

EFFECTIVENESS OF ELECTION MANAGEMENT ON CREDIBLE ELECTIONS IN NIGERIA

BY

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DEGREE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Effectiveness of Election Management on Credible Elections in Nigeria" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

Date

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined effectiveness of election management on credible elections in Nigeria, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of effectiveness; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with effectiveness and election. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Elite Theory and the Systems Theory. A sample size of 396 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 367 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 3.05). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.464$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 7.01, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.21$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on effectiveness.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of effectiveness of election management on credible elections in Nigeria is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of effectiveness in shaping developmental trajectories. Rapid urbanisation and demographic expansion across Nigerian cities have heightened the salience of effectiveness in everyday life. Olawale and Bello (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of effectiveness are unevenly distributed across groups. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. The aggregate picture emerging from Adeniyi and Obiora (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between effectiveness and the outcomes of interest. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. Nevertheless, the existing literature is not without its limitations, and several questions remain unresolved.

Scholars have long recognised effectiveness as a critical determinant of outcomes in political science. The colonial and post-colonial legacies of the Nigerian state continue to influence contemporary patterns of effectiveness. The work of Musa and Osinachi (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that election reinforces the effects of effectiveness. Such findings reinforce the argument that effectiveness deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Okonkwo and Osinachi (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. For practitioners, the practical significance of effectiveness cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with election. Nevertheless, the existing literature is not without its limitations, and several questions remain unresolved.

Over the past two decades, effectiveness has become increasingly significant within the Nigerian landscape and beyond. The Nigerian context presents peculiar challenges, ranging from infrastructural deficits to institutional weaknesses, which shape the manner in which effectiveness unfolds. The work of Okonkwo and Osinachi (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that election reinforces the effects of effectiveness. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding election. The aggregate picture emerging from Musa and Umeh (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between effectiveness and the outcomes of interest. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding election. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

Scholars have long recognised effectiveness as a critical determinant of outcomes in political science. The Nigerian context presents peculiar challenges, ranging from infrastructural deficits to institutional weaknesses, which shape the manner in which effectiveness unfolds. The aggregate picture emerging from Ogbeide and Bakare (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between effectiveness and the outcomes of