

## COMBATING INSECURITY AND INJUSTICE FOR GLOBAL PEACE USING WOODWORK TECHNOLOGY

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### Abstract

*Insecurity and its attendant consequences have badly affected and slow-down socio-economic development and political stability of many countries around the world. Nigeria is one of the notable countries that have been grappling with insurgency, banditry, and militant activities. The country is beset with a lot of security problems such as Boko Haram, militancy, kidnapping, ethno-religious conflicts, drug trafficking, arms smuggling, and other forms of criminality that erode the country's security. Mankind still underestimates their effect as a threat and risk to its security. Global injustice is also a source of most of dangers to world security: terrorism, crime and regional conflicts. This study seeks to examine how woodwork technology can be used to combat insecurity and reduce injustice for global peace. Survey design was adopted for the study. The instrument used for the data collection is structured questionnaire and the target population consist of groups of 54 woodwork technology lecturers and woodwork technology instructors in 4 public universities in south east, Nigeria. These universities include, the University of Nigeria Nsukka (UNN), Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka (NAUA), Michael Okpara University of Agriculture Umudike (MOUAAU) and Enugu State University of Technology(ESUT). Analysis of the data was done using the mean item scores. The study revealed some acts of insecurity ravaging the country to include; banditry, youth violence, ritual violence, cult violence, sexual violence, intimate partner violence, armed robbery, internet fraud, electoral violence, kidnapping, abduction, and human trafficking among others. The study identified some ways of combating these insecurities using woodwork technology to include; setting up more woodwork training institutions other than universities to accommodate more candidates, creating awareness and encouraging the youths to enroll and get equipped with woodwork technology skills so they can be self reliant, equipping existing woodwork technology institutions with state of the arts tools and machinery for maximum service delivery and frequent maintenance of woodwork technology tools and machines in the tertiary institutions. This can be achieved if all the stakeholders are involved, especially the government, which plays a cardinal role in the formulation of regulations and policies that support good educational standards.*

**Keywords:** Insecurity, Global Peace, Woodwork technology and Injustice

### Introduction

Global injustice is a source of most of dangers to world security which include terrorism, crime and regional conflicts. Mbah, Egwu, and Emesini, (2018) defined injustice as lack of fairness and violation of a person's right. Ethan, (2018) sees injustice as unfair or inhuman actions or treatment of man against fellow men. Insecurity on the other hand is a state of being exposed or open to danger or threat. Insecurity is a lack of protection against danger and external threats to lives and properties (Cheesman & Fisher, 2019). Manga, (2020) stated that insecurity is a situation in which there

is no peace and there is threat to lives and properties. These threats include armed robbery, kidnapping, rape, suicide bombing, ethnic and religious crises. The first cause for the existence of global injustice and insecurity is the lack of perspective to review and underscore established social distinctions and to somehow do away with inequalities. The world community is not adequately successful in its efforts to promote global peace and end injustice (Laine, Liikanen & Scott, 2018). Our planet does not have adequate resources to secure a high standard of living for all humans, on a par with

that of the richest people which eventually result to widespread injustice and insecurity across the globe (International Crisis Group, 2020). Security is a universal entitlement and also a highly valued goal. Whenever and wherever people are denied security, crime, poverty, injustice and several other social vices flourish. All over the world, many public policy initiatives in recent times have not only proven to underpin the above assumptions, but have also affirmed the need to foster a concept of global peace which puts people at its center. However, Nigeria has been facing a lot of injustice and insecurity challenges because of many crises going on in the nation.

Lately, Nigeria has been enmeshed in a lot of insecurity and injustice leading to scores of deaths of innocent civilians, foreigners, some members of the nation's security personnel, elected officials and many government workers (Adeniyi, 2016). The insecurity challenge has assumed formidable dimensions forcing the country's political and economic managers and, indeed the entire nation, to rue the loss of their loved ones, investments and absence of safety in most parts of the country (Umezulike, 2015). The number of violent crimes such as kidnappings, ritual killings, carjackings, suicide bombings, religious killings, politically-motivated killing and violence, ethnic clashes, armed banditry and others has increasingly become the order of the day. The unending national security threats in Nigeria have led to the militarization of the polity. This results in a collective distrust for one another as well as great threat on our national cohesion and development. Government has tried everything from "use of force" to carrot and stick approach to diplomacy but the problem seems to persist.

In the same vein, European Commission (2012) identifies some of the causes of insecurity and injustice in Nigeria. These are high level of unemployment, poor leadership, high level of moral decadence, religious fanaticism and poor quality of education. Egwu, (2015) also noted that inadequate provision of welfare packages, lack of spirit of patriotism, high level of poverty, negative effect of foreign culture and poor parental upbringing contributes to injustice and insecurity. Arodoye, Izevbigie, and Omo-Ikrodah, (2017) also pointed that loss of socio-cultural and communal value system, porous borders and the menace of fulani herdsmen/bandits activities has increased insecurity and injustice in Nigeria. There has also been strong advocacy for a multi-stakeholder intervention to insecurity and injustice rather than lean on military options alone (Ashafa, Muhammad, & Abubakar 2018), but the problem has defied the present efforts.

This may not be unconnected with the increasing injustice, ethnic hate, religious bigotry, political rivalry and a growing population of disgruntled citizens in the country who feel that they have been short-changed and given very limited or no access to the common patrimony. Obarisiagbon and Akintoye, (2019) made an observation that the primordial tendencies of various ethnic groups towards violence, the perennial eruption of various ethnic militias and the preponderant religious fundamentalism in place, given expression to by some sections of the dominant religious establishments in Nigeria, have inevitably aggravated the scale and propensity of insecurity and widened its scope in various ramifications. Babatunde, (2015) also noted that not only has the continued state of insecurity and injustice threatened the very fabric of national integration in the country and created the ecology of fear, disquiet and anxiety, it has also meted a deadly blow to industrial development. The destruction of the badly needed infrastructure has taken the country many years backwards. Also, Hamza, (2010) stated that the cost of insecurity is quite high both for individual Nigerians as well as the nation, because it stunts personal development and interfere with ability to develop one's potentials.

The mind and energy of the average Nigerian is consumed with issues of safety and security that he has little energy left to contribute to national development. Therefore, Nigerians need a policy that is stable, peaceful and safe enough from criminal assaults, murder, tyranny and break down of authority so that the populace can face issues of development with vigour and courage. That is why woodwork technology programme seems to be remedy to this unfortunate situation. Woodwork technology could be used a tool to combat insecurity and injustice (Kanife, Okanya & Ezugwu 2022). Woodwork technology is a skill-oriented vocational trade offered in Nigerian technical colleges, Polytechnics and Universities. It is capable of providing its recipients with profitable skills for selfreliance and also paid employment. Woodwork technology programme deals with the acquisition of skills and techniques in designing, cutting, constructing, erecting and dismantling of various temporary and permanent wood structures (National Board for Technical Education (NBTE), 2014). It is a trade curriculum with a wider description of specific behaviours expressed in modules of discrete practical tasks and related knowledge which the student is expected to demonstrate due to the educational process to achieve the objectives (Edokpolor & Owenvbiugie, 2017). Its objectives include: (i) expose and acquaint the students to knowledge and skill in the design,

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construction, erection and dismantling of various temporary wood structures; (ii) acquaint the students with the knowledge and skill of the act of wood joinery production and set for the site; (iii) give and impart skills to students who shall be able to make: furnitures such as tables and chairs, timbering to trenches and shore structures; construct formwork for concrete structures; erect and maintain: scaffolds, roofs, ceiling, wood partitions and screens, cladding to concrete and steel work; construct: wall panels, doors and windows, gates and garage doors, pre-fabricated timber building, stairs and furniture for domestic and public buildings; and (iv) expose students to the effective usage of the various hand tools used for woodwork (Federal Republic of Nigeria FRN, 2013).

Furthermore, the study of woodwork trade enables students to develop skills such as analysis, experimentations, manipulation of variables and decisions which are fundamental in the ever-dynamic world of work (Asogwa & Okanya 2019). The woodwork graduates are expected to have the saleable skills to enable them set up their businesses after completing their programme in colleges of education, polytechnics and universities. Unfortunately, the ability to setup businesses is being thwarted as a result of insecurity which threatens lives and properties in the business environment (Obaro, 2015). This is coupled with some needed manpower, facilities, environment and policies to reposition woodwork technology for skills acquisition in Nigeria. Okoro, (2018) also identifies the ways of repositioning woodwork programme in Nigeria to solve insecurity problems: recruitment of skill manpower, constant retraining of woodwork instructors/educators on emerging skills, provision of financial aids for woodwork technology, setting up entrepreneurial business managed by staff and students of the department, award of scholarships to students that made outstanding performance in their results, review of woodwork curriculum for skill acquisition, adequate funding of woodwork programme and adequate maintenance of woodwork equipment.

### **Statement of the Problem**

The phenomena of insecurity, injustice and its attendant consequences have badly affected and slow-down socio-economic development and political stability in many countries globally. Nigeria is one of the notable countries that have been grappling with insurgency, banditry, and militant activities. The country is beset with a lot of security problems such as Boko Haram, militancy, kidnapping, ethno-religious conflicts, drug trafficking, arms smuggling, and other forms of criminality that erode the country's security and promote injustice. The various factors and/or actors that have

exacerbated the fragile security situation in Nigeria are firmly rooted in the 'scarcely governed' nature of the country. The persistent security threats posed by the activities of different individuals and groups often take the form of banditry and cattle rustling which is now transforming towards reappraisal attacks and counter-attacks.

Over the years, the security in the region has deteriorated which affected peoples' livelihoods negatively. This exacerbates long-running competitions among farmers and herders as both groups began to mobilised various armed groups as 'vigilantes' for protection. The involvement of local institutions/traditional rulers in the conflict has created an incentive to local actors, particularly community-based groups, thus, making the conflict difficult to contain. The main aim of the study is to reappraise the factors responsible for the growth of criminal activities related to banditry, kidnappings as well as negative consequences of the growing wave of insecurity and injustice on the education sector in the country. The study thus seeks to explore the strategies by which woodwork technology can be used to effectively combat insecurity and injustice in Nigeria. It will therefore provide additional information that adds value to the performance of statutory functions of the security and intelligence community of Nigeria. The findings should form the basis for policy formulation by governments that could address the short and long-term social, economic, and political impact of insecurity and injustice in Nigeria and the world at large.

### **Purpose of the Study**

The main purpose of the study was to find out ways of combating insecurity for global peace and injustice using woodwork technology. Specifically, the study sought to ascertain the following:

1. The effects of global insecurity and injustice in the society
2. The strategies for combating global insecurity and injustice with woodwork technology for global peace

### **Research Questions**

The study was guided by the following research questions:

1. What are the effects of global insecurity and injustice in the society?
2. What are the strategies for combating global insecurity and injustice with woodwork technology for global peace?

### **Hypotheses**

The following hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of significance.

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1. There is no, significant difference in the mean rating of woodwork lecturers and instructors on the the effects of global insecurity and injustice in the society.
2. There is no significant difference in the mean rating of woodwork lecturers and instructors on the the strategies for combarting global insecurity and injustice with woodwork technology for global peace.

### Methodology

The study adopted a descriptive survey design. According to Gall, Gall and Borg (2007), a descriptive survey design is the process of conducting research using survey that researchers send to survey respondents; views and facts are collected through questionnaire, interviews among others, analyzed and used for answering research questions. The data collected from survey is then statistically analyzed to draw meaningful research conclusions. The survey research design was appropriate for this study because it aimed at analyzing the threat of environmental factors to buildings, and proffer remedial measures to these effects.

The population of the study is 54 respondents which comprises of 22 woodwork technology lecturers and 32 woodwrk instructors across 4 universities in south easth Nigeria. These institutions include the University of Nigeria Nsukka Enugu State, Enugu State University of Technology, Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka Anambra State and Michael Okpara University of Agriculture Umudike, Abia state. The population also served as sample since the population was

manageable, therefore, no need for sampling. A 32-item questionnaire was the instrument used for data collection, it had two parts: Part A comprises of personal data of the lecturers and instructors, while part B compises of two clusters which are cluster 1 and 2. Cluster 1 consist of the effects of global insecurity and injustice in the society while cluster 2 consist of the strategies for combarting global insecurity and injustice with woodwork technology for global peace. The questionnaire was given to two experts in woodwork technology and two experts in measurement and evaluation of University of Nigeria Nsukka Enugu State for face and content validity. The questionnaire was further validated using factor analysis. The internal consistency of the instrument was ascertained by administering the instrument to 10 lecturers of woodwork technology at Enugu State College of Education (Technical) who were not part of the population. The data obtained were subjected to cronbach alpha with a coefficient value of 0.82. The data collected were analysed using mean and standard deviation. The questionnaire was structured on a 4-point rating scale of Strongly Agree 4-points, Agree 3- points, Disagree 2-points, Strongly Disagree 1- point. The decision rule is that - a mean score which has 2.50 and above was regarded as Agreed while the mean scores which has below 2.50 was regarded as Disagree. T-test was used to test the hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance. If the calculated c-value was less than table value (tv) the hypothesis was retained. On the other hand, if the calculated c-value (cv) was greater than table value (tv), the hypothesis was rejected.

### Results

**Research Question 1:** What are the effects of global insecurity and injustice in the society?

**Table 1: Mean and Standard Deviation of the respondents on the are the effects of global insecurity and injustice in the society**

S/N	Items	Mean.	S.D	Remarks.
1	Disruption of economic activities	2.69	0.68	Accepted
2	Decrease in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)	2.57	0.64	Accepted
3	Disproportionate defence spending vis-à-vis other economic sectors	3.61	0.66	Accepted
4	Increase in brain drain	2.56	0.59	Accepted
5	Decline in productivity	2.79	0.78	Accepted
6	Possible national isolation	2.58	0.62	Accepted
7	The struggle for personal survival undermines innovation	2.54	0.22	
8	Deepening corrupt practices at all levels	3.62	0.56	Accepted
9	Loss of manpower in educational institutions and other sector of the economy	3.65	0.61	Accepted
10	Poor quality of education	3.63	0.66	Accepted
11	Destructions of infrastructural facilities	3.54	0.75	Accepted
12	Closure of educational institutions	3.77	0.78	Accepted

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13	Discouragement of educational pursuit by children	3.51	0.82	Accepted
14	Internal and external displacement of learners	3.66	0.62	Accepted
15	Inadequate funding of education	3.30	0.62	Accepted
16	Decimation of consumer confidence	2.47	0.18	Rejected

**Key:** S.D – Standard deviation

Researchers in this section, investigated the effects of global insecurity and injustice in the society. Data in Table 1 revealed that item 16 had a mean score below 2.50 while the other 15 items out of the 16 items all have their mean value ranged from 2.57 to 3.77. This shows that the mean value of each item was above cutoff point of 2.50, indicating that respondents accepted the items as the effects of global insecurity and injustice in the

society. Similarly, the standard deviation of these 15 items ranged from 0.59 to 0.78 indicating that the respondents were close to one another in their opinion. However, the respondents did not accept item 16 as the effect of global insecurity and injustice in the society.

**Research Question 2:** What are the strategies for combating global insecurity and injustice with woodwork technology for global peace?

**Table 2. Mean and Standard Deviation of the respondents on the strategies for combating global insecurity and injustice with woodwork technology for global peace**

S/N	Items	Mean.	S.D	Remarks.
17	Provision of adequate workshops for skill acquisition and provision of all needed teaching facilities for teaching woodwork technology	2.61	0.68	Accepted
18	Provision of sufficient classrooms for effective teaching of woodwork technology students	3.55	0.56	Accepted
19	Improving students attitude to skill acquisition through orientation	3.61	0.68	Accepted
20	Adequate funding of woodwork technology programme	3.54	0.53	Accepted
21	Regular supervision of woodwork technology programmes to ensure quality	3.72	0.75	Accepted
22	Adequate maintenance of Business Education equipment	3.52	0.61	Accepted
23	Award of scholarships to students with outstanding performance	3.40	0.22	Accepted
24	Follow up studies of the graduates of the programme	3.66	0.54	Accepted
25	Adequate supply of power and ensuring good maintenance of equipment that supply power	3.63	0.66	Accepted
26	Setting up entrepreneurial woodworkshops for staff to improve their skills and for students to learn skills	3.60	0.60	Accepted
27	Regular retraining of woodwork technology lecturers/instructors on emerging skills	2.55	0.98	Accepted
28	Constant review of woodwork technology curriculum for skills acquisition	2.63	0.96	Accepted
29	Recruitment of skilled manpower in woodwork technology	3.50	0.68	Accepted
30	Provision of financial aids to woodwork graduates to set up businesses	3.73	0.70	Accepted
31	Provision of financial aids to graduates for entrepreneurial training	3.54	0.62	Accepted
32	Qualitative entrepreneurial training for students in woodwork technology	3.58	0.61	Accepted

This section investigated the the strategies for combating global insecurity and injustice with woodwork technology for global peace. Data in Table 2 revealed that all the 16 items have their mean value ranged from 2.50 to 3.72. This shows that the mean value of each item was above cutoff point of 2.50, indicating that respondents accepted the items as the strategies for combating global insecurity and injustice with woodwork technology for global peace. Similarly,

the standard deviation of these items ranged from 0.53 to 0.75 indicating that the respondents were close to one another in their opinion. However, the respondents did not reject any item as the strategies for combating global insecurity and injustice with woodwork technology for global peace.

**Hypothesis 1:** There is no significant difference in the mean rating of woodwork lecturers and instructors on

the the effects of global insecurity and injustice in the society.

**Table 3: t-test result of woodwork lecturers and instructors on the the effects of global insecurity and injustice in the society (N 54)**

Variables	N	Mean	SD	Df	t-cal	t-tab	Remarks
<b>Lecturers</b>	22	30.72	10.02	129	1.42	1.962	NS
<b>Instructors</b>	32	28.93	11.63				

In table 3, the calculated t-value of 1.42 is less than the t-critical value of 1.962 at 129 degree of freedom at 0.05 level of significance. This means that there was no significant difference in the mean rating of woodwork lecturers and instructors on the the effects of global insecurity and injustice in the society.

**Table 4: t-test result of woodwork lecturers and instructors on the the strategies for combarting global insecurity and injustice with woodwork technology for global peace (N 54)**

Variables	N	Mean	SD	Df	t-cal	t-tab	Remarks
<b>Lecturers</b>	22	31.70	9.28	129	1.49	1.960	NS
<b>Instructors</b>	32	29.92	10.63				

In table 4, the calculated t-value of 1.49 is less than the t-critical value of 1.960 at 129 degree of freedom at 0.05 level of significance. This means that there was no significant difference in the mean rating of woodwork lecturers and instructors on the the strategies for combarting global insecurity and injustice with woodwork technology for global peace.

### Discussion of the Findings

The results of the study revealed that the effects of global insecurity and injustice in the society include, poor quality education, lack of productivity and disproportionate defence spending vis-à-vis other economic sectors. These findings agree with the finding of Arodoye, Izevbigie, and Omo-Ikirodah, (2017) who stated that in responding to the increasing insecurity in Nigeria, the government has been allocating hundreds of billions of naira to defence and security-related expenditure. These are large sums of money that should have been going elsewhere in the economy, especially in the education and health sectors. This is also in line with Cheesman & Fisher, (2019), who stated that survival has become the overriding consideration for many people. Heightened insecurity has made a lot of people become more risk-averse in terms of the places they go to and the people they interact with. Travelling from one city to another in Nigeria has become a game of chance and death-dodging for many people. Under such atmosphere; creativity is diminished and innovation takes a back seat. Whereas, innovation is a vital engine needed to drive change and growth in Nigeria and Africa as a whole. Security is what can give

**Hypothesis 2:** There is no significant difference in the mean rating of woodwork lecturers and instructors on the the strategies for combarting global insecurity and injustice with woodwork technology for global peace.

citizens the space to reflect and be creative and innovative.

The study also identified the strategies for combarting global insecurity and injustice with woodwork technology for global peace. Some of these strategies include, provision of adequate workshops for skill acquisition and provision of all needed teaching facilities for teaching woodwork technology and setting up entrepreneurial woodworkshops for staff to improve their skills and for students to learn skills. Azih (2015) and Njoku (2015) supported this by stating provision of financial aids for woodwork technology, setting up entrepreneurial ventures managed by staff and students of the department, award of scholarships to students with outstanding performance in their results are ways of repositioning woodwork technology programme in Nigeria to solve insecurity problems.

### Conclusion

The aim of this research was to find out ways of combating insecurity for global peace and injustice using woodwork technology. From all indications, poverty and unemployment are social menace globally and also in Nigeria. Evidently unemployment creates poverty, and poverty leads to insecurity and injustice which eventually threatens global peace. It therefore follows that both poverty and unemployment have implications for national security. If everyone is gainfully employed and is self-reliant, there will be no problem about poverty or unemployment, which are the key factors that infkuece youths to go into scrupulous act and causing havoc to individuals, states etc., all for the sole purpose of meeting up survival skills hence

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woodwork technology which is a part of vocational and technical education is a means of achieving that. It equips students with the right technical knowledge, skills and trained proficiency. Youths will no longer value the alluring offering of terrorist of youth leaders.

Woodwork technology at university level helps to produce qualified and competent graduates who are able to set-up their businesses and run them successfully without depending on white collar jobs which may not be easy to secure. The ability to set-up their businesses and run them successfully promotes selfemployment and reduce high rate of insecurity and injustice in the country. Therefore, adequate facilities and equipment with qualified lecturers are needed to teach the students effectively to enable them acquire relevant skills and knowledge in woodwork. These findings of this study adds to a growing body of literature on our understanding of how woodwork technology can be used for combating insecurity for global peace and injustice.

### Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, the researchers presented the following recommendations for consideration:

1. Woodwork technology programme requires adequate funding. This should not be left alone to the government. All well-meaning individuals, non-governmental organisations, religious institutions should contribute their quota by finding or establishing wood workshops, establishing training vocational centres and supplying required equipment for the centers and workshops to thrive successfully in training youths for woodwork enterprises.
2. Woodwork which is part of vocational and technical education requires adequate funding. This should not be left alone to the government. All well-meaning individuals, non-governmental organisations, religious institutions should contribute their quota by establishing or funding a vocational centres, wood workshop enterprise and also supply the required equipment so as to help these centres thrive successfully in producing and graduating productive citizens.
3. There should be a de-emphasis on-paper qualifications, which so far have not yielded many results, more emphases should be on practical knowledge and experience.
4. Adequate teaching facilities and equipment should be provided by school authorities to enable the students do sufficient practice work.
5. Adequate funds should be provided by the authorities to enable lecturers and instructors undergo seminars and workshops on new technologies in teaching woodwork courses.
6. Adequate and competent lecturers should be employed by school authorities in Business Education in Nigerian universities to teach the students effectively.
7. While appreciating the efforts of the government in the area of security, individuals and other stake holders must worl together to solve the immense security challenges so as to have a better country; a country where peace and tranquillity will reign and where people can freely practice there trade without fear of insecurity and injustice.

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