Politics, Governance and the Challenges of Food Security in South - South Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria

Ugbong, Moses Bekwapu
Department of Educational Management
Faculty of Educational Foundation Studies, University of Calabar, Calabar.
moses.2cchrist@yahoo.com

Dr. Amos, Paul Imeh
Department of Environmental Education
Faculty of Science Education, University of Calabar, Calabar
paulizz4real8285@gmail.com

Ukeh, David Undiukeye
Department of Educational Foundations
Faculty of Educational Foundation Studies, University of Calabar, Calabar.
ukehdavid52@gmail.com
DOI: 10.56201/jpslr.v11.no1.2025.pg52.63

Abstract
The study examines the effect of politics and governance on food security in the South-South geopolitical zone of Nigeria. The correlational research design was adopted for the study. Three states in South South geopolitical zones and one thousand two hundred (1200) respondents were selected for the study through simple random sampling techniques. Four points likert scale questionnaire and twenty (20) oral interview questions were used to collect data from the selected respondents. Pearson Product Moment Correlation statistical analysis was used to analyze the collected data and analyzed via the SPSS package.

Introduction

In the world over, food security has been a major challenge affecting societies. This challenge of food security seems to be associated with political instability and bad governance which are increasingly regarded as the root causes of all evil within our societies. With the discovery of crude oil in Nigeria in 1956 by Shell-BP in Oliobiri in the Niger Delta region and the boom in crude oil prices in the 1970s, the Nigeria Government in general and the governments of the south geopolitical zone in particular, drifted their focus from the Agricultural production which was the mainstay of the people to crude oil. The money accrued from the oil sales changed the status of the government and individuals and their taste from local to foreign food. Thus, causes both the government and advantaged individuals to shift their preference from local food to foreign

food and thereby causing them to rely heavily on imported food. This drift and lack of attention to Agricultural and factors such as oil spillage from crude oil drilling, poor governance and political tension and instability seem to cause reduction in Agricultural production, thereby resulting in food insecurity and shortage.

Also, food insecurity is a fundamental problem presently in Nigeria and the South South geopolitical zone due to a combination of factors such as economic, social, environmental, and political issues. Nigeria's economy, heavy reliant on oil, has faced volatility due to fluctuating oil prices and then recent fuel subsidy removal. This economic instability has led to high inflation, reduction in purchasing power and increased poverty, making it difficult for many Nigerians and the people of South South region to afford sufficient food. Worst still, the activities of militants and intercommunal conflicts in South South region have caused   displacement of thousands of rural farmers. This displacement disrupts agricultural activities, reduces arable food crops production and access to markets, exacerbating food insecurity. More so, the unpredicted heavy rain fall, flood, erosion and land degradation resulting from oil spillage in South South region negatively affect Agricultural production and thereby cause food shortage and insecurity. Another perceived cause of food insecurity in the South South geopolitical zone is inadequate infrastructural facilities such as poor transportation networks and insufficient storage facilities. These issues lead to post-harvest losses and inefficiencies in the food supply chain. Again, Global food price fluctuations and supply chain disruptions (e.g., due to the COVID-19 pandemic or international conflicts) also impact Nigeria and South South region's food security. Since the country imports a significant portion of its food, global events can lead to shortages and increased prices. Additionally, outdated farming techniques and limited access to modern agricultural inputs reduce crop yields. Inconsistent and sometimes ineffective agricultural policies, coupled with corruption, hinder efforts to improve food security. Subsidies and support for farmers often do not reach the intended beneficiaries, and investment in the agricultural sector is often inadequate.

However, whenever the discourse of the challenge of food security in Nigeria in general and in South South in particular, pops up in the academic circle, the factors described above are always projected by scholars and researchers as the major causes of food insecurity in the region. Thus, these scholars and researchers often leave out or pay very little attention to politics and governance which are perceived in the world over as the root cause of all evil in societies across the globe. This study therefore seeks to investigate the effect of politics and governance on food security in South South geopolitical zone, Nigeria.

Literature Review:

The literature review is focused on the concepts embedded in the topic and the two formulated null hypotheses. It covers both the theoretical and the empirical review.

The word "politics" is derived from the Ancient Greek word "politika" and it denotes "affairs of the cities" . Politics is the set of activities that are associated with making decisions in groups, or other forms of power relations among individuals, such as the distribution of status or resources

(leftwich, 2015). Politics refers to the art or science of governing a country, state, or organization. It involves making decisions that affect the lives of citizens, stakeholders, or members of an organization. Politics encompasses various aspects such as governance, power, policy, political parties, political systems, political behavior, political culture, political economy and internal relation. Politics cover aspects such as classical politics, modern politics and contemporary politics (Meta AI).

Merriam Websters online Dictionary (2024) defined politics as " the art or science of government; the art or science concerned with guiding or influencing governmental policy or the art or science concerned with winning and holding control over a government Politics involves the activities, actions, and policies used to gain and hold power in a government or to influence the government. It includes the discussion and debate around the governance of a country, the creation and enforcement of laws, and the management of public resources. Politics can also refer to the various ideologies, strategies, and processes through which people and groups seek to influence decisions and achieve goals within a society (Chat GPT).

According to Ekpenyong (2024), politics is all about propaganda, lobbying, diplomacy and showcasing. In summary, politics is a complex and multifaceted field that affects various aspects of our lives. The branch of social science that studies politics and government is referred to as political science. Understanding politics is essential for making informed decisions, engaging in civic activities, and contributing to the betterment of societies. Politics plays a vital role in shaping the direction of societies, economies, and individuals. It influences decision-making processes, resource allocation, social justice economic development, international cooperation and conflict resolution. Engaging with politics allows individuals to participate in decision-making processes, hold leaders accountable, advocate for their interests, shape the future of their communities and promote social change.

The concept of "governance" is not new. It is as old as human civilization. Simply put "governance" means: the process of decision-making and the process by which decisions are implemented (or not implemented). Elechi, Etea and Mbanusi (2023) point out that Governance is politics in action and because it is a crucial determinant of authoritative allocation of resources such as public goods in a country or region . Governance can be used in several contexts such as corporate governance, international governance, national governance and local governance (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, n.d). Governance refers to the processes, structures, and practices that ensure effective and responsible management of organizations, institutions, or systems. It involves the establishment and enforcement of policies, procedures, and laws that guide decision-making, accountability, and transparency.

Governance encompasses various aspects such as   leadership,   accountability, transparency, participation, rule of law, integrity, stewardship and oversight (Meta AI). Governance refers to the processes, structures, and systems through which an organization, institution, or government exercises authority and makes decisions. It encompasses the mechanisms, rules, and practices that ensure accountability, transparency, responsiveness, and the

rule of law. Good governance involves the equitable and efficient management of resources, the inclusion of stakeholders in decision-making, and the protection of citizens' rights (Chat GPT). According to the Governance Institute of Australia (2019), governance encompasses the system by which an organisation is controlled and operates, and the mechanisms by which it, and its people, are held to account. Ethics, risk management, compliance and administration are all elements of governance.

Governance is the overall complex system or framework of processes, functions, structures, rules, laws and norms borne out of the relationships, interactions, power dynamics and communication within an organized group of individuals which not only sets the boundaries of acceptable conduct and practices of different actors of the group and controls their decision-making processes through the creation and enforcement of rules and guidelines, but manages, allocates and mobilizes relevant resources and capacities of different members and sets the overall direction of the group in order to effectively address its specific collective needs, problems and challenges. The concept of governance can be applied to social, political or economic entities (groups of individuals engaged in some purposeful activity) such as a state and its government (public administration), a governed territory, a society, a community, a social group (like a tribe or a family), a formal or informal organization, a corporation, a non-governmental organization, a non-profit organization, a project team, a market, a network or even the global stage.

Governance can also pertain to a specific sector of activities such as land, environment, health, internet, security, etc (Hufty, 2011, Bevir, 2012, Cambridge Advancd Dictionary and Thesaurus, 2024). In the context of government, governance involves how public institutions conduct public affairs, manage public resources, and ensure the realization of human rights. It includes the interaction between formal institutions (like the government, judiciary, and bureaucracy) and informal practices (such as cultural norms or power dynamics). In summary, governance is the framework that ensures responsible and effective management of organizations, institutions, and systems, promoting accountability, transparency, and integrity. According to United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, n.d, good governance has 8 major characteristics. It is participatory, consensus oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive and follows the rule of law.

Effective governance is essential for building trust and credibility, ensuring accountability and transparency, promoting ethical decision-making, managing risk and crises, fostering collaboration and partnerships, driving innovation and growth, protecting the interests of stakeholders and upholding the rule of law and integrity The South South geopolitical zone of Nigeria, comprising states like Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River, Delta, Edo, and Rivers, is a region rich in natural resources, particularly oil and gas. However, despite its wealth, the zone faces significant challenges related to politics, governance, and food security.

The term "food security" first emerged in the mid-1970s, at the World Food Conference (1974). During the conference food security was defined in terms of supply of food—assuring the availability and price stability of basic foodstuffs at the international and national leve [FAO cited

in Saheed, 2017] . Since the World Food Conference of 1974, the concept of food security has evolved into what is now generally agreed the standard definition which was adopted during the World Food Summit in 1996. Food security refers to the state in which all people, at all times, have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life (Saheed, 2017). Food security also denotes food availability, affordability, accessibility and sustainability at a given period of time. It is when all people at all times have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life (World Food Summit quoted in Nwoba and Aboke, 2024).

The United States Development Agency cited in Nwoba and Aboke, 2024, asserts that "food security for a household means access by all members at all times to enough food for active, healthy life. Food security includes at a minimum" The ready availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods an assured ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways (i.e. without resorting to emergency food supplies, scavenging, stealing, or coping strategies)". Food security is the state of having reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food. The availability of food for people of any class, gender or religion is another element of food security. Similarly, household food security is considered to exist when all the members of a family, at all times, have access to enough food for an active, healthy life (Food security in the United States Cited in Wikipedia, 2019).

The World Food Summit, 1996, agreed that food security "exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. From this definition, four components of food security are identifiable: availability, access, utilization and stability of food. Based on the practical guide of Food Security Information for Action, all four components must be satisfied (Nwoba and Aboke, 2024). Food security is a condition where all people at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life (FAO cited in Simpa and Emmanuel, 2015). Food security is situated on four pillars and these are, food availability, food accessibility , food affordability and food sustainability.

Food availability refers to the physical, social and economic access to sufficient and nutritious food by all people and at all times. Such food must satisfy the dietary needs and preference of the people. It also denotes the amount of food physically available in a region or place. It equally entails the consistent supply of adequate quantities of food, which can be affected by factors such as agricultural production, food imports, and stock levels. To a great extent, food availability depends on the level of local production, imports, stock levels and net trade in food items.

Food accessibility refers to economic, social and physical access to food by all people at all times. It is the ability of individuals to obtain food, which depends on factors like income, food prices, and access to markets. It suggests that adequate amount of food is available at the regional, national or international level does not imply it is accessible at household level. It must be locally accessible and affordable.

Food affordability refers to the ability of individuals or households to purchase sufficient, nutritious food without compromising their ability to meet other essential needs like housing, healthcare, and education. It is a critical aspect of food security and public health, as inadequate access to affordable food can lead to malnutrition, poor health outcomes, and increased social inequality (Chat GPT)

Food sustainability refers to practices and systems that ensure the production, distribution, and consumption of food in ways that protect the environment, promote economic viability, and support social equity. The goal of food sustainability is to meet current food needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable food systems aim to balance the need for food security with environmental protection, economic fairness, and social equity, ensuring that the food we produce and consume today does not harm future generations (Chat GPT) .Food insecurity equally implies either existence of hunger as a result of problems of availability, accessibility and utilization or susceptibility to hunger in the future (FAO quoted by Simpa and Emmanuel, 2015).

According to Amaza, Abdoulaye, Kwaghe, and Tegbaru (2009), a household that does not know where her next meal would come from is food unsecure. Food security is an important element in national security. Food unsecured persons are aggressive. Food insecurity results in social disorder and discontentment among the people. A food secured populace would be more productive. Food insecurity scenario is anti-social and makes man less human. An ideal environment is likely to thrive if people are able to meet their food requirements (Simpa & Emmanuel, 2015).

Food security for the governed is one of the ingredients of government that is committed to good governance in a civilized and democratic dispensation. Good governance and food security are prerequisites for growth and sustainable development and stable democracy. Food insecurity is one of the major elements of national security (Nyangwesoi, Odhaiambo, Odungari, Koriri, Kipsat, and Serem cited in Simpa and Emmanuel, 2015). Food insecurity is engendered by bad governance, because advancement in food production depends on existence of favourable environment such as social stability, a clear and equitable regulatory framework, an enabling economic framework based on macroeconomic development and appropriate agricultural policies (Simpa &Emmanuel, 2015).

Food security is at the top of the Millennium development Goals (MDGs). Though, over 60 countries made great success in their effort to meet the MDG hunger target of halving the population of food insecure people between 1990 and 2015, food security has remained one of the greatest challenges in sub-Saharan Africa. To achieve food security; agricultural production must be practiced with the deepest sense of national responsibility by way of sustainable policy environment, reliable policy instruments and professionally sound and stable institutional framework. All these conditions are borne out of political stability and good governance (Simpa and Emmanuel, 2015).

Politics and food security in South South geopolitical zone.

In his 2022 seminar paper on the impact of politics and land dispute on food security in Cross River State, Ekpo found out that Political instability and conflicts disrupt agricultural activities, displace farmers, and lead to the destruction of crops and infrastructure which in turn reduces food production, disrupts food supply chains, and creates food shortage in Cross River State. Similarly, Oshita in his 2023 study on the effect of politics and crude oil spillage on food security in South South geopolitical zone, discovered that the political economy of the South-South zone is heavily reliant on crude oil, which has impacted political decisions concerning economic diversification. politicians vested interests in the oil sector have slowed efforts to develop agriculture and other non-oil sectors. This lack of diversification limits the region's ability to achieve food security, as the agricultural sector remains underdeveloped. He also discovered that the political emphasis on oil revenue has resulted in the negligence of agriculture as a priority sector. He equally discovered that political leaders the South South region prioritized oil exploration and extraction over agricultural development and this results in underinvestment in the agricultural sector. This has reduced food production capacity, increased dependence on food imports, and heightened vulnerability to food insecurity.

More so, he found out that political choices that prioritize oil industry interests have resulted in poor environmental governance, leading to extensive land and water pollution. Again, he perceived that oil spills and gas flaring have devastated agricultural lands and fisheries, which are vital for food security. He concluded that Politics plays a critical role in shaping food security in the South-South zone of Nigeria.Political decisions regarding resource allocation, land use, environmental management, and economic policy have far-reaching implications for the agricultural sector and food security.

Also, Nwoba and Oboke (2024) in their study on "Re-thinking Rural Land Conflict and the Narrative of Food Security in the Development of South East, Nigeria" found that there is strong nexus between rural land conflict which is part of communal politics and food security. Rural land conflict remains pervasive and a threat not only to food security but to regional development of South East of Nigeria. In his 2021 paper on the impact of political negligence of Agricultural infrastructure development on food security in Yala local government Area of Cross River State, Ochagu revealed that Political negligence of Agricultural infrastructure development such as poor road networks, inadequate storage facilities, and unreliable power supply has serious implications on food security as it makes it difficult for farmers to produce, store, and transport food effectively . This not only reduces the availability of food but also increases post-harvest losses, further exacerbating food insecurity. He recommended that political support for youth engagement in agriculture is vital for the future of food security in the local government area and that encouragement of youths's in participation Agriculture through policies that provide access to land, credit, and training can enhance food production and economic stability.

Equally, Oderinde, Akano, Adesina and Omotayo (2022), in their paper on "Trends in climate, socioeconomic indices and food security in Nigeria: Current realities and challenges

ahead", found that temperature increase, political instability, rising food prices and erratic energy supply have significant negative consequences on food affordability, availability, security and stability.

Governance and food security in South South geopolitical zone

In his seminar paper on the impact of governance on food security in Cross River State in 2022, Ibor made the following findings: Poor governance and lack of government interest in Agriculture cause food shortage and insecurity; Governance failure in the poor implementation of agricultural policies, misallocation of resources, and lack of continuity in programmes, undermine efforts to boost food production and secure food supply chains; Poor governance in terms of corruption where government officials divert or mismanaged funds meant for agricultural production t and food security programmes causes food unavailability, inaccessibility and insecurity; Poor regulatory frameworks and lack of support for farmers, and ineffective land use policies by the government cause food insecurity in the state; inadequate governance give birth to lack of comprehensive strategies for climate change adaptation in agriculture, leaving the state vulnerable to extreme weather challenges like flooding, which disrupt food production and supply.

In their 2023 paper on " The impact of food aid and governance on food and nutrition security in Sub- Saharan Africa", Olusegun and George found evidence of a robust relationship between food aid, governance quality, and food and nutrition security outcomes by employing the GMM estimator. They also found out that food aid increases food and nutrition security while it reduces undernourishment. Among the various governance quality indicators they employed, the control of corruption and political stability show a significant relationship with the measured outcomes. However, the composite governance index and food aid jointly have no significant effect on food security, but they significantly increase nutrition security and reduce undernourishment across the various empirical models they employed in their empirical analysis. An important policy lesson emanating from their empirical findings is that controlling corruption and maintaining political stability may have significant implications for promoting the impact of food aid on food and nutrition security in the region.

In their 2022 paper on the implication of good governance on food security in Nigeria, Simpa and Peter found out that food security is an important ingredient of good governance and stable democracy and indispensable element of national security, but it is not being given its appropriate place in good governance by public office holders. They also discover that agriculture that supplies the food needs of the country faces the problem of inconsistent, unworkable and discontinued agricultural policies among others. Variables that could make agricultural policy workable were itemized. The study conclude that food insecurity arises from low agricultural production due to production hurdles and inadequate and not well implemented and unmonitored agricultural policies and the rural small holders who are the producers of food do not consider farming as business. It was recommended that public office holders should consider provision of food security

as an important element of good governance, plan and equate supply and demand of food and educate the rural peasant farmers to see farming as business for profit making.

Statement of the problem

Over the last few decades, the issue of food security and shortage has been a serious challenge in South South geopolitical zone especially in oil producing states like Bayelsa, Delta, Rivers and Akwa Ibom State. In spite of the efforts of the Nigerian federal government, along with state governments in the South-South to initiate various programmes such as the Green Alternative policy, Operation Feed the Nation, Lower River Basin Development Authorities, Green Revolution and regulatory bodies like the Directorate of Foods, Roads and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI) and National Agricultural and Land Development Authority (NALDA) to combat the challenge of food insecurity and improve Agricultural production , the efforts are often thwarted by poor implementation and lack of continuity.

Also, the efforts by various international bodies and NGOs to address food security in the region with attention on capacity building, sustainable farming practices, and environmental conservation have yet not salvaged the situation. Thus, leaving the challenge of food shortage escalating in the zone at lamentable rate. Whenever the problem of food security appear in Nigeria or more specifically South South academic discourse and research, the focus is always placed on factors like land degradation, government policies, intercommunal conflicts, militants activities, lack of youths interest in Agriculture, etc, which are birthed by bad governance and political power play, as been responsible for the problem. But little or no attention is given to the holistic problem which is poor governance and politics which are known in the world over as the root causes of evil in societies across the globe. This paper therefore seeks to investigate the effect of politics and governance on food security in South South geopolitical zones of Nigeria.

Purpose of the study

The purpose of this study is to examine the effect of politics and governance on food security in South South geopolitical zone of Nigeria. Specifically, this study is aimed at examining:

1. The effect of politics on food security in South South geopolitical zone.

2. The effect of governance on food security in South South geopolitical zone.

Statement of hypotheses

The following null hypothesis are formulated to guide this study:

1. There is no significant effect of politics on food security in South South geopolitical zone.

2. There is no significant effect of governance on food security in South South geopolitical zone.

Research questions:

The following research questions are posed to give focus to this study:

1. In what way does politics affect food security in South South geopolitical zone?

2 In what way does governance affects food security in South South geopolitical zone?

Methodology

The study adopted the Correlational research design. The population of this study comprises all the 4,406,200 adults (both male and female) in the six states of South South geopolitical zone.The simple random sampling technique was used to select two hundred (200) respondents.The instrument used for the data collection was a questionnaire titled: Effect of Politics and Governance on Food Security Questionnaire (EPGFSQ) was developed by the researchers and was validated by experts in the Department of Educational Management and Measurement and Evaluation in the Department of Educational Foundations in Faculty of Education, University of Calabar, Calabar. The instrument was divided into two Sections. A and B. Section A sought for respondents' demographic data such as the name of the university, and qualification. Section B consisted of ten (10) items constructed in a four (4) point modified Likert scale ranging from strongly Agree (SA) 4 points, agree (A) 3 points, disagree (D) 2 points, and Strongly Disagree (SD) 1 point. Data collected were subjected to statistical analysis using Pearson Product Moment Correlation Statistical Analysis of Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) version 25 was used for data analysis and the results are presented as follows.

Results

Hypothesis 1:

There is no significant effect of politics on food security in South South geopolitical zone. Pearson Product Moment Correlation Statistical Analysis was then employed to test this hypothesis. The result of the analysis is presented in Table 1.

TABLE .1

Summary of correlation analysis of the relationship between effect of politics on food security in South South geopolitical zone (n=200)

Variables	Mean	Std. Dev.	t cal.	p-value
Effect of politics	16.84	2.446		
			$.825^*$	.001
Food security	15.80	2.622		

*Significant at .05 level; df= 198 critical- r = .138

The result in Table 1 reveals that the calculated R-value of .825* was found greater than the critical value of .138 when tested at .05 level of significance with 198 degrees of freedom. Therefore, the

null hypothesis was rejected while the alternative hypotheses were accepted. This implies that there is a significant relationship between effect of politics on food security in South South geopolitical zone.

Hypothesis:2

There is no significant effect of governance on food security in South South geopolitical zone. Pearson Product Moment Correlation Statistical Analysis was employed to test this hypothesis. The result of the analysis is presented in Table 2.

TABLE .2

Summary of correlation analysis of the relationship between effect of governance on food security in South South geopolitical zone (n=200)

Variables	Mean	Std. Dev.	t cal.	p-value
Effect of governance	16.85	2.495		
			.809*	.001
Food security	15.80	2.621		

*Significant at .05 level; df= 198 critical- r = .138

The result in Table 2 reveals that the calculated R-value of .809* was found greater than the critical value of .138 when tested at .05 level of significance with 198 degrees of freedom. Therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected while the alternative hypotheses were accepted. This implies that there is a significant relationship between effect of governance on food security in South South geopolitical zone.

Discussion of the findings

The result of hypothesis one showed that there is a significant effect of politics on food security in South South geopolitical zone. The resulting finding is in agreement with the results of Ekpenyong (2024) who opined that politics is all about propaganda, lobbying, diplomacy and showcasing. politics is a complex and multifaceted field that affects various aspects of our lives. Politics plays a vital role in shaping the direction of societies, economies, and individuals. It influences decision-making processes, resource allocation, social justice economic development, international cooperation and conflict resolution. Engaging with politics allows individuals to participate in decision-making processes, hold leaders accountable, advocate for their interests, shape the future of their communities and promote social change.

The result of hypothesis two showed that there is a significant effect of governance on food security in South South geopolitical zone. The resulting finding is in agreement with the results of Thesaurus, (2024) who stated that governance involves how public institutions conduct public affairs, manage public resources, and ensure the realization of human rights. It includes the interaction between formal institutions (like the government, judiciary, and bureaucracy) and informal practices (such as cultural norms or power dynamics). In summary, governance is the

framework that ensures responsible and effective management of organizations, institutions, and systems, promoting accountability, transparency, and integrity.

Conclusion

Based on the findings of the data collected and analyzed, the study concluded there is a significant relationship between effect of politics on food security in South South geopolitical zone. Also, that there is a significant relationship between effect of governance on food security in South South geopolitical zone.

References

Bassey, B. (2024). Meaning of politics. Lecture note on political science.

Elechi, F. A., Etea, E., A. and Mbanusi, E. C. (2023). Governance, security and economic cooperation in the South-south-East, Geopolitical zone, Nigeria.South East Journal of Political Science,9 (1): 2017-2028.

Nwazor, A. and Ake, M. (2019). National Insecurity and the challenges of food security in Nigeria. Academic Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies,8(4): 9- 20.

Nwoba, C. C. & Oboke, O. S. (2024). Re-thinking Rural Land Conflict and the Narrative of Food Security in the Development of South East, Nigeria, African Journal of Politics and Administrative Studies AJPAS, 17(1):965-984 Date Submitted: 30/08/2024 Date Accepted: 29/05/2024 Date Published:

Nwoba, C. C. & Oboke, O. S. (2024). Re-thinking Rural Land Conflict and the Narrative of Food Security in the Development of South East, Nigeria, African Journal of Politics and Administrative Studies AJPAS, 17(1):965-984

Riebe, C. (2022). The Geopolitical Impact of Conflict on Food Security in Nigeria Independent Study Project (ISP) Collection. 3527. https://digitalcollections.sit.edu/isp_collection/3527

Saheed, M. (2017). The challenges of food security in Nigeria. Open Access Library Journal, 4(12).1-22

Simpa, O., J. and Emmanuel, P.(2015). Implication of good governance on politics in Nigeria. A paper presented at 8th, Annual conference of the school of general studies of Kogi State Polytechnic, Lokoja.

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (n.d).