

ISSN-2315-9693



**THE POOR WE HAVE WITH US ALWAYS**

**Professor J. Afolabi Falola**

*Fellow of Association of Nigerian Geographers*

**Department of Geography  
Bayero University, Kano**

**26th October, 2017**

**BAYERO UNIVERSITY, KANO, INAUGURAL LECTURE SERIES  
NO. 22**



# **THE POOR WE HAVE WITH US ALWAYS**

PROFESSORIAL INAUGURAL LECTURE

**NO. 22**

**Professor J. Afolabi Falola**

*Fellow of Association of Nigerian Geographers*

Department of Geography,

Faculty of Earth and Environmental Sciences,

Bayero University, Kano.

**Date: 26<sup>th</sup> October 2017**



**BAYERO**  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Published 2017 by:  
Bayero University Press,  
Main Library Building,  
Bayero University Kano,  
New Site, Gwarzo Road,  
P.M.B. 3011.  
Kano.

Website: [www.bayerouniversity.edu.ng](http://www.bayerouniversity.edu.ng)  
E-mail: [info.bukpress@buk.edu.ng](mailto:info.bukpress@buk.edu.ng)

© Bayero University Press, 2017.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means (except for purely scholarly and academic purposes) without prior permission of the publisher.

**ISSN 2315 - 9693**

Printed by Bayero University Press Kano, Nigeria



## **Professor J. Afolabi Falola**

### **SUMMARY OF PRESENTER'S BIODATA**

**Professor Julius Afolabi FALOLA** hails from Tede in Oyo State, Nigeria. A product of Iganmode Grammar School, Ota (West African School Certificate, 1968) and Molusi College, Ijebu-Igbo, (Cambridge Higher School Certificate, 1970), he obtained the degrees of Bachelor of Science (1975) and Doctor of Philosophy in Geography (1980) from the University of Ibadan, Postgraduate Diploma in Rural Policy and Project Planning (PgDRPP) (1992) from Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, the Netherlands, Master of Divinity (MDiv) (2003) from the Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary, Ogbomoso and very recently Diploma in Environmental Management (2015) from Galilee International Management Institute, Israel.

He was Geography and History tutor, St. Anne's Secondary School, Otukpo (April - Dec., 1971); Wesley High School, Otukpo (January - July, 1972); Teacher Training College, Chokoneze, Imo State (NYSC Aug.1975 - July 1976); Baptist Grammar School, Ilora, Oyo State (Aug. - Oct. 1976) and Graduate Student instructor in Map Work and Statistical Techniques in Geography, University of Ibadan (1976 - 1979). Started his career in Bayero University Kano as Lecturer II in January 1980 and rose to the Professor of Geography in 1995.

In Bayero University, Professor Falola has taught geography courses from pre-degree through undergraduate to PhD levels especially research methods, qualitative and quantitative techniques and development geographies. Outside of Geography Department, he has taught Rural Development (Masters in Development Studies), Department of History; Research Methods for (M.Sc., MBA) and Advanced Research Methods (PhD) in the Departments of Accounting & Business Administration and Entrepreneurship as well as Research Methods and Experimental Design a PhD course in Biological Sciences. He has supervised 19 PhD Theses, scores of M.Sc. dissertations, scores of Postgraduate Diploma and Masters projects and numerous Bachelors research projects.

Professor Falola has held several administrative positions in the University. In the Department of Geography he was Level Coordinator, Departmental Examination Officer and Head of Geography (2001-2005) and Chair of several departmental

committees. At the Faculty level, he served as member of University Computer Committee (1982-84, 1993-94); University Prize Award Committee (1984-86); University Committee on Course Unit System (1986-88); University Committee on Examinations Regulations (1988-90); Board of Postgraduate School (1990-91, 1994-96); Editor in Chief, *Journal of Social and Management Studies (JOSAMS)* (1997-2002); Chairman, Faculty Research Committee (2004 – 2012).

At the University level, he has held membership of several committees including: Congregation Representative on the Development Committee (Committee of Council) (1984-86); Member of Senate (Congregation platform 1996-99; and as Professor to present); Member of several Senate Standing Committees including: Fees and Charges; Committee for the Establishment of the Faculty of Agriculture (2001/2002) and Member of the Board of the Centre for Dryland Agriculture (CDA). He has also been the chairperson of Senate Standing Committee on Examinations Administration and Reporting (from 2004); Public Lecture Committee (2006-2009); Committee on General Improvement of University, Faculty and Departmental Journals (2008-2010); Implementation Committee, Centre for Continuing Education and Professional Development (CEPDEV), (2010); University Journal Coordinating Committee (2011-2015); University Scheduling Committee (2011-2012); and Editor-in-Chief & Chairman of Board, Bayero University Press (From March 2016).

### **Professional and Community Services:**

He has offered professional services to Ramat Polytechnic, Maiduguri, Federal College of Education, Kano, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, University of Maiduguri, Maiduguri, University of Jos, Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA), Kaduna, Modibo Adama University of Technology, Yola, Federal University Kashere, Gombe State. At various times he was consultant to: Sir M. MacDonald Ltd. (1986); Bayero Consult (1988-89); SILVICONSLT, Sweden on Northern Nigeria Household Energy Study for Federal Forestry Management Evaluation and Coordinating Unit, (FORMECU) Ibadan (1990-91); Centre for African Settlement Studies & Development (CASSAD) Ibadan; and Federal Ministry of Industry and Technology and PI-International, (1994). He was also a resource person to the National Environmental Standards and Regulation Enforcement Agency (NESREA), Abuja (2008-2010).

### **Professional Membership & Responsibilities**

- Member, Nigerian Geographical Association (NGA) (1974 to date)

- NGA Zonal Representative (Northwest) (1987 - 1989).
- NGA Assistant National Secretary (1989 – 1991, 1996-1999).
- Chairman of NGA Rural Development Committee (1992 - 1997).
- NGA National Secretary (May 1999 – Aug 2001)
- NGA Third Vice President (Aug. 2001 – July 2002)
- NGA Second Vice President (July 2002 – August 2003)
- NGA First Vice President (September 2003 – August 2005)
- National President, Association of Nigerian Geographers (ANG) (August 2005 – October 2007)

### **Scholarships & Awards**

- University of Ibadan Postgraduate Scholarship Award for Ph.D. (1976 –1980)
- Commonwealth Geographical Bureau’s Sponsored trip to Australia (December 1986)
- European Economic Community’s Fellowship for Postgraduate Diploma in Rural Policy and Project Planning, ISS, The Hague (1991/92).
- Netherlands Fellowship (NFP) for an Individual Study Programme on the Dutch and Nigerian Agricultural Cooperatives, ISS, The Hague (1992)
- Fellow of Association of Nigerian Geographers (2011)

He has been a Visiting Scholar to the Departments of Geography in Cambridge University (1997) and University of Sussex (2000) and the Centre of West African Studies, University of Birmingham (2009, 2011).

### **Publications and Research Interests:**

Professor Falola has published 30 articles in journals and books; edited 10 works, produced five technical reports and 32 conference papers; and has given several invited lectures. His academic research interest covers rural livelihoods, land and water rights, rural energy, technology and rural change, agricultural cooperatives, gender analysis, poverty and inequalities.

## **Acknowledgements**

I am greatly indebted to all my teachers from primary, through secondary to the university for giving me considerable attention which moulded me into what I am. Professor Olusegun Areola supervised my Bachelors degree research essay while Professor R.K. Udo supervised my PhD thesis. Professor Akin Mabogunje, the Head of Geography when I started my Bachelor's degree and who took charge of my tutorial group in Part I, was of a great inspiration to me. Professor A.V. Williams of Pennsylvania State University ignited my interest in graduate studies while I was defending my Bachelors degree research essay. As the only student admitted for M.Sc. in Geography in 1976 (converted to PhD after course work and presentation of research proposal), I was given lectures by all my teachers as lone students. This brought me very close to them. They are Professors R.K. Udo, Professor S.I. Abumere (late), Professor M.O. Filani (late), Professor Bola Ayeni, Dr. J.O.C. Onyemelukwe.

I have no words to qualify my parents, Adekunle and Okebola, who did not have one day of formal Western education but were all out to support my education and that of my siblings. Both now resting in the Lord, they were models of what any parent should aspire to be – lovingly and sacrificially selfless. To all my siblings: Sulola (late) Fehintola, Iyiade (late), Faramade, Olaniyi (late), and Adenike, I greatly appreciate your love.

I found a helper suitable in Deborah Modupeola (CNA). A virtuous woman, she is a diligent, conscientious and self-disciplined professional and a lovingly caring family woman. I once acknowledged her in one of my writings that she received a Diploma in Secretarial Studies not because she wanted to be secretary to any boss but because she wanted to produce my writings herself. And to our children: Oladapo and Olayinka, Adeola and Oluwaseun, Adekunle and Opeoluwa, Abolade and Oluwafunmilayo and Ololade Ifeoluwa, you all are truly God's heritage and precious olive shoots.

Bayero University Kano provided the environment to further my dream. I had said to myself in taking up the teaching and research position that the only thing that could cause relocation was if the environment was not provided for teaching and research. Bayero provided it. So I had no cause to migrate! And all those who have passed



through and are passing through my hands have made me really proud of Geography in Bayero University. They always identify with me and always very supportive anywhere I meet them in and out of the country. I have enjoyed good working relationship with all my colleagues in Geography Department. I wish to recognize here Professor Michael Mortimore who passed on September 9, 2017. He was the one who got me interested in Bayero University in 1979 during his visit to the University of Ibadan as external examiner and with him I worked on a number of development oriented research projects.

For this inaugural lecture, Professor Yusuf M. Adamu gave the image of a youth trading in traffic in Abuja, Dapo Falola gave those of Lagos, Murtala Uba provided the water vendors in Kano, Emmanuel Ifeji and Dipo Ajayi captured the waste dump in a section of Sabon-Gari Market, Kano and Sola Oyediran took the photos of vehicles conveying charcoal to Lagos. Nura Hassan assisted in key informant interview of the tricycle association and Fairwood Marketing Association, Kano. While Lukman Adesina assisted in sourcing the infrastructural statistics from Atisbo Local Government, Tede in Oyo State. The title for the lecture was adapted from the word of Jesus Christ "... the poor you have with you always"(John 12:8).

# THE POOR WE HAVE WITH US ALWAYS

## **Prolegomena**

Poverty, one of the greatest challenges facing humanity in our time, is not a recent development. This is clear from the fact that there is no nation, tribe, race or colour that does not have terms to describe the phenomena of poverty and the poor. Take for example the three often referred to groups in Nigeria we have *matsiyaci/talauci/tsiya* (Hausa) *ube/ ida - ogbenye/ogbenyi* (Igbo) and *osi/ise - oton/akuse/talaka* (Yoruba), respectively. Poverty is a global phenomenon. It is in the developed and in the developing countries. The difference is only in degree and prevalence. In the United States of America based on estimates of the level of income needed to cover basic needs, the official poverty rate in 2015 was 13.5 percent. This, in population terms translates to 43.1 million people (Proctor, Semago and Koller, 2016). On the other hand, the poverty rates across the European Union in 2014 show a high rate of over 25% in Romania and a low rate of less than 9% in Czech Republic; the United Kingdom was about 16% (Office for National Statistics, 2016). While South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa are said to account for 80 percent of the global total of those living in extreme poverty, half of the extreme poor live in sub-Saharan Africa (The World Bank, 2017). Nigeria ranked 130<sup>th</sup> out of 189 in the world's richest and poorest countries in 2016 considering GDP per capita, adjusted for relative purchasing power (Gregson, 2017).

Poverty exerts deleterious effect on people's life and living. In days gone by even in places where there is no officially-declared caste system, you hardly find the rich marrying from poor families as if poverty is infectious. Thus, as the saying goes, the rich is friend to the rich; the poor is friend to the poor. But the poor of the land is so acquainted with poverty and seems to portray Fela Anikulapo Kuti's lyrics of "Suffering and Smiling." Jimmy Cliff's "Suffering in the Land" with the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer captures the root of most poverty experience in the world namely, inequality where, in the US in 2013 for instance, the wealthiest 10 per cent controls three-quarters of all family wealth (Sahadi, 2016).

Poverty is so pervasiveness that "No poverty" constitutes the very first of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) while the rest of the goals will appear to address the ways to end poverty. Take a look at the following goals:

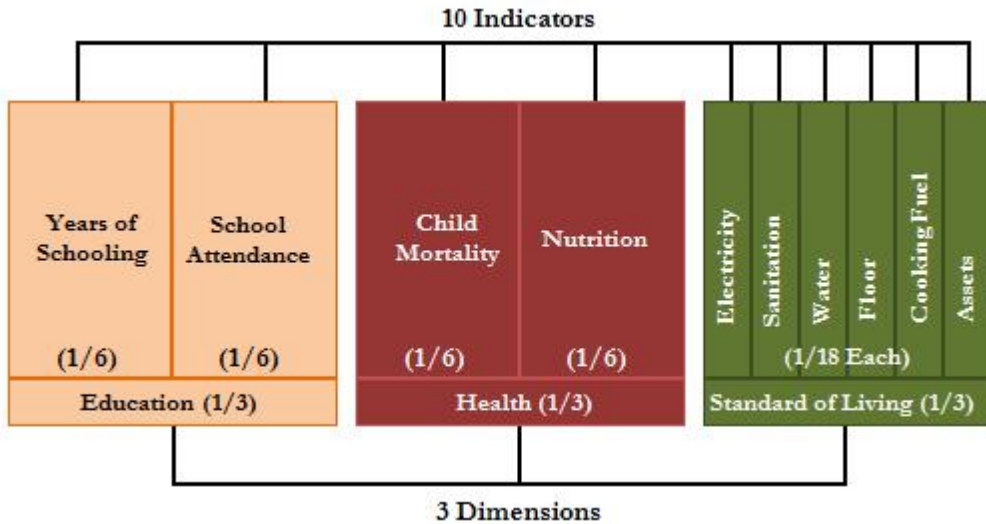
- (1) End hunger - achieve food security, improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
- (2) Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all
- (3) Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- (4) Achieve gender equality and empower women and girls
- (5) Ensure 'universal' access to clean water and sanitation for all
- (6) Ensure access to affordable and clean energy
- (7) Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all
- (8) Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
- (9) Reduce inequalities within and among countries
- (10) Sustainable cities and communities: make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable and,
- (11) Peace, justice, and strong institution: promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies. Interestingly, the target is to end extreme poverty in all forms by 2030 (UNDP), a task that appears like a tall dream.

It is in view of the foregoing and given what I have been working on in the areas of development geographies that I decided to write on poverty for this inaugural address. Ask why I chose the title: **The Poor We Have with Us Always?** It is because poverty has been, poverty is and, I hold the view that poverty will be until and unless Nigeria, for instance, tackles the challenge from the roots. The rest of the lecture describes the measures of poverty, the poverty landscape in Nigeria, the explanation of the pattern and the steps to take to address poverty in Nigeria.

### **Poverty and its Measures**

For this lecture the Nigeria Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) which is an international measure of acute poverty covering more than 100 developing countries was adopted from the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) (2017) to produce the poverty landscape in the country. The MPI complements income-based poverty measures by reflecting the multiple deprivations that people face at the same time. The MPI identifies deprivations across health, education and living standards, and shows the number of people who are multidimensionally poor and the deprivations that they face at the household level. Each dimension is equally weighted, and each indicator within each dimension is

equally weighted. (OPHI, 2017). These weights are shown in brackets within the diagram (Figure 1). For Nigeria, the dimensions and indicators were based on Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey [NDHS 2013] (NPC and ICFI 2014).



**Figure 1:** Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)

**Source:** Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) Country briefing June 2017.

A person is identified as **multidimensionally poor** (or ‘MPI poor’) if deprived in **at least one third** of the weighted indicators shown above; in other words, the cut-off for poverty ( $k$ ) is 33.33%. The proportion of the population that is multidimensionally poor is the **incidence** of poverty, or headcount ratio ( $H$ ). The average proportion of indicators in which poor people are deprived is described as the **intensity** of their poverty ( $A$ ). **The MPI** is calculated by multiplying the incidence of poverty by the average intensity of poverty across the poor ( $MPI = H \times A$ ); as a result, it reflects both the share of people in poverty and the degree to which they are deprived.

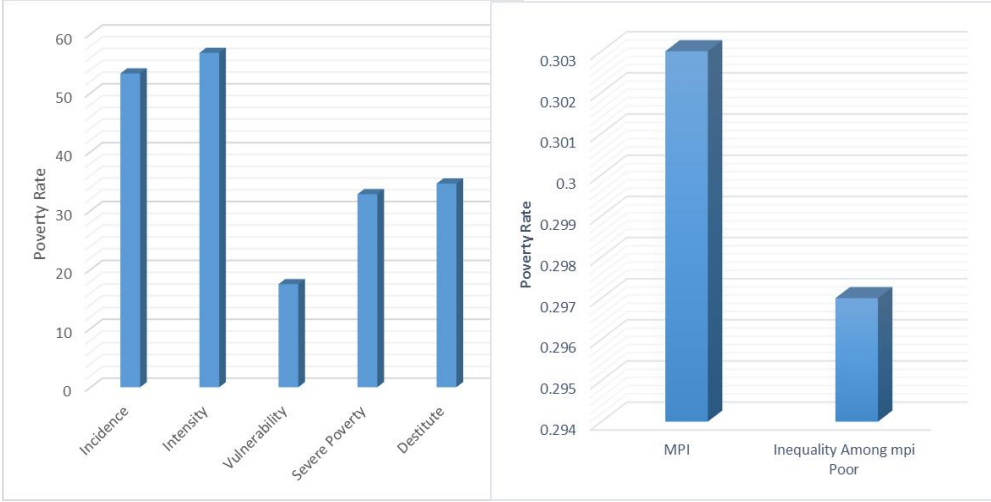
If a person is deprived in **20 - 33.3%** of the weighted indicators, such a person is considered ‘**Vulnerable to Poverty**’, and if they are deprived in **50% or more** (i.e.  $k=50\%$ ), they are identified as being in ‘**Severe Poverty**’. Those identified as ‘Destitute’ are deprived in at least one third of the more extreme indicators including for example, two or more children in the household have died (rather than one), no

one in the household has at least one year of schooling (rather than five years), the household practises open defecation, the household has no assets (rather than no more than one). The level of **inequality** among the poor is calculated using a separate, decomposable inequality measure to capture inequality in deprivation counts among the poor and disparities across groups. Total equality takes a value of zero, and the higher the value, the greater the inequality. Using the weighted indicators for the national, urban-rural and states presented in Annex 1, the patterns are produced in Figures 2-9.

**Nigeria’s Poverty Landscape**

**National Level**

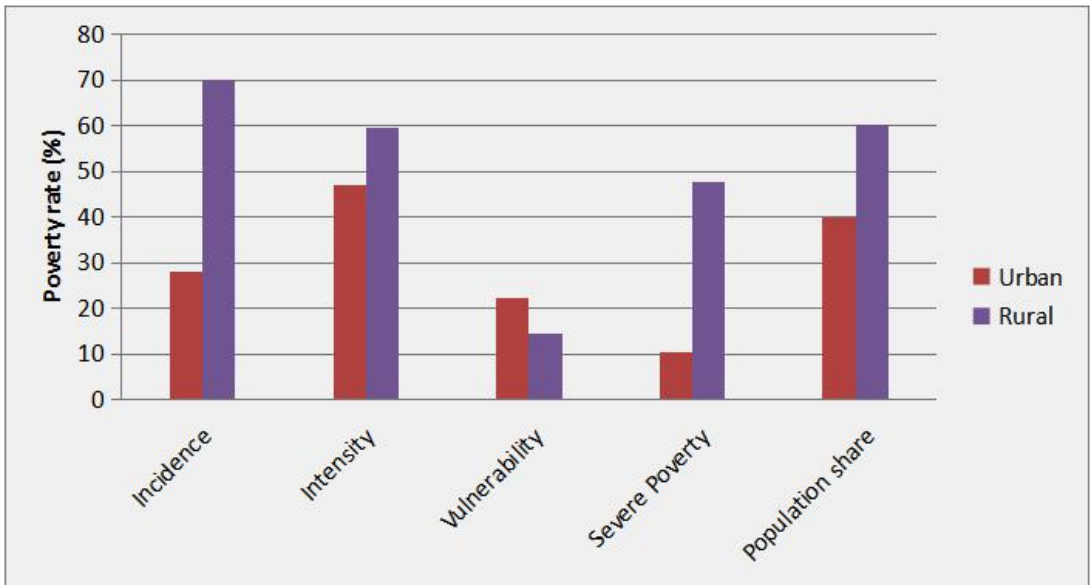
The prevalence of poverty in Nigeria is evident in Figure 2a which shows that slightly more than half of the Nigerian population are experiencing multidimensional poverty and, indeed, intense poverty. A little less than one-fifth are vulnerable and about one-third are in severe poverty. The multidimensional poverty index (MPI) is 0.3 with some degree of inequality (slightly above 0.29) even among the multidimensionally poor (Figure 2b).



(a) (b)  
**Figure 2: National pattern of multidimensional poverty**

### Urban-Rural Pattern

As regards the urban-rural pattern, except in vulnerability where the urban population is more vulnerable than the rural, in all other cases: incidence, intensity and severity, the rural picture is grimmer. Indeed in terms of incidence, the rural is more than twice the urban while the rural is close to five times more than urban in severity (Figure 3). The vulnerability is lower in the rural than in the urban which is a logical outcome because, as the saying goes, the one who is already down needs fear no fall.

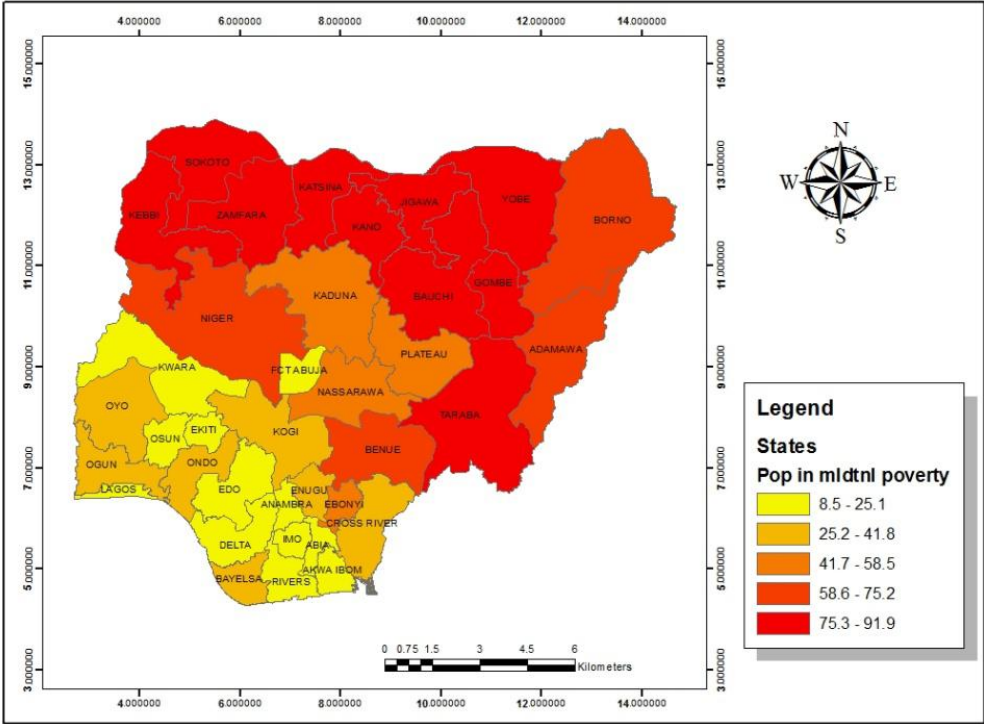


**Figure 3:** Rural-urban poverty rates

### The Pattern by States

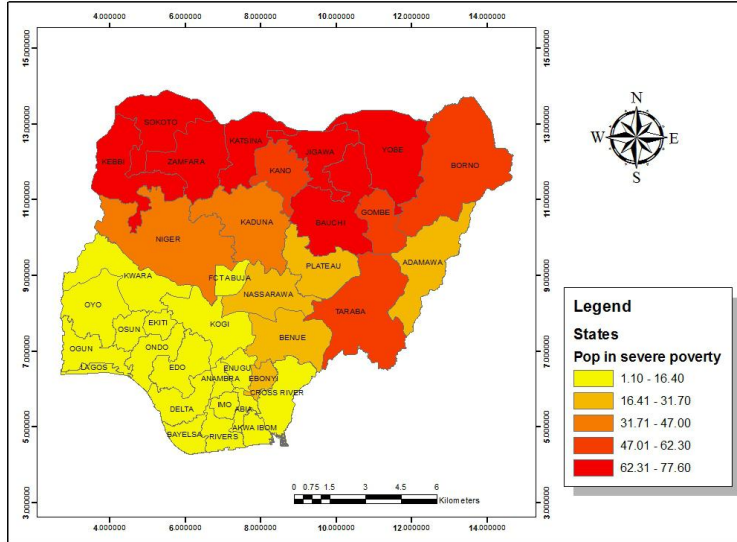
The spatial patterns of poverty for the states are mapped in Figures 4-9. Generally, the patterns reveal that the North-West and a greater part of the North-East geopolitical space are deeply multimensionally poor as more of the population experience severe poverty and are destitute, and there exists greater intensity of deprivation as well as inequality among the poor. The South-West, South-South and North Central are much less so, save for Oyo State in the South-West which presents same pattern of inequality among the poor as in the North-West and the North-East

(Figures 4-7, 9). However, the reverse pattern is presented for vulnerability where the southern states are more vulnerable than those in the North; in other words, vulnerability decreases northwards (Figure 8). This leads to a conclusion that the greater the proportion of the population in the country that are in severe poverty, destitute, and more intense deprivation, the less the proportion that are vulnerable to poverty. This pattern is similar to the disparity between urban and rural areas.



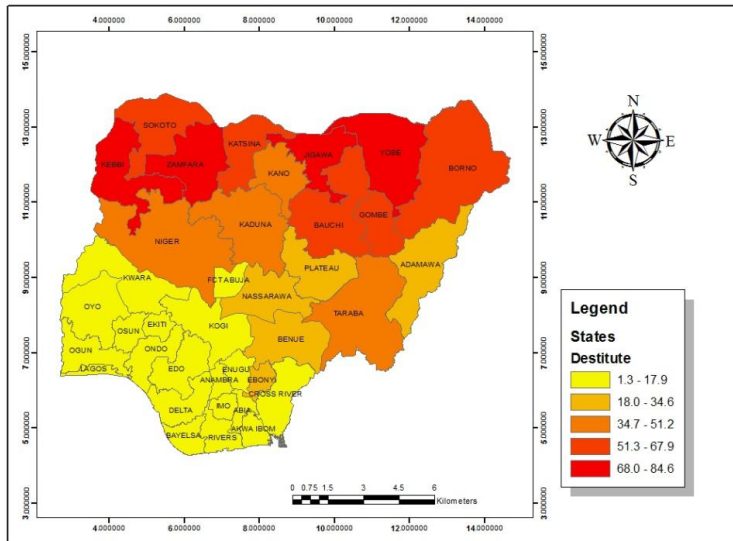
Source: Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford, OPHI (2016)

**Figure 4:** Spatial pattern of population in multidimensional poverty



Source: Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford, OPHI (2016)

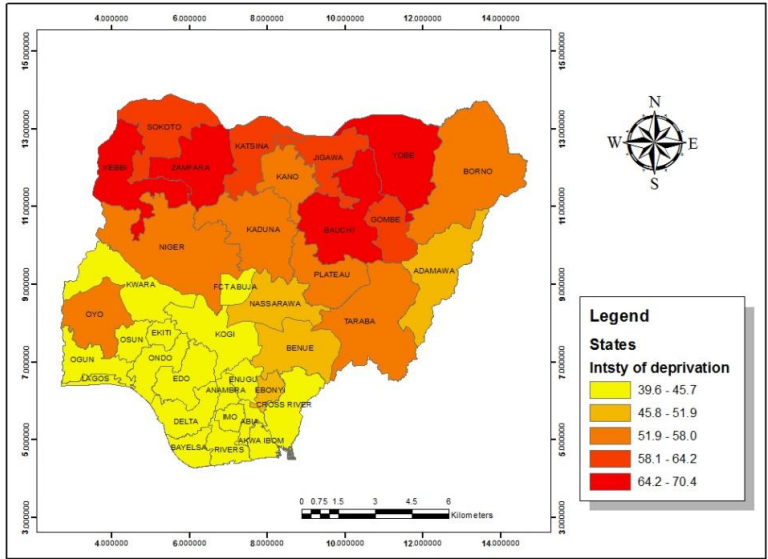
**Figure 5:** *Spatial pattern of population in severe poverty*



Source: Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford, OPHI (2016)

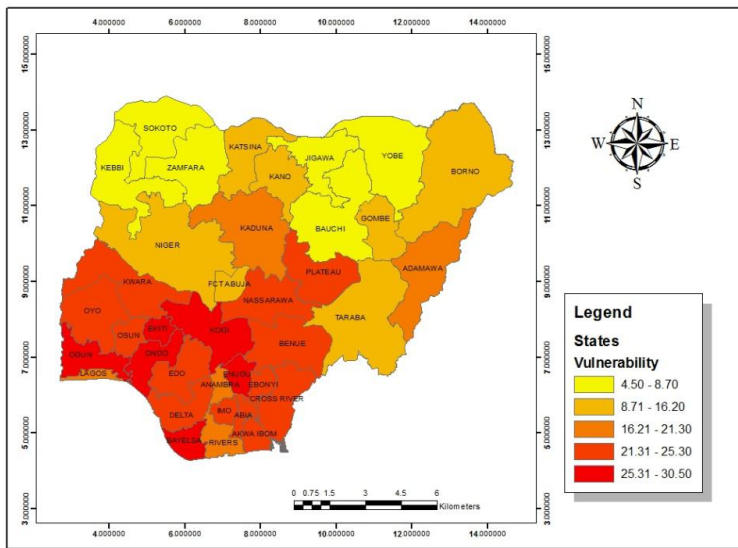
**Figure 6:** *Spatial pattern of destitute by state*





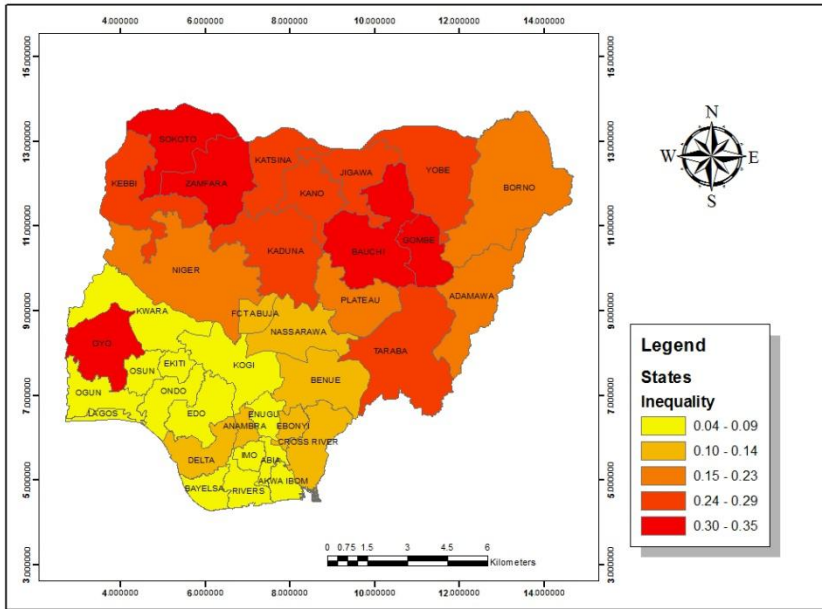
Source: Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford, OPHI (2016)

*Figure 7: Spatial pattern of intensity of deprivation by state*



Source: Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford, OPHI (2016)

*Figure 8: Spatial pattern of vulnerability by state*



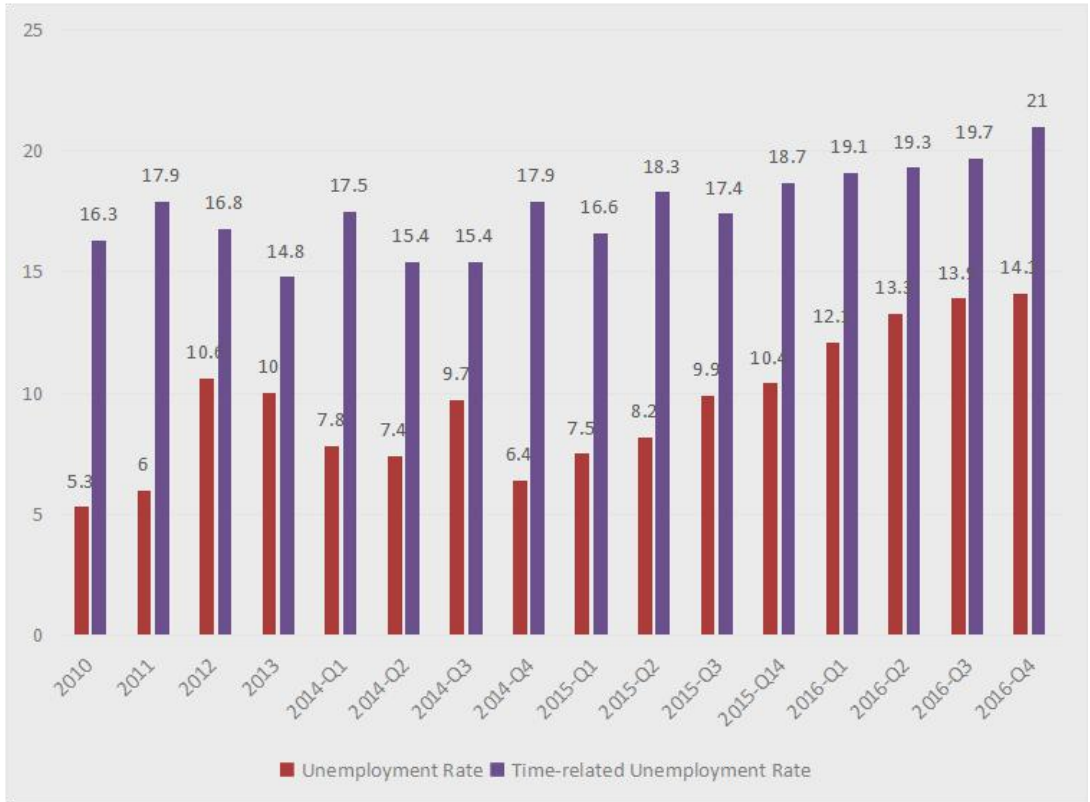
Source: Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford, OPHI (2016)

**Figure 9:** Spatial pattern of inequality among the poor by state

The landscape of poverty presents a north-south duality and urban-rural dichotomy similar to what was found in an earlier analysis of access to medical facilities, health and nutritional status, educational status and basic literacy where it was noted that except in health and nutrition the southern states scored more highly in the distribution of social infrastructure and services than in the northern states and the urban than the rural areas (Falola, 1988).

Several factors are responsible for the poverty status and the observed spatial pattern for the country. There is the rising unemployment and underemployment in the country (Figure 10). Between 2010 and 2013, (the year when the NDHS was conducted), the unemployment rate had doubled. While this rate dropped in 2014, it began to climb in 2015 to reach about three times the 2010 figure by the fourth quarter of 2016. Underemployment rose from 16 per cent in 2010 to 21 percent in 2016. The greater proportion of the unemployed and underemployed are the youth as can be seen in the statistics released in the first quarter of 2016 by the National Bureau of Statistics (Table 1). Unemployment among the youth rose from 6.83% in

2010 to 16.39% in the first quarter of 2016, while underemployment increased from 21.90% to 25.85%. The combined figure for the two is a worrisome jump from 28.73% to 42.24% for the same period. It is to be expected that as the two go up, so must be the rate of poverty in the land.



Source: NBS, Unemployment/Underemployment Report (Q4, 2016), June 2017

**Figure 10:** *Unemployment and underemployment rates in Nigeria (2010 – 4Q, 2016)*

**Table 1: Youth Unemployment and Underemployment 2010 to First Quarter 2016**

Period	Unemployment	Underemployment	(a) + (b)
	(a)	(b)	
2010	6.83	21.90	28.73
2011	8.04	24.16	32.20
2012	12.48	19.23	31.71
2013	13.81	20.40	34.22
2014-Q1	10.86	24.18	35.04
2014-Q2	10.31	24.48	34.78
2014-Q3	13.44	21.30	34.74
2014-Q4	8.86	24.69	33.54
2015-Q1	10.43	22.93	33.36
2015-Q2	11.34	25.29	36.64
2015-Q3	13.65	23.89	37.54
2015-Q4	14.46	19.53	33.98
2016-Q1	16.39	25.85	42.24

Source: National Bureau of Statistics May 2016

The point needs to be made that even among the employed in Nigeria only a few can afford good living – bearing in mind that the minimum wage is 18,000.00 naira which some states are not even paying their workers. Several states are paying half of the monthly salary while owing pensioners not only the gratuity but also the monthly pension. Some university and polytechnic graduates are employed in the public and private sectors for less than the minimum wage. All this is happening at a time when the purchasing power of the naira has fallen drastically low. One may ask the questions:

- (1) How many so called highly-paid Nigerians in the public sector can afford to buy a carton of peak milk (96 tins) monthly which a university Lecturer II could buy with ease in 1980 on a salary of 6,083.00 naira per annum?
- (2) How many among the ‘high income earners’, public or private, can afford a brand new car (popularly called ‘*tear-rubber*’) which a Lecturer II could buy in 1980 with a soft loan from the university repayable in four years without stress?

Virtually all categories of workers now inherit *Tokunbo/Belgium*, (the Nigerian euphemism for used vehicles - vehicles whose depreciated values have dropped very low) liability such that Nigeria has become the graveyard for spent vehicles!

It is noteworthy that the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) was established in November 1986, and began operations fully in January 1987 with the aim of providing technical and vocational training for the unemployed youths. The objectives were:

- To equip the youths with such skills that would enable them to be self-employed or gain wage employment;
- Make the youths to be self-reliant; and to target beneficiaries.

It was an all-inclusive Directorate: persons without formal education, school leavers and school dropouts, persons with special needs, and fresh graduates from tertiary institutions who desire to acquire functional and marketable skills (NDE, [www.nde.gov.ng](http://www.nde.gov.ng)). However, 30 years on, the nation is still re-inventing the wheels in separate agenda: *YouWin*, *N-Power* etc. under agencies or committees not directly under the Directorate. Rather than abate, unemployment among all categories of youth is still climbing exponentially. Where have we got it wrong?

While the nation is struggling with the twin problem of unemployment and underemployment which fuels poverty, the Sudano-Sahelian Nigeria is also facing the challenge of food security. This has threatened the very existence of the people and made the problem of poverty more pronounced. In Nigeria Sudano-Sahelian agro-ecological zone where rainfall appears to have been erratic, two problems are noticeable with the attendant problem of survival: When there is rainfall deficiency and crops failed, the farmers become highly vulnerable. On the other hand, when there is good rain, there is bumper harvest and the problem of storage is created. With farmers unprepared or for other reasons of pressures for cash, they are forced to sell the bulk of their produce at rock bottom prices. Rural people are thus very vulnerable.

Nigeria is among the countries with the fastest rate of urbanisation. From 30% in 1990, it is close to 50% now and is expected to be about two-thirds by 2050 (United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, 2015).

But how prepared is the nation for this growth? The reasons for poverty in the urban areas will be obvious if we take a look at the prosperity and sustainability of Nigerian cities using the UN-Habitat proposed definition of the prosperity of cities (Table 2). The definition covers five key areas namely: productivity, infrastructure development, quality of life, equity and social inclusion and environmental sustainability. In the light of this definition, the question is: “What is the state of Nigerian cities?”

**Productivity:** Nigeria today is in the era of push when there is no pull! Rural areas are pushing owing to neglect, deprivation and poverty but the urban areas have no force of attraction as the jobs are not there. Of course, it is a fact that even in the good days, the urban areas kept a kind of parasitic relationship with the rural. Unlike the Nigerian experience, when there was the Industrial Revolution in Europe and America, the industries were not only attracting labour from the rural areas but also there was the compensatory mechanism of the production by the urban industries of the agricultural tools to replace labour and the processing of the agricultural raw materials. Today in Nigeria, the industries are dead – and the hitherto bustling Kakuri Industrial Estate in Kaduna, the Bompai, Sharada and Chalawa Industrial Estates in Kano etc. are now relics. Those that have survived the onslaught still lean on the outside world for raw materials and are under pressure for access to foreign exchange. With the de-industrialization processes in over two decades, there has been a growing proportion of unemployed urban youth. With unemployment, underemployment and even disguised unemployment is the rising urban poverty profile whereby 36.3% are core poor, 56% moderately poor while only 7.5% are non-poor (NBS, 2012). Thus, poverty, informality and inequality are intensified in cities. Informal service provision, trade and employment persist as a central feature of Nigerian cities (UN-Habitat, 2014).

**Table 2:** *Defining a prosperous city*

A prosperous city is one that fosters:

<b>Productivity</b>	Contributes to economic growth and development, generates income, provides decent jobs and equal opportunities for all by implementing effective economic policies and reforms.
<b>Infrastructure development</b>	Provides adequate infrastructure – water, sanitation, transport, information and communication technology in order to improve urban living and enhance productivity, mobility and connectivity.
<b>Quality of life</b>	Enhances the use of public spaces in order to increase community cohesion, civic identity, and guarantees the safety and security of lives and property.
<b>Equity and social inclusion</b>	Ensures equitable distribution and redistribution of the benefits of a prosperous city, reduces poverty and the incidence of slums, protects the rights of minority and vulnerable groups, enhances gender equality, and ensures civic participation in the social, political and cultural spheres.
<b>Environmental sustainability</b>	Values the protection of the urban environment and natural assets while ensuring growth, and seeking ways to use energy more efficiently, minimize pressure on surrounding land and natural resources, minimize environmental losses by generating creative solutions to enhance the quality of the environment.

**Source:** United Nations Human Settlement Programme 2013. State of Women in cities 2012-2013, gender and the prosperity of cities

Trading within traffic especially at road intersections in towns and cities by young people and even some older persons is prevalent (Plate 1 a-e). Evidently, the Lagos State legislation specifying stiff penalty for those caught has not rid the roads of hawkers (Plate 1d-e).



**Plate 1a:** *Youths and children trading in traffic Kano (August 26, 2017)*





**Plate 1b:** *Youths and children trading in traffic Kawo, Kaduna (Sept. 7, 2017)*



**Plate 1c:** *Youth trading in traffic Abuja*



**Plate 1d:** *Youths trading in Lagos traffic (Aug. 29, 2017)*



**Plate 1e:** *More on Youth trading in Lagos traffic (Aug. 29, 2017)*

Also, previous attempts at sending beggars away from streets were only a matter of spatial and temporal relocation. In Lagos State, those who were sent away relocated to the neighbouring Ogun State, while in Kano, the beggars changed time of begging from day time to night time, and the elderly ones got involved in disguised day time begging - sale of bits and pieces combined with solicitation for support.

**Infrastructure development and services:** The UN-Habitat has noted in relation to African cities that: “Lack of institutional capacity manifests in the inadequacy of state systems and bureaucracies to cope with public demand for services in general terms whether infrastructural or services-oriented. Informal and private sector provision fills the vacuum left behind by the lack of service provision.” (UN-Habitat 2014:10). In the older planned and therefore formal urban areas, the roads have long failed as in the residential and industrial areas of Kano metropolis (Plate 2a-b) while inhabitants of the ever-growing informal settlements have been, where left unsettled, to find their way their own way (Ariyo, 2006).



**Plate 2a:** *Failed road in a well planned Nomansland residential area in Kano (Aug 30, 2017)*



**Plate 2b:** Failed road in Bompai Industrial Estate, Kano (Aug. 25, 2017)

Urban transportation has its challenges. For example, in spite of the introduction of Bus Rapid Transit in Lagos, traffic congestion is still there. And if there is rainfall and flooding of the roads, workers may get to their homes past mid-night. In the absence of well-organised urban mass transport system, the roads of many cities are clogged with light carriers, 12-seater buses, private cars, tricycles and motor-cycles (*Keke Napep*) – some will call the tricycles better evils than the motorcycles (*okada* or *achaba* or *going* depending on which part of Nigeria) (Plate 3a-b). Poverty alleviation motor-cycle and tricycle transport in urban areas of Nigeria are symptomatic of poverty rather than a solution. It was not so before. In the towns and cities were taxis that took passengers to desired destinations. The havoc wrecked by motorcyclists in sending their victims to orthopaedic hospital/native bone setters with permanent marks for those who survived their crashes and some sent to their untimely deaths is well known. In addition, tricycles are neither suitable for passengers transport in the rainy season nor in the dry cold harmattan season; they create traffic clog, a condition to expect given, for example, that about 50,000 registered tricycles ply the major ways and primary arteries on Kano metropolis daily. Also, that tricycles create problems for car owners is indisputable; they bash

the vehicles leaving permanent marks and dents with only a plea. Of course, they provide market for spare parts dealers, and create jobs panel beaters and painters among others! So, we are left to make a choice.



**Plate 3a:** *12-seater buses, cars, bicycles and tricycles on Katsina Road, Kano (Sept. 2017)*



**Plate 3b:** *Cars and tricycles on Bayero University Road, Kano (Aug. 28, 2017)*

Further on urban governance and mobility, how does one explain the failure to harmonise traffic governance in the urban areas? Take Kano for example. One notices the presence of six regulatory agencies namely, the Nigerian Police, the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), the Traffic Wardens, the Hisba Organisation, the Kano Road and Traffic Agency (KAROTA) and the Vehicle Inspection Officers (VIOs). This is a clear case of too many cooks which spoil the broth (Falola 2014a).

**Equity and Social Inclusion:** As regards access to land, social injustice is very pronounced in Nigerian cities as the poor are robbed of their inheritance to make the rich and affluent comfortable through the creation of serviced layouts and, indeed, housing estates which the poor cannot access. Land acquisition and inadequate compensation characterise many cities in Nigeria where land administrators hide behind the provision of the Land Use Act 1978. Reference needs to be made to the formal land market which conditions make access to land a dream for the poor, the very reason why the informal land markets continue to thrive in Nigeria's urban area (Gatah, 2007). The informal settlements in some of the towns are characterised by

one-quarter plots (what the poor can afford!) where owners build three-room apartments fitted with a well, kitchen and water closet chamber etc. Imagine the sizes of rooms and how safe water from such wells will be. In such settlements, room occupancy ratio is quite high. The fact is that access to urban land is not inclusive. Thus, poverty and inequality are Siamese twins in several urban areas of Nigeria where the minority live in well-planned and well-serviced localities while many urban residents live in slums such as Makoko in Lagos (Plate 4) and shanty informal unplanned settlements devoid of basic services. The Federal Capital City is host to Garki Village (which I choose to refer to as Garki-in-Garki: an old wine in a new bottle), Mabushi, Gishiri among others. See for example the road that leads to and the residential outlook of Gishiri (Plate 5). The system that keeps robbing the poor to settle the rich is not without grave consequences. The old story of Ahab and Naboth's vineyard is being relived. We see the consequences for the rich in the walls around their houses, usually rising higher than the prison's and the gate seemingly so secured and impenetrable to trespassers but fail to prevent the robbers (the economically and spiritually poor) who simply lay in wait or even call for the gates to be opened to carry out their operations.



**Plate 4:** *Makoko slum in Lagos (Source: Nigeria Real Estate Hub)*



**Plate 5:** *Gishiri, Abuja Federal Capital City (Sept. 10, 2017)*

**On water and Sanitation:** Urban households' water connections and provision of sanitation services are either lacking, or are experiencing notable decline with the attendant health challenges. The lack of adequate water and sanitation infrastructure leaves urban dwellers dependent on private and informal providers who supply the majority of the poor residents. Think of water supply where in a number of cities in the country, the water vendors (*mairuwa*) are powered by the borehole operators. Water is collected in jerry cans under quite an unwholesome environment (Plate 6a-b for Kano and Gishiri). In some other locations, water tanker of varying sizes are the major sources. The monetary cost to individual households and thus, the proportion of their income spent on procuring water is in multiples of what municipal authorities should normally charge to provide safe water (Falola, 1996). In August 2017, the cost per 25 litre jerry-can of water in Sabon-Gari Kano was 25.00 naira. Occupants of storey buildings will pay 5.00 naira extra per floor. Thus residents of third floor will pay 40.00 naira for the same amount of water. Even when houses are fitted with water closet, where is the water to regularly flush it?





**Plate 6a:** *Environment of water collection by the water vendors in Kano (Aug. 29, 2017)*



**Plate 6b:** *Environment of water collection by vendors in Gishiri, Abuja (Sept. 10, 2017)*

Municipal solid waste management in most of the cities in Nigeria is extremely poor (Falola, 2012). Uncontrolled open dumping and unsanitary waste disposal methods

are the rule rather than exception. No place is sacrosanct for dumping of solid wastes. Residential, commercials, road sides, uncompleted structures, gutters, river channels that traverse urban areas and the creeks in the coastal areas are liable places (Plate 7a-e). The consequences have been enormous – pollution, flooding etc. The improper disposal of solid wastes is a clear evidence of poverty. Evidently, many governments have not developed the capacity to handle the wastes the way it should be. Even in Lagos State with all the efforts of Lagos Waste Management Authority (LAWMA) some localities still earn the infamous appellation of urban slums – the likes of Ijora Oloye, Ajegunle and Makoko characterised by poor and overstretched facilities, inadequate water supply, lacking proper waste disposal facilities and good drainage. The poor personal hygiene habits, open defecation and poor environment promote very high prevalence of malaria, diarrhoea and cough (Akinwale, Adeneye, Musa et al, 2013).



**Plate 7a:** *Refuse dumped right behind a high density residential Kano walled city (Aug. 26. 2017)*



**Plate 7b:** *Waste dumped on the way into Gishiri, Abuja FCC (Sept. 10, 2017)*



**Plate 7c:** *Solid waste dumped at a section of Sabon-Gari market, Kano (Aug. 26, 2017)*



**Plate 7d:** *Waste heaped in the Commercial area of Madala, bordering Abuja FCT (Sept. 9, 2017)*



**Plate 7e:** *Waste dumped on the highway, Gwagwalada, Abuja FCT (Sept. 9, 2017)*

**Environmental Sustainability:** Evidence of unregulated expansion of the built environment into the peri-urban agricultural land abounds. Green areas and open spaces are disappearing in the cities (Maiwada, 2000) while urban pressure on tree cover change is imminent (Maconachie, 2014). An earlier study reported a mean monthly household consumption of firewood in Kano to be 332 kg  $\pm$ 58 (95 percent confidence limits) by weight. The coefficient of variation of 80 percent, indicating a wide range was observed not only between households but also between residential areas. Wood is used by 67 per cent of urban households for cooking and heating with as much as 74 percent of this using it for cooking only and most of the rest for both (Cline-Cole, Falola, Main, et al 1990). With current hike in the price of kerosene, charcoal appears to be replacing kerosene. There are also non-household users of fuel wood such as bakeries hotels/restaurants, *tsire* and other food sellers. The blacksmiths use charcoal largely. This situation accounts for an ever-growing movement of wood and charcoal into a metropolis such as Kano (Plate 8a-b) and charcoal into Lagos megalopolis (Plate 9a-c).

A recently-conducted longitudinal survey indicated, through officials of the Fuel wood Wholesale Dealers Association in Mariri, Kano metropolis, that more wood is coming into Kano now than in the 1980s with a daily minimum of two trucks in the rains to as many as 50 in the dry season. Fuel wood come into Kano from Bauchi, Taraba, Kaduna and Sokoto States while charcoal is taken to Lagos largely from Oyo State. The exploitation of forest resources in this way surely has its impact on immediate urban environment and even farther afield.

Owing to inadequate supply of electricity from the national grid, China and Japan have profited from Nigeria's importation of millions of varying sizes of generator giving rise to the "*I-better-pass-my-neighbour*" phenomenon. Some households have three generators to run with the attendant noise and air pollution. There have been several stories of whole families passing out in their sleep from suffocation induced by carbon monoxide discharged into the air by these generators.



**Plate 8a:** *Loaded trucks of fuel wood awaiting downloading in Mariri, Kano metropolis (Aug. 31, 2017)*



**Plate 8b:** *Piles of fuel wood in a section of Mariri depot in Kano Metropolis (Aug. 31, 2017)*



**Plate 9a:** *Lagos bound charcoal trucks Igbo-Ora – Abeokuta Road (Sept. 10, 2017)*



**Plate 9b:** *Lagos bound charcoal by medium carriers Igbo-Ora – Abeokuta Road (Sept. 10, 2017)*



**Plate 9c:** *Lagos bound charcoal by medium carriers Igbo-Ora – Abeokuta Road (Sept. 2017)*

### **Persistence of Poverty in Rural Areas**

Agriculture, which is the major employer of rural labour and the supplier of food, raw material for industry and export has suffered much neglect with consequent decline in the sector. All the crops which were once major foreign exchange earners and which were boosts to the rural economy declined. Today, Nigeria that was a leading world producer of cocoa and palm oil now places fourth and fifth positions respectively. The country that hosted groundnut pyramids is now number three after China and India. In all three, Nigeria's share of world output had declined considerably. Furthermore, the country is world's number 36 in coffee production and 27 in hides and skin ([WorldAtlas](#)). However the current leading position in cassava production is indicative of what can happen if the nation will return to where it started from.

Yet Nigeria's archive is replete with agricultural policies, programmes and projects targeted at reviving the sector but which were not allowed to leave a lasting impact.



Falola (2007) and Agber, Iortima and Imbur (2013) among others touched on the following:

- National Accelerated Food Production Programme (NAFPP, 1972)
- River Basin-Development Authorities (RBDAs, 1973)
- Agricultural Development Projects (ADP, 1975)
- Operation Feed the Nation (OFN, 1976)
- Guaranteed Minimum Price Scheme targeted at food crops (1975-80)
- Re-organization of the Marketing Boards (1977)
- Land Use Act (1978) aimed in part at facilitating large scale farming through improved access to land
- Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme (1978)
- Green Revolution (April 1980) backed with large scale fertilizer imports
- Accelerated Development Area Project (ADAP, 1982);
- Multi-state Agricultural Development Project (1986)
- Nigeria Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS, 1987)
- Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure (1986)
- National Fadama Development Project (NFDPP, 1992) (Fadama I, II, III)
- National Special Programme for Food Security (NSPFS, 2003)
- Agricultural Policy for Nigeria 1988
- The Nigerian Agricultural Policy 2001
- Agriculture Transformation Agenda (ATA) (2011-2016) which is said to have the capacity to generate over 3.5 million jobs. “To ensure food security and create wealth, 11 commodity value chains: rice, sorghum, cocoa, maize, soybean, oil palm, cotton, cassava, livestock, fisheries and horticulture, have been formulated as part of plans to achieve huge increase in production, starting from 2012,”.
- Agricultural Promotion Policy, (APP, 2016-2020) which is said to be building on the successes of the ATA, had its purpose as addressing the problem of food importation and increase foreign earnings from agriculture (FMARD, 2016).

With the exception of the World Bank-supported National Fadama Development Project which is in its third phase and marked by rigorous evaluation, none of the other programmes and, indeed, policies was allowed full implementation. (The ADPs were initially successful but their demise was initiated when they moved from their enclaves to become state-wide programmes). Rather, every administration had

initiated its own programme/policy; even when the existing is worthy of sustainability. The problem, they throw out the baby with the bath water. So the nation takes one step forward and two backwards. Today, Nigeria is looking for foreigners to come and invest in agriculture in the country. One of the bane of the nation's development effort and which is the reason for poverty is therefore a lack of continuity even for laudable initiatives. The nation is always beginning again when development itself is a process and hardly ever a destination. Little wonder, the poor are always with us!

### **Poverty Reduction and Irrigation: The Kano Region Example**

Irrigation was introduced to address the poverty challenge. However, the organically sustainable Fadama was observed to have been disrupted when dam construction denied the Fadama plains the annual floods and silt and water for irrigation became more difficult. Subsequently, the dams and large scale irrigation based on them began to show their adverse effects on man and the environment (Falola and Orogun, 1988). However, the joint actions of Kano Agricultural and Rural Development Agency (KNARDA) and Kano State Agricultural Supply Company (KASCO), the agricultural extension and research as well as and input supply side of the Agricultural Development Project (ADP) respectively came to the rescue. The former introduced new technologies of washbores and tubewells while the latter supplied petrol powered pumps, chemical fertilizers and improved seeds. At the time, KNARDA's well located village extension agents who informed farmers of the available inputs at the easily accessible KASCO stores (Falola, Cline-Cole and Sangari, 1991) changed the story of farmers as yield multiplied three to five-folds. The question is: "What has become of both agencies?" KASCO Stores have joined the museums of laudable but abandoned agricultural development initiatives. Kimmage and Falola (1991) and Falola and Sangari (1994) have pointed to the challenge of sustainability of the introduced technology in the face of rising cost and consequent danger of widening inequality as rich farmers may eventually buy off the poorer ones who may be frustrated to abandon their participation in the practice.

Furthermore, not all rural households or communities are able to benefit from the new irrigation technologies. The pastoral and fishing communities which are unlikely to participate in irrigation initiatives soon discovered to their cost that traditional dry season grazing or fishing areas, previously unsuitable for farming, can, with the application of the new technology be used for dry season irrigated agriculture. Fishing and pastoral communities can and, indeed, find themselves dis-

enfranchised because of the introduction of a new irrigation technology (Kimmage and Falola, 1991).

The evidence of this is the challenge of farmers-pastoralists conflict where pastoralists hold strongly and with concrete evidence that the cultivators were to blame for expansion of cultivation into traditional grazing Fadama lands and their deliberate blocking of cattle routes to dry season grazing and watering points. They also blamed government of neglect by failing to provide legislation that could protect their rights to grazing and water. Cultivators on the other hand blamed pastoralists for wilful damage of standing crops and the fact that litigations is usually in favour of the pastoralists which, put together, fuel the resentments of the cultivators (Falola, Cline-Cole and Sangari, 1991). These confrontations often resulted in loss of human life, crops, animals, houses and other valuables. The consequence of the observed trend is the damage inflicted on the traditional symbiotic relationship between herders and croppers which has for long ensured the organically sustainable use of the land (Falola, Cline-Cole and Sangari, 1991). Has the trend been arrested? No. Rather than abate, it is, indeed, enlarging in scope and expanding in dimensions. Thus, Kimmage and Falola (1991, p. 120) came to the conclusion, which is also a challenge for planners that, "rather than encouraging broad-based rural development, irrigation initiatives can be divisive, leading to conflict between different communities, with certain sectors of rural society gaining at the expense of other sectors". The dark cloud (confrontation between cultivators and pastoralists) on the bright horizon (more efficient use of land, production of new crops with associated increase in family income) must be lifted through inclusive planning.

The large scale irrigation does not fare better as observed by Falola and Orogun (1988). On the Kano River Project, persistent plot subdivision, land fragmentation and plot transfer were noted when there should have been consolidation owing to the inheritance practice as well as the difficulty of plot holders in mobilizing the necessary capital and labour to operate their total ownership holdings. This situation constrained increased agricultural productivity by the small holder farmers.

### **Failure to Implement Relevant Sections of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria**

The 1999 Constitution of Nigeria provides for three tiers of government – federal, state and local – and each level should have a clearly-defined role. Today, we hear

federal and state but hardly ever local government. Yet, the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria Fourth Schedule 1 (a) and (f) (h) as well as 2 have functions outlined for local government councils which have direct bearing on bringing about the development of the rural areas and so address the poverty challenge. Among others are:

- the making of recommendations to a state commission on economic planning or any similar body on the economic development of the state, particularly in so far as the areas of authority of the council and of the state are affected, and
- construction and maintenance of roads, streets, street lightings, drains and other public highways, parks, gardens, open spaces, or such public facilities as may be prescribed from time to time by the House of Assembly of a state;
- provision and maintenance of public conveniences, sewage and refuse disposal;
- participation of such council in the government of a state as respects the following matters: the provision and maintenance of primary, adult and vocational education; the development of agriculture and natural resources, other than the exploitation of materials and the provision and maintenance of health services.

The Federal Government appears to want to shoulder inappropriate burdens. The states, with few exceptions, do not allow local government councils to function particularly with regard to the ability of local authorities to earn and control their own resources. This renders local authorities unable to attend to their constitutional role of providing even basic services that will address the needs of the poor. I make bold to state that many state governments initiate projects which do not benefit the rural people directly and the focus of development, if at all we assume it is development, appears to have been widening the inequality between the rural and the urban areas. In this way the rural areas continue to struggle with interlocking webs of disadvantages, tagged deprivation trap by Chambers (1983) namely: poverty, physical weakness, isolation, vulnerability and powerlessness.

Poverty is a strong determinant of the others. Poverty contributes to physical weakness through lack of food, small bodies, and malnutrition leading to low immune response to infections, and inability to reach or pay for health services; to isolation because of the inability to pay the cost of schooling, and to buy a radio or a

bicycle, to vulnerability through lack of assets to pay large expenses or to meet contingencies; and to powerlessness because lack of wealth goes with low status; the poor have no voice (Falola, 2017).

### **Tackling the Root of Poverty**

#### ***Restructuring of agricultural production through re-organization of production units:***

The first step in tackling the root of poverty in rural areas is the restructuring of agricultural production through re-organization of production units. There are two sides to this. The first is the organization of peasant farmers into Family Farm Units (FFUs) and the other is the promotion of cooperatives among new set of young farmers. In an earlier study of small holder tobacco farmers the cooperative arrangement was found to be fraught with suspicion and bedevilled by all kinds of instability which eventually led to their disintegration especially where, under government, they are fettered, as the right social, economic and political environment are not created for them to thrive. Thus, large scale cooperatives do not appear to lend themselves to general application in restructuring peasant production in Nigeria where islands of success are surrounded by a sea of failures (Falola 1994a). The Family Farm Units is akin to the traditional organization of labour and production practised in African societies. Examples are Hausa *gandu* and the Yorubaland traditional organization of labour based on kinship and agnatic relations. The model is quite flexible in the use of space as inheritance is still the dominant means of access to land. Adopting this model will however require aggressive training policy of extension workers for the mobilization of the peasant farmers. This is feasible as Nigeria is not short of several unemployed youth to train for the purpose and who, in the process, might themselves be converted to become practising farmers.

But the vision of Nigeria should go beyond small holder farmers judging by one's experience with the Dutch farmers - arable and livestock – where young graduates of universities and polytechnics had taken decisions to be farmers. The Dutch farmers went to school in order to become! Therefore, they passed through programmes with built-in practical components and entrepreneurship and came out to be farmers. They learnt about agricultural cooperatives and have seen it in practice. They learnt economics, business and accounting. They are the ones who gave strength to the cooperatives which now run as a purely economic organization. With growth, the cooperatives were able to set up small research stations targeting the crops that they

specialize in – potato for example. The issue of credit was addressed by Rabo Bank Netherlands – a fully cooperative bank in which whoever was granted loan became an automatic member (Falola, 1992b, 2007).

The question is what prevents Nigeria’s agricultural graduates: agronomists, soil scientists and agricultural economists to team up to form partnerships in agribusinesses? It is for this calibre of farmers that I propose the cooperative approach after the Dutch model – run purely as an economic organization with each farmer belonging to more than one specialized cooperative, namely: input supplies, credit and even marketing. The initiative to form such cooperatives however should derive from the farmers themselves to ensure that the “marriage is until death do them part’ rather than formed under pressure as a ‘marriage of convenience’ (Falola 1994:171) put together on account of government's credit bait, which in the past some received and afterward disintegrated as the credit was seen as their share of the national cake.

### ***Improved village level grain storage and marketing:***

In an earlier work, I advocated the need to give attention to village level storage (Falola 1994), following the ancient Yosef’s model of seven years food security at the village – a simple solution of years of abundance providing for seven years of crop failure in Pharaoh’s Egypt. This will enable the farmers to benefit maximally from the product of their efforts instead of the traders appearing to harvest more than the producers. The workability of this is supported by an experiment carried out in three of the four villages covered by the Cambridge-Bayero University research project: “Soils, Cultivars and Livelihoods in North-eastern Nigeria (1993-1997)”. The villages were Tumbau in Kano, Dagaceri in Jigawa State and Kaska in Yobe State. In each of the three villages, seed money was provided to buy off grain (millet and sorghum) from the participating farmers and stored up at the village level what could have been sold away from the village under pressure at harvest time when prices were rock-bottom low. The sale was then conducted from the months of March to July when the prices were right! In Birniwa, the weekly market closest to Dagaceri for instance the monthly price range in one year was 120kobo-250 kobo per *tiya* of millet and 145-265 kobo per *tiya* of guinea corn. This gave a percent change of 108 and 83 for millet and guinea corn respectively. The excess over and above the purchase and sale price remained in the village and divided into two – a portion shared among members in proportion to quantity of grain sold to the store and the second portion for village development. In this way, improved income was

guaranteed to the farmers while also eliminating the role of traders who made more money from the farm produce than the farmers.

***Rural livelihood strategy:***

Rural people are not a people who put their eggs in one basket. To illustrate this point, I will draw from two out of several sources from the south-west and from Kano and the north-east. The first was a study that brought out clearly the advantages of agricultural diversification and the pursuit of diverse livelihood options (Falola, 1975). The study revealed that tobacco farmers who operated either as Family Farming Units or as Flue-Cured-Producers Associations continued in tobacco production in the face of fluctuating output and income from it because its production provided opportunity for farmers to grow maize and pepper on a commercial scale. More cash returns were obtained from pepper than from maize and one would have expected that more land would be devoted to pepper than to maize, however this was not so for two reasons. The first was that farmers fed directly on maize during the critical period two months before the new yam harvest in late July. Second was that pepper harvesting required more labour which farmers could not give except at the end of the second tobacco production season. The livelihood of the farmers also rested on other options. Both men and women (green leaf growers) engaged in short and long distance trades, tailoring, barbing, repair and construction works. Also, two or three friends among the tobacco farmers were observed pooling their resources together to buy taxi cabs through hire-purchase arrangement. This was a secret of prosperity whereby ‘three short fingers joined to surpass the longest one’.

The second example is from the study of four villages for four successive farming seasons (1993-1996) in Kano, Jigawa and Yobe States (Tumbau, Dagaceri, Kaska and Futchimiram) in which an inventory of livelihoods option revealed three types: farm, off-farm, and non-farm; and into four further groups: agriculture, trading of goods and services, handicrafts, and others - short term mobility, hunting, gifts and begging. Kaska was more diverse than Tumbau, and Tumbau more than Dagaceri while Futchimiram was the least diverse. Diversification depended largely on cultural dictates, access to capital, land and water, technical knowhow, market proximity and size, and profit. Income from one option was re-invested in another, and to acquire land and improve it (Ibrahim, 1998).

Given the foregoing, the rural people should receive encouragement to do better what they are doing through empowerment, making them more skilful, more confident, and giving them more access to what they need to be more efficient. This is more so as the products of the rural crafts, if improved in quality, can form a vital source of income when they enter the tourism sector.

***Role for the community:***

A possible direction of policy is the promotion of increased community participation in the development process in order to break the traditional overdependence on government. The community has very vital role to play in poverty alleviation. I will use the example of south-west Nigeria and from there, a small community, Tede, the headquarters of Atisbo Local Government Area. In the south-west, there is always an imprint of the community especially in primary and secondary schools. Where a settlement cannot meet the necessary threshold for a school, two communities will come together and the facility will be located at their joint boundary for easy access.

Tede community is composed of Tede, a small town together with the daughter settlements namely, Alakuko, Ajebamidele, Ongudu, Bara, Okudi, Kekeje and Kokodogbo. All are served with one social infrastructure or another particularly schools and health (Table 3). In that small community, now a local government headquarters, the postal agency, the dispensary, and a maternity home were built. The maternity home was built when it was realized that women were dying from child birth. Therefore with the maternity in place, it became an offence (attracting an appropriate sanction) for any woman to deliver at home. Connection to the national grid for power supply to the community was achieved through partnership between the community and the state government. It was mandatory for every family to send their children to school and the community monitored compliance. It is regarded as shameful for one's child to be sent out of school for non-payment of whatever fee charged. In order to ensure that people were not wasteful, there was a time in the late 1970s and early 1980s when limit was set for the number of cows to be slaughtered during burial events. At the community secondary school, the PTA has in the last few years taken up the challenge of engaging and paying the remuneration of some teachers to take subjects for which the government fails to make adequate provision.



**Table 3: Social Infrastructure in Tede Community**

<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Facilities</b>
Community Schools	1) Community Primary School Alakuko 2) Community Primary School Ajobamidele 3) Progressive Secondary Grammar School, Tede
Government	1) Nomadic Primary School, Tede 2) Nomadic Primary School, Ongudu 3) Migrant Farmer Primary School, Bara/Okudi 4) Migrant Farmer Primary School, Ekeje 5) Migrant Farmer Primary School, Kokodogbo
Christian Mission (Public) Primary Schools	1) Roman Catholic Mission (R.C.M) Primary School, Tede 2) Baptist Primary School, Tede 3) Irepodun Baptist Primary School, Oke-Owu
Muslim Mission (Public) Schools:	1) Ansar-Ud-Deen Society (ADS) Primary School I, Tede 2) Ansar-Ud-Deen Society (ADS) Primary School II, Tede 3) Anwarul-Islam Primary School, Tede
Christian Private Schools	1) Gad Children Academy Nursery, Primary and Secondary School, Tede 2) Mollyvonne School and College, Nursery, Primary and Secondary School, Tede 3) Rhema Children Academy Nursery and Primary School, Tede 4) Success Academy Nursery and Primary School, Tede**

Muslim Private Schools	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Muslim Nursery and Primary School, Tede</li> <li>2) Deenuliaq Nursery and Primary School, Tede</li> <li>3) Al-Hidayyah Nursery, Primary and Secondary School, Tede</li> <li>4) Adunola Model Nursery and Primary School, Tede</li> <li>5) Ansar-Ud-Deen Society (ADS) Comprehensive Secondary School, Tede</li> <li>6) Aweni Group of Schools, Nursery and Primary School, Tede**</li> <li>7) Omotayo Nursery and Primary School, Tede**</li> </ol>
Public Healthcare Centres	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) General Hospital Tede</li> <li>2) Comprehensive Health Centre, Tede</li> <li>3) Oyada Maternity, Tede</li> <li>4) Primary HealthCare Centre Atebe</li> <li>5) Primary HealthCare Centre Alakuko</li> <li>6) Primary HealthCare Centre Ajebamidele</li> </ol>
Christian Private Healthcares	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Adeola Memorial Clinic, Tede</li> <li>2) Oluwaseun Clinic, Tede</li> </ol>
Muslim Private Healthcare	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Ajibode Maternity, Tede</li> </ol>

Source: Atisbo Local Government Secretariat, August 2017

\*\*Note: Not yet approved by the government

All community needs were identified, prioritized and agreed upon at the annual general meeting. Funds were raised to implement agreed projects through: agreed levy – there was a flat rate on every adult at ‘home and abroad’, voluntary donations, and solicitation for fund tied to specific projects. Currently, there is an ongoing construction of a medical laboratory block at the General Hospital because the existing one could not house the laboratory equipment promised by an international agency.

***The role for the church and the mosque – an extended community:***

The two dominant religions in Nigeria, Islam and Christianity have very vital roles to play in poverty eradication and alleviation in the country. This is because there is the religious perspective to the causes of, and solution to poverty. Poverty has been assigned to: (a) where the poor is responsible: divine retribution - the reason why

the religious pray to the creator for forgiveness; idleness - mere talk, slack hands; love of pleasure, chasing after fantasies; lack of discipline, no careful planning; and debt incurred for consumption - as is the case of Nigeria; and (b) where poverty is forced on the poor: oppression - whereas we wanted egalitarian society, what we have is one of exploitation of the poor by the rich; famine - crop failure for example; misfortune other categories of disaster (Falola, 2003). In the light of this, the role for the Church and the Mosque as an extended community, I will like to submit, is to give attention to five areas namely: education in political participation, integration of economic and religious beliefs, education in health and nutrition, care of the youth and the aged, and forging peace—the bedrock of prosperity.

As regards political participation, there is so much the Church and the Mosque can do and if the scourge of poverty is to be eliminated, both must act, and now. As the land is blessed whose kings are of noble birth and whose princes eat at proper time for strength and not for drunkenness, this calls for voting into governance individuals who will not compromise the well-being of the population for personal gains. We are familiar with the saying, “politics is dirty!” One is led to the conclusion that politics is dirty because the voter as well as the voted are. For how will one mortgage one’s welfare for four years by accepting 500 naira or less? Indifference to right political participation is asking for poverty level to rise through mismanagement of the resources of the nation.

The Church and the Mosque have responsibility to give the right orientation towards integration of economic and religious beliefs by focusing attention on poverty that is both economic and spiritual. Supplementary education for empowerment is needful for the youths. What they need is to train on how to fish and then supplied with hooks/nets. Fish should be reserved for the aged and those who are truly incapacitated and whose family are unable to provide care for when taken away from the streets. It is observed that for every blind beggar on our roads, there is an able-bodied young boy or girl whose future is being mortgaged. This ought not to be so.

Furthermore, the religious bodies are well positioned as they do not lack the personnel who will serve as volunteers to educate members regularly on family health and nutrition, particularly in the rural areas where they have what it takes to eat well but have not been properly exposed to how. On peace for prosperity, the two religions preach peace – the challenge is to make the adherents follow peace among all persons. Without peace, there can be no progress as the devastation that

accompany the breach of the peace in violent confrontations will necessarily divert resources meant for development and thus to address the challenge of poverty to do reconstruction. The two religious bodies must adopt a holistic approach to bridge the gap between the spiritual and the material world. Only then can the Imams and Pastors prove Fela Anikulapo Kuti's "Suffer suffer for world ... enjoy for heaven" wrong!

***Compulsory and inclusive education:***

The Universal Basic Education pursued in the country since the mid-70s has not taken root in the north. Though some improvements are noticeable but not as it should be. Why? It is still optional for parents to put their children through the system. So the streets still harbour some boys while girls go round selling groundnut, kola nut, etc. instead of being in school. Nothing short of compulsion up to the age of eighteen years and stricter prohibition of child withdrawal from school for any reason will be needed to correct the imbalance and take people out of the grip of poverty (cf. Falola 2001). Inclusive education and training is a must. It has been noted that investment in women's education can be more profitable than in men's (Psacharopoulos and Tzannatos, 1989). Education has a positive effect on decision to work and thus, female participation, and a negative effect on fertility. The male has been in the forefront and, if allowed, will perpetrate the terms in his favour through all kinds of protectionist devices. We need to remove all such barriers that make the woman to be unequal partners in development.

This may be herculean to achieve but the time has come, if the resource that holds the key to the development and sustainability of other resources are to be sustained themselves, that there be, as part of the country's democratization process, "a radical transformation of existing unequal gender and social relations and structures in order that rural, especially from the marginalized classes, can benefit through participating effectively in rural organizations and activities" (Ng et al, 1987:154). A progressive ideology should displace conservative interpretations of culture and religious heritage which treat women as secondary. Such transformation will redress the issue of access to resources (e.g. land, credit, extension, also taking special notice of female-headed households) through appropriate socio-economic, institutional and ideological re-orientation targeted at eliminating gender inequalities in all ramifications. In order to achieve this, I strongly recommend men's education. (Falola 2001:17)

### ***Waste management:***

It was observed long ago that residents of the high and medium density residential areas should provide waste disposal facilities similar to what obtains in the low density, high class residential areas. This will replace dumping of wastes in gutters and roads—the reason for urban flooding with attendant loss of lives and properties. Refuse collection by the urban waste management agencies should be done as frequently as the volume of waste generated demands. Where government lacks the financial resources to handle this, flat rates may be charged on the bases of dwellings. Such rates would be reasonable price to pay in order to enjoy wholesome environment. For effectiveness, the proposal is for the re-introduction of health/sanitary inspectors, scores of whom are being trained without jobs, to ensure compliance of (and not to intimidate or harass) residents and traders in the urban markets in particular (Falola, 1984). Survey of waste generation even when commissioned is hardly ever seen to be integrated into policy and practice of frequency of waste evacuation. The monthly environmental sanitation in most states is a ruse. It is a day that never was for many. Wait a whole month for sanitation to take place in rural and urban areas? And are the cities in particular clean after the exercise? The evidence on ground will return a ‘No’ answer. Also, think of the losses for individuals and organizations in three hours of mandatory stay in-door. This must change. Lagos State has set the pace. Environmental sanitation is and must be a daily and not a monthly exercise.

### ***Role for the Education Sector***

Nigeria’s education sector has suffered so much instability in orientation. The nation’s educational curriculum has been chameleon-like. What was wrong with the 6-3-3-4 before the change to 9-3-4? The former was one way to identify those who are technically oriented and those who are not and to so direct them appropriately. In the 1980s Kano secondary schools had well-equipped technical workshops to expose pupils to what they could do with their hands from the junior classes. The workshops have been turned to examination halls for WAEC and NECO SSCE. Why, with few exceptions, has the nation abandoned the technical school initiative?

Why should anyone graduate with a degree before going for fresh empowerment training? What is really the role of the practical attachments? Is it not to empower and make students marry theory with practice? Happily, the universities and polytechnic now have entrepreneurship in their curriculum. Two points arise from this development. First is that the handlers of the programme must be practical

mobilizers. Second is that eyes must be kept on how this initiative is impacting the graduates and not just for them to earn a grade while in school. It has to be made to work. Education is for empowerment. There must be a concerted effort to avoid the disconnect between our educational institutions and the job place. In other words, there is an urgent need to strengthen the weak link between the gown and the town. To mention a few, we need agriculturist but we also need agriculturalists; the products of university and polytechnic should be positioned to take over and set up standard garages for vehicle maintenance; the school and college graduates should have bakeries and sell bread better if those who have not gone to school at all are doing it and living. Why will the graduates not have defined job orientation before completing their programmes?

What about no history and no geography - the time and place disciplines, a step that was initiated by the introduction of the social studies? (Falola, 1995). To me, it is the way to be educated and remain illiterate - not knowing where you are coming from and where you are going. It is good to promote science but never to neglect social sciences and humanities. The way we go about our education policy is negating the principles of personal interest and development. Many who go to and finish from schools do so without being able to match their interests with their certificates. I think that every secondary school in Nigeria must have qualified guidance and counsellor. Their absence to direct students to the courses/programmes of their strength is one of the reasons for poor performance and sometimes drop-outs, thus a preparation for frustration which plunges people into poverty.

There is a word for parents here. One has watched with great concern over the years that parents are not allowing their children to become. Some still force children against their will. They choose courses and professions for them. This is apart from parents' being in a haste to get the children through school before they are ripe. Imagine a nine year old ready for secondary school and by age fifteen finished secondary school hardly able to establish any personal interest.

#### *Need for social and cultural re-orientation*

First is about Nigerians and the culture of ceremonies! Money can be extravagantly donated for naming, wedding and even burial events. The same donors cannot be approached for the equivalents in grants to start a business which is critical for livelihoods support and sustainability to take such persons out of crippling poverty. Second is that Nigerians should allow those elected to govern to govern. How does

one explain invitation to Nigerian President to declare open all kinds of conferences including those of professional associations' annual gatherings? One wonders how many of such invitations are received by the Presidency and the Governors monthly and annually. There, they are required to make speeches whether the content is meant or not. This is diversionary. Political leaders should be allowed to concentrate on the majors rather than on the minors.

Third is: when shall we stop development on the media – the always-launching-and-commissioning orientation? One has lost count of the number of times we have launched tractors, launched fertilizer, launched rice production (by the way, the nation was promised rice sufficiency in 1982!), launched housing schemes, and launched everything! How do you explain governors going to commission a borehole fitted with hand pumps in a community at which people gather in celebration as if some magnificent milestone has been achieved? How do you explain the gathering together of people to ceremonially receive 20,000.00 – 50,000.00 naira credit or grant as the case may be (an amount that is not one quarter of the monthly allowance given to the children of those in governance), with all recipients dressed in the same uniform as in carnivals? Who muted the idea of uniform and who paid for the material and the sewing? Is it from the credit/grant sum?

Fourth is that those who aspire to governance should be schooled in development, which is about people. As it were, some have no idea whatever. Rather than engage in deliberate planning even before they take up governance, it is when they get there that they will begin familiarization tours. To familiarize themselves with what they should have known before contesting an election. One wonders who assisted them to write their promises... hard to call it a manifesto! Promise without facts? And it is during the familiarization visit that they will, from the address of welcome receive a catalogue of needs. And there and then, there will be a promise to do this and that. No plans! And there is no back up for the promises! Such promises have often ended up ignored.

### ***Role for the third tier of government***

It has been argued that the most general economic theory of fiscal federalism postulates that the provision of services should be located at the lowest level of government consistent with the incidence of cost and benefits (Khemani, 2001). The argument is premised on the fact that lower tiers of governments have greater

information about local conditions and can better provide services that are better suited to the needs of the local population. When it comes to addressing the problem of poverty, there is no doubt that local government have better information on local conditions to enable better targeting of resources to the poor and needy, better allocation across sectors according to local needs, and better monitoring of implementation by the local community. Therefore, the local government councils must be allowed to play their role and be empowered so to do if poverty is to be confronted headlong.

## **Conclusion**

The multidimensionality of poverty calls for efforts to attack poverty in a multidimensional way – education, health and standard of living. Doing this will involve several stakeholders: the individual (as the Latin adage goes: *faber est quisque fortunae suae* – meaning each one is the architect/maker of his own fortune); the family, in ensuring that children’s future are not mortgaged for any reason and so the cause of poverty is nipped in the bud – since if you do not want the *Iroko* tree to be fully grown, you must cut the sap; the community, given its potentiality to participate, identify and prioritize their common needs as well as work out implementation strategy; the religious bodies (the Church and the Mosque – the extended community) in mobilization and education to integrate economic and religious beliefs; the local government councils being the closest to the people (grassroots) to handle comprehensive planning in a bottom-up manner; the state and the federal governments, each playing well-defined constitutional roles; and finally, the NGOs – local and international working with identified community priorities.

For the rural areas, planning must be *with* rather than *for* the poor – the approach that has characterized past and failed efforts. And planning must be comprehensive, using the resources available – human and material; executed speedily and there must be continuity rather than always beginning again. In order for Nigerian urban areas to come out of poverty to prosperity, there must develop a synergy between government at all levels, the private sector in their corporate social responsibilities, the professionals exerting their weight on seeing that things are done ethically while urban communities must not fold their hands as if saying: “there is nothing we can do.”

The challenge for Nigeria is not just one of bridging the gap between different parts of the country but for the entire country to make a leap forward through drastic re-orientation of policy to create the right atmosphere for advancement.



All said and done, even when absolute poverty has been addressed, the relative will remain. So, the poor we shall always have with us. Addressing the challenges of poverty must be kept as top priority in the nation's development plan.

## References

- Agber, T., Iortima, P.I. and Imbur, E.N., ( 2013) Lesssons from implementation of Nigeria's past agricultural programs for the transformation agenda. *American Journal of Research Communication*, 1(10):238-253, [www.usa-journals.com](http://www.usa-journals.com).
- Akinwale, OP., Adeneye, A.K, Musa, A.Z, Oyedeji, K.S, Sulyman, M.A, Oyefara, J.O, Adejoh, P.E and Adeneye, A.A., (2013). Living conditions and public health status in three urban slums of Lagos, Nigeria. *South East Asia Journal of Public Health*, 3(1):36-41.
- Chambers, R., (1983). *Rural development: Putting the last first*, USA, Longman.
- Cline-Cole, R.A., Falola, J. A., Main, H.A.C., Mortimore, M.J., Nichol, J.E. and O'Reilly, F.D., (1990). *Wood fuel in Kano*. Tokyo: United Nations University Press.
- Falola, J. Afolabi, (1975). Tobacco production and the fluctuating income of farmers in Tede, Oyo North Division. *Unpublished B.Sc. Original Research Essay*, Department of Geography, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.
- Falola, J. Afolabi. 1984. On the Improper Disposal of Wastes in Kano, *Kano Economic Digest*, Vol. 1 No. 1 pp. 39-41.
- Falola, J. Afolabi. (1984/85). The changing status of seasonal outmigration in rural Kano. *The Journal of General Studies*, Vols. 5&6, No. 1, pp. 187-192.
- Falola, J. Afolabi. (1987/88). Water resources development and change in rural Kano, Nigeria. *Kano Studies NS* Vol. 3 No. 1, pp. 235-257.
- Falola, J. Afolabi, (1988). Spatial inequalities in Nigeria's social services. In K. Swindell, J. M. Baba and M. J. Mortimore (Eds.), *Inequality and development: Case studies from the Third World*, Macmillan, London.
- Falola, J. Afolabi and Orogun, E. T. (1988). The Kano river project. Nigeria: Implications for small-scale agriculture and policy.
- Falola, J. Afolabi, Cline-Cole R. A., and Sangari, D.U (1991). The effects of small-scale irrigation. In Olofin, E.A. (Ed.), *Prospects and problems of irrigation in Kano State* (The Report of a Ford Foundation Sponsored Research). Department of Geography, Bayero University, Kano, Nigeria.

- Falola, J. Afolabi. (1992a). An alternative strategy for the organisation of grain storage and marketing in Nigeria. *Unpublished Research Paper for Postgraduate Diploma in Rural Policy and Project Planning*, International Institute of Social Studies (ISS), The Hague, the Netherlands.
- Falola, J. Afolabi. (1992b). Agricultural cooperatives and cooperative financing of agriculture in Nigeria: Lessons from the Dutch experience. A research report submitted to the Institute of Social Studies, the Hague, the Netherlands.
- Falola, J. Afolabi. (1994). The changing organization of tobacco production in south-western Nigeria: Lessons for the restructuring of Nigerian peasant agricultural production. *Journal of Social and Management Studies*, Vol 1, pp. 163-178.
- Falola, J. Afolabi & Sangari, D. U., (1994). The management of small-scale irrigation in the Kano region. pp. 77-81. In A. Kolawole, I. Scoones, M.O. Awogbade, & J.P. Voh, (Eds.), *Strategies for the sustainable use of Fadama lands in northern Nigeria*, CSER/ABU and IIED (London).
- Falola, J. Afolabi. (1995). On the current status of teachers in the teaching of social studies in Nigerian Junior Secondary Schools. *Kano Journal of Educational Studies* (KAJEST), 1(2), 20-28.
- Falola, J. Afolabi. (1996). Monitoring urban population and spatial sprawl for sustainable water supply system in Kano. In M.M. Daura (Ed.), *Issues in environmental monitoring in Nigeria*. (Published for the Nigerian Geographical Association.) pp. 244-246.
- Falola, J. Afolabi, (1998). Introduction to soils, cultivars and livelihoods. In Department of International Development (NRSP, SAPS). Soils, cultivars, livelihoods and nutrient dynamics in semi-arid Northern Nigeria. *Proceedings of a workshop arranged by the British Council for Natural Resources International, Chatham, England, Kano, March 1998*. Department of Geography, University of Cambridge in association with the Department of Geography, Bayero University, Kano. pp. 1-11.
- Falola, J. Afolabi, (2001). Keynote address: Towards the sustainability of the sustainer: women and technological interventions in rural production systems. In K.M. Baba, I. Muhammed, U.B. Kyiogwon and H. M. Bello, (Eds.), *Rural resources development and sustainability*. Proceedings of the Ninth Annual Conference of the Nigerian Rural Sociological Association held at the Usmanu Danfodiyo University Sokoto, Nigeria, pp. 9-18.
- Falola, J. Afolabi (2003). A theological response to poverty in Nigeria. *Unpublished MDiv Thesis*, Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary, Ogbomosho.

- Falola, J. Afolabi (2007). Nigerian agriculture today and tomorrow. *The Nigerian Geographical Journal*, New Series, 5(1): 82-101.
- Falola, J. Afolabi, (2013). Who cares? *The Nigerian Geographical Journal*, New Series, 8(2):1-8.
- Falola, J. Afolabi, (2014a). Urban governance and mobility in Nigeria. *Paper for the National Workshop on Developing a Draft Urban Transport Policy for Nigeria*, Nigeria Institute of Transport Technology Zaria, held a Kaduna 15-16 January 2014.
- Falola, J. Afolabi, (2014b). Poverty. In A.I. Tanko and S.B. Momale (Eds.), *Kano: environment, society and development*. London & Abuja, Adonis & Abbey Publishers, pp. 189-205.
- Falola, J. Afolabi. (2015). Issues and challenges of urban growth in Nigeria: Nigerian cities and test of prosperity. Invited Paper for the 9<sup>th</sup> National Conference, College of Environmental Studies, Kaduna Polytechnic, Kaduna, 28-30 October 2015.
- Falola, J. Afolabi, (2017). The role of local government in rural transformation and national development. Paper for Capacity Building Training Workshop for Local Government Auditors and Secretaries, Sokoto State Ministry for Local Government held at Bafra International Hotels, Kaduna, July 24, 2017
- Gatah, S. A., (2007). Operation of the informal land market and its implications for urban land administration in Kaduna metropolis. Unpublished MSc. Thesis, Land Resources (Administration), Department of Geography, Bayero University, Kano.
- Gregson, J. (2017). World's richest and poorest countries. *Global Finance Magazine*, February 2017, <https://www.gfmag.com>, (24/08/2017).
- Ibrahim, A. M., (1998). Adaptive management of livelihoods. In Department of International Development (NRSP, SAPS). Soils, cultivars, livelihoods and nutrient dynamics in semi-arid northern Nigeria. *Proceedings of a workshop arranged by the British Council for Natural Resources International, Chatham, England*, Kano, March 1998. Department of Geography, University of Cambridge in association with the Department of Geography, Bayero University, Kano; pp. 83-100.
- Kimmage, K. and Falola, J. Afolabi, (1991). Technical change, equity and sustainability in small-scale irrigation in Hadejia-Nguru Floodplain. In E.A. Olofin, S. Patrick, with Falola, J. Afolabi (Eds.), *Land administration and development in northern Nigeria: Case studies*. Zaria: ABU Press, pp. 113-125.

- Khemani, S. (2001). Fiscal federalism and service delivery in Nigeria: The roles of state and local governments. Prepared for the Nigerian PER Steering Committee, June 24, 2001. [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org).FiscalFedReport
- Maiwada, A. D. (2000). Disappearing open spaces in Kano metropolis. In J. Afolabi Falola et al. (Eds.), *Issues in land administration and development in northern Nigeria*, PAT-MAG Press, Ibadan, pp. 3-10.
- Maconachie, Roy, (2014). Urban pressure and tree cover change. In A.I. Tanko and S.B. Momale (Eds.), *Kano: Environment, society and development*. London & Abuja, Adonis & Abbey publishers, 405-440.
- National Bureau of Statistics. Nigeria poverty profile 2016. [www.nigeriastat.gov.ng](http://www.nigeriastat.gov.ng) (Accessed august 2017)
- National Bureau of Statistics. Unemployment/underemployment report, (Q4, 2016), June 2017 [www.nigeriastat.gov.ng](http://www.nigeriastat.gov.ng) (Accessed August 2017).
- NDE, [www.nde.gov.ng](http://www.nde.gov.ng) (Accessed August 2017)
- National Population Commission (NPC) and ICF International. (2014). *Nigeria demographic and health survey 2013*. Abuja, Nigeria, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: NPC and ICF International.
- Office for National Statistics. (2016). Persistent poverty in UK and EU: 2014, <https://www.ons.gov.uk>
- Proctor, B. D., Semega, J. L., Kollar, M. A. (2016). *Income and poverty in the United States: 2015*. Report Number: P60-256, United States Census Bureau. September 13, 2016
- Sahadi, J., (2016). The richest 10% hold 76% of the wealth, Aug. 18, 2016, CNN Money, [money.cnn.com](http://money.cnn.com)
- The World Bank, (2017). *Poverty and shared prosperity 2016: Taking on inequality*. The World Bank Group, Washington DC, USA ([worldbank.org](http://worldbank.org))
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Sustainable development goals 2030, *SDGs\_Booklet\_Web\_En.pdf* (Accessed July 27, 2017.)
- United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2015) *World Urbanization Prospects: The 2014 revision, highlights (ST/ESA/SER.A/352)*. New York: United Nations
- United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat) (2014). The state of African cities 2014: Re-imagining sustainable urban transitions. [www.unhabitat.org](http://www.unhabitat.org)

## Annex 1: Multidimensional Poverty Across States in Nigeria

Region	MPI (H x A)	H (Incidence) k = 33.3%	A (Intensity)	Percentage of Population:			Inequality Among the MPI Poor	Population Share
				Vulnerable to Poverty 20%-33.3%	In Severe Pover ty k = 50%	Destitute		
Nigeria	0.303	53.3%	56.8%	17.5%	32.8%	34.6%	0.297	100%
Urban	0.132	28.1%	47.0%	22.2%	10.5%	-	-	39.9%
Rural	0.416	70.0%	59.5%	14.4%	47.7%	-	-	60.1%
Lagos	0.035	8.5%	41.1%	20.0%	1.1	1.	0.045	4.6%
Osun	0.043	10.9%	39.7%	22.1%	1.5	1.	0.051	1.9%
Anambra	0.050	11.2%	44.5%	19.1%	2.7	3.	0.131	2.4%
Ekiti	0.051	12.9%	39.6%	27.0%	2.4	2.	0.073	0.8%
Edo	0.080	19.2%	41.5%	23.9%	4.5	6.	0.078	1.7%
Imo	0.083	19.8%	41.9%	24.0%	4.9	6.	0.068	2.2%
Abia	0.088	21.0%	42.0%	25.3%	4.8	7.	0.078	1.3%
Rivers	0.088	21.1%	41.6%	21.3%	4.7	6.	0.073	2.8%
Akwa Ibom	0.099	23.8%	41.6%	22.8%	5.2	7.	0.079	2.0%
Kwara	0.099	23.7%	41.9%	23.3%	6.2	7.	0.096	1.5%
Delta	0.107	25.1%	42.5%	22.5%	6.6	9.	0.106	2.1%
FCT (Abuja)	0.108	23.5%	45.7%	14.9%	9.5	10.5%	0.142	0.8%
Ogun	0.112	26.4%	42.5%	30.5%	5.6	9.	0.073	2.4%
Kogi	0.113	26.1%	43.2%	27.1%	6.4	8.	0.076	1.8%
Bavelsa	0.120	29.0%	41.4%	26.8%	5.9	8.	0.066	0.8%
Enugu	0.123	28.8%	42.6%	27.8%	6.9	13.7%	0.093	2.1%
Ondo	0.127	27.9%	45.4%	26.6%	8.2	11.0%	0.089	2.0%
Cross River	0.146	33.1%	44.2%	24.9%	9.0	10.2%	0.106	1.8%
Oyo	0.155	29.4%	52.7%	24.7%	13.0%	14.8%	0.316	4.0%
Nasarawa	0.251	52.4%	48.0%	24.9%	23.2%	26.5%	0.127	1.7%
Ebonyi	0.265	56.0%	47.3%	25.1%	23.5%	26.6%	0.124	2.5%
Plateau	0.273	51.6%	52.9%	22.4%	26.9%	30.5%	0.238	1.8%
Benue	0.280	59.2%	47.3%	23.4%	24.8%	24.8%	0.131	3.5%
Adamawa	0.295	59.0%	49.9%	20.4%	27.7%	30.1%	0.203	2.1%
Kaduna	0.311	56.5%	55.1%	18.2%	34.1%	36.9%	0.267	5.2%
Niger	0.324	61.2%	52.9%	16.2%	33.2%	37.8%	0.223	4.5%
Borno	0.401	70.1%	57.2%	16.2%	49.3%	54.7%	0.201	3.5%
Kano	0.434	76.4%	56.8%	11.9%	48.2%	50.1%	0.265	8.9%
Taraba	0.448	77.7%	57.7%	13.4%	53.1%	51.2%	0.251	2.1%
Gombe	0.471	76.9%	61.2%	13.2%	56.1%	57.0%	0.300	1.6%
Katsina	0.520	82.2%	63.2%	10.8%	63.7%	60.8%	0.287	4.2%
Sokoto	0.548	85.3%	64.2%	8.2%	66.4%	66.8%	0.298	2.9%
Jigawa	0.552	88.4%	62.4%	6.5%	69.0%	70.2%	0.270	3.7%
Kebbi	0.553	86.0%	64.3%	8.7%	69.9%	71.3%	0.280	3.6%
Bauchi	0.583	86.6%	67.3%	6.4%	70.7%	66.3%	0.351	3.2%
Zamfara	0.605	91.9%	65.8%	5.8%	72.7%	74.1%	0.315	3.5%

Source: OPHI Country Briefing, June 2017



**BAYERO**  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Printed by Bayero University Press, Kano, Nigeria