

AN EVALUATION OF GOOD GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

The problems of development require moral assessment or ethical reflection. Development has a definitional difficulty; it constitutes a multifaceted form and it aims at human improvement and economic efficiency. Development seeks to address global economic equality, hunger, human deprivation through a more viable alternative of policy components. Development requires economic growth, human well-being, scientific, technological and the existing possibility of the framework of political superstructure. This paper shall analyze the economic implications, policy components of development on the human well-being. This paper appreciates and appropriates the many-sided process of development which is aimed at better human living condition. Development has been misconstrued to be an economic term. This paper adopts the analytical framework and tends to critically examine and clarify development as an economic, scientific, social, cultural, technological and a political term. Development is an integral process of human betterment. Development indicates that human beings are determined to take their collective good as their most basic priority. Development is both personal and comprehensive. Good governance and development or sustainable development is inextricably linked. Without good democratic governance there would be no good dynamics of leadership structure. Development is borne out of the need for resolving the problems of human wellbeing. This paper therefore, concludes that good governance and development strategies remain the major objective of every nation. African governments must critically search into the conceptualization of development and its economic implications to the African peoples. Development is characterized by the policy components of every Nation-State.

Keywords: Sustainable Development, Good Governance, Brain Drain, Corruption, Leadership.

1.1 Introduction

The problems of development require moral assessment. Development has a definitional difficulty; it constitutes a multifaceted form and it aims at human improvement and economic adequacy or efficiency. Development seeks to address global challenges on economic, equality, hunger, human deprivation through a more viable alternative of policy components.

Development requires economic growth, human well-being, scientific cum technological progression or assimilation and the existing possibility of the normative framework of political superstructure. This paper shall analyze the economic implications, policy components of development on the human well-being. This paper appreciates and appropriates the many-sided process of development which is aimed at better human living condition. Development has been misconstrued to be an economic term. Development is an integral process of human betterment. The problem of good governance and sustainable development in Nigeria is caused by lack of effective political leadership. It seems to be apt especially in Nigeria and indeed some other African countries where political leadership poses serious challenges towards the attainment of critical development and nationhood. Leadership is an important and critical component in any human society. Leadership is a very essential aspect of human coexistence (Okaneme, 2018: 1-2). Development indicates that human beings are determined to take their collective good as their most basic priority. Development is both personal and comprehensive. Good governance and sustainable development are inextricably linked. Without good democratic governance there would be no good dynamics of leadership structure. Development is borne out of the need for resolving the problems of human wellbeing. This paper is compartmentalized into seven sections. Section one is anchored on the introductory remarks. Section two discusses about the conceptualization of development as the basis of African freedom. Section three focuses on the correlation between sustainable development and good governance. Section four talked about Africa and the question of development. Section five reflected on understanding sustainable development in Africa. Section six focuses on the evaluation of development and its economic implication on the human person and section seven is anchored on the concluding consideration. This paper therefore, concludes that good governance and development strategies remain the major objective of every nation-State. African governments must critically search into the conceptualization of development and its economic implications to the African peoples. Development is characterized by the policy components of every Nation-State. African transformation is embedded in rapid human capacity building, radical structural change and increase in capital or physical development. It has been asserted that the conceptualization of development has been a universal phenomenon. Development cannot be isolated from human existence, socio-democratic interaction and reciprocal/existential relationships. Development strategies revealed that there is no generally accepted theory and definition of development. Rather development was theoretically conceived not only from an economic point of view but from the multidimensional perspectives of scientific, technological, political and socio-cultural dimensions. It is characterized by a policy component of the institutional and functional framework of political superstructure. Development arises from the nature of man who struggles for survival in the face of opposing goals, interest and challenges and limited resources. Development can be experienced at the personal or individual level, or within social groups or interclass, societal, national or international level (Rodney, 1972:9-10). Democratic governance, which is people oriented is fraught with the prerequisite for development in a multitude oriented entity like African-States. Good governance is an organ or instrument of human mass empowerment that engenders radical openness and sustainable development. Development refers to the processes and events of change and human progress. Development is ultimately about the individual human person or democratic society or both. Development involves the harmonious progressive unveiling of the human person.

1.2 Development as the Basis for African Freedom

Development is fundamental to human improvement and it is based on human actions themselves. The goal of development and thus the direction of development are set by us. And it is incumbent on us to pursue its theoretical cum empirical attachment. We shall use our good moral sense to arrive at these goals. There is the potential for universalizing those goals. Development has a holistic principle. For Agbakoba, individuals perform their conscious acts, but these are connected by some special casual mechanism to the realization of holistic goals, which have their own principle of development (Agbakoba, 2003:31). Development is an all-embracing or all inclusive concept; it should not be seen as an economic term alone, but it is scientific, technological, economic and the political superstructure of men in their existential relations in society (Agbakoba, 2003:28). The integral process of development is that the human beings take their destinies in their own hands. The problems of development presupposed the fact that Africa as a continent is predominantly an agricultural continent. Development is strongly dependent on economic market forces and political superstructure. Development implies the social, economic, cultural, scientific, technological, intellectual and political perspective of the people. Development involves a beneficial change; development means both the socio-cultural, economic and political change. Development involves alleviating the plethora of human misery or suffering and the alleviation of environmental degradation of countries. Development requires environmental sustainability. Development emphasizes a democratic commitment to alleviating worldwide human deprivation.

It is worthy of note that to have a proper grasp of development, we must conceive generally desirable social change. Development constitutes descriptive and normative dimensions. Development involves the process of economic growth, social change, industrialization, and modernization. Development strategies involve human well-being or happiness and the overcoming of economic crisis and social deprivation. Development involves the maximization of economic growth, better human living condition, and the avoidance of human suffering. Development involves unalloyed commitment to the public good; it is geared towards social ends and means. Development flows from the overall tendency for preference satisfaction, basic human needs, respect for human rights, the existing possibility of democratic governance, social participation and a right to at least a minimum-level of human well-being. Development is characterized by an ethical reflection or moral implications. Scholars such as Denis Goulet, Paul Streeten, and Amartya Sen have given a theoretical approach to some questions on human development. The moral dimension of development theory is as important as the technological, scientific, cultural, social and political superstructure or policy components. It is worthy of note that:

Development scholars recognize that social-scientific theories of development and underdevelopment have ethical as well as empirical and policy components. Development involves the collective responsibility of all human beings in society. Development philosophers and other ethicists formulate ethical principles relevant to social change in poor countries, analyze and assess the moral dimensions of development theories and seek to resolve the moral quandaries raised in development policies and practice: in what direction and by what means should a society develop? Who is morally responsible for

beneficial change? What are the obligations, if any, of rich societies (and their citizens) to poor societies? The theory and practice of development is characterized by a moral assessment (Crocker, 1998: 39).

Furthermore, development aims at addressing the problems of corruption, hunger, poverty, and international injustice. Development requires a more comprehensive, empirical and careful analysis of human commitment to better living condition. Good development is understood as the pursuit and the solution to the problems of economics inefficiency, global economic inequality, human hunger and under development. Development is understood as the expansion of people's valuable capabilities and functioning. Sustainable development and good governance are inextricably linked. Good governance can lead to the existing possibility of development strategies (Crocker (1998:39-40).

1.3 Good Governance and Sustainable Development

Governance relies on a strong, viable, stable, significant and robust liberal or democratic tradition. Good governance implies policy dialogue and the strengthening of institutional framework. Good governance reflects on the need for comprehensive, reliable political reforms that are anchored on the promotion of human rights, the existence of civil society, transparency, accountability, and the principle of participatory government. At the core of governance, then, is the need to cater for the good of the governed and protect their rights (Okolo, 2021:232). Good governance is dependent on the depth of the people's participation. Enabling opportunity must be made available for the citizens to make their contributions in the policies and law making process of the government (Onwe, 2021:32). It is clear that governance is all about protecting people's life, catering for their welfare and ensuring their co-existence (Onwe, 2021:30). The solution to democratic governance must be factored or tailored around the individual human person. What fosters good governance is effective leadership and robust liberal democratic tradition. Good governance should or aims at heralding new level of international thinking or international integration. Good governance reflects on the exercise of political or administrative and economic management; it reflects on the effective management of a nation's natural and human resources and State of affairs. Good governance indicates the effective articulation of common interests, legal system, and management structure of countries' resources. Good governance implies the sensitive nature to countries' resources through effective managerial skills, competency, and State of affairs in a way that is open, transparent, accountable, equitable, responsive, articulate, radical, and sincere to the social and material needs of a people. Good governance demands viable, strong and pluralistic civil society. Good governance requires good institutional framework, rule of law or set of rules governing human thoughts and actions. Good governance requires dynamic leadership structure that is articulate, discipline and organized. Good governance requires high level of managerial competence that is people oriented, focused, transparent, accountable and responsive to the people's needs. Good governance requires the promotion and effective implementation of economic policies and political programmes; it requires people oriented policies to promote broad spectrum of a country's economic growth, a dynamic of social policies that will eventually lead to the reduction of poverty and corruption. However, good governance does not aim at economic profits alone. Good governance aims at promoting the collective interest and the public good of the people in any democratic society. For Emiri:

But governments do not exist for economic profits. The only legitimate objective of government is to serve the people's interest. So the interest of government is equivalent to the interest of its people. Bentham's thesis states that government exists for promoting collective happiness of its citizens. This is hardly contestable. Even government officials make (real or pretend) allusion to it as its aim. Often they tell the citizens that every policy direction is geared towards promoting collective social good, even when it is otherwise. Recognizing that government only goal is to promote the good of its people is what forms the basis for the duty of persons who aspire to run government on behalf of the people. It sets the framework of what duty the official/elected offices should owe to the State(Emiri, 2004:148).

Good governance implies the maximization of economic and social advancement, human mass empowerment and economic improvement, a competitive market economic structure and a careful analysis and strengthening of a broad based national economy and national security. Good governance will help to create the necessary atmosphere for advancement, first, in sciento-technology and, second, in the flowering of identity feeling (Oguejiofor, 2004:xvii). Good governance requires careful management of national economic resources. Good governance is an essential instrument for sustainable development in Africa. Good governance implies the precondition for sustainable national development. For Venter:

Economic growth and sustained development are, therefore, of the essence in supporting Africa's fledgling democracies and preventing further tragic relapse into despotism and authoritarianism. Democracy has to be carefully nurtured, because democratic values (especially political tolerance) cannot be inculcated in African societies overnight; and relatively sound economies (to provide basic human needs) seem to be essential ingredients for the ultimate success of a democratic order in Africa(Venter, 2004:231).

Worthy of note is that poor democratic governance is an impediment to sustainable development in a continent like Africa. One fundamental element of good governance that is needed for sustainable development is a national economy that operates in a manner that is answerable, ethical, accountable, transparent, open and normatively regulated environment that is people-focused. There is an inextricable link between good democratic governance that is accountable, open and transparent and the ability to achieve sustainable economic growth and socio-cultural and political development that is broad-based. Good governance implies the emergence of a stable economy and the stability of any democratic nation. Good governance encourages greater or maximum human satisfaction; it encourages greater or maximum community participation in any democratic nation. Good governance promotes accountability, managerial competency, efficiency and effectiveness in the sustainable development of any democratic nation. Good governance can lead to the initiative of continuing human improvement, effective management capacity, and the eradication of conflicts of interests. Improved governance aims at effective government reforms or policy framework and practice. The matters of good governance, despite its significant relation to democracy, is confined to culture and it is system bound(Onwe, 2021:29). Good governance aims at improving the effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and transparency of a nation's

economic market structure (system); both at the public and private sector of the national economy. Good governance plays a pivotal role in ensuring social balance. Developing countries are currently facing challenges of poverty reduction and the inability of these developing countries to achieve sustainable development is an immense task to African governments. Good governance requires ethical soundness, effective management practices of countries' natural and human resources. Good governance requires a harmonized system of taxes and the promotion of strategic public policy and accountability framework. Good governance lends credibility and sustainability of economic growth and political reforms. Good governance aims at a comprehensive approach and realistic targets that is fundamental and sustainable. Good governance aims at continuous human improvement, sustainable institutional framework, social structural change, effective organizational structure, and integrated programmes of human cooperation. Good governance requires a dynamic leadership structure and viable process that is desirable and indispensable. A careful analysis of good governance requires a process of continuous improvement of basic human needs. The promotion of good governance aims at functional, transparent, accountable and competent legal system and the effective implementation of the rule of law in a democratic nation. Good governance requires building a viable media institution, capacity-building, and community base organization. Good governance can contribute to innovative programmes that provide assistance for the people or masses in society; this can lead to a stronger civil society. Good governance promotes effective economic planning, policy framework, improved economic system and financial management, resolving structural and institutional problems, strong operation of a liberal democratic tradition, economic system and increasing public driven sector or effectiveness. Good governance can also constitute to the development of democratic processes and strong institutions of government. The indices of bad governance are hunger, corruption and massive unemployment. The effect of bad government and mismanagement of resources is hunger and massive unemployment (Ezeanya, 2009:195). The indices of good governance are effective tax system, increase in per capita income, good standard of living, good health care system, good road networks, higher productivity level, high life expectancy, good educational system, equality of opportunities, reduction in poverty and corruption, strong government institutions, rule of law, effective legal system, democratic accountability and transparency, and even distribution of human and natural resources.

1.4 The Quest for Development in Africa

Development in human society requires a dynamic process. Development in human society is a many-sided process. At the level of the individual, it implies increase skill and capacity, greater freedom, creativity, self-discipline, responsibility and material well-being. Some of these are virtually moral categories and are difficult to evaluate depending as they do on the stage which one lives, one's class, and origin. However, what is indisputable is that the achievement of any of those aspects of personal development is very much tied in with the state of the society as a whole. Development as a concept has a definitional difficulty. Development can be personal, partial and comprehensive. Development is geared towards human convenience or overall human betterment. Development is steeped in human social, political and economic relations. Freedom, responsibility, skill, etc. have real meaning only in terms of the economic relations of man in society. Development implies an increasing possibility of regulation both in the internal and external relations of man (Rodney, 1972:1-2). The relations between individuals in any two societies are regulated by the form of the two

societies. Their respective political structures are important because the ruling elements within each group are the ones that begin to dialogue, trade or fight, as the case may be. At the level of social groups, therefore, development implies an increasing capacity to regulate both internal and external relationships (Rodney, 1972:2-3).

Development is a human phenomenon which is simply tied in political structure, fundamental material needs, non- material needs, human survival and the independence of the social groups. Development in the past has always meant the increase in the ability to guard the independence of the social group and indeed to infringe upon the freedom of others- something that often came about irrespective of the will of the persons within the societies involved. Human beings are always engaged in the unique nature of developmental strategies. Men are not the only beings that involve in social group but the human species embarked upon a unique line of development because men have the capacity to make and use tools. Strictly speaking, real development involves usage of tools (Rodney, 1972:3).

Furthermore, the very act of making tools was a stimulus for increasing rationality rather than the consequence of a fully matured intellect. Development is anchored on the consequence of increasing human rationality. Development involves the usage of tools which will liberate men from physical necessity or unnecessary exertion or dissipation of energy. The work with tools liberated men from sheer physical necessity The tools with which men work and the manner in which they organize themselves are both important indices of social development. The word “development” is often used in economic term. Moreover, sustainable development involves the practical demonstration of the devices of tools or application of tools. Development involves the importance of science and technology. Science and technology involves both the understanding of the law of nature and the application of tools which is geared towards human betterment or economic improvement. It is worthy of note that the evolutionary tendency of development as far as human improvement is concerned is geared towards ensuring the collective happiness of man. For Rodney:

Taking a long term view, it can be said that there has been constant economic development within human society since the origin of man, because man has multiplied enormously his capacity to win a living from nature. The magnitude of man’s achievement is best understood by reflecting on the early history of human society and noting the following: firstly, the progress from crude stone tools to the use of metals; secondly, the changeover from hunting and gathering wild fruit to the domestication of animals and the growing of food crops; and thirdly, the improvement in organization of work from being an individualistic activity towards being an activities which assumes a social character through the participation of man. Development implies human quest for progress, the dynamic interplay between human being and nature, it implies the collective participation of all men as a social group. Development assumes a social character through the aid of human participation. Development as a social character and human participation assumes the

increasing capacity or ability of human beings to live a more satisfactory life through exploiting resources of nature (Rodney, 1972:3).

Moreover, development involves human active participation and the quest for human progress. Development assumes social character. No meaningful development has taken place, unless the masses are better off, that is, there is improvement in the general welfare as a result of more equitable distribution of increased output of goods and services among individuals as well as reduction in the level of unemployment (Anyanwuocha, 2000: 288). Development presupposes a universal condition. Indeed, in the early period, Africa was the focus of the physical development of man as such, as distinct from other living beings. Development was universal because the existential conditions leading to economic expansions were universal. Everywhere, man was faced with the task of survival by meeting fundamental material needs; and better tools were a consequence of the interplay between human being and nature as part of the struggle for economic survival. Development assumes the overall tendency to produce basic necessity and increased production (Rodney, 1972:4). It is worthy of note that development implies the capacity to produce basic necessities and other services for the people. But the overall tendency was towards increased productivity. It reflects the increase in the quality of goods and services rendered to the people in society. Development indicates radical structural change and the universal application of the principle of quantitative and qualitative change. Development implies rapid structural change (Drucker, 1999:73). Development involves the creation of greater quantity of goods and services which are characterized by greater skills and human invention or rationality. Development involves the improved quality of life of a people. What is probably of more critical importance to African development is the principle that development over the world has always been uneven. What actually affects development in Africa as a continent is that the form of political and economic superstructure has been very weak and seems to be distorted due to lack of political will, ineffective leadership and poor ideological framework. As human beings battled with the material environment, they created forms of social interaction. It is worthy of note that the alleviation of poverty and improvements in human wellbeing are of central importance in the development of human potential and the realization of goal of life which necessitate the formation of a civil state (Cyril, 2021:9).

Nevertheless, technological development involves an expanded economic capacity and the manufacturing of a wide variety of items (Rodney, 1972:8-9). The conceptualization of development can never be complete without looking at the issue of underdevelopment in Africa. The countries of Africa, Asia, and Latin America are called agricultural countries because they rely on agriculture and have little or no industry; but their agriculture is unscientific and the yields are far less than those of the developed countries. In several of the largest underdeveloped nations, there was stagnation and fall in agricultural output in and after 1966. African development has not really being the overall benefit of the African peoples (Rodney, 1972:24). It is worthy of note that African potential is shown for the greater everyday with new discoveries of mineral wealth on the agricultural side. African soil is not as rich as the picture of tropical forests might lead one to believe; but there are other climatic advantages so that with proper irrigation crops can be grown all the year round in most parts of the continent. The situation is that Africa has not yet come anywhere close to making the most of

its natural wealth and most of the wealth now being produced is not being retained within African soil for the benefit of Africans (Rodney, 1972:25-26). According to Rodney:

One fundamental problem facing African development is the emergence of Western capitalist tendency; the rich get richer while the poor get poorer. There is continuous exploitation of man by his fellow man. Man has always exploited his natural environment in order to make a living. At a certain point in time, there also arose the exploitation of man by man in that a few people grew rich and lived well through the labour of others. Apart from the evils of Western capitalist tendency another factor militating against the crisis of identity and the quest for development in Africa is the issues of economic woes or backwardness, and political instability. Political instability is manifesting itself in Africa as a chronic symptom of the under development of political life within the imperialist context. The development dynamics is basically based on the establishment of industries. The establishment of industries may attract other secondary activities in a cumulative factor (Rodney, 1972:32-33).

Nonetheless, this self- reinforcing growth may result in all other related activities of industries and the initial establishment of such industries in the areas of security, fire protection, police, corrections, telecommunication, hospitals, and electricity. The problems of development faced by less developed countries include the interlocking vicious circles of poverty, grand corruption, weak government institutions, poor ideological framework, lack of rule of law, lack of democratic accountability and ineffective leadership structure. Development in Africa is not feasible due to the difficulties of attracting capital resources and the problem of population explosion, the birth rate of less developed countries is very high and the problem of over migration which has resulted in the brain-drain syndrome. Brain-drain is a phenomenon; it poses a serious challenge to the third world countries because the concepts “drain” means to sire or draw out with intention to empty the source it comes from. Brain drain denotes a migration from human capital resources. The major cause of brain drain is when a particular country pay high and attractive wages for cheap labour, such a country is said to experience good working environment and the political working environment and the political structure of such a country is said to be conducive. For Drucker, it is no longer possible to base acountry’s economic development on cheap labour (Drucker, 1999:61-62). The brain drain problem arises when Africans choose not to return to their nation or country. Brain drain as a syndrome indicates that Africa has been enmeshed in penury and economic degradation; it reflects on the bastardization and the retardation of the continent of Africa’s growing economy. Brain drain results in the problem of poor leadership structure, bribery and corruption. Africa should invest in human capital development in order to stem the tide of brain drain syndrome. Africa is faced with the battle of individual human rights and the ideal of the common good. The national capital reserve has been the exclusive property of a selected few; the African political leaders. Leaders of government in Africa are suffering from political ignorance and are not sensitive to the people’s social and material needs.

However, investing in human capital resources will result in the control of the negative effects of brain drain. Brain drain has resulted in the loss of skilled workers and this can wreck the chances of African countries of sustaining the provision of goods and services which are

essential for development in Africa. Brain drain implies the migration or mass exodus of our best brains to developed countries of the world. The best ways to stem the tide of brain drain syndrome is the implementation of good policies that can change the fortunes of the less developed countries of Africa. Africa through the dynamics of good leadership should guarantee the basics of social cohesion and national security. Brain drain has a very negative impact on African countries as a whole. Brain drain has created a very adverse or negative implication to the quest for comprehensive development in Africa. Brain drain is antithetical to Africa's quest for sustainable development. The indices of good governance should aim at the following; Development should aim at better human living condition. Good governance should aim at effective leadership. Effective leadership should aim at universal brotherhood, love, accommodation and solidarity. Good governance and sustainable development should aim at economic growth and global economic equality. Sustainable development should aim at correcting the abnormality of international injustice. A comprehension of development should aim not only at an economic term but the political, scientific, cultural, technological and the policy components of society. African transformation should be steeped in the dynamics of ethical cum effective leadership structure and development strategies. The emergence of leadership transformation and good democratic structure should aim at effective social justice, promotion of human rights, law and order, provision of health care delivery system, good democratic institutions, gender equality and equality of opportunity. The dynamics of African leadership structure should aim at human flourishing. Good governance, dynamics of leadership structure, and African transformation and development strategies should aim at the total reduction of human deprivation, hunger, abject poverty, drudgery and corruption. Good governance and sustainable development should aim at engendering or enhancing higher standard of living condition, highlife expectancy, increase in personal income and high productivity capacity. Good democratic governance and ethical leadership should pave the way for sustainable development.

1.5 Understanding Sustainable Development in Africa

Development is replete with the existing possibility of human practical improvement or economic advancement. Development is a state of positive advancement in the life of a people. Development cannot take place in a conflict situation (Nnedom and Ezeokana, 2009:205). Development reflects a positive or radical structural change or the socio-economic and political existential condition that is basically anchored on the improvement of the standard of living of a people. Development could only take place in a conflict free environment. Development must therefore be conceived of as a multi-dimensional approach involving changes in social structures, attitudes of the people and institutional framework as well as the acceleration of economic growth in a country. It is worthy of note that:

It is a truism that no meaningful development could be achieved in a conflict situation putting in view various conceptualization of development by different authorities. Development is a situation of improvement in the standard of living of a people. Development is a multi-dimensional process that normally connotes change from a less to a more desirable state. Accordingly, development represents advancement in a State of affairs. It encompasses higher level of attainment in technology, standard of living, good governance, infrastructure, leadership structure, knowledge and health.

Development involves human improvement, the acceleration of economic growth and the growth of production output. Development must therefore be conceived of as a multi-dimensional process involving changes in structures, attitudes and institutions as well as the acceleration of economic growth, the reduction of inequality and the eradication of abject poverty. Development implies a social construction, because it is not only the creation of material resources but the ultimate evolving of the human person. The ultimate development of the human person involves process and growth of a particular society, event of change and progress. Development refers to the processes and events of change and human progress of any society (Nnedum and Ezeokana, 2009:212-213).

Nevertheless, development is ultimately about the individual human person or society or both. Development involves the harmonious progressive unveiling of the human person's potentials (Nnedum and Ezeokana, 2009:214).

1.6 Evaluation

Having critically examined the conceptualization of good governance and sustainable development, it is germane to note that good governance remains the bedrock for sustainable development in Africa. Development requires human action and the application of the principle of self-reliance (Mutiso and Rohio, 2007: 542). Development is built on the tenets of social order. Social order is described as the manner in which a society is organized and the rules and standards required in maintaining that organization, including the need to have relevance to living in a democratic community (Ebiringa, 2013:501). Worthy of note is that:

The quest for development in Nigeria is failing due to bad leadership structure. This is a leadership management failure. And in view of the continued leadership failures in Nigeria which are daily worsening the nation State of affairs. Nigeria must be restructured. The social order must be changed with a new mission and vision. The nation desperately needs fresh ideas and new faces in the entire strata of leadership. Nigeria could only possibly change with a home grown system of governance and a new progressive leadership which will discontinue recycling same old people in government (Umaru, 2012, xx).

It is worthy of note that development from its economic perspective entails increase in real per capita income of a country over a long period of time coupled with equitable distribution of the same in order to achieve improvement in the standard of living of the population (Cyril, 2021:6-7). Development connotes radical structural change. The only ones who survive are the change leaders. A change leader sees change as an opportunity. A change leader looks for change, knows how to find the right changes and knows how to make them effective outside the organization or society or inside it (Drucker, 1999:73-74). Development is defined by good political will. The will confers status to values (Asouzu, 2003:157). Development requires transformation strategies (Asouzu, 2007:374). Development is human centered. Sustainable development is still a fundamental problem in Africa due to bad leadership structure. Today, Africa is like a house on fire. Our most immediate problem is bad leadership and the hopeless socio-economic and political situation, which they initiate, nurture and allow to spread like

a deadly epidemic all over the continent (Odey, 2005:174). It is worthy of note that bad leadership has given birth to grand corruption and the lack of development strategy among African governments. Sustainable development therefore, is the consistent growth of all aspects of human society; the cultural, economic, socio-political, technological and environmental (Ejeh, 2021:191). Development requires global competitiveness and it involves the process of radical structural change. All institutions both at the private and public level have to make global competitiveness a strategic goal (Drucker, 1999:61). A strategy, therefore, has to accept a new fundamental (Drucker, 1999:63). Worthy of note is that politics underscores governance that controls human affairs in every civil society; it logically means that socio-political practices and institutions are the bedrock of poor human condition in Nigeria. This is as Nigerian politics is monopolized by cabals, disgruntled politicians and their loyalists who view the poor condition of the country as tool of breaking the resolve of the greater population and rendering them vulnerable to domination (Emeka, 2021:86). It is worthy of note that Nigerian politics stunts economic opportunities, frustrates the prosperity of the masses, neglect the education sector and jeopardizes philosophical reconstruction of the country and sustainable development (Emeka, 2021:88). Sustainable development is aimed at ameliorating the poor human condition because poor human condition breeds every kind of social dysfunction in the masses as the urge for corrupt practices in order to survive. Worst still, poor human condition in Nigeria truncates the interiority of the being of the individual and consequently breeds social monsters (Emeka, 2021:92-93). Development is aimed at ensuring human betterment or human flourishing. Nigeria has become has become an unserious country when it comes to the issues of good governance and sustainable development in Africa due to the hydra-headed problems of corruption and ineffective leadership structure.

1.7 Concluding Considerations

In this theoretical discourse we have critically examined that the study of good governance and development strategies remain the major objective of every nation. It is worthy of note that the task of African governments is to critically search into the conceptualization and the contextualization of development and its economic implications to the African peoples. Development is characterized by the policy components of every nation-State. African transformation is embedded in rapid human capacity building, radical structural change and increase in capital or physical development. It has been asserted that the conceptualization of development has been a universal phenomenon. Development cannot be isolated from human existence, socio-democratic interaction and reciprocal and existential relations. Our argument on development strategies revealed that there is no generally accepted theory and definition of development. Rather development was theoretically conceived not only from an economic point of view but from the political, scientific, technological, socio-cultural and it is also characterized by a policy components or ideals of the institutional and functional framework of political superstructure of countries. Development can be experienced at the personal or individual level or national or international level. Democratic governance, which is people oriented is fraught with the prerequisite for sustainable development in a multitude oriented entity like African-States. Good governance is an organ or instrument of human mass empowerment that engenders gender equality, radical openness and sustainable development. Development refers to the processes and events of social structural change and

human progress of any society. Development involves the harmonious progressive unveiling of the human person.

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