
PCI does not Granger Cause EDAI		1.74987	0.1875
GEAS does not Granger Cause PCI	43	0.28654	0.7525
PCI does not Granger Cause GEAS		7.17369	0.0023
TERI does not Granger Cause ASFPI	43	5.98700	0.0055
ASFPI does not Granger Cause TERI		3.78541	0.0032
NPUT does not Granger Cause PCI	43	3.71847	0.0335
PCI does not Granger Cause NPUT		4.37122	0.0196
NPUT does not Granger Cause TERI	43	7.29039	0.0021
TERI does not Granger Cause NPUT		3.85868	0.0298

Source: *Extracted from Eviewsv9.0*

Table 4.3 summary of Granger Causality Test result shows that [PCI, ASFPI, NPUT and TERI] have bidirectional causal relationship. These variables in their respective p- values [0.0572TERI, 0.0247PCI], [0.0394ASFPI, 0.0762PCI], [0.0335 NPUT, 0.019PCI] [0.0021 NPUT,

0.0298TERI] and [0.0055TERI and 0.0032 ASFPI] are less than the 0.05 critical values and as such we reject their null hypotheses. This means that there is an evidence to show that the present trend of growth in [PCI, ASFPI, NPUT and TERI] can be used to predict poverty level in Nigeria and vice versa.

Estimation of the 2SLS result

Table 4.5: Modeling equation 1, dependent variable: Per Capital Income (PCI)
Instrument specification: NPUT EDAI GEAS CFPI

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	501.5410	269.5641	1.860563	0.0702
ASFPI	0.183496	0.069328	2.646800	0.0116

NPUI	-81.51079	42.27650	-1.928040	0.0610
TERI	0.168552	0.081309	2.072967	0.0447
CFPI	1.113324	2.538548	0.438567	0.6633
R-squared	0.614233	Mean dependent var		1379.301
Adjusted R-squared	0.575657	S.D. dependent var		906.2595

Equation 2, Dependent Variable ; Agriculture Sector Outputs Food Production Inc (ASFPI)

Instrument specification: NPUI EDAI GEAS CFPI

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	153.9714	1251.706	0.123009	0.9027
PCI	3.782271	1.557416	2.428556	0.0196
TERI	9.306408	5.701043	1.632404	0.1103
NPUI	16.24152	5.878944	2.762659	0.0085
R-squared	0.836278	Mean dependent var		9583.838
Adjusted R-squared	0.824299	S.D. dependent var		6545.903

Equation 3 Dependent Variable; Terrorism Index in Nigeria (TERI)

Instrument specification: NPUI CFPI GEAS EDAI GESS

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-43.03558	130.0633	-0.330882	0.7425
ASFPI	0.028350	0.021091	1.344185	0.1867
PCI	-76.03884	34.21178	-2.222592	0.0320
NPUI	2.470123	12.10218	0.204106	0.8393
EDAI	-0.295458	1.156877	-0.255393	0.7998
GESS	0.001240	0.000550	2.253736	0.0299
R-squared	0.672324	Mean dependent var		275.9333
Adjusted R-squared	0.630314	S.D. dependent var		262.5486

Equation 4: Dependent Variable; Number of People Undernourished in Nigeria (NPUI).

Instrument specification: GESS CFPI RGDP GEAS

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	3.908999	1.867513	2.093158	0.0427
TERI	-0.002067	0.000322	-6.426055	0.0000
ASFPI	0.002675	0.000542	4.932049	0.0000
PCI	-0.009077	0.002443	-3.715380	0.0006
GESS	-0.000117	3.83E-05	-3.064656	0.0039
R-squared	0.810240	Mean dependent var		13.71537
Adjusted R-squared	0.791264	S.D. dependent var		10.76103

Source: Extracted from Eviewsv9.0

From table 4.5 above, the simultaneous equation regression for (PCI) and (ASFPI) intercepts were [501.5410 and 153.9714] indicated that holding terrorism index in Nigeria at zero, there will be positive movements in (PCI) and (ASFPI) respectively in Nigeria. This notified the need for CBN, ministry of agriculture and defense to work together towards protection and security in Nigeria. Whereas, (TERI) and (PCI) intercepts were [-43.03558 and 501.5410] also indicated holding (ASFPI) at zero, there will be negative movements in (PCI) in Nigeria. This explains how important terrorism (TERI) and agriculture sector outputs (ASFPI) are deriving in controlling (PCI) poverty level in Nigeria economy).

Furthermore, the 2SLS simultaneous equation 1 and 2 result shows that [ASFPI, NPUI, TERI, CFPI] will increase (PCI) there by reducing poverty level in Nigeria economy and as well, increase in per capital income (PCI) in Nigeria, increased agriculture sector outputs food production index (ASFPI) by [0.183496, 81.51079, 0.168552 and 1.113324] and [3.782271, 9.306408 and 16.24152] units respectively. Thus, the level of terrorism (TERI) penetration, variables such as [NPUI, CFPI, GEAS, EDAI and GESS] has proven to have positively affected agriculture sector outputs (ASFPI) as well, poverty level (PCI) in Nigeria. However, the

variables directional effect is in line with their initial expectation.

For the 2SLS simultaneous equation 3 result, shows that terrorism in Nigeria (TERI) will increase positive, by [0.028350, 2.470123 and 0.001240] units as results of positive changes in [ASFPI, NPUI and GESS]. while environmental disaster on agriculture sector (EDAI) and per capital income in Nigeria (PCI) will increase terrorism index in Nigeria (TERI) negative, by [-76.03884 and -0.295458] in Nigeria within the period of the study.

Result from equation 4 shows that [TERI, ASFPI, PCI and GESS] have negative relationship with the Number of People Undernourished (NPUI) in Nigeria except agricultural aggregate food production output index in Nigeria (ASFPT). This implies that number of people undernourished (NPUI) in Nigeria will decrease as per capital income, government expenditure to security sector and aggregate food production output index in Nigeria increase. Whereas, Number of People Undernourished (NPUI) in Nigeria will increase as terrorism activity index in Nigeria decreases. Meanwhile, as regards to the significant of these variable to the dependent variable, equation table 4 shows that all the explanatory variables t statistic [-6.426055TERI, 4.932049ASFPI, -3.715380PCI and -3.064656GESS] have significant effect to the dependent variable (NPUI) in Nigeria.

Test of Hypothesis one

Variable	t-table	t-Statistic	P- value	Decision Rule. Reject H0 if t-statistic > t-table. Accept H1 if t-statistic < t-table.
TERI	1.540	2.072967	0.0447	Reject H0 ₁

Source: Researcher’s computation

Taken view from the table above, we could see that the t-statistic value of terrorism TERI, [2.646800is] is greater than the t- table value (1.540) and the probability value of the t-statistic is 0.0447, we reject the null hypothesis

one and conclude that “total terrorism activity Index in Nigeria has a significant effects on poverty level proxy by per capital income (PCI) in Nigeria within the period of this study.

Test of Hypothesis Two

Variable	t-table	t-Statistic	P- value	Decision Rule. Reject H0 if t-statistic > t-table. Accept H1 if t-statistic < t-table.
GESS	1.540	3.064656	0.0039	RejectH0 ₁

Source: Researcher’s computation

Viewing from the table above, we could see that the t-statistic value of Government expenditure (GESS) [3.064656] is greater than the t- table value (1.540) and the probability value

of the t-statistic, we reject the null hypothesis two of this study and conclude that “Government expenditure has effect on poverty in Nigeria with the period of the study.

Test of Hypothesis Three

Variable	t-table	t-Statistic	P- Value	Decision Rule. Reject H0 if t-statistic > t-table. Accept H1 if t-statistic < t-table.
TERI	1.540	1.632404	0.1103	Reject H0 ₁

Source: Researcher’s computation

We could see that the t-statistic value of terrorism activity index [1.632404] is greater than the t- table value (1.540) and the probability value of the t-statistic, we reject the null hypothesis three of this study and conclude that

total terrorism activity index has strong positive effect on agricultural aggregate food production output Index in Nigeria with the period of the study.

Conclusion and Recommendations

With adoption of simultaneous equation model which responds to the study gap that aid the study to established the following; insecurity proxy by total terrorism activity index in Nigeria has significant effects on poverty level proxy by per capital income (PCI) in Nigeria, Number of People Undernourished in Nigeria which proven the presence of poverty level in Nigeria, and agricultural aggregate food production output index in Nigeria and again, poverty level proxy by per capital income (PCI) has significant effect on insecurity proxy by total terrorism activity index in Nigeria within the period of the study. Meanwhile Granger Causality Test result shows that [PCI, ASFPI, NPUT and TERI] have bidirectional causal relationship respectively. This indicates that security, agricultural aggregate food production outputs are beneficial and necessary in the control of poverty level in Nigeria. This also proven that Nigeria is recognized as a central hub

for insecurity aimed at reducing aggregate food security, increasing number of people undernourished in Nigeria which led to increasing the poverty level in Nigeria economy.

Recommendation policy

1. Nigeria governments that have unlimited public funds, or unlimited tax revenue, should fund security programs and should prefer to use security literacy as a national strategy for poverty level reduction because it is relatively cheaper to educate the population about effect of insecurity on poverty level and the benefits of using formal security services”.
2. CBN, ministry of agriculture and defense minister must work together towards protection and securing live, properties and agricultural economic values in Nigeria.
3. Nigerian should fight insecurity at all level without political under turn.

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