

# Social Welfare Administration A Campaign Strategy A Case Study of Nigeria

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**Abstract:** - The priority of any state government should be the provision of social amenities for human development. In essence, the evidence of good governance is the positive impact made in the welfare of its citizens. Xraying Policies and Implementations of Education for all, Healthcare services, Personal Income, Developmental Schemes, Food for all to combat malnutrition and its related hazards. Obviously, the positive sensitivity of a Representative of Government, builds a formidable scorecard. However, a negative scorecard engraves failure at the polls. So, sincerity of purpose in governance is a ticket to the next level.

**Keywords:** Scorecard, Engraves, Priority, Formidable, Amenities, Development.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Nigeria is a democratic state. Government by the people and for the people.

*“Nigerians have shown their commitments to democracy and are determined to entrench its culture”*

The priority of any government is the social welfare of its citizens. Thus, the performance of any government or representative is measured by its impact on the populace considering the social welfare environment.

*“Building the legacies of our great ancestors to modernize and uplift Nigeria. Daunting as the task may be, it is by no means insurmountable”.*

According to Dolgoff & Feldstein, Social Welfare is

*“In its narrowest sense, Social Welfare includes those non-profit functions of society, public or voluntary, which are clearly aimed at alleviating distress and poverty or at ameliorating the conditions of the casualties of society”.*

Social Welfare is obviously designed to help individuals change their conditions of living. The broad senses of social welfare is critically examined.

- Education
- Healthcare services
- Housing
- Personal welfare and Income maintenance

However, the Social Welfare of Nigeria is seen from this perspective as President Muhammadu Buhari puts it.

*“To tackle the immediate challenges confronting us namely Boko Haram, The Niger Delta, The Power, The Unemployment especially among young people. For the longer term we have to improve the standards of our education. We have to look at the field of Medicare. We have to upgrade our dilapidated physical infrastructure ... it's a National shame that an economy of 180 million, generates only 4,000mw and distributes even less ... careful studies are underway during this transition to identify the quickest, safest and most cost-effective way to bring light and relief to Nigerians”.*

## II. 'TODAY'S' SOCIAL WELFARE ENVIRONMENT

- Irregular power supply
- Poor education system
- Few good medical facilities
- Bad road network
- Lack of low-income housing
- Lack of government-controlled transport system

The United Nations' charter of 1967 sees Social Welfare thus:

*“Social Welfare as an organized function, is regarded as a body of activities designed to enable individuals, families, groups and communities to cope with the social problems of changing conditions. But in addition to and extending beyond the range of its responsibilities for specific services and social welfare has a further function within the broad area of a country's social development. In this larger sense, social welfare should play a major role in contributing to the effective mobilization and deployment of human and material resources of the country to deal successfully with the social requirements of change thereby participating in Nation building”.*

Social Welfare functions are categorized thus:

- Remedial
- Developmental
- Supportive
- Preventive

The President Muhammadu Buhari's led administration financially empowered the already established agency Act 12 by Act 50 of 1999 NEMA (National Emergency Management Agency).

This agency is mainly for residual services. Prompt at crisis areas to relief people of their distresses. As they deliver the needs of the crisis-stricken communities.

The Vice President of Nigeria, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo said in Bauchi on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2019

*“President Muhammadu Buhari has always been committed to the welfare of the common man and that is why one of the major programmes of the federal government is the Social Investment Programmes”*

Namely:

- The N-Power
- The National Homegrown School Feeding Programme
- National Cash Transfer
- GEEP - The Nigerian Government Enterprise and Empowerment programme, comprising of TRADER MONI, MARKET MONI and FARMERS MONI

The wife of the President, Aisha Buhari during her interactive session with women on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May, 2019, said

*“Concerning the 500 billion naira voted for social investment programmes that was part of 2015 campaign where they promised to give out ₦10,000, feed pupils in primary schools and give ₦5,000 to the poorest of the poor”*

### III. FUNDING DATA FOR NSIP

As released by Maryam Uwais

- 2016 - 79.9 billion
- 2017 - 100.40 billion
- 2018 - 250.84 billion

Laolu Akande, the special adviser to the President on Media and Publicity (Office of the Vice President) said

*“Millions of Nigerians Nationwide are currently benefiting from the different schemes under NSIP which is the largest social welfare scheme in the history of the country”*

Through the conditional cash transfer, the administration is supporting the most vulnerable in the society for economic productivity by providing jobs for millions of Nigerian Youths through the N-Power programme. 20 states including the Borno State IDP (Internally Displaced Persons) also

benefitting from the Conditional Cash Transfer. A total of 297,973 Nigerians as at March, 2019. A monthly stipend of ₦5,000.

*“Faith is the strength by which a shattered World shall emerge into the light”;*

Conditional Cash Transfer State Beneficiaries

|                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Abia State        | Jigawa State   |
| Anambra State     | Nasarawa State |
| Bauchi State      | Niger State    |
| Benue State       | Osun State     |
| Borno State       | Oyo State      |
| Cross River State | Plateau State  |
| Ekiti State       | Taraba State   |
| Gombe State       |                |

National Cash Transfer programme was started in 2015 and has obviously lifted up homes from abject poverty with Dr Temitope Sinkaiye as the National Programme Coordinator.

*“Contented with little, yet wishing for more”*

### IV. NATIONAL SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME

The National Home grown School Feeding Programme tagged “The Africa’s Largest National School Feeding Programme” targeted to feed about 24 million school children. The Vice President of Nigeria, Prof Yemi Osinbajo speaking as he inaugurated the scheme said

*“Today, we lay an important building block in securing our future by mapping out the implementation plan to ensure that even the most disadvantaged children are free from malnutrition”*

Indeed, “He who plants kindness gathers love ...”. 30 states are beneficiaries of this act of love, reaching out to about 9.3 million pupils; 101,915 cooks engaged; 53,604 schools served.

States benefiting from school feeding programme are:

|                |             |              |
|----------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Abia        | 11. Edo     | 21. Nasarawa |
| 2. Adamawa     | 12. Enugu   | 22. Niger    |
| 3. Akwa Ibom   | 13. Gombe   | 23. Ogun     |
| 4. Anambra     | 14. Imo     | 24. Ondo     |
| 5. Bauchi      | 15. Jigawa  | 25. Osun     |
| 6. Benue       | 16. Kaduna  | 26. Oyo      |
| 7. Borno       | 17. Kano    | 27. Plateau  |
| 8. Cross-River | 18. Kastina | 28. Sokoto   |
| 9. Delta       | 19. Kebbi   | 29. Taraba   |
| 10. Ebonyi     | 20. Kogi    | 30. Zamfara  |

A huge project as over 183 million dollars has been invested in the programme. However, a Nigerian Economist with the Economic Research South Africa said

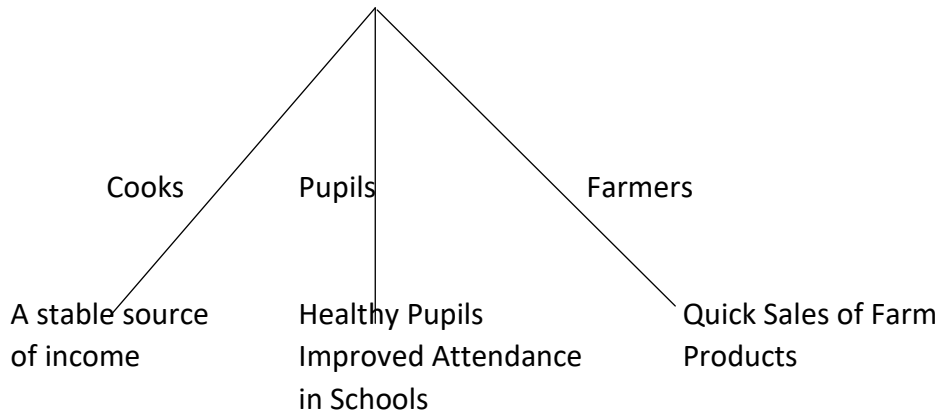
*“It’s a drop in the ocean of poverty in Nigeria”*

The Vice President being elated with the level of progress in the programme, soaring on the oars of gratitude, as *“Gratitude turns what we have into enough and more ... it can turn a meal into a feast...”* said in a forum of about 353 delegates in Tunisia at the 20<sup>th</sup> Global Child Nutrition Summit that

*“Nigeria took the decision to embark on a school feeding programme as an important part of our Human Development Agenda”*

V. BENEFITS

- It increases enrolment in schools
- It improves their health conditions
- A stable source of income to both the farmers and the cook
- A TRIPOD STAND GAIN



President Muhammadu Buhari in his inaugural speech of May 29, 2015 said

*“... we intend to attack the problem frontally through revival of agriculture, solid mineral mining as well as credits to small and medium size businesses to kick-start these enterprises ...”*

This heartbeat, led to the establishment of the Nigerian Government Enterprise and Empowerment Programme (GEEP). This is a non-collateral loan given to traders, farmers and artisans for the upliftment of their business. A programme for the Micro Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME); namely

- Trade Moni
- Market Moni
- Farmers Moni

This programme is financed by the Bank of Industry (BOI).

*Trader Moni:* It provides interest-free loans payable after 6 months to the petty traders with a package of ₦10,000. The trader’s faithfulness engraves him or her as a better beneficiary for it grows steadily until one gets to the ₦50,000 and ₦100,000 grants.

In 32 states, 40 Urban Markets visited and in 6 geopolitical zones, a minimum of 30,000 is to be given in every State obviously for petty traders and artisans. It was launched in August 2018 but the Vice President’s visit to the markets

started on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September, 2018; about three weeks to the Osun state gubernatorial election – Ino Market in Osun state.

Trader Moni was seen as a coin with its two sides, one for the benefit of the traders and the other side as a campaign tool.

Awwal Rafasanjani the chairman of the anti-corruption organisation saw it as

*“Official use of public funds in the name of Trader Moni to actually induce voters. It was not done three years ago. It was only started close to election time ....”*

*Market Moni:* This is a no-interest rate financial aid provided for the unbanked and under-banked. However, it has a 5% administrative fee.

Conditions for beneficiaries:

1. A member of a registered market union
2. The association must present their CAC registration papers or certificate  
www.marketmoni.com.ng. The association must be registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission. The association must send its papers to BOI for verifications. Th credit facility ranges from ₦10,000 to ₦100,000.

However, the Vice President, Prof Yemi Osinbajo’s nation-wide moves to promote this scheme has stopped for now. Notwithstanding that 93.7 million Nigerians live in extreme

poverty, A nation with the highest level of people living in extreme poverty as recorded by World Poverty Clock In June 2019.

Hopefully, the words of President Muhammadu Buhari will come to pass as he said

*“With leadership and a sense of purpose, we can lift 100 million Nigerians out of poverty in 10 years”*

This is our task. Obasanjo in an interview quipped

*“I believe every Nigerian family, individual, group is entitled to legitimate livelihood, it is the responsibility of all to make sure we have a dignified life. That should be our aim collectively”*

However, according to (WHO) World Health Organisation policy

*“A special focus in primary healthcare, a campaign launched in recognition of the fact that most gains in overall health status come from simple interventions. Intervention in sanitation, water, immunization and maternal/child health”*

The wife of the president, Aisha Buhari commissioned a 200 bed capacity Ultra-Modern Maternity Complex with the aim of reducing drastically maternal deaths. According to the governor of Adamawa state, Governor Ahmadu Umaru Fintiri, he said

*“The facility will reduce pressure on the poorly funded state health facilities and reduce mortality cases associated with child birth”*

A notable Adamawa woman, Amina Yakubu said

*“With this new development brought by our daughter and mother ... there will be speedy and quality services at the maternity”*

Obviously, good news to women in the state.

All hands on deck for a better Nigeria.

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