



## Information Management and National Security

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### Abstract

*This study investigated the influence of Information Management on National Security. Insecurity has been a major problem facing Nigeria most especially in the last couple of years. This is as a result of regular reported cases of kidnapping, banditry, killing of innocent souls, robbery and so on. The study was carried out in Ogun West Senatorial District. The study employed the survey approach with the use of questionnaire as instrument for data collection. The population comprised of all security agents (Police officers, Civil Defense, Safety Corps Amotekun, Vigilantes) and Community Development Associations, in Ogun West Senatorial District from which a sample of two hundred and fifty (250) were selected using systematic sampling technique. Data collected were analyzed using descriptive and inferential analysis involving linear regression at 0.05 level of significance. Findings revealed that the issue of insecurity is a threat to the growth of the economy. It was concluded that no country could develop without security. It was recommended that Information management is a collective responsibility that needs to be addressed and that government at all levels should engage the services of Security Experts and Community Development Associations in curbing the problem of insecurity while all citizens must be vigilant.*

**Keywords:** Information Management, Insecurity, National Security, Security Agents, Citizens.

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### Introduction

Economic and social progress are contingent upon national security. Economic growth and development are preceded by the establishment of a safe and secure environment because entrepreneurs and investors need a favorable environment in which to make investments and earn profits. Boundaries are becoming indistinguishable in the wake of globalization and the revolution in communication, technology, and commerce, and new security-related risks have surfaced that frequently transcend national borders (Yaminu, 2021).

National security refers to a condition in which a nation is free from anything that could threaten

peace, progress, development, or societal tranquility. It encompasses protection from security threats or attacks originating from individuals, groups, organizations, or other states--threats capable of undermining the wellbeing of a nation and its citizens collectively, rather than specific individuals or communities. Such threats often target human lives and property. National security is therefore a strategic concept in which governments and their legislative bodies work to safeguard the state and its citizens from various national crises through diverse instruments of power, including political influence, diplomacy, economic strength, and military capability (Mijah, 2007).

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Insecurity remains one of Nigeria's most pressing challenges. Its impacts are visible across the country, particularly in the destruction of critical infrastructure essential for industrial growth and national development. No nation can attain sustainable development without peace, as peace is fundamental to growth. Despite the substantial allocation of government resources toward combating insecurity--and the simultaneous loss of existing infrastructure--its consequences for Nigeria's development remain alarming. Insecurity affects all sectors of the economy, hindering the country's advancement (Yaminu, 2021). Nigeria's deteriorating security environment suggests longstanding mismanagement, as nearly every economic sector has suffered notable setbacks. The agricultural sector has been particularly affected, with many farmers abandoning their farmlands due to the threat of kidnapping. Additionally, major highways used for transporting agricultural produce have become unsafe following numerous incidents of abducted commuters (Abubakar et al., 2023).

Security challenges in Nigeria arise from multiple sources, including the activities of Boko Haram, widespread youth unemployment, militancy in the oil-rich Niger Delta, ritual killings and kidnappings, the influx of illegal migrants from neighbouring countries, the emergence of political and regional thugs, and the collapse of the justice system (Yaminu, 2021). Other challenges include poverty, religious and ethnic conflicts, armed robbery, corruption, election rigging, nepotism, embezzlement, breaches of information security, defacement of government websites, and recurrent farmer-herdsmen clashes (Library of Congress, 2011).

According to Yaminu (2021), the consequences of insecurity in Nigeria include profound economic impacts that undermine national wealth creation and developmental efforts. The education sector has also been severely affected. The country has witnessed a rise in mass abductions of students, contributing to Nigeria having one of the world's highest numbers of

out-of-school children--estimated at 10.5 million (Asadu, 2025; UNICEF, 2021). A surge in school kidnappings has worsened this crisis, prompting several state governments to shut down boarding schools until safety can be assured. Between December 2020 and June 2025 alone, over 1,000 students and staff were kidnapped from different schools attacks across the North West Zone (Shamin, 2025, UNICEF, 2025). Insecurity has also produced significant environmental consequences: ongoing terrorist and bandit attacks, as well as military engagements, have led to the destruction of infrastructure, villages, and farmlands, resulting in severe environmental degradation.

Another effect is an increase in internally displaced people. The humanitarian situation in Nigeria is still impacted by increased violence and forced relocation. Due to conflicts in Nigeria, the number of displaced people has been steadily rising since 2013. As a result of food insecurity, host communities are directly impacted by the forced relocation of individuals, families, and communities. It is well known that a country's efforts to achieve economic growth and development depend heavily on food security. Nigerian farming communities are suffering greatly from insecurity because it keeps them from producing crops to their full potential. Insurgencies, kidnappings, and cow grazing have all had an impact on agricultural activity, while banditry and the herdsmen/farmers problem have made food insecurity worse (Asadu, 2025). The increase in the price of food and nutrition is influenced by the uprooting of farming communities. Food insecurity is therefore detrimental to national security.

According to Udeh & Ihezue (2013), creating jobs is one way to combat instability. One could argue that indicators like high unemployment and poverty rates encourage crime and instability. The eradication of poverty at all levels and the creation of jobs are the answers to the current violence. The "pull factors" that encourage young people to commit violent crimes will decrease as poverty rates decline. Insecurity can also be addressed by offering

inexpensive education (Yaminu, 2021). The foundation of any society hoping to achieve greatness in the future is education. This is due to the fact that education produces informed citizens with innovative ideas to advance the nation and foster self-empowerment to boost economic progress. In order to address the issue of the absence of universal basic education, free and mandatory education is essential.

Other measures include strengthening border security to lessen or completely eradicate smuggling, drug trafficking, illegal immigration, the flow of weapons and ammunition, irregular migrations linked to terrorism and transnational crimes, efficient control of small arms and light weapons, and enhancing law enforcement. Since other organizations and agencies are essential to public safety, policing as a concept is not the sole responsibility of the Nigeria Police. Additionally, efforts should be taken to strengthen the Nigeria Police's capacity to prevent and detect crime, maintain peace and order, apprehend and prosecute offenders, enforce all laws, and safeguard people and property (Yaminu, 2021).

Information management (IM) is the process of gathering, organizing, and distributing data from one or more sources to the relevant parties (Hite, 2019). It refers to the systematic process of collecting, organizing, storing, retrieving and disseminating information to support decision-making, communication and organizational goals. The Federal Republic of Nigeria has a very strong security personnel whose main duty is to protect the country from insecurities. These security agencies include, Military, Police officers, Civil defense, Amotekun and vigilante etc. These agencies are to help ensure that the nation stays safe and the citizens well secured. Those with a stake in or a right to the knowledge may occasionally be involved. These agencies can only perform well if they are well trained on how to manage information.

Organizing and controlling the structure, processing, and distribution of information is known as information management. Information can be

provided both physically and electronically. Regardless of the source or format (data, paper documents, electronic documents, audio, video, etc.), the organizational structure must be able to manage this information throughout the information lifecycle for delivery through a variety of channels, including web interfaces and cell phones. Identifying information needs, gathering information, organizing and storing information, creating information products and services, distributing information, and utilizing information are all part of the information management cycle, which supports the organization's learning activities (Choi 2015).

One of the country's main concerns has been on information management. When information is being managed, there will be timeliness of intelligence reports, accuracy and reliability of security information, Inter-agency intelligence sharing efficiency and use of data analytics in threat detection. The U.S. economy saw tremendous growth in the 1990s, due to the fact that information was managed through technologies. The majority of people on the planet are in extremely precarious situations due to the blurring of borders and the fact that the world is already a global village. New types of conflicts are being fought in every nation, all of which show that states are no longer in control of security matters. Indeed, expectations of future economic growth and security of a nation can be achieved through information management and technological tools (Komatsu et al., 2013). Technological tools and devices such as wireless telecommunications can be acquired for the security personnel. Training on how to use the tools will also be required for the security personnel. These will help the security personnel to improve on managing information relating to security. This study therefore investigated the influence of Information Management on National Security

Government has focused on resolving the various types of insecurity that are prevalent throughout the nation. Nigerians' well-being can be impacted by internal dangers, as seen by the rising drumbeats for

secession in the South East, abduction and banditry in the North, and most recently, the threat of kidnapping in the South West. The mission of Nigeria's National Security Strategy (NSS) is to employ all elements of national power to guarantee physical and human security, foster a just society, promote peaceful coexistence, strengthen national unity, enhance prosperity, and support sustainable development, while simultaneously advancing Nigeria's influence at regional, continental, and global levels.

However, these strategic objectives are increasingly undermined by a range of security threats, including frequent breaches in government information management systems, classified security information leakage, terrorism and violent extremism, armed banditry and militia activities, farmers-pastoralists conflicts, and transnational organized crimes. Additional challenges arise from border security vulnerabilities, cyber and technological threats, socio-political instability, environmental hazards, economic pressures, and broader regional and global dynamics. Information Management should be seen as a means of facilitating the effectiveness of security measures, creation of awareness, community engagement, etc. In light of these concerns, this study examined the influence of information management on national security.

The main objective of the study was to investigate how Information Management can be used as a tool

to provide National Security in Ogun West Senatorial District. The specific objectives are to: identify the causes of insecurity in Ogun West Senatorial District, Ogun State Nigeria; determine the effects of insecurity on the social and economic development in Ogun West Senatorial District, Ogun State. And examine how information management can be used to provide Security in Ogun West Senatorial District, Ogun State, Nigeria

### Methodology

The research design used was a survey of the security staff and members of Community Associations in Ogun west Senatorial District, Ogun state. The sample was comprised of all security officers and Community Associations in the district. Two hundred and fifty (250) respondents were chosen with the use of simple random sampling technique. The structured questionnaire (29 items) was used in the data collection, and measured on a 4-point Likert scale. Gender was also considered in the selection of respondents in the study. The respondents had to select four options, which included Strongly Agree (4), Agree (3), Disagree (2), and Strongly Disagree (1). Out of the 250 questionnaires that were administered, 235 of them were duly filled, recovered and applied in analysis. The data gathered was analyzed with both descriptive statistics and inferential statistics, i.e. linear regression at the level of significance of 0.05.

### Findings

**Table 1:** Causes of insecurity

Items	Descriptive Statistics				
	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Political thugs	235	1	4	3.05	.579
Threats of sects e.g Boko haram	235	1	4	3.04	.652

Influx of illegal migrants	235	1	4	3.09	.574
Election riggings	235	1	4	2.91	.673
Kidnapping	235	1	4	3.06	.872
Ritual killings	235	1	4	2.60	.873
Militant	235	1	4	2.78	.653
Collapse of justice system	235	1	4	3.16	.664
Poverty	235	1	4	3.19	.723
Religious/ethnic war	235	1	4	3.07	.652
Unemployment	235	1	4	2.85	.750
Valid N (listwise)	235				

Field survey, 2025

Table 1 shows the causes of insecurity which include, Political thugs, threats from sects groups, influx of illegal migrants, high rate of inequality, election rigging unemployment, kidnapping, ritual killings,

poverty, moles within security agencies. All these have high mean of 3.05, 3.04, 3.09, 3.00, 2.91, 3.06, 3.19, 3.07 and 2.85

Table 2: Effects of insecurity on the social and economic development

#### Descriptive Statistics

Items	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
stifled the desired growth and development of the country	235	1	4	3.47	.844
hindered business activities	235	1	4	3.02	.814
reduced investment returns	235	1	4	2.95	.862
increased government expenditure	235	1	4	2.98	.806
discourage domestic/foreign investors	235	1	4	3.01	.713
affects price of goods	235	1	4	3.08	.662

destruction of lives and properties	235	1	4	3.09	.739
increase in tax	235	1	4	3.28	.645
Valid N (listwise)	235				

Field survey, 2025

Table 2 above shows the effects of insecurity on social and economic development. The effect include stifled the desired growth and development of the country, hindered business, reduced investment returns, increased government expenditure increased government expenditure, discourage domestic /foreign investors, affects price of goods and increased tax. The mean are 3.47, 3.02, 2.95, 2.98, 3.01, 3.08, 3.09, 3.28.

Table 3: Uses of information management in providing National Security

**Descriptive Statistics**

Items	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
It helps the nation to identify potential threats	235	1	4	3.28	.877
it makes information to be shared easily	235	1	4	3.08	.662
Information be quickly retrieved	235	1	4	3.08	.645
It enhances image and video processing	235	1	4	3.07	.691
It enhances intelligence monitoring	235	1	4	3.23	.740
Evidence can easily be retrieved	235	1	4	3.05	.608
Valid N (listwise)	235				

Field survey, 2025

Table 3 above shows how information management can be used to provide National Security. This means that information management will help a nation to identify potential threats, it makes information to be shared easily, it enhance video and image process which in turn enhances intelligence monitoring etc. With the following mean of 3.28, 3.08, 3.07 and 3.23 respectively.

Table 4: Model Summary

	R Square	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change
1	.060 <sup>a</sup>	.009	.003	.704	.009

a. Predictors: (Constant), Information Management

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	.412	1	.412	.831	.000
	Residual	115.520	234	.496		
	Total	115.932	2351			

a. Predictors: (Constant), Information Management

b. Dependent Variable: National Security

Table 4 presents the result of the hypothesis test, which posited that there is no significant relationship between information management and national security. The findings reveal a weak but positively significant influence of information management on national security. The adjusted R Square ( $R^2$ ) indicates that approximately 3% of the variance in national security is explained by perceptions of information management, reflecting a modest yet meaningful effect. Similarly, the analysis of variance shows that the regression model is statistically significant ( $p < .005$ ) in explaining national security outcomes. This implies that information management contributes significantly to variations in security within Ogun West Senatorial District of Ogun State.

### Discussion of Findings

Table 1 shows the causes of insecurity which include, Political thugs, threats from sects groups, influx of illegal migrants, high rate of inequality, election rigging unemployment, kidnapping, ritual killings, poverty, moles within security agencies. According to Adams (2016), some of the causes of insecurity include, “Poverty and unemployment, Insurgences

from sects like Boko haram, militants, religious or ethnic wars, kidnapping, armed robbery, ritual killing, Rigging of election, fake licenses, Theft from Oil pipeline, public funds or piracy”. Others include “Information security, defacing government, websites, theft of critical data, Denial of Service, attacks, Insider threats, Moles within security agencies, Farmers/Herdsman clashes”. All these and more are causes of insecurity and it affect the growth of a nation (McKeown et al, 2003)

Table 2 shows the effects of insecurity on social and economic development on a nation. From the findings, the effect include stifled the desired growth and development of the country, hindered business, reduced investment returns, increased government expenditure increased government expenditure, discourage domestic /foreign investors, affects price of goods and increased tax. This result is in tandem with Yaminu (2021), opined that consequence of insecurity in Nigeria include economic consequences which affect the National wealth creation and economic development. This in turn reduce investment returns.

Table 3 above shows how information management can be used to provide National Security. From the findings, it was discovered that information management will help a nation to identify potential threats, makes information to be shared easily, it enhance video and image process, enhances intelligence monitoring. This finding is in line with Adams (2016), who stated that information management will enhance real time information sharing, curb the leak in information, enhance privacy in the dissemination of highly classified information and also help the nation to identify potential threats.

Table 4 shows the result of the hypothesis testing as it implies no significant relationship between information management and national security. he results of the hypothesis test revealed a weak but positively significant influence of information management on national security. The adjusted  $R^2$  indicates that approximately 3% of the variance in national security can be explained by perceptions of information management, highlighting a modest yet meaningful effect. Similarly, the analysis of variance shows that the regression model is statistically significant ( $p < .005$ ) in explaining national security outcomes, demonstrating that information management significantly contributes to variations in security within Ogun West Senatorial District.

In this study, information management encompasses technological tools and strategies such as GPS technology, CCTV, social networks, intelligence gathering, smart weapons, data mining, and database tracking, all of which impact the overall quality of national security. The findings suggest that improvements or increased utilization of these factors are associated with enhanced national security. This is further supported by the F-value of 831 and a p-value of .000. Consequently, the null hypothesis, which states that there is no significant relationship between information management and national security, is rejected.

## Conclusion

Security is a major factor for the growth of any nation. Therefore it is important that the government ensure that the lives of its citizens and properties as well as that if foreign investors are safe. Technological tools and devices such as wireless telecommunications can be acquired for the security personnel. Training on how to use the tools will also be required for the security personnel. These will help the security personnel to improve on managing information relating to security.

## Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations were proposed:

1. The government should increase investment in the defense sector to enhance national security capabilities.
2. Both the government and citizens should place greater emphasis on research and development in science and technology to support innovative solutions for security challenges. This will help to develop more telecommunication gadgets like CCTV and other surveillance equipment that will be useful for security.
3. The government should embark on training and retraining of security personnel for effective job performance
4. Vigilantes and the Community Development Association should work hand-in-hand to help to curb security threats in their areas.
5. The government should foster strong relationships with allies and partners with international bodies on security.
6. Government, Security Agencies, Vigilantes, and Community Development Associations should develop and implement counter terrorism strategies

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