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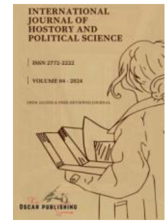

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Research Article

REVIEW OF A STUDY ON MEXICO AND NIGERIA'S LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT: THE NEW METHODOLOGY, FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

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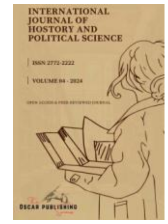
ABSTRACT

Adekanbi's (2024) study analyzes economic development in Mexico and Nigeria using an innovative methodology combining regression analysis and structural change detection. Key findings for Mexico reveal that while external debt has minimal impact on GNI, welfare spending significantly boosts growth, and FDI offers moderate benefits with potential for greater local impact. The study addresses violence as a critical challenge, proposing reforms in housing, urban planning, anti-corruption measures, and societal re-orientation campaigns. With actionable, data-driven recommendations, the research provides policymakers with practical strategies to enhance Mexico's economic resilience and address social challenges.

INTRODUCTION

Economic development is a complex interplay of various factors, including government policies, foreign investments, and socio-cultural dynamics. Mexico and Nigeria, two nations with diverse economic landscapes, offer a fascinating comparison in their trajectories of growth and development. Despite their differences in geography, culture, and governance, both countries share challenges such as economic inequality, reliance on natural resources, and the need for policy interventions to address systemic issues.

The study conducted by Dr. Omolara Adebimpe Adekanbi (2024) explores the economic and social development of these nations using an innovative methodology. This approach not only analyzes key economic variables like government spending, foreign direct investment (FDI), and gross national income (GNI) but also incorporates indices such as the Health Improvement Index and Food and Nutrition Index to provide a holistic understanding of development. The research identifies structural economic changes, examines the effectiveness of policy interventions,



and offers actionable recommendations for sustainable growth.

For Mexico, a country grappling with the economic and societal impact of violence and corruption, the findings are particularly insightful. They reveal the nuanced roles of government spending, FDI, and external debt in influencing growth, while also addressing the socio-mental and infrastructural factors that drive challenges such as violence. Through targeted policy recommendations, the study provides a roadmap for addressing systemic issues, fostering resilience, and unlocking economic potential.

METHODOLOGY

The study conducted by Adekanbi (2024) employs a structured methodology using both quantitative and qualitative approaches. Key economic variables, including interest rates, FDI, and government spending, are analyzed against GNI through multiple regression. Structural change detection pinpoints periods of significant economic shifts, followed by targeted regression analysis to assess specific policy impacts in those timeframes. This rigorous approach strengthens the reliability of the findings and provides policymakers with clearer insights into the effects of individual policies. Additionally, Adekanbi calculated indices such as the Health Improvement Index and Food and Nutrition Index, allowing for standardized comparisons of health and nutrition standards between the two countries.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEXICO

The results reveal several significant findings about Mexico's economic landscape. For instance, external debt has a minimal and statistically insignificant effect on Mexico's GNI, indicating its limited role in driving economic growth. Government expenditure, especially on welfare, however, shows a substantial positive impact, underscoring the value of social spending. FDI also positively affects GNI, though its influence is moderate, suggesting opportunities for further leveraging foreign investments to foster local skills and innovation.

Violence and Security Policies

The issue of violence, largely driven by drug-related crime, continues to present significant economic and social challenges in Mexico. The research identifies contributing factors such as financial instability, societal pressures to display wealth, and a widespread perception of government corruption. Drug cartels have fueled violence across the country, straining law enforcement and requiring comprehensive intervention. Adekanbi highlights several recommendable policies based on prior government efforts:

Law Enforcement and Transparency Improvements: The establishment of the Secretariat of Public Safety and Federal Preventive Police in 2000 signaled a strategic move to enhance security. In addition, appointing an opposition party member as attorney general strengthened anti-corruption efforts, leading to public arrests of officials with cartel connections. Transparency measures introduced around this time made crime statistics and handling procedures public, fostering greater accountability. These efforts continued through Calderón's administration, which involved military collaboration with the U.S. under the Merida Initiative (Plan México) to bolster anti-drug operations.

Enhanced Housing and Infrastructure for Vulnerable Areas: To address factors driving violence, Adekanbi recommends an improved housing assistance system.

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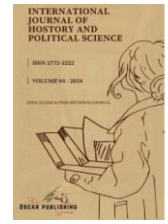

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A revised policy could involve replacing the current payroll-funded housing program with subsidized housing in industrial areas near workplaces. Two storey buildings with essential infrastructure could be constructed by contractors at an agreed cost, while the government provides housing subsidies. This initiative would make housing affordable for low-income workers and support community stability. Expanding this program to include existing buildings within a specific price range would broaden access to affordable housing and reduce socio-economic pressures that can lead to violence. In addition, commercial hubs like Mexico City need new urban planning to mandate the relocation and dispersal of companies and workplaces away from the city center. This would reduce the need for commuters to overcrowd trains, buses, and cars, alleviating traffic congestion and making daily commutes less exhausting. Such changes aim to improve quality of life and promote a better work-life balance.

Addressing Socio-Mental Drivers: To counteract societal pressures that glorify wealth and narcotics, the government could launch re-orientation campaigns through TV propaganda, social activities, and school programs to promote more positive life goals. Additionally, Mexico could collaborate with the U.S. to restrict film portrayals that glamorize the drug trade. A heavy tax on imported luxury items, particularly high-end vehicles, could serve as a deterrent and introduce a system of scrutiny on wealth sources to discourage illicit income.

Strengthening Anti-Corruption Measures: Recognizing that corruption fuels distrust and undermines public safety efforts, Adekanbi recommends that Mexico penalize corruption in governance with the same severity as drug trafficking offenses. Offenders should face public reprimand to rebuild trust and demonstrate that the government is committed to rooting out corruption.

CONCLUSION

Overall, this article with a newly designed methodology by Omolara Adebimpe Adekanbi, is a valuable contribution to understanding Mexico's economic development. Its rigorous methodology and specific, data-backed recommendations provide policymakers with practical strategies to address economic and social challenges. By emphasizing welfare, FDI impact (especially through spillover effect of technology), and violence mitigation through comprehensive policies, the article outlines a clear path forward for enhancing Mexico's economic resilience and growth.

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