
Effects of Niger Delta Militancy on the Economic Development of Nigeria (2006-2016)

Ikechukwu Dialoke (Ph.D) & Marshall S. Edeja

Department of Industrial Relation and Personnel Management

Michael Okpara University of Agriculture,

Umudike Umuahia Abia State

drikechukwudialoke@yahoo.com, marshallsundaye@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

The study focused on the effects of Niger Delta militancy on the economic development of Nigeria from 2006-2016. The study was based on secondary data extracted from CBN statistical bulletin for the various years, Federal Office of Statistical annual account (FOS) and Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC). Pearson Product Moment Correlation was used to analysed the data. The major finding revealed that: there is a negative and significant correlation between Niger Delta militancy activities and the economic development of Nigeria for the period of years under review. The researcher concluded that Nigerian economy is oil driven and a blow on the oil installations will be a blow on the economy, and recommends that the federal government, the environmental activists, and other stakeholders in the region should come together to chat a new road map to sustainable development of the region through dialogue, equitable oil revenue sharing formular, increase employment quota to the indigenes, sustenance of the amnesty and youth skill acquisition programmes, good governance by the various levels of government, provision of essential social infrastructure, as well as strict adherence to international environmental standards by the oil companies. Because unless the discontent that leads to the crises or agitation are resolved, and on time, the militancy could worsen and trigger off terror and insecurity in the region, which will further reduces the foreign direct investment and spur capital flight that will drastically cripple the economy.

Keywords: Niger Delta militancy, Economic Development of Nigeria.

1. INTRODUCTION

Economic development is the primary objective of the majority of the world's nations. Raising the well-being and socioeconomic capabilities of peoples everywhere is essentially the most crucial social task facing us today. Every year, aid is disbursed, investments are undertaken, policies are framed, and elaborate plans hatched to achieve this goal, or at least to get closer to it. This scenario best illustrate the situation of Nigeria as one of the developing countries of the world, which is paying more attention on how to accelerate the rate of development through the various sections of the economy. The discovery of crude oil in Nigeria in 1956 and in commercial quantity in 1958 at Oloibiri, raised the hopes of the government and people of the country, of having a future (oil-driven economy) that would be largely characterized by better life for all citizens.

Since then, oil has being contributing up to 80% of Nigerian economy, with this fact established, it is indisputably that Nigeria is one of the most richly endowed countries on the continent. It boasts of immense human and material resources, which provides opportunity for national development (Oyakorotu, 2008), notable among all, is the Niger Delta region which is richly

endowed with oil deposits. The Niger Delta region comprises all States recognized by the Federal Government as oil bearing. They include nine States of Abia, Akwa-ibom, Bayelsa, Cross-river, Deltas, Edo, Imo, Ondo, and Rivers until the recent inclusion of Lagos in 2016. The Niger Delta region comprising of these nine states is the 3rd largest wetland coming after the Mississippi in North Africa. The region covers area about 70,000sq km and accounts for 7.5% of Nigeria land mass and has a population of 25 million, 40 ethnic groups, speaking 250 differing dialects with about 3010 communities. However, one issue that has continued to attract national and global attention in recent times is the spate of militancy in the Niger Delta. The frequent attacks on oil installations and facilities by militant groups in the region have become a source of concern to peace lovers, scholars and policy makers alike, (Fidelis and Kimiebi, 2011).

Be it as it may, there has been a general feeling of insecurity, which is exacerbated by the high level of poverty in the region. The region is the heartbeat of the Nigeria's economy; yet, its abundant natural wealth stands in stark contrast to its palpable underdevelopment. The high rate of unemployment among the youths has helped to drive and sustain high levels of violence and criminality throughout the delta region, (Ikechukwu and Sampson, 2016). Dissatisfied with the condition under which the people live, the youths in the Niger Delta have become more restive than ever, but youth restiveness has instead of redress, attracted state violence, repression, suppression and brutalisation as exemplified by the killing of Ken Sarowiwo and 8 others Ogoni's.

The continuous suppression of peaceful agitations leaves the youths with no option than to militarize the struggle to match force with force, and these has led to the evolvement of many militant group within the region. Chiefly among them is the dreaded Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), Movement of the Niger Delta People (MONDP), Niger Delta Vigilante Force (NDVF), Niger Delta People Salvation Front, and Niger Delta Avengers that allegedly emerged in February 2016 with a mandate to paralyzed the economic activities of the country through its operation code; "Operation Red the Economy". In the quest to drive home their points, this militant groups has embarked on frequent attacks on oil installations, and facilities, the military and other law enforcement agencies, lives and property which has led to the destruction of my lives, oil installations in the region and have adversely depilated the economy leading to the declaration of Nigeria as a recess country in the last quarter of 2016. Thus, against this backdrop, the researcher considered it essential to embark on the study; "Effects of Niger Delta Militancy on the Economic Development of Nigeria from 2006-2016", with the intention to proffer a policy recommendation that will serve as a panacea to youth restiveness and civil unrest that have characterised the Niger Delta Region which is the heartbeat of Nigerian economy.

2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

The Concept of Militancy

Various definitions had been given to the term militancy. The word "militancy" can be understood as the acts of individuals, groups or parties displaying or engaging in violence, usually for a cause, whether religious, political, ideological, economic, or social. Nowadays, the term militant is synonymously used with the term 'terrorist.' (Quamruzzaman, 2010). Militancy is a state or condition of being combative or disposed to fight for a cause or belief (Chindah and Braide, 2000). It has also been defined as a violent response by an individual, group or sect in a region, community, state or nation due to claims of underdevelopment, political oppression,

religious beliefs and segregation. According to Ashimolowo and Odiachi (2012) the motive is that people want their rights and if they are not going to get it by negotiation, they simply will then have it by violence against the “powers that be.”

Hornby (2009) defined militia as an organized group of people comparable to a military force. Quamruzzaman (2010) was of the view that the contemporary sense of the term *militia* as “paramilitary force motivated by religious or political ideology, especially one that engages in rebel or terrorist activities in opposition to a regular army” is associated with the US usage in the early 1990s as applied to a number of rightwing groups opposed to gun control and distrustful of the federal government.

In modern times, various movements seek to apply militancy as a solution, or use militancy to rationalize their solutions for issues. But these movements do not share common tactics. Usually, a militant uses violence as part of a claimed struggle against oppression. Quamruzzaman (2010) stated that a militia movement has five dimensions ideology, motivation, mobilization, organization and ritual. This word is sometimes used to describe anyone with strongly held views (e.g., militant christian, militant atheist). A militant person or group expresses a physically aggressive posture while in support of an ideology or a cause. A militant person is confrontational regardless of physical violence or pacifistic methods. These forms of militancy are unique to the quest for resource control in the dealt oil rich region of Nigeria.

The Concept of Economic Development

The earliest concept of development was interpreted in terms of growth of output over time and later in terms of per capita output. The terms growth and development were used interchangeably. Economic development is thus a multivariate concept; hence there is no single satisfactory definition of it. Economic development is a process where low income national economies are transformed into modern industrial economies. It involves qualitative and quantitative improvements in a country’s economy. Political and social transformations are also included in the concept of economic development in addition to economic changes. Literally, economic development can be defined as “passage from lower to higher stage which implies change”.

Charles and Bruce (1958) pointed out that: “Economic development is generally defined to include improvements in material welfare especially for persons with the lowest incomes, the eradication of mass poverty with its correlates of illiteracy, disease and early death, changes in the composition of inputs and output that generally include shifts in the underlying structure of production away from agricultural towards industrial activities, the organization of the economy in such a way that productive employment is general among working age population rather than the situation of a privileged minority, and the correspondingly greater participation of broad based groups in making decision about the direction, economic and otherwise, in which they should move their welfare”. Drewnowski (1966) defines development in terms of economic and social welfare, “In the standard of living of people economic development is supportive and it involves increased per capita income and creation of new opportunities in education, healthcare, employment sectors. Development is of limited significance if it does not lead to economic welfare. Economic development implies increased per capita income and reduced income inequalities and satisfaction of the people as a whole”.

In the United Nations Human Development Report (1994) the same idea was highlighted. The report asserts: “Human beings are born with certain potential capabilities. The purpose of development is to create an environment in which all people can expand their capabilities, and

opportunities can be enlarged for both present and future generations. The real foundation of human development is universalism in acknowledging the life claims of everyone... Wealth is important for human life. But to concentrate on it exclusively is wrong for two reasons: First, accumulating wealth is not necessary for the fulfillment of some important human choices. Second, human choices extend far beyond economic well-being”.

Economic development is thus a broad concept which includes both economic and non-economic aspects. Referring to the issue of development Amartya Sen (1999) pointed out that “Development requires the removal of major sources of unfreedom, poverty as well tyranny, poor economic opportunities as well as systematic social deprivation, neglect of public facilities as well as intolerance or over activity of repressive states”. Presumably, when we speak of a developed society, we have in mind a world in which people are well fed and well clothed, have access to a variety of goods and services, possess the luxury of leisure and entertainment, and live in a healthy environment. We think of a society free of violent discrimination, with tolerable levels of equality, where the sick receive proper medical care and people do not have to sleep on the sidewalks. In short, most of us would insist that a minimal requirement for a “developed” nation is that its physical quality of life be high, uniformly so rather than restricted to an incongruously affluent minority.

The Emergence of Militancy in the Delta Oil Rich Region

The history of militancy in Nigeria can be traced back to the year 1966 when Isaac Adaka Boro led a campaign for fair deal in the Niger Delta Region through a rebellion with his Delta Volunteer Service (DVS) against the federal government. Though the revolt was crushed by the government but it brought about consciousness in the minds of the Niger Delta people on their right to access their God’s given wealth. Furthermore, the consciousness to bring to the international level, the suffering and deprivation of the people of Niger Delta was championed by Ken Saro-Wiwo in the 90s. He applied no violent means aimed at redressing the political and socio-economic wrongs imposed on the Niger Delta people through the platform of Movement for the Emancipation of the Ogoni People (MOSOP) founded in 1992, (Ejibunu,2007).

The then head of State general Sanni Abacha not being comfortable with the movement accused the leader of the group Ken Sarowiwa of inciting members of MOSOP to kill four Ogoni elders. He and eight other patriots were arraigned for trial in a military tribunal set up by Abacha led government. They were convicted and hanged in November, 1995. Far from the accusation leveled against Ken Sarowiwo by general Abacha, Ejibunu (2007), observed that his more likely crime was his effort to organize the Ogoni ethnic minority against destruction of their homeland by the operations of Shell and Chevron, the multinational oil companies and seek compensation for his peoples’ lost farmland and fisheries.

After a decade of the hanging of the Ken Sarowiwa, the potential consequences of the Niger Delta militancy and conflict have escalated in both human and economic term. This gave rise to the emergence of various militant groups to undermine the activities of the oil companies using different methods, tactics and strategies thereby daring the Nigeria State. Prominent among such groups are the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), the Joint Revolutionary Council (JRC), the Niger Delta People Volunteer Force (NDPVF) and Movement for the Survival of the Ijaw Ethnic Nationality (MOSEIN), and recently on February 2016 the Niger Delta Avengers (NDA) the little- known group at the time published its list of demands to President Muhammadu Buhari failing which the group would ground the Nigeria economy by attacking oil installations. In what the group termed, Operations Red Economy, it outlined its

grievance with Buhari's government. It condemned Buhari's lack of federal character in appointment and the fact that his anticorruption war was targeted at former President Goodluck Jonathan and the government's opposition figures.

Niger Delta Avenger's Attacks

Since the emergence of Niger Delta Avengers on February, 2016, the militant group has up to 10th day of June, 2016 carried out sixteen attacks on oil pipelines and facilities. The attacks and dates as reported by vanguard newspaper of 11th June, 2016 are as follows:

- 1) February 10, 2016 at about 1:30am Bonny Soku gas export line.
- 2) February 14, SPDC giant under water forcados 48-inch export pipeline
- 3) February 19, 3: 30am blew up the Clough creek Tebidaba Agip pipeline manifold in Bayelsa.
- 4) May 4th chevron value plat form located at Abitege.
- 5) May 5th launched a coordinated attack on the Chevron well D25 in Abitege
- 6) May 13th bombed a chevron pipeline at two separate sports near a military location
- 7) May 20 attacked Escravos gas pipeline, a facility of the NNPC in Delta state.
- 8) May 25th NDA struck chevron main electricity feed pipeline to the Escravos tank farm at Ciera Creek in Warri South-West local Government area of Delta state
- 9) May 27th destroyed the Nembe 1, 2, and 3 Brass to Bonny trunk lines belonging to Nigeria Agip Oil Company and shell petroleum development company SPDC in Bayelsa State at about 2.15am.
- 10) May 27: blew up NNPC gas and crude trunk lines in Warri at 11:45pm.
- 11) May 31: blew up chevron oil well RMP 23 and RMP 24 believed to the company's highest swamp producing oil wells at about 3:44am.
- 12) June 11, carried out twin attack on well RMP 23 and RMP 24 owned by Chevron Ng. Ltd located at Dibi in Warri south west local government area of Delta state.
- 13) June 2, about 2:00am bombed the Ogboinbiri to Tebiduba and Clough Creek to Tebidaba crude oil pipelines in Bayelsa state.
- 14) June 3 at about 3:00am, blew up the SPDC forcados 48 "Export line in Delta state because the company went ahead with repair works against its warning.
- 15) June 3 at about 3:30, strike team blew up brass to Tebidaba crude oil line in Bayelsa state.
- 16) June 9 at 3:00am of Friday, NDA blew up the Obi Obi brass trunk line belonging to Agip ENI. It is Agip is major crude oil live in Bayelsa state (Emma, 2016).

Since then many other coordinated attack have being observed in the delta oil rich region which seriously undermined Nigerian daily crude oil production, and adversely affects foreign transaction which deepen the dilapidation in the economy.

Causes of Niger Delta Militancy

Many researchers have given reasons for the continuous agitation and crises in the region which has resulted into militancy activities in the Niger Delta region. The militancy in the region which started early 2006 has been argued to have emerged as a result of years of political and economic marginalization, unemployment, abject poverty through neglect, unfair resource allocation from the federal account, environmental degradation, bad governance and policy inconsistency by the government, and the divide and rule policy of the oil companies.

Eke (2006) has observed that the main causes of the Niger Delta crises include greed, selfishness, deprivation and poverty and social injustice. Experts see social justice to imply that the same contribution equals the same benefits. A person's benefit equals his or her contributions and no community should be given more when it contributes less or be given less when it contributes more. That is the crux of the matter in the Niger Delta region. Eke (2006) has noted that the region is contributing a lot for the economic wellbeing of Nigeria and it is getting nothing but destruction in return. Thus without social justice, there will be no peace in the Niger Delta region and socioeconomic development will continue to elude the region.

Experts opined that social justice is an important ingredient for socioeconomic development since it creates a healthy, harmonious, reliable social psychological atmosphere that will stimulate economic development as no meaningful development can take place in an atmosphere of rancor. Ejibunu (2008) has identified other causes of the militancy to include:

1. Structural deficiency of the Nigeria Federation.
2. Poverty and deprivation of the means of livelihood.
3. Environmental damage occasioned by oil spillage, gas flaring, oil and pipeline explosions.
4. Lack of development and unemployment.
5. Distortions in the social and economic fabric of the local society.
6. Human right violations.
7. Bad government/corruptions.
8. Alleged insensitiveness of the federal government of Nigeria.
9. Divide and rule tactics of the oil companies.
10. Killing of Ken Sarowiwo and 8 others Ogoni's.

Other perceived causes of continued militancy in the region include:

- (a) The claim by the militancy and people of Niger Delta that Buhari government through intimidation was responsible to the death of DSP Alamisigha.
- (b) The fact that their illustrious son and former president Goodluck Jonathan lost the 2015 presidential election and accepted defeat.
- (c) The nonfulfillment of federal government's amnesty program initiated by late President Musa Yaradua. About 30,000 ex-militants who were placed on N65, 000, (\$206) monthly allowance could not be paid as at when due.
- (d) The claim that NDCC boss was wrongly appointed by president Buhari as the appointee is not from the region.
- (e) The non-implementation of the oil revenue sharing formular by the federal government. From 1968- 1981, the region did not receive any share of the oil revenue from the federal government.

The Various Forms of Militant Activities in the Niger Delta Region

1. Attack on Military

Movement of the Niger Delta People (MONDP), Martyr Brigade (MB), Freedom Freelance Fights (FFF), Niger Delta Vigilante Force (NDVF), Niger Delta People Salvation Front etc., have engaged the joint military task force drafted by government to enthrone peace and security of lives and property. Most of the attacks with sophisticated weapons have led to loss of lives of many soldiers and law enforcement agents especially the recent activities of the Niger Delta Avengers (NDA).

2. Attacks on Lives and Property

They have created general insecurity, Jan 10, 2006 kidnap of four foreign workers of SPDC, Jan 11, 2006 four expatriates of SPDC abducted, May 10, MEND abducted nine foreigners of WILBROS at SPDC, May 1 and 3, 2007 14 expatriates were taken hostage. 16 Pipelines vandalization by NDA have been recorded as at July, 2016.

3. Kidnapping

As at 2008, about 200 expatriates have been kidnapped through militant activities.

4. Hostage taking

The militants most times engage in hostage taking of their victims especially the expatriate oil workers.

5. Illegal Oil Bunkering Activities

According to a report of the Brussels based international crises group, Nigeria lost about 30,000 to 70,000 barrels of oil per day to illegal bunkering.

6. Attack on Water Ways or Continental Waters

Militancy activities of oil pipeline vandalisation has led to destruction of aquatic life through oil spillage and the pollution of streams and rivers that serve the local people for domestic activities.

7. Organized Mafia Crime

The activities of the militancy's has led to other organized mafia crime activities with the oil producing communities, which includes; stealing, kidnaping, unlawful possession of fire arms etc.

Effect of Militancy in Niger Delta Region

Nigeria economy has been seriously affected by the activities of the Niger Delta militants. According to the minister of works and housing, Babatunde Fashola on this day newspaper of 23rd August, 2016, power dropped from 5074mw in February, 2016 to 2000mw due to militant attack on forcado subsea pipeline power generator. This drastic drop in power supply has negatively affected power distribution throughout the states of the federation and had negative impact on the industries due to increased operational overhead cost from powering of the industrial plants with diesel.

Hostage takings by the militants and political instability are injurious to the economy, as it induces capital flight or slows foreign direct investment. Capital flight has multiplier effect on an economy. It impedes business investment, economic growth and productivity, spurs inflation and unemployment and negatively affects the living standards of the people. Political instability negatively affects a nation's national income. When investors, individuals in the society perceive the crises as a serious threat to their investment and savings, they will sell off their assets and buy assets in other politically secure and stable societies. Punch (Feb. 12, 2006) reported the refusal of most expatriates to be posted to riverside field but on shore. Much money was spent on provision of security. This has the implication of increasing overhead cost by the firms.

Nigerians unemployment figure rose to 22.45million, as job loss hits 710,693 in the first year of Buhari's administration. Banking sector had the highest impact on job losses through retrenchment; Zenith 1,200, Sky 175, Diamond 400, Ecobank I040, Fidelity 500, and shipping

industry 3000 employees (Vanguard, 2016/03/22). Tribune of 1st September, 2016 reported that 1,000,000 Nigerians lost their jobs in 3 months. Eboh and Ejoh (2016) in Vanguard Newspaper of August, 2016 reported that oil output dropped to 295million barrels in 5months with a short fall of 36.15million barrels or 10.91% from 331.24 recorded in the proceeding five months of August- December, 2015. January – May 2016 output translates to an average daily crude output of 1.97million barrel per day (mbpd) according to data released by the NNPC and it is a reflection of production shut-ins following increased militancy siege on oil installations. United States Energy Information Administration (EIA) had put the average crude oil price for the first five months of 2016 at USD 37.882 per barrel, compared to an average of USD 44.97 per barrel in the last five months of 2015. This meant that Nigeria earned about USD 11.18Billion in the first five month of 2016, an equivalent of N2.2Trillion using the official exchange rate of N197 to a dollar as at that period.

Month- on month analysis of the country's crude oil output showed a steady decline. The monthly output of the period are January, 2016, 66.49 million, 2.22 million barrel per day and February 59.27 million, 1.98million barrels per day. In the months of March, April, and May 2016, monthly oil production are 59.43 million, 59.56 million and 52.34 million barrels respectively, representing a daily average of 1.91, 1.99 and 1.74 million barrels per day. The minister of state for petroleum Ibe Kachukwu noted that between January and February 2016 over 1,600 incidents of vandalization was recorded resulting in a loss of 109 million liters of petroleum products and 560,000 barrels of crude oil to refineries. This shows that a total of 2.2 million barrels per day targeted in the budget fails by 29.1% as output was 1.59 mbpd with a shortfall of 0.7mbpd and thus requires 1.1 mbpd between the month of August 2016 and year end to meet the annual production target.

NNPC report indicated that Nigeria lost 643 million litres of crude oil or N51.28 billion as a result of 3,000 incidences of pipeline vandalization in 2015. NNPC reports that between 2010-2015, it recorded 18,000 incidences of pipeline vandalization while the figure for January to May, 2016, no fewer than 1,447 incidents leading to loss of 109 million of litres of petroleum products and 560,000 barrels of crude oil to refineries were recorded (Vanguard, August, 2016). In 2016 a total of 1600 incidents of pipeline vandalization was recorded in two (2) months as against 3000 in 12months of 2015.The record of 3000 pipeline vandalization shows a monthly average of 250 incidences as against average of 800 incidents recorded between January and February, 2016.This shows an increase of 220% pipeline vandalized in the year 2016 compared to 2015. The 2015 International Monetary Fund (IMF) report showed that Nigeria has dropped from 1st to 2nd position as the largest economy in Africa with a GDP of \$296 billion while South Africa with a GDP of \$ 301 billion rand's ranks first position in Africa.

Nigeria was officially declared by bureau of statistics as a recessed economy on 1st September, 2016. The National Bureau of Statistics(NBS) report on Vangaurd 1st September, 2016 showed a constant contraction of Nigeria GDP basic prices in the 2nd quarter of 2016(Q2'16) by 2.06% after shrinking 0.3 in Q1'16. The decline is attributed to a weaker currency, low oil prices resulting in depressed public finance and the value of the naira. Compounding the impact of low oil price is the attack by the militancy on oil and gas facilities in the southern Niger delta since the start of 2016 which has cut crude production by about 700,000 barrels per day (bpd) to 1.56 million bpd against government 2016 budget assumption of 2.2 million bpd. The country's

annual inflation rate rose to 17.1% in July from 16.5% in June which is more than 10year high, while fund inflation rose to 15.8% from 15.3%.

Nigeria attracted just \$647.1 million of capital in the 2nd quarter. Nigeria economy was last in recession more than a year in 1991 but experienced prolonged recession from 1982-1984. The naira remained at record low of N423 per dollar in the black market due to dollar shortages though offered at rates as weak as 365.25.

Theoretical Framework

The study is anchored on the underpinning theory of militancy; Frustration-Aggression Theory.

Frustration-Aggression Theory

The frustration-aggression theory is associated with works of John Dollard *et al.*, (1939), the core assumption of which is that “aggression is always a consequence of frustration” (Amaraegebu, 2011). The authors argued that individuals are motivated to achieve life ambitions and fulfill destiny, but when these expectations are thwarted, frustration sets in. According to Afinotan and Agagu (2008), when there is a gap between the level of value expectation and the level of value attainment, due to lack of capability to establish a congruence between both levels, tension builds up to the pressure of an unfulfilled aspiration or an unsatisfied urge or need. This when not arrested on time leads to frustration. Frustration when it builds up, leads to the rising up of suppressed emotion of anger which is often directed against the party considered to be the source of deprivation of satisfaction. This strong emotion finally finds an outlet through aggression and violent disposition towards the environment. The armed insurrection against military and civilian targets in the Niger Delta by militant youths, directed against government and foreign oil companies could be viewed from this perspective. Be it as it may, it is important to note that the existence of frustration does not always lead to aggression, given that frustration may have other consequences other than aggression. However, the argument may have failed to differentiate between instigation to aggression and the real incidence of aggression, but this paper acknowledges that frustration generates inquiries to various types of consequences, which may include instigation to certain kind of aggression. Aggression may develop as a consequence of having been exposed to an extremely frustrating condition sufficient to provoke the experience of hopelessness. It is true that schism exists among the regions’ various ethnic groups, but frustration occasioned as a result of a sense of despair and deprivation, environmental and developmental issues, transnational oil companies that neglect the ethos of corporate social responsibility are among the likes. The response of Niger Delta youths to the Nigerian state’s neglect and apathy of oil multinationals in the region radicalized them into violent militancy (Amaraegebu, 2011). Thus, militants activities in Nigeria’s Niger Delta region is mostly motivated by frustration created by deprivation and threat to life, property and peace coexistence of the indigenes by Nigeria government and multinational oil companies operating within the region.

3 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research is designed specifically to measure the effects of Niger Delta Militancy on the economic development of Nigeria from 2006-2016. It focuses on the model adopted in the estimation and description of the instrument used for the presentation and analysis of the data. Consequently, the study depended on secondary data for in-depth study and analysis of the data collected, the common structural patterns have firmly been established on the basis of analytical,

statistical and econometric techniques, and testing of the correlation between the estimated monetary lost by Nigeria government through militancy activities in the Niger Delta region from 2006-2016 and GDP which serve as the proxy of economic development. Pearson Product Correlation analysis was adopted in the analysis of the data collected with the aid of Statistical Packages for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20. It was as a result of the massive destruction of oil installations and other valuable assets in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria by the militant groups and the obvious economic recession that Nigeria economy is undergoing presently that an attempt is made by the researcher to statistically established the effect of the damages caused by the militancy groups on the economic development of Nigeria for a decade now and continue counting. The data required was obtained from the following sources: CBN statistical bulletin for the various years, Federal office of statistical annual account (FOS) and Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC).

4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Table 1. Showing Pearson Product Moment Correlation analysis result on the effects of Niger Delta militancy on the economic development of Nigeria.

Variable	Correlation Coefficient	t- value
Economic Development	-0.971	-0.974**
N	10	
P – Value	0.000	

Source: CBN Statistical Bulletin for the various years, Federal Office of Statistical Annual Account

** Significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

The correlation analysis result in Table 1, indicated that at $P > 0.01$ level of significance, Niger Delta militancy have a strong negative effects on the economic development of Nigeria with correlation coefficient of ($r = -0.971$). Signifying that there is a negative and significant correlation between Niger Delta militancy activities and the economic development of Nigeria for the period of years under review. Thus, the results revealed that as the militancy activities continue unabated in the oil rich region, Nigeria economy continue to experience trauma and decrepitude. Little wonder Nigeria was declaring a recess economy in the last quarter of 2016.

The findings correlate with the findings of Eke, (2006) who posited that militants' activities have caused political instability and are injurious to the economy, as it induces capital flight or slows foreign direct investment. Capital flight has multiplier effect on an economy. Since the emergence of this dread group the socio-economic activities of the region has greatly been destroyed and the Nigeria economy is in distress due to oil pipeline and installation vandalization which has resulted in decreased oil output even when the country's revenue has seriously dwindled due to decline in international market oil prices, increased rate of unemployment and inflation. In like manner Tamuno, (2011) and Njoku, (2015) opined that the militants nearly destroyed the oil industry and, by extension, the national economy which depends heavily on oil revenue.

CONCLUSION

It is undisputable that Nigerian economy is oil driven and a blow on the oil installations will be a blow on the economy. Thus the need to arrest youth restiveness in the oil rich Niger Delta region cannot be succinctly stated to ensure that there will be a regrowth of the economy. Therefore

Federal government should facilitate the proposed dialoged with the region environmental activists, and other stakeholders in the region should come together to chat a new road map to sustainable development of the region through dialogue, equitable oil revenue sharing formular, increase employment quota to the indigenes, sustenance of the amnesty and youth skill acquisition programmes, good governance by the various levels of government, provision of essential social infrastructure, as well as strict adherence to international environmental standards by the oil companies. This becomes imperative because unless the discontent that leads to the crises or agitation are resolved, and on time, the militancy could worsen and trigger off terror and insecurity in the region, which will further reduces the foreign direct investment and spur capital flight that will drastically cripple the economy. Hence, when the recommendation is implemented, this will reduce insecurity in the region and create the enabling environment that will attract foreign direct investments, and increase the daily production of crude oil, which will increased Nigeria position in the international market and restore the recessed economy.

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