

Private Security Companies (PSCs) and the Regulatory Agency in Nigeria: Evidence from Ekiti State

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Abstract:- The complementary roles being played by the Private Security Companies in mitigating the security challenges confronting the nation have been seen by many security scholars as a welcome development. The deteriorating security situation and ever-increasing economic activities is likely to ensure a continued and expanding role for Private Security Companies in Nigeria, thus the study examine Private Security Companies (PSCs) and the Regulatory Agency in Nigeria: Evidence from Ekiti State, considering the importance of security governance on economic and sustainable development. The complementary role played by the activities of PSCs cannot be over emphasized hence the need for adequate regulatory and legal framework guiding the operations of PSCs for effective service delivery and public confidence on their operations. The study is a field survey research, both primary and secondary data were sourced.

Findings from the study revealed that licensing, regulation, monitoring and supervision of the activities of the PSCs are carried out by Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corp (NSCDC). However the study revealed that PSCs are not effectively supervised with 42% respondents agreed that NSCDC supervised PSCs monthly. The regulation of PSCs should be all encompassing, and not limited to licensing which is an aspect of revenue generation to the government. The perception of PSCs services by their clients/users/beneficiaries are adjudged effective in Ekiti State.

Keywords: Private Security Companies, Security, Regulation, Complementary, NSCDC

I. BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

Security is a necessity in every developed and developing human society, as peace and security scholars have argued that security and safety of public/private life and properties are sine qua non for human existence, survival and development. According to Western tradition, the state, through its monopoly over the legitimate use of force, is responsible for the provision of security. Events in the 21st century have challenged the state powers and monopoly on security provision as individual safety and collective feelings of insecurity within the globe is at alarming rate. The contemporary risks associated with social transition have been seen as one of the reasons for the transition from a state-tailored security to one that is provided by private entities. However, no government has the capacity to supply one hundred percent security for her teeming population, and no matter how endowed and organized a country is, it can hardly

be devoid of security challenges (Dasuki, 2013). Security from crime, fear and victimization at the state, local and personal levels is an important basis for economic and social development as noted in the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime (Economic and Social Council resolution, 2002/13 Annex). Hence, an effectively secured society is viewed as the basis for sustainable peace and development. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) also emphasized the need for human security in all its ramifications as there is a growing acceptance that security is an essential public good, like education, health, shelter, and clean water (Hassen, 2010).

In several countries, private security personnel outnumber police forces; protecting valuable assets, life and properties of both public and private clients. In 2017 the security industry boasted over \$89 billion globally. The US alone accounts for nearly 24% of all private security guard services. Part of this industry boom comes from the need for more security to protect the increasing wealth and status of corporations and individuals. With the presence of security guard services stronger now than ever, it is important to stay up on all of the trends in the industry. As police forces failed to curb increasing crime rates that emanate from the society with gross inequalities of wealth and high unemployment rate. Those with properties to defend have to pay for private security service (Cilliers, and Cornwell, 1998). Small (2006) argued that the comparatively well-off attempts by property owners to secure their possessions and personal safety against would-be-criminals, in Africa and often elsewhere, has seen a proliferation of private security companies, and the apartheid of security.

However, as is the case in all countries, the citizens of Nigeria are highly concerned about their security and this concern has been expressed through the growth of Private Security Companies (PSCs). Increase in crime rate, burglary, theft, armed robbery, kidnapping, terrorism and other security challenges which the Police and other security agencies have failed to combat effectively, has necessitated the private incursion into the security sector in Nigeria. Olaniyi, 2005 also submitted that “the perception of ineffective policing and rising crime gave impetus to the emergence of a plethora of non-state policing groups”. The state has shared its security responsibility with a variety of non-political organizations

including vigilante groups, religious vigilante, ethnic militias and private security guards.

For PSCs to be constructively engaged in a broader system of security governance in Nigeria there is need to assess the regulating agency and effectiveness of PSCs service delivery. This study seeks to answer the question on PSCs and the regulating agency in Nigeria. PSCs is an important sector that generate income to the government, creates wealth to PSCs owners, employment opportunity to the citizens and complement government efforts in provision of security in Nigeria. Without accountability and effective performance of PSCs and the private guards, the use of private security companies will continue to be viewed with suspicion and as unprofessional. PSCs services encompasses a wide range of activities and regulation should extend to as many of these, to ensure efficiency, professionalism, and maximize the contribution of private security to crime prevention and protection of life and public/private properties.

Statement of the Problem

The emergence of private security companies has become a global issue, as Small (2006) rightly points out, "a growing and widely accepted trend internationally, is the increasing 'commodification' and privatization of all public goods including security". Goddard (2001) opined, "A private security company as a registered civilian company that specializes in contracting commercial services to domestic and foreign entities with the intent to protect personnel and humanitarian and industrial assets within the rule of applicable domestic law". This growing trend has generated heated debates among scholars. Some were of the opinion that, it means the deterioration of the State in the discharge of its basic responsibility. While some argue otherwise that the situation actually enhances the power of the state (Olaniyan, 2011). Berndtson (2009) argued that "the fact that state control of security is changing does not always imply deterioration, rather what is observable is that the privatization of security has under certain circumstances led to increased flexibility and functionality for the state.

The advent and expansion of private security companies in Nigeria over the years, no doubt has contributed to the bolstering of private and public safety in some respects and fill some of the security gaps left by the overstretched nature of the public security sector. The important role and functions of PSC's in Nigeria cannot be overemphasized considering the various security challenges as theft, armed robbery, burglary, kidnapping and terrorism among others. In view of the above and recent proliferation of Private Security Companies in Nigeria, there is the need for adequate regulations, effective monitoring, supervision and control of the activities of PSC's by the government and it's regulating agencies in Nigeria. This study examines PSCs and the regulatory agencies in Nigeria, in order to ascertain their usefulness, relevance, and effectiveness in crime prevention and control. This has necessitated this scholarly research to

fill the knowledge gap in finding answers to the following question,

- i. What is the operation and services of Private Security Companies in Nigeria?
- ii. What is the regulatory and legal framework guiding PSC's in Nigeria?
- iii. What is the relationship between PSCs and the public security forces in Ekiti State?
- iv. What is the level of Private/Public confidence on the services of Private Security Companies and their potentials in Ekiti-State?

The public and private business sector would benefit tremendously from a well regulated, monitored, competitive and effective service delivery private security industry in Ekiti State.

Objectives of the Study

The broad objective of the study is to interrogate Private Security Companies (PSC's) and the regulatory agencies in Nigeria, evidence from Ekiti State. However, the specific objective of the study is to:

- i. investigate the operations and services of Private Security Companies (PSCs) in Nigeria;
- ii. examine the regulatory agency guiding the operations and services of PSCs in Nigeria;
- iii. examine the relationship between the PSCs and the public security forces in Ekiti State.
- iv. Evaluate the level of Private/Public confidence in the services of Private Security Companies in Ekiti State.

II. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The Origin and Theory of Anti-Crime Partnerships

In the endless search for more efficient and effective methods of crime prevention and control, criminal justice scholars in Western Europe, North America, and Australia have noted the tendency for greater government investment in "partnerships" and "coalitions" for effective governance (Rosenbaum et al., 1998). There is no single definition of a partnership, but essentially, it is a cooperative relationship between two or more organizations to achieve some common goal. When it involves multiple partners, typically representing diverse interest groups, a partnership can also be referred to as a coalition, which, Butterfoss et al., (1993:315) describe as "inter-organizational, cooperative, and synergistic working alliances."

Recent interest in partnership building has grown worldwide and researchers have attributed this renewed interest to the elevated importance of "privatisation/private effectiveness" in government processes and a corresponding dissatisfaction with the effectiveness of traditional service bureaucracies (Crawford, 1997). In the law enforcement field, there is also a desire for change caused by the problems of:

- i. Perceived racial inequalities and injustices in the delivery of police services, which regularly produce cry for better police-community partnerships;
- ii. The judged ineffectiveness of traditional reactive police methods, which opens the door for problem-oriented policing and prevention models; and
- iii. The absence of a coordinated, "criminal justice system" to handle public safety issues, which has frustrated those seeking effective justice and deterrence.

In essence, the new discourse on public safety among Western nations gives special attention to "prevention," "community," "partnerships," and "problem solving" as the defining features of an idealized (policing) government that is more effective, efficient, and just than traditional response schemes (Rosenbaum, 2003).

The partnership model is based on several key assumptions and postulates, they are;

1. Crime and drug problems are complex and deeply rooted, requiring complex, innovative, and comprehensive solutions.
2. Partnerships are better suited than individual agencies to identify and accurately define the target problems of greatest concern in a given community. They are more likely to include diverse perspectives and theories about crime and drug causation.
3. Partnerships are better suited to developing creative targeted interventions because they include a diverse group of individuals representing a diverse group of organizations with different philosophies of intervention.
4. Multiple interventions are more effective than single interventions. Multiple interventions hold the potential of increasing the total quantity (dosage) and/or quality of the "treatment."
5. Applying similar reasoning, multiple agencies are more effective than single agencies. Representing different organizational cultures and services, partnership members bring more "new" ideas and resources to the problem-solving arena.

These assumptions and postulates offer some clues about the mechanisms or processes by which change is expected to occur. In sum, several avenues are hypothesized for partnerships to out-perform single-agency approaches on crime and drug prevention outcomes:

Firstly, by "putting heads together" a partnership may result in new, innovative approaches that would not have been conceived without the "collision" and synthesis of diverse perspectives. Secondly, the application of resources from multiple agencies may increase the *quantity* or "dosage" of the intervention. Thirdly, partnerships may lead to the coordinated application of resources in a manner that changes the nature or *quality* of the interventions and their effects. In the meantime, if the above assumptions are valid, then partnerships can be

expected not only to reduce crime, theft, burglary, and drug abuse, but to serve a number of other functions as well (Butterfoss et al., 1993; Kubisch et al., 1995). Partnerships, in theory, are expected to:

- i. increase organizational accountability;
- ii. reduce fragmentation and duplication of services;
- iii. build public-private linkages;
- iv. increase public awareness of (and participation in) anti-crime initiatives;
- v. strengthen local community organizations; and
- vi. permanently alter the way agencies "do business" by giving more attention to strategic planning, data-driven decision making, prevention, interagency cooperation, and community participation in governance (Rosenbaum, 2003).

The Growth and Emergence of Private Security Companies in Nigeria

The involvement of private players in the management of security locally and internationally has become phenomena in recent times. Considering the historical development of Private Security Companies in Nigeria, one will not disagree that the presence and activities of Private Security Guards laid the foundation for the emergence of private security companies in Nigeria. The expansion of private property in Nigeria and Africa generally is a key factor in the growth of private security in both size and profile, as property owners have recognized the commercial benefits of employing their own security forces. They are not only able to specify the functions performed by the security staff, but to empower them to uphold conditions of access to their properties and to exclude any unwanted visitors. This is permitted in common law countries as the law bestows on property owners the right to decide who may have access to their properties or premises. For the mass private property owner, efficient use of private security services can be made due to economies of scale and a relative immunity to a free rider effect in their investment in security. Other reasons are the demand for security and inability of the public security agents to meet the security needs of various segments of the public have necessitated the growing acceptance being enjoyed by private security guards in the country as Dambazau, (2006) argued that the presence of security guards is effective to the extent that it is capable of retarding criminal activities.

The services of private security guards have continued to be sought by individuals and corporate bodies to safeguard the security of their lives and properties. Paucity of funds has made it difficult for government in Nigeria to have adequate size of police and armed forces. The size of police personnel is highly insufficient to meet the security needs of the people. This situation has led to the privatization of public security agents especially the police. The commoditization of police services in the country has further complicated the problem of inefficiency of the police in the discharge of their

duties. This situation reinforces the disconnection between public safety and policing in Nigeria. The interest and security of the elite, a few wealthy individuals and organizations have remained basic preoccupations of Nigeria police. Nevertheless, security has thus become a major part of the Nigerian economy and it is estimated that there are currently between 1500 and 2000 Private Security Companies (PSC's) in Nigeria, with more than 100,000 on their pay roll serving as guards (Abrahamsen and Williams, 2005).

The total number of registered PSCs as recorded on the web site of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps as at January, 2018 is put at 1086 (nscdc.gov.ng, 2018). The importance of the complementary roles being played by private security guards is emphasized by many of these oil companies and banks. For instance, oil companies like Exxon Mobile and Shell usually employ a sizeable number of private guards who are trained by the Nigeria Police as spy police (Abrahamsen and Williams 2005). Apart from intelligence activities, trained guards may be mandated to perform some other tasks including security of infrastructural facilities of their employers.

In recent years, Nigeria's Private Security Industry has developed rapidly, providing services to international organizations, NGOs, embassies, and local/international businesses, particularly the oil companies. Security has thus become one of the most significant players in the Nigerian economy. According to the best informed estimates of an independent study in 2005 ('The Globalization of Private Security, Country Report: Nigeria'), in 2005 there were between 1,500 and 2,000 Private Security Companies (PSCs) in Nigeria, employing more than 100,000 people (Abrahamsen and William, 2005). Private Security is considered vital by most households and companies that can afford it. The Private Security Sector is regulated by the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps Act No.2 of 2003 and Amendment Act of 2007, the department is empowered through the Corps to licence, supervise and monitor activities of private guard companies operating in Nigeria (nscdc.gov.ng, 2018).

Other forms of control measures are also in place such as Private Security Association. As at 2005, there were at least five Private Security Associations in Nigeria to maintain internal regulation and control among Private Security Operators. One of these is the Nigerian Chapter of the American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS), a global organization which supports industry standards and which concentrates specifically on training and education. National associations include the National Professional Security Association (NPSA), the Society of Security Practitioners of Nigeria (SSPN), the Security and Safety Association of Nigeria (SSAN) and the Association of Licensed Private Security Practitioners in Nigeria (ALPSPN). The various industry Associations aim to encourage higher standards and new legislation to monitor and regulate the sector.

The Regulatory Agency: Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC)

NSCDC is a Para-military agency of the government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria that is commissioned to provide measures against threat and any form of attack or disaster against the nation and its citizenry. The corps is statutorily empowered by law Act No.2 of 2003 and amended by Act 6 of 4th June 2007 (nscdc.gov.ng, 2018). The Corps is empowered to institute legal proceedings by or in then and of the Attorney General of the Federation in accordance with the provisions of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria against any person or persons suspected to have committed an offence, maintain an armed squad in order to bear fire arms among others to strengthen the corps in the discharge of its statutory duties. The Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) were first introduced in May 1967 during the Nigerian civil war within the then Federal Capital Territory of Lagos for the purpose of sensitization and protection of the civil populace. It was then known as Lagos Civil Defence Committee. It later metamorphosed into the present day Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps in 1970.

On inception, the Corps had the objective of carrying out some educational and enlightenment campaigns in and around the Federal Capital of Lagos to sensitize members of the civil populace on enemy attacks and how to save themselves from danger as most Nigerians living in and around Lagos territory then had little or no knowledge about war and its implications. Members of the Committee deemed it important to educate through electronic and print media on how to guide themselves during air raids bomb attacks, identify bombs and how to dive into trenches during bomb blast (nscdc.gov.ng, 2018).

On 28th June 2003, an Act to give statutory backing to the NSCDC passed by the National Assembly was signed into law by Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, GCFR, the former president and Commander in chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria.(NSCDC Diary, 2018).

Private Guard Companies Act No.2 of 2003 as amended by Act 6 of 2007

Private Guard Company (PGA) also known and called Private Security Companies (PSC) business is one of the numerous businesses which private firms go into in Nigeria. This is done by the provision of security services to individuals and firms both private and public. The sphere covers both lives and properties. The Private Guard Companies (PGC) department of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps is saddled with the responsibility of licensing, monitoring and supervision of the activities of PGC in Nigeria. This charter aims at publishing, among other things, requirements for registration as a Private Guard Company, issuance of license and license renewals, grievance redress mechanism etc (nscdc.gov.ng, 2018).

The mission statement of the Corps is to safeguard the society from the scourge of insecurity and contributes towards the Control and Management of crimes and National emergencies. With the signing into law of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps Act No.2 of 2003 and Amendment Act of 2007, the department is empowered through the Corps to licence, supervise and monitor activities of Private Guard Companies operating in Nigeria. Thus, the Corps contributes towards the development of security structures that will ensure the protection and assurance of the civil public life, property and curb criminality (nscdc.gov.ng, 2018). The scope and functions of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps are as follows

1. Licensing of Private Guard Companies (PGCs)
2. Monitoring the activities of Private Guard Companies
3. Supervising Private Guard Companies
4. Renewal of PGC operational Licenses
5. Upgrading and downgrading of licenses as the case may be
6. Supervision of recruitment and training of Private Guard's nationwide (NSCDC must be involved in the recruitment of all guards)
7. Re-certification of Private Guard Companies
8. Consultations with Private Guard Companies on their activities.
9. Ensuring that foreigners do not operate or own Private Guard Companies (PGC) or have access to PGC licenses for any purpose.
10. Ensuring that the director(s) of Private Guard Companies have not been found guilty of any criminal offence or are not person(s) of questionable character(s)
11. Ensuring that the Director(s) was not dismissed, discharged or otherwise removed on disciplinary grounds from the Police, Prison Service, Customs Service, Immigration Service or the Armed Forces of the Federation.
12. Breeding, training and sales of pedigree security dogs
13. Capturing the biometrics details of guards and directors of PGC
14. Ensuring guard welfare is topmost with their employers.
15. Handling and resolving (through alternative dispute resolution) issues related to guards unpaid salary, unjustifiable dismissal by Guard Companies etc. by the guards welfare and complaints unit (nscdc.gov.ng, 2018).

Performance Targets/Customers Expectations

Nigerians who are currently working in the Public sector are not expected to own a Private Guard Company while in service, thus, the customers of the department are:

- i. The Nigeria Public

- ii. Retired officers of the Military and Paramilitary Organizations
- iii. Private Guard Companies

The Corps is equally committed to ensure that:

- i. After investigation clearance and payment to the Treasury Single Account (TSA), licenses should be expected within a reasonable time.
- ii. Operatives of the Private Guard Companies and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps would hold Stakeholders conference at least once in a year at the National Level to rub minds on the way forward in Private Guard Security System in the country
- iii. Inspection and assessment of the premises and facilities of the Private Guard Companies before the issuance of the Private Guard License.

The Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps listed the following as things not included in the Private Guards memo:

- i. Bullet proof vest
- ii. Arms and ammunition
- iii. Investigation/investigator
- iv. Body guard
- v. Detective
- vi. Security personnel of all kind
- vii. Protective chauffeurs
- viii. Armored vehicle
- ix. Assessor
- x. VIPs protection

Table of Private Guard Company Licence, Renewal and Approved Fees

S/N	SERVICES/FACILITIES RENDERED	APPROVED FEES (₦)
1	Application for Private guard Company licence (Form A)	Non refundable of ₦500,000.00
2	Licence For Private Guard Company Category A	₦3,000,000.00
3	Licence For Private Guard Company Category B (with less than 500 staff)	₦2,500,000.00
4	Renewal for private guard licence Category A	₦200,000.00
5	Renewal for private guard licence Category B	₦100,000.00
6	CTC of Private Guard Licence Category A	₦150,000.00
7	CTC of Private Guard Licence Category B	₦100,000.00
8	Penalty for Late Submission of Renewal of Private Guard licence per year of default	₦ 150,000.00
9	Personal History Statement Form (Director's Form)	N100,000.00
10	Application form for employment of Guard (form D)	N500.00
11	Additional Director's form	N100,000.00
12	Change of Address (P.G.C.F.)Form F	N20,000.00
13	Opening of branch within the Same State (P.G.C.G.) for G	N10,000.00
14	Opening of Branches (Inter-State) (P.G.C.H)	N30,000.00
15	Relocation of Head of Office (Inter-State) (P.G.C.J)	N100,000.00

Source of Table. (www. nscdc.gov.ng, 2018)

III. RESEARCH DESIGN

This research is a survey research. Both primary and secondary sources were used for data collection. Primary data was used /collected from participant observation, in-depth interviews, and key informant interview (KII), questionnaires, and site visits. The secondary data on the other hand was drawn on an extensive reading of academic literature, publications on Private Security Companies (PSCs) locally and globally, daily media, and experiences from members of the industry, the public security bodies and official records from government agencies, such as the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps, and Nigeria Police Force.

To effectively sample the area of study in Ekiti State and bring out the facts, the population size is selected within the three (3) senatorial districts in Ekiti State by selecting two (2) local government areas from each senatorial zone. Basically, out of Ekiti Central Senatorial district, Ado and Efon local government were chosen. Ido/Osi and Ikole local government were chosen from Ekiti North Senatorial district and in Ekiti South Senatorial District, Ikere and Emure local government were chosen. The researcher applied both qualitative and quantitative analyses to present the various data gathered. The quantitative data gathered were coded and entered using Statistical Packages for Social Sciences (SPSS). Quantitative analysis involved the generation of descriptive statistics such as frequency distribution and percentages (%) in form of tables and figures were used to present the results.

IV. DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

This chapter presents the result and discussion of this study carried out on the "Private Security Companies (PSCs) and the Regulatory Agency in Nigeria: Evidence from Ekiti State, Nigeria.". One hundred and Fifty (150) questionnaires were administered to respondents in the three Senatorial districts in Ekiti State. The six (6) local governments were purposively selected for the study because they have the highest concentration of Private Security Companies within their domains; therefore the analysis is based on the One Hundred and Fifty Questionnaire representing 100 percent of the quantitative analysis while the qualitative data analysis is based on three Key Informants Interviews carried out on the senior personnel of selected regulating Agencies of PSCs in Ekiti State. Those interviewed were:

- i. The representative of the State Commandant of NSCDC and Nigeria Police
- ii. The President of Association of Licensed Private Security Practitioners of Nigeria(ALPSPN), Ekiti State Chapter representing PSCs,

The interviews were conducted with selected clients/users of PSCs (Banks, Hotels, Eateries, Public Agencies, Hospitals, Private Business Owner). The aim of this instrument was to obtain more information from clients/users' perspective of PSCs in Ekiti State. Therefore, the data from these three sets of interviews were analyzed together as follows.

Table 1 Age Distribution of Respondents

Age in Years	Frequency	Percent
18-20	2	1.3
21-30	57	38.0
31-40	80	53.3
41 and above	11	7.3
Total	150	100.0

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2019

Table 1 Showed that more than half of the total sample; 80(53.3%) were within the age range 31-40years, 57 respondents representing 38% were aged 21-30years, 2(1.3%) were aged 18-20years while 11(7.3%) were 41years and above.

Table 2 Distribution of Respondents by Academic Qualification.

Educational Qualification	Frequency	Percent
SSCE	41	27.3
Diploma/NCE/HND	68	45.3
Graduate and above	41	27.3
Total	150	100.0

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2019

The result in the above table 2 revealed that the bulk of the sample; 68(45.3%) were holders of Diploma/NCE/HND certificates, 41 Respondents representing 27.3% has School Certificate while 41(27.3%) were Graduate and above. cursory look at Table 2 clearly showed that majority of the Respondents; 100(66.7%) were Male while 50 representing 33.3% were Female. Larger representation of Male in the sample may be due to the nature of the work.

Table 3: Distribution of the Respondents by Gender.

Sex	Frequency	Percent
Female	50	33.3
Male	100	66.7
Total	150	100.0

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2019

Cursory look at Table 3 clearly showed that majority of the Respondents; 100(66.7%) were Male while 50 representing 33.3% were Female. Larger representation of Male in the sample may be due to the nature of the work.

Operations and services of PSCs in Nigeria

Table 4 Who are the clients/customers of PSCs in Nigeria/Ekiti State?

Responses	Yes		No	
	F	%	f	%
Individuals	149	99.3	1	0.7
Private Businesses	149	99.3	1	0.7
Banks	149	99.3	1	0.7
Government Agencies	148	98.7	2	1.3
NGO	148	98.7	2	1.3
Hotels	149	99.3	1	0.7
Multinational	141	94.0	9	6.0
Embassies	130	86.7	20	13.3
Eateries	150	100.0	-	-

Source: Researcher’s Field Survey, 2019

Table 4 showed that over 85% of the respondents agreed that individuals, private businesses, banks, government agencies, NGO, hotels, multinationals, embassies and eateries constitute clients/customers of private security companies in Nigeria/Ekiti State.

Table 5 What are the Roles and Responsibilities of PSCs in Ekiti State?

Responses	Yes		No	
	f	%	f	%
Crime prevention & safety	148	98.7	2	1.3
Complement public security force in provision of security	150	100.0	-	-
Maintenance of law and order	144	96.0	6	4.0
Safeguard public and properties	147	98.0	3	2.0
Crime prevention and control	145	96.7		

Source: Researcher’s Field Survey, 2019

Table 5 revealed that over 90% of the respondents agreed that crime prevention and safety, complementing public security force in the provision security, maintenance of law and order, safeguarding public and properties, crime prevention and control were roles and responsibilities of Private Security Companies in Ekiti State.

The Scope of PSCs in Ekiti State

Table 6: What is the Scope of the Services of PSCs in Ekiti State?

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Not specified	25	16.7
Specify in Private Security Guard Acts No.2 of 2003 and Amendment Act of 2007	125	83.3
Total	150	100.0

Source: Researcher’s Field Survey, 2019

Table 6 showed that 25 respondents representing 16.7% of the total sample said that the scope of the services of PSCs in Ekiti State is not specified while 125(83.3%) indicated its specification in Private Security Guard Acts 2003 and Amendment Act of 2007. From the qualitative data, the key informants’ interviewee lists the following as the role and functions of NSCDC over PSC’s in the State.

- a. Licensing of PSCs either upgrade to category “A” or degrading to category “B”
- b. Monitoring and supervision of all PSCs activities in Ekiti State by keeping records and files of all PSCs operating in Ekiti State.
- c. Supervise and monitoring of all PSCs recruitment process as they are not permitted to recruit non-Nigerian, ex-convict and anyone with questionable character.
- d. NSCDC organized workshop, training and retraining of PSCs guards, inspecting their premises and facilities.
- e. NSCDC look into the welfare of PSCs guards, carry out up to date/internal check on the PSCs on duty.

NSCDC has the power to seal any defaulting companies, who failed to meet up with the minimum regulation standard.

Regulatory and Legal Framework of Private Security Companies in Nigeria/Ekiti State

Table 7 Are the services rendered by PSCs regulated/monitored/supervised?

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Yes	149	99.3
No	1	0.7
Total	150	100.0

Source: Researcher’s Field Survey, 2019

Table 7 revealed that 149 respondents representing 99.3% of the total sample agreed that the services rendered by private security companies were monitored, regulated and supervised while 1(0.7%) disagreed.

Table 8 Who are the Regulatory/Monitoring/Supervising Agency?

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Nigeria Police Force	8	5.3
Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps	141	94.0
Others	1	0.7
Total	150	100.0

Source: Researcher’s Field Survey, 2019

Table 8 showed that majority; 141(94%) affirmed that private security companies are being supervised by the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps, 8(5.3%) Nigeria Police Force and 1(0.7%) others indicated other regulatory/supervising/monitoring agencies. From the qualitative data, all the entire key informants interviewed agreed and affirmed that the Nigeria security and Civil Defense Corp (NSCDC) is the sole government agency saddled with the responsibility of licensing, monitoring and supervision of the activities of Private Guard Companies in Nigeria. One of the NSCDC officials in his words said, “With the signing into law of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps Act No.2 of 2003 and Amendment Act of 2007, the Corps is empowered to License, Supervise and Monitor activities of Private Guard Companies in Nigeria and by extension Ekiti state”. In the opinion of one of the informant, the Police equally shares in its oversight function by virtue of section 214 of 1999 constitution, Nigeria Police Force was established. It occupies a very important position in the maintenance of internal security in Nigeria, hence they are given powers by an enabling statute to discharge their task and bring society to order, to avoid anarchy and hardship. Section 4, of Police Act cap 359 law of the Federation 1990 state the primary duty of the Nigeria Police, this include:

- i. Prevention and detection of crime
- ii. The Apprehension of offenders
- iii. Preservation of law and order
- iv. Protection of life and property
- v. The enforcement of all law
- vi. Regulation within which they are directly charge

In his words, “we are both in the business of crime prevention, protection of life and properties”. The Nigeria Police also supervise the PSCs when on duty with them.

Table 9 How often do you see the Monitoring/Supervising/Regulating Agencies?

<i>Reponses</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Weekly	44	29.3
Monthly	63	42.0
Quarterly	34	22.7
Yearly	9	6.0
Total	150	100.0

Source: Researcher’s Field Survey, 2019

Table 9 showed that 44 respondents representing 29.3% of the total sample indicated Weekly visit by the Monitoring/Supervising/Regulating Agencies, 63(42%) Monthly while 34(22.7%) and 9(6%) reported Quarterly and Yearly visits respectively.

Relationship between the Private Security Companies and the Public Security forces in Ekiti-State, Nigeria.

Table 10 Relationship between Private Security Companies and other Security Agencies

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Collaborative	52	34.7
Complementary	76	50.7
Mutual	22	14.7
Total	150	100.0

Source: Researcher’s Field Survey, 2019

Table 10 revealed that 52 respondents representing 34.7% of the total sample described the relationship between Private Security Companies and other security agencies as being collaborative, 76(5.7% complementary while 22(14.%) reported mutual relationship. From the qualitative data, the entire interviewees affirmed that the relationship between PSCs and public security forces is cordial and complementary; especially NSCDC and the Nigeria Police as they are all involved in the stakeholders meeting conducted quarterly in the State to discuss security issues. The interviewees rated the operation and services of PSCs in the State as being satisfactory and that PSCs have been effective in discharging their duties of safeguarding and protection of life and properties of their clients. It was affirmed that the relationship between the PSCs and NSCDC and Police in the State has been cordial and complementary in nature. Figure vii further depicted the forms of relationship between private security companies and other security agencies.

Table 11 Public /Private Confidence in the Services of PSCs in Ekiti State

Items	Highly Effective		Effective		Less Effective	
	<i>f</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>%</i>
What is the level of confidence on the operations of PSCs in Ekiti-State?	46	30.7	98	65.3	6	4.0
What is the clients/users/beneficiaries perception of the operation of PSCs in Ekiti State?	51	34.0	96	64.0	3	2.0
What is the performance of PSCs in complementing Government effort to provide security to the citizens in Ekiti State?	63	42	81	54.0	6	4.0

Source: Researcher’s field Survey, 2019

As regards the level of confidence in the operation of PSCs in Ekiti State, while considering result on table 11, it revealed that 30.7% of respondents believed that the operations of PSCs is highly effective, 63.3% believed they are effective while 4% felt they are less effective. The perception of the client/user/beneficiaries depicted that 34% perceived PSCs in Ekiti State to be highly effective, while 64% perceived they are effective and only 2% of the clients/user/ beneficiaries

perceived their operations as less effective in the State. The third item showed that 63 respondents representing 42% of the total sample rated the performance of PSCs as being highly effective, while 54% believed they are effective and 4% felt otherwise, reported that their performance is less effective in the State. From the qualitative data, the entire key informants interviewees agreed that PSCs are beneficial to the people in the state listing the following as benefits and contribution of PSCs to the security of life and properties in Ekiti State saying that: "a. their operation has reduced crime and insecurity in the state, b. They equally reduce unemployment by employing able youths as guards in their companies, c. They provide intelligence (information) to the public. d. They are useful in investigation and intelligence gathering, to mention but a few". They all emphasized that "PSCs have potential in Ekiti state because of the security threats around and the need to protect private and public properties since government cannot adequately provide security".

V. CONCLUSION

The deteriorating security situation and ever-increasing economic activities is likely to ensure a continued and expanding role for Private Security Companies in Nigeria, hence the need to put the activities of PSCs in Proper perspectives through effective regulations, monitoring, supervision and control in order to ensure efficient service delivery considering the importance of security governance on economic and sustainable development.

The study shows that PSCs present States with a resource, which, if properly regulated, monitored, supervised and control can contribute significantly to reducing crime and enhancing community safety, in particular through partnerships and information-sharing with public police and other security agencies in order to complement government effort. The legal and regulating framework of PSCs is vested in the Private Security Guards Acts 2003 as Amended in 2007 in Nigeria; to be overseen by Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC). The study examines the relationship between PSCs and public security force, which was adjudged, cordial and complementary in relation to crime prevention, control, and safety.

Conclusively, the research evaluates the level of private /public confidence in the services of PSCs and their potentials in Ekiti State as many see PSCs as an alternative security provider in the State. The study therefore recommends that;

1. The regulating/monitoring/supervisors need to improve on their supervisory roles in order to improve the quality of security provided to clients and also to promote the welfare of guards.
2. The regulating agency and PSCs must conduct training and re-training of guards often if they must keep up with trending security challenges in the State

- and the condition of service of PSCs must improve staff wages/salary and a good working conditions
3. The government needs to also encourage the formation of Association whose task would be bringing together the different private security companies in the country and setting standard whereby the industry can be governed and increase its efficiency thus becoming more accountable.
4. There should be a better partnership and collaboration between the private security companies and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Nigeria Police and other public security agencies with a view to putting an end to insecurity situation in the State.

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