

## AN ASSESSMENT OF CHINA'S CONTRIBUTION TO INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

By

**Fatima, Abubakar Katcha**

Department of Political Science,

IBB University Lapai, Niger state

Phone No.:08035964975. Email:fatikatcha@gmail.com

### **Abstract**

*This study seeks to appraise china's contribution to infrastructural development in Nigeria. The study was motivated by our desire to analyse the role China has played in aiding the economic development of Nigeria. In spite of the country economy challenges many are of the view that it has increase maximally. It is for the study to justify whether china has contributed or not to the country economy. The study adopted structural/functional theory by Gabriel Almond that analyzed the functionalism of structures in different societies. Documentary (qualitative) methodology approach was used for sourcing of the data with emphasis on secondary source of data. The study discovered that in spite china contributions to Nigeria economy, its domination in the economic system is not far fetch. The study therefore recommends that the relationship between China and Nigeria should continue to exist with Nigeria's less dependent on china, in order to avoid domination across all major sectors of the economy, but win-win outcome should be giving priority to both country, rather than win-lose outcome.*

**Keywords:** *Infrastructure, Development, Economy, Relation and Sector*

### **Introduction**

China been an Asian country with rapid economic and technological advancement is well known as a super power that has 1,444,585,037(over1.4billion) population (United Nation, 2021) based on worldometer elaboration, highest in the world. In "their effort to help develop the developing nations like Nigeria loans, and foreign direct investment. Since the founding of People's Republic of china in 1949, the country has tremendously aided sustainable development at national and international level in order to strengthen cooperation and embrace globalization with the world. In its quest to be part of globalization, China-Nigeria established diplomatic relations on February 10, 1971. But internal crisis reduced the pace of economic integration in both countries. Nigeria gaining her independence in 1960 also went into trade policy of protectionism placing high restrictions on importations of capital goods that could have enhanced local industry like machineries to boost agricultural production and other sectors of the economy.

Moreover, the relation of the two countries grows as a result of international isolation and condemnation of Nigeria's military regimes of 1970-1998. While on the other hand, the Chinese open door policy that embark on communist party in 1978 led by Deng Xiaoping which gives equal commercial and industrial rights to all nations of the globe. The cooperation is based on the principle of equal respect and mutual benefits, with the friendship and exchange of visit between both countries consolidated with time. The china frame work with Africa called forum on china-Africa cooperation (FOCAC) with distinction Beijing summit of the FOCAC in 2006, the bilateral between both country further get boost and gain rapid development, with unified character in common. Of all is their natural advantage (population), holding that china is second world largest economy in the world after United State of America and on the other hand Nigeria is the largest market in Africa with over 200million people and largest in Africa (NPC,2006). The current boost in Nigeria-China economic relations is as a result of a number of factors which are the increase in income for both countries and the

economic complementarities between the countries. A dimension of this is the market opportunities which drives the relationship. While Nigerians (consumers) are looking for cheap products from china, its growing manufacturing firms are seeking market opportunities for their products from Nigeria. So also the inputs sourcing and export promotion drive of the two nations is another dimension of the economic complementarities, to this and many more.

### **Research Questions**

The study relied on the following questions:

- i. To what extent has the utilization of government power/authority in relation to china enhanced collective wellbeing of Nigeria?
- ii. What are the impediments to Chinese aids in relations to Nigeria Development?
- iii. To what extent has Chinese government contributed to socio-economic development in Nigeria?

### **Literature Review**

The Nigerian dream is a phrase coined up in this research work to study government plans and economic policies in recent times to make the nation an economically viable entity, revive and launch the polity into a state of prosperity for all. Government policy is geared towards ensuring that Nigeria achieved the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), a United Nations instigated programme which was aimed at improving the economies of Third World countries by eliminating poverty and to raise their social welfare through economic development. The aim of this is the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and empowering women. It aims to reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensuring environmental stability and develop a global partnership for development (Harrison, 2004).

This blueprint was also a rallying call for all Nigerians, regardless of ethnicity, economic status, or religion to unite and stand behind a common cause of placing the country firmly on a path of sustainable growth, and taking it to its rightful place in the comity of nations. It was a blueprint that was designed to reflect accurately for the collective interest of the People, using bottom-up approach that is anchored on a deep understanding of the aspirations of all Nigerian citizens, and knowledge of the future needs of the country. This plan encapsulates the need to effectively and efficiently mobilize the nation's resources to serve and improve the life of its citizens, and to respond appropriately to the growing challenges of an increasingly smaller, mutual dependent, and interconnected world (Federal Government of Nigeria, 2010).

This dream of Nigeria to be a developed economy did not just start with the NV20:2020, the inherent fact is that this plan and goal has been initiated since 1945, yet Nigeria is still bedeviled with underdevelopment, poverty, high debt crisis and surging unemployment rates. A ten year economic plan was commenced once between 1945-1955 which the British colonial government drafted to assist them in the disbursing of welfare and colonial funds. From 1955-1960, another development plan was drafted, but this time it was aimed at sustaining each region by itself (Asaju, and Akume, 2012). From independence till date, there have been series of economic reforms and policies which have been geared towards economic recovery and development. They were all drafted as comprehensive documents to examine the public and private sectors, make Nigeria a strong and self-reliant nation, a great and dynamic economy, a just and egalitarian society, a land of pride and full opportunities for all citizens, a free and democratic society. Other elements of these economic policies were to increase the per capita income of the citizenry, ensure even distribution of income while reducing the level of employment by diversifying the economy. Most economic policies in the history of Nigeria were shabbily drafted and the core elements of the economic factors were not thoroughly considered, thus it had overlapping contents within the economic blueprints. Most plans were

also hindered by inadequate funds and qualified personnel, professionals, technicians and administrative personnel to effectively implement the plans (Asaju, and Akume, 2012).

What then makes NV20:2020 unique or different from other economic policies? The simple fact is that this economic plan is a vision, a dream and an economic blueprint whose basic tenets are all embedded in other strategies preceding administrations had instituted previously. NV20:2020 can be summarized into four dimensions, they are:

- a) The social dimension which stipulates that Nigeria should be a just, peaceful, equitable, and harmonious society where its citizens can be supported with a healthcare and educational system for all and which sustains a life expectancy of nothing less than 70 years.
- b) The economic dimension which specifies that Nigeria should become a viable economy globally which is resilient and diversified with an internationally competitive manufacturing sector that is lightly integrated and contributes nothing less than 25% to the GDP.
- c) The institutional dimension which hypothesizes that Nigeria should be a stable and functional democratic society where the rights of the citizens are guaranteed to choose their leaders with a market friendly institution through the provision of the basic infrastructures to provide a globally competitive business environment.
- d) The environmental dimension which conjectures that Nigeria should have a high level of environmental consciousness that enables and supports sustainable management of its resources and natural endowments to ensure equitable representation for the benefit of its citizenry in the present and in the future (Bature, 2013).

The overall theme of the vision is to unleash economic prosperity and wealth creation while bridging the infrastructural gap that exists in the country. Likewise, it intends to optimize the sources of economic growth to increase productivity and competitiveness. Furthermore, it aims to build a productive, competitive and functional human resource base for economic growth and social advancement. Additionally, the vision states the need to improve governance, security, law and order and engendering more efficient and effective use of resources and promote social harmony and conducive business environment for the emergent economy. Lastly, it intends to develop a knowledge based economy within the polity (Federal Government of Nigeria, 2010).

This plan offers a holistic approach to engage in a transformation of the Nigeria polity through a social, economic, institutional and environmental dimension. It aims strategically to improve the living standards of the citizenry while recognizing the enormous resource endowment of the Nation. The economy is a crucial sector that plays a dynamic role in the actualization of this vision, hence the policy planners intend to strengthen the domestic industry while making the country less oil-dependent. The National Planning Commission described this vision as a policy document aimed at optimizing the key sources of economic growth. To achieve the vision of the economic policy, it aimed at stimulating primary production, increase production of processed and manufactured goods for export, stimulate domestic and foreign trade value added goods and services and strengthen the linkages among the key sectors of the economy (Thomas and Brycz, 2014). The Nigerian dream was a vision and prototype designed by the government to ensure prosperity for all while ensuring that the natural resources of the nation were used competitively by reviving the ailing manufacturing industry. The government also focused on making Nigeria an international competitive market that would encourage foreign investment and entrepreneurs into its dwindling business terrain.

The Chinese dream was launched in 2012 by President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China to foster the dream of a national rejuvenation in which he called for the greatest renewal of the Chinese nation. The Chinese dream is not only an economic blueprint

but a political ideology of the communist power with the adoption of Marxism, socialism and the principles of Chinese characteristics. The thrust of Xi Jinping's thought is seen as a people centered philosophy, on innovative, coordinated, green and open development that is for everyone. To coordinate the efforts to finish building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, to comprehensively deepen reforms, fully advance law-based governance and strengthen party self-governance in every respect. To build a great modern socialist country, this represents the ultimate purpose, vision and overall strategy and overarching goal of the party in upholding and developing socialism with Chinese characteristics. This Chinese dream also emphasizes the need to achieve better quality and more efficient, equitable and sustainable development to improve and develop the system of socialism with Chinese characteristics. To modernize China's system and capacity for governance and to pursue restructuring in a more systematic, holistic and coordinated way, the government launched reforms that would engineer the development pattern of the country (Peters, 2017).

The Chinese dream provides the impetus for a great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation which would be powered by socialism with Chinese characteristics, patriotism, prosperity and a stronger and assertive China. The Chinese dream itself is not a new economic policy for China. The fact is that it has had economic blueprints in the past such as the Deng Xiaoping economic reform in the early 1980s. His core thesis is hinged on the premises that —to become rich is glorious|| *zhifu guanrong* which it used to justify the establishment of rich entrepreneurial households. The Xi Jinping Chinese dream is designed around three steps of development which is popularly called the *xin san bu* which has its historical origins in the nineteenth century when China encountered the Opium Wars. The aim of the first step is to strategically increase and leap the GDP of the country at a tremendous rate from 2000-2010. The second step which was to commence from 2010 to 2020 aimed at achieving a moderately prosperous society *xiaokang shenhui* for the citizenry. This era was dubbed a period of walking towards the great dream in which the middle class would have the Chinese dream fulfilled. The third and final stage of the economic process encapsulated in the Chinese dream is for China to be a rich and powerful socialist nation by 2050. The Chinese dream is linked with China's modernization drive which, in modern times, scholars have dubbed a new Sino-Renaissance era within the global community. Xi Jinping emphasized the need for a peaceful international environment and a stable international order as those factors that will facilitate the success of the Chinese dream. Some economic strategies towards the realization of the Chinese dream is the establishment of the New Silk Roads, a.k.a Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) which aims at creating an overall development for China and nations of the world. The BRI serves as a geopolitical/ geo-economics game-changer and a foreign policy concept and driver towards China's modernization and development up to 2050 (Bakken, 2018).

The Chinese dream is rooted in the strong belief that politics drives economic development of the country. This concept has been promoted as a national goal which over the years has been reiterated and emphasized by different regimes of the state. The concept of the communist society, substantive democracy, modernization or harmonization and commitment to the long-term is consistent with Chinese political philosophy. Thus, scholars have opined it to be embedded in:

1. The international dimension that aims to reshape the global balance of power and advance a counterweight to the international liberal order. In doing so, the government promoted the New Development Bank (BRICS Bank) and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), these institutions are both elements of this strategy. The political dimension which advocates the power of the communist leadership in advocating China's modernization through historical policies and modern ones. Hu Jintao former Chinese premier called for *xiaokang shenhui* which pushes for a moderately prosperous nation, Xi Jinping advocated the —Four Comprehensives||

which bridge previous historical ideologies. Likewise, the Mao Zedong thought, the Deng Xiaoping theory, the three represents of Jiang Zemin, the scientific outlook on development promoted by Hu Jintao all promoted the same ideologies.

2. The economic dimension which is built on long term goals that aims at maintaining an initial average growth rate of 6.5 percent and then pushing towards a higher GDP rate. Likewise, to restructure the economy driven by low-quality exports and public investments to an economy with a stronger role for services, domestic consumption and high quality goals. Furthermore, provide job opportunities by redesigning its industrial structure, promoting new sectors and closing up non-productive industries.
3. The ideological dimension which aims to revive Chinese culture and traditions from Confucianism. This emphasizes harmony, a better society for peace and the importance of family ties. The ideological implication of humanity, human obligation, rational thinking and taking actions, flexible ways to change with changes, prudent consideration in dealing with challenges and risks (Goldstein, 2016).

Scholars have dwelt on the governmental policies of Nigeria and China mainly because these countries share unique characteristics in their region and both of them are Third World countries facing serious economic challenges. Government intervention and policies therefore has become a case study to understand the process of economic development, national rejuvenation and societal stability in these societies.

## **Theoretical Framework**

### **Structural functionalism theory of change**

The structural functional approach provides a useful framework for categorizing and comparing countries development. It was very useful for analyzing or predicting positive-change; the issue of why, how, when and in what direction, political, social and economic development occurs. This issue of development, or change is of course crucial for the third world countries like Nigeria. In response to criticism, structural functionalist looked at the history and come to conclude that political system (state) is unable to cope with problems confronting it without further structural differentiation or cultural secularization. Success at meeting such challenges, Almond meant changes in the sizes, content, and frequency of inputs (especially demands) for the system.

There have been four major challenges to political systems, and that the challenges have occurred in the following sequence:

1. penetration and integration (state-building)
2. loyalty and commitment (nation-building)
3. participation
4. distribution
5. international penetration

The challenges occurred separately, and were handled one at a time. Thus, the problem of state-building (road construction, tax system, boundaries) was usually solved before the problem of nation-building (transferring of primary political loyalty to the national ruler, and away from the local or regional leader) became acute. The challenges of participation was solved by the gradual extension of the vote and political rights to non-propertied people, trade unionists, all males, and finally to women. The problem of distribution is still a challenge. The question of how to divide up the goods of society has not yet been fully solved, although there seems to be a movement in the direction of more equally in distribution. Third world are experiencing challenges in this regards, Nigeria not exceptional. From the structural functional point of view, the amount of violence and instability sometimes observed in Africa specifically Nigeria in terms of under development of infrastructure comes no surprised, which occur as a result of

over-dependency to the developed nations specifically with reference to china-Nigeria relation (inputs-conversion-output), the function of analyzing state development is based on the effect of actors. The feedback mechanism allows for constant change input, as actors react to outputs.

### **Methodology**

Data were collected from two major sources. The Nigerian dream and the Chinese dream as depicted in its economic blueprint were downloaded from Nigerian and Chinese databases through the internet. Relevant information as related to the subject matter were selected through the purposive random sampling method. Economic policies were downloaded from the internet, specifically on how they facilitate national development, sustainable growth, wealth generation and national rejuvenation. Hence, the data for this work were considered representative of how they expedite development through economic policies as engraved in the Nigerian and Chinese dreams. The data used for this work were analyzed through content analysis that aims to compare two government policies as embedded in their policy framework whose main objective is to develop their respective states.

### **Discussion**

What are dream China-Nigeria infrastructural development? A dream can be seen as a concept or a vision of the peoples or nations aspirations. Its focus perhaps rests on the individual

### **Justification of China-Nigeria contribution to infrastructural Development**

China in a dribbling covenant with Nigeria via the input sourcing and export promotion drives of the two nations is some economic complementarities. While the Chinese firms are seeking raw materials such as oil and other minerals resources, agricultural products among others for inputs and generations of energy, Nigerian exporter are seeking market opportunities for their primary products. China's ability to provide the financial and technical assistance with high concessional interest rate to Nigeria is a critical factor that has effect the nation infrastructural development. The bilateral trade of treaties and memorandum of understanding between both countries have strengthen the relationship. The magnitude of the trade was not as it is now. Available data from the world Bank postulated that export community worth US\$307.7million was carried out in 2000 and \$529.9million in the year 2005. The increased was more than 50%, but Nigeria import fell from 1.5% to 0.79% in 2007. Though, Nigeria imports almost all of the broad categories of products from china. Imports of machinery and transport equipment ranked first followed by manufactured goods, miscellaneous manufactures, chemicals and foods and lives animals. China import to Nigeria now rose from 3.5% to 13.5% in 2009. Nigeria import was more of diversified than its exports been a small player in exporting to china. In the words of china-Nigeria Ambassador Cul Jianchun (2021), *'the aim of their bilateral is to look at deficit to infrastructural development in Nigeria which is centered on:*

- (a) International Coordination*
- (b) Military support*
- (c) People to people's relations*
- (d) Increase in economic growth and development.'*

Although it is debatable if china has in any way assist the country in its quest for development. The relationship appears to be exploitative at least from the trends in the structure and pattern of trade and foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow to the country. This is based on the fact that oil and gas sectors dominates the county's export to the tune of about 98% and FDI inflows to the oil and gas sectors accounted for about 40%.

One critical sector that Nigeria is currently benefitting in its relationship with china, is the rail system in the transport sectors. The rail system has suffered decades of abandonment. This abandonment, has put serious pressure on the road system over the years. The last administration of President GoodLuck Jonathan started the drives to reviving the rail system. Under the current administrations of President Muhammadu Buhari, the drives to have a workable rail system is sustained and given boost through the county's relationship with china.

The Buhari administration developed a multibillion-dollar overhaul through the Chinese funding and expertise. Though the lack of adequate use of local content and ingenious expertise is a subject for analysis. The one hundred and fifty (150) kilometer Lagos-Ibadan railway cost \$1.5billion. The rail runs from Ibadan to Lagos in the southwestern part of the country. It is funded from the export-import Bank of china (\$1.3billion) and \$182million from the Nigerian government. This joint partnership in addressing the challenges in the rail system.

There is also the Lagos-kano standard gauge north-south railway being constructed by the Chinese engineering giant, the china civil Engineering construction corporation (CCECC). It is believed that this studied in the rail way system will boost economic growth in the country, increase employment opportunities and reduce pressure on the road system.

These projects are laudable and one will have to commend the government for this initiative. Before this development in the rail-system, Nigeria only has the rail construction that took place during the colonial era which was later abandoned and had become moribund. The fears of many is that, these investments by the Chinese government is another form of economic domination of Nigeria. It is believed that these loans will put pressure on the Nigeria economy.

However, in recent time, Chinese MNCs have been accused of paying low wages, ignoring safety standards, giving preference to their own nationals. They have also been implicated of fake drugs into the country, selling arms to bad Nigerians in order to fuel crisis in the country. While many Nigerians blames the Chinese for under-selling Nigerian textiles and hence putting Nigeria mills out of business, the collapses of Nigeria's local textile industry cannot be solely laid at the door low priced Chinese goods. Unstable power supply, in spite of government promises to improve the situations, it is virtually impossible even for the most efficient Nigerian textile manufacturer to compete with Chinese textiles industry due to many political beneficiaries from the Chinese companies.

In 1999 after the return of civilian rule, one of the problem inherited was battered economy that did not just plunge the country into debt crisis but also entrapped the masses into abject poverty. To this end; President Olusegun Obasanjo noted that; "I have devoted much time and energy journeying virtually all corners of the globe in my personal effort to positively reintegrate our country into the international community and attract investment. We are happy to report that the result from these trips have been encouraging enough to confirm my personal belief and the advice of marketing experts namely that personal contact is the best market your product. And my product is Nigeria" (Obasanjo, 2002).

The government desires to balance the domestic needs and external relations has necessitate a foreign policy that requires extensive outreach diplomacy, especially with the emergence of a global power like china. Among the agreement are trade and investment on consular matters; operation against illicit trafficking, exchange of notes on the provision of goods and an agreement on tourism cooperation (Alao, 2011; Bukarambe; 2005, Toogood; 2016, Utomi, 2008, Adunbi & Stein, 2019). Also, various technical assistance in the military, education, health and technology have been received by Nigeria.

Consequently, since 2001 there has been increasing ties between both countries with all elected presidents visiting Beijing and at same times; the Chinese president, premiers and top officials have always grabbed any opportunity to stop off in Nigeria any time they are visiting Africa. In spite this, Nigeria's bilateral relation to china lacks robustness in infrastructural development. For example, compare to Angola, Democratic Republic of. Congo

and Southern Sudan, Nigeria is not significant supplier of oil to China (Egbula & Zheng, 2011). In fact, Nigeria-china infrastructure development is not deeply rooted to its language alone, but has very little elites in Nigeria that speaks Chinese, have studied in China or interact regularly with Chinese officials (Utomi, 2018). Yet, Nigeria is the major importer of Chinese-made goods which could be attributed to the effects of globalization and the country large consumer population.

China's interest in Nigeria reflects its status as an emerging global power as the biggest economy in Africa, a major oil producer and gas producer, and on track to become the third most populous country in the world by 2050 (Alao,2018:). In 2016 there were 308 registered Chinese companies investing in the country via various sectors of the Nigeria economy (Adunbi & Stein, 2019). Beside, between 2010 and 2015, Nigeria was the highest recipient of loans from china in Africa. This may have gone up, especially with the \$7.5billion loan from china in 2017 to finance the Lagos to Kano and Lagos to Ibadan rails (Adunbi, 2017).

Thematically, the trade between china and Nigeria become stood as one third of in West-Africa sub-region (Egbula & Zheng, 2011:6), even though is dimensional in nature and with emphasis in trade. For example, while the volume of trade between the two countries in 2000 was \$830million (Bukarambe, 2005:20), it rises to \$18.05billion before it declined to \$14.94billion and \$10.62billion in 2015 and 2016 respectively (Ibrahim & Sarl, 2019:176). Over the years most of Nigeria's imports from China are finished product (UNCTAD, 2018). This gave rise to many Chinese companies in the aspects of fabrication, communications and information technology, textiles manufacturing's, and house hold consumer goods. These companies are either owned by Chinese companies or partnership with Nigerians investors, and usually operating free-trade Zones (Adunbi & Stein, 2019). Though most of the trade agreements are unrecorded using country like Benin to smuggled goods into Nigeria as well as involvement of corrupt officials at the borders. Oil and gas has been major interest of Chinese investment in Nigeria which brought companies like china petroleum & chemical corporation (SINOPEC), China national petroleum corporation(CNPC), and China offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC), were awarded several oil blocks via auction or right of first refusal between 2004 and 2007 (Taylor, 2015). This gave rise to infrastructure deal in four oil blocks awarded to CNPC in exchange for a \$4billion investment in infrastructure in 2006 (Hurst,2006).

However, the Chinese-Nigeria infrastructural development have come with the good, the bad and at a time the ugly. Though their relations have gain certain contributions on socio-economic development of Nigeria. Even though imbalance of investment has been in favour of china, with china depending on local labourers of 85% (advantage) been over laboured and underpaid(starvation wages/salary), working in prone-conflict areas. China aid Nigeria in economic growth by giving about \$billions in areas like power sectors, solid minerals, agriculture, rail and housing infrastructure (this day, May 8, 2016). The overall problems is depending on loan to funds Nigeria Budget and infrastructural Development (Ochim, 2020). This results to dependency and unequal balance, which resulted to over-reliance in china for Nigeria's domestic development aspirations.

Another issue is increase in flows of Chinese import into Nigeria which resulted to local industry replacement in Nigeria (Taylor, 2018). Many of their textile industries has replaced the textile industry in Nigeria, the government has also aid by refusing to ban sub-standard goods imported in Nigeria, just because the business leaders made more market in the foreign goods (Taylor, 2008).

Imbalance of trade between the two countries is another issue that has affected Nigeria's infrastructural development, such as given loan with high interest. Many Chinese companies neither obey labour law nor international trade laws in Nigeria (Egbula, 2011).

Another disadvantage of china in infrastructural development is the position of merchant trading with Nigeria (Nwosu, 2019). For example, only one of their flights can fly to Nigeria and same applied to other countries of the world, such as Lagos and Guangzhou. So also, intellectual property rights between Nigeria manufacturers and china partners to mention but few.

### **Findings**

One inherent finding from this research work is that both documents stemming from the Nigerian and Chinese governments are policy documents. Policy documents are formulated by the government in order to provide a guideline in attaining certain objectives for the benefit of the people. It is a deliberate statement aimed to solve the existing challenges and problems in the society. Succinctly, it is used as a tool to safeguard and ensure better services to members of the society (Birkland, 2015).

The Nigerian policy document as stated in the NV20:2020 document contains specific contents aimed at improving the life of its citizenry. It is guided by its vision and development priorities such as guaranteeing the well-being of the people and increasing productivity to eradicate hunger and poverty. To optimize the key sources of economic growth by stimulating primary productivity and encouraging domestic and foreign trade practices while trying to foster sustainable social and economic development that would improve the administration of justice and promote unity in diversity, increase national pride and promote overall development (National Planning Commission, 2009). The Chinese policy document as stated in the Chinese dream aims to plunge China into the global stage and reform its economy. The government aims to shift its economy from low quality exports and public investments to an economy with a stronger role for services, domestic consumption and high quality goods. It also targets to strengthen the party leadership, manage political and economic costs among political elites and local power holders and manage social costs (Fasulo, 2016).

The second finding of this research work is that both plans are for the long-term. Such plans allow policy makers to study and plan effectively towards the realization of their said objectives. It also assists them to pull resources and personnel together towards an action plan that would facilitate their successful implementation. The Nigerian NV20:2020 was enacted in 2008 by the Olusegun Obasanjo administration and it has 12 years to realize the said objective as stated in its policy documents. The Chinese dream was enacted during the 3<sup>rd</sup> plenum meeting in 2013 and should achieve some of its goal by 2020 such as the doubling of the per capita income. The full realization of the Chinese dream should be in 2050, connoting that the government has 37 years of planning and implementation. One inherent difference between the Nigerian plan and the Chinese plan is that it had less years of planning; this might affect its successful implementation and executions.

The third finding of this research work is that these policy plans has stages of implementation and execution. The Nigerian NV20:2020 aims to increase its GDP growth rate to 11 percent, thus from \$1075 in 2009 to \$2,008.75 by 2013. Between 2010 and 2013, it aimed to dedicate rehabilitation, maintenance and expansion of its infrastructure assets such as power installation, roads, rail tracks, ports and portable water supply (National Planning Commission, 2009). The Chinese dream was also designed around the same segmentation of policies such as to increase the GDP to that of moderately developed countries by 2021, and hopes that by this time China would have developed into a moderately developed country, by 2049 would have developed into a fully developed nation (Bakken, 2018). Both plans have stages however, their expectations at different stages differ, while the Nigerian plan focused on developing its infrastructure and improving its GDP rate, the Chinese plan centered around the overall advancement and development of the country globally.

The fourth finding of this research work is that both policies are ridden with over ambitious plans and targets as depicted by political analysts and economists (Fasulo, 2016). Both countries are riddled with corrupt practices that might have a tremendous influence on the meagre funds available for the execution of the projects. Likewise, both countries have not considered the micro and macro elements of the economy before making over ambitious goals and targets, doing so would simply be a vain project. Furthermore, both countries are entangled in a security dilemma, the inability of these countries to provide a viable and safe environment would go a long way towards the realization of their objects. Additionally, both countries have political elites concerned about their interests, thus promoting nepotism and sycophancy (Fasulo, 2016). The resultant effect is that the system of meritocracy would be discarded and their stooges would be installed in strategic places of planning and executing the economic plans.

Finally, one important finding from this research work is the leadership of the country initiating and implementing the plan. While Nigeria is a democratic country that aims to invoke an active participation, cooperation, collaboration of all tiers of government offices and stakeholders, China is a communist country ruled by one party system and one of its main thrust as highlighted in the policy plan is the strengthening of the power of the party and enforcing its complete authoritarian rule over the country.

### **Conclusion and Recommendations**

From the above discussion, it is deduced that why there were slow in infrastructural development of china to Nigeria in pre-Independence period, accelerated imbalance of both country has been pronounced in post-independence leading to china dominating Nigeria due to over dependency.

China is undoubtedly a global economic power with a strong technological base and capacity to fund its budget without recourse to aid or borrowings, the same may not be said of Nigeria that has largely been an exporter of primary commodities and usually funds its budget mostly through aids and borrowings. In fact china, over the turn of the millennium, has become a major donor and lenders to Nigeria. To this, the following recommendations are made:

1. Nigeria needs to ensure proper international trade balance, with diversifications of its economy and invest in the productive sectors to become an exporter of finished goods and gain economically from the export of such made-in-Nigeria goods.
2. Nigeria needs to learn particularly from Chinese socio-economic development, such by bringing to reality Nigeria quest for industrialization, it may not be out of place for Nigeria to borrow the Chinese models.
3. A good robust economic policy that reflect its Nigeria national interest should be made and should be able to guide its bilateral or multilateral international economic relations. Such policy must protect Nigeria against the domination of foreign enterprise.
4. China and any super power over reliance on infrastructural development should be avoided, so also over interest, under-employment and under paid of Nigerians should be put to hold.
5. Lastly, it is high time for Nigeria as a giant of Africa, to lead a good strategies towards the Asia countries like china to carry out an investment cooperation, especially capability of effective productions linkages among the private sectors of member countries.

### **References**

- Ademuyiwa, I., Onyekwena, C., and Unez, E. (2014). Nigeria and the Brics: current and Potential Trade Relations and their Implications for the Nigerian Economy.

- Occasional paper presentation at South Africa institute of international Affairs.
- Aduinbi, O. and Stein, H. (2019). *The political Economy china's Investment in Nigeria: Prometheus or Leviathan?* In Justin Lin and Arkebe Oqubay, Oxford. Oxford University press.
- Ake, C. (1981). *Political Economy of Africa*. London. Longman group limited.
- Akindele, R. A. (2003). *Foreign policy in Federal politics: A Study of Nigeria*. Lagos. World press.
- Alibi, O. G. (2011). *An analysis of China-Nigeria Investment relations*. *Journals of Chinese Economic and foreign Trade studies*. Vol.4. pp183-199.
- Alao, A. (2011). *Nigeria and the Global powers: continuity and change in policy and Perceptions*. Occasional paper presented at the institute of South-African of International affairs, 94.
- Badejo, B. (1990). *Nigeria's Economic Relationship with china: an assessment of south-South cooperation*. *Nigeria journal of international Affairs*, 16 (1).
- Bukaranbe, B. (2005). *Nigeria-china Relations: the unknowleged syno-dynamics*. Lagos. New horizon.
- Chen, Y., Irene, Y.S. and Rex, U. (2011). *Learning from china? Manufacturing, Investment And Technology Transfer in Nigeria*. Washington DC.
- Don Santos, T. (1968). *El-Nuevo character de la dependacia*. (Gudero No.10). Santiago. China.
- Egbula, M. and Zheng, Q. (2011). *China and Nigeria: A powerful south-south Alliance, West African challenges*. No5, Sahel and West Africa Club Secteriat.
- Emmanuel, A. (1972). *Unequal Exchange: A Study of the imperialism of trade*. New York. Monthly review press.
- Ferraro, V. (1996). *Dependency theory: An Introduction*. Paper presented at Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley July 1996.
- Frank, A.G. (1965). *Dependent Accumulation and Underdevelopment in Latin America*. New York: monthly review press.
- Furtado, C. (1965). *Development and stagnation in Latin America*, *Studies in International Development*. Vol. 1(11).
- Gold, K.L. and Devadason, E.S. (2018). *The engagement of china in Nigeria's oil Sector: Is the Transformation positive? Contemporary Chinese political Economy and Strategies relations*. *An International journal*, 4 (3)1025-1060.
- Hurst, C. (2006). *China's Oil rush in Africa*. *Energy Security*. Washington DC. Institute for the Analysis of Global Security.
- Ibrahim, k.H. and Sari, D.W. (2019). *Nigeria-China: An Examination of recent Bilateral Trade Relations*. *International journal of applied Research in Social sciences*, 1. (15). Pp.172-184.
- Ikhuoria, E. (2010). *The impact of Chinese imports on Nigeria Traders: Chinese and African perspectives on China in Africa*. Cape Town South Africa. Paambazuka press.

- Jackson, S. F. (2019). Two Distance Giant China and Nigeria perceive each other, European, middle-Eastern and African Affairs, winter. Pp40-74.
- Jonker, K. and Robinson, B. (2018). China's impact on the African Renaissance: the Boobab Grows. Singapore. Paigrave Macmillan.
- Kelley, J. (2012). China in Africa: Curing the resources Curse with Infrastructure and Modernization. Sustainable development Law and policy. New york. P.B.
- Mthembu-Salter, G. (2011). Elephants, Ants, and Superpowers: Nigeria's Relations with China. Occasional paper, 42. Johannesburg: South Africa institute of international Affairs.
- Nwosu, N. (2011). Country to Overtake south-Africa as Chinas Trading-partner? This Day 14 September, 2019.
- Oladji, I.O. (2017). Security of life and property: Armed robbery and kidnapping in Nigeria. Lagos. Spear-Media press.
- Sunkel, O. (1969). National Development and External Dependency in Latin America. Journal development study.
- Taylor, I. (2008). Chinese relations in Nigeria: The Round table. Common-wealth journal of international affairs, 96. 631-645.
- Toogood, K. (2016). Understanding the Emerging Relationship between china and Africa: The case of Nigeria. Lagos. Stimson centre.
- Udeala, S.O. (2010). Nigeria-China Economic Relations under the South-South Cooperation's. Journal of International Affairs. Vol.13.
- UNTAD (2018). Online stats. <http://untad.org/pages/statistic.aspx>. December 12, 2019.
- Utomi, p. (2008). China and Nigeria. Washington DC. Center for strategies studies.