

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR- 57096

Title: Insecurity and Its Impact on Economic Development in Cross River State, Nigeria.

Recommendation:

Accept after minor revision.

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity		✓		
Significance		✓		

Reviewer Name: Dr. Bishwajit Rout

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

(To be published with the manuscript in the journal)

The reviewer is requested to provide a brief comment (3-4 lines) highlighting the significance, strengths, or key insights of the manuscript. This comment will be Displayed in the journal publication alongside with the reviewers name.

- Significance:** This study is significant for its localized examination of insecurity's economic implications in Cross River State, addressing a critical gap in sub-national research. It contributes to policy and academic discourse by linking security challenges with economic outcomes. The findings provide valuable insights for policymakers, security agencies, and development planners seeking sustainable solutions to insecurity-driven economic disruptions in Nigeria.
- Strength:** The study's major strength lies in its mixed-methods design, combining quantitative rigor with qualitative depth. It provides context-specific insights supported by field data, enhancing reliability and relevance. The integration of multiple theoretical perspectives strengthens analytical depth, while the use of real-life case studies and statistical evidence ensures practical applicability and strong empirical grounding.
- Key Insight:** The key insight of this research is that insecurity operates as both a direct and structural constraint on economic development, significantly influencing business activity, agriculture, and migration. The study demonstrates that insecurity explains a substantial proportion of economic decline, highlighting the need for integrated security and development strategies to break the cycle of violence and economic stagnation.

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The paper titled *“Insecurity and Its Impact on Economic Development in Cross River State, Nigeria”* examines the impact of insecurity kidnapping, banditry, and communal conflicts on economic development in Cross River State, Nigeria. Drawing on surveys (n=300), interviews, and secondary data from three LGAs (Calabar South, Biase, Abi), findings reveal significant disruptions: business closures, agricultural losses, migration, and declining tourism/revenue. Regression analysis shows insecurity explains nearly 59% of economic decline. Root causes include historical/ethnic tensions, weak governance, and poverty. The paper applies human security, conflict, and social disorganization theories, recommending strengthened law enforcement, community policing, conflict resolution, and socio-economic interventions. Relevant for sub-national security-development discourse in Nigeria, though limited by scope and recency of data.

Suggestions for Improvement:

1. Clearly articulate research gap distinguishing study from existing literature.
2. Reduce repetitive explanations of insecurity across multiple introductory paragraphs.
3. Clarify how each theory informs specific variables used in analysis.
4. Reduce descriptive emphasis and increase analytical comparison among theories.
5. Condense historical narrative to focus on most relevant causal factors.
6. Explicitly link historical factors to present insecurity patterns in analysis.
7. Justify sampling technique and explain representativeness of selected respondents.
8. Include limitations of methodology affecting validity and generalizability of findings.
9. Organize findings into thematic sub-sections for better readability and coherence.
10. Present tables or charts summarizing key quantitative results clearly.
11. Avoid repetition of findings and focus more on interpretation.
12. Strengthen linkage between findings and theoretical framework discussed earlier.
13. Reduce repetition and summarize findings more concisely and precisely.
14. Clearly highlight study's contribution to academic and policy discourse.

The paper presents a timely and policy-relevant analysis of insecurity and economic development in Cross River State, supported by a robust mixed-methods approach. While the study demonstrates

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strong empirical grounding and contextual depth, improvements are required in theoretical integration, methodological transparency, and analytical coherence. With revisions addressing structure, clarity, and critical engagement, the manuscript holds significant potential for publication and contribution to security-development discourse. Addressing the identified weaknesses will make it suitable for publication in IJAR.

I recommend this paper for publication after minor revision.