

**SECURITY AS A DETERMINANT OF ACHIEVING LIFE AMBITION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AMONG PEOPLE IN OYO STATE**

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**ABSTRACT**

*The achievement of one's ambition in life depends highly on peace and rest of mind which is the product of environmental factors among which is security. This study examined the degree to which security can enhance sustainable life ambition among people of Oyo state. The population for this study consisted people in Oyo state as at the time of this study. Multistage sampling techniques of purposive, stratified and incidental random were used. Sample size of four hundred (400) respondents was used. The instrument used for data collection was researcher's structured questionnaire titled "Security as a Determinant of Achieving Life Ambition for Sustainable Development (SDALASD)" which was validated by experts in Physical and Health Education and Test and Measurement. Split-half method of data was used while Spearman-Brown rank order correlation statistics was used to ascertain the reliability of the instrument. The co-efficient of 0.75 obtained was high enough to proof its reliability. The two null hypotheses formulated were rejected. The results obtained showed that peace and rest of mind are the tangible ingredient for achieving one's ambition and the ingredients were product of security. Recommendations made include: that every individual wherever one lives should allow peace to reign and put*

*every measure that can combat insecurity in place should in case of unexpected threat or attack.*

**Key Words:** *Security; Determinant; Life Ambition; Sustainable Development*

## **Introduction**

It is time to rethink the future of work and build a foundation for profession and personal fulfilment that is grounded in the concept of sustainable ambition. Ambition is the desire and motivation to continuously achieve increasingly difficult goals. It's the spark inside you that compels you to try your best at everything you do. Perry (2023) stated that challenging goals can look scary, encouraging you to leave your comfort zone and push your boundaries. Challenging goals make it better to set ambitious objective that offer more growth and satisfaction.

Sustainable ambition is Centred on the idea of having a fulfilling career from decade-to-decade base on an individual's personal definition of success and achieving that without burnout while honouring her personal aspirations and ambitions as they happen and flow overtime. The concept of ambition is rooted in three pillars: Right aspiration which is about managing one's work satisfaction and ambition from decade to decade. Right aspiration asks everyone to pay attention and plan a bit more. Right effort which involves self-defined action, appropriate or desirable level that can be achieved. It is the idea of individualized pursuit and personal choice. Right success which is concerned about defining (career and overall life) success on one's terms. Right successful people are those that followed their purpose.

Career Guide (2024) revealed that to reach one's career goals, one needs to put in handwork. Having ambition is a big part of feeling determined to work towards your dreams and desires. Ambition helps one to stay motivated and focused on what the individual wants to become. It is an important part of achieving what a person wants in life. With ambition, individual can begin to see his/her vision and figure out how to make it a reality. Kathy (2020) stated some steps to be ambitious as include competing with oneself; surrounded by ambitious people; continuously setting goals; taking exciting risks and embracing one's personal imagination.

Marfice (2022) argued that a student labelled too ambitious had been highly assertive. Ambition has also been described as a crucial part of many people's success. Ambition becomes clear when individual thinks about all the positive attributes, it drives and contributes to. Ambition helps the individual to identify goals which are challenging on its own. Achieving the goals takes patience, perseverance and continued hardworking. Many gives up on the way but ambition provides the internal drive that can help work toward a long-term and continue setting new goals once the initial success is achieved, (Adedimeji, 2018).

Ambition is more than just about work and work-related goals. It assists individual to work towards personal growth and development. It helps individuals think beyond their current circumstances and strive for something greater. It helps the individual to understand that hardwork and dedication can lead to success. It is an essential part of personal development and can be a powerful tool to help children reach their full potential. Being ambitious can drive an individual to set impressive

goals and motivational force to face the new challenges as well as continuously developing a growth mindset (Perry, 2023). Ambition and development goals cannot be separated. In order to achieve human development goals, the individual concerned should have moderate ambition.

Sustainable ambition that is achieved through hard work and continuous setting of goal to meet the demand of new challenge can have great impact on sustainable development goals. Bujus (2024) defined sustainable development as the idea that human being should sustain by meeting their basic needs, while also making sure that the future generations are able to meet their basic needs. United Nations (2024) described sustainable development goals as the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. World Health Organization (2024) defined sustainable development goals as effort to transform our world. They are a call to end poverty and inequality, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy health, justice and prosperity. It is critical that no one is left behind. Byjus (2024) argued that development goals are vitally important for both personal and organizational level of achievement. If skills and knowledge are stagnant, both may not grow or accomplish new things or be motivated to push themselves forward for better performance or future.

Security to most people is about things like theft and crime. Many people see it as to protect people and property. Protecting people and properties are just part, there are various purposes of security, each one playing an essential role in keeping everyone safe. These are done by protecting people and their properties, deterring crime and criminals; creating sense of safety for those living or working in the area; maintaining law and order and supporting the criminal justice system (Express Guards, 2022). Security is both a feeling and a state of reality. One can feel secure, while he is not, but also feel insecure when he is secured. Security is the state of being free from danger or threat, but when it comes to ambition and sustainable development goals (Express Guards, 2022). Denney (2012) opined that security is the missing bottom of ambition and sustainable development goals. The current state of today's humanity is looking for a new development model as well as new security objective considered as a process over time for safety of lives and properties which are the ingredient of sustainable development. Human development means creating, through action at policy level, the conditions for facilitating sustainable human ambition such as appropriate education, health, material well-being, participating, social empowerment, inclusion and establishment of a model of socially and geographically equitable economic growth, (Mihai & Halmaghi, 2019).

Ambitious individual, society or organization aiming at having sustainable development through sustainable ambition can only be possible in a peaceful environment. Denney (2012) cited United Nation Population Fund (UNFPA) report that since year 2000, conflict has erupted in 110 countries and that in the wake of war or violent conflict, educational and health systems collapse, poverty and hunger increased in conflict affected areas, gender-based violence increased, HIV and other sexually transmitted infections spread, infant and maternal mortality rate grew significantly.

The achievement of individual's ambition through hardworking and continued review of goals will surely lead to sustainable development goals. United Nations General Assembly in 2015 revealed that specific attention should be paid to "peace and security" with the determination to foster peaceful, justice and inclusive society which are free from fear and violence. There can be no sustainable development no matter how ambitious people are without peace and no peace without sustainable development.

Security challenges as affected using sustainable ambition to enhance sustainable development goals. Lawal (2024) during an interview said that the current security challenges that he still tried to understand the root cause of the Herdsmen crisis in his state because they were killing everybody, including their fellow Herdsmen that were rich. He said that he had responsibilities to protect the lives and properties of his people, provide whatever assistance towards the progress and development of the state in terms of primary healthcare, schools, water and many more. In addition, it was also reported how people in Iseyin were raising alarm and calling on both Federal and State Government to save them from kidnappers (93.9 FM Radio Station, 2024). The unrest, fear and threat experiencing by the people mentioned above can never allow the individual to achieve his/her ambition, let alone achieving sustainable development goals.

Achieving ambition to enhance sustainable development goals is the focus of many people in Oyo state. In order to meet their ambition, majority becomes farmers by living in villages where they can get land for their farming activities, business men and women travel from one location to another so as to meet up with their business struggles while those interested in education for technical knowhow move from one educational institution to another for acquiring relevant knowledge and skills for the purpose of making their ambition realizable. In doing these, many are being kidnapped on their ways and the fear of being kidnapped hinders many from going about their normal daily routines as determined and programmed. Despite various security outfits put in place by both Federal and State government, insecurity is still evident in Oyo State. Past studies and reports indicated evidence of researches on the impact of insecurity on possibility of achieving ambition and sustainable development goals as seen in Denney, 2012 citing United Nation Population Fund (UNFPA) report that since year 2000, conflict has erupted in 110 countries and that in the wake of war or violent conflict, educational and health systems collapse, poverty and hunger increase, gender based violence increases, HIV and other sexually transmitted infections spread, infant and maternal mortality rate grows significantly. The continuous social and economic implications of insecurity not minding the security measures on ground are of great concern that needs immediate attention. This study therefore investigated the degree to which security enhances successful ambition towards achieving sustainable development goals with a view to making recommendation(s) for necessary improvement.

### **Objective of the Study**

The broad objective of the study was to look into security as a determinant of achieving life ambition for sustainable development among people in Oyo state.

The following research questions were raised for the study:

1. Would achievement of life ambition enhance sustainable development among people of Oyo state?
2. Would degree of security measures put in place determine achievement of life ambition for sustainable development among people of Oyo state?

**Research Hypotheses**

The following research hypotheses were formulated and tested:

1. Achievement of life ambition would not significantly enhance sustainable development among people of Oyo state.
2. Degree of security measures put in place would not be a significant determinant of achieving life ambition for sustainable development among people of Oyo state

**Methodology**

The design used for this study was descriptive method of survey. The population for this study consisted in Oyo state as at the time of this study. The sample size was six (600) respondents. Multi-stage sampling techniques of purposive, stratified and incidental random was used for making sure that every group in the target population was sampled. The instrument used for data collection was researcher’s structured questionnaire given to experts in the field of Physical and Health Education and Test and measurement for validation. The comments and suggestions made were used to improve the quality of the research instrument. Split-half data which was correlated with Spearman-Brown rank order correlation was used to ascertain the instrument’s reliability. Coefficient of 0.75 was obtained and was regarded as high enough to establish the instrument’s reliability. Information gathered from the Focus group was analysed using thematic method of data analysis. Four research assistants were engaged in the administration, filling and collection of the filled questionnaire forms. Inferential Statistics of Pearson product moment correlation was used for the null-hypotheses testing at significance level of 0.05.

**Results**

These are the presentation of data analysis and their interpretation:

**Hypothesis 1:** Achievement of life ambition would not significantly enhance sustainable development among people of Oyo state.

**Table 1:** Pearson’s (r) showing significant degree of achieved life ambition on sustainable development.

Variables	N	Df	Crit value	Cal r-value	Sig(2tailed)	Alpha level	Decision
Achieved life ambition and sustainable development goals	600	598	0.117	0.452	0.064	0.05	Ho Rejected

Table 1 showed calculated r–value of 0.452 with significant probability value (p-value) of 0.064, computed at alpha level of 0.05 greater than the critical value of 0.117. The calculated r-value of 0.452 is greater than critical value of 0.117, therefore, the null–hypothesis was rejected. This implied that achievement of life ambition could significantly enhanced sustainable development among people of Oyo state.

**Hypothesis 2:** Degree of security measures put in place would not be a significant determinant of achieving life ambition for sustainable development among people of Oyo state.

**Table 2:** Pearson’s (r) showing significant degree of security measures put in place on achieved life ambition for enhancing sustainable development.

Variables	N	Df	Crit value	Cal r-val	Sig (2tailed)	Alpha level	Decision
Security measures and achieved ambition for enhancing development goals	600	598	0.117	0.542	0.061	0.05	Ho Rejected

Table 1 indicated calculated r-value of 0.542 with significant probability value (p-value) of 0.045, computed at alpha level of 0.05 greater than the critical value of 0.117. This implied that calculated r-value of 0.542 is greater than critical value of 0.117, therefore, the null-hypothesis was rejected. This, by implication, meant that the degree of security measure available on the achieved ambition could enhance sustainable development among people of Oyo state.

**Discussion of Findings**

On hypothesis 1, it was revealed that achieved ambition had significant impact in enhancing sustainable development goals. The examples are Dangote whose achieved ambition to become an industrialist has contributed to Nigeria sustainable development goal. In addition, Chief Olayiwola Amoje, popularly known and addressed Amo Farm’s achieved ambition is a good example of how personally achieved ambition enhances sustainable development goal. This is in line with Byjus (2024) who argued that development goals are vitally important for both personal and organizational level of achievement. If skills and knowledge are stagnant, both may not grow or accomplish new things or be motivated to push themselves forward for better performance or future. Sustainable ambition that is achieved through hardworking and continuous setting of goal to meet the demand of new challenge can have great impact on sustainable development goals.

Thematic analysis results: On general opinion, Forty (40) respondents were randomly interviewed. 36 out 40 which was the majority of the respondents interviewed were of the opinion that achieved ambition could enhance sustainable development goals and also that nothing could achieved ambition sustain among development where security measures available are inadequate.

On hypothesis 2, the finding showed significant impact of degree of security measures available on achieved ambition for enhancing sustainable development goals. This is corroborated by Denney (2012) citing United Nation Population Fund (UNFPA) report that since year 2000, conflict has erupted in 110 countries and that in the wake of war or violent conflict, educational and health systems collapse, poverty and hunger increases in conflict affected areas, gender based violence increases, HIV and other sexually transmitted infections spread, infant and maternal mortality rate

grows significantly. United Nations General Assembly in 2015 also revealed that specific attention should be paid to "peace and security" with the determination to foster peaceful, justice and inclusive society which are free from fear and violence. There can be no sustainable development no matter how ambitious people are without peace and no peace without sustainable development.

### **Conclusion**

The findings above revealed that achieved ambition could enhance sustainable development goals while the degree of security measures has high potentiality in determining sustainability of development goals achieved through personal, societal or organizational ambition depending on the security measures effectiveness.

### **Recommendations**

Based on the conclusion, it is recommended that every individual should strive hard to have moderate ambitious which shall be felt on sustainable development goals of Oyo state. In addition, every individual in Oyo state should be security conscious and always ready to support the security outfits available whenever there is need for their assistance for safety of lives and properties.

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