CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Many people when they hear or read about the word poverty will automatically think and look at poverty as being simply a lack of money. This is partly true but for a better understanding of poverty it is necessary to go beyond this simple or common sense, definition of poverty. Poverty is much more than a simple lack of money. For example, if you were stranded on a desert island and you had several thousand dollars or pounds in cash, while those around you had things like food, clothing and shelter would be in poverty? You could not eat your money, nor could. Your fellow inhabitants might not even want your money, particularly if they believe that a rescue is not eminent. In such a situation, lack of money means equal poverty. This is, however, only part of the story

with regard to poverty yet in order to understand poverty and inequality, we must probe beneath surface reality and go beyond the common sense explanation which is simply another for cliché.

Definitions of Poverty

There are two different ways in which researchers define poverty; Absolute poverty and relative poverty.

Absolute poverty refers to the situation in which a person lacks those things that help to sustain human life. The lack of basic human needs such as food, shelter and clothing. This form of poverty was once quite common in countries such as Britain and American but has since declined, particularly since the introduction of the welfare state. This form of poverty is still prevalent in many third world countries.

Relative poverty refers to the situation in which a person lacks the necessary resources to enable them to participate in the normal and desirable

pattern of life that exist within a given society at a given time. For example, if you cannot afford to have a cooked meal then you may not be in absolute poverty but you are certainly in relative poverty.

Poverty is not new but at each mention, it stirs a lot of misgiving. This is because it has a very devastating influence on its victims. It reduces the social and psychological prestige of its victims. Poverty is a condition of being poor. This could be evident even amidst plenty because there could be reeking poverty as a result of lack of knowledge to translate potentiality into practical creativity for the benefit of society.

In other words, if there is a poverty of something, it therefore means that there is a lack of it or the quality of it is extremely low. The foregoing shows the picture of our beloved country, especially when a deep reflection is made on the Nigerian question and the Nigerian condition. It is also so pathetic in the sense that the country that

is potentially rich in oil and gas and other natural resources cannot boast of putting food on the tables of its citizens in fact an average Nigeria is said to be living below one dollar. Researcher has it that the foundation of most social vices and corrupt practices both in high and low places is caused by poverty. At present, Nigeria is rated as one of the poorest country of the world, a country with abundant resources both in human and mineral resources. It is as a result of this and other maladies that are experienced by the citizens of the world especially the third world countries that the United Nations in year 2000 in a meeting popularly referred to as millennium summit in the United State of America, arrived at the millennium development goals, (MDGs). According to UN the 189 members of this organization by 2015 are supposed to have met these goals. The nine goals have the "reduction of extreme poverty and hunger" as the first goal to be met by the stipulated year.

As a member of the United Nations Nigeria keyed into the MDGs and subsequently produce a policy document called the national economic empowerment and development strategy (NEEDs). This development goals specifically has the following actionable goals.

- Wealth Creation
- Empowerment generation
- Poverty reduction
- Valve re-orientation (NEEDs DOCUMENT, 2008)

The NEEDs as a national policy was intended to meeting some of the goals of the MDGs especially poverty reduction. In assessing the performance of MDGs and NEEDS in Nigeria especially when it relates to "poverty reduction" one can say without fears of contradiction that millennium development goals have performed below the expectation of Nigerian. It is at the backdrop of this realization that this paper is set to examine the MDGs and

poverty reduction as it geared towards bringing sustainable development in Nigeria.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Over the last ten years poverty has been very real in Nigeria and quality of the average Nigerian citizen has progressively nosedived. It is so endemic in Nigeria that people have started seeing it as part of their lot in life. It is at the backdrop of this that this paper is set to examine the MDGs and poverty reduction as it is geared towards bringing sustainable development in Nigeria.

This study therefore addresses some specific questions as outlined below:

- What factor is responsible for high level of poverty in Nigeria?
- What has been the impact of various poverty reduction programmes in Nigeria?
- Will Nigeria really reduce poverty by 2015 going by the current situation in the country?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The general objective of the study is to analyze and evaluate the rate of   poverty in Nigeria.

Against this backdrop, the following specific objectives will be address in the study:

- To identify the factors responsible for poverty in Nigeria
- To assess how successful the various policies and programmed initiated to reduce poverty in Nigeria.
- To ascertain the level of whether Nigeria will be able to meet millennium development goals (MDGs) by 2015.
- To recommend policy response and suggest how to reduce poverty in Nigeria in order to meet MDGS and ensure sustainable development.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The essence of any meaningful research work lies in its significance and usefulness to humanity.

This study will provide a conceptual frame work for comprehending the issue of poverty and also provide a firsthand information to be used by policy makers administrators, social welfare agencies etc. in effort to reduce poverty.

Secondly, it would be valuable to the academia and provoke more or continuants research work and analysis of poverty in or/its effect on human development.

Finally, this work shall provide or suggest reasonable solution that will assist relevant agencies saddled with the responsibility of reduction of poverty as one of the pivot towards achieving the millennium development goals and sustainable development in Nigeria in particular and Africa at large.

1.5 Literature Review

Poverty is the condition that exists when people lacks the ability to satisfy their basic needs. The basic need are those necessities for survival or broadly as those reflecting the revealing standard

of living that is, those at the border line of nutrition, housing, clothing among others though adequate to preserve life but do measure up to those of the population as whole (Encyclopedia Britannia 1978, vol. 14).

It is also a state of involuntary deprivation to which a person, household and nations are subjected. This means individuals, household, and nations under scale can be poor, so long as it exhibits the characteristics of poverty source (MVO, 2009:24).

Poverty is also associated with poor health low level of education, low level of calories in one's diet, lack of shelter, low level of employment. Furthermore, poverty refers to the inability of an individual or family to secure basic needs even in the midst of social surrounding of general prosperity or lack of some general attribute that would allow an individual to maintain himself. And people that are associated with such behaviors like inability to manage money either by laziness,

drunkenness and producing too many can make a nation or an individual to be poor.

The concept of poverty like every other concepts in the social sciences lack a precise definition that can be said to be as patial and that is temporal. If it perhaps this line of thought that informed Aboyade (1975:4) to state that poverty is probably not a subject to be defined or measured to be appreciated, it may have to do with suffering despite this remarks, the search for commonly accepted characteristic of poverty for slicken people continue to gain currency and as several definition of poverty have been pasted by scholars.

In conceptualizing poverty, two schools of thought have emerged. One of the schools is classical economist they conceives poverty as lack of income or material well-being, corroborating this view Arinze (1995) described poverty as "the lack of income needed to acquire the minimum necessities of life.

Galbraith's (2002) citing Aneke (2000) state that people are poverty slicken when their income even if adequate for survival, fall markedly below those of the commodity they cannot have what the larger community regards.

Another school of thought structural approach linked poverty to both economic variables.
AneLe (2000) argues that:

"If we focus on income alone, we are likely to gloss over other equally important aspects of deprivations, these includes powerlessness, cultural deprivation, lack of influence, lack of prestige and lack of self esteem'' (Anele, 2000:12).

This argument corroborated with Broomley and Gerry (1979). When they assert that poverty emanates from a present and or past process of improvement by which resources, opportunities and economic surplus have been substantially removed from people who are currently poor and or from their for bearer.

In the same vein, Ankpo (1995) posit that the phenomenon of poverty can be understood as a process linked to democratic decision making. It is through decision making process that some people are privileged to decide for others hence the will of the non slammed on the majority and its manifestation is what has been referred to as poverty. From the two perspectives of these scholars it is obvious to regard poverty as not linked to economic deprivation, but also of inequality and marginalization in all spheres of life. However poverty in the Nigeria context could be understood to means the prevalence of falling standard of living alienation of the masses from decision making that affects them, alienation from ownership of means of production and moral bankruptcy, resulting from the super imposition of alien culture on the people.

Several reasons have been advanced as the causes of poverty in Nigeria as well as other developing countries as argued by the classical

economist and Marxist political economist. The classical economist according to Nnaa (2003) linked poverty to;

'A process of circular cumulative causation in which low income leads to low level of saving which keeps productivity low and which in turn perpetuates low income and its attendance consequence of absolute poverty with inadequate health services, poor education and other social services" it is therefore, conceived as self reinforcing situation in which there are forces and factors which tend to perpetuate a various cycle poverty '(Nnnaa, 2003:20).

On the other hand, the Marxist political economist allocates the causes of poverty in the structure of society, in their conception, the political economist and social structure of society. In their conception, the political economist and social structure of a given society account for the extent and distribution of poverty.

Thus, in a capitalist system like Nigeria where the ruling class established and legitimized an exploitative property system through which they determines the allocation of opportunities, income and health relying on the use of state power their advantage, the degree of its distribution will be higher among the vast majority. In other words, it is understood from, the stand point that the causative factors of poverty is rooted in the social relationship which ensures the control of the productive forces in the country by few individuals who direct state apparatus to intervene on behalf of the ruling class at the expense of the generality of the poor masses.

A look at poverty profile in Nigeria right from 1999-2009 shows that it is on increase as could be seen in the table below

Nigeria poverty level from 199-2009

Year	Poverty level %
1999	69.0

2000	61.2
2001	56.0
2002	54.1
2003	54
2004	54.4
2005	60.5
2006	55.0
2007	70.0
2008	64.1
2009	62.3

Sources (1) Bureau of statistics (BOS) (2009)

From the table above we can agree that poverty has taken its turn of flesh from the ordinary Nigeria masses thus making the effects on Nigerians Multi-dimensional.

This shows that it has negative influences amongst others on the socio-cultural, economic, political, moral, health, security and educational lives of the people using the multi-dimensional

schematic framework of under-development, the effects of desolate poverty has manifested in low per capital income, low consumption level, poor health services, high death rate, high birth rate vulnerability to dependence on foreign economy limited freedom to choose between variable that satisfy human wants poor educational and other social services with its attendant consequences of lack of shelter, homeless, hunger both of the body and the mind malnutrition. Target for disease and sickness, short life expectancy mental retardations, social out least and political alienation, to mention but a few, this situation which is a self reinforcing phenomenon tends to perpetuate undesirable consequences which leads to abject poverty and underdevelopment in the nation.

The concept "sustainable development was first used by world conservation strategy presented by the international; union for the conservation of nature and natural resources 1980. However, this concept has been defined in several ways by

several scholars – Pearce, Barbler and markandaya (1990) Red cliff (1987) world development report (1992) World Bank report (1982) Pearce and Markandaya (1989) and Brundtland Report (1987) see sustainable development as meeting the needs of future generations. They go on to argue that sustainable development means that Development should keep going. It emphasizes the creation of sustainable improvement in the quality of life, of all the people through increase in real income per capital, improvement in education, health and general quality of life and improvements in quality of natural environmental resources. Thus sustainable development is closely linked to economic development that does not decrease over time. Therefore sustainable development is development that is everlasting and contributes to the quality of life through improvement in turn supply utility to individual's inputs to the economic process and service that support life.

Pearce and Markandaya (1989) reinforce this when they state that sustainable development should be a process in which natural resources base is not allowed to deteriorate it emphasizes the role of environmental quality and environmental inputs in the process of raising real income and quality of life.

Sustainable Development aims at the creation of sustainable improvements in the quality of life for all people, in this case citizens of member-states as the principal goal of development has many objectives. Beside increasing economic growth and meeting basic needs, the aim of lifting living standards includes a number of more specific goals such as bettering people's health and education opportunities giving everyone the chance to participate is public life helping to ensure a clean environment, promoting intergenerational equality. Therefore meeting the needs of the peoples in the present generation is essential in order to sustain the needs of future generation.

Further, sustainable development aims at maximizing the net benefits of economic and natural resource assets physical, human and natural overtime, in this regard economists distinguish between the concept of strong sustainability and weak sustainability. Strong sustainability requires that the natural capital stock should not decrease. On the other hand, weak sustainability required also that the total value of physical, human and natural capital stock should not decrease. Pearce et al (1990) agree that weak sustainability is better because increase in the other capital stock can substitute for decrease in natural stock. Consequently, sustainable development in its weak form implies that the rate of change of development overtime is generally positive over some selected time horizon.

Finally sustainable development aim at accelerating economic development in order to conserve and enhance the stock of environmental

human and physical capital without making future generation worse-off.

1.6 Theoretical frame work

The theoretical framework that will be adopted for this research work will be Marxist/socialist theory.

The Marxist theory of poverty and inequality is a radical departure from the other theories of poverty. Marxist does not blame the poor for their poverty nor do they blame their culture. Ralph Mill Band write

> The basic fact is that the poor are an integral part of the working class. It's poorest and most disadvantaged stratum. They need to be seen as such as part of a continuum, the more so as many workers who are not deprived in the official sense live in permanent

danger of entering the ranks of the deprived, and that they share many of disadvantages which afflict the deprived.

Instead Marxists look for explanations in the structure of the society in question, in the economic arrangements present and in the functions that poverty performs for capitalism and the capitalist class. To put it simply the reason for poverty and inequality lies in the market based capitalist economy and the fluctuation that all such economies periodically through.

Indeed, Marx argues in his most influential work "Das Capital", that what takes place in the sphere of exchange is an exchange of equals. But as we will recall, in the example of the ship wreck with the money on the Desert Island, appearance can be very deceptive. On face value it appears that the capitalist buys the labour of the workers, in which case they would pay if Marx is correct, the value of

what that labour produces. Thus, if the worker in the course of their labour produces ten chairs at ₤10 each then they would be paid ₤100 for their labour. But that leaves the curious situation in which the profit of the capitalist disappear, something which does not happen often in capitalist society, what the worker is paid for is not their labour which no more belongs to the capitalist after it has been expended than to the worker but the worker labour power, that is, their ability to labour.

The value of labour power approximates to what is necessary to sustain the workers labour power, and its future reproduction through the next generation of workers, as well as enough to purchase certain other things, and participate in certain patterns of life, that have been won over the years by struggle. Here we have the basis of inequality. The exchange between workers and capitalist is not one of equality. The capitalist is surplus value, the difference between the value of

the commodities produced by the workers and the wages paid for their labour power from this is derived profit.

Capitalist economies are also market economies. We in Britain having recently endured a decade of thatch rite economics know all too well about the market yet I will explain what is meant to out lucky neighbors who are ignorant of this term. What is basically meant is that supply and demand determines what is made, when it is made and how much is its price. To put it simply, big demand and limited supply equals big price. This same principle also applies to the labour market. Certain types of labour power have a higher exchange-value than others. For example, unskilled manual labour commands the lowest monetary reward, then semi-skilled manual, then skills manual, then routine clerical, then higher clerical, then professions, then higher professions and so on. Because it is a market economy those in the labour market receive differential rewards. It is not unusual now for the

directors of big British Companies to earn £700.000 a year (not including fringer benefits) while the worker in the factory or shop may get as little as £140 a week, compare this to the £13,500 a week that the aforementioned company directors get.

It could be said that some get as much bigger share of the pie than others. Those at the top are the capitalist class who get paid dividends for owning the means of production, then come those who manage the assets of the capitalist class (company directors), then come servants!. Those who occupy the bottom runs of this ladder, the unskilled manual laborers and the semi-skilled manual laborers and the semi-skilled manual laborers, tend to be paid less, many of these households live in what might be called relative poverty. Thus, poverty and most certainly inequality derive its part from the unequal distribution of wealth in capitalist society that result from the unimpeded operations of the market.

The capitalist system also causes poverty and inequality because, quite simply, it cannot provide full employment. There has hardly been a time in British history when the capitalist system has allowed for full employment. The sets time that British came in recent times to full employment was in the 1950s. This full employment only came about because of increased state expenditure on such things as armament and the fact that many thousands of men died in the Second World War. This is not to say that a country such as British could not achieve full employment but by doing so it would probably impoverish some other country. For example, when British trade was at its zenith and Britain had its protected colonial markets, countries like India were undeveloped, that is their textile industry was destroyed and replaced by British imports. Since such grand times it has very much been a case of economic decline for Britain and increasing unemployment total was three million, upon which the conservative government

promptly changed the definition of unemployment (about 30 times in all) profit before people.

Capitalism is a system of production in an economy, in which some own the means of production while the vast majority must sell their labour power. The capital classes, those who own the means of production, only take on workers so long as the augment capital, that is, increase their profit. Sometimes there is a loss of confidence, that is, capitalists don't think that they can sell a given amount of production. What they cut back on are laborers who are made redundant. As a result the laborers they must fall back upon the "safety not" of the welfare state, which to their dismay they find isn't quite too generous as the tabloid journalists tell them. They are out of work for the simple reason that their labour-power does not at present help to increase capital that is, it does not make a profit for the capitalist. There is the machinery, there is the raw material yet because the conditions for the expansion of capital are not present they

are not able to work. Anyone who attempts to work by simply going into some factory and proceeding to labour, will soon find out one of the functions of the police, to protect, private property and uphold the interests of the capitalist class Boom and Bust.

So far we have established two reasons for the poverty and inequality that exist within all capitalist societies to a greater or lesser extent. Many people are in poverty simply because their capitalist classes do not desire their services; do not wish to purchase their labour power. Others are in poverty because they happen to be in the receiving end which does not get the same return as that of the lawyer or Doctor despite the fact that they are just as essential. There is, however, yet another reason and it is to be found in the fluctuations of the capitalist economies of the world. All capitalist economies go through period of "boom" and "Bust" or, growth and recession. Sometimes industry will be fired up, the factories will be buzzing and those who are unemployed will be slowly but surely

entering the labour market. Then, all of a sudden there will be an economic crash, a sudden grinding halt to trade and thereby to production. Sometimes this will be more severe than others. In Marx time such economic crises were extremely severe and recurrent. The last great economic crash occurred during the 1930's and engulfed many capitalist societies. During these economic crises there is often a poverty of over population. This seems like a contradiction in terms but we must remember that the commodities produced in capitalist societies are exchange-values, not just use-values Marx writes:

> "The last real cause of all crises always remains the poverty and restricted consumption of the masses as compared to the tendency of capitalist production to develop the productive forces in such a way that only the

absolute powers of consumption of the entire society would be their limit". During these economic crises too much is produced, this is because of the unplanned nature of capitalist production. During such crises those who were employed, what Marxists refer to as the reserve army of labour, are now got rid of, their labour power no longer helps to expand capital, and so we see how these fluctuations help to foster unemployment and thereby poverty.

The last reason given by Marxists for the existence and persistence of poverty, and perhaps the most important, is that poverty performs certain functions. This seems at first like a contradiction,

what possible function can poverty play? By function what is meant is simply what poverty does, in particular, what it does for the capitalist class, there are numerous functions that poverty performs all of which help to meet the needs of the capitalist class.

1st function: capitalism requires a highly motivated workforce. Workers must be willing, indeed almost enthusiastic, to get into the factory and work. The reason being that capitalist must compete against capitalist in other countries. Also, if none of the working class came to work for their employers who would do the work, certainly not the capitalist class, by giving different members of society differential monetary rewards to workers who are motivated to work. As a result it is necessary to give those such as the unemployed, elderly and sick ones less money than they received by the workforce as workers would not be motivated to work. Why slog your guts out if you can get the same for sitting at home watching TV? Why worker would choose

going to work for perhaps 10 or 12 hours a day when they can get the same reward for sitting at home.

2nd function: the low wage sector which exists to greater or lesser extent in all capitalist economies serves to lower the wage demands on those on paid employment. The working class tends to judge their wages not in terms of how they compare to the capitalist class but how they compare to their poorer co-workers and neighbors'. Poverty thus helped to keep a check on the wage demands of the working class. Also, if there are large numbers of unemployed people, and even those poorly paid jobs, then there is always plenty of competition for jobs and so employer can pay less. It is after all a market economy and the workers labour power is a commodity just like all others.

3rd Function: those who are in poverty form what Marx called a reserve army of labour. This reserve army of labour which may consist of ethnic minorities and those in the labour force who are

least desirable, for whatever labour performs the function of keeping the pretensions of the working class in check during periods of "boom" in the economy. During such times, when demand of labour is high, the reserve army will be called up and so any delusions of grandeur held by the working class are torn asunder. This theory becomes much more important when it is viewed that the gap between the rich and the poor in Nigeria are winding day by day. Therefore the above theoretical framework is most appropriate for the study.

This theory becomes relevant when it is understood that various policies and programmes initiated by governments both federal, state and local have been marred by high level of corruption, ineptitude and nepotism it is often understood that most of this programmes end up elevating poverty instead of reducing it. For instance the national poverty eradication programme (NAPEP) has always been hijacked by the operators of the scheme

(politicians) it is important to note in Nigeria that corruption has been the barne of our government and governance therefore Nigerians do not trust their leaders has been capable of helping them to come out of poverty 0r to reduce poverty rate in Nigeria by 2015.

1.7   Hypotheses

➢ Some of the factors responsible for high rate of poverty in Nigeria among others include illiteracy and corruption.

➢ Some of the policies and programmes initiated (UBE) (NEEDS), child & Maternal health have not been successful.

➢ It is not likely that Nigeria will meet (MDGs) poverty reduction by 2015.

1.8   Scope and Limitation of Study

This research work is set to examine poverty reduction as one of the millennium development

goals and the impact of the various programme sand policies initiated towards achieving sustainable development in Nigeria by the year 2015.

As a matter of fact, lack of accessibility to government confidential materials to serves as a good limitation E.g. National Population Commission (NPC), National Bureau for statistic etc materials are not easily accessed, but efforts were made to get the necessary materials needed for the research though not easy.

Another limitation encountered in this course of study was due to lack of finance and inadequate time.

1.9 Definition of Terms

Millennium Development Goals: Millennium Development goals represent a bold and an ambition attempt to tackle the global development

dilemma through a set tangibly quantifiable targets that are at the heart of and critical; to the achievement of sustainable human development which allows people to leave a life that they value and to realize their potential as human beings.

Poverty: It is a state of being poor or being unable to have basic necessities of life.

Poverty Reduction: Generally poverty refers to lack of resources, poverty reduction therefore means destroy or trying to get out of poverty or reducing the rate of poverty.

Sustainable Development: Development is the ability of the state to harness its natural and material resources or endowment for the well being of the citizens.

Sustainable development is a process of attaining growth without compromising the needs of future generation.

CHAPTER TWO

CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF POVERTY IN NIGERIA

2.1   Causes and Effects of Poverty in Nigeria

The poverty level in Nigeria today contracted the country's immense wealth. Consisting of human, Agricultural, solid mineral, petroleum and gas. All these resources are available at country's disposal if judiciously use, the

country ought not to lack and better the life of citizens. This is unconnected with the fact that most of these resources have not been harnessed effectively and utilized.

Compared with poverty level 1, "Nigeria the economy has not farewell either between 1980 till date. Therefore, Obanure (1988) outlined five major causes among other causes that contribute to aggravate poverty level in Nigeria.

1) Poor Macro economic and monetary policies

Globally, no country will attain development growth with poor macro-economic policies without having a successful concern for the social welfare of its people. In this respect, for any poverty reduction to succeed,Government must ensure low inflation rate, low interest rate, and stable national current and high GDP growth rate, coupled with balance income distribution.

2) Dwindling Performance of manufacturing sector.

Also government policies are not favourable to the local manufactures which lead to the closure of most industries, resulting into many people laid off from their employment. In this respect, government should embark on policies that will ensure the availability and access to cheap capital, land, labour, infrastructures and technology etc.

3) Foreign dept. burden:

The overhang of foreign debt on the country which amounts to huge sum of money to service resettlement annually from an economy earning just about $10.0 to $15.0 billion per annum has contributed to poverty because part of the amount that is supposed to be channeled to social welfare of the people is used by the government to settle this debts. Also this debt asserts much pressure on the economy which affects the socio-cultural lives of the citizen negatively.

4) Corruption and poor management of resources

Corruption or poor management ofthe nations' resources coupled with the fact that Nigeria form among the fifty richest nation in the world as at 1970s. However, by 1999 to date Nigeria was among the fortieth poorest and second most corrupt nations of the world as stated by the World Bank and Transparency international. Despite the fact that the present government promised to fight corruption but corruption keep on increasing more especially in the office of the government. Though government is putting effort to stamp out and reduces the menace is unabated. Jim Wofenson former World Bank President stated that corruption is a cancer in the country, you can pretend to have with the cancer, but it kills you; To stand against this

menace, there is need for a change of heart, sincerity and accountability of both leaders and the lead, since most of the stolen money recovered from foreign countries were not properly accounted for so corruption which supposed to reduce is not forthcoming as a result of mass poverty. Wolfenson (1998:4)

The subsequent increased in petroleum products price with the fake promise by the government to better the welfare of the people, also to channel the proceeds of their increased locally to the areas of health, transport, schools or education etc but money gotten from the increase of the crude oil prices were said to have varnished through the hands of the policy makers.

In addition the corrupt politics of project officials, where about N10 billion was released by the government to fight poverty in Nigeria and the money ended up in private hands. The minister of works was asked to account for the money but up till now nobody has accounted for the money source. This is a major problem in fighting poverty in Nigeria.

5) Finding of poverty alleviation

Inadequate funding of poverty alleviation programme is another problem bed willing poverty reduction in Nigeria. Adequate funding is necessary to reduce poverty to the barest minimum in a nation like ours.

2.2 PROBLEMS OF POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN NIGERIA

a) **Incessant changes in policies.** It is obvious that incessant changes in government policies and regime in the country led to lingering instability in the nation's body politic and these results in changes in policies. Most of the poverty alleviation policies in Nigeria end up with different slogan name by successive governments e.g. operation feed the nations, Green Revolution, structural adjustment programme, better life for rural women etc. these are policies aimed at addressing the plight of the people but becomes elusive due to lack of continuity

b) **Misconception of target (i.e Rural):** Policies in Nigeria were targeted at rural dwellers that is people living in the rural areas or remote villages where there is lack of social amenities such as good roads, electricity, good water, health care units etc. however, this policies were hijacked and diverted by Urban dwellers as a means of a missing wealth while targeted rural village remain a mirage.

c) **Lack of proper co-ordination and effective monitoring.**

This has been the main problem hindering the successful execution of policies and programmes in Nigeria because of lack of coordination and monitoring

most programme cannot be evaluated as per achieving the set goals. Unfortunately many government policies in Nigeria are more contended with spending billions of public funds and pay little or no attention to effective monitoring to oversee and ensure proper implementation and performance. As a result the implementation coordination and monitoring end up on paper-work but the reality and practical application to achieve the targeteted objective is left in the cooler or bribe rubbing hands.

d) Inadequate funding of programme:

This is one of the major factors that affect the implementation of policies. Government at time embarks upon policies but the inadequate funding eventually led to the failure of the programme. This clearly shows inadequate preparations and planning to determine the value or cost that is involved in a policy before commencement, consequently causingdelay or hindrance of such projects.

e) Mismanagement and corruption

The issue of mismanagement and corrupt practices in policy making and implementation will not be over emphasized it has become a cancer worm and is prevalent to most developing countries more especially Nigeria which is the second most corrupt country in the world. It is a common practice by project

officials or those at the herms of affairs of policy making to enrich themselves which occurs mainly by increase of fund allocated to projects. Thus, it createsdubious character, increase of project mismanagement and corruption by the contractors and consultants amounting to increase cost thereby preventing implementation.

2.2   The nature and incidence of poverty in Nigeria

Poverty is very real in Nigeria, over the last ten years; the quality of life of the average Nigerian citizen has progressively nosedived. It is so endemic in Nigeria that people have started seeing it as their lot in life. Infact, scores of research studies have exposed the dimensions and the extent of poverty in Nigeria. For example Obadan and Odusola (2011) reveals how sharply the per capital income of Nigerians slipped from a height of over 1,280 dollars in 1980 to a low dollars in 1995, This and other studies generally paint a grim picture of a nation trapped in a vortex of abject and abnormal poverty and declining productivity. Available statistics indicate how precarious life has become for the average Nigerian over the years in the face of suffocating levels of poverty.

The Nigerian situation becomes more pathetic when comparisons are made with less endowed developing countries in Africa and other parts of the

third world. Findings by Kayode and Odusola (2000), show for example, that Nigeria's per capital income of over $240 in 1990 was well below the average of over $500 for sub-Saharan Africa. The figure for Nigeria was well below that the Botswana (53, 210), cote d' Ivoire ($66,00), Egypt (1,801) south Africa ($ 3,5001, Mauritius ($3,710) Obadan and Odusola 2008) in Edoh ($3,500), Mauritius ($3,710), Obadan and Odusola 2008, In Edoh (2003:69). Nigeria is even rated in term of percentage of population earning less than one dollar per day for randomly selected years.

The extent of poverty in the nation becomes even more alarming when a critical look is taken at the general income of the workers in the public service. The situation the Nigerian workers have found themselves in wage administration has necessitated most of the corrupt practices in the country's public service. The severity of poverty in Nigeria is equally glaring when other indications of services and development are considered. The vision 2010 committee report reveals that:

> 50% of Nigerians lives below the poverty line only about 40% has access to safe drinking water about 85% of the Urban population lives in single houses with more than 7 occupants on the average. Only about 62% of Nigerians have access to primary health care. Most Nigerians take less than

one third of the minimum required protein
and vitamins report 2010 Committee, (Edoh,
2003:71)

The analysis above shows clearly that Nigerian is indeed very poor whatever indices are used to identify or measure the phenomenon. This is a paradoxical situation in the sense that a country with rich natural and agricultural resources and well designed poverty reduction programme such as family economic advancement programme and national poverty reduction programme has failed to improve the living standards of its citizen.

The centrality of poverty issue has made successive Nigerian government to initiate several anti-poverty programme. These programme were aimed at reducing, alleviating or minimizing the deadly scourge, of the poverty phenomenon, though programmes such as operation feed the nation (OFN) which was launched in the 1970s and Green Revolution initiated by the Shagari administration in 1980 existed in the past to address the phenomenon of poverty they were essentially aimed at boosting agriculture. Other effects made by successive government included the establishment of the Directorate of foods, road and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI) National Directorate of employment (NDE), Better Life Programme (BLP), the People Bank of Nigeria (PBN), Family Support Programes (FSP), Family Economic

Advancement programme (FEAP), The poverty Alleviation Programme (PAP), The National Poverty Eradication programme (NAPEP) and National Economic Empowerment Development Strategy (NEEDS)

Over the years attempts were made at alleviating poverty as reflected in the expression of commitment to successive government and increase in the number of programme and increasing commitment of resources in the progress, very minimal success have been achieved or recorded.

Now the question is what went wrong? What went wrong in the context of this study constituted the reason adduced for the inability of the programme to meet desired goals. These were lack of co-ordination and commitement, lack of continuity, improper appreciation of roots and magnitude of the problem, policy inconsistency, and deficient infrastructural facilities top bottom approach (NEEDS) and corruption (Muo 2010).

On the other hand the central bank of Nigeria (2009) in its own view based on empirical investigation programme to deterioration in fiscal discipline corruption, political instability and inconsistent policies.

2.3 MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGS) AND POVERTY REDUCTION IN NIGERIA

The Millennium development goals have been over whelming adopted by the international Community, signaled by a clear mobilization of resources towards the achievement of goals, the MDGs have attracted their fair share of criticism, This Criticism takes the form of questions concerning the over ambitiousness of the goals given the time frame in which they are to be achieved, methods applied in determining the cost estimate of meeting the target (Henry 2005) the arbitrariness in selecting the start date for measurement of progress towards achieving the goals as well as the random utilization of both level and relative targets in setting the goals (Easterly, 2007). Regardless of these criticisms, it is apparent that the MDGs have succeeded in refocusing development agencies NGOs and other stakeholders towards the pressing development challenges of the day. It has mobilized investment towards the MDGs and has generally assisted in re-energizing dono-countries in cases where fatigue had set in, hence it is clear that the MDGs though flawed as development targets have reshaped the development agenda and may yet succeed in transforming lives as people are lifted out of poverty

Below are the target goals and target of MDGs

Goal	Target
Goal 1 Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger	Target 1. A Have between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose is less than a dollar a day. Target 1 B Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all including women and young people. Target 1 C Have between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whoi suffer from hunger.
Goal 2 Achieve universal primary education	Target 2 A Ensure that, by 2015 children everywhere boys and girls alike will

	be able to complete a full course of primary school.
Goal 3 Promote gender by quality and empower women	Target 3 A Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2015, and in all levels of education no later than 2015
Goal 4 Reduce child mortality	Target 4 A Reduce by two third between 1970 and 2015, the under five mortality rate
Goal 5 Improve maternal health	Target 5 A Reduce by three quarters between 1995 and 2015, the maternal mortality Target B Achieve by 2015 universal access to reproductive health

Goal 6 Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases	Targets 6 A Have halted by 2015 and Begun, To reserve. The spread of HIV/Aids Target B Achieve by 2010, universal to treatment for HIV/Aids for all those who needs it Target C Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases
Goal 7 Ensure environment sustainability	Target 7 A Integrate the principle of sustainable development into country policies and programme and reverse the loss of environmental resource

	Target B
	Reduce Biodiversity loss, Achieving by 2010, a significant Reduction in the rated loss
	Target 7C
	Have by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to drinking water and basic sanitation
Goal 8 Develop a global partnership tax development	Target 8 A Develop further an open, rate based, predictable non discrimination trading and financial system including a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction both nationality and internationally.

Poverty Reduction in the Nigeria Experience

Just like other countries at the UN Millennium submit, that gave birth to the MDGs Nigeria launched her own version of the MDGs poverty reduction or eradication programme. This and other programme were targeted at achieving MDGs are contained in the NEEDs document; in fact, NEEDS has poverty reduction" as the third actionable goals. To reduced poverty, NEEDs set the following broad targets.

1. Increase average per capital consumption by7 at least 2 percent a year.

2. Create about 7 million jobs percent by 2007

3. Increase the percentage of population with access to safe drinking water to at least 70% by 2007.

4. Significantly increase school enrolment rates to at least 65 percent by 2007.

5. Significantly improved access to sanitations (NEEDS document 2004).

It is disheartening to discover that the Nigerian government did not meet these target as contained in the policy documents, statistics revels that Nigerians (especially the common man on the street do not have access to drinking water, primary health care and rate of unemployment is increasing on daily basis. This indicates an abnormal picture of the NEEDs as a poverty reduction policy.

In line with the policy thrust of NEEDs, the government set up the National poverty reduction or eradication programme (NAPEP) to tackle the challenges of poverty. But since the establishment of (NAPEP), it has nothing tangible to show for its existence (NAPEP), an agency established by government to tackle poverty through empowerment rather than focus on its mandate is today enmeshed in controversy.

The led the senate of the federal republic of Nigeria to move a motion to probe the activities of the agency since its creation.

The general impression is that NAPEP has failed the country because the poverty rate is still high. It is gathered that the agency has received a total of 11.8 billion naira (Guardian February 24, 2009) but it has not.

To crown it all, NEEDs (2009) pointed out several factors that hindered the effort of government at reducing the level of poverty. These included poor co-ordination, the absence of a comprehensive policy framework, excessive political interference, ineffective targeting of poor leading to leakage of benefits to unintended beneficiaries, the unwidely scope of programmes which caused resources to be thinly spread across to many projects, overlapping functions leading to institutional rivalry and conflict, the absence of sustainable mechanisms in programme and project design, implementation,

monitoring and evaluation. The evidence suggests that the reforms and policies have not recorded the spectacular result expected. Thus the poverty alleviation remains a paradox in Nigeria.

EXTERNAL DEPT BURDEN AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

Most countries in Africa, especially the developing countries like Nigeria are faced with the problems of low income, low saving and low level of productivity, which calls for financial support from institutions like world bank, IMF, UN and developed economies to bridge the resources gap. This external finance strongly influence the economic growth and development processof these developing nations as debt is an important resources needed to support sustainable economic development in Nigerian until recently involved itself in a huge external debt without adequate resourced for servicing the debt and this constituted a major impediment to the revitalization of her shattered economy as well as the alleviation of debitating poverty (AdepojuObayedu and Salau, 2007)

Development is sustainable if in the process of attaining it, the needs of future generations are not compromised. In other words today development should take into account the issue of inter generationalequity. Specifically, the

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sustainable development approach is base on the premise that if economic are properly managed both in growth and development can occur within a set of bounds established by the need of maintain existing resources at a minimum critical level (Orubu, 2008).

Some growth indices are often paraded by the Nigeria government but there is a mismatch or disconnect between it and existing realities as the country still exhibits large symptoms of underdevelopment as reflected in the socio-economic lives of Nigerians. The rapid urbanization put at over 5 percent annum exerts severe pressure on ailing infrastructure. Nigeria further raked asone of the twenty-five poorest nations in the world (Ateobi and Mobolaji 2006, Sampson, 2007

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter gives a detail explanation of the various approaches used in the research to gather all necessary information needed to prove the study to either accept or refute our findings, and as well help in analyzing our data in chapter four of this study.

Obasi (1999) defined research as any effort to discover meaning and provide explanation and understanding where ignorance or obscurantism reigns.

This chapter therefore explains various methods of data collection, source of data collection embracing the primary and secondary source, population and sample size, sampling techniques and lastly method of data analysis.

3.1 METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION

Method of data collection is an important step in the research processes. The process of data collection depends and varies upon the kind of data to be collected, which in turn depends on the problem to be solved. There are two basic types of data collection; these are primary and secondary source or methods.

The primary data is based on the administration of questionnaire and interview, while secondary data are base on printed methods, magazine, newspaper, journal etc.

The two aforementioned methods were used in this research work that is primary and secondary methods.

3.2   SOURCE OF DATA COLLECTION

Basically, there are two major sources of data utilized in this study. They are derived from primary and secondary sources

3.2.1 PRIMARY SOURCE

The primary source of data are mainly drawn from direct observation of the events, manipulation of variables, contrivance of research situations including performance of experiments and responses to questionnaire.

QUESTIONNAIRE

A questionnaire is a data gathering instrument in which respondents are given standardized or uniformed questions to be completed in written form. Questionnaire can also be seen as a set of question that is related to the purpose of the study to which the respondents are expected to respond to in writing.

ADVANTAGES

- It is less expensive
- It is most effective in reaching a very large number of people at the same time.
- It saves time and effort
- Permits greater uniformly
- Its data can easily be coded, scored and analyzed statistically.

DISADVANTAGES

- It is a difficult to code and analyze especially opened ended questions
- Structured questions may restrict the choice of owners.

- ➢ Ambiguous word may mislead respondent.

The questionnaire does not apply to illiterate member of the population.

INTERVIEW

Interview is a survey instrument involving, face to face communication interaction between the seeker and giver (respondent) of information.

ADVANTAGES

- ➢ It is useful for collecting data from children and illiterates
- ➢ In-depth information are collected from the interview
- ➢ The actual responses are recorded by the interview
- ➢ The interviewer has the opportunity to seek for clarification of answers that are not clear to him or her.

DISADVANTAGE

- ➢ It is time consuming to obtain information from large number of persons.
- ➢ The researcher must be skillful in the art of interviews.
- ➢ Variability of the interviewer may affect the result of the interviews
- ➢ The interviewer may take responses to question posed to him or her by the interviewer in order to appear good.

3.3 SECONDARY SOURCE

This is the type of data collected and compiled through published and unpublished materials like books, magazines, journals, newspapers etc. which the researchers finds useful for the purpose of this study.

ADVANTAGES

➢ It provide the research reference

➢ It enhances proper arrangement of data give picture of past events

➢ It is less expensive and not time consuming

DISADVANTAGES

➢ It ensure the possibility of the misinterpretation of data

➢ Limits the use new idea and scopes of findings

➢ Encourages bias and prejudice

➢ Lack of textbooks can affect the study.

3.4 POPULATION AND SAMPLE SIZE

Population in this context means the target group which the researcher have interest in the study and about which were intended to obtain information and draw conclusion. While sample size is the process in which a portion of the population is carefully selected and taken as being representative of the population.

The large population was mainly adults who attained the age 18 and above

The sample is 106 respondents, 35 drawn from each of the cluster, representative of 2 states and FCT. The states are Nassarawa, Kogi and FCT. 35 respondents were selected from each of the states at random selection.

Random sampling is the method of drawing a portion of a population or universe so that each member of the population has an equal chance of being selected.

One hundred and five questionnaires were administered to respondents.

3.5 SAMPLING TECHNIQUES

The sampling techniques of a given research depend solely on what the researcher is intending to investigate. Sampling techniques however involves taking from a given population in which generalization would be based or made.

Therefore, the sampling techniques adopted for the purpose of this study are the stratified sampling techniques which entails the use of questionnaire and personal interview. The use of these techniques is to get appropriate and accurate information required for arriving at reasonable conclusion.

The questionnaire is divided into three sections, the bio-data section, and other section on the poverty reduction programme of the MDGs and its feasibility.

3.6   METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS

Method of data analysis involves converting a series of recorded observation into descriptive statements and /or inference about relationships. Data involves editing, coding, generating, new variables tabulation and calculation of summarizing statistics.

The nature of data generated determines the types of statistical techniques used in analysis, namely, descriptive and inferential tools.

However, for the purpose of this study, the descriptive and inferential method of analysis were used, the characteristics of the respondents were analyzed using such statistical tool like means, mode and frequency distribution tables.

Descriptive method is therefore a statistical techniques that help us to summarize and describe out data (Obikeze, 1986) in such a way that we

would understand better their characteristics, similarities, variation, trends etc.the adoption of this method best analyzed the data collection, it answer the question earlier posed in the research objectives and questions.

While inferential statistics tools are techniques that helps us to make prediction or generalization about the entire population based on the sample or case draw from it (Obikeze, 1986). These are carried out through what is called statistical test. Example of inferential statistics is Chi-square

RELIABILITY/VALIDITY OF INSTRUMENT

In view of the choice of this study to source data from secondary sources, works of eminent scholars on the problems of poverty alleviation of Nigeria and other related sources such as needs, leads and so on etc. shall provide the required data. This is against the backdrop of the fact that data from them over the years have remained consistent and unvaried. Thus, this authoritative source of literature for this study are no doubt reliable credible and dependable.

Accordingly, data from these sources shall be validated through the identification selection and comparative assessment of the main problems of poverty.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

4.0   INTRODUCTION

In order to obtain information, questionnaires containing questions was constructed with five containing bio-data's of respondents, ten containing multiple choice answer and the remaining three with open ended questions out of 36 states in Nigeria two states and the FCT were selected and hundred and five questionnaire were administered.

This chapter deals with the analysis of data collected from the respondents in the field and discussion of the findings. The purpose of the analysis is to accept or refute the hypothesis that was adopted earlier in the course of the study. To communicate and analyse the result of finding clearly,

sample percentage techniques was adopted and to calculate the percentage of both the positive and negative responses, each of the position was placed over the expected total number of respondents and then multiply it by hundred (100).

The formula is

Nx100…………………………equation (i)

NT 1

Where N = Number of responses

NT = Total number of responses

4.1 DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

Table 4.1.1 SEX OF RESPONDENTS

SEX	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
MALE	45	64.3%
FEMALE	25	35.7%
TOTAL	70	100%

Source; field work 2013

The table above displays the sex of respondents out of 70 respondents that filled the questionnaire, 45 were male representing 64.3%   while 25 were female representing 35.7%. This therefore shows that, with the numbers of respondents stated above, the sampled population was randomly selected.

Table 4.1.2 AGE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS

SEX	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
18-25	10	14.29%
26-35	30	42.85%
36-45	20	28.57%
46-55	7	10%
56 & ABOVE	3	4.29%
TOTAL	70	100%

Source; field work 2013

The second information field by the respondent is touching their Bio-data is their age range. From the information gathered, 10 respondents representing 14.29% were under the age of 18-25 years, 30 respondents

representing 42.85% one between the range of 26-35 years, 20 respondents representing 10% were of 46-55 years while 3 respondent representing 4.29% feel between the age of 56 and above.

Table 4.1.3 EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION OF RESPONDENTS

RESPONDENTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Primary	0	0%
Secondary	8	11.43%
Tertiary	47	67.14%
Post graduate	15	21.43%
TOTAL	70	100%

Source; field work 2013

The third information filled above is the educational qualification of respondents, zero representing no percentage for primary, 8 respondents representing 11.43% attained secondary education, 47 respondents

representing 67.14% have attained tertiary institution, while 15 respondents representing 21.43% were post graduates.

Table 4.1.4   Occupational distributions of respondents

RESPONDENTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Politician	5	7.14%
Civil servant	31	44.29%
Student	20	28.57%
Business man & women	5	7.14%
Unemployed	9	12.86%
TOTAL	70	100%

Source; field work 2013

The study as presented above revealed that 5 respondent representing 7.14% are politicians 31 respondents representing 44.29% are Civil servants, 20 respondents representing 28.57% are students, 5 respondents representing

28.57% are business man and women, while 9 respondents representing 12.86 also are unemployed.

This section comprises of responses relating to questions in the questionnaire.

The table analyzed below is section B if the questionnaire administered to respondents where relevant questions were asked as touching the study containing multiple choices answers.

Table 4.1.5 HOW DO YOU ASSSESS THE LEVEL OF POVERTY IN NIGERIA?

Table 4.1.4 Occupational distributions of respondents

RESPONDENTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Increasing	60	85.71%
Decreasing	8	11.43%
I don't know	2	2.86%
TOTAL	70	100%

Source; field work 2013

From table 1 above, it clearly shown the difference in the number of respondents with positive and those with negative responses whether poverty level increased or decreased, 60 respondent representing 85.71% assert that

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poverty is increasing. 8 respondents representing 11.43% asserts that poverty is decreasing, while 2 respondents representing 2.86% were unable to decide. This invariable buttress that, the level of poverty in Nigeria is increasing because of the percentage of those that agreed its increasing outweighed the undecided respondents.

Table 4.1.6 Do You Think that poor governance is responsible for the poverty in Nigeria?

Table 4.1.4 Occupational distributions of respondents

RESPONDENTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Agree	63	90%
Disagree	7	10%
undecided	0	0%
TOTAL	70	100%

Source; field work 2013

It is obvious from the table above that, the number of respondent that agreed to the question that poor governance is responsible for poverty in Nigeria is a wide pole gap from those that disagreed, 63 respondent representing 90% agreed, while 7 respondents 10% disagreed, while all the respondents left the blank space of undecided unmarked.

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Table 4.1.7 Have you ever benefitted from any poverty eradication programmes?

RESPONDENTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
No	51	72.8%
Yes	19	27.2%
TOTAL	70	100%

Source; field work 2013

Table 3 above shows that 51 respondents representing 72.8% were negative to the statement, 19 respondents representing 27.2% were positive thus, respondents that said no outweighed those that said yes.

Table 4.1.8 would you agree that the Nigerian economy was

More stable in the past than what is obtainable today.

RESPONDENTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Agree	30	42.86%
Disagree 3	37	52.86%
Undecided	3	4.28%
TOTAL	70	100%

Source; field work 2013

From table 4 above, it was a tense struggle between those that agreed that the Nigerian economy was more stable in the past than what is obtainable today, 30 respondent representing 42.86% agreed 37 respondents representing 4.28% could not reach a conclusion whether to agreed or disagreed.

Table 4.1.9 Do you agree that the implementation of MDGs programme will eradicate poverty by the year 2015?

RESPONDENTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Agree	52	74.29%
Disagree	13	18.57%
Undecided	5	7.14%
TOTAL	70	100%

Source; field work 2013

Out of 70 respondents from the table above, 52 respondents representing 74.29% agreed that the implementation of MDG's programme will eradication 18.57% disagrees and only respondent representing 7.14% were unable to decide.

Table 4.1.10 how would you classify your area in terms of poverty?

RESPONDENTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE

Very poor	10	14.5%
Poor	40	57%
Average poor	20	28.5%
TOTAL	70	100%

Source; field work 2013

Table 10 above, shows that 10 respondents representing 14.5% assert that theirarea is very poor, 40 respondent representing 57% assert that their area is poor, while 20 respondent representing 28.5% assert that their area is averagely poor.

Table 4.1.11 in which of the area of activity would you rate government policies and programmes on poverty eradication towards sustainable development.

RESPONDENTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Youth empowerment	52	74.29%
Rural Infrastructural development	13	18.57%
Social welfare service Scheme	5	7.14%
TOTAL	70	100%

Source, Field work 2013

Out of 70 respondents from the table above, 52 respondents representing 74.29% believes that government should base poverty or abdication policies on Youth empowerment, while 13 respondent representing 18.57%

Agrees that government policies on poverty eradication should be base on rural infrastructural development and only 5 respondents representing 7.14% were in support of social welfare services scheme.

Table 4.1.12. Would you say that the government have achieved one goal of MDG.

RESPONDENTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Yes	9	12.86%
No	61	87.14%
TOTAL	70	100%

Source; Field Work 2013

From the above, 9 respondents representing 12.86% were positive that government has achieved one goal of MDG s while the remaining 61, respondents representing 87.14% were negative that government has not achieved one goal of MDGs.

Table 4.1.13.   Has the establishment of NAPEP been effective in reducing poverty positively?

RESPONDENTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Strongly agree	20	28.57%
Agree	30	42.86%
Disagree	20	28.57%
TOTAL	70	100%

Source; Field work 2013

From the above table 20 respondent representing 28.57% strongly agreed that the establishment of NAPEP has been effective in reducing poverty positively, white 30 respondent representing 42.86% agreed that NAPEP has effectively reduced poverty and 20 respondent representing 28.57% disagreed that the establishment of NAPEP has not been effective in reducing poverty positively.

Table 4.14 Does MDGs have any impact on the level of poverty reduction in Nigeria?

RESPONDENTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Yes	35	50%

No	20	28.5%
I don,t Know	15	21.5%
TOTAL	70	100%

Source, Field work 2013

From the above 35 respondents representing 50% agreed that MDGs have impact on the level of poverty reduction in Nigeria, while 20 respondent representing 28.5% disagreed and 15 respondents were unable to reach a conclusion representing 21.5%.

The analysis below is section C of the questionnaire which is open-ended questions where respondents were given space or line to fully express their motives about the questions thrown to them.

Does MDGs have any impact on the level of poverty reduction in Nigeria if your answer is yes give at least two reasons.

Some numbers of respondents about 35 representing 50% agreed that MDGs has impact on the level of poverty reduction in Nigeria and here are their reasons:

i. Because since the inception of MDGs there has been various poverty programmes initiated to reduce the level of poverty in Nigeria which has therefore impacted on the level of poverty.

ii. That MDGs have impacted on the level of poverty reduction in Nigeria through creating awareness, siminar and so-on and making people aware of their environment.

iii. MDGs don't have any impact on the level of poverty in Nigeria because programme that were initiated to reduce poverty level are not effectively, managed and loose focus so it can have any impact.

iv. It also has no impact because government adopt a bottom approach which means that the people who really played with poverty and rural dwellers and these programmes are usually not targeted for the grass roots.

v. Suggest three ways by which poverty can be eradicated in Nigeria.

vi. Job creation

vii. A reduction from rural-urban migration

viii. An effective poverty reduction/eradication programme fully implemented.

4.2   TESTING OF HYPOTHESIS

In the section, we focus on testing the hypothesis raised in chapter one of this research work.

To test the hypothesis therefore, chi-square was used to evaluate whether or not the frequency was observed well. In order to test the hypothesis also, some tale already analyzed were used.

Ho: The implementation of millennium development goals has impacted on the level of poverty reduction in Nigeria.

Hi: The implementation of millennium development goals has not impacted on the level of poverty reduction in Nigeria.

The table below was used to test the hypothesis where respondents were asked "Do you think the implementation of MDGs programme will eradicate poverty and does MDGs have any impact on the level of poverty reduction in Nigeria?

RESPONDENTS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Agree	23	32.86%
Disagree	45	64.29%
Undecided	2	2.85%
TOTAL	70	100%

Sources; field work 2013

We can therefore, apply chi-square to test this parameter thus,

Chi-square $X^2 = E \ (fo - fe)^2$…………………………equation   i

Where E = the sum of observation

Fo = the frequency observed

Fe = the frequency observed

And the fe = Ex ……………………………………….equation ii

Where x = means score

Ex = sum of frequency observed

N = total number observed

And n-1 = degree of freedom

RESPONSE	FO	FE	FO-FE	$(FO-FE)^2$	$(FO-FE)^{2/FE}$
AGREE	23	32.86	-9.86	97.2	0.34
DISAGREE	45	64.29	-19.29	372.1	0.19
UNDECIDED	2	2.85	-0.85	0.72	3.96
TOTAL	70	100			4.49`

The calculated $x^2 = 4.49$

OF = n-1

= 3-1 = 2

Therefore df = 5.991 using 0.5 level of significance.

From the table above, the calculated x^2 (4.49) is less than the tabulated value (5.991). this therefore means that, we refute the null hypothesis (HO) and accept the alternate hypothesis (HI).

4.3. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

In the interpretation of the result of hypothesis started in this study all the null hypothesis and alternate hypothesis used been tested, it is glaring that, the percentage of respondent that gave positive respondents (i.e agree), undecided and those with negative responses (i.e disagree), put the null hypothesis (HO) being rejected and accepting the alternate hypothesis (HI).

This shows that, the millennium development goals has not impact on the level of poverty reduction in Nigeria which is x^2 (4.49) because it is less that the tabulated value x^2 + = 5.991, we therefore reject the null hypothesis which state that "the millennium development goals has impact on the level of poverty in Nigeria".

Then accept the alternate hypothesis which state that "the millennium developmental goal has no impact on the level of poverty reduction in Nigeria

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1   SUMMARY

This work poverty reduction, millennium Development Goals and sustainable Development in Nigeria. Most government activities are poverty reduction based for instance each ministry has elements of poverty reduction strategies embedded in their programmes/projects. Therefore if these government ministries are empowered and are well focused, there may not have been any need to establish any special agency for poverty.

To be able to effectively achieve the objective of reducing poverty to a considerable level by the year 2015, effectors or strategies formulated and directed towards poverty reduction needs to be holistic in nature.

5.2 CONCLUSION

In any nation, the level of development depends on the efficiency of its social sector (education and health care), its financial sector (money and capital markets), its infrastructural sector/power supplies, transport and communications), as well as its governance poverty reduction depends on the creative interplay and effective management of these sectors.

It is evident that both past and present governments have pursued policies aimed at poverty alleviation, in spite of these, poverty is still perusive in Nigeria because of lack of funding, incoherent institutional arrangements, and implementation in still a myth, because the process of policy formulations and implementation does not include a full range of civil-society representatives, because programs are not cost-effective, and because the institutional structures established to manage the various programmes are inefficient and unaccountable.

5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

The menace of poverty can be tackled in this country. The government needs a genuine and sincere political will to take advantage of the oil wealth of the country to open up other sectors like Agriculture and even streaming other mineral resources like gold and diamond which have been discovered long ago.

Poverty eradication programme without good evaluation mechanism will yield no fruits. To this end, government should institute an evaluation mechanism which monitors and evaluates the activities of agencies.

Full utilization of the country's under-utilised industrial and Agricultural capacities, including large reduction in post-harvest loses, improvement in the domestic competitiveness of the Nigerian economy both the provision, in an adequate cost-effective manner, of basic infrastructural facilities.

Massive investment in high-quality of technological education, particularly in the area of information and communication technologies and biotechnologies.

Implementing fully the United Nations millennium goals to reduce/eradicate poverty by 50 percent by the year 2015.

Dampening on-going reform programme aimed at embarking due process, accountability and professionalism.

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APPENDIX

Department of Political Science

Faculty of Management & Social

Science.

Caritas University, Amorji Nike

Emene Enugu State.

Dear Respondent,

I am a final year student of the above named institution conducting a research on poverty reduction and sustainable development in Nigeria: a case study of MDGs, 2000-2015. In partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of a Bachelor of Science degree in political science (BSC political science)

You are required to be as truthful and sincere in your answers as possible and will be treated in strict confidence.

Thanks for your anticipated co-operation

Yours sincerely,

OmedeInikpi Juliet

QUESTIONNAIRE

SECTION A   PERSONAL DATA

1.   Sex: (a) [ ]   (b) [ ]

2.   Age: (a) 18-25 [ ]   (b) 26-35 (c) 36-45 (d) 46-55   (e) 56 and above

3.   Marital status: (a) Married [ ] (b) Single [ ] (c) Divorced [ ] (d) Widow [ ]

4.   Educational qualification: (a) Primary [ ] (b) Secondary [ ] (c) Tertiary [ ] (d) Post graduate [ ]

5.   Occupation: (a) Politician [ ] (b) Civil Servant [ ] (c) Students [ ] (d) Business man [ ] (e) Unemployed [ ]

SECTION B

6.   How do you access the level of poverty in Nigeria?

Increasing [ ] Decreasing [ ] I don't know [ ]

7.   Do you think that poor governance is responsible for poverty in Nigeria? Agree [ ] Disagree [ ] Undecided [ ]

8.   Have you ever benefited from any poverty reduction programme?

Yes [ ]   No [ ]

9.   Would you agree that the Nigerian economy was more stable in past than what is obtainable today? Agree [   ] Disagree [   ] Undecided [ ]

10. Do you agree that the implementation of MDGs Programme will eradicate poverty by the year 2015? Agree [   ] Disagree [ ] Undecided [   ]

11. Would you say that programmes initiated to reduce poverty have been successful? Agree [ ] Disagree [ ] Undecided [   ]

12. Do you advice for the implementation of new poverty programmes in Nigeria? Agree [ ] Disagree [ ] Undecided [   ]

13. In contemporary times, poverty has continued to increase. Agree [ ] Disagree [ ] Undecided [   ]

14. What main factor will you attribute to the increase in poverty? Religion [   ] Economic [   ] Political [   ]

15. How will you predict the future Nigerian society to be like? Stable [   ] Unstable [   ] Neutral [   ]

16. How would you classify your area in term of poverty? Very Poor [ ] Poor [   ] Averagely Poor [   ]

17. In which of the area of activity would you rate government policies and programmes on poverty eradication towards sustainable development?

a.   Youth empowerment   [   ]

b.   Rural infrastructural development   [   ]

c.   Social welfare service scheme   [   ]

18.   Would say that the government have achieved one goal of MDGs? Yes [   ]   No [   ]