

**AN ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF POVERTY ERADICATION
PROGRAMME UNDER THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs) IN
KANO STATE, NIGERIA
(2000-2015)**

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this work titled “An Assessment of the Implementation of Poverty Eradication Programme under the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Kano State, Nigeria” was performed by me in the department of Political Science under the supervision of Professor Umar Mohammed Kaoje and Dr Aliyu Yahaya. The information derived from the literature has been duly acknowledged in the text and a list of references provided. No part of this work has been presented for another degree or diploma at any other institution.

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CERTIFICATION

This Dissertation titled “An assessment of the Implementation of poverty Eradication Programme under the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Kano State, Nigeria” meets the regulations governing the award of the degree of Masters of Science (M.Sc) in Political Science of the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, and is approved for its contribution to knowledge.

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DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to my entire family.

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TABLE OF CONTENT

1.0 CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 General introduction	1
1.2 Statement of the Research Problem	2
1.3 Objectives of the Study	4
1.4 Significance of the Study	4
1.5 Research Assumptions	5
1.6 Methods of Data collection and Analysis	5
1.7 Scope and Limitations of the Study	8
1.8 Conceptual Clarifications	9
1.9 Outline of Chapters	10

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction	12
2.2 The MDGs	12
2.2.1 The Goals, Targets and Indicators of MDGs	16
2.2.2 Issues and Challenges Faced in the Implementation of MDGs Framework Around the World	29
2.2.3 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): Nigerian Experience	38
2.2.4 Millennium Development: Goals and Targets in Nigeria	42
2.3 Theoretical Frame work	57

CHAPTER THREE: HISTORICAL BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY AREA

3.0 Introduction	61
3.1 An Overview of the History of Kano State	61
3.2 Evolution of Settlements in Kano	62
3.3 The Socio-Economic Activities of Kano State	64
3.4 The challenges of socio-economic Developments of Kano State	68
3.5 MDGs Implementation at States Levels: A Case of Kano State	70

4.0 CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.1 Data Presentation and Analysis	74
4.2 Discussion of Findings and Verification of Research Assumptions	86

CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations	91
5.1 Summary of the Study	91
5.2 Conclusion	91
5.3 Recommendation of the Study	92
References	94
Appendices	101

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.6.1: Population of the Study, Ratio and the Area covered	6
Table 1.6.2 Sample Size of the respondents and their percentage	7
Table 2.2.1: Anti poverty programme by various governments in Nigeria	39
Tale 4.1.1: Demographic characteristics of public and MDGs officials	74
Table 4.1.2: Respondents' views on socio-economic development in Kano State	75
Table 4.1.3: Respondents' views on factors responsible for poverty affecting Kano State	76
Table 4.1.4: Respondents' views on their awareness of MDGs agenda	76
Table 4.1.5: Respondents' views on the effectiveness of poverty eradication underMDGs	77
Table 4.1.6 Respondents' views on the role of MDGs in tackling poverty and Othersocio-economic challenges affecting Kano State	77
Table 4.1.7 Respondents' views on what will impede MDGs in attaining its Goal of poverty eradication in Kano State	78
Table 4.1.8 Respondents' views on how the impediments can affect the implementationofMDGs agenda for poverty eradication	79
Table 4.1.9: Respondents' views on the impact of MDGs agenda for poverty Eradication in Kano State	80
Table 4.10: Respondents' views on the achievements of MDGs agenda in Kano State	80
Table 4.11: Views of the official Respondents on the implementation of MDGs Agenda for poverty eradication in Kano State	82

LIST OF APPENDIX

Appendix 1:	List of 44 local governments of Kano State	101
Appendix 11:	Map of Kano State showing the study area.	102
Appendix 111:	Public Respondent's Questionnaire (PRQ)	103
Appendix 1v:	Official Respondent's Questionnaire (ORQ)	104

ABBREVIATIONS

AFDB	African Development Bank
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AU	African Union
CCT	Conditional Cash Transfer
CGS	Conditional Grant Scheme
CISLAC	Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre
DOTS	Directly Observed Treatment Short Course
DRGS	Debt Relief Gains
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women
DFRRI	Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
FEAP	Family Economic Advancement Programme
FOS	Federal Office of Statistics
FSP	Family Support Programme
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GSM	Global System of Mobile
HIV	Human Immune Virus
IMF	International Monetary Fund
LDCS	Less Developed Countries
MAN	Manufacturers Association of Nigeria
MDGS	Millennium Development Goals

NAPEP	National Poverty Alleviation Programme
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
NCC	Nigerian Communication Commission
NDE	National Directorate for Employment
NEEDS	National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy
NEPAD	New Partnership for African Development
NGOS	Non- Governmental Organizations
NPC	National Population Commission

ABSTRACT

Several policies and programs have been designed and implemented to tackle the scourge of poverty and hunger in Nigeria over the years. This work is on the assessment of the implementation of poverty eradication programme under the MDGs in Kano State. In Nigeria, from independence in 1960 to date, a series of policies and programs have been designed and implemented to tackle the scourge of poverty and hunger by different regimes. Some of such policies include Green Revolution, National Directorate of Employment, Better Life Programme, Family Support Programme, Family Economic Advancement Programme, Poverty Alleviation Programme, among others. The study use Prebendalism theory as theoretical frame of reference. The administration of questionnaire of 300 sampled respondents and specialized interview as well as secondary sources were used as major methods for data collection. The analysis was presented in tabular forms using frequencies and percentages. Two assumptions were generated and analyzed through qualitative and quantitative methods. The study finds that the major factors that militated against the implementation of poverty eradication under the MDGs in Kano State include corruption and mismanagement among government officials, lack of awareness on the part of the public of the programme, shortage of fund from government and donor agencies to support the programme, lack of accurate data of people affected by poverty, poor monitoring and evaluation among other factors. Hence, it is recommended among others that communities and individuals to benefit from a particular project are suppose to be involved in planning, execution and monitoring of such projects. Likewise, peculiarities of different communities need to be taken into account in designing these projects in order to provide poverty eradication programs that will fit different communities. The MDAs, private organizations and civil societies/ organizations must be more committed in providing pro-poor projects. It is also recommended that both federal, states and local governments, private sectors and civil societies should increase their active participation toward achieving the MDGs goals of poverty reduction even beyond 2015. Also, Proper education and enlightenment need to be provided in the study area on the roles and targets of MDGs in poverty eradication.

Keywords: Poverty, Poverty Eradication, MDGs, Development, Implementation.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 General Background

One of the realities of the world is that most of the countries suffering from poverty are underdeveloped ones. More than 1.2 billion people or about 20 percent of the world's population survive on less than US \$1 per day. (Shetty,2005). Most of such people are in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Wealth is concentrated on the hand of few countries and individuals. The UNDP in its March (2005) report documented that 7 richest people in the world have assets that exceeded the combined Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the 41 less developed countries (UNDP, 2005).

In order to address the problems of poverty and other socio-economic challenges facing the developing nations, the United Nations Organization (UNO) at the dawn of the new millennium organized the Millennium summit in September, 2000. During the summit, the world leaders signed the millennium declaration in which they firmly pledged to free their fellow human beings from abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty, illiteracy and diseases. Specifically, the leaders identified eight (8) Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to be achieved by the year 2015. These eight goals originated from the Millennium Declaration 2000 which states that; every individual has dignity, and hence, the right to freedom, equality, and a basic standard of living that include freedom from hunger and violence. (Human Development Report, 2003). MDGs serve as common platform of action for the realization of social, economic, political, cultural and ecological rights for all, especially the poor and the marginalized segment of the world population namely women and children.

In Nigeria, from independence in 1960 to date, the most pathetic feature of Nigerian society is that majority of its population are living in a state of destitution, while the remaining relatively insignificant minority are living in affluences. These relatives do not reflect the geographical spread of resources endowment; rather it is a product of classical greed, injustice, poor leadership and selfishness, which is beyond any rational principle.

1.2 Statement of the Research Problem

Nigeria is a country of paradox with wide spread poverty in the midst of plenty. Long years of military rule, corruption and poor policies combined with rent seeking culture have left the country with high levels of poverty and low access to social services. The country is a mono cultural economy with oil contributing 99 percent of export revenues, 78 percent of government revenues and 39 percent of GDP, (CDD, 2014).

Since independence, the level of poverty in Nigeria has been increasing in astronomical proportion. According to the Federal Office of Statistics (FOS) now National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), for example, about 15 percent of the 56 million people in Nigeria were poor at independence. By 1980 this figure had risen to 28 percent out of the 89 million populations. By 1985 the extent of poverty was about 48 percent, among 92 million although it dropped to 43 percent, out of 104 million by 1992. However, by 1996 poverty incidence in the country was 66 percent or 76.6 millions out of the population of 110 millions. By 2010, it was estimated that two third of the country's 160 million people or 106.6 million were poor, and this is happening in spite of the fact that since independence Nigeria is said to have realized more than 300 billion U.S Dollar in oil and gas revenues and development aid (FOS,2000 Reports and U.N Human Poverty Index, 2010).

Over the years, so many policies have been designed by different regimes in order to tackle the problems of poverty and hunger affecting greater percentage of

Nigerians. At different points in time, various programmes were conceptualized and implemented with the hope that they will impact on poverty reduction in the country. The policies are both internal and external which includes Operation Feed the Nation (OFN), free and Compulsory Primary Education (FCPE), Agricultural Development Programme (ADP), National Directorate for Employment (NDE), Better Life programme (BLP), People's Bank of Nigeria (PBN), Family Support Programme (FSP), Family Economic Advancement Programme (FEAP), Poverty Alleviation Programme (PAP), among others. Most of such programmes that Nigerians have witnessed since independence have failed woefully or yielded very little fruit (Ibrahim, 2008).

Over time, there has been increasing evidence of the growth of corruption in Nigeria. Corruption remains one of the greatest challenges in the country. It fans the embers of poverty, diseases, unemployment, terrorism; cultism and insecurity are directly or indirectly related to corruption (Dike, 2005). Revelations over the past years revealed that there is monumental and growing level of corruption in public life in which a lot of public fund has been looted so far. Corruption has therefore become a stumbling block to combating poverty and achieving MDGs. The country is suffering from a pattern of organized looting of its national resources emanating from government as a result of bad leadership, poor policies and lack of transparency (CDD, 2014).

As result of the failure of various poverty reduction programmes experimented in Nigeria by different regimes, new measures for tackling poverty and illiteracy with a universal applicability under UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) agenda were introduced.

This study is therefore primarily concerned with assessing the implementation of poverty eradication programme under the MDGs in some selected local governments in Kano State. In view of this, the research attempted to answer the following research questions:

1. What are the implementation processes and instruments of the MDGs in tackling poverty in Kano State?
2. What are the constraints affecting the implementation of the MDGs agenda for tackling poverty in Kano State?
3. What are the implications of the constraints on the goal of poverty eradication agenda of the SDGs in Kano State?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The main objective of this research is to assess the implementation of poverty eradication programme under the MDGs in Kano State. Specifically however, the study intends to achieve the following objectives:

1. To examine the implementation processes and instruments in addressing the scourge of poverty under the MDGs in Kano State.
2. To identify and assess the impediments to the implementation of the strategy to address the scourge of poverty in Kano State.
3. To find the implications of the impediments for achieving the SDGs in the effort to address the scourge of poverty in Kano State.

1.4 Significance of the Study and Its Contribution to Knowledge

One of the significance of this study is that it will assist in bridging the gaps established by the previous studies (Bradford, 2006, Barnes, 2010) some of which included most of such studies focused on the implementation of MDGs at global level. They also dwelled much at national instead of states levels. It also help the development partners, donor agencies, civil societies and NGOs in MDGs programme to appreciate the level of

successes recorded and the areas of improvement so as to reduce poverty in the study area. Government, too, as a policy maker will understand the aims of MDGs programme and where it's timely interventions are required. The general public will also find this study relevant because it provides them an insight into MDGs programmes aimed at reducing poverty in the study area. Its recommendation and findings when developed into policy brief will serve as a tool to government agencies, policy makers and international partners in the successful implementation of poverty eradication in the study area.

Finally, it is expected that the findings of this research will spur further researches on the topic especially to those willing to explore other areas of MDGs intervention programmes.

1.5 Research Assumptions

This research is premised on the following assumptions:

- a. The implementation of poverty eradication goal under the MDGs has slightly improved the living standard of people in the study area.
- b. A number of factors are assumed to militate against the implementation of poverty eradication goal under the MDGs in the study area.

1.6.0 Research Methodology

1.6.1 Research Design

The study employed the use of survey and documentary research design in collecting data on the implementation of poverty eradication under MDGs in the study area. The survey method involved the administration of questionnaire and interviews through which primary data was collected. The work also used two methods of data analysis. First, qualitative method was used to analyze the data from relevant literature. While quantitative technique was also used in computing the data collected from the respondents and then presented in frequencies and percentage illustrated in tabular form

1.6.2 Population of the Study

The population of this study comprised of all the beneficiaries in the fifteen local government areas totaling 3,715,288. The study used simple random sampling technique in selecting the fifteen local government areas, where five local government were also randomly selected from each of the three senatorial zones - Kano South, Kano North and Kano central senatorial zones. The fifteen selected local government areas covered an area of approximately 5,387km². The statistical ratio for each of the selected local government areas is as follows:

Table 1.6.1: Fifteen (15) Selected Local Government Areas of Kano State.

S/N	Local Government	Population	Ratio	Area Covered
1.	Tarauni	221,367	5.96%	28km ²
2.	Nassarawa	596,669	16.06%	34km ²
3.	Fagge	198,828	5.35%	21km ²
4.	Kano Municipal	365,525	9.84%	17km ²
5.	Dala	418,777	11.27%	19km ²
6.	Tofa	97,734	2.63%	202km ²
7.	Rimin Gado	104,790	2.82%	225km ²
8.	Danbatta	207,968	5.60%	732km ²
9.	Bichi	277,099	7.46%	612km ²
10.	Makoda	222,399	5.98%	441km ²
11.	Rano	145,439	3.91%	520km ²
12.	Kiru	264,781	7.13%	927km ²
13.	Takai	202,743	5.46%	598km ²
14.	Albasu	190,153	5.12%	398km ²
15.	Gaya	201,016	5.41%	613km ²
	TOTAL	3,715,288	100%	5,387km ²

Source: NPC (2006) and the constitution of the federal Republic of Nigeria (1999).

1.6.3 Population Sample and Sampling Technique

For the purpose of this study, the target populations of 300 respondents were considered. This consists of both public and official respondents that are directly linked to the topic under investigation. Simple random sampling technique was used in selecting the fifteen local governments as well as respondents that participated in the study. On the basis of the above ratios, approximate sampling unit were drawn to the total of 300 questionnaires at 20/280 ratio for the officials and general public respondents as follows:

Table: 1.6.2: Sample Size of the Respondents and their Percentages

Local Government	Percentage (100%)	Respondents (officials public)
1. Tarauni	17.88 %	18
2. Nassarawa	48.1 %	48
3. Fagge	16.05%	16
4. Kano Municipal	29.5%	30
5. Dala	33.8 %	34
6. Tofa	0.8 %	08
7. Rimin Gado	8.46%	08
8. Danbatta	16.8%	17
9. Bichi	22.38%	22
10. Makoda	17.98 %	18
11. Rano	11.78%	12
12. Kiru	21.39 %	21
13. Takai	16.38 %	16
14. Albasu	15.36 %	15
15. Gaya	16.23 %	16
Grand Total	100%	300

Source: Author's field work, 2016.

1.6.4 Method of Data Collection and Analysis

The major method of data collection used was largely through the administration of questionnaire to sample respondents drawn from the research area. The questionnaires are of two different types: Type one was administered on some selected officials in the agencies and parastatals that are directly involved in the implementation of MDGs programme in the study area. This contains open –ended questions which provided the officials and stakeholders’ respondents the necessary room for detailed discussion of and response to the questions asked. The type two questionnaires was administered on the general public that are mostly affected by the MDGs programme in the area of study and it contains closed ended questions in order to facilitate the understanding of the public respondents, and also to provide a room for proper expression of their own views over the topic under study. Also, interviews were conducted to some stake holders who are directly involved in the implementation of MDGs agenda in the study area.

The second method used was library/documentary research. This involved the use of secondary data from written accounts, existing literature such as relevant publications, news papers, articles in journals and magazines, internet publications, theses and dissertations, academic essays and other reports.

The work also used two methods of data analysis. First, qualitative method was used to analyze the data from relevant literature. While quantitative technique was also used in computing the data collected from the respondents and then presented in frequencies and percentage illustrated in tabular form.

1.7 Scope and Limitations of the Study

The study focuses on the fifteen selected local government areas as a frame of reference. The historical back ground, people and geographical study of the areas were covered. Specifically, the study assessed the implementation of poverty eradication programme

under the MDGs in the study area. The study covers the period of the implementation of the programme (2000-2015). The choice of these periods is considered due to the fact that it falls within the tenure of Obasanjo, Yar'adua and Jonathan administration, where most of the MDGs programmes were introduced and started to be implemented. It was also chosen in order to generate useful data on the 2015 target of the MDGs.

Some of the limitations encountered in the course of this work included, first, it is a very hectic to arrange interviews with the stakeholders in MDGs programme due to their tight schedules. Secondly, the finance and time required for travel to source for data was not enough. Other challenges that affected the research include lack of sufficient and accurate data of the study area.

1.8 Conceptual Clarifications

For the purpose of this study, the following concepts are clarified:

1. **Millennium Development Goals (MDGs):** These are eight international development goals that all 192 United Nations member states and at least 23 international organizations have agreed to achieve by the year 2015. They include poverty eradication, reducing child mortality rates, fighting disease epidemics such as HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Tuberculosis, and developing a global partnership for development. The MDGs were developed out of the eight chapters of the United Nations Millennium Declaration, signed in September 2000. There are eight goals with 21 targets and a series of measurable indicators for each target.
2. **Poverty:** According to the dictionary of economics (1999), poverty is defined as a situation facing people whose material needs are least satisfied. It is a multi dimensional phenomenon which can be defined as the lack of what is necessary for material well being especially food but also housing, land and other assets. (WDR, 1998). For the purpose of this study, poverty is defined as the inability of one to

have basic necessities of life especially food, clothing, housing, land, education, basic health care and employment opportunities, largely due to poor governmental policies as well as corruption by those in the position of authority.

3. **Poverty Eradication Programme:** Poverty Eradication programme consists of all relevant programmes and projects initiated and implemented by government that are aimed at eradicating poverty among Nigerians. These include programmes on food, shelter, employment, healthcare, water supply, transport, education, gender development, recreations etc.
4. **Assessment** – This refers to the process of gathering, analyzing, interpreting and using information about a particular project or program in order to assess progress or otherwise. For the purpose of this study, assessment refers to a judgment about the implementation of poverty eradication programme under the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) agenda in Kano State based on the findings of the situation.

1.9 Outline of the Chapters

The study is divided into five chapters; the first chapter presents the general introduction, statement of the research problems, objectives to be achieved, and significance of the work, research assumptions, research methodology, scope and limitations, definition of major concepts and organization of the chapters. Chapter two dwells on conceptual frame work which are: - Millennium development Goals (MDGs), its aims, goals, targets, indicators, as well as the implementation in Nigeria. Prebendalism theory of public policy implementation was used as theoretical frame of reference. Chapter three discusses the historical background, people and geographical sizes of the study area, also challenges facing the area were looked into, the chapter was concluded with the discussion on the

implementation of poverty eradication under MDGs in the study area. Chapter four presented and analyses the data obtained, while the last chapter covers summary, research finding(s), conclusion and recommendation(s).

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND CONCEPTUAL FRAME WORK

2.1 Introduction

This chapter focuses on the literature reviewed for the purposes of this study. The chapter also discusses the theoretical frame work of the study and justified why is relevant to this study. The research is on the assessment of the implementation of poverty eradication programme under the MDGs in Kano State. As a topical area of study, a number of academic works had been done, especially on the roles and challenges facing the implementation of MDGS, (Amina 2008; Barnes 2009; and Jibrin 2014.) This review of literature examines the contributions already made on the topic of study, with a view to identifying gaps in the literature and work towards filling such identified gaps. The work adopts the thematic approach to organize the literature. Issues under the literature are reviewed based on the concepts, findings and conclusions on previous works on the subject matter. This is to ensure proper organizations and easier understanding for readers.

2.2 The MDGS

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are the world's biggest and greatest promise, a global agreement to reduce poverty and human deprivation at holistically unprecedented rates through collaborative multilateral actions. They differ from all other global promises for poverty reduction in their comprehensive nature and the systematic efforts taken to specify, finance, implement, monitor and advocate them(Hulme,2007).The idea of a dramatic attempt to eradicate or reduce global poverty and other social challenges facing the globe, especially developing nations has antecedents that go back to the mid-twentieth century. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and the World Bank's World Development Report of 1990 acknowledge the need for reform in economic and social policies. Other important events includes the World Summit for children in

New York in 1990, the Earth Summit in Rio(1992), World conference on Human Rights in Vienna(1993), the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo(1994), the World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen (1995), the UN World Conference on Women in Beijing(1995), among others.

Following the above conferences, the United Nations re-entered the game of global targets settings through planning for the Millennium Assembly of the United Nations, held at New York in September, 2000. The UN was keen to make global poverty reduction central to its agenda and avoid being driven along by peace keeping, security and emergencies issues. Countries, International agencies, Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Networks and activists energetically began to try and shape the contents of the Millennium Assembly and Declaration (Traub, 2006).

According to Human Development Report(2003) In September 2000, the World leaders gathered at the UN Millennium Summit where they committed their Nations to strengthening global efforts for peace, human rights, democracy, strong governance, environmental sustainability, poverty eradication, and to promoting principle of human dignity, equality and equity(UNDP,2003)

The resulting Millennium Declaration adopted by 189 countries includes, urgent collective commitments to overcome the poverty that still grips most of the World's people. At the 2000 summit, the UN General Assembly through the Secretary General prepared a road map for achieving the Declaration commitments resulting in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) made up of 8 Goals, 21 targets and a number of measurable indicators. The Goals are unique in their ambitions, concreteness and scope. They are also unique in their explicit recognition that the goals of eradicating poverty can be achieved only through partnership among development actors and also through expanding trade, debt relief,

transfer of technology and providing aids. These goals are benchmarks of progress towards the vision of the Millennium Declaration. The Millennium Development Goals

1. synthesize in a single package many of the most important commitments made in the 1990s;
2. acknowledge that development rests on the foundation of democratic governance, the rule of law, respect for human rights, peace and security;
3. are based on time bound and measurable targets accompanied by indicators for monitoring progress; and
4. . bring together in the eight goals, the responsibilities of developing countries with those of developed countries (MDGs,2003, andUNDP,2005).

In line with these goals, Abdurrahman (2005:72) noted that:

Based on those solemn promises, the leaders of the signatory countries agreed to fight together against poverty, hunger, gender inequality, environmental degradation and killer diseases such as Malaria, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, etc, while improving access to education, health care and clean water, all by the year 2015.

As a result of this development,, countries have agreed to report back on progress to the United Nations and the public on the status of their efforts in implementing the MDGs. In addition, at the 2005 United Nations World Summit, developing countries signed up to producing medium term national development plans focused on the MDGs in 2006. According to the Millennium Project (2005), MDGs have a 10 year framework and 2-3 year poverty reduction strategy including a public sector management strategy with a key focus on transparency, accountability, human rights and result based management to be provided. As countries embark on the journey of poverty alleviation, based on the MDGs formula, quick wins create a motivation to sustain the longer term focus and efforts. Some of the quick wins expected from most of the developing nations include

- a. Training villagers in health, farming and infrastructural maintenance to ensure basic expertise and services in rural communities.
- b. b-Tackling the menace of Malaria in affected areas, to improve the quality of health and education among children
- c. Eliminating users fees for basic health services,
- d. Expanding sex education including HIV/AIDS awareness campaign,
- e. Reforming or expanding laws to protect the disadvantaged members of society, especially the poor, children; women and girls.

According to UN Report (2001) the Millennium Project has identified key areas in eight investment and policy clusters that are key to achieving the MDGS. These practices include:

1. Rural development to increase food output and income through investment to increase rural
2. Access to transportation, information and communication, safe drinking water, sanitation, modern energy and reliable water for agriculture.
3. Urban development to promote jobs, upgrade slums, and develop alternative to new slums formations, for example through supporting poor people's own efforts to build decent new housing.
4. Improving health system to ensure universal access to essential services.
5. Improving the quality of education and human capital by ensuring universal education, expanded post primary and higher education.
6. Promoting gender equality by investing to overcome pervasive gender bias.
7. Environmental conservation, by investing in resources management to reduce environmental degradation.

8. Building national capacities in science, technology and innovation (UN Report, 2001).

2.2.1 The Goals, Targets, and Indicators of MDGS

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are eight International Development Goals that all 192 United Nations member states and at least 23 International Organizations have agreed to achieve by the year 2015. The MDGs aim to spur development by improving social and economic conditions in the World poorest countries. They were developed out of the eight chapters of the United Nations Millennium Declaration signed in September, 2000. There are eight goals with 21 targets and a series of measurable indicators for each target. The eight goals are:

- **GOAL 1:** Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- **GOAL 2:** Achieve universal primary education
- **GOAL 3:** Promote gender equality and empower Women
- **GOAL 4:** Reduce child mortality rate
- **GOAL 5:** Improve maternal mortality rate
- **GOAL 6:** Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- **GOAL 7:** Ensure environmental sustainability
- **GOAL 8:** Develop a global partnership for development

In achieving the stated goals examined above, eradicating extreme poverty and hunger is the first and most important goal of MDGs. Thus, this goal has three targets and series of indicators. The targets of the first goal are;

Target 1A: Halving the proportion of people living on less than \$1 dollar a day, by 2015.

Target 1B: Achieve decent employment for women, men and young people.

Target 1C: Halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger. (UN MDGs

Website, retrieved 16 June, 2013).

The indicators of poverty reduction includes the reduction of people below \$1 per day (PPP Values), reducing poverty gap ratio, increase in share of poorest quintile in national consumption, reducing the prevalence of underweight children and reducing the proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption. The reduction of extreme poverty and hunger was the first MDGs goal. Specifically, the goal target of reducing extreme poverty rate in half by 2015. This goal was created to end poverty in all its forms everywhere. Extreme poverty is defined by the international community's as earning less than \$1.25 per day. Originally, the international poverty line was set at earning a \$ 1 a day. The World Bank pushed the line to \$ 1.25 to recognize higher price levels in several developing countries than previously estimated. (Martin Ravallion, 2008). There are a variety of factors that investigate the existence of poverty, such as weak institution, cycle of violence, low level of growth, corruption, to mention but a few. Thus, to end extreme poverty, it is also important to focus on the interrelated problems of fragility and conflict. To address these problems, several alternatives instruments for measuring extreme poverty have been suggested which incorporate other factors such as malnutrition and lack of access to basic education.

Reduction in extreme poverty took place most notably in China, Indonesia, India, Pakistan and Vietnam. These five countries accounted for the alleviation of 715 million people out of extreme poverty between 1990 and 2010 – more than the global net total of roughly 700 million. This statistical oddity can be explained by the fact that the number of people living in extreme poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa rose sharply over the same period (UNO, 2013). However, there have been many positive signs for extensive global poverty reduction as well. Since 1999, the total number of extreme poor has declined by 50 million per year, on average. Moreover, in 2005, for

the first time in recorded history, poverty rates began to fall in every region of the world, including Africa. Although this is largely due to a change in the 2000 UN Millennium Declaration, extending the plan period backward to 1990, it was previously 1996. Changing the date took advantage of rapid population growth and a huge poverty reduction in China during the 1990s. (*Thomas Pogge, 2015*).

Globally, from 2001 to 2012, the proportion of people living in extreme poverty fell drastically. The decline in global poverty is mostly due to rapid economic growth in Asia. Eastern and South Eastern Asia in particular experienced impressive reduction in poverty, and accelerating growth in India has also put southern Asia on track to achieve the goal. Through the MDGs, the world has unraveled the ugliness of global poverty and the basic tools with which it could tackle as contained in the eight point objectives. It has also provided additional entry point to engage governments on sustainable development issues. In addition, it has aroused local and international attention towards human centre development (Barnes, 2010:139).

In Nigeria, Poverty has no geographical boundary. It is seen in the North, West South and East. It is found in rural as well as urban areas. Though the incidence of poverty in Nigeria is much higher in the rural areas than in the urban centers, the urban slum-dwellers form one of the more deprived groups (World Bank, 1997). Accordingly people are counted poor when their measured standard of living in terms of income or consumption is below the poverty line. Thus, the poverty line is a measure that separates the poor from the non-poor. However, poverty has both income and non-income dimension usually intertwined. The poor are those who are unable to obtain an adequate income, find a stable job, own property or maintain healthy conditions. They also lack an adequate level of education and cannot satisfy their basic health

needs (Sancho 1996). Thus, the poor are often illiterate, in poor health, and have a short life span (World Bank, 1995). They have no (or limited) access to basic necessities of life such as food, clothing, decent shelter, are unable to meet social and economic obligations, they lack skills and gainful employment, have few, if any economic assets, and sometimes lack of self-esteem (Olayemi, 1995). Very often, the poor lack the capacity to escape from their situation by themselves. This characteristic is what causes the social conditions of extreme poverty to persist and to be transmitted from one generation to the next. Frequently, those most affected by extreme poverty are young children, pregnant mothers, the elders, the inhabitant of rural areas and marginal urban zones and those groups of people who have not been integrated into the society, especially, certain ethnic groups of people who find themselves segregated in their own societies. Among the groups most affected by extreme poverty in Nigeria are those who are most vulnerable and lack resources, along with those who do not have capacity to organize themselves nor to exercise the right to protect their situation (Sancho, 1996). The poor in most part of the country are to be found among four identifiable economic groups the rural landless, the small farmers, the urban underemployed and the unemployed.

Following the debt relief extended to Nigeria in 2005, a Virtual Poverty Fund was established to ensure that monies released from the debt relief would be channeled towards initiatives to reduce poverty. Since 2006, on an annual basis, about US\$1 billion has been allocated to support progress in health, education, water and sanitation, environment, energy, housing, women's rights, HIV/AIDS, social safety nets (including micro-credit scheme and conditional cash transfer), the conditional

grant scheme to state governments and for the provision of rural infrastructure. This fund facilitated the establishment of monitoring framework for tracking its expenditure and evaluating its impact. Through the involvement of the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), this monitoring framework has been used to track the performance of the activities implemented under the Debt Relief Gains (DRG). (Igbuzor, 2006).

Achieving universal primary education is the second goal of MDGs. The target is to ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike will be able to complete a full course of primary education. To date, five developing regions in the world are approaching universal enrolment. But in sub-Saharan Africa, less than two third of children are enrolled in primary school. Other regions, including Southern Asia and Oceania, also have a long way to go. In these regions, an increased enrolment must be accompanied by effort to ensure that all children remain in school and received a high-quality education (Tehreek, 2008). Ensuring primary education for all people is the key to unlocking the potentials of all societies. Education enables peoples to take care of themselves and their families, to take control of their futures, and most importantly, to raise themselves out of poverty. Furthermore, achieving universal education will help achieve other targets and goals of the MDGs. For example, it will combat poverty, promote gender equality, create awareness of HIV/AIDS, and maternal health, and promote environmental sustainability.

The third goal of the MDGs is to promote gender equality and empower women. The target of this goal is to eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015, (UN MDGs Documents, 2002). It has also been realized that equality for women

is progress for all. Hence the Secretary –General of the United Nations (2014)

declares that:

Countries with more gender equality have better economic growth. Companies with more women leaders perform better. Peace agreements that include women are durable. Parliaments with more women enact more legislation on key social issues such as health, education, anti-discrimination and child support. The evidence is clear: that equality for women means progress for all.

In Islam, gender equality revolves around the provision and granting of such peculiar rights, dues and entitlements which Allah (SWT) bestow upon woman based on her natural qualities and traits. This covers all areas of human endeavour, especially, educational, economic as well as political spheres. Equality for women is a progress for all. This is indeed a reality, because, it has been widely believed that when you educate women, you have educated the entire society. And this means given women equal opportunity similar to what has been given to her male counterpart, will go along way in promoting home management, sound moral child-upbringing as well as good mothers, wives and the potential managers of the public realm. Similarly, provision of equal opportunities means women empowerments, proper contribution and control of domestic responsibilities and family support, which include good nutrition for the family, proper health and medical care, cleaner environment and qualitative sound education for the entire family. Further, political equality represents sound public policy and strong durable legislation and peace process for the entire humanity. This invariably means political stability, economic development and harmonious coexistence for the people. Hence, equality for women means progress for all. A study conducted by Pigadebe (2009) concludes that,

MDGS will not attain its third goal until and unless issues of women empowerment, rights and development are addressed. Societies in which women's

equality is paramount are more likely to attain the MDGs by 2015.

The third goal of the MDGs has indicators which also act as interventions to improve the status of women. These are improving women's participation in primary, secondary and tertiary education, improving women paid employment opportunities and increasing numbers of women in political decision making positions. Promoting gender equality indicate provision of equal economic and educational opportunities for both women and men, through elimination of economic disparities between men and women, economic empowerment, and increased women political participation by increasing proportion of seat held by women in both elected/appointed legislative/executive and administrative posts and positions, as well as in the process of policy formulation and general decision that affect their lives and that of the entire society. In Sub-Saharan Africa from 2000-2013 the proportion of seats in the parliament increased from 13% to 21%. Also from 1999-2009 the proportion of seats occupied by women in the parliament increased from 1.0% to 7.5 %, (Nigeria's MDGS Report, 2010). In the same vein, Global Gender Report (2008) concludes that:

For MDGS to attain the goal of empowering women, issues such as reduction of violence against women, investing in infrastructure, strengthening and increasing access to opportunities particularly economic, productive resources, ensuring inheritance right for women and girls, ownership and access to land, credit and technical supports early marriage, among other thing need to be seriously check out.

In another study conducted by UN, (2001 to 2012) shows that, the share of women in the world labour force has increased significantly. Women political participation has increased throughout the world, with most encouraging signs coming from Latin America and the Caribbean, where women held more than 20 percent of parliamentary seats (UN MDGs

Report,2010). Several factors contributed to the rising of women globally. They include increased public debate on the role of women, quota system, role of civil society organizations, and improved education. For MDGs to attain its third goal, impediments such as wage differentials, occupational segregation and socio- cultural attitudes need to be minimized.

The fourth goal is the reduction of child mortality rate. This is targeted at reducing by two third, between 1990 and 2015, the less than five mortality rate. According to Aondona,(2012:226) “this is necessitated by prevalence of the rate of less than five mortality rate as well as the desire to increase the percentage of one year old children immunization against measles which appears to be one of the killer diseases among children. In order to make adequate progress toward achieving the goal 4 of the MDGs, challenges such as HIV/AIDS, poor health services equipment, inadequate health personnel and malaria, war and conflict need to be seriously tackled.

The Fifth goal is the need to improve maternal health. The target of the fifth goal is to reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio. This is to be pursued by ensuring an increased improvement in the proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel, relatedly, much attention is to be given to the improvement of unmet need for family planning, antenatal care coverage, and adolescent birth rate as well as to check the level of contraceptives prevalence rate, (MDGs Documents, 2010).

A study conducted by WHO (2010) shows that, at least half a million women died due to pregnancy related causes each year. The estimate for the first time analyses the changes in maternal death between 1990 and 2010, demonstrating slow and uneven progress toward achievement of goal 5 of the MDGs. It reveals that, the global decline in maternal mortality ratio was 5.4 percent and the annual decline less than 1 percent.

It is estimated that an annual decline of 5.5 percent in global maternal mortality ratio between 1990 and 2015 is required to achieve the target.

On the same vein, Action Aid (2009) argues that, though important gains have been made in some world regions such as Asia, Latin America and Caribbean, maternal mortality is still high in the sub-Saharan Africa. This was largely due to the challenges of unskilled health workers, HIV/AIDS, conflict and deteriorating health services system, complications of pregnancy and child birth, anemia, eclampsia, obstructed labour, and unsafe abortion. There also non clinical reasons such as delay in decision making about seeking medical care, delay in reaching the health care facilities, and delay in receiving prompt and appropriate care at the health facility. Women's low status in society in general and their limited access to resources particularly in term of emergency, also act as barriers in seeking health care.

For the goal 5 of the MDGs to be achieved, effort to reduce maternal mortality rate need to be tailored to local conditions. Governments at all levels need to provide appropriate reproductive services, before, during, and after pregnancy, and through life saving interventions should complication arise. Also, preventing unplanned pregnancies need to be strengthened.

The sixth goal is combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. Taking into cognizance the rising implications of these killer diseases, the sixth goal targeted at check mating there prevalence rate among the growing population of 15-24 years. This is to be achieved by creating the awareness of their causes and preventions. Similarly, it is targeted that by 2010 adequate frame works are created to ensure increased access of affected persons to the treatment of HIV/AIDS, through the provision of ante retroviral therapies. Also, by 2015 it is targeted that incidence of malaria and other major diseases are halted. This is to be achieved by improving on

the proportion of children under 5 sleeping under insecticide treated bed nets, improving on the proportion of children under 5 with fever who are treated with appropriate ante-malarial drugs, control the prevalence and death rate associated with tuberculosis as well as detect and manage tuberculosis cases under DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment Short course (MDGs Documents, 2008).

The epidemic of HIV remained centered in Sub-Saharan Africa. Though, regions like Asia, Oceania and Latin America are equally affected by the diseases. Sub-Saharan Africa with just over ten percent of the world population is the home to 64 percent of HIV positive people and to 90 percent of children under 15 living with the virus (WHO, 2010). The major causes of the disease in Sub-Saharan Africa and World at large include the use of non sterile injecting drugs equipment, un protected sex behavior, practice of sodomy, during breast feeding, among other things. Globally, effort to provide treatment for those living with HIV/AIDS, continue to expand. This was largely due to the effort of global partnership by various agencies and organizations to tackle the problems, especially through the provision of antiretroviral medications and awareness. Equally, several countries are making efforts in providing social services package for AIDS orphans and vulnerable children, especially in areas of education, health care, social welfare and protection.

In the area of malaria and tuberculosis control, a lot of progress has been made globally. There has been a sharp decrease in their prevalence rates. This was largely attributed to the increased financial flows from the global funds to the most affected nations. For example, International Funding for Malaria Control has risen more than tenfold over the past decade, (UNICEF, 2012).

Based on the above explanation, with clear vision and political commitment, it is possible for many African countries and indeed the World at large to meet the sixth

goal of the MDGs. This can happen through increased provision of ante retroviral therapies, increased awareness of HIV/AIDS, widening coverage of insecticide – treated bed nets, continued provision of effective and efficient anti malarial and tuberculoses drugs, among other things.

Ensuring environmental sustainability is the seventh goal of the MDGs. Preserving our environment and making countries to recognize the effects of destroying it will actually help to improve the conditions of so many lives. In fact, the first six goals of the MDGs would be useless if the earth is so damaged that people cannot live in. So, the seventh goal of the MDGs has four targets upon which to work. They are summarily discussed as follows:

Target 1: Integrate the principles of sustainable development in countries policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.

Target 2: Reduce bio-diversity loss, achieving by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss.

Target 3: Halve by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

Target 4: By 2020 to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 Million slum dwellers ([www.Development Goals .com](http://www.DevelopmentGoals.com).Retrieved 29-4 2014).

A study conducted by UN MDGs (2014) reveals that, for some time now, the planet has deteriorated to the point of species becoming extinct every day, very few rain forests remain, and the basic habitats for animals have all but disappeared. Pollution and smog became dangerous problems to mankind; toxic carcinogens are in the water supply, the air and the atmosphere, consequently resulting in contaminating the fresh food we eat every day. In a similar vein, UN-Habitat (2013) in one of its study reveals that, one of the biggest problems affecting our environment is the rapid growth of

urbanization. It is obvious that as urban areas develop, damage is done to the environment from altering and ruining the natural habitat of many species but also damage is done to human beings by creating a bigger divide between the haves and have not's, too many people are left to live in slum conditions, without the same access to basic needs as the people who have cold, hard cash in developed areas.

Through MDGS intervention, many countries have committed to the principle of sustainable development. But this has not resulted in sufficient progress to reverse the loss of world environmental resources. Achieving the goal will require greater attention to the plight of the poor, whose day to day subsistence is often directly linked to the natural resources around them, and an unprecedented level of global cooperation.

The last goal of the MDGs is to develop a global partnership for development. Under this goal, the following targets are expected to be met by the year 2015:

Target 8a:-Develop further an open, ruled based, predictable, non discriminatory trading and financial system.

Target 8b: Address the special needs of the less Developed Countries (LDCs).

Target 8c: Address the special needs of the Land locked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing states.

Target 8d: Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term.

Target 8e: In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies; provide access to affordable and essential drugs in developing countries.

Target 8f: In cooperation with private sectors; make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication (MDGs Documents, 2010).

The Millennium Declaration made by world leaders in the year 2000 represents a global social compact. Under the declaration, the developing countries are expected to do more to ensure their own development, while the developed World will support them in these areas (Tehreek, 2008).

A Study conducted by UN MDGs (2010) reveals that:

As a result of MDGs intervention, especially in the area of global partnership between developed and developing countries, aid to developing countries has increased steadily. Debt reliefs for heavily indebted countries have fallen significantly. The International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank, IMF, and the African Development Bank cancelled most debt to countries that have met the requirements of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative. Access to essential drugs for malaria, HIV, and other serious diseases have expanded in the developing World. Between 2001 and 2010, the number of people on anti-retroviral therapy in low and middle income countries increased more than tenfold, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa.

DESA (2010) in one of its study concludes that, access to Information and Communication Technology (ICT) continues to outpace global economic growth. For example, the number of subscribers to fixed and mobile telephones rose from 530 million in 1990 to more than 4 billion in 2010. Growth has been especially rapid in the mobile sector, which offers access to telecommunications in regions where there is a limited number of fixed lines. To achieve goal 8 of the MDGs, increased aid and development relief must be accompanied by further opening of trade, accelerated transfer of technology, increase access to essential drugs and employment opportunities for the growing ranks of young people in the developing World.

2.2.2 Issues and Challenges Faced In the Implementation of Goal 1 of MDGs around the World

The 21st century has brought to the limelight, the commitment of international organizations, agencies and governments to making the world a better place to live in. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) summarize the development goals agreed on at international conferences and the world summits during the 1990s. In September 2000, world leaders distilled the key goals and targets in the millennium declaration... The challenges faced the implementation of MDGs around the globe are as follows:

1. Challenges with respect to MDGs development process

Critical discussion on the formulation of the MDGs focuses on who identified the goals and targets, how and why certain goals were chosen and what political agendas influenced the structure of the MDGs. The overall creation process of the MDGs framework was, as Amin (2006) describes, driven by the triad ‘United States, Europe and Japan’, and co-sponsored by the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). According to Eyben (2006), the gender target was restricted to parity in education because the Japanese representative would not agree to broader targets originally proposed by the gender specialists. A small number of UN members influenced the initial rejection of a reproductive health goal. As Hulme (2010) calls it, the ‘unholy alliance’ of the Vatican and conservative Islamic states made the goal disappear from the original MDG list. Oya (2011) and Saith (2006) believe that it was the significant influence of the World Bank that set the main indicator for poverty reduction as the proportion of people living below the poverty line of \$1 per day. The exclusiveness of the actors

who guided development of the MDGs is underscored by Richard et al. (2011) who add that ‘only 22% of the world's national parliaments formally discussed the MDGs’. Generally, there was very little involvement of developing countries and civil society constituencies in the creational process (Kabeer, 2005; Waage et al., 2010).

Parr (2010) doubts that the original intent of eight goals – to be indicators of progress in the implementation of the objectives presented in the Millennium Declaration – was indeed achieved in the formulation of the MDGs. Various authors explain that only one of the seven key objectives of the Declaration (that of development and poverty eradication) became fundamental to the MDG framework, whereas other goals such as peace, security, disarmament, human rights and democracy were left behind (Hill, Mansoor, & Claudio, 2010; Waage et al., 2010). Langford (2010) writes that the MDGs of ‘gender equality and the empowerment of women’ were narrowed down to gender equality in education, and the target for ‘affordable water’ was dropped from the MDG list in order to allow for privatization in the sector.

2. Challenges related to the MDG structure:

MDGs is ‘overambitious’ or ‘unrealistic’ and it is believed that the MDGs ignore the limited local capacities, particularly missing governance capabilities (Mishra, 2004; Oya, 2011). In contrast, Barnes and Brown (2011) call the MDGs ‘unambitious when viewed against the sheer volume of unmet basic human needs’. For Langford (2010), global goals for low- and middle-income countries fall short because they are too ambitious for some countries and not challenging enough for other countries. Creating a list of goals – a ‘shopping-list approach’ – risks the omission of important issues and underinvestment in other key areas of development (Keyzer & Van Wesenbeeck, 2006). Hayman (2007) argues that the limited list of MDGs makes it easy for donors to justify policies exclusively focused on MDG targets. The MDGs represent a

‘Faustian bargain’ because a consensus was achieved only by ‘major sacrifice’ (Gore, 2010). Saith (2006) adds that by concentrating largely on developing countries, the MDG framework serves to ‘ghettoize the problem of development and locates it firmly in the third world’. Using the goals and targets as country-specific goals, according to AbouZahr and Boerma (2010), gives too little consideration to national baselines, contexts and implementation capacities.

Another point of critique of [Van Norren \(2012\)](#) is the focusing of development efforts on such a reduced list of goals and neglecting their interconnectedness. For example, having separate maternal and child health goals results in separating strongly linked maternal and newborn issues (Brikci& Holder, 2011). Similarly, Molyneux (2008) points at the separate focus on malaria and HIV that misses the necessity and opportunity to address the synergism between the control and treatment of these communicable diseases. Waage et al. (2010) write that ‘a common, cross-sectoral vision of development’ was not part of the formulation of the MDGs and has resulted in fragmentation, incoherence and gaps in the existing framework. Equally, the absence of accountability for every MDG (except Goal 8) is another conceptual weakness of the MDG framework identified in the literature (Davis, 2011; Van Ginneken, 2011). Other authors explain that making MDGs national priorities without the initial participation and consultation of developing countries has led to a lack of national ownership for the goals (Fukuda-Parr, 2006; Haines & Cassels, 2004).

5. Challenges related to the MDGs content

Even though equality was defined as a core value of the Millennium Declaration, the most often mentioned omission found in the literature is that equity and equality (often used interchangeably) are insufficiently addressed. Fukuda-Parr (2010) sees a missing goal for reducing inequality within and

between countries. Others identify a missing focus on the ‘poorest of the poor’, masked by using national averages or aggregated information (Brikci& Holder, 2011). Vandemoortele (2011) even calls it a ‘tyranny of averages’ where issues of inclusive and equitable progress are ignored within the framework due to ‘abstractions and over-generalization’. Others are concerned that the MDGs even push towards un-egalitarian outcomes because most health initiatives would first reach mainly the better-off parts of society (Gwatkin, 2005).Alloy (2009) underline this concern referring to MDG 4 where the reduction of under-five mortality rate is easier to reach through targeting those easier to access and leaving out the worst off.

For Maxwell (2003), the formulation of poverty reduction in MDG 1 ‘prioritizes material aspects of deprivation over non-material ones’ and leads to a reduced concept of poverty. Targeting only 50% of the poor population is believed by some to be unethical and failing to be ‘forward looking’ (Poku& Whitman, 2011; Saith, 2006). Others consider it oversimplifying for the World Bank to set a specific poverty line of \$1 per day (Edward, 2006). Pogge (2010) questions the choice of the poverty line which, set at \$2.50, would have shown no improvement between 1981 and 2005 and, thus, the \$1 per day threshold has been set in order to show progress. In addition, the MDGs fail to include political and human rights. In Ziai's (2011) view, MDGs targets are presented not as political but as technical problems, where the solution appears as simply increasing financial resources. A limited focus on only poverty reduction risks to obscure ‘important trade-offs and conflicts of interest’ (Maxwell, 2003). In general, civil, political or human rights are not represented enough in the MDGs framework, given they represent an important and enduring global consensus (Fukuda-Parr, 2010; Saith, 2006). Cecchini and Notti (2011) argue that a human rights orientation could

have had a positive impact on monitoring and synergism within the MDG framework. Of particular concern regarding MDG 2 ('Achieve universal primary education') is the limited focus on primary education only, while ignoring the importance of secondary and post-secondary education (Mekonen, 2010; Tarabini, 2010). Lewin (2005) points out that pushing for primary education results in more graduates that then do not have the opportunity for further education in developing economies. MDG 2 particularly fails to ensure quality issues such as availability of teachers, school infrastructure and maintenance as well as completion rates (Barrett, 2011; Lay, 2012). Mekonen (2010) criticizes not targeting a high pupil–teacher ratio, describing the alarming rate of 25:1 globally, 43:1 in sub-Saharan Africa, 69:1 in Chad and 83:1 in Congo.

Health plays an important role within the MDGs framework, where three of the eight goals directly (MDG 4–6), and several other goals more indirectly, relate to health. James (2006) believes, however, that the MDGs focus on only three aspects of health (maternal mortality, child mortality and specific infectious diseases) is too limited and an overarching goal of 'freedom from illness' is missing. Others emphasize the need to integrate trained health care providers and the importance of building effective health systems into the list of MDG targets (Haines & Cassels, 2004; Keyzer & Van Wesenbeeck, 2006). Several health issues are found to be underrecognised, such as non-communicable diseases (Magrath, 2009), mental health (Miranda & Patel, 2007) and issues faced by people living with disabilities (Wolbring, 2011). Several authors highlight the fact that targets for reproductive health were absent before 2007 and are still insufficient in MDG 5 (Basu, 2005; Bernstein, 2005; Dixon-Mueller & Germain, 2007). Omissions in MDG 5 are the issues of abortion (Basu, 2005), a 'fertility

regulation indicator' (Dixon-Mueller & Germain, 2007) and the 'availability and use of obstetric services' (Langford, 2010).

Little emphasis on environmental issues, in particular, climate change is another seemingly problem of MDGs (McMichael & Butler, 2004). Some researchers suggest that Target 7.C – access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation – overlooks local challenges, including infrastructure, distance, security, costs, contamination as well as a basic understanding of hygiene and sanitation (Dar & Khan, 2011; James, 2006). Others call Target 7.D – improving lives of at least 100 million slum residents – too moderate, addressing only 7–9% of expected slum residents by 2020 (Di Muzio, 2008; Langford, 2010). Goal 8, the only one focusing on commitments by developed countries, is criticized by several authors as having the 'least explicit targets', lacking 'quantitative' and 'time bound' benchmarks (Davis, 2011; Fukuda-Parr, 2006; Gore, 2010). Fukuda-Parr (2006) believes that the emphasis on 'resource transfer through Official Development Assistance' (ODA) inhibits the 'empowerment of developing countries'. Making essential drugs and technology available (Target 8.E/F) is not enough, according to James (2006), because it fails to grasp the importance of information and knowledge about correct usage.

4. Challenges related to the MDG implementation and enforcement

Availability and reliability of data are the most often reported challenges with regards to implementation of MDGs and subsequently in the interpretation of progress reports (Dar & Khan, 2011; Easterly, 2009; Sachs, 2012). For AbouZahr and Boerma (2010), the global MDG targets are based on 'little evidence of feasibility in low-income countries', and Attaran (2005) explains further that the health-related baselines from 1990 are often based on unreliable household surveys with no birth and death registries, health records or health statistics. For the educational MDG 2, Johnston

(2011) found that data on school completion are difficult to obtain because enrolment data are usually collected at the beginning of the academic year, ignoring attendance and drop outs. Quantitative MDG targets also rely on epidemiological and monitoring tools that many countries lack, and even if available, data are not necessarily comparable across countries because of different compilation methodologies or definitions (Poku & Whitman, 2011). Progress reports, therefore, are difficult to interpret because their calculations are based on assumptions and poor quality data (Reddy & Heuty, 2008). Additionally, unreliable data can also lead to miscalculated cost estimation with important financial consequences for donor and recipient countries (Saith, 2006).

MDGs are also criticized for the lack of clear guidance on policy changes or how the goals ought to be achieved (Fukuda-Parr, 2006; Gil-Gonzalez, Ruiz-Cantero & Alvarez-Dardet, 2009). For Oya (2011), there is not enough guidance to achieve the expected but unrealistic outcomes, which might create pessimism and cynicism in poor countries. Another concern is the important influence of the MDGs framework on data processing, interpretation and research. Institutionalized targets can also lead to misused and manipulated statistics, and a strong financial influence risks narrowing priorities of academic research (Saith, 2006). The author adds that this increased need to compete for funds forces organizations (such as non-governmental, civil society and international development organizations) to fall in line with the goals even if this might not always be in the best interest of the institution nor of the beneficiaries.

Finally, the MDG framework is criticized for promoting 'quick-fix' solutions and short-term planning instead of sustainable global management goals and structural changes (Bond, 2006; Van Norren, 2012). The strong incentives to show a quick

impact lead to parallel and uncoordinated programmes that encourage picking of ‘low-hanging fruits’ instead of long-term investments (Lay, 2012; Maxwell, 2003; Richard et al., 2011). It encourages ‘vertical organization of planning, financing, procurement, delivery, monitoring, and reporting’ with no consideration of national needs or broader aspects of the health system (Waage et al., 2010).

5. The MDGs are not en-gendered

En-gendering the MDGs would have implied mainstreaming a gender dimension that should result in equal rights and equal opportunities for women through the achievement of all the MDGs and not only MDG 3, and MDG 5. In MDG 1, for example, we know that more women than men fall below the poverty line and that the depth of poverty is greater for extremely poor women. Women face greater difficulties in accessing land and other livelihood resources and that they carry the disproportionate burden of unpaid care work. Yet, in MDG 1, there is no indication of the gender dimensions of poverty. The MDGs also failed to include other key areas within the women’s rights agenda, including violence against women, sexual and reproductive health and rights, women, peace and security issues. The MDGs framework does not recognize discrimination and inequality as factors that have led to rural communities, the poorest households and ethnic minorities being left behind. There is no guarantee that achieving MDGs goals and targets improve living conditions for the most disadvantaged and marginalized groups.

5. MDGs lack an enabling environment

The achievement of MDGs has been challenged by global economic policies. The 2015 agenda has to be designed in an environment that reduces the disparity between the agenda’s goals and macroeconomic, trade development and investment policies and fiscal policies. Governments must mobilize the maximum available resources to

meet human rights obligations. This means governments must review all sources of revenue including tax revenue. Appropriate financial regulation should be put in place so that women's rights do not retrogress due to a global, national crises or austerity phases. States that are parties to the ICESCR are also under a "minimum core" obligation to ensure the satisfaction of, at the very least, "minimum essential levels of each of the rights" in the ICESCR. Even in times of severe resource constraints, states must ensure that rights are fulfilled for vulnerable members of society. A consistent approach to the participation of rights holders, including the right to information, freedom of expression, assembly and association, and the accountability of duty-bearers is imperative for women who face negative traditional cultural and behavioral stereotypes that often make their informed participation impossible. Focusing on the duty-bearers will provide accountability at multiple intersecting levels – local, national, regional and international creating an enabling environment for the MDGs.

7. Gender Equality is under-funded

In 2012 official development assistance (ODA) stood at \$126 billion presenting a decline in allocable aid, Aid for gender equality = \$22 billion (Sachs, 2012). There is an urgent need to channel more funds towards women's political and economic empowerment. Limited funding for women's rights and gender equality is a crucial factor restraining the achievement of the MDGs for women and girls. Women have been the most affected by the global recession. Women have been most affected by unemployment, underemployment, wage cuts, reduced benefits, decreased demand for migrant workers, lower remittances, lack of assets and credit, higher food, fuel and medicine prices. Governments have cut back on social protections such as healthcare and employment.

2.2.3 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): Nigerian Experience With Respect To Poverty Reduction

Nigeria, which was one of the richest fifty countries in the early 1970s, has retrogressed to become one of the 25 poorest countries at the threshold of the twenty first century. It is ironic that Nigeria is the seven largest exporters of oil and at the sometime host the third largest number of poor people after China and India. Poverty in Nigeria, a country with over 143 million populations according to 2006 census is on the increase. The scourge of poverty has also shown a rising tendency in the past couple of decades, accounting for the Nigeria's low development indicators and its ranking alongside the poorest nations in the world (United Nations, 2007; and Oxfam, 2008). Majority of Nigeria's population lives in poverty with insufficient income to cover minimum standard of food, water, shelter, medical care and schooling. Given the nation rich endowment of natural resources, its poverty profile presents a sober picture of a rich nation in decline.

At independence in 1960, and for the best part of the 1960s, poverty reduction efforts in Nigeria centered on education, which was seen as the key to economic, technological and intellectual development of the nation. Thus, education programmes were implemented alongside agricultural extension services which encourage food production. The oil boom in the 1970s showed this outlook as rising global oil prices boosted export from 4 billion naira in 1975 to 26 billion naira in 1980, while GNP per capita rose from 360 naira to more than 7,100 naira. By the time oil prices fell, so did nation export receipt. This also translated into negative growth and a fall in GNP per capita to 370 naira in the 1980s, (FOS, 1996).

A study conducted by Fidelis, (1996), reveals that in 1980, poverty was largely a rural phenomenon in Nigeria. For example, he argues that 28 percent of rural people

compared with 17 percent of urban people lived below poverty line. By 1985, poverty has become pervasive in both rural and urban areas, urban poverty incidences more than doubled as it rose sharply from 17 percent in 1980 to 38 percent in 1985. The incidence of rural poverty equally increased remarkably from 28 percent to 51 percent during the period. Also In 1992, urban poverty head count remained unchanged at 37.5 percent, while rural poverty declined from 51 percent in 1985 to 46 percent in 1992. However, both rural and urban rates increased between 1992 and 1996, from about 37 percent to 59 percent at 46 % to 72 % for urban and rural areas respectively. These findings are consistent with earlier studies which tend to suggest that poverty was more pronounced among rural than urban people (World Bank, 1996; FOS, 1998 & 1999; Ogwumike 1998; and Okeke et.al; 1999). However, it is obvious from the trends between 1980s and 1996 that urban poverty is becoming an increasing problem in Nigeria.

From the foregoing studies, therefore it can be seen that poverty has long been in existence in Nigeria, and it has been increasing over the years. More so, over the years, the severity of the problem has shown that poverty is not only limited to the rural areas of Nigeria but existence of poverty in urban areas has been on the increase. The causes of this state of poverty in the country had variously been traced to among other factors such as corruption, bad governance, debt overhang, unemployment, low productivity, population growth, globalization, unfocused government, lack of effective skill training, military regimes, and insecurity, among others.

Successive governments in Nigeria have tried to address the problem of poverty in the country through the introduction of various poverty reduction programmes. Such programmes can be grouped into three distinct time frame or areas. These are;

- a. The Pre- SAP Programme on Reducing Poverty
- b. SAP Programmes on Reducing Poverty
- c. Post- SAP Programmes on Poverty Reduction

The Pre Sap- Era

During this period, poverty reduction was never the direct focus of development planning and management. Government only showed concern for poverty reduction indirectly. For example, the objective of the first national development plan in Nigeria included the development of opportunities in health, employment and education as well as improvement of access of these opportunities. These objectives, if achieved should no doubt lead to poverty reduction in the country. Similarly, the fourth national development plan, which appeared to be more precise in the specification of objectives that are associated with poverty reduction emphasized increased in real income of the average citizens as well as reduction of income inequality among other things,(Ogwumike, 1988). Some of the poverty reduction programmes that existed before SAP era include Operation feed the Nation (OFN), 1977 and Green Revolution, 1980, among others.

The Sap-Era

Conscious policy effort by government toward poverty reduction began in Nigeria during the era of Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP). The severe economic crisis in Nigeria in the early 1980s worsened the quality of life of most Nigerians. The government made determined effort to check the crises through the adoption of SAP. However, the implementation of SAP further worsened the living conditions of many Nigerians especially the poor who were the most vulnerable group. This made the government to designed and implemented many poverty reduction programmes from

1986-1992. A summary of various anti poverty programmes which the government of Nigeria put in place between 1986- 1998 is presented in table 2. 1.

TABLE 2.1: Anti poverty programmes by governments of Nigeria

Programme	Year	Target group	Nature of intervention
Directorate for Foods, Roads and Rural infrastructures(DFRRI)	1986	Rural areas	Feeder Roads, rural water supply and Rural Electrification
National Directorate of Employment (NDE)	1986	Unemployed youths	Training, Finance and guidance
Better Life Programme(BLP)	1987	Rural Women	Self-help and rural Development Programmes, skill acquisition and health care
Peoples Bank of Nigeria (PBN)	1989	Underprivileged in Rural and urban areas	Encouraging savings and credit facilities
Community Banks(CB)	1990	Rural residents, Micro Enterprises in urban areas	Banking facilities
Family Support Programme (FSP)	1994	Families in rural areas	Health care delivery, childcare, welfare youth development
Family Economic Advancement Programme (FEAP)	1997	Rural areas	Credit facilities to support the establishment of cottage industries

Source: Fidelis O, Ogwumike, (2003).

The Democratic Era- Post Sap Period

At the inception of the current democratic government in 1999, many Nigerians were made to believe that poverty reduction is the ultimate goal of the democratic government. From 1999 to date, government at all levels introduced policies aimed at reducing poverty among the citizens. For example, Obasanjos government 1999 to 2007 came up with a National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) in 2001.

Under the scheme, so many programmes were introduced. These included Youth Empowerment Scheme (YES), Rural Infrastructure Development Scheme (RIDS), Social Welfare Services Scheme (SOWESS), among others.

During President, Jonathan administration, more and more policies aimed at poverty reduction continued to be introduced in order to reduce the level of poverty. Some of these policies include privatization and deregulation of the downstream sector, You win programme, Subsidy Reinvestment and Empowerment Programme (SURE-P), currency devaluation, Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme (ACGS), Commercial Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme(CACGS), Small and Medium Enterprises Credit Guarantee Scheme(SMECGS), Small and Medium Enterprises Restructuring and Refinancing Scheme(SMERRS), among others. These programmes are introduced in order to ensure that the level of poverty and youth unemployment is reduced to the lowest level

2.2.4 Millenium Development: Goals and Targets in Nigeria

One of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is targeted at eradicating extreme hunger and poverty by the year 2015. Nigeria as a member of the United Nations keyed into the implementation of the frame work of the goals of MDGs among which is eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, by formulating the policy of National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy(NEEDS) in 2004. As policies, both MDGs and NEEDS are targeted at eradicating poverty and bringing about sustainable development. This is done through the establishment of agencies like the National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) among others, (Barnes, A.2010:138)

In Nigeria, programmes geared to achieving poverty eradication goal are woven around four key interventions. The first is the implementation of projects from Debt

Relief Gains (DRG) by ministries, Departments and Agencies in Health, Education, Agriculture, Roads, Energy, Water and Sanitation Women Affairs, Youth, Housing and Environment. Projects implemented include micro-credit facilities, training of teachers, construction and rehabilitation of primary health centers, deployment of midwives, purchase of ante-malarial drugs, polio eradication initiative, immunization of children, youth training, construction of drainages, roads and bore holes, etc. Another is the Conditional Grants Scheme (CGS) which consists of fund that are transferred to states with a matching or counter funding mechanism. Also is the Quick Wins Projects conceived by the federal government to promote the active and visible presence of government infrastructure and services for the realization of the MDGs. There is also the Social Safety Nets, involving conditional cash transfer to vulnerable households in Nigeria. Although, some of these interventions go beyond goal one, they are expected to have overall impact on poverty (CDD, 2014).

The National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) is a blue print for action based on MDGS initiative, whose vision is to make poverty a past and forgotten issue. NEEDS is Nigeria's plan for prosperity, it is a plan to overcome the deep and pervasive obstacles to progress that the government and the people have identified. It is also a way of letting the International community knows where the countries stand in the region and in the world and how it wishes to be supported (NPC, 2004.).

The plan is build on the assumption that Nigeria is faced with series of economic and social instability, poverty, insufficient public sector, corruption and over dependence on government for almost all vital need, infrastructural decay among others. Hence, through co-ordinate effort of the government and other stake holders, the plan is aimed at poverty reduction, wealth creation, and employment generation of

about 7 million people and lays the foundation for sustainable development. The core value of the NEEDS is based upon the hope to lay a solid foundation for national self rediscovery through encouragement of enterprises competition and efficiency, respect for traditional values and promote discipline at all levels of leadership. To tackle the problems that impede economic growth in Nigeria, e.g. public sector dominance in production and consumption, debt overhang and policy inconsistency, NEEDS introduced policy packages targeting at non-oil G.D.P growth rate consisted with the poverty reduction and employment generation. To reduce poverty, NEEDS seek to meet the following broad targets:

- a. Increase average per capita consumption by at least 2% a year.
- b. Create about 7 million jobs by 2007
- c. Increase immunization coverage to 60% by 2007
- d. Increase the percentage of population with access to safe drinking water to at least 70% by 2007
- e. Significantly increase school enrolment rates, especially for girls and increase the adult literacy rate to at least 65% by 2007
- f. Significantly improve access to sanitation (NEEDS Documents: 2005:34).

The institution frame work for implementing NEEDS recognizes the importance of coordination among the Federal (NEEDS) ,the states (SEEDS), and local government levels (LEEDS), for achieving the national development goals. A study conducted by Barnes (2010), concluded that,

The Nigerian government did not meet these targets as contained in the policy documents. He argues that, most Nigerians do not have access to safe drinking water, primary health care, and the rate of unemployment is increasing on a daily basis. This paint an abnormal picture of NEEDS as a poverty reduction policy.

In addition, Muo(2007) argues that, NEEDS as a policy failed in its expectation due to lack of coordination and commitment, lack of continuity, improper appreciation of the roots and magnitude of the problems, poor funding of the programmes, policy inconsistency, deficient infrastructural facilities and corruption. On the other hand, the Central Bank of Nigeria (2003) in its own view based on empirical investigation attributed the failure of poverty alleviation programmes to deterioration in fiscal discipline, corruption, political instability and inconsistent policies. Above all, NEEDS Documents (2007) point out several factors that had hindered the effort of government at reducing the level of poverty. These include poor coordination, the absence of a comprehensive policy frame work, excessive political interference, ineffective targeting of the poor leading to leakage of benefits to unintended beneficiaries, the unwidely scope of the programme which causes resources to be thinly spread across too many projects design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The evidence suggests that the reforms and policies have not recorded the spectacular result expected.

Combating poverty is one of the basic conditions for ensuring socio-economic and environmental sustainability. Poverty reduction is the first goal of the Millennium Development Goals, and also the first cardinal consideration in the NEEDS documents. The targets under both frame works are to reduce at least by half, the number of poor people before 2015. However, Nigeria is ranked the 17th least developed nation in the world by the United Nation Human Development Report, 2008. More so, it is estimated that over 20 million do not have access to 20 liters' of safe drinking water. Most often, up to 1.5 hour a day on average is spent by rural house hold to pitch water and fire wood, with house hold members walking an average of one kilometer each day to have access to these basic necessities of life. These have greatly affected the annual productivity of the country

and have further driven it away from reducing poverty by 2015, (UN, Human Development Report, 2008). Furthermore, a study conducted by Bello (2007), reveals that:

About one million Nigerian children were given out for force and exploitative labor, of which 18% work in dangerous environment after school hours. Ten million Nigerian of school age were reported to be out of school". To him, eradicating poverty via the MDGs frame work continues to appear as a herculean task.

Similarly, Buba (2010) argues that, the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) as a reform programme in line with the target of MDGs seek to fight against the many strands of poverty through job creation and empowerment of people to success. In fact, NEEDS is said to be all about the Nigerian people because it offers a holistic picture of the social and economic challenges facing the country and provide a multi pronged approaches to tackling them. But, instead of focusing on delivering essential public services as contained in the NEEDS documents, some government officials choose to enrich themselves and their immediate family members through looting. Corruption, favoritism, and nepotism thrive in the country without regard for the need of the common man. Other hindrances to the achieving of MDGs are; poor economic management, hostile environment for private sector growth, weak and in appropriate public sector, among others.

The second focus of MDGs is on universal education in order to reduce the level of illiteracy for sustainable development. A study conducted by Federal Office of Statistics estimated that, about 51 percent of adult Nigerians are uneducated at the last decade of the 20th century. Although 76% percent of children of primary school age attended the school, participation dropped to 20% for secondary school age. Rural concentration of illiterate children account for 20.3% or more than 16 million out of

the 80 million population in 1980, and almost 70% of 150 million in 2007 (FOS,2007).

In a major step forward, especially with the introduction of NEEDS and MDGS, primary school enrolment for both boys and girls increased. For example, a study conducted by National Bureau of Statistics (2012), reveals that, primary school net attendance ratio was 71.0 % which represent about 10.0% improvement in comparison to 2008. Of this, about 83.9% were in the urban areas, while 63.4% in the rural areas. Secondary school net attendance ratio was about 54.8%, with the urban areas accounting for 70.5%, while the rural areas accounted for 46.2 % (NBS, 2012). Also with the establishment of Universal Basic Education Commission and subsequently the Federal Teachers Scheme, all with the aim of addressing the shortage of quality teachers in the basic education sub-sector across the country, the expectation is that, by the year 2015 the net target of 100% could be achieved.

Furthermore, a study conducted by Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC, 2012) reveals that:

Though there was expansion in classroom facilities and teaching aids through UBEC fund, but approximately 300,000 class rooms will still be required to fill the gap. 74,000 qualified primary school teachers were recruited through the federal teacher's scheme, but the system requires 441,000 more by 2015

Thus, the study suggests that, for the target to be achieved, government must:

a: :Ensure production of adequate number of teachers and ensuring their continues re-training to be regarded as priority-

b: On going effort on the supply of teachers through the National Teachers Institute will be maintained and expanded.

The third goal of the MDGs is the aspect of gender balance, empowering women and ensuring equitable representation of women in the social, economic and political

activities of the country. For example, a study conducted by Abubakar (2011) reveals that, the proportion of seats held by women in the National Assembly have increased from 3% in 2001 to 7% in 2007, and the figure is still on the increased, bearing in mind the reform policies of past and present administration which aimed at fully integrating women into the decision making process of the country. Also the domestication of the UN convention of Elimination of all forms Discrimination Against Women, have played a great role in ensuring that the right of women are protected. The study concludes that in order to promote gender equality, government must ensure effective implementation of the National Gender Policy through adequate budgets as well as legislation and clear policy directives on mainstreaming gender in the activities of both federal and states MDAs. The goal also seeks to eliminate disparity in primary and secondary education among boys and girls, preparedly by 2015, and in all levels of education not later than 2015.

Similarly, (MDGs performance Tracking Survey, (2012) reveals that,

The gender parity index in primary education was 1.0%, while secondary parity index was 1.2%. This implies that for every male child in primary and secondary school, there is a female child. With this, the country has met the MDGs bench mark on gender parity in both primary and secondary education ahead of the 2015 date, the study concluded.

In recent years, women participation in paid, non agricultural employment has continued to increase slowly. They are slowly gaining access to paid employment at all levels similar to men. In Nigeria for example, wage employment is largely concentrated in urban areas, but in rural communities most employment is in agriculture, and mainly for family subsistence. In such areas, women contribute as unpaid family workers, meaning that women continue to lack access to job security and social protection. Discrimination against women has a dire effect on

development, whichever way one look at it. Most of the poor people in the world and indeed Nigeria are women and their children. Therefore the exclusion of women from education and from opportunities to contribute equally with men in public life has severe social and economic consequences in gender relations.

More so, Abdullah (2009) argues that, other aspect of women life, including the rule of marriage, right to divorce and inheritance are bench mark of a gender just existence for women. He further argues that traditionally, the only safe space for women is within the boundaries of home and community. However, women emphasize that given appropriate opportunities for work and education they will be able to handle most of these issues. Women are mostly self employed in home based work due to discrimination in low income, poor work conditions and lack of social security benefits and the absence of bargaining power. They are caught in the vicious cycle of poverty, lack of education and technical skills, leading to low income work and then back to poverty (Abdullah.

Reducing child mortality is the fourth goal of the MDGs which Nigeria is still grabbing to achieve by 2015. Incidence of child mortality is still very high in the country considering the unsatisfactory figure, which indicates that between 2001 and 2005 for every 1000 live births, 201 die almost immediately, (Buba,2010). Other problems such as cultural factors, illiteracy, poverty and poor attitude/ approach of the medical attendants also contribute to the problems associated with child mortality.

The Nigerian Annual MDGs Report (2010) reveals that, there is a rapid progress in reducing child mortality rate in the country. For example, under five mortality has fallen by over a fifth in five years, from 201 deaths per 1000 live births in 2003, to 157 deaths per 1000 live births in 2008. In the same period, the infant mortality rate falls even faster, from 100 to 75 deaths per 1000 live births. Thus, this study

concludes that, with sustained effort and improvement in related and lagging sector such as water and sanitation, integrated management of childhood illness that reflect the underlying causes of child deaths, there is strong possibility of achieving the goal 4 by 2015.

In its study, MDGs Performance Tracking Survey Report (2012) pointed out that, the emphasis of goal 4 is on reducing the under five mortality rate by two-third, between 1990 and 2015. The targeted indicators include infant mortality rate, and immunization of children. The report further reveals that, the number of children who died before their fifth birth day declined to 94 per 1000 live births in 2012 compared with 157 recorded in 2008. Child immunization against measles expanded to 55.8% in 2012. This is an improvement over the 50% recorded in 2004 and 41.4% in 2008.

In another study conducted by CISLAC (2012) conclude that:

For Nigeria to achieve the goal 4 of the MDGs, incidences of child mortality need to be reduced to the lowest minimum. This can only be achieve through poverty reduction , provision of adequate health care delivery, improve education, increased in budgetary allocation to health sector, provision of accurate ,reliable, credible and believable statistics, among others.

Improvement in maternal health is the fifth goal of the MDGs. Maternal mortality rate stood at 704 per 100,000 as at 2004(FOS, 2006). In Europe, for example, one in 2,400 women die during pregnancy, while in parts of Africa, including Nigeria, it is one in every 20 women. Some of the major causes of maternal mortality in Nigeria as argued by Jibrin and Igbuzor (2008:9) is that low access by poor women to trained health personnel, lack of education, poor budgetary allocation, lack of enhanced distributive equity and poor equipment, account for the maternal mortality cases in the country.

In a similar study, the MDGS report (2010) reveals that, maternal mortality fell by 32% from 800 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2003 to 545 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2008. The target of improving maternal health includes reducing by three – quarter’s maternal mortality ratio and achieving universal access to reproductive health. Equally, the number of women who died during child birth reduced dramatically to 350 per 100,000 live births as against 545 and 800 figures recorded in 2008 and 2004 respectively (MDGs Report, 2012).

The reduction in maternal mortality rate could be attributed to the government interventions which led to improvement in the number of women who embraced family planning, as well as the increase in the number of births attended to by skill health workers. Additionally, the decreased in maternal mortality rates could be linked to the improvement in antenatal care coverage and the number of women who utilized the ante natal care services.

The target of goal 5 of the MDGs is to reduce by three-quarters, the maternal mortality ratio as well as to achieve by 2015, universal access to reproductive health. For Nigeria to achieve this goal in 2015 there is the need to formulate and implement policies that will promote health care service delivery in both rural and urban communities, increased budgetary allocation to health sector and provides incentives for women to attend antenatal service.

The focus of goal 6 of the MDGs is to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases all by 2015. The targets of the goal is to have halted by 2015 and began the reverse of the spread of HIV, to achieve universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS, for all those who need it by 2010, and to have halted by 2015 and began the reverse of the incidence of malaria and other major diseases (MDGs Documents, 2010).

Buba (2010) observes that, tackling the scourge of HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases is one of the challenges facing Sub-Saharan Africa, Nigeria inclusive. He concludes that despite concerted efforts by government of the country to curtail the spread of these killer diseases, the figure of people living with the diseases is still large. For example, the number of children orphaned by the disease stood at more than 930,000, with another estimated five million Nigerian living with the disease in 2010. Concomitantly, Shettima (2008:79), argues that:

It will be an uphill task to achieve the health specific goals in Nigeria judging from the current phase of activities. The HIV prevalence rate increased from 1.8% to 5.7% between 1991 and 1999. By 2003, the rate had dropped to 5.2% and later to 4.4% in 2005, further dropped to 4.2% in 2008. Despite the challenges of achieving the health specific goals of the MDGs, it is still possible to make significant gains in the years to come if Nigeria re-double its effort by being strategic and smart in investing in the health specific and other health related MDGs area.

Generally, it is believed that in recent years Nigeria recorded success in reducing HIV infection rates largely through interventions that promote behavior change. Other areas that contributed to HIV reduction include increased financial flow from the global fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. The World Bank Global Strategy and Booster Programme, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the United States President Global initiatives on HIV, malaria, among others, have largely contributed in the reduction of HIV prevalence in Nigeria. .

Malaria is one of the leading causes of death in people of all ages in Nigeria. It is said that children under five years and pregnant women are most vulnerable. The Nigerian government in partnership with international development agencies began a campaign to roll back malaria through the introduction of insecticides and mosquito nets. As result, there has been a sharp decrease in malaria prevalence rates. The distribution of

more than 72 million long lasting insecticide treated bed nets from 2008 to date had contributed immensely to that effects (MDGs Tracking Survey Report, 2012).

Furthermore, Nigeria is ranked among the top 20 countries shackled by tuberculoses, in spite of the near curable nature of the disease. The incidence of tuberculoses measured by the number of new cases has stabilized or began to fall in the country. With sustained attention, Tuberculoses is expected to be a limited public health burden by 2015. Thus, for Nigeria to consolidate and extend progress on goal 6 of the MDGs, government most as a matter of urgency increase commitment at all levels, improve financing, and strategic investment in health sector, improving knowledge and awareness of HIV/AIDS, and effective implementation of the national strategic frame work for HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculoses.

The seventh goal of the MDGs is to ensure environmental sustainability. The major targets under this goal are to integrate the principle of sustainable development into countries policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources. By the year of 2015, the second target is to halve the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation (MDGs Documents, 2012).

In Nigeria, achieving seventh goal as revealed by UNDP (2010) requires greater attention to the plight of the poor, whose day to day subsistence is often directly linked to the natural resources around them. The country occupies more than two third of Central Africa's mangrove stand and wet land, an important mangrove habitation in the world which is under the threats from exploitation of timber, oil spill, gas flaring and impact of increased urban migration. In the 1980s about 92,000 hectares, a quarter of our land was once covered by forest. By 2010, just half of the green forests still remain, and the potential for their future exploitation is extremely limited.

On environmental sustainability, it is observed that, the situation may even get worse considering that over 90% of rural population depends on the forest for lively hood and domestic energy. The activities of oil prospecting and other mineral exploration companies have also led to a lot of environmental degradation in the Niger delta (UNDP, 2009). In the Northern fronts of the country, the problem of desertification and deforestation significantly reduced the size of farming land, which directly affect the produce of rural farmers as well as increase the threat of food shortage. A study conducted by WHO (2010) reveals that,

Environmental problems such as lack of adequate shelter, poor sanitation, poor toilets, and lack of safe drinking water, together they contributed to a large number of deaths due to diarrheal diseases, especially in under five year of age. Infestation of intestinal worms caused by open defecation affects millions of pre dominantly school age children, resulting in reduced physical growth, weakened physical fitness and impaired cognitive functions.

In Nigeria rapid urbanization resulted to the growth of slums, where new city residents face the problem of overcrowding, in adequate housing, and a lack of water and sanitation. Other challenges facing environmental sustainability is unsustainable use of resources such as the use of firewood for cooking, rising incidence of pipeline vandalism and attendant pollution, ineffective management of solid and liquid wastes, inadequate funding, among others.

Through MDGS intervention, a lot of progress has been made in relation to ensuring environmental sustainability. For example, the proportion of people accessing safe drinking water increased to 58.9 percent and the proportion accessing improved sanitation to 51.6% percent (MDGs Report 2012). For Nigeria to attain the goal 7 of the MDGs, challenges such as inadequate housing, desertification, deforestation, lack of clean drinking water especially in rural communities, rural-urban migration, need

to be tackled. This requires more involvement by communities and agencies concerned to identify local needs and better planning to deliver holistic and sustainable solutions.

The goal eight of the MDGs is to develop a global partnership for development. The targets of this goal includes among other things ; to address the special needs of the Less Developed Countries(LDCs) as well as deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term(Mkor,2012:228). As a result, Nigeria negotiated its external debt in 2005. This provided new opportunities for investments in the social sectors. According to Amina (2008:56),

Nigeria introduced programmes that align institutions such as IMF, Paris club and London club to channel their debt relief to the internationally agreed MDGs targets. The huge burden amounting to over \$18 Billion had been wiped off from Nigerian debt profile. The saving accrued to both federal and states levels of government in the proportion of 75% and 25% respectively. The deal, she argues, presented a significant opportunity to invest further in the county's reform including pro-poor projects and programs that would assist Nigeria in achieving the MDGs. She adds that, the funds provide another opportunity to re-enforce public sector reforms, especially those related to transparency and accountability to the Nigerian people.

In a related study, MDGs Report (2012) reveals that, to build on these positive developments, there is need to take action to fore stall a relapse into unsustainable levels of debt that could prevent the country from achieving the MDGs.

Goal 8 of the MDGs is unique in the sense that it focuses on donor governments and private sector commitments. For example, in the area of telecommunication in 1990 there were only 0.3 telephone lines per 100 people in Nigeria. However, as a result of

the deregulation of the telecommunication sector in 2001, foreign investment in Nigeria's telecommunication sector increased significantly. The number of Global System for Mobile (GSM) lines increased from 0.27 million in 2001 to more than 80 million in 2012, an unprecedented increase which foster communication and create more partnership with international development agencies. Also, the number of Nigerians using the Internet increased from 0.6 in every 100 people in 2000 to 15.8 in 2010(NCC,2012).

It was observed that, the involvement of private sector/foreign investors in the telecommunications sector has brought innovation, wider coverage, job opportunities; new financing, and competition for the industry and increased its contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In the UN Millennium Declaration, it was unanimously agreed that, globalization should become a positive force for all. To this end, members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) decided to complete series of trade negotiations that would focus on improving the prospects of developing countries including Nigeria. As parts of these broader negotiations, developed countries agreed to reduce duties and quota on most import from less Developed Countries (LDCs).As a result, trade barriers for these countries have diminished. Moreover, the liberalization of quota on sensitive products such as clothing and other textiles resulted into the closure of many textile industries in Nigeria as well created unemployment to the teeming populace.

In terms of international and regional integration, Nigeria is a founding member of African Union (AU), New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), as well as Strategic Partner in Promoting Peace and Resolving Conflict in West African sub region. Therefore, for Nigeria to achieve the eight goal of the MDGs, more effort need to be made to address challenges like poor quality services provided by the

GSM operators, low foreign direct investment, poor infrastructure, multiple taxation, corruption, and above all the problem of insecurity bedeviling the nation.

A careful examination of the literature reviewed above revealed that the previous studies conducted on MDGs suffered some weaknesses. First, the studies focused on implementation of MDGs at global level (Bradford, 2006, Amina, 2006, David, 2007). Secondly, most of the previous works on MDGs focused on the extent to which they are attained or not (Action Aid, 2005, Amina, 2008, Jibrin&Ogbizor, 2008). Others, as noted in the literature, dwelled much on regional and sub-regional levels. In Nigeria, most of the studies conducted on MDGs paid attention to their full implementation (CISLAC, 2012, Ogbuzor, 2008) instead of assessing the factors militating against their attainment. Some of them also focused on the impact of MDGs at national instead of state levels (Ibrahim, 2014). It is on this note that, this study intends to bridge this gap by assessing the factors militating against the implementation of poverty eradication under the MDGs framework in Kano State, Nigeria.

2.3 THEORETICAL FRAME WORK

The theory adopted in this study is Prebendalism theory of public policy making. The major proponents of the theory are Max Weber (1864-1920), Peter Eke (1975) among others. Weber uses it to describe a system of personal rule in some parts of India and China in the early part of the 18th century in which the ruler dispenses offices and benefits to subordinates in returns for loyalty, support and services (Weber, 1978:10). In its present form, the theory was popularized by Richard Joseph (1987). He uses it in explaining the politics of the Nigerian second republic. It is generally accepted that Richard Joseph is the father of Prebendalism. According to him, it is a system in which the offices of state are allocated and then exploited as benefices by

the office holders, but also as one where such practice is legitimized by a set of political norms according to which the appropriation of such is not just an act of individuals greed or ambition but concurrently the satisfaction of the short term objectives of a subset of the general population. He argued that,

under the system, there are legal rules stipulating the purview of offices, but personal loyalties, interest and desire for accumulation make the office holders to use their power for private appropriation as well as transformation of offices from their stipulated administrative purpose into a direct or indirect economic resources, are factors which have equal weight in determining the nature and exercise of public power (Joseph, 1987:64-65).

The basic assumptions of the theory include the followings;

1. States offices are regarded as prebends that can be appropriated by office holders, who use them to generate material benefits for themselves and their constituencies and kin groups.
2. Prebendalism is primarily a function of the competition for and appropriation of the offices of the state.
3. A prebendalized system is inherently unstable and weak.
4. The system operates primarily through numerous patron clients network.
5. Political offices under the system are regarded as fiefdoms and patronage by state officials.

The Relevance of the theory to the study

The Prebendalism theory of public policy is relevant to this study on many grounds.

Firstly, the theory is concerned with how public officials use their offices and positions in enriching themselves with public wealth. Based on the assumptions of the theory, occupants of public offices at all levels in Nigeria

felt that their positions entitled them to unbridled access to public resources with which they not only satisfied their material needs but also services the needs of subaltern clients. This kind of criminal diversion of public resources for selfish private ends starved the polity of funds for development, increased poverty and inequality, and intensified an unhealthy rivalry and competition for public office that triggered pervasive instability. As a result of such practiced by politician across the political divide, the country's resources were misused and squandered. This led to massive corruptions which consequently lead to poverty and underdevelopment.

Corruption is a huge challenge in public policy implementation in Nigeria. It is at the core of the crisis of governance and legitimacy, the establishment of a stable democratic order, rule of law, development and the welfare of citizens. Of all forms of corruption, political corruption has remained the major obstacles to national progress in Nigeria. Political corruption is indeed the major explanation for the seemingly insolvvable problems of poverty, diseases, hunger and general acute development tragedy in Nigeria.

In essence, this study found the theory very relevant in identifying and assessing the implementation of poverty eradication programme under the MDGs in Kano State. Through application of the theory the implementation can be investigated. It will also assist us to examine critically from the stand point of the assumptions of the theory how the factors affecting the implementation can be curtailed in order to achieve meaningful poverty reduction in the study area.

Limitations of the theory

One of the limitations of the theory, especially in Nigeria is that it seek to test assumptions about the policy making process without necessarily having the

intent to apply knowledge to addressing social problems. Furthermore, the theory failed to link the nature and character of the Nigerian state on the one hand and the question of citizenship on the other hand.

CHAPTER THREE

Historical Back Ground of the Study Area

Introduction

This chapter dwells on the historical background of the study area as well as MDGs implementation at state level. The chapter also discusses the origin of Kano State, its economic activities and linkage with other sub Saharan regions in Africa as well as the implementation of MDGs framework in the study area. The chapter ended with discussion of the problems affecting the study area as well as why this study is of paramount important.

3.1 An Overview of The History Of Kano State---Study Region

Kano State is one of the 36 States of the Nigerian federation. It is the largest state in terms of population. The state is situated between latitude 10 30' and 13 00 North of equator and longitude 70 4' 10 35 East of Greenwich. Most of the area, according to metrological studies, lies within the Sudan vegetation zone with the Guinea vegetation predominating in its southern borders. The state is situated about 840 kilometers from the edge of the Sahara desert. The region is 472.45 meters above sea –level (Adamu, 1999:09; and Kano Statistical Year Book, 1974:1).

The state was created on May 27, 1967 from part of the old Northern Region. It is bordered with Katsina state to the North-west, Jigawa state to the north-east, Bauchi state to the-east, and Kaduna state to the south-west. The capital of Kano State is Kano. The state presently has a total area of land mass of approximately 20,760 square kilometers comprising of forty-four local government areas including the municipal council. At present, the estimated population of the state is over 12 million; however, the 2006 population census was put at 9,383,682 with 4,844,128 males representing 51% and 4,539,554 females representing 49 %, (NPC, 2007). The

majority of the people of Kano State are Hausa/Fulani, while other ethnic groups like Kanuri, *Mangawa*, Yoruba, Igbo and constitute the minority. More than 95% of the people of Kano state are Muslim and as such Islam influences personal and community affairs and decision in Kano state (Barau, 2006:17).

The state is noted for its arduous climate with relatively wide and rapid changes in temperature and humidity, which can rise up to about 100% in the area. The main daily maximum and minimum temperature are 91.60of (33.1oc) and 60.60of (15.88oc) respectively. Generally the year is divided into a rainy and dry season. The dry season lasts from October to May. During the months of December and January, the harmattan is at its height blowing thin dust over the state from the Sahara desert. At this time, the temperature can fall as low as 50of (10oc). From March to May however, the dry air turns into dehumanized searing air, with temperature rising up to and above 32oc (90of). Also, the bright sun shines in the area of between the ranges of 7-10am daily throughout the year. The soil of the Kano area is plain land consisting of basement complex structure, while the natural vegetation of the area is the savannah type (Adamu, 1999:10; and Olofin, 1987:17).

3.2 Evolution of Settlements in Kano

There seems to be a divergent of views as regard the exact time which Kano came into existence. Adamu, (1999) and Yakudima (2008) argued that human lives were in existence in Kano as back as 600A.D. However, settlements in Kano dated back to the 7th century when the dominant Hausa tribes of the area were smelting in iron. The earliest settlers were the “*Abagayawa*” who migrated from Gaya in search of Iron ore, which they used for manufacturing farming and hunting implements. In the course of their searching they discovered the needed resources at *Dala* hill in sufficient quantity.

Adamu (1999) states that these peoples (*Abagayawa*) only visited the site (*Dala* hill) whenever the need of Iron-ore arose. They usually went to the *Dala* hill to obtain it, until they finally decided to migrate and settle there permanently. One of the noticeable migrants was called *Dala* (whom historian named of the hills in Kano after him). He had seven sons. He builds a four –cornered room for his idol at the bottom of the hill. He also introduced a yearly religious congregation, which attracted all followers of an idol (*Tsumburbura*) from other hill sites.

It is evident from the above that settlements were first established on hills and icebergs. This may be due to the apparent importance of the defensive advantages, which hills and icebergs sites offered. Availability of fertile land in the region also attracted the attention of the settler’s communities to the extent that some abandoned their craft including hunting and took up farming (Yakudima, 2008)

There seems to be a consensus among scholars that Kano developed as a political entity i.e. city-state with the establishment of kingship under Bagauda in the late 999 AD (Kurawa, 2005; and Adamu, 1999). Thereafter, Kano attained state hood as an amalgam of different people and cultures, therefore developed from a tribal society enriched by migratory trends which led to the eventual mixtures of the various migrants through integration and assimilation into an emergent distinct identity called Kano-Hausa (Adamu, 1999).

Dan Asabe (2004,) notes that, later on Kano became a trans-Saharan terminus through which people had exchanged goods and services across the continents to the north for centuries. Thus, Kano was viewed as an administrative and mercantile city and by fifteenth century onward Kano developed into one of the major commercial and manufacturing centers in the western Sudan, particularly with the development of the Kano famed central market “*kasuwar kurmi.*”

With the conquest by the British expeditionary force on February 3rd 1903, they re-organized the administration of Kano to provinces, each under the control of a Resident. Since that time, Kano remained a province in the colony and protectorate of the northern Nigeria until independence on 1st October 1960. After independence on 27th May 1967, Kano state was created as a state from the former four regions of Nigeria by the military decree under Yakubu Gowon. Similarly, in 1991, Jigawa state was created out of Kano State in 1991. Thus the, present Kano state emerged currently with a number of forty four local governments' areas (Refer to appendix 1).

3.3 The Socio-Economic Activities of Kano State

Kano state is historically considered a commercial and agricultural state. The state produces so many agricultural products and it is also blessed with solid mineral resources, apart from its large population. The state is the second largest Nigerian economy, second only to Lagos state. Kano is also the capital of the richest and most flourishing provinces of the present day Hausa land throughout West Africa. Even before colonization, Kano was considered an important commercial destination of caravans from Tripoli, Tunis, Algiers, Sudan, Mali and other West African cities.

Kano also emerges as a centre of learning and civilization under the reign of Emir Muhammad *Rumfa* (1463-1499). His reign was considered a period of transformation and reform as per as Islam, civilization, mercantilism and other socio-economic and political development are concerned (Adamu, 2003; and Naniya, 2003).

From pre colonial period to date, Kano state has two forms of education (religious and western). The religious schools historically provide the impetus for education not only in Kano but the entire northern region. Ever since the inception of Islamic religion and its subsequent acceptance by the inhabitants, the system of education in Kano was based on Quranic studies. Therefore, from the inception of Islamic religion to date,

the number of Quranic schools increased tremendously throughout the state. In such schools, pupils are taught to write and recite Quranic verses and other religious books. As up today, most of the Quranic institutions have been transformed into *Islamiyya* schools, most of which are accommodated within the State educational system while those that are yet to be transformed operate privately (Adamu, 2002). In term of western education, the state has many primary, secondary and tertiary schools in all regions within the State. These schools provide both academic and some elements of vocational education. With regard to western education, it was first established with the arrival of colonial administrators in Kano. From the beginning, the number of western education based schools is insignificant because parents are skeptical about its aims and objectives. Despite rapid increase in western education in the state, there are still serious challenges bedeviling its education sector. Some of these challenges include lack of trained qualified teachers, frequent strike by academic staff, lack of accurate data, socio-cultural beliefs, absenteeism, corruption, insufficient textbook and in structural materials among other things.

In terms of commercial and industrial activities, Kano is the largest centre in northern Nigeria. Its influence is felt not only within the country but also in such neighboring countries as Niger, Chad, Benin, Cameroon and Mali (Shea, 1974).The growing reputation of the state appeared to attracts traders and merchants from states and cities as far away as the Maghreb. Kano became a trans-Saharan terminus through which people exchanged goods and services across the continents (Adamu, 1999and Shea, 1974).

Commercial activities in Kano received its first encouragement with the establishment of *Kurmi* market by the Emir of Kano Muhammad *Rumfa* in the 16th century CE. Subsequent leaders made contributions to the emergence of Kano as a

leading commercial centre in the Sudanese Africa. Craft industry also evolved in the pre-colonial period contributing to the prosperity of the state, (<http://www.kano.gov.ng>)

Prior to the imposition of British rule in Nigeria, Kano already had a long history, dating as far back as seventh century as an independent territory. By nineteenth century, Kano state it had emerged as a leading centre of cottage industries, commerce and agriculture in the old Sudan. It had a powerful merchant class that maintained extensive external links through the trans-Saharan trade for which Kano served as a major centre point (Shea, 1983).

With colonial conquest in 1903, modern manufacturing and industrial plants started emerging in Kano. Although prior to 1945, there were handful of factories in Kano, but from 1945 onward many more factories were established. To accommodate the increased in industrial production, four new industrial estates were opened at Sharada, Challawa, Hadejia Road and Dakata. By the end of 1985, there were more than 500 manufacturing plants employing over 100,000 workers in Kano. These factories were set up by indigenous and foreign private companies as well as by the state through the Kano State Investment Promotion Company (KSIP), and the former Northern Nigerian Development Corporation (NNDC) and now New Nigerian Development Corporation, (NNDC), (MAN, 1990).

The Kano manufacturing sector has contributed over 14% of the total manufacturing output of the whole country. It has further contributed an average of 47% of manufacturing output of the Northern States. A great majority of the manufacturing establishments in Kano employ labour intensive method of production. In terms of their level of performance, the firms that made up the manufacturing sector appeared

generally to have been run profitably before the general economic crisis (MAN, 1990).

It should be noted that, some of the factors that contributed to the rapid growth in industrialization and commercial activities in Kano includes large population, good transportation network, availability of communication network, easy access to raw materials, cheap labour, fertile agricultural land, rich cultural heritage, among other things. The state well connected by good roads network to almost all parts of the country and beyond. Its international air port is one of the oldest in the country serving as a vital link to the outside world.

Today, Kano state continues to experience rapid population growth due in part the attraction for employment leading to increased market and potentially more industrial, commercial and educational establishments. Above all, the multi ethnic composition of the state with variety of cultures co existing constitutes a great asset for the state, (Nabegu, 2008).

In terms of agricultural activities, the state has fertile land suitable for agricultural production. More so, Kano has more than 19 dams including *Challawa goje*, and *Tiga* dams, two of the most ambitious irrigation projects in West Africa, ensure all year farming. Kano is known today as the most irrigated state in the country with more than 3 million hectares of cultivated land, (<http://www.Kano State.net>).

3.4 The Challenges of Socio-Economic Developments of Kano State

Kano state has a lot of potentials in terms of industrial, commercial, educational, cultural and political activities. The Capital, Kano is the leading centre of commercial activities and cottage industries right from the trans-Sahara period. Despite these potentials, commercial and industrial developments of the state experienced major challenges as a result of the multiple factors which include the recession and the economic stabilization programmes of the 1980s which exposed the structural weakness of the import substitution industrialization. Other problems include the devaluation of Naira and the energy crisis that started in the 1990s. Equally the current security challenges affecting the country particularly northern region impacted negatively on the industrial and commercial development of the state. It was estimated that between 1990s and 2010, 50% and 75% of all industries in the State have closed due to lack of raw materials, high cost of energy, infiltration of foreign goods, excessive taxation, lack of capital, among other things (MAN, 2010). These resulted into massive retrenchment by these companies which subsequently created a problem of unemployment especially among teeming youths who constitute the greater percentage of the populace.

Once again,, the development in industrial enterprises in the state brings with it the problem of industrial waste and pollution; especially in the areas around the industrial layouts of Sharada, Bompai, Challawa and Dakata. Also, agricultural activities and water supply sources are seriously affected there by constituting great challenges for ensuring cleaner environment and its maintenance.

Another serious challenge facing the state as a result of rapid urbanization include the shortage and poor housing quality, poor waste disposal and its management, lack of portable water supply, poor health service delivery, shortage of schools, poor drainage

and sanitation system, problem of congestion, among other things. Other challenges due to urbanization include shortage of employment and services. This has given rise to a cadre of unemployed youths locally called *Yan Daba* who have constituted themselves into groups of petty thieves, gangsters, and drug addicts capable of unleashing mayhem at every slight opportunity including political gatherings and perpetrate ethnic and religious violence. The effect of violence among youth in urban areas in Kano cannot be exaggerated. It threatens the urban dwellers and government, and forces government to direct resources that are scarce to security.

Though agriculture is a major employer of labour in Kano, the sector is still being face with series of challenges. The state is leading in irrigation farming in the country but yet over 80% of farming is rain fed and subsequently is at the mercy of vagaries of nature. Other problems affecting agriculture in Kano includes non availability of fertilizer from the government, high cost of farming implements, inadequate modern farming equipments, poor harvest as a result of poor seeds, difficulty in assessing loans, poor market price of the products, among other things.

In terms of education, the state has many primary, secondary and tertiary schools that include Bayero University, Kano University of Science and Technology, North West University, Federal College of Education, Polytechnic, College of Arts, Science and Remedial Studies, apart from health personnel training institutions that the state runs. However there are series of challenges facing the educational sector in the state. They include poor quality of teaching staff, dilapidated buildings, inadequate funding, lack of teaching aids such as audio, visual and audio- visual materials needed for effective learning, inadequate teachers and lack of accurate statistics. Also the gap between rural and urban areas as regard to equal access to education is considerably wide. This is due to the fact that many teachers prefer quitting their profession than

simply working in the rural areas. This is one of the reasons why rural dwellers remain less literate than their urban counterparts.

In recent time, the major challenge facing Kano state is the problem of insecurity bedeviling the nation, especially the north which Kano formed a part. This started with the January 20th, 2012 attacked carried out by the *Boko Haram*. Since that period, series of such attacked were carried out all with the aim of destabilizing the socio-economic, peace and progress of the state. These problems resulted into collapse of the commercial activities as well as increased the rate of unemployment among the teeming population due to collapse of businesses and other economic activities. It also led to the decline in terms of inflow of investment by indigenous and foreign investors.

These problems emerge due to the failure of various governments both military and democratic to solve the teeming socio-economic and political problems of the Nigerian state. Corruption and injustice that characterized the Nigerian state contributed to a great extent to the general insecurity problems affecting the nation, Kano inclusive. However, apart from the above mentioned challenges affecting the state, there are other serious problems from different quarters, among which are the problem of maternal mortality, poor urban design in some quarters and problem of drug abuse, especially among the youths.

3.5 MDGs Implementation At State Levels: A Case Of Kano State

Since 2000 at the United Nations Millennium Summit, when 189 world leaders adopted the Millennium Declaration and agreed to collective commitments to overcome poverty through a set of eight mutually reinforcing interrelated time bound goals (MDGs) with related targets, efforts have been made by the signatories to actualize the programme to the benefits of its rural poor. The MDGs are at the

forefront of the global development agenda and represents the international community's commitment to eradicate poverty by 2015.

In September, 2005, Nigeria successfully negotiated a Debt Relief Deal with the Paris Club of Creditors, and the result led to the savings of about USD 1 billion known as Debt Relief Gains (DRGs) yearly. Subsequently, the DRGs have been channeled in rural development projects that could impact positively on the lives of the rural dwellers. The introduction and implementation of array pro-poor projects and programmes in every nooks and crannies of the country via the MDGs' Conditional Grant Scheme (CGS), has indeed turned around the lives of citizens: gives them ray of hope where hitherto there seem to be none. Many have thus heaved a sigh of relief, and anticipated freedom from the shackles of protracted poverty, illiteracy and a host of life threatening diseases, occasioned by poverty.

The implementation process of MDGs Goal of poverty Eradication in Kano State

Under the MDGs, the constitutional responsibility for implementation of almost all the goals rests with the states and local governments. The gains from the Debt-Relief Grants boosted the implementation process by using the gains to directly target MDGs-related activities across relevant sectors of the state especially that of poverty reduction. The State government introduced series of programme and projects with the hope of impacting positively on the lives of people. Skill acquisition training in the areas of tailoring, welding, irrigation, poultry, soap and detergent making, shoes making among others were provided to people with the hope of empowering them. Take up capital were given to beneficiaries after completion of training. Also, operational tools such as Keke NAPEP, sewing machines, barbing equipment, computer set were provided to people.

Under the MDGs, a number of schools and classes were built and renovated across the state. For instance, most of the constituency projects executed by the members of both state and national assembly in the state came under the auspices of MDGs. In addition, books, desks and other learning materials were shared across the 44 local government areas in the state. This helps in achieving the universal primary education goal under the MDGs. In areas of Women empowerment, a number of programmes were carried out in the state with a view to promoting self-reliance among women in the study area. Women were trained in various entrepreneurial skills with a view to making them less dependent on their husbands and families. Soft loans and operational tools were given to some of them after undergoing different empowerment programmes.

Based on the findings on the implementation of poverty eradication goal of the MDGs in the study area, the implementations have impacted on the living standard of people based on reality on ground. For instance, Aminu Idi in Fagge local government lamented that “though he benefitted from MDGs intervention but the level of poverty among the youth in the area is still very high. He said that governments need to do more in order to reduce the level of poverty in the area.” The programme is a marked difference from the typical government programs as well as approaches in handling poverty issues. The MDGs projects across Kano state help in enhancing the quality of lives for the people as particularly evident in the pool of functional health, water supply, education, skill acquisition and empowerment programme. The ordinary citizens in the remotest villages in Kano state for whom these projects were meant demonstrated their appreciations with the programmes.

In spite of Kano’s huge and diverse population, members of some benefitting communities of such programmes have expressed satisfactions with the projects sited

in their domain under MDGs. In fact, they said some of the projects provided including hand pump boreholes are being over-stretched by the huge masses that use them. A community member Malam Lawan and beneficiary of a hand pump borehole in Maitsidau village in Makoda Local Government area, Said it was terrifying living in the community before the MDGs assisted the community with a borehole. Also speaking, the Head of Department of planning, Research and Statistics of the same Local Government said “MDGs intervention in the area was multiple. These include the implementation of projects from Debt Relief Gains (DRGs) by ministries, and Agencies in the areas of women empowerment, youth training in various vocational activities, micro credit facilities, water and sanitation among other intervention. In the areas of primary health care, there was construction of additional blocks especially concerning pediatric and maternity, supply of medical equipment such as drugs; ambulances to the general hospitals, deployment of midwives, purchase and distribution of anti-malarial drugs, immunization of children were provided by the state government in an effort to improve the general welfare of the people.”(Interview conducted on Saturday 17th January, 2015)

CHAPTER FOUR

Data Presentation and Analysis

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the statistical analysis of an assessment of the implementation of poverty eradication under the MDGs in Kano State. Assessments were presented alongside the research questions. Each of the item and variables in the respective sections are analyzed with frequencies and percentages. The discussions of findings from the analyzed data were presented in the last two sections of the chapter.

Table 4.1.1: Showing the Demographic Characteristics of Public Respondents and MDGs Officials Respondents

VARIABLES	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Frequency	Percentage (%)
	Public Respondents		MDGs Officials' Respondents	
AGE				
18-35	173	67.6	3	15.0
36-49	63	24.6	15	75.0
50 ABOVE	20	7.8	2	10.0
TOTAL	256	100.0	20	100.0
SEX				
MALE	167	65.2	15	75.0
FEMALE	89	34.8	5	25.0
TOTAL	256	100.0	20	100.0
MARITAL STATUS				
SINGLE	148	57.8	4	20.0
MARRIED	90	35.2	16	80.0
DIVORCE	8	3.0	0	0.0
WIDOW	10	4.0	0	0.0
TOTAL	256	100.0	20	100.0
EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION				
PhD/ MSC	22	8.6	3	15.0
Degree/ HND	75	29.3	13	65.0
OND/NCE	71	27.7	4	20.0
secondary and primary schools	85	33.3	0	0.0
Others	3	1.2	0	0.0
Total	256	100.0	20	100.0
OCCUPATION				
Civil servant	128	50.0	18	80.0
Trader	73	28.5	2	10.0
Others	55	21.5	0	0.0
Total	256	100.0	20	100.0

Source: Author's Field work, 2016

Table 4.1.1 shows that 173(67.6%) are within age 18-35 years and 63(24.6%) are within 36-49years old, 20(7.8%) are within age 50 and above and 75.0% of the MDGs officials that responded to the questions are within the ages 36-49years. This implies

that majority of the respondents' age fall within the 18-35years. Table 4.1.1 also shows that 167(65.2%) are males while 89(34.8%) are females. This implies that both sexes are present in the study, while majority of about 75.0% of the MDGs officials are males. Table 4.1.1 also reveals that, 148(57.8%) are singles, 90(35.2%) are married and 8(3.0%) are divorcees while 10(4.0%) are widows. This shows that majority of the respondents are singles; while 80.0% of the MDGs officials are married

Similarly table 4.1.1 shows that 22(8.6%) are PhD/ MSC holders, 75(29.3%) are degree/HND holders, 71(37.7%) are OND/NCE holders and 85(33.3%) are secondary and primary schools holders while 3(1.2%) have other qualifications. This implies that majority of the respondents are learned people; while 65.0% of the MDGs officials are Degree/HND holders. Table 4.1 further shows that 128(50.0%) are civil servants, 73(28.5%) are traders and 55(21.5%) belong to other occupations. It is also deduced from table 4.1 that 90.0% of the MDGs officials are civil servants.

Table 4.1.2: Respondents' Views on the Level of Socio-Economic Development in Kano State

Public Respondents					
	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percentage	
	High	30	11.7	11.7	11.7
	Medium	196	76.6	76.6	88.3
Valid	Low	28	10.9	10.9	99.2
	None	2	.8	.8	100.0
	Total	256	100.0		100.0

Source: Author's Field work, 2016

Table 4.1.2 reveals that 30(11.7%) of the public respondents opined that the level of socio-economic development of Kano state is high, 196(76.6%) said it is medium, 28(10.9%) said it is low while 2(0.8%) remained neutral. This implies that majority of

the public respondents believed that the level of socio-economic development in the study area is moderate.

Table 4.1.3: Respondents' Views on Factors Responsible For Poverty in Kano State.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
.00	2	.8	.8	.8
Poor governmental policies	86	33.6	33.6	34.4
corruption and Mismanagement among leaders	107	41.8	41.8	76.2
Valid Inadequate resources to tackle the challenges	47	18.4	18.4	94.5
The problem of insecurity being faced by the state	14	5.5	5.5	100.0
Total	256	100.0	100.0	

Source: Author's Field work, 2016

The distribution in table 4.1.3 reveals that 86(33.6%) said poor governmental policies is responsible for poverty and other socio-economic challenges affecting the study area, 107(41.8%) said it is corruption and mismanagement among leaders, 47(18.4%) said it is inadequate resources to tackle the challenges while 14(5.5%) of them said it is the problem of insecurity being faced by the state. This implies that the high level of poverty in the state is as a result of corruption, poor policies and mismanagement among leaders.

Table 4.1.4: Respondents' Views on Their Awareness about Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
.00	3	1.2	1.2	1.2
Valid Yes	195	76.1	74.6	99.8
No	58	22.7	22.7	100.0
Total	256	100.0	100.0	

Source: Author's Field work, 2016

Reading between the lines, table 4.1.4 shows that 195(76.1%) of the respondents said they were aware of the Millennium Development goals while 58(22.7%) said they were not. This shows that majority of Kano state people are aware about MDGs programmes.

Table 4.1.5: Respondents' Views on the Effectiveness of Poverty Eradication under MDGs In Kano State.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
.00	2	.8	.8	.8
Effective	204	79.7	79.7	80.5
Valid Not Effective	23	9.0	9.0	89.5
I do not know	25	9.8	9.8	99.2
Others	1	.4	.4	100.0
Total	256	100.0	100.0	

Source: Author's Field work, 2016

It can be established from table 4.1.5 that 204(79.7%) of the respondents considered poverty eradication programme via MDGs to be effective, 23(9.0%) said the programme is not effective and 25(9.8%) said I do not know while 1(0.4%) said others. This implies that majority of the respondents are in agreement that they considered MDGs agenda to be effective towards eradicating poverty in the study area.

Table 4.1.6: Respondents Views on Their Assessment of the Level of The Role Of MDGs In Tackling Poverty Affecting Kano State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
.00	5	2.0	2.0	2.0
Highly satisfactory	49	19.1	19.1	21.1
Satisfactory	175	68.4	68.4	96.5
Valid Not satisfactory	19	7.4	7.4	99.9
Highly not satisfactory	8	3.1	2.3	100.0
Total	256	100.0	100.0	

Source: Author's Field work, 2016

From the distribution in table 4.1.6, 49(19.1%) of the respondents were highly satisfied with the level of the role of MDGs towards poverty eradication in Kano State, 175(68.4%) said they were Satisfied and 19(7.4%) said they were not satisfied with the level of the role of the programme, while 8(3.1%) said they were highly not

satisfied. This implies that the MDGs played significant role in tackling poverty affecting the study area.

Table 4.1.7: Respondents’ Views on What Factors Will Impede MDGs in Attaining Poverty Eradication In Kano State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Corruption and Mismanagement among Government Officials	116	45.3	45.3	46.9
Lack of awareness on the part of the public of the programme	98	38.3	38.3	85.2
Shortage of fund from Government and donor agencies to support the programme	30	11.7	11.7	96.9
Shortage of time frame work	5	2.0	2.0	98.8
Lack o accurate data of people affected by poverty	3	1.2	1.2	100.0
Total	256	100.0	100.0	

Source: Author’s Field work, 2016

Looking at table 4.1.7 it is clear that 116(45.3%) of the respondents said corruption and mismanagement among government officials and other stake holders will impede MDGs from achieving its goal of poverty eradication in the study area, 98(38.3%) said lack of awareness on the part of the public will hinder the MDGs from attaining its targets and 30(11.7%) of the respondents said shortage of fund from government and donor agencies to support the agenda, 5(2.0%) said shortage of time frame work and 3(1.2%) said lack of accurate data of the people affected by poverty. The study area does not have adequate data or systems to collect and analyses data. This makes planning and implementing measures to meet the MDG goal of poverty reduction particularly difficult. A related effect was the disappearance of disciplined collection and analysis of data for national planning and development. This challenge hinders the efforts to plan and track progress towards the MDG targets because the available is not reliable or consistent. This problem was attributed to the fact that; the capacity of institutions to gather data is very weak and, as a result the data available are not very reliable or consistent.

Other challenges faced in the implementation of MDGs agenda of poverty eradication in the study area include lack of human capacity in most of the agencies and department saddle with the responsibility of poverty eradication. Because of these facts, projects related to meeting MDG targets are poorly executed. Delays in procurement always emanate from the inability to comply with requirements. And delays in processing certificates to award contracts and release funds to pay contractors means that states return unspent funds to the treasury and many projects are abandoned. Also a key challenge to implementation always emanate from the processes of procurement where there are insufficient checks and balances to ensure good governance and accountability. Human capacity is also weak in the area of costing and budgeting. This indicates that MDGs may not attain its goals and target of poverty eradication in the study area.

Table 4.1.8: Respondents’ Views on How the Impediments Identified Can Affect the Implementation of Poverty Eradication Of The MDGs Agenda In The State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
.00	3	1.2	1.2	1.2
Very high	95	37.1	37.1	38.3
High	99	38.7	38.7	77.0
Valid Moderate	43	16.8	16.8	93.8
Low	13	5.1	5.1	99.2
Specify	2	.8	.8	100.0
Total	256	100.0	100.0	

Source: Author’s Field work, 2016

Table 4.1.8 shows that 95(37.1%) of the respondents stated that the extent to which the impediments identified can affect MDGs goal of poverty eradication in the study area is very high extent, 99(38.7%) said the impediments are high to affect the implementation of poverty eradication goal of MDGs agenda in the state, 43(16, 8%) said it is moderate , 13(5.1%) of them said the impediments are low to hinder the implementation of the programme and 2(0.8%) were not certain if it will affect or not.

This shows that the implementation of MDGs agenda on poverty eradication in the study area can be affected by some of the enlisted factors.

Table 4.1.9: Respondents' Views on the Impact of MDGs Programme on Poverty Eradication In Kano State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
.00	6	2.3	2.3	2.3
Highly positive	30	11.7	11.7	14.1
Positive	190	74.2	74.2	88.3
Valid Highly negative	16	6.3	6.3	94.5
Negative	9	3.5	3.5	98.0
others	5	2.0	2.0	100.0
Total	256	100.0	100.0	

Source: Author's Field work, 2016

Table 4.9 shows that 30(11.7%) of the respondents viewed the impact of MDGs programme aimed at reducing poverty as highly positive, 190(74.2%) said it is positive, 16(6.3%) said it is highly negative and 9(3.5%) said it is negative while remaining 5 (2.0%) were undecided. Impliedly, it means that majority of the respondents described the MDGs programme as a positive one with high impact in Kano State.

Table 4.10: Respondents' Views on the Level of Achievements in Term of MDGs Programme In Kano State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
.00	2	.8	.8	.8
Very high	16	6.3	6.3	7.0
Valid High	74	28.9	28.9	35.9
Moderate	142	55.5	55.5	91.4
Low	22	8.6	8.6	100.0
Total	256	100.0	100.0	

Source: Author's Field work, 2016

Table 4.10 shows that 16(6.3%) of the respondents believed that, the extent to which MDGs achieve its goal of poverty reduction is very high, 74(28.9%) of them said it is high, 142(55.5%) said it is moderate while 22(8.6%) said it is low. This informed that

majority of the respondents were optimistic that the level of achievement in term of MDGs programme in the study area was moderate.

Table 4.11: Views of the Official Respondents on the Implementation of the Millennium Development Goals Agenda of Poverty Eradication in Kano State.

Variable	Percent %
Views on the level of socio-economic development of Kano State	
High	30.0
Average	60.0
Low	10.0
None	00.0
Total	100.0
Views on factors responsible for poverty and other socio-economic challenges facing Kano the state	
security problem ,mismanagement and corruption	25.0
lack of continuity and lasting agenda	25.0
lack of job opportunity and infrastructures	40.0
High level illiteracy	10.0
Total	100.0
Views on how they Perceived Millennium Development Goals	
Developmental programme	90.0
Training youths	5.0
Minimize the level of poverty	5.0
Total	100.0
Views on how effective MDGs agenda is in Eradicating poverty affecting Kano State	
Effective	40.0
Not enough	45.0
Not Effective	15.0
Total	100.0
Views on the Role Of MDGs In poverty Eradication in Kano State	
Great impact on poverty	15.0
Averagely implemented	50.0
Effective	20.0
Not effective	15.0
Total	100.0
Views on what Will Impede MDGs In Attaining Its Goals of poverty eradication By The Year 2015 In Kano State	
Poor Implementation of the programme activities	20.0
Mismanagement and corruption	45.0
Low publicity and shortage of fund	30.0
Lack of Accurate Data of the study area.	5.0
Total	100.0
To What Extent The Impediments Identified Can Affect The Implementation Of The MDGs agenda for tackling poverty In The State	
Greater Extent	60.0
Average	20.0
Not any Extent	20
Total	100.0
Views on the Impact Of MDGs Programme In Kano State	
High	15.0
Average	65.0
Low	15
Not any	5.0
Total	100.0
Comment Freely On The Implementation Of MDGs Programme of poverty eradication In Kano State	
it is a good policy for development	35.0
Averagely implemented	20.0
Satisfactory	40.0
Not Satisfactory	5.0
Total	100.0

Source: Author's Field work, 2016

Table 4.11 indicates that 06 official respondents, representing 30% agreed that the level of socio-economic development of Kano state is high. This is followed by 12 official respondents, representing 60% who opined that the level is moderate. Also 02 official respondents representing 10% believed that the level of socio-economic development of Kano state is low. Table 4.11 shows that, none of the official respondents responded with none.

It further reveals the opinion of MDGs officials' respondents on the factors responsible for poverty and other socio-economic challenges facing the study area, which 05 official respondents representing 25.0% said security problem, mismanagement and corruption are the major challenges. This is followed by 05 official respondents, representing 25% who opined that it was lack of continuity of projects and lasting agenda. Similarly, 08 official respondents, representing 40.0% said it was lack of job opportunity and infrastructures respectively, while 02 Officials representing 10.0% said high level of illiteracy is the cause of poverty in the study area. The distribution from table 4.11 shows that 18 official respondents representing 90.0% were of the opinion that they perceived MDGs as developmental agenda. This is followed by 01 official, representing 5.0% who perceived it as training of youths and another 01 official respondent, also representing 5% who agreed that it is a policy that minimizes the level of unemployment. Table 4.11 further indicates that, 08 official respondents, representing 40.0% agreed that MDGs programme is effective means of tackling poverty and other socio-economic challenges affecting Kano state, another 09 official respondent, representing 45.0% opined that the policy is not enough. While,, 03 official respondents, representing 15% said it cannot tackle the problem of poverty affecting the study area.

Furthermore, 03 official respondents representing 15% agreed that MDGs has a great impact. This is followed by 10 official respondent's representing 50.0% who believed that the impact was average in tackling poverty and other socio-economic challenges affecting Kano state. It also shows that 04 official respondents representing 20.0% opined that the role of MDGs is effective in tackling poverty affecting the state. Then followed by 03 official respondents representing 15.0% who said the MDGs agenda is not effective. The opinion of MDGs officials on what will impede the MDGs in attaining its goal and target of poverty eradication in the study area indicated that 06 official respondents representing 30.0% said low publicity of the programme and poor policies are the major impediments. Another 04 official respondents representing 20.0% agreed that poor implementation of the programme activities is the problem. This followed by 09 official respondents, representing 45.0% who agreed that mismanagement and corruption among government officials was the major challenges. Also 01 official respondent, representing 5%.of the respondents said lack of accurate data of the study area. This means that low publicity of the programme, mismanagement and corruption as well as poor implementation of the programme are the major impediments for achieving MDGs goal of poverty eradication and targets in Kano state.

More so, it is revealed that on the question of the extent the impediments identified can affect the implementation of the MDGs in the state, 12 official respondents representing 60% said to a large extent and 04 official respondents representing 20% agreed that the extent is average. This is followed by 04 official respondents representing 20% who agreed that the extent is lesser. It also shows that 03 official respondents representing 15% has describe the impact of MDGs on poverty eradication in Kano State as high. This is followed by 13 official respondents

representing 65% who have agreed that the impact is average. Equally, 03 official respondents, representing 15% opined that the impact is low. Then 01 official respondents representing 5% opined that there is no any impact. This implies that majority of the MDGs officials rated the operations of MDGs in Kano state as a positive one some achievement has been made in poverty eradication in Kano state even as we proceed to year 2016. On the implementation of the MDGs agenda on eradicating poverty in Kano state, it is indicated that 07 official respondents representing 35% agreed that the implementation is satisfactory. This is followed by 04 official respondents representing 20% who agreed that the implementation is on average level. Similarly, another 08 official respondents representing 40% believed that the implementation is satisfactory. Only 01 official respondent, representing 5% opined that the implementation is not satisfactory. This means that the introduction of MDGs in Kano brought about a positive developmental in relation to poverty eradication.

Major findings

The study findings revealed that the implementation of poverty eradication goal under the MDGs agenda have slightly improved the living standard of people in the study area. These happened through provision of entrepreneurial skill acquisition, provision of operational tools, operational capital, soft loan and other interventions were given to people after undergoing different empowerment programme. The money realized through Debt Relief Gains(DRGs), Conditional Grant Scheme(CGS), and Conditional Cash Transfer(CCT) were used in providing basic health care services such as Antenatal/postnatal care, malaria treatment, HIV/AIDS counseling, provision of Antiretroviral drugs among others. Also, social services such as water supply, construction of borehole, construction and renovation of primary schools, provision of instructional

materials were provided with the hope of improving the literacy level of the people which will consequently help in poverty reduction.

The study also find that corruption and mismanagement of resources among the government official and some other stakeholders, poor monitoring of the executed projects, low level of awareness of the programme, shortage of fund, lack of accurate and reliable data of people affected by poverty in the study area, high level of illiteracy were some of the impediments that affected the implementation of poverty eradication goal under the MDGs in the study area.

4.2 Discussion of Findings and Verification of Research Assumptions

The study was designed to assess the implementation of poverty eradication programme under the MDGs in Kano state. Data were collected from sampled respondents that responded to the research instruments, and the results of the analysis were presented. The study came up with a number of findings which were used to test the validity or otherwise of the research assumptions.

4.2.1 First Assumption: The implementation of poverty eradication goal of the MDGs has slightly improved the living standard of people in the study area.

From the findings of this study, it is evident that MDGs intervention as a global programme have slightly improve the living standard of the people of Kano state in the areas of poverty reduction, by providing entrepreneual skill acquisitions, empowering people through cash incentives, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS, among other areas.

An assessment of the role of MDGs were made and it was discovered from the findings that (68.4%) agreed that MDGs roles help in tackling the scourge of poverty and other socio-economic challenges affecting the study area as shown in table 4.6. Furthermore, it is established from the findings of the research that allocation received

through Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) were used in providing take up capital, provision of operational tools, entrepreneurial skills and soft loan to women and other vulnerable groups in an attempt to make them self reliance in their various communities. These have impacted positively on the lives of such people and have contributed in reducing poverty in the study area.

Also, The MDGs ensured primary education for all people is the key to unlocking the potentials of all societies. Education enables peoples to take care of themselves and their families, to take control of their future, and most importantly, to raise themselves out of poverty. Furthermore, the study reveals that achieving universal education will help achieve other targets and goals of the MDGs. For example, it combat poverty, promote gender equality, create awareness of HIV/AIDS, improve maternal health, reduce child mortality and promote environmental sustainability. The finding also identifies and revealed the key areas where policy coherence and capacity strengthening need to be intensified towards MDGs achievements.

The third goal of the MDGs is to promote gender equality and empower women. Based on the findings of this study, it is realized that equality for women is progress for all. Gender equality revolves around the provision and granting of such peculiar rights, dues and entitlements which Allah (SWT) bestow upon woman based on her natural qualities and traits. This covers all areas of human endeavour, especially, educational, economic as well as political spheres.

Equality for women is a progress for all. This is indeed a reality; because, it has been widely believed that when you educate women, you have educated the entire society. This simply means given women equal opportunity similar to what has been given to her counterpart male, will go a long way in promoting home management, sound moral child-upbringing, as well as good mothers, wives and the potential managers of

the public realm. Similarly, provision of equal opportunities means women empowerment, proper contribution and control of domestic responsibilities and family support, which include good nutrition for the family, proper health and medical care, cleaner environment and qualitative sound education for the entire family. Further, political equality represents sound public policy and strong durable legislation and peace process for the entire humanity. This invariably means political stability, economic development and harmonious coexistence for the people. Hence, equality for women means progress for all. From the findings of this study especially on promoting gender equality, it is revealed that change is happening but slowly. To achieve gender parity according to this study, there is need to make women more productive especially in areas of paid work, appointment into senior position in public and private sectors, affirmative actions, among others.

Generally, the findings of this study revealed that the implementation of poverty eradication agenda under MDGs programme help in reducing the scourge of poverty and other major challenges affecting the study area. Table 4.5 shows that 79.7% of the public respondents agreed that MDGs programme help in reducing poverty. Similarly, 40% of the official respondents believed that MDGs programme is effective. However, this success can only be sustained by identifying and unlocking the constrains and bottlenecks that surrounded the implementation of MDGs agenda for tackling poverty in the study area especially with respect to policies, processes, institutions, instruments and resource allocations.

Finally, the MDGs projects across the study area help in enhancing the quality of lives for the people as particularly evident in the areas of functional health, water supply, education, skill acquisition and series of poverty reduction programmes for unemployed youths. This also confirmed research assumption one of the study.

Assumption Two: A number of factors are assumed to militate against the implementation of poverty eradication goal under the MDGs programme in the study area.

It was discovered from the findings of the study that (45.3%) of the public respondents were of the opinion that corruption and mismanagement among government officials, poor monitoring and evaluation of the executed projects, as well as lack of pro-poor policies that will impact on masses directly were some of the factors that militated against the successful implementation of MDGs goal of eradicating poverty in the study area as shown in table 4.7. Also, the same table 4.7 shows that 38.3% of the public respondents believed that lack of awareness on the part of the public also serve as impediments to the successful implementation of poverty eradication agenda in the study area. It is also agreed by both public and officials' respondents based on the research finding that shortage of funds from the implementation stake holders also militated against achieving goal of poverty eradication in the study area. This in essence represents the facts that both the sampled respondents invariably agreed that the above mentioned factors were the ones that affected the implementation of poverty eradication goal of MDGs in the study area. Furthermore, Table 4.1.7 and 4.1.8 justified the existence of a very strong relationship between the factors identified and success recorded in the implementation of poverty eradication goal of MDGs agenda. The findings also revealed that the implementation of poverty eradication agenda under the MDGs contributed toward poverty reduction in the study area. It is obvious that there is need for more equitable and broad- based growth and pro-poor policies in order to bring about significant reduction in poverty in the study area.

Other challenges that militated against the implementation of poverty eradication in the study area based on the findings of the research included the deterioration in infrastructures such as roads, quality schools, hospitals, poor delivery of social services, unemployment among other challenges contributed to a large extent to the problem of poverty eradication under MDGs framework in the study area.

Similarly, Central Bank of Nigeria (2012) in its own view based on empirical investigation attributed the failure of most poverty eradication programmes to deterioration in fiscal discipline, corruption, political instability and inconsistent policies. Other factors that hindered the effort of government at reducing the level of poverty include poor coordination, the absence of a comprehensive policy framework, excessive political interference, in effective targeting of the poor leading to extension of benefits to unintended beneficiaries, non specific of the scope of the programme which causes resources to be thinly spread across too many projects design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

The above explanations proved that the number of factors discussed above militated against the implementation of poverty eradication goal under the MDGs agenda in the study area. This confirmed the research assumption two of the study.

CHAPTER FIVE

Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations

5.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the summary, conclusion and recommendations of the study based on results of the investigation. The conclusion was also made based on the major findings of the study.

5.1 Summary of the Study

The study was carried out in order to assess the factors militating against the implementation of poverty eradication under the MDGs frame work in Kano state. In order to achieve the objectives of the study, three specific objectives were raised which intend to identify and examine the implementation instruments and procedures used by MDGs programme in addressing the scourge of poverty in Kano state. The study also investigates the factors militating against the implementation of poverty eradication under MDGs frame work in Kano state. A total of two hundred and fifty six (256) public respondents from the total population of the study area and twenty (20) officials' respondents were sampled for the study. Structured instrument was used to gather data from the public and MDGs officials. The data collected were presented in tables of frequencies and percentages.

The study highlighted the role played by MDGs in tackling poverty and other socio-economic challenges affecting the state as well as the impediments that affected the successful implementation of poverty eradication agenda in the study area.

5.2 Conclusion

Based on the, the findings of this study it can be concluded that, even though MDGs played a role in curbing poverty and other socio-economic challenges affecting the study area, yet there is need for more equitable and broad based growth

to bring about significant poverty reduction in the study area. The low level of awareness about the MDGs agenda in the study area, corruption and mismanagement among government officials during implementation, inability of the programme to reduce inequalities between rich and poor, shortage of funds, poor monitoring and evaluation on the part of governments and donor agencies, shortage of basic infrastructure, among other things serve as major impediments that affected the implementation of MDGs goals of poverty eradication in Kano state. It was also revealed from the findings of this study that the goals and targets of MDGs of eradicating poverty are likely to be missed by 2015. Therefore such goals and targets should be incorporated into Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which are to be realized beyond 2015

5.3 Recommendations of the Study

Based on the major findings of the study it is very imperative to offer some recommendations which if followed could serve as a means of enhancing implementation of MDGs programme and other government policies of tackling poverty and other socio-economic challenges affecting the study area.

Firstly, communities to benefit from particular programmes/projects suppose to be involved in the planning, execution; monitoring and assessment of such programmes. This will help in preserving of such programmes .Also, peculiarities of different communities need to be taken into account in designing of projects so that poverty reduction programme that will fit different communities will be provided.

Secondly, Government officials, donor agencies and other stake holder's saddle with the responsibility of implementation of MDGs programmes suppose to be accountable in their dealings. This can happen through effective financial

management and policy implementation. This will help in tackling corruption within its activities.

Thirdly, it is also recommended that both federal, states and local governments, private sectors and civil societies should increase their active participation toward achieving the MDGs goals of poverty reduction even beyond 2015.

Fourthly, MDGs should have a regular audit of projects/ works done under its targets before awarding/ commencing new ones. Equally also, there should be more enlightenment and proper education of the people in the study area on the roles and targets of MDGs as well as other government policies that affect their communities.

Fifthly, there is need for strong political will on the part of government especially by increasing its budgetary allocation on poverty reduction programme as well as encouraging international development partners to do more on the scourge of poverty affecting millions of Nigerians.

Lastly, corruption and mismanagement that surrounded the implementation of MDGs can be tackled by providing strict punishment to those involved in such act, as this will serve as deterrence to those handling the implementation of sustainable development goals (SDGs).

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Appendix I

Local Government Areas[\[edit\]](#)

Kano State consists of forty-four (44) Local Government Areas (LGAs). They are:

LGA Name	Area (km²)	Census 2006 population	Administrative capital
<u>Fagge</u>	21	198,828	<u>Waje</u>
<u>Dala</u>	19	418,777	<u>Gwanmaja</u>
<u>Gwale</u>	18	362,059	<u>Gwale</u>
<u>Kano Municipal</u>	17	365,525	<u>Kofar Kudu</u>
<u>Tarauni</u>	28	221,367	<u>Unguwa Uku</u>
<u>Nassarawa</u>	34	596,669	<u>Bompai</u>
<u>Kumbotso</u>	158	295,979	<u>Kumbotso</u>
<u>Ungogo</u>	204	369,657	<u>Ungogo</u>
<i>Kano Metropolitan Area</i>	<i>499</i>	<i>2,828,861</i>	
<u>Dawakin Tofa</u>	479	247,875	<u>Dawakin Tofa</u>
<u>Tofa</u>	202	97,734	<u>Tofa</u>
<u>Rimin Gado</u>	225	104,790	<u>Rimin Gado</u>
<u>Bagwai</u>	405	162,847	<u>Bagwai</u>
<u>Gezawa</u>	340	282,069	<u>Gezawa</u>
<u>Gabasawa</u>	605	211,055	<u>Zakirai</u>
<u>Minjibir</u>	416	213,794	<u>Minjibir</u>
<u>Dambatta</u>	732	207,968	<u>Dambatta</u>
<u>Makoda</u>	441	222,399	<u>Makoda</u>
<u>Kunchi</u>	671	111,018	<u>Kunchi</u>
<u>Bichi</u>	612	277,099	<u>Bichi</u>
<u>Tsanyawa</u>	492	157,680	<u>Tsanyawa</u>
<u>Shanono</u>	697	140,607	<u>Shanono</u>
<u>Gwarzo</u>	393	183,987	<u>Gwarzo</u>
<u>Karaye</u>	479	141,407	<u>Karaye</u>
<u>Rogo</u>	802	227,742	<u>Rogo</u>
<u>Kabo</u>	341	153,828	<u>Kabo</u>
<i>Northern Kano State</i>	<i>8,332</i>	<i>3,143,899</i>	
<u>Bunkure</u>	487	170,891	<u>Bunkure</u>
<u>Kibiya</u>	404	136,736	<u>Kibiya</u>
<u>Rano</u>	520	145,439	<u>Rano</u>
<u>Tudun Wada</u>	1,204	231,742	<u>Tudun Wada</u>
<u>Dogua</u>	1,473	151,181	<u>Riruwai</u>
<u>Madobi</u>	273	136,623	<u>Madobi</u>
<u>Kura</u>	206	144,601	<u>Kura</u>
<u>Garun Mallam</u>	214	116,494	<u>Garun Mallam</u>
<u>Bebeji</u>	717	188,859	<u>Bebeji</u>
<u>Kiru</u>	927	264,781	<u>Kiru</u>
<u>Sumaila</u>	1,250	253,661	<u>Sumaila</u>
<u>Garko</u>	450	162,500	<u>Garko</u>
<u>Takai</u>	598	202,743	<u>Takai</u>
<u>Albasu</u>	398	190,153	<u>Albasu</u>
<u>Gaya</u>	613	201,016	<u>Gaya</u>
<u>Ajingi</u>	714	174,137	<u>Ajingi</u>
<u>Wudil</u>	362	185,189	<u>Wudil</u>
<u>Warawa</u>	360	128,787	<u>Warawa</u>
<u>Dawakin Kudu</u>	384	225,389	<u>Dawakin Kudu</u>
<i>Southern Kano State</i>	<i>11,554</i>	<i>3,410,922</i>	

APPENDIX III

AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
TYPE I QUESTIONNAIRE

RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE FOR OFFICIALS RESPONDENTS

DEAR RESPONDENTS,

This is a research on “the Assessment of the implementation of Poverty Eradication under the MDGs Agenda in Kano State”. I humbly request that you participate in this field survey by completing the attached questionnaire in the most objective manner. Please be assured that all information you provide will be treated in due confidence and will be used for academic purpose relating to my work.

PART ONE: BIO DATA

1. AGE 18-35() b. 36-49 () C. 50- above ()

2. SEX: a. Male () b. Female ()
3. MARITAL STATUS: a. single () b. Married () c. Divorcee () d. Widow ()
4. EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION: a. PhD/ M. SC () b. Degree/ HND () C. OND/ NCE
D. Secondary and primary schools () e. Others specify
5. OCCUPATION: a. Civil servant () b. Trader () c. Others specify

PART TEWO: RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. How can you describe the level of socio-economic development in Kano State?

2. What in your own opinion is responsible for poverty and other socio-economic challenges affecting Kano State?

3. What do you perceive by Millennium Development Goals?

4. Do you consider MDGs agenda to be an effective means of poverty eradication in Kano State?

5. How can you assess level of the role of MDGS agenda in tackling the scourge of poverty affecting Kano State?

6. In your own opinion, what do you think will impede MDGs in attaining its goal of poverty eradication in Kano State?

7. To what extent the impediments identified can affect the implementation of the MDGs agenda for tackling poverty in the State?

8. Generally how can you describe the impact of MDGs Programme in Kano State?

Thanks for your cooperation.

APPENDIX IV

AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

TYPE II QUESTIONNAIRE

RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PUBLIC RESPONDENTS

DEAR RESPONDENTS,

This is a research on “the Assessment of the implementation of Poverty Eradication under Millennium Development Goals (MDGS) in Kano State”. I humbly request that you participate in this field survey by completing the attached questionnaire in the most objective manner. Please be assured that all information you provide will be treated in due confidence and will be used for academic purpose relating to my work.

PART ONE: BIO DATA

1. Age: 18-35() b. 36-49 () C. 50- above ()
2. Sex: a. Male () b. Female ()
3. Marital Status: a. Single () b. Married () c. Divorcee () d. Widow ()
4. Educational Qualification: a. PhD/ M. SC () b. Degree/ HND () C. OND/ NCE d).
Secondary and primary schools () e. Others specify
5. Occupation: a. Civil servant () b. Trader () c. Others specify

PART TWO: RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. How can you describe the level of socio-economic development in Kano State?
a. High () b. Medium () c. Low () d. none ()
2. What in your own opinion is responsible for poverty and other socio-economic challenges being faced by the State?
a. Poor governmental policies () b. Corruption and mismanagement among leaders ()
c. In adequate resources to tackle the challenges () d. The problem of insecurity faced by the State ()
3. Are you aware of the Millennium Development Goals?
a. Yes () b. No ()
4. Do you consider poverty eradication agenda under MDGs to be effective means of tackling poverty in Kano State?
a. Yes () b. No () c. I do not know () d. Others specify -----
5. How can you assess level of the role of MDGS in tackling poverty affecting Kano State?
a. Highly effective () b. Effective () c. Highly ineffective () d. Others specify
6. In your own opinion, what do you think will impede MDGS in attaining its goals of poverty eradication in Kano State?
a. corruption and mismanagement among government officials
b. Lack of awareness on the part of the public
C. In adequate resources from government and donor agencies

d. Shortage of time frame work

e. Others specify-----

7. To what extent the impediments identified can affect the implementation of poverty eradication under the MDGs in the State?

a. Very high () b. High () c. Moderate () d. Low() e. Specify

8. Generally how can you describe the impact of poverty eradication under the MDGs in Kano State?

a. Highly positive () b. positive () c. highly negative () d. Negative () e. Others specify -----

9. How can you assess the level of achievement in term of poverty eradication in the State?

a. Very high () b. high () c. moderate () d. Low () e. others specify-----

Thanks for your cooperation.