

THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS DRIVING CATTLE RUSTLING AMONG HERDSMEN IN KADUNA STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The research was conducted to unveil the socio-economics factors influencing cattle rustling among Herdsmen in Kaduna State, Nigeria. Multi-stage sampling procedure was used to select 276 respondents from four Agricultural zones of Kaduna State; data was collected from the respondents and was analyzed using both descriptive statistics and tobit regressions. The result indicated an R^2 value of 0.52 implying that 52% of all variations in the dependent variables were explained by the model. Experience in herding (-0.02535), output from farming (-0.00003), Group membership (-0.46780) and Age (-0.51566) were negative and hence decreases the activity of cattle rustling in the area. Experience where not significant indicating least contribution to cattle rustling while output from farming (10%), Group membership (5%) and age (1%) were significant at 10%, 5% and 1% significant levels respectively and indicates that they highly contribute to the frequency of rustling. Coefficients on total animals owned (0.01371), access to credit (4.25700), sex (1.22465) and household size (0.66412) were all positive and significant, implying they increases cattle rustling are associated with herders socio-economic factors. It is recommended that there is need to recognize that to some extent cattle rustling intersects with other forms of rural banditry, which appear to have acquired a dynamic of their own when situated within the wider context of the challenges of human security interventions scheme in form of provision of facilities and training should be advocated among the herdsmen in area. **Keywords:** Cattle rustling, Herdsmen, Socioeconomic, Kaduna,

INTRODUCTION

Cattle's rustling is an illegal and forceful collection of cattle from the herdsmen or communities, using any available arm without minding the loss of lives and properties of the victims (Abubakar, 2018). However, cattle rustling become one of the major security threats to bedeviling Kaduna State today. Information on newspaper on an attacks made by cattle rustling become a threat to the survival of community in the State. In recent time upsurge of the phenomenon has engage the form of considerable village raids whereby pastoralist community are repeatedly attacked, rape and killed, steal any available items that goes beyond stock, thief and hence has drastically affected the cooperate existence of the State politically, socially and or economically (Abubakar, 2014). People no longer want to live in the society because of the fear and uncertainty. Consequently, the wellbeing of the people living in the rural community has become a problem. Since the agricultural production and animal husbandry that remain the economic backbone of the rural community are affected. It is against this background the paper seeks to assess the factors driving cattle rustling among the herdsmen in Kaduna State for improvement in government policy, on mitigation practices for an enhance security matter to facilitate community development in the State.

MATERIALS AND METHOD

The study was carried out at Kaduna state, Nigeria. It occupies part of the Central position of the Northern part of the country with Kaduna as its capital city, it covers an area of approximately 48,473.2 square kilometers and has a population of more than 6 million (NPC, 2006) and a projected population of 9,805,858 at a birth rate of 3.2 in 2021. There are twenty-three local government areas

(LGAs) in the state. The study employed a multi-stage sampling procedure in the selection of 276 respondents for data collection. Data was collected using structured questionnaire on socio-economic characteristics, livelihood activities and cattle rustling occurrences. Result was analyzed by means of Descriptive statistics and Tobit regressions model.

Tobit regression model

$$S_{ik}^* = \alpha_{ik}F_{ik} + \varepsilon_{ik} \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

$$S_{ik}^* = \begin{cases} \text{if } S_{ik}^* \geq 1 \\ \text{if } S_{ik}^* < 0 \end{cases} \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

$$S_{ik}^* = Q_0 + Q_1Z_1 + Q_2Z_2 + Q_3Z_3 + Q_nZ_n + \dots \dots \dots + e_{ij}$$

Where Z_1 to Z_n are the independent variables in the tobit regression model which is the cattle rustling index, Q_0 to Q_n are the parameters estimated for each of the socioeconomics variables included in the model, e_i is the error term S_{ik}^* is the dependent variable

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 indicated that major causes of cattle rustling are unemployment (100%), availability of harmful weapons (100%), poverty (90.2%) and political interference (86.59%). Other factors include the guaranteed market for cattle rustled (71.74%), lack of effective policies on system of herding (66.67%), and Competition for grazing land (56.52%). The findings agree to that of Shehu (2017) who identified Poverty (16.6%) and political interference (14.4%) as major causes of cattle rustling and banditry in Katsina state. Cheserek (2012) also found out that availability of guns (46%), commercialization of raided cattle (23%) and political incitements (12%) were among the factors that are responsible for Cattle rustling in Kenya.

Table 1 Herdsmen Perception on Factors Responsible for Cattle Rustling

Perceived Factors Responsible for Cattle Rustling	Frequency	Percent (%)	Ranking
Poverty	249	90.22	3
Competition for Grazing Land	156	56.52	7
Lack of Effective Policies on Herding System	184	66.67	6
Unemployment	276	100.00	1
Guaranteed market for Cattle Rustled	198	71.74	5
Political Interference	239	86.59	4
Availability of harmful weapons	276	100.00	2

Table 2 indicates that majority lost their animals between 50 to 80 animals by cattle rustlers, followed by 66 to 74 lost their houses where majority experience 3 to 5 lives lost in various household

Table 2 Cattle rustling experience among herders

Cattle Rustling indicators	N	Mean	Std dev
Number of Cattle rustled from the herder	249	50	28.4528
Number of lives lost in the herders household during the rustling	156	3.52	2.654
Whether house burnt during the rustling	184	66.67	6.908
Rustling Frequency	276	3.00	2.2865

Table 3 Socioeconomics factors influencing cattle rustling among herdsmen

Rustling Frequency	Coef.	Std. Err.	T	P>t
Experience in Herding	-0.02535	0.01724	-1.470	0.143 ^{NS}
Extension Visits	0.13563	0.08998	1.510	0.133 ^{NS}
Total Animals owned	0.01371	0.00224	6.120	0.000 ^{***}
Marital Status (Married/Single)	0.06029	0.32263	0.190	0.852 ^{NS}
Education	0.02475	0.11051	0.220	0.823 ^{NS}
Output from farming	-0.00003	0.00001	-1.920	0.056 [*]
Access to Credit	4.25709	0.75268	5.660	0.000 ^{***}
Group membership (Yes/No)	-0.46780	0.23574	-1.980	0.048 ^{**}
Sex (Male /Female)	1.22465	0.46297	2.650	0.009 ^{***}
Age	-0.51566	0.18568	-2.780	0.006 ^{***}
Household Size	0.66412	0.15624	4.250	0.000 ^{***}

Pseudo-R Square = 0.52 ^{***}, ^{**}, ^{*} and NS indicates Significance at 1%, 5%, 10% and Not Significant

Table 3 indicated an R^2 value of 0.52 implying that 52% of all variations were explained by the model. Coefficients on experience in herding (-0.02535), output from farming (-0.00003), group membership (-0.46780) and age (-0.51566) were negative and hence decreased the activity of cattle rustling in the area. Experience where not significant indicating least contribution to cattle rustling while output from farming (10%), group membership (5%) and age (1%) were significant at 10%, 5% and 1% significant levels, respectively and indicates that they highly contribute to the frequency of rustling. Coefficients on total animals owned (0.01371), access to credit (4.25700), sex (1.22465) and household size (0.66412) were all positive and significant, implying they increases cattle rustling and are very important factors that determines the frequency of cattle rustling in the study area. Although coefficients on marital status (0.06029) and education level (0.02475) was positive and not significant implying least contribution to cattle rustling in the study site.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Base on the finding it is recommended that there is need to recognize to some extent cattle rustling intersects with other forms of rural banditry, which appear to have acquired a dynamic of their own when situated within the wider context of the challenges of human security interventions scheme in form of provision of facilities and training should be advocated among the herdsmen in area.

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