

## An Evaluation of Poverty Reduction Programme in Maiduguri Metropolitan Area, Borno State, 2008-2012

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### Abstract

There is a global call to action on the issue of poverty, everyone was called upon to examine poverty and share ideas on how to deal with it or how it can be reduced or eliminated. This work is an attempt at Evaluating Poverty alleviation programme in Maiduguri; the effectiveness of the programme, the number of beneficiaries and the types of assistance they get from the government. Data for this study were generated through questionnaire and in-depth interview. One hundred beneficiaries were selected through proportionate sampling and administered with questionnaire. While five (5) officials from the Borno state ministry of poverty alleviation and Youth Empowerment were selected for an in-depth interview. In all one hundred and five respondents took part in the study. The study revealed that these beneficiaries received different materials as assistance in order to improve their living standard. It was discovered that most of these beneficiaries engaged in commercial tricycles (Keke NAPEP) for survival. It was suggested that government should increase the number of beneficiaries so that the poverty can be reduced. Government and non-governmental organizations are equally implored to establish small scale industries to give more loans and create more job opportunities so as to add value to the life of the people.

**Key words:** Evaluation, Poverty reduction, Programme

### Introduction

Poverty as a social problem; it can be assessed objectively and felt subjectively. It is the oldest and yet unresolved social problem (Malumfashi, 2008). In Nigeria, many measures are been taken by the three tiers of governments (Federal, State and Local governments) to reduce the rates of poverty in the country, but the depth and severity of the poverty is becoming worse. To determine whether a country is truly developing or not is contingent upon question on what is happening to poverty, unemployment and inequality (Oloyede, 2010). The answer to this question in the context of Nigeria, revealed that, poverty rate has worsened from about 47% in 1970 to nearly 70% in 2007. This shows that nearly 71% of our people live below \$1 a day. Also the 2010 Global monitoring report of the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) submitted that “about 95% of Nigerians survive on less than \$2 dollars daily while about 71% survive on less than \$1 a day. This means that the income of two Nigerians is equivalent to the daily feeding of a cow in Europe (Oloyede, 2010). Poverty as a social problem has many faces. It is much more than the low income. It also reflect poor health and education, deprivation in knowledge and communication, inability to exercise human and political right and absence of dignity, confidence and self- respect (Ajakaiye, 2002).

The Nigerian Senate had described the level of poverty in the nation as equivalent to time bomb that could consume the nation if allow to explode. They viewed the situation as disturbing, saying, “we need an effective social security system and a serious fight against corruption because the money that goes into few pockets is enough to provide jobs for our people.” Furthermore, they also described the situation as a bleak future awaits the nation unless poverty is tackled, adding that since 1999 all the poverty alleviation programmes have not gone beyond Abuja (Daily Trust, 2012). Against this background, the World Bank includes Nigeria in the list of the top 15 poorest of nations with the highest incidence of poverty. It is said that our population of 162 million, 90 million live below the poverty level of \$2 a day despite billions of dollars in oil revenue. However, in 1980 Only an estimated 27% of Nigerians lived in poverty. By 1990, it had grown to 70%. In 2011, over 58% of our population lives under the new poverty threshold of \$1.25 a day. Human development indices commonly used to define poverty in the light of life expectancy, illiteracy, lack of clean and potable water; sanitation and others (Oloyede, 2010).

In 2004, Borno State created a Ministry of Poverty Alleviation and Youth Empowerment primarily charged with varied responsibility of tackling the menace of poverty among the people of the state by empowering the youth and poor through the provision of poverty alleviation materials and micro credit loans which expected to improve their socio-economic status (BOSEEDS, 2005). The ministry is also saddled with the responsibility of training and retraining the youth in various trades with a view to empowering them to be

economically self-reliant. To enable the ministry undertake these noble initiatives and activities, during the year under review; (2008-2012), huge amounts of money was budgeted by the Borno state government in order to improve the living standard of its people. Despite all these huge amounts of money allocated by government, poverty in Borno in general and Maiduguri Metropolitan Area in particular seems to persist.

Nigeria has been blessed with abundant natural and human resources. These resources if properly, efficiently and fairly utilize among the three tiers of government, the nation will transform into a wealthy and prosperous country. Although, previous government efforts aimed at alleviating poverty in the country did not come under the 'poverty reduction programme' nomenclature or slogan, several institutions have emerged, which together with the line ministries, have been concerned with poverty reduction in various ways. Despite the enormous human and material resources expended by past governments to reduce poverty through these institutions, the programmes put in place are yet to produce the desired positive impact on the poor (Ihmadu, 2004). It is therefore, against this background that this study is undertaken to examine the level of poverty, how effective has the ministry of poverty alleviation and youth empowerment in Maiduguri metropolitan area (M.M.C) carryout the programmes and who are the beneficiaries during the period under review.

### **Literature Review**

The effect of poverty in human development has become a problem of horrifying enormity. Its Global dimension and multi-faceted linkage effects in terms of hunger, crimes, despondency and diseases such as HIV/AIDS particularly in the developing countries, remains the focus of National and International Development Agencies and Non- Governmental Organizations (NGO's) reflecting on their various programmes and projects. Since the World development decade in the early 1960s several programmes and projects have been carried out to alleviate poverty particularly among the poor countries. Yet after several years, despite the increased in growth rate, poverty has increased in most of the developing countries (Lipton, 1982). Although it has been generally accepted that growth is a prerequisite for poverty alleviation (CBN, 1999), it is not by itself a sufficient condition, especially where growth is accompanied by inequality in income distribution. Therefore, Lipton (1982), in his analysis stated that since 1945, growth and development, in most poor countries have done so little to raise the living standard of the poorest people. However, this presents a complex phenomenon that requires a carefully designed study that would identify the most vulnerable group in the society, their situation and general livelihoods in order to inform the policy on the appropriate social safety nets which will ensure that the benefits of economic growth actually trickle down to the grass roots.

The origin of poverty cannot be easily traced to a particular year or generation. From time immemorial people have been living together in different conditions: rich and poor, recognition of poverty dawned after the revolution, which placed regions, nations and man in hierarchical order, some above others. While resources surround some nations, others occupied ecologically hostile environment (Rondinelli & Ruddle, 1978). Most of the thoughts about poverty in the past centuries are lost in antiquity. However, latter conceptualization of poverty as a problem led the documentation and analytical consideration to really understand the phenomenon, its causes, measures and remedies over the years. These equally vary widely.

The empirical pioneers studies can be traced back to the codification of poor laws in medieval England, by Booth in London and by Rowntree in York published in 1901 (Ajakaiye & Adeyeye, 2001). Rowntree was the first to develop a poverty standard for individual families, based on estimates of nutritional and other requirements. In the 1960s the main focus of poverty debate was on the level of income, reflected in macro-economic indicators like GDP per capita. However, poverty becomes prominent, as a result of Robert MacNamara's celebrated speech to the World Bank Board of Governors in Nairobi in 1973, and the subsequent publication of redistribution with growth. Following International Labor Organization's (ILO's, 1970), pioneering work in the mid 1970s; poverty came to be defined not just as lack of income but also as lack of access to health, education and other services. The work of Robert Chambers on powerlessness and isolation in the 1980's further broaden the concept of poverty. Firstly, by the incorporation of non-monitory aspects, secondly was the interest on vulnerability such as shocks trends and seasonality, and understanding assets as buffers against external forces; and the adoption of coping strategies. Thirdly, poverty was broadening to the issue of livelihood. Fourthly, it is broaden to the understanding on gender not to consider women only but equally the excluded (Neiland, 2000). The dramatic increase in the magnitude of rural poverty become apparent in the 1980s and poverty re-emerge as a critical issue on the agenda for international development in the 1990s (Muller, 1985). This led to the idea of well being in poverty concept in 1990's. The emphasis was on how poor people themselves view their situation, inspired by UNDP (1965), developed the idea of human development: the denial of opportunities, and choice to lead along, healthy, creative life and to enjoy a decent standard of living, freedom, dignity, self-esteem and the respect of others. The UN Secretary General in December 1995, declared the year 1996 as the international year for the eradication of poverty (Okumadewa, 1999). However, these stages, since 1980 poverty has become prominent and generally on the increase especially in Nigeria. The country has since 1990 been classified as a "poor" nation (Awoseyila, 1999). A concise and universally accepted definition of poverty is elusive because of its multi-dimensional effects on human condition including physical,

social and psychological. Poverty is considered one of the symptoms of underdevelopment. Englama & Bamidele (1997) emphasized the need to have proper understanding of the issue to ensure a correct diagnosis of the subject matter and a precise measure of its size and severity that is devoid of all ambiguities. This is because over the years different approaches have been used in an attempt to conceptualize poverty. Some adopt economic (income/ expenditure) to measure poverty (Altimir, 1999). However, some studies incorporate other non-income factors such as dearth of health facilities, access to productive resources (World Bank, 1996). Poverty is a vicious circle, which keeps the poor in the state of destitution, breccias disillusionment. Its attributes may be classified into structural, economic, social, cultural, and the political deprivation (CBN, 1999).

Quite a number of poverty types have been conceived in economic literature. For instance, Aghahowa & Achime (2000), identified some of such dimensions of poverty to include: Absolute poverty, case poverty, crisis poverty, cultural poverty, disreputable poverty, insular poverty, life-cycle poverty, secondary poverty, primary poverty and relative poverty. However, of all these various categories of poverty mentioned above, only the first (Absolute Poverty) and the last (Relative poverty) appeared to have gained prominence in Development Economics (Osahon & Owen, 2009). According to Abdullahi (1993), poverty might be absolute or relative. In absolute terms, it refers to insufficient or total lack of necessities, and facilities like food, housing, medical care, education; social and environmental services, consumer goods, recreational opportunities, neighborhood amenities and transport facilities are sufficient indicators of state of poverty (Aboyade, 1987). When measurement of poverty standard used in measuring poverty by the National Bureau of statistic NBS such as absolute measure, the dollar per day measure and the subjective poverty measure, show that the poverty level is on increase. For instance, absolute measure puts the country's poverty rate at 99.284 million or 60.9%, the dollar per day measure puts the rate at 61.2%; and the subjective poverty measure put it at 93.9%. This report which provides details of poverty at income distribution across the country put the 2004 poverty measurement rate at 54.4%. It also shows that income inequality had risen from 0.429 in 2004 to 0.447 in 2010 (Osahon & Owen, 2009).

In relative terms people are poverty stricken when their incomes even if adequate for survival, fall radically below that of the community average, they cannot have what the larger community regards as the minimum requirement necessary for decent living and they cannot wholly escape from judgment of the larger community that they are indecent. In a report by the National Bureau of Statistic (NBS) that a staggering 112.519 million Nigerians live in relative poverty conditions is alarming. This figure represents 69% of the country's total population estimated to be 163 million, Daily Trust (2012). More worrisome is the fact that the poverty rate is rising at a time the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grow rate is put at 7.75% (Daily Trust, 2012).

In Nigeria, poverty has evolved over the past few decades to become a critical development issue, demanding concerted efforts from government, civil society organizations and Nigeria's development partners. According to Funmilola (2009), initial attention was focused on rural development together with town and country as the approach to dealing with the problem (CBN, 1999). However, emphasis was placed on transforming the rural sector particularly the enhancement of agricultural productivity and farm income. Hence integrated rural development projects were adopted as the best mechanism to mitigate rural poverty. Several projects were established across Nigeria. Perhaps some of the most pragmatic past approaches taken at alleviating poverty in Nigeria included the establishment of some programmes and schemes which have helped in alleviating or reducing poverty. These are the Agricultural Development Project (ADP) in 1975; Operation Feed the Nation (OFN) in 1976; Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme (ACGS) in 1977; National Primary Health Care Agency (NPHCA) in 1989; Family Economic Advancement Programme (FEAP) in 1997; and Family Support Programme (FSP) in 1997. Current efforts at poverty alleviation are numerous, which include: Universal Basic Education (UBE) in 2000; National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) in 2001; Nigerian Agricultural Development Fund (NADF) in 2002; National Economic Empowerment Development Strategy (NEEDS) in 2003; Commodity Marketing and Development Companies (CMDC) in 2003; Presidential initiatives on selected commodities: Cassava, Rice, Cocoa, Vegetable oil, Livestock and Fisheries from 1999-2007 (Funmilola, 2009). Despite of all these, (Ihimodu, 2004) argued that, empirical records of many of these programmes and projects are not impressive enough to bring about the expected transformation on the livelihood of the targeted population. Apart from the strategies initiated by the Federal Government to alleviate poverty, states and local governments had also initiated different measures and approaches to deal with poverty.

Against these noble strategies Borno State created a Ministry of Poverty Alleviation and the Youth Empowerment with the purpose of reducing the rates of poverty among its people. From 2008-2012 the government budgeted a huge amount of money for that purpose.

**Table 2.9.1: Budgetary allocation for poverty alleviation from 2009-2012.**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amounts budgeted</b>
2008	N1,211,130,300.00
2009	N1,423,284,500.00
2010	N4,234,162,000.00
2011	N3,024,920,000.00
2012	N4,315,867,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>N14,209,363,800.00</b>

*Source: Ministry of Poverty Alleviation and Youth Empowerment, 2012*

Similarly, in the year under review (2008-2012), Borno State government made significant effort on alleviating poverty among its teeming youths and under privileged people, through provision of micro credit grants, skills acquisitions in various trades, and poverty alleviation materials to groups, communities and individuals as well as assistance to communities engaged in communal self project, under the umbrella of the ministry of poverty alleviation and youth empowerment with view to addressing problems confronting people in the state.

**Table 2.2.2 Programmes and number of beneficiaries from 2009-2012**

<b>PROGRAMMES</b>	<b>2008/2009 Beneficiaries</b>	<b>2010 Beneficiaries</b>	<b>2011 Beneficiaries</b>	<b>2012 Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Total</b>
Micro Credit Loan	NIL	3,000	NIL	3000	6000
Skill Acquisition in - various Trades	505	NIL	700	NIL	1205
Poverty Alleviation Materials	1,400 Motorcycles 2,400 Tricycle	NIL	3,000 Keke NAPEP	NIL	6800
<b>Total</b>					<b>14005</b>

*Source: Ministry of Poverty Alleviation and Youth Empowerment Borno State, 2012*  
**Empirical Conceptualization**

The subject of poverty cannot be studied or analyzed in a vacuum, but could, adequately be treated within the wider theoretical approach of Marxist capitalism in relation to political and economic approach.

Marx's view point was provided in what he called material conception of history. The Marx's conception of conflict is based on the fact that man makes the society and this is achieved through the work or labor that man engages in on daily basis for his survival, man must first and foremost eat before he can think of politics, arts, religion and philosophy. Similarly, in Nigeria, many people cannot afford three square meals. Second, man must reproduce in order to keep the society going. The population in Nigeria is rapidly increasing, but the job creation is becoming low.

In a capitalist economy, according to Karl Marx a small minority own the process of production, workers neither own nor has any control over the goods they produced. The workers are produced to the level of a commodity. A momentary value is placed on his work and the cost of machinery and low materials. Like the commodity, the manufacturers, the workers at the mercy of market forces of the low of supply and demand. Thus, during economic meltdown/recession, many workers will find themselves jobless with their means of support. This situation will lead to poverty and unemployment.

According to Karl Marx, this is socio-economic phenomenon unavailable under the capitalist mode of production in which a specific part of those members of population who can work but unable to find employment or work. This is production of the action to the general law of capital accumulation. In the light of this, as capitalism develops the offer of working hand grow with the natural growth of the population, the rain of small productive is competitive struggles and increasing in the involvement of children and women in the capitalist production.

For him, unemployment is a necessary condition for the existence and development of the capitalist mode of production. The more the economy is monetized and capitalist accumulation develops in all sectors, the more the nation wealth get concentrated with capitalist hand, the more the level of unemployment.

In the case of Borno in general and Maiduguri Metropolitan Area in particular, solving unemployment and poverty within the context of post-colonial capitalist development will remain elusive, because a few elite capitalists and politicians are accumulating excess wealth from the countries accruing resources. This has rendered many people in Borno in general and Maiduguri Metropolitan Area in particular, unemployed and subsequently poor. If the few greedy capitalists and politicians were to take only what belonged to them, Marxian theory would have us believe that there would be enough to go round. Because a few are accumulating what belongs to many, therefore there is very little to go round and we have debilitating unemployment and poverty situation that the government is battling endlessly to reduce the rate of poverty among its teeming population.

## Methodology

This section attempts to explain the methodology adopted in carrying out this research. The study looked into the three programmes of poverty reduction programmes: micro credit loans, skill acquisition in various trades and poverty alleviation materials, provided by the government of Borno State with aim of alleviating the poverty among its people.

The sample sizes of one hundred and five (105) respondents were randomly selected from each of the three programmes; the selection was done using the simple random sampling technique, which involves using the table of random numbers to select respondents from the population. The number selected from each programme was based on the proportion calculated. Therefore, Proportionate sampling technique was employed to select respondents from the programmes. Thus, for micro credit loan programme, forty Three (43) respondents were selected out of their total number of (6000) beneficiaries. In the skill acquisition in various trade programmes: nine (9) people were selected out of the total number of 1205 beneficiaries. Finally in poverty alleviation materials program, Forty Eight 48 respondents were selected out of the total number of 6800 beneficiaries. And then Five (5) officials from the ministry were selected for an in-depth interview. The data collected in this study were analyzed using frequency table, percentages and statistical package for social sciences (SPSS), the SPSS programme was instructed to produce frequencies and percentages of each variable from the data fed into it.

## Findings

**Table 4.9: Beneficiaries of PAP in MMC**

PAP programme	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Micro credit loan	15	15.0
Skill acquisition in various trade	29	29.0
Poverty alleviation materials	56	56.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field Survey, 2012*

The study revealed that out of the three programmes initiated by Borno State Government (BOSG) to alleviate poverty in the study area. Most respondents benefited from Poverty alleviation materials. The study further revealed that some benefited from skills acquisition in various trade and few benefited from micro credit loans. The table shows that facilities for poverty alleviation were purchased by the BOSG and some time issuing money for the beneficiaries in order to establish their self initiated businesses.

This finding is in conformity to the point raised by Ndahi (2012) that, BOSG distributed many materials to youths and women which many unemployed youths had so far been trained to various skills acquisitions, where take off grants had been given to them to start their business.

**Table 4.10: Achievement of respondents in PAP**

Achievement	Frequency	Percentage (%)
I got married	2	2.0
I can pay my school fees	8	7.0
I bought a plot of land	10	10.0
I have a savings account	79	79.0
Others	2	2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field Survey, 2012*

The information above indicates that most of the respondents have benefited and their lives have improved in various ways. Most of the respondents now have or are able to have some savings at the end of the day. They no longer live from hand to mouth but could save for the rainy day after feeling their bellies and that of their dependants. Some of the respondents indicated that they got married, while few respondents can pay their school fees. It further indicated that some bought plots of land. Only a few made other things. This result is in conformity with assertion made by a respondent that “the PAP had significantly reduced poverty to the beneficiaries in the study area. This result go against the view put forward by Ihimodu (2004 ), Daily Trust (2012) argued that, poverty alleviation programmes and projects have not achieve its desire result to the transformation of the livelihood of the targeted population.

**Table 4.11: Respondents perception of the success of the PAP.**

Level of success	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Very successful	12	12.0
Successful	86	86.0
Fairly successful	2	2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field Survey, 2012*

On the opinion of their satisfaction to (PAP), the study indicates that, some respondents rated the programme very successful. It further shows that majority of the respondents rated it as successful. Only a few respondents rated the scheme as fairly successful. It is obvious from the table that the (PAP) for the population sample indicated that the programme had tremendous impact in changing the life of the people in Maiduguri Metropolitan area. In their responses to the question on, to what extent has this programme reduced poverty among people in MMC? Their responses indicated that, poverty was alleviated and will continue to be alleviated as long as the government extends its helping hand to the needy and expand the programme.

**Table 4.12: Respondents advice to the government.**

Advice to the government	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Govt. should provide job opportunity	83	70.0
Govt. should give loan to deserving people not politicians	14	11.0
Govt. should train more people	19	19.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field Survey, 2012*

The study shows that majority of the respondents had advised the Government to provide more job opportunity while some argued government to give loans to deserving people and not politicians alone. It further indicates that many respondents advised government to train more people.

**Table 4.13: Assessment on effectiveness of PAP on beneficiaries.**

Standard of living	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Substantial improvement in living standard	83	83.0
Moderate improvement in living standard	17	17.0
No improvement in living standard	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field Survey, 2011*

The study revealed that, the majority of the respondents believed the (PAP) had substantially improved their living standard. It further shows that some respondents had moderately improved their living standard, while non that says there is no improvement in their living standard. Ilorin (1999), supported this finding that, empowerment in this instance means that people do not assume they are powerless but rather belief deeply in the power of the ability to determine their individual destiny.

#### **Discussion of Findings**

The researcher will now discuss the major findings of the study in relation to our literature. Most scholars whose works were reviewed in the literature like Lipton (1982), Ihimadu (2004), Osahon and Owen (2009) and Daily trust (2012), were of the opinion that poverty has increased in most countries. And that most of these poverty alleviation programmes and projects are not impressive enough to bring about transformation and improvement in the lives of the beneficiaries. On the other hand the government of Borno state believes that its poverty alleviation programme has gone a long way to improve the lives of the beneficiaries. The findings of this study would now be used sustain and refute these polar positions of scholars and government.

In table 4.9 it was discovered that the beneficiaries got materials, training and cash that would enable them become self employed and capable of making a living. It is government effort at empowering the beneficiaries that result into the success of this programme. If the beneficiaries are given training without the materials to enable them implement what they have been trained in, they would still not be able to help themselves. But government trains and equips the beneficiaries; this in the opinion of the researcher is the bedrock of the success of the programme so far. If in the future, corruption creeps into the programme and money meant for the beneficiaries are embezzled, then we can be sure that programme would meet its Waterloo. This of course falls in line with the statement from the Nigerian Senate, in which they said that the major reason why poverty has persisted in this country is because the money meant for the people are going into a few pockets.

From the finding in tables 4.10 and table 4.11, the information obtained indicated that the beneficiaries had acquired things they couldn't afford before benefiting from the programme. Some indicated being able to

save, others to marry, and yet others said they could now pay school fees of their wards and some even acquired plots of land. This shows that the programme have benefited those who are privileged to participate in it. Perhaps the questions we should be asking is, who benefited and how? Is the process of selecting those who benefited fair?. What is the percentage of those who benefited against those who did not?.

In the tables 4.12 and 4.13, the information obtained revealed that the benefactors of the programme themselves believed that their lives have improved and are advising government on further steps to take in other alleviate poverty. This showed us that though the effort of government at poverty alleviation is commendable, the beneficiaries still believe that there are still more to be done in other to ensure that more people are reached and that the government goal of poverty alleviation in the area of study is achieved.

### **Conclusion and Recommendation**

There had been poor supervision, monitoring and evaluation of the scheme. The ministry of poverty alleviation and youth empowerment has not significantly alleviated poverty. Despite of the numerous poverty alleviation schemes and the successes recorded, poverty in the MMC is still high.

Based on the foregoing findings, we concluded that, poverty is a social and economic problem with serious negative effects on almost every member of the Nigerian society. As economic destroyers, poverty has bedeviled this nation for too long a time. It has, along with other factors led to the instability in our economic system and to a large extent contributed to our under development. However, it is very disheartening to note that, the government (in a commensurate magnitude) does not seem to be committed to its obligation on the provision of or galvanizing a proper policy directed towards improvement of free social services and amenities such as good roads, potable drinking water, hospital with adequate and affordable drugs, school with adequate teaching aids and qualified teacher etc.

Finally, poverty as it is an impediment to the peaceful co-existence of our social and political life because it is main cause of our economic dislocation must be fought head on and hydra headedly with government taking the head. In short, to be more emphatic all hands must be on desk for the achievement of this herculean task.

Recommendations are here by forwarded which if carefully considered will help a long way in improving the light of the poor and less privilege.

- i. Government should intensified effort to reduce the rate of poverty before the matter goes out of hand as stated by Karl Marx “if the poor cannot sleep because he is hungry the rich also cannot sleep because the poor are awake”
- ii. National, international and non-governmental organizations (NGO’s) should mobilize themselves including the academics to effectively formulate anti- poverty programmes.
- iii. Non-governmental organization (NGOs) and Civil organization should initiates more job opportunities in order to reduce the level of idealness among its teeming youth, base on the slogan that say’s “an idle mind is a devil’s workshop” .
- iv. More loans, training and poverty alleviation materials should be giving to those who are in need and not for political reasons.
- v. The number of beneficiaries should be increased in order to accommodate more people and consequently spread it impact. An increase in the number will also attract the support and commendation of the populace.
- vi. There should be just and fair play in the enrolment on distribution of materials. Favoritism, nepotism and other vices should be criticized and stopped. To actualize this, God-fearing and patriotic citizens with clear proven integrity should be selected to implement the programme, and also be given a free hand in the discharge of their duties. Government should adopt a mechanism of monitoring the beneficiaries. This can enhance the judicious use of the material given to them.

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