

The Trajectory of Border Management and National Security in Nigeria: An Empirical Analysis

NWANKWO Evans Onuabuchi, CYMEH Jenewari Krukrubo, OJI Desmond Ohakwem

Department of Political Science, Faculty of Social Sciences, Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rumuolumeni, P.M.B, 5047 Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria

ECHEONWU, Macdonald Silas

Department of Political Science, Faculty of Social Sciences, Federal College of Education, Oduibo, P.M.B 102102 Benue State, Nigeria

Abstract: Effective border management is a sine qua non for ensuring national security. The study examined the factors limiting the effective security and management of Nigerian borders as well as the implications of poor border management on Nigerian national security. The human needs theory was adopted in this study. Both primary and secondary method of data collection used, while the content analytical model, mean and standard deviation were adopted as a design to analyse the data collected. This study made use of 300 participants as its sample size. The study revealed that the porous nature of the Nigerian borders, insufficient manpower and poor funding, corruption/disunity among security agencies, abuse of ECOWAS Free Movement protocol, and inadequate facilities & logistics are the factors limiting the effective security of borders in Nigeria. Also, poorly managed Nigerian borders led to the increased national insecurity challenges such as; influx of terrorists/rebels into the country, food insecurity, banditry and kidnappings, rise in criminal gangs' activities, and illegal immigration and smuggling. The study recommended among others that, the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) should adequately fund, train, and equip the border security and control agencies such as the army, the police, Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) and Nigerian Customs Service (NCS). This would boost their effectiveness and efficiency in abating border crimes and regulating the movements across the borders of Nigeria. The study concluded that proper border management to bring about improved national security demands the concerted efforts of the government on one hand, and the patriotism of the citizens on the other hand.

Keywords: Trajectory, Border, management, Border management, National Security, Empirical, Analysis

Introduction

National security entails the proper regulation of the international boundary lines which defines the land area of a sovereign nation. This is due to the fact that security appears to be the most important aspect of a nation, involving the protection of people and property in a given territorial entity against threats such as international terrorism, robbery, proliferation of light arms, and human and drug trafficking (Jihan & C'edric, 2010). Regarding security, the notion predates the state, and the purpose of the state is to give it (Omoyibo & Akpomera, 2013). Hence, the threat to life and property are indicators of lack of national security. Notably, when there is danger, threat to lives and properties, banditry, terrorism, civil disturbances, riots, demonstrations, communal and religious conflicts, illegal influx into the nation, smuggling of illegal goods, and the inability of the nation to tackle these anomalies effectively, then the peaceful co-existence of the differing members of the society would suffer.

Regrettably, the Nigerian State seems to have failed to provide a secured and safe environment for lives, properties of the people as well as the conduct of business and economic activities. The alarming level of insecurity in Nigeria has fuelled the crime rate and terrorists attacks in different parts of the country, leaving grave consequences. In addition to the deteriorating nature of security outlook in Nigeria, the country is also confronted with alarming developmental challenges which pose serious threat to socio-economic development (Ewetan, 2013). The problem with the nature and characteristics of the management of Nigerian borders with her neighbours is that, they are poorly demarcated and poorly manned thereby making them porous. Nigeria has been battling with transnational crimes which pose serious threat to national security and this ranges from drug trafficking, money laundering, illegal arms trafficking, smuggling of all kinds, (contraband, stolen cars, firearms) theft, advance fee fraud known as 419, kidnapping among others (Adelugba & Ujomu, 2008). The aforementioned factors by Adelugba & Ujomu poses a threat to national security in Nigeria. Thus, they ruin the image of the country in the international environment.

The current rate of security challenges in the country is alarmingly disturbing and unacceptable. It has therefore been argued by scholars and security experts that one of the major immediate factors which has heightened insecurity in Nigeria is the porous borders of the country, where illegal migrants and/or individuals are largely untracked (Robert-Okah, 2014). Hence, the porosity of the Nigerian borders potent grave security implications for the country. This is due to the porous nature of the borders, which encouraged the unjustified entry of migrants from neighbouring nations like as Chad, Niger, and Benin. These migrants, who are mostly young males, are some of the criminals in Nigeria (Adeola & Oluyemi, 2012). It has contributed to the spread of small guns and light weapons, the availability of which has made it easier for terrorist organisations and criminal gangs to get weaponry (Hazen & Horner, 2007). In 2011 it was believed that Nigeria had over 70% of the approximately 8 million illicit firearms in West Africa (Edeko, 2011). In light of this, one could wonder what issues impede the efficient protection and administration of Nigeria's borders. What effects does bad border management have on Nigeria's national security? This paper's objective was to evaluate Nigeria's border management and national security in response to the concerns posed above.

Objectives of the Study

The broad objective of this study is to examine the trajectory of border management and national security in Nigeria. To be specific, the study will:

- i. examine the factors limiting the effective security and management of Nigerian borders.
- ii. examine the implications of poor border management to national security in Nigeria.

Literature Review

Border Management

Border management has become a significant topic in the global arena of the twenty-first century. This is because globalisation has increased cross-regional movements of people, products, and services. The development of an effective border management plan is becoming a greater concern for nations throughout the globe. Several projects on coordinated border management, integrated border management, one-stop border post (OSBP), etc., had been launched on a global, continental, and regional scale in an effort to solve border management concerns. Yet there are rising questions about how borders will be properly handled (Musalli, et al, 2015).

A border is defined in the vast majority of Anglo-American literatures as the boundaries or a divided line between politically sovereign territorial entities, as viewed in terms of invisible margins and the legitimate jurisdiction of political units such as sovereign states and federal states, or as the main line that separates one country from another. In other words, a boundary is defined by its invisible borders and the lawful authority of political entities such as sovereign states and federal states (Musalli, et al, 2015). Consequently, a boundary just identifies the geographical governments and subnational organisations. Depending on the level of security of the warring governments, borders may be both a boon and a bane (Akinyemi, 2013). As a result, nations are required to implement appropriate measures to secure their land, air, and sea borders.

Based on the aforementioned border explanations, border management can be viewed as the most important aspect of a nation's security, involving the protection of the population in a given territorial entity against threats such as international terrorism, robbery, proliferation of light arms, and human and drug trafficking (Jihan & C'edric, 2010). Consequently, border management refers to the administration of borders based on rules, procedures, processes, and methods, as well as the regulation of activities and transportation across delineated border zones. It is the government that strikes the right balance between combating illegal immigration and being open to lawful commerce for the benefit of the nation.

National Security

To properly conceptualise national security, there is need to first understand the term 'security.' Security may be seen as the condition of being safe, or the feeling of safe from danger as well as threats. It is explained to mean that which deals with the defense, protection and preservation of core values, as well as the absence of threats to the acquired values. More so, security may as well connote the defense, the policing, the State intelligence functions, and the prevention of threats and the breaches of peace. The concept of security has been scholarly explained by different authors. Security is the condition resulting from the application of measures to protect humans, information, and property against hostile individuals, influences, and actions. Or the conditions under which a community's members may participate in their normal daily activities without danger for their lives or possessions. This encompasses any measures designed to defend and protect the population and the resources of individuals, organisations, businesses, and the nation against sabotage or violent acts (Achumbo, et al, 2013). In conclusion, security is protection against all sorts of social, physical, economic, and psychological threats or harm. Security is growth, and without growth there can be no security. Security is not military force, though it may include it; security is not traditional military operations, though it may include them; and security is not military equipment, though it may incorporate it (Tsuwa & Okoh, 2016).

A nation's security is guaranteed by constitutional provisions. In the instance of Nigeria, the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria stipulated that "the security and welfare of the people (of Nigeria) will be the main aim of government" as a basic objective and directing principle of state policy. Therefore, national security is concerned with those government institutions that aim to assure the physical protection and safety of their population, as well as their equal access to the law and protection against abuse. The criminal justice system (police, justice, and correctional services/prisons), the military, and the intelligence community are the two groups of government systems and institutions involved with national security. And everything which pertains to the essence of governance, its institutions, underlying principles, norms, and values, as well as their effectiveness. Thus, national security entails a sense of safety, which should be ensured by the political system so that conflicts are less probable and normal circumstances among nations prevail (Thamos, 2008).

The absence of threats to core values, the prevention of public disorder, the preservation, protection, and guarantee of the safety of lives, properties, and wealth of the people, the protection of the nation's integrity, and the protection of the nation's territorial, aerial, and coastal boundaries against external aggression can be deduced from the above scholarly perspectives on national security.

Border Management and National Security in Nigeria: The Nexus

Proper border management brings about adequate national security. On the contrary, poor border management leads to increased rate of insecurity. It can herein be argued that security is facilitated through proper border management and the functional security apparatus. It is impossible to overstate the significance of border management to the socioeconomic and political growth of West African areas, Nigeria in particular (Musalli, et al, 2015).

In addition to promoting political stability in the nation, border management facilitates the free movement of people, products, and services among regions, hence fostering economic integration (Addo, 2006). It is important to stress, however, that the importance of border control authorities in preventing illegal activity in border regions cannot be overstated. The permeable nature of the borders facilitates illegal operations like as smuggling, human and drug trafficking, and the spread of small guns and light weapons, among others, which are combated by these authorities. In Nigeria, the threats to national security include but not limited to religious and political conflicts, mismanagement issues, espionage, smuggling, influx terrorists/bandits, armed robbery, civil unrest, and revolutionary insurgencies. But Idowu (2014, p. 213) says that "security agencies include both forceful and non-forceful management tools for both internal and external security. In Nigeria, coercive instruments include the Army, Navy, and Air Force, Military Intelligence, the Police, and the State Security Services. Non-coercive instruments include the Custom Services, Immigration, Port Authority Officers, etc. Notably, the Custom Service, the National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS), etc., are all in charge of managing the borders of Nigeria (Musalli, et al, 2015). The efforts roles of these security agencies explain the importance of border management to nation security.

Theoretical Framework

This study adopted the human needs theory. Abraham Maslow and John Burton's writings promoted this notion extensively. The essential tenet of this idea is that man has basic wants and that his failure to fulfil these needs motivates him to go to great measures to live. Intriguingly, it has been stated that human behaviour and social contact shape and impact his requirements to a large amount (Coate & Rosati, 1988). When an individual or group's fundamental requirements are not addressed, there is a propensity for them to engage in criminal behaviour. When a person's fundamental requirements are not addressed, he is therefore more prone to engage in illegal and disorderly behaviour.

The essence of the human needs theorists' thesis is that when a person has no other means to fulfil his fundamental wants, he is compelled to participate in different sorts of criminal behaviour. This explains why Nigeria has so many illicit border crossings. Members of border towns who enter into neighbouring border communities just to cultivate their farms use these illicit routes on a limited scale and at a rapid pace. The unlawful routes are also heavily used for the illegal movement of individuals (human trafficking) and legal and contra-bound commodities (smuggling), all in an effort to survive. The proliferation of guns in Nigeria, especially in the North-East, should be emphasised. Weapons are carried over international boundaries and exchanged for food or other

goods. Individuals who participate in guns trafficking in the area sometimes utilise the same routes and itineraries as those who move other illegal products over international boundaries.

The human needs theory is relevant to this study as it provided the basis for the understanding of the factors that facilitated the creation of illegal border routes to Nigeria, thereby making the country's borders porous and poorly managed. The theory helped in explaining why there are increased crimes and insecurity challenges in Nigeria. This according to the theory is attributed to basically the quest for the realisation of human needs. Thus, increased unemployment, high level of poverty and generally poor economic conditions, among others, are among the contributory factors to high level of criminal activities in the country. The insecurity challenges in the country have however continued unabated due to poor border management.

Methodology

The study employed both primary and secondary method of data collection. This study is descriptive in nature and made use of survey research design. Purposive sampling technique was used to select 300 participants as the sample size for the study. Questionnaires and interviews instruments were used to generate primary data which were analysed and determined using the mean and standard deviation scores. The mean and standard deviation analyses were aided with the use of Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) Software Version. 25. The secondary data were obtained from written and documentary sources such as journals, books, newspapers, reports etc. and were analysed with the use of the content analytical model.

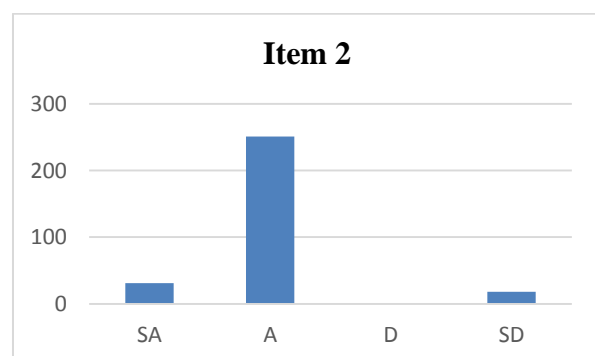
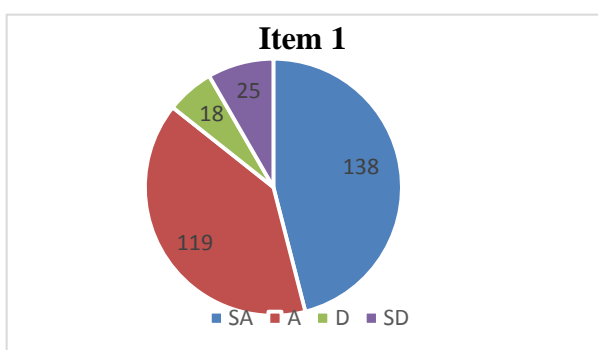
Data Presentation in Percentage and Charts

Table 1: Do you agree that the following as the factors limiting the effective security and management of Nigerian borders?

S/NO	Items	SA(%)	A(%)	D(%)	SD(%)
1	Porous nature of the Nigerian borders	138(46%)	119(39.7%)	18(6%)	25(8.3%)
2	Insufficient manpower and poor funding	31(10.3%)	251(83.7%)	--(0%)	18(6%)
3	Corruption/disunity among security agencies	119(39.7%)	138(46%)	25(8.3%)	18(6%)
4	Abuse of ECOWAS Free Movement protocol	156(52%)	94(31.3%)	30(10%)	20(6.7%)
5	Inadequate facilities & logistics	64(21.3%)	185(61.7%)	31(10.3%)	20(6.7%)

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Charts Presentation of Responses



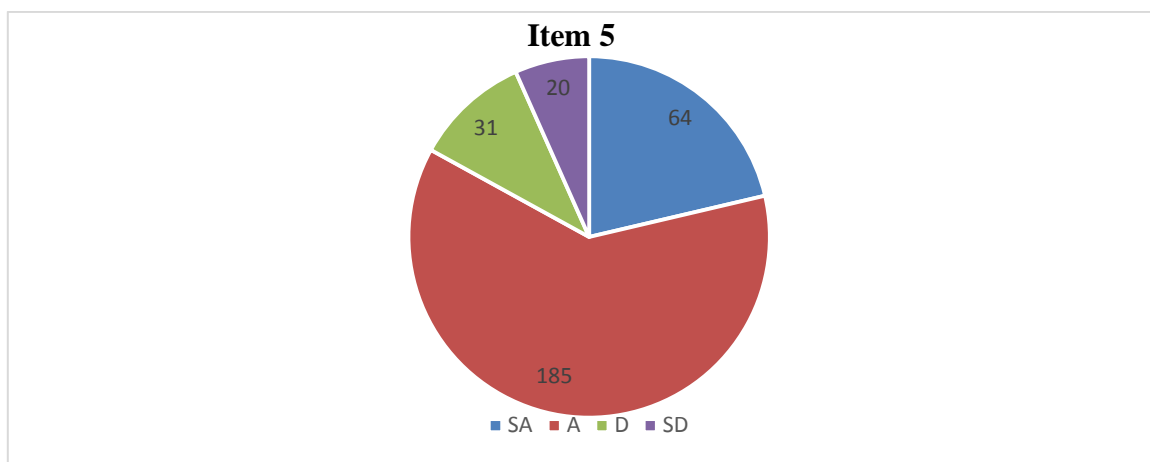
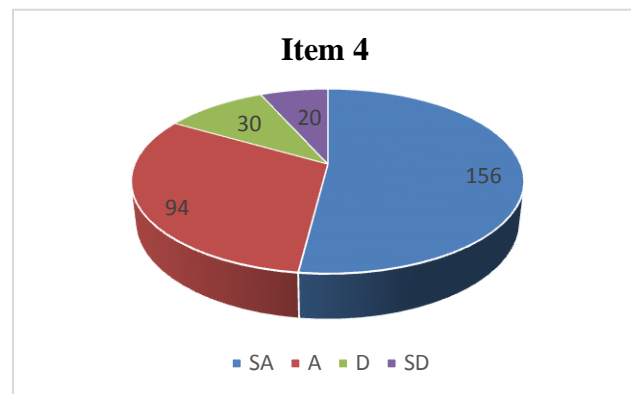
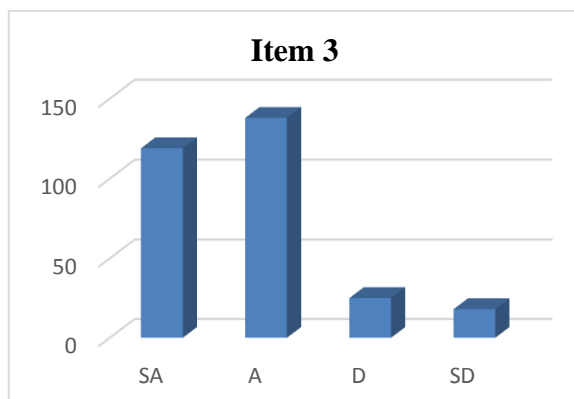


Table 1 and charts above indicated the various percent of the respondents' responses on the factors limiting the effective security and management of Nigerian borders. Item 1 has 138 respondents representing 46% as strongly agreed on the subject matter, 119(39.7%) respondents indicated agreed, 18(6%) respondents indicated disagreed, while 25(8.3%) respondents indicated strongly disagreed. In questionnaire item 2, 31(10.3%) respondents indicated strongly agreed, 251(83.7%) indicated agreed, no respondent indicated disagreed, while 18(6%) respondents indicated strongly disagreed. On questionnaire item 3, 119(39.7%) respondents indicated strongly agreed to subject matter, 138(46%) respondents indicated agreed, 25(8.3%) respondents indicated disagreed, while 18(6%) respondents indicated strongly disagreed. The questionnaire item 4 has 156(52%) respondents who indicated strongly agreed on the subject matter, 94(31.3%) respondents indicated agreed, 30(10%) indicated disagreed, while 20(6.7%) indicated strongly disagreed. In questionnaire item 5, 64(21.3%) of the respondents indicated strongly agreed, 185(61.7%) indicated agreed, 31(10.3%) respondents indicated disagreed, while 20(6.7%) respondents indicated strongly disagreed.

The above analysis based on respondents' responses in table 1 above indicated that greater percentage of the total respondents' responses strongly agreed on the various factors limiting the effective security and management of Nigerian borders which include: porous nature of the Nigerian borders, insufficient manpower and poor funding, corruption/disunity among security agencies, abuse of ECOWAS Free Movement protocol, and inadequate facilities & logistics.

Table 2: Do you agree that the following as the implications of poor border management to Nigerian national security?

S/NO	Items	SA(%)	A(%)	D(%)	SD(%)
6	Influx of terrorists/rebels into the country	158(52.7%)	95(31.7%)	31(10.3%)	16(5.3%)
7	Food insecurity	186(62%)	91(30.3%)	23(7.7%)	--(0%)
8	Banditry and kidnappings	157(52.3%)	125(41.7%)	18(6%)	--(0%)
9	Rise in criminal gangs' activities	125(41.7%)	127(42.3%)	32(10.7%)	16(5.3%)
10	Illegal immigration and smuggling	181(60.3%)	93(31%)	26(8.7%)	--(0%)

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Charts Presentation of Responses

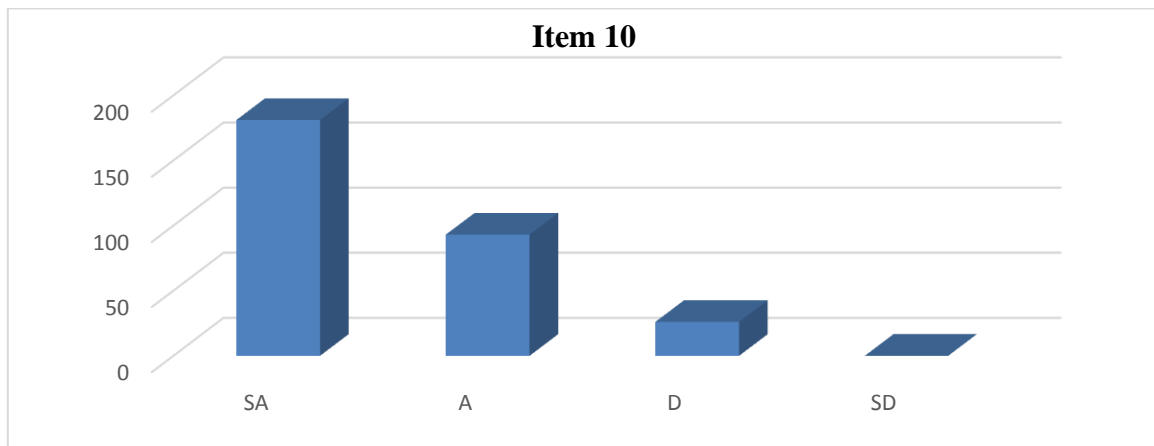
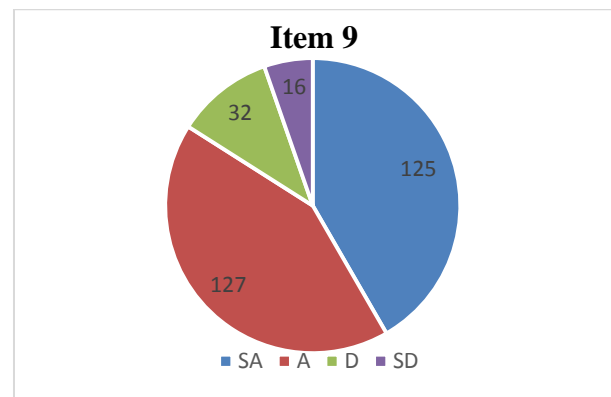
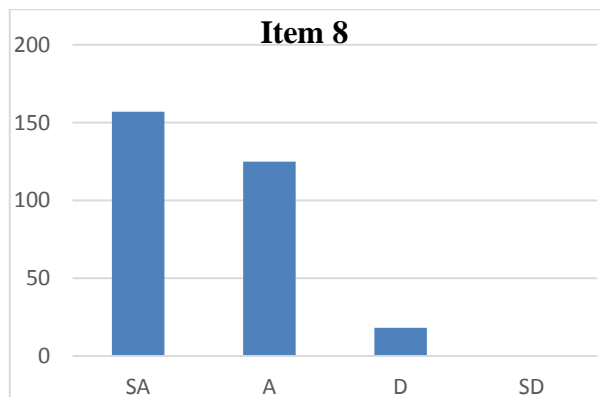
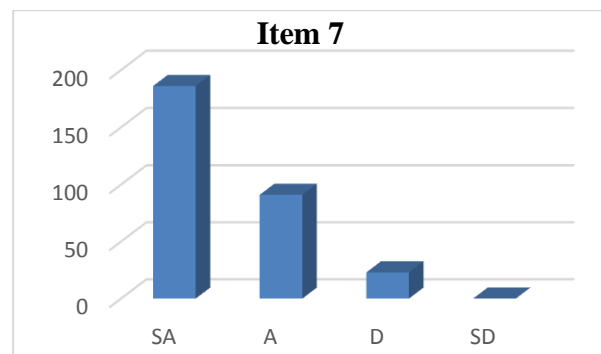
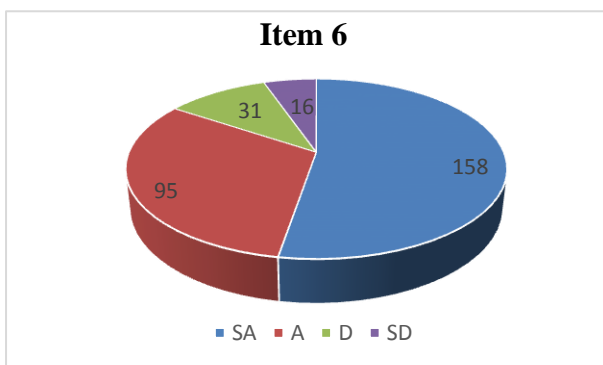


Table 2 and charts above indicated the percent of the respondents' responses on the implications of poor border management to Nigerian national security. Item 6 has 158 respondents representing 52.7% who indicated strongly agreed to the subject matter, 95(31.7%) respondents indicated agreed, 31(10.3%) respondents indicated disagreed, while 16(5.3%) respondents indicated strongly disagreed. In questionnaire item 7, 186(62%) respondents indicated strongly agreed, 91(30.3%) indicated agreed, 23(7.7%) respondents indicated disagreed, while no respondent indicated strongly disagreed. On questionnaire item 8, 157(52.3%) respondents indicated strongly agreed to subject matter, 125(41.7%) respondents indicated agreed, 18(6%) respondents indicated disagreed, while no respondent indicated strongly disagreed. The questionnaire item 9 has 125(41.7%) respondents who indicated strongly agreed on the subject matter, 127(42.3%) respondents indicated agreed, 32(10.7%) indicated disagreed, while 16(5.3%) indicated strongly disagreed. In questionnaire item 10, 181(60.3%) of the respondents indicated strongly agreed, 93(31%) indicated agreed, 26(8.7%) respondents indicated disagreed, while no respondents indicated strongly disagreed.

The above analysis based on respondents' responses in table 2 above indicated that greater percentage of the total respondents' responses strongly agreed on the implications of poor border management to Nigerian national security which include: influx of terrorists/rebels into the country, food insecurity, banditry and kidnappings, rise in criminal gangs' activities, and illegal immigration and smuggling.

Data Analysis

Table 3: Descriptive Statistics on the factors limiting the effective security and management of Nigerian borders

N=300, Criterion=2.5

S/N	Items	SA	A	D	SD	Mean	Std.	Remark
1	Porous nature of the Nigerian borders	138	119	18	25	2.50	0.73	Agreed
2	Insufficient manpower and poor funding	31	251	--	18	2.98	0.59	Agreed
3	Corruption/disunity among security agencies	119	138	25	18	2.50	0.73	Agreed
4	Abuse of ECOWAS Free Movement protocol	156	94	30	20	3.08	0.82	Agreed
5	Inadequate facilities & logistics	64	185	31	20	2.98	0.76	Agreed
	Grand Mean					2.81	0.73	Agreed

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Table 3 showed the factors limiting the effective security and management of Nigerian borders. The mean of 2.81 and standard deviation of 0.73 indicated that the factors limiting the effective security and management of Nigerian borders are strongly significant.

Table 4: Descriptive Statistics on the implications of poor border management to Nigerian national security

N=300, Criterion=2.5

S/N	Items	SA	A	D	SD	Mean	Std.	Remark
6	Influx of terrorists/rebels into the country	158	95	31	16	3.32	0.86	Agreed
7	Food insecurity	186	91	23	--	3.47	0.84	Agreed
8	Banditry and kidnappings	157	125	18	--	3.40	0.78	Agreed

9	Rise in criminal gangs' activities	125	127	32	16	3.20	0.84	Agreed
10	Illegal immigration and smuggling	181	93	26	--	3.43	0.88	Agreed
	Grand Mean					3.36	0.84	Agreed

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Table 4 showed the implications of poor border management to Nigerian national security. The mean of 3.36 and standard deviation of 0.84 indicated that the implications of poor border management to Nigerian national security are strongly significant.

Discussion of Findings

The discussion of our study findings will be based on subheads as presented below.

The factors limiting the effective security and management of Nigerian borders

The study findings on this subject matter are based on the data generated from items 1-5 of the questionnaire distribution. The major finding indicated that the factors limiting the effective security and management of Nigerian borders are strongly significant as presented in table 1 showing that greater percentage of the respondents agreed and strongly agreed, while lesser percentage disagreed and strongly disagreed. This study established that the Nigerian borders are porous and have been poorly managed leading to increased insecurity in the country. The poor management of these border areas has been exploited by terrorist groups, bandits, and illegal dealers/traders. Other findings indicated the factors limiting the effective security and management of Nigerian borders to include:

Porous nature of the Nigerian borders: In item 1, porous nature of the Nigerian borders was argued as a major factor limiting the effective security and management of Nigerian borders, as shown by the sum of agreed and strongly agreed responses accounted for 85.7 percent of the total respondents' responses, while the combination of disagreed and strongly disagreed responses accounted for 14.3 percent of the total respondents' responses.

Insufficient manpower and poor funding: This was argued in this study as one of the major factor limiting the effective security and management of Nigerian borders. As shown in item 2 of table 1, the sum of agreed and strongly agreed responses accounted for 94 percent of the total respondents' responses, while the combination of disagreed and strongly disagreed responses accounted for 6 percent of the total respondents' responses.

Corruption/disunity among security agencies: Corruption and disunity among security agencies was argued in this study as one of the factors limiting the effective security and management of Nigerian borders. This was justified by the scale of respondents' responses. Thus, the sum of 85.7 percent of the total respondents' responses agreed and strongly agreed, while the sum of 14.3 percent of the total respondents' responses disagreed and strongly disagreed.

Abuse of ECOWAS Free Movement Protocol: The issue of abuse of ECOWAS Free Movement Protocol was equally seen as a major contributor to the ineffective security and management of Nigerian borders as indicated in item 4 of table 1 where the combination of agreed and strongly agreed responses accounted for 83.3 percent of the total respondents' responses, while the combination of disagreed and strongly disagreed responses accounted for 16.7 percent of the total respondents' responses.

Inadequate facilities & logistics: Inadequate provision of security facilities and funding was equally argued in this study as a factor hindering the effective security and management of the Nigerian borders. As shown in item 5 of table 1, the sum of agreed and strongly agreed responses is

84 percent of the total respondents' responses, while that of disagreed and strongly disagreed responses is 17 percent.

The aforementioned results largely concur with those of Osimen et al. (2017, p. 21), who said, "There are over hundreds of illicit routes in Nigeria that connect or lead to certain bordering African nations. Nigeria's borders are extensive, with hundreds of pathways connecting it to Cameroon, Chad, and Niger, as well as Mali, Libya, and Sudan. According to conservative estimates by locals, there are well over 250 trails linking or leading directly to Cameroon, Chad, or Niger from the Damaturu/Maiduguri axis. These routes are mostly unknown to security forces, are unmanned and unguarded, and hence serve as conduits for the smuggling of weapons into Nigeria. They went further to argue that while the 84 approved border routes of Nigeria are used majorly for the importation of goods and services (free market), the rest of the unapproved/illegal routes are mainly used for illegal immigration, smuggling of cars and arms, human trafficking, and drugs exportation or importation.

Gros (2011) discovered that Nigeria's porous borders, which act as conduits for illegal international trafficking of small arms and light weapons and narcotics, are aggravated by the minimal presence of security and law enforcement authorities. If present, they are poorly armed, low paid, poorly trained, and sometimes compromised or recruited to carry out the rebels' objectives.

The implications of poor border management to Nigerian national security

The study findings on this subject matter are based on the data generated from items 6-10 of the questionnaire distribution. The major finding showed that the implications of poor border management to Nigerian national security are strongly significant as presented in table 2 showing that greater percentage of the respondents agreed and strongly agreed, while lesser percentage disagreed and strongly disagreed. Poor border management in Nigeria has posed serious negative implications to Nigerian national security which are hereunder discussed.

Influx of Terrorists/Rebels: In item 6 of table 2, the influx of terrorists/rebels into the country was argued as the implications of poor border management to Nigerian national security, as shown by the sum of agreed and strongly agreed responses which amounted to 84.4 percent of the total respondents' responses, and the sum of disagreed and strongly disagreed responses which is 15.6 percent of the total respondents' responses. This finds support in the findings of Adeola and Oluyemi (2012) who posited that due to the porosity of the borders, unwarranted influx of migrants from neighbouring African countries such as Republic of Chad, Niger and Benin has become possible. And that these migrants who are mostly young men who are some of the perpetrators of crimes in Nigeria. Lamenting on this anomaly, Okumu (2011) viewed that the insecure borders have greatly contributed to severe security threats such as insurrection, incursion and terrorist activity.

Food Insecurity: In item 7 of table 2, food insecurity was seen as one of the implications of poor border management to Nigerian national security. This was shown by the sum of agreed and strongly agreed responses which is 92.3 percent of the total respondents' responses, and the sum of disagreed and strongly disagreed responses which is 7.7 percent of the total respondents' responses.

Banditry and Kidnappings: This has become a major disturbing security issue in Nigeria and consequently a major implication of poor border management to Nigerian national security. As shown in item 8 of table 2, the sum of agreed and strongly agreed responses on the subject matter is 94 percent of the total respondents' responses, while that of disagreed and strongly disagreed responses is 6 percent. Though not directly related but this finding finds relevance in the works of

Menner (2014); Temisan (2015); Adetula (2015); Mailabari and Hamidu (2015) which explained that the problem of securing Nigeria border helps the Boko Haram to adequately launch several successful attacks in Nigeria eliminating thousands of people and displacing millions of people.

Rise in Criminal Gangs Activities: In addition to terrorist operations, Nigeria's weak border management and security has fostered the growth of criminal gangs that engage in armed robbery assaults and other criminal activities that pose a direct danger to national security. This is justified in item 9 of table 2 which indicated the sum of agreed and strongly agreed responses on the subject matter is 91.3 percent of the total respondents' responses, while that of disagreed and strongly disagreed responses is 8.7 percent. Agreeing with the above, Alemika (2013); Ahmed and Chilaka (2013) confirmed that this is manifest in automobile hijacking by gangs of robbers who normally snatch expensive cars from their owners in Nigeria and take them to neighbouring countries like Benin, Togo and Chad.

Illegal Immigration and Smuggling: This study found that illegal immigration and arms smuggling have been aided by the Nigerian porous borders. Notably, the availability of weapons and ammunition led to the increase of religious and ethnic unrest in Nigeria. Due to the porous nature of Nigeria's borders, terrorists have been able to acquire or traffic weapons and travel to other neighbouring nations for further support.

The aforementioned results are consistent with those of Hazen and Horner (2007), who noticed that, due to our porous borders and inadequate security system, illicit goods, firearms, and small guns readily enter Nigeria from neighbouring countries. Similarly, Nte (2011), Onuoha (2013), Blum (2014), and Ani (2012) stated that Nigeria's porous borders have facilitated other transnational criminal operations, such as the trafficking of small and light arms, narcotics, humans, and automobiles, among others. According to Onuoha (2013), about 70% and 8 million illicit firearms in West Africa were alleged to migrate into Nigeria through neighbouring nations. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has identified Nigeria as one of the eight nations with the worst incidence of human trafficking (Austral, 2014). Again, the porous nature of the Nigeria-Benin border has led to a large number of cross-border raids and assaults between herdsmen and farmers over a pastoral conflict (Mailabari & Hamidu, 2015). All of these illicit activities undermine Nigeria's national security.

Conclusion

Effective border management is a sine qua non for ensuring national security. Efforts have therefore been made in this study to empirically analyse the trajectory of border management and national security in Nigeria. This study reviewed existing literatures in detail to place the variable in a proper perspective and to link them to related previous studies. The relationship between border management and national security in Nigeria was established. The study established that poorly managed borders led to increased insecurity in the country. Thus, the illegal routes led to small arms and light weapons proliferation and the availability of these weapons have enabled terrorists and criminal gangs to have easy access to arms. Agreeably, Nigeria has been battling with the challenge of poor border management and insecurities arising from the porous nature of her borders. Evidence from the study shows that the porous nature of the Nigerian borders, insufficient manpower and poor funding, corruption/disunity among security agencies, abuse of ECOWAS Free Movement protocol, and inadequate facilities & logistics, are the factors limiting the effective security and management of Nigerian borders. It was established in this study that the implications of poor border security to Nigeria's national security include: the influx of terrorists/rebels into the country, food insecurity, banditry and kidnappings, rise in criminal gangs' activities and rise in

illegal immigration and smuggling. The study concluded that border management and national security requires the conscious efforts of the federal government on one hand, and on the other hand, patriotism on the part of citizens especially among those living within the border lines.

Recommendations

In order to solve the problem of border management in Nigeria and ensure effective national security, the following recommendations are required:

- i. The Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) should adequately fund the National Boundary Commission (NBC) and other border security and border control agencies such as Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) and Nigerian Customs Service (NCS). This would boost their efficiency in terms of having improved logistics and facilities to combat border crimes and control movements of persons and goods in and out of the country.
- ii. The border management agencies should adopt “the security strategic management approach” as posited by Achumba, Ighomereho, & Akpo-Robaro (2013). An approach which the scholars stated that it aims at combating the creators and perpetrators of insecurity, and simultaneously addresses and removes the causes or sources of dissatisfaction or discontent. The approach also aims at involving all stakeholders, both in public and private capacity government, communities, business organizations, civil society, religious groups and individuals to supply resources, expertise and information required to ensure a safe environment.
- iii. The federal government should make provision for technological facilities such as CCTV which should be mounted on border areas, and surveillance drones for the effective tracking down of the activities of trans-border illegal activities. The availability of improved technological gadgets would help to checkmate criminal activities and guarantee national security.

References

1. Achumba, I. C, Ighomereho, I. & Akpor-Robaro, M. O. (2013). Security challenges in Nigeria and the implication for business activities and sustainable development. *Journal of Economics and Sustainable Development*, 4(2), 79-99.
2. Addo, P. (2006). Cross-border criminal activities in West Africa: Options for effective responses. Kofi Anam International Peacekeeping Training Centre.
3. Adelugba, D. & Ujomu, P. (2008). An aesthetic theorizing of the challenge of national security in the post-colonial context. CODESRIA publications.
4. Adeola, G. L. & Oluyemi, F. O. (2012). The political and security implications of cross border migration between Nigeria and her Francophone neighbours. *International Journal of Social Science Tomorrow*, 1(3), 1-9.
5. Adetula, V. A. O. (2015). Nigeria's response to transnational organized crime and Jihadist activities in West Africa. Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
6. Ahmed, L. E. & Chilaka, F. C. (2013). The political economy of criminality along Nigeria-Benin republic borders and worsening insecurity in Nigeria. *Journal of Social Sciences and Public Policy*, 5(2),
7. Akinyemi, O. (2013). Globalization and Nigeria border security: Issues and challenges. *International Affairs and Global Strategy*, (1), 1-7.

8. Alemika, E. E. O. (2013). Organized and transnational crime in West Africa. In H. B. Stiftung & R. Schonenberg (Eds), *Transnational organised crime: Analyses of a global challenge to democracy*. Transcript Verlag.
9. Ani, K. J. (2012). Nigerian security and border relations with her neighbours. In S. I. Odo & S. O. Onwe (Eds), *Nigerian people and culture*. Jones Communications Publishers.
10. Austral, M. H. (2014). Pipeline: Photo essay shows human trafficking in Italy. United Nation office on Drugs and Crimes. mobile.news.com.av/...humantrafficking...
11. Blum, C. (2014). Cross-border flows between Nigeria and Benin: What are the challenges for (Human) security? *Friederich-Ebert-Stiftung*
12. Coates, R. A. & Rosati, J. A. (1988). *Preface: The power of human needs in world societies*. Lynne Rienner publishers
13. Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, (1999). Section 14 (2) (b) as amended.
14. Edeko, S. E. (2011). The proliferation of small arms and light weapons in Africa: A case study of the Niger Delta in Nigeria. *Sacha Journal of Environment Studies*, 1(2), 55-80.
15. Ewetan, O. O. & Uhie, E. (2014). Insecurity and Socio-Economic Development in Nigeria". *Journal of Sustainable Development Studies*, 5(1), 40-63.
16. Gros, J. (2011). Failed states in theoretical, historical and policy perspectives. In W. Hahonou, E. K. (2016). *Security in the Shabel: Corruption, insecurity and border control in Niger*. Danish Institute for International Studies Policy Brief
17. Hazen, J. M. & Horner, J. (2007). Small arms, armed violence, and insecurity in Nigeria: The Niger Delta in perspective. *The Small Arms Survey Occasional Paper*
18. Idowu, J. (2014). Inter-security agencies conflict at Nigeria's borders: A challenge to Nigeria's national security. *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science*, 4(7), 211-214.
19. Mailabari, N. & Hamidu, I. (2015). Developing Nigeria's border paradigm: The panacea for national security, socio-economic and political development. *Developing Countries Studies*, 5(21), 154-161
20. Menner, S. (2014). Boko Haram regional cross-border activities. *Combating Terrorism Centre Sentinel*, 7(10), 10-14.
21. Musalli, N. M., Harun, A. & Zainuddin, R. (2015). Performance of border management personnel and its security implications in northern Nigerian borders: A pilot study for reliability and validity of instruments. *Public Policy and Administration Research*, 5(4), 7-11.
22. Nte, N. D. (2011). The changing patterns of small and light weapons (SALW) proliferation and the challenges of national security in Nigeria. *Global Journal of Africa Studies*, 1(1), 5-23.
23. Okumu, W. (2011). *Border management and security in Africa*. Africa Union Border Programme (AUBP).
24. Omoyibo, K. U. & Akpomera, E. (2013). Insecurity mantra: The paradox of Nigerian growth and development. *European Scientific Journal*, 8(15), 132-142.
25. Onuoha, F. C. (2013). Porous borders and Boko Haram's arms smuggling operations in Nigeria. Report, Al Jazeera Centre for Studies.

26. Osimen, G. U., Anegbode, E. J., Akande, C. A. & Oyewole, O. O. (2017). The borderless-border and internal security challenges in Nigeria. *International Journal of Political Science (IJPS)*, 3(3), 17-27.
27. Robert-Okah, I. (2014). Strategies for security management in Nigeria: A roadmap for peace and national security. *An International Multidisciplinary Journal, Ethiopia*, 8(3), 1-17.
28. Thamos, A. N. (2008). State failure and insecurity in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria. *International conference proceedings on the Nigerian State, oil industry, and the Niger Delta on 11th – 13th March, Gloryland Cultural Centre, Yenagoa, Bayelsa State, Nigeria*. Harey Publications Coy.
29. Tsuwa, J. T. & Okoh, J. O. (2016). Nigerian Prisons Service and internal security management in Nigeria. In J. S. Omotola and I. M. Alumona, (Eds.). *The state in contemporary Nigeria: Issues, perspectives and challenges*. John Archers Ltd.