

## RESEARCH ARTICLE

## IMPACT OF SECURITY CHALLENGES ON FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY IN NIGERIA: THE ROLE OF FOOD PRODUCTION FOCUS

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## ABSTRACT

Intakes of adequate and quality food on sustainable basis are prerequisite for good health. However, food security cannot be achieved amidst security challenges. In the recent decade food production in Nigeria has been a challenge. This is owing to many reasons, including security challenges. The aim of this study was to provide information on the deplorable state of food production in Nigeria, as triggered by security challenges. This study also highlights impacts of the security challenges on food affordability, and consequently its effects on hunger and malnutrition in Nigeria. And by extension, this study conceptualized food production focus model (FPF) that if adopted, could improve rural food production in Nigeria. Databases such as Google Scholar, African Journals Online, Nigerian Journals Online, Scopus, Medline and Pubmed were used to search for relevant information on the impacts of the security challenges on farmers productivity. Findings from literature search revealed that access to sufficient, safe and quality food is now a serious concern in Nigeria in recent time due to the security challenges, coupled with increased population growth, rural-urban migration. Although migration may be multifaceted, however, security challenges play substantial roles, and have seriously affected the food production in several rural communities in Nigeria. And most worrisome is increased unemployment rate due to lost of jobs and investment phobia caused by the security challenges in Nigeria. Furthermore, the scourge of COVID-19 pandemic amidst the security challenges have further aggravated food and nutrition insecurity in Nigeria.

## KEYWORDS

Insecurity; Food Security; Food Production Focus; Hunger; Poverty

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Insecurity in Nigeria is now a national concern. It is also a pervasive menace that has made many Nigerians worried with a simple question, which is "why are the security challenges so difficult to arrest?". This has translated to the notion that the security of persons living in Nigeria is now the primary responsibility of the individual. Ironically, this is contrary to the constitution of any nation, which includes Nigeria (Barker and Lamble, 2009). Regrettably the Nigerian government has loss control over the security situation, as it is now blatant that even security agents in Nigeria are one of the endanger species hunted by criminal elements (Okoli and Okpaleke, 2014). Historically, it is known that a problem identified at an early stage and acknowledged accordingly without delay is easy to arrest, and would certainly not developed anarchy and acrimony beyond remedy (Ivancik et al., 2014). Unfortunately, Nigerian leaders hardly acknowledge a problem until it has deteriorated beyond remedy. Moreso, the failure of traditional conflict resolution mechanisms to adapt to governance system of communities can exacerbate competition for natural resources leading to political and conflict fragility (Hendriks et al., 2021). This is the case in several countries of the world, where inter-communal violence, armed

conflicts, and other localized tensions create insecurity (FSIN, 2020).

Security, being a basic need, is a non-negotiable factor for adequate food production. It is a safety guard for every human activity including farming, and a necessary tool for adequate food production. Sadly, farming activities in many rural communities (especially in the northern part of Nigeria) have been halted due to security challenges. By implication, food production has been halted. This may account for the triggered significant losses in food production and increased prices of food stuff beyond purchasing power for many Nigerians (Nwazor et al., 2019). A group of researchers also documented that the national insecurity undermines farming activities, shooting food prices, thereby worsening poverty and hunger in Nigeria (Ilo et al., 2019). The livelihood of millions of farmers residing especially in rural communities in northern Nigeria is seriously affected, as a result of the security challenges. This is owing to the fact that the majority of the rural dwellers depend solely on farming activities (Adebisi et al., 2017; Mgbenka et al., 2015). The effects of insecurity on farming activities has overwhelming effects on household incomes and consequently food insecurity (Ayanlade and Radeny, 2020; Béné, 2020). Obviously, this would undeniably drive the nation into poverty and hunger cycle. And considering the quantum of damage so far, it may take longer

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(many years) than necessary (even with government commitment) to pull people out of poverty and hunger cycle, even if insecurity is averted.

Unfortunately, amidst the security challenges, COVID-19 surfaces. The Insecurity amidst COVID-19 could be term as double strokes with multiple tragedies. It is evidence that as insecurity causes displacement, COVID-19 halt activities around the globe, including Nigeria (Pak et al., 2020; Inegbedion, 2021). It has been estimated that not less than 150 million persons would be affected by food insecurity due to the incessant insecurity amidst COVID-19 pandemic (Walker et al., 2020). The insecurity situation amidst the pandemic would consequently increase mortality rate in Sub Saharan Africa, including Nigeria (Walker et al., 2020). Insecurity alone is expected to worsening all forms of malnutrition that is too weighty for Nigeria (Headey et al., 2020). Insecurity has affected food systems, and reduced income for food accessibility and affordability (Laborde et al., 2020).

The trends in the security situation in Nigeria and failure to tackle the menace are a serious concern for both the political and economic architecture of the nation. Therefore, the objectives of this study was to provide an overview on some of the security challenges and their effects on poverty, hunger and malnutrition. To provide some key contributions such as implication of increasing security challenges and its impact on future food production, effects on local and foreign direct investment, increased poverty, hunger, and malnutrition rate in Nigeria. And conceptualized framework that could improved food production in Nigeria for sustainable food security, human and national development. Information from this study could interest the government and relevant stakeholders to take aggressive action to avoid irreversible complications in the nearest future. Furthermore, it could necessitate policies and programs formulation aimed at strengthening food production in the rural communities, and reducing undernutrition among children in Nigeria.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Literature Search

The present study is based on integrative literature review. Published peer-reviewed research articles were identified from Google scholar, African Journals Online, Nigerian Journals Online, Scopus, Medline and Pubmed and Local and non-indexed literature. The following words: food security, insecurity, hunger, malnutrition, COVID-19 pandemic, Nigeria, were used separately or combined to seek for the relevant information. The purpose of the literature search (study) was to provide information on the deplorable state of food production in Nigeria, as caused by security challenges in Nigeria. And also, how the security challenges has aggravated food insecurity and malnutrition, especially among children in the affected rural communities in Nigeria. The literature search and research (review proces) were conducted between July 2020 to May 2022, at various institutions/organizations of the authors.

#### 2.1.1 Inclusion Criteria

Some articles with relevant information related to security challenges, food security, and malnutrition in Nigeria were used

#### 2.1.2 Exclusion Criteria

Articles with confounding and irrelevant information were not considered in this study.

#### 2.1.3 Security Challenges in Nigeria

Most of the security challenges in Nigeria have their root cause emanating from the high level of poverty and inequality in the country (Awojobi et al., 2014). Global Terrorism Index 2018, rank Nigeria 1<sup>st</sup> out of 54 African nations examined and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the world, as it is considered as the home base of over 70% of small arms and light weapons (Udoh et al., 2019). Furthermore, security updates from a global perspective revealed that Nigeria is one among the crime ravaging countries worldwide (Varrella, 2021). The following crime attributes were indicated: banditry, kidnapping, raping, Boko-Haram, unlawful possession of arms, armed robbery, and attempted murder among others (Afolabi et al., 2015).

The security challenges due to Boko haram insurgency, banditry, farmers-herders clash, cattle rustling, kidnapping among other pockets of security challenges are a menace worsening food crisis, poverty, hunger and malnutrition in Nigeria (Olanrewaju et al., 2019). The Boko haram insurgency and banditry are possibly the same group, considering their mode of operation, but may only differ in nomenclature. For instance, Boko-haram insurgents and bandits have invaded many communities where lives were loss, houses razed down, quantum of foods carted away,

and people taken away, in other word “kidnapped” in exchange for money. Following their mode of operations one could infer that Boko-haram insurgency has taken a new dimension that has spread to other part of the country (Olanrewaju et al., 2019). Perhaps, the destructive inversion by the bandits is being used for sustaining the activities of Boko haram. Kidnapping on the other hand has practically become a daily business affair in Nigeria. It is almost a norm and the second most profitable business after politics in Nigeria.

As a result of the security challenges in Nigeria, thousands have been killed, millions have been displaced and hundreds of communities where foods are produced are no longer habitable (Olanrewaju et al., 2019). Nigeria is one of the countries with consistent high levels of displaced persons with over 1.8 million internally displaced persons in 2018, largely due to insecurity (OCHA, 2018). The menace has also made thousands of farmers to stick to the choice of staying at home without any means of livelihood, rather than risk going to farm. Others go as far as to negotiate by paying ransom to be allowed to carry-out farming activities (Maigari et al., 2021). This poses a consequential effects such as weakening the financial strength and mental health of the farmers. Obviously, the insecurity in Nigeria has graduated into “hard row to hoe” situation that seems to have no solution or difficult to proffering solution. The worst implication of this would be self-help, the possession of arms and ammunitions by the individual members of the community in order to protect themselves against terrorist. Of course, this likelihood of self-defense would be extremely hazardous to virtually everyone from the individuals’ perspective down to the communities and, to the country at large.

The security challenges in Nigeria had been taken undue advantage of, as a political tool or campaign instrument. As long as insecurity in Nigeria remains a campaign tool, efforts to quell insecurity in Nigeria would be futile. Reason being that, attempted effort maybe frustrated by any political opposition. Since 2003, election in Nigeria has been perceived as a must win affair. Must win election syndrome (MWES) by any means is perhaps one of the factors that encouraged importation of firearms and ammunitions into the country. It breeds thugs and hooligans thus worsening insecurity in Nigeria (Adegbami et al., 2013).

At present, government efforts in tackling security challenges in Nigeria is yet to yield significant positive result. Perhaps the security agents in Nigeria have become incapable of handling the situation (Adegbami et al., 2013). Some of the most affected states have resolved to negotiation and rehabilitation of the organized criminals, yet it has remained futile efforts. It is not only a futile effort, possibly effort that is refueling the insecurity rate. The money paid as ransom to bandits in exchange for peace is rather used to strengthen the destructive activities. This suggests that rather than negotiation, there is need for critical intelligence analysis that would yield a positive solution, as it is now glaring that negotiation and rehabilitation are never the solution to the menace. In fact, negotiation and rehabilitation are breeding tools for more criminal elements and worsening security challenges. More so, the government is trying her possible best to rebuilding the destroyed communities and gradually returning some of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) to their ancestral homes. Though an applause effort, however that maybe be a waste of energy, resources, and worst of all endangering the lives of the returnees. If the destructive activities are not halted, the security of the returnees cannot be guaranteed. Although the need to return the IDPs to their homes is imperative, the IDPs camps are however breeding ground for more hunger and malnutrition.

### 2.2 Impacts of Security Challenges on Food Production in Nigeria

Good health is desired by all human and can be largely assured from adequate intake of quality food. Due to increased security challenges in Nigeria, availability of sufficient food for everyone has become a major challenge in Nigeria. Also, population is swiftly increasing while food production is declining. Nigeria is faced with population growth and is expected to double by 2050, and by 2100, the population is predicted to reach 800 million (Olowe, 2020). The assumption is that in subsequent years there will be limited land for food production (Olowe, 2020). The expected growth is tremendously worrisome, as no mechanistic approach has been projected to address its probable consequences in Nigeria. This may exacerbate the current fragile food security caused by especially insecurity, and future food security may not be guarantee.

To ensure sustainable (present and future) food security in Nigeria, population growth must significantly translate to food production sufficient to ensure national and household food security (Abdulrahman, 2013). This implies that food production at all times must exceeds (double or triple) the desired food requirement by the population. Furthermore,

this may help overcome the problem of food and nutrition insecurity in order to achieve a sustainable development goal for “Zero hunger” (Wongnaa and Awunyo-Vitor, 2018). However, with little emphasis on agriculture (as it has been in Nigeria), particularly amidst security challenges coupled with population growth, the United Nations (UN) effort towards achieving the sustainable development goal for “Zero hunger” would be impossible in Nigeria, even beyond 2030.

Agricultural sector is one of the least priorities of the government, as oil sector is perceived as the only redeemer of the Nigeria economy (Okoi, 2019). Over the years it has been proven that the oil sector is not the only way forward. Yet the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) has not deemed it necessary to give agriculture a top most priority (Olowa and Olowa, 2014). Although the oil sector got all it could to take Nigeria beyond development, unfortunately it hasn't for obvious reasons. The over dependent on oil alone may further increase restiveness, insecurity, volatility and fragility of Nigeria economy.

In recent times an increasing number of persons in rural communities are shunning agriculture for white-collar jobs in the urban cities, largely due to security challenges in rural communities. Many of the migrants originate from rural areas, and young people constitute a larger percentage, leaving women and aged members of the society to constitute the labor force of rural communities (World Bank, 2011). Consequently, food production decreases. Reasons for the migration maybe justifiable, though on a more complex reason, people migrate or force to leave due to cultural, demographic, socio-economic, ethnic conflicts, environmental, natural disasters, or political (large scale infrastructure projects and resettlement), and largely as a result of security challenges (Tanle et al., 2020).

On the other hand, it could be the preference for industrial sectors or urban jobs. This has over the years contributed to a substantial decrease in food production, and consequently increases in food prices, food insecurity and security challenges in Nigeria (Figure 1). A group of researchers highlighted that rural-urban migration has a deteriorative impact on rural economy, a major cause of poor food production, and consequently food insecurity (Babi et al., 2017). The economy of the rural communities is driven by agricultural activities by the people living in them (rural communities). Hence, the more rural-urban migration surface, the more will be the food insecurity, and poverty rate in Nigeria (Figure 1). Increased population growth and decreased farming activities caused by the security challenges, are conjugal factors that have contributed significantly to decline food production, and consequently national food insecurity in Nigeria (Figure 1).

worrisome, security challenges (Adebayo and Ojo, 2012) (Figure 1). As poverty breeds insecurity, insecurity in turn worsens poverty and this manifest in viscous cycle (Figure 2).

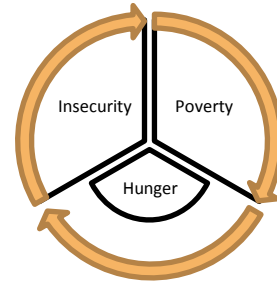


Figure 2: Vicious cycle of Insecurity (Source: Authors' conceptualization)

2.3 Impacts of Security Challenges on Foreign and local direct Investment in Nigeria

No country thrives economically amidst insecurity. The security of any nation is a tool for promoting investment opportunities. However, the relationship between peace and economic development is not as strong as the relationship between insecurity and underdevelopment (Denney, 2013). Insecurity disrupts development, and peace may not drive development, unless there is peace in the atmosphere of strong political will. A climate of insecurity frightens local and foreign investors, hinders business activities, and consequently retards socio economic activities (Ewetan and Urhie, 2014). It also discourages investors who are interested in carrying out meaningful development programmes, thus limits community and national development, and people's ability to develop economically. In Nigeria, the activities of Boko haram in the North, Militancy in the Niger-Delta, and Fulani herders in the Middle Belt weakens the economic and business climate, and most volatile in recent time is the banditry that has taken over some states in Nigeria (Udoh et al., 2019).

Aside its effects on direct investment opportunities, it has affected the economic activities of people living in the country, especially those from the most security risk zones. Thus affects, several businesses, especially small and medium enterprises, which contribute significantly to economic growth of Nigeria. Small and medium enterprises world over have been the major employers. They (small and medium enterprises) serve as the mainstream for employment generation, poverty reduction, leading to economic development (Hassan et al., 2020). Regrettably, in the recent years, the enabling environment for small and medium enterprises to thrive efficiently, no longer exist in Nigeria. It is therefore, not amazing to note that most Nigerians are trapped in the vortex circle of abject poverty, thereby diminishing Nigeria status to a nation with poorest people in the world (Umaru et al., 2015). Furthermore, dislocation of people diminishes the manufacturing of export goods, and a reduction in employment and remuneration (Onime, 2018). The effects of insecurity on business investment create more unemployment. This inturn causes extreme poverty, which further instigates crime that fosters to insecurity.

2.4 Impacts of Security Challenges on Poverty, Hunger and Malnutrition in Nigeria

The effects of security challenges has the tendencies of increasing household food insecurity, malnutrition, cognitive deficit and poor performance, poor economic growth that in turn increase unemployment rate (Figure 1). Insecurity affects women and girls, making them more vulnerable and having low ability to handle the socio-economic in addition to health aspect as a result of insecurity induce tremor (FSIN, 2020). The Prediction by the World Food Program (WFP) shows that the number of persons in developing nations being exposed to severe level of food insecurity have increased in millions, in 2020, with high consequences on malnutrition compared to stable nations (WFP, 2020; GNR, 2020). Millions of Nigerians are food insecure due to reasons like the poverty rate in the country (FMARD, 2016). By the perspectives of national standard, over 82.9 million Nigerians are considered poor, as 4 out of 10 individuals in Nigeria has real per capita expenditures below 137,430 Naira per year (NBS, 2020).

Most worrisome is the poverty rate in Northern Nigeria that is quite alarming despite the enormous land for food production (Jaiyeola and Choga, 2020). Unfortunately, the onset of security challenges has further worsened poverty, hunger and malnutrition rate, especially in northern Nigeria (Okolie et al., 2019). The menace if not curtailed, soonest may

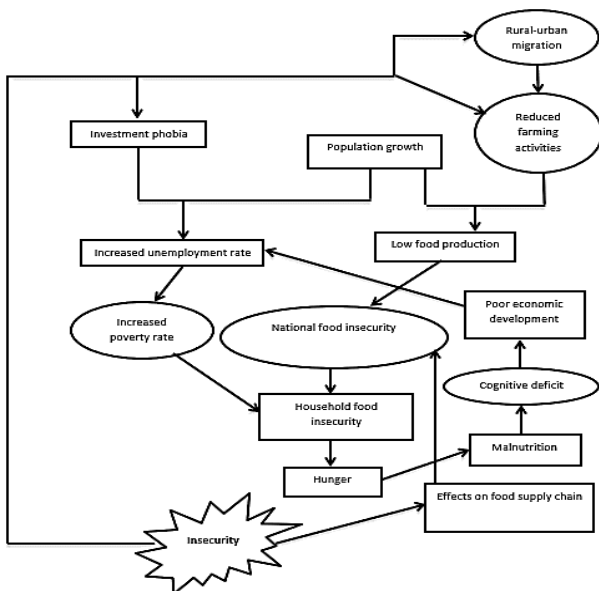


Figure 1: Conceptual framework showing dimensional pathways by which insecurity affects food security. Source; Authors' conceptualization

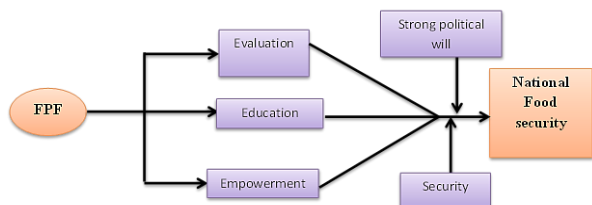
Low food production with devastating effects on food prices has enormously reduced the purchasing power of food by millions of Nigerians. Implying many people living in Nigeria do not have financial access to quality food, to quench hunger, which is the primary reason for eating food (Abdulwaliyu et al., 2019). Lack of access to quality and sufficient food could increase the risk of anxiety and depression, and poor mental health (Fang et al., 2021; Jones, 2017). This may have devastating effects on economic growth, unemployment and poverty rate, and most

result to the security challenges chain reaction, and may be difficult to control. Also, it could develop to intergenerational transmission of poverty, hunger and malnutrition in Nigeria. However, with focus on food production, the poverty, hunger and malnutrition dilemma maybe reduced or averted in nearest future. This would upsurge affordability of foods by all (food security), and consumer's preferences for healthy diets. Food insecurity at the household level has been reported as one of the causes of hunger, leading to loss of lives of children yearly (Drammeh et al., 2019). It has been reported also that the risk of malnutrition increases by 12% among children from food insecure household (Mutisya et al., 2015).

The prevalence of under nutrition and food insecurity in Nigeria are among the worst worldwide (Fadare et al., 2019; Nwozor et al., 2019). The total number of under-malnourished Nigerians increased from 9.1 million (2004-2006) to 25.6 million (2016-2018) (FAO et al., 2019). The observed increment may be associated with an increased rate of insecurity. This implies that, persistence security challenges in Nigeria are a menace worsening malnutrition in the country.

**2.5 The Role of Food Production Focus (FPF) Framework to Strengthen Food Production in Nigeria**

The FPF is a framework that would require honesty, commitment of the government and farmers' cooperation to necessitate actions that should at all times strengthen agricultural activities in Nigeria. To achieve the desired results, government would need to focus on rural agricultural activities (Ajani et al., 2015). Furthermore is the need to evaluate, educate, and empower (triple E as shown in Figure 3) people with a profitable and technologically advanced agricultural input. This should specifically be for people living in rural communities.



**Figure 3:** Food production focus. Source; Authors' conceptualization

The FPF should entails evaluation of minor and complex problems associated with farming activities or problems faced by farmers, especially in the rural communities. This requires situational approach, as different problems, at different places, in different seasons, at different times requires a different solution. In the evaluation, education and empowerment processes, triple A cycle (Assessment, Analysis and Action) is a necessary model in achieving desired results. The evaluation requires assessment of problems faced by farmers and the cause of the problem(s) (analysis), while the action entails educating and empowering the farmers.

The assessment of problems faced by farmers in different part of the country would enable government take necessary and decisive actions. However, the necessary actions cannot be met until there is a progressive and uninterrupted interaction with farmers, suggesting the need to engage them in the evaluation process. Among the farmers, young people including women in particular, should be the primary target, as they seem to be the game changers and key players for sustainable food security in Nigeria. Moreso, Farmers should be educated on newer and best farming practices, for better harvest and that would positively affect their standard of living. In that way farming in Nigeria would look attractive, and a lot more people would key into it.

Education enhances farm productivity (Paltasingh and Goyari, 2018). Study affirmed that, as educational level increases, output increases as well (Eric et al., 2014). Education alone is empowerment, as it would empower farmers with the knowledge, skills and values needed for better output. However, empowerment is beyond educating farmers. It includes also newer scientific tools for better outputs, and health status of the farmers, since they may be susceptible to various kinds of diseases, particularly during the farming season (Ali et al., 2020).

Empowerment, also include good roads (especially in rural communities) for ensuring free flow of food via food supply chain. Food supply chain entails food production, harvesting, processing, storage, distribution and consumption. Food insecurity occurs at any points of the food supply chain, and it is a global problem. A group of researchers highlighted that about 1.3 billion tons of food (one third of the food produced) are wasted and two-third of it occur in the food supply chain (Zhong et al., 2017). However, the security challenges in Nigeria have further retarded the free

flow of food via the food supply chain. From the point of food production and distribution, farmers are being kidnapped or killed (Ladan and Matawalli, 2020).

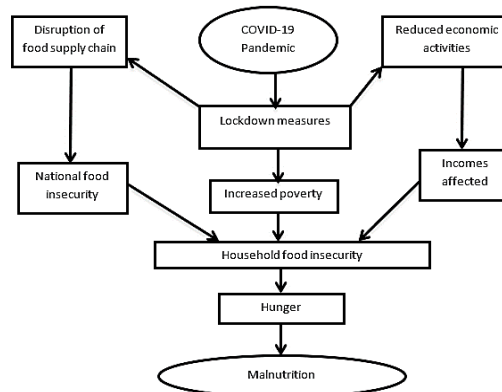
In this study, the recommendation of FPF may be ineffective in the light of the security challenges, on sustainable food security in Nigeria. The atmosphere of insecurity would impede FPF. Therefore, adequate security is a necessary catalyst for attainment of FPF (Figure 3). According to a study, to create a healthy environment for sustainable development, the government of Nigeria should put in place good governance, workable anti-terrorism procedures and build strong legitimate establishments that can effectively curtail the menace of corruption and poverty (Umaru et al., 2015).

Security challenges of a nation, like Nigeria, could lead to the disruption of the entire food system. This may ultimately affects the availability, accessibility and utilization of foods, which in return has a negative impact on the general wellbeing of the populace. It may also have a socio-economic impact at both individual and national level. Also, disruption of food systems by insecurity has made the actualization of the SDGs 2030 in Nigeria to be a mirage. As a result, a lot of persons will become very poor and lack food due to displacement and lack of access to their farm lands.

**2.6 Impacts of Insecurity amidst COVID-19 on Food security in Nigeria**

Amidst security challenges in Nigeria, COVID-19 surfaces, and was declared a public health emergency, and a pandemic, on 30th January 2020, and 11th March 2020 respectively. The scourge of COVID-19 amidst security challenges in Nigeria has affected all aspects of human life. It placed havoc on health, education, socioeconomic and agricultural sectors (Nicola et al., 2020; Rajhans et al., 2020; Stephens et al., 2020; Tadesse and Muluye, 2020; Chaturvedi et al., 2021; Mulugeta et al., 2021; Onyemachi and Okoduwa, 2022). The need to curb the onslaught of the COVID-19 started in December 2019, and as of 10th May 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has enthralled many countries across the globe (Salami et al., 2021; Rajhans et al., 2020). The wake of the disease further deepens a decline in food production (small and large scales) and disrupted food supply chain in Nigeria (Ilesanmi et al., 2021). This had profound implication on food and nutrition security, as obvious in the decay of food security in many households in Nigeria (Amare et al., 2021; FAO, 2020). Study affirmed that more than half of the households in Nigeria are confronted with extreme food insecurity (Ibukun and Adebayo, 2021). This may be attributed to Government's order of restrictions (movement, economic and social activities restriction) mainly to mitigate the spread of the pandemic (Balana et al., 2020). As a result, hunger and deaths due to lockdown measures outweighed those due to infection (Kalu et al., 2020). Also, the measures (although necessary) have made many Nigerians vulnerable to food insecurity, hunger (Martinez, 2021) and consequently increased malnutrition (Figure 5).

Prior to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, Nigeria already has many people with precarious nutritional status (malnutrition) (Onyeaka et al., 2021). The emergence of COVID-19 further exacerbated the malnutrition level in Nigeria (Aborode et al., 2021). It is not surprising to note that the COVID-19 pandemic was tagged disease of hunger in Nigeria (Kalu, 2020). This was due to the fact that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic placed additional burden on the vulnerable communities where insecurity is severely hampering food production (ICRC, 2020). Just like the insecurity that may affects vision 2030 of "Zero hunger" (as mentioned earlier), the COVID-19 is also stalling efforts to achieve sustainable development Goal (SDG2) of "Zero hunger" (FAO, 2020).



**Figure 5:** Conceptual framework showing how COVID-19 pandemic affects food security, and consequently hunger and malnutrition. Source; Authors' conceptualization

### 3. CONCLUSION

Insecurity in Nigeria is not only a very stern problem but also a growing one. It has affected some components of food security and food system. It is (insecurity) a serious impediment to food production, and availability by many Nigerians, especially those in the rural communities. Food supply chain has been interrupted. Hence, food inflation is on the increase especially in regions where foods are not sufficiently produced. The security challenges in Nigeria have negatively remodelled her economy system. Some companies had shutdown, and proliferation of investment phobia and unemployment rate is prevalent. It has become more alarming at a difficult time the country is trying to get to its feet. The insecurity situation is yet to be abated, but has however, assumed a different dimension, which pose more serious threats to co-existence of the people residing in Nigeria. It is a menace worsening poverty, hunger and malnutrition. However, if maximum attention is sincerely concerted on agriculture (especially in rural farming) by effectively implementation of the adopted FPF policy, the atmosphere of security, perhaps zero hunger maybe achieved soonest.

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