

DYNAMICS OF INTERNAL AND INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY OF TRADERS IN NIGERIA

Report for the MacArthur-Funded Project on:
“African Perspectives on Human Mobility”

QUESTIONNAIRES AND INTERVIEW GUIDELINES

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Survey of the Dynamics of International Migrant Traders in Lagos, Nigeria

Introduction

We are carrying out a survey of traders in Lagos in four selected markets namely: Auto Spare Parts and Machinery Dealers Association (ASPMDA) Market, Alaba International Market, Balogun Market and Computer Village, Ikeja. The survey is carried out by academicians from the University of Ibadan, University of Lagos and Lagos State University. The survey is an academic research project, aimed at studying the dynamics and pattern of international/internal migrant traders. Also, the survey is towards effective ways of improving trading activities within and outside the country. We are, therefore, soliciting for your cooperation in answering the questions below.

Your answers, views and information would be treated as highly confidential. Thank you.

Interviewer Please Note: Tick or write in full where appropriate

For International Migrant Trader Only

Section A: Social and Economic Characteristics of Respondent

- 1 Sex: (1) Male () (2) Female ()
- 2 Marital Status: (1) Single/Never Married () (2) Married () (3) Widow/Widower ()
(4) Divorced/Separated () (5) Others (Specify).....
- 3 Spouse's Occupation
- 4 Religious Faith: (1) Christianity (.....) (2) Islam (.....) (3) Traditional Religion
(4) Others (Specify)
- 5 Age.....
- 6 Education status: (1) Primary () (2) Secondary () (3) Tertiary ()
(4) No Formal Education ()
- 7 Specify number of years spent in formal schooling:
- 8 Country of Origin:
- 9 Name of Place of Origin:
- 10 L.G.A of Place of Origin.....
- 11 State of Origin:
- 12 Were you born in Lagos? (1) Yes () (2) No ()
- 13 If you were not born in Lagos, when did you become a resident in Lagos? (Specify Year).....

Section B: Basic Detail of Trading Activities

- 14 Is trading your main occupation? (1) Yes () (2) No ()
- 15 If trading is not your main occupation, what other work(s) do you engage in that earn(s) you an income?
- 16 If trading is your main occupation, who helped you to start the trading?
(1) Friend () (2) Spouse () (3) Mentor () (4) Master () (5) Relatives ()
(6) Kinsmen () (7) Others (Specify).....
- 17 State the form of help you received from the person who assisted you. (Multiple Responses Allowed)
(1) Financial () (2) Training () (3) Advice () (4) Religious ()
(5) Others (Specify).....
- 18 State the location of the person that offered you assistance to start trading
(1) Within Lagos State () (2) Outside Lagos State () (3) Outside Nigeria ()
- 19 On the average, how many hours do you spend on trading activities daily?
- 20 Do you own the trading business? 1. Yes () 2. No ()
- 21 If do not own the business, are you employed to run the business? 1. Yes () 2. No ()

- 22 If you own the business, state type of ownership: (1) Individual ownership () (2) Partnership () (3) Family business () (4) Others (Specify).....
- 23 If you own the business, what are your reasons for going into trading?
(Multiple Responses Allowed)
(1) No employment () (2) For the love of the business ()
(3) Influence of the family () (4) To supplement income ()
(5) It is lucrative () (6) It affords me the opportunity to go places ()
(7) Others (Specify).....
- 24 If you own the business, from where do you source the capital to run your trading business?
(Multiple Responses Allowed)
(1) Personal savings () (2) Parent's assistance ()
(3) Spouse's assistance () (4) Friends' assistance ()
(5) International trading partners () (6) Bank loan ()
(7) Government assistance () (8) Others (Specify).....
- 25 Do you own your business premises? (1) Yes () (2) No ()
- 26 If you do not own the premises, how much rent do you pay per year?
- 27 Do you belong to any trading association? (1) Yes () (2) No ()
- 28 If you belong to an association, what is the name of the association?
- 29 What benefit (s) do you derive from the association?
.....
.....
- 30 How does your association benefit from your trading?
.....
.....
- 31 In what commodity do you trade currently? (Multiple Responses Allowed)
(1) Textiles () (2) House hold utensils () (3) Automobile/Machinery spare part ()
(4) Electronic and household equipment () (5) Imported food commodities ()
(6) Computers and accessories () (7) GSM Phones and accessories ()
(8) Others (Specify).....
- 32 Indicate the countries from which your major customers come from. (Multiple Responses Allowed)
.....
- 33 Indicate the states in Nigeria from which your major customers come from. (Multiple Responses Allowed)
.....
- 34 If you purchase your goods from outside Nigeria, how often did you travel for business in the last one year?
(1) Once () (2) Twice ()
(3) Thrice () (4) Quarterly ()
(5) Others (Specify).....
- 35 On the average, how long does your trading trip last?
(1) Less than a week () (2) Less than 2 weeks () (3) 1 month () (4) Others (Specify).....
- 36 Which places or countries have you visited to carry out your trading activities in the past one year?
(Specify) (Multiple Responses Allowed).....
- 37 Why do you carry out business outside Lagos.....

Section C: First International Business Trading Trip

- 38 When did you make the first international trip outside Nigeria for trading activities?
Year Month
- 39 Where was your first international trading trip outside Lagos?
- 40 How long were you away from Nigeria during your first business trip? (Specify Number of Day(s)/Month(s)).....
- 41 What commodities did you buy on that first trip? (Multiple Responses Allowed)
(1) Textiles () (2) House hold utensils () (3) Automobile/Machinery spare part ()
(4) Electronic and household equipment () (5) Food ()
(6) Computers and accessories () (7) GSM Phones and accessories ()
(8) Others (Specify).....
- 42 How was the process of your first international trade trip arranged? (Multiple Responses Allowed) Through:
(1) Friends () (2) International trade partners ()
(3) Chamber of Commerce () (4) Import and export agents ()
(5) E-commerce () (6) Others (specify).....
- 43 Did you have any relation in the country of your last purchase? (1) Yes () (2) No ()
- 44 If Yes, how many were they?
- 45 What assistance did they offer your business?
.....
.....
- 46 If your original aim in your first trip was not to trade, why did you take to trading?
(1) As a supplementary source of income ()
(2) Failed dreams (unable to meet expectation) ()
(3) Increasing demand for the commodity ()
(4) Availability of commodity in the country of destination ()
(5) Others (Specify).....
.....
- 47 How did you travel?
(1) Air () (2) Sea ()
(3) Overland-through formal border crossing () (4) Overland-through informal border crossing () (5) Others (Specify)
- 48 If you travelled through informal border, give reasons.....
- 49 Did you carry an international passport for the journey? (1) Yes () (2) No ()
- 50 Did you obtain a visa for the journey? (1) Yes () (2) No ()
- 51 If you obtain a visa for the journey, what sort of visa did you have for the trip?
(1) Transit visa () (2) Tourist visa ()
(3) Student visa () (4) Residency visa ()
(5) Diplomatic visa () (6) Business visa ()
(7) Visitor visa () (8) Others (Specify).....
- 52 Did you pass through immigration check points? (1) Yes () (2) No ()
- 53 If yes, what was your experience?
- 54 In what currency did you conduct your first international trade transactions?
(1) Dollar () (2) Euro ()
(3) Pounds () (4) Cedi ()
(5) CFA () (6) Yen ()
(7) Yuan () (8) Naira (.....) (9) Others (Specify).....
- 55 What were the major challenges you encountered on your first trip? (Multiple Responses Allowed)
(1) Bank charges () (2) Fluctuating Exchange rate () (3) Multiple taxation ()

- (4) Language barrier () (5) Insecurity (.....) (6) Separation from the family
 (7) Others (Specify)

- 56 How did you bring in goods you imported? Through: (Multiple Responses Allowed)
 (1) Airport () Name Location.....
 (2) Seaport () Name Location.....
 (3) Land () Name Location.....

Section D: Latest International/Internal Business Trading Trip

- 57 When did you make the latest trip outside Lagos for trading activities?
 Year Month
- 58 Where was your latest international/internal trading trip outside Lagos?

- 59 How long were you away from Lagos during your latest business trip? (Specify Number of Day(s)/Month(s).....
- 60 What commodities did you buy on the latest trip? (Multiple Responses Allowed)
 (1) Textiles/Clothing () (2) Foot ware (3) House Hold Utensils () (3) Automobile/Machinery Spare Parts () (4) Electronic and Electricals () (5) Foods () (6) Computers and Accessories ()
 (7) GSM Phones and Accessories () (8) Others (Specify).....
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-

Section E: Changing Trading Pattern Outside Nigeria

- 73 Are you currently trading in the same commodity as when you started?
1. Yes () 2. No ()
- 74 If you are not trading in the same commodity, what type of goods did you change to?
(1) Textiles () (2) House hold utensils () (3) Automobile/Machinery spare part ()
(4) Electronic and household equipment () (5) Imported food commodities ()
(6) Computers and accessories () (7) GSM Phones and accessories ()
(8) Others (Specify).....
- 75 If you have changed to a new commodity, for how long have you traded in the new commodity?
(1) Less than 1 year () (2) 1-5 years ()
(3) 6-10 years () (4) 10 -15years ()
(5) 16-20 years () (6) Over 20 years ()
- 76 If you have changed your major commodity in the last one year, where was your former country of destination and where did you change to?
Former country.....
Country changed to.....
- 77 What situations necessitate such a change? (Multiple Responses Allowed)
(1) Changing Political Economy () (2) Instability in exchange rate ()
(3) Government Policy () (4) Fall in demand ()
(5) High cost of commodity () (6) Low profit margin ()
(7) Others (Specify).....
- 78 Have you had more than one business trip outside Nigeria to purchase your goods of trade?
(1) Yes (2) No
- 79 If you had more than one business trip outside Nigeria, have all your business trips been to just same destination?
(1) Yes (2) No
- 80 If you had more than one trip outside Lagos/Nigeria and not in the same destination, kindly list three (3) destinations to which you have been and the goods you purchased

Trip	Location	Commodity
1 st trip		
2 nd trip		
3 rd trip		

- 81 If your 2nd destination is different from the 1st, why did you make the change?
(1) Better availability of goods () (2) Cheaper price () (3) Cheaper transportation ()
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83 How do you obtain goods you purchase? (Multiple Responses Allowed)
 (1) Pulling resources together () (2) Friends who travel abroad ()
 (3) Business acquaintances () (4) International trading partners ()
 (5) Order by post, phone, internet () (6) Others (Specify).....

Section F: Socio-Political Environment and International Trading

84 How does the Nigerian Government benefit from your trading? (Multiple Responses Allowed)
 (1) Taxes () (2) Import duties and tariffs ()
 (3) Market dues () (4) Others (Specify).....

85 What benefits do you derive from the Government?

86 In what ways have you benefitted from international trading? (Multiple Responses Allowed)
 (1) Enlarged my world views () (2) Enlarged my business network ()
 (3) Increased income () (4) Learnt and imbibed new cultural traits ()
 (5) Made me desirous of expanding my business outside Nigeria ()
 (6) Others (Specify)

88 In your opinion, does international trade have any significant impact on country of destination?

89 In your opinion, does international trade have any significant impact on Nigeria?.....

90 In your opinion in what ways do you think government's economic policies have affected international trade?

91 As an international migrant trader, do you plan to continue buying goods for sale from outside Nigeria? (1) Yes () (2) No ()

92 If Yes or No, state your reasons.....

93 In your opinion, what are your suggestions to government to improve trading activities in Nigeria?.....

THANK YOU

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Main Questionnaire

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- 36 Which places or countries have you visited to carry out your trading activities in the past one year? (Specify) (Multiple Responses Allowed).....
- 37 Why do you carry out business outside Lagos.....

Section C: First Internal Business Trading Trip

- 38 When did you make the first trip outside Lagos for trading activities?
YearMonth.....
- 39 Where was your first internal trading trip outside Lagos?
- 41 How long were you away from Lagos during your first business trip? (Specify Number of Day(s)/Month(s).....
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Section D: Latest Internal Business Trading Trip

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Computers and Accessories () (7) GSM Phones and Accessories () (8) Others
(Specify).....

Section E: Changing Trading Pattern within Nigeria

- 47 Are you currently trading in the same commodity as when you started? (1) Yes ()
(2) No ()
- 48 If you are not trading in the same commodity, what type of goods did you change to?
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Place changed to.....
- 51 What situations necessitate such a change? (Multiple Responses Allowed)
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- 52 Have you had more than one business trip outside Lagos to purchase your goods of trade?
(2) Yes (2) No
- 53 If you had more than one business trip outside Lagos, were all your business trips to just the same destination? (1)Yes..... (2)No.....

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Section F: Socio-Political Environment and Trading

58 How does the Nigerian Government benefit from your trading? (Multiple Responses Allowed)
 (1) Taxes () (2) Import duties and tariffs ()
 (3) Market dues () (4) Others (Specify).....

59 What benefits do you derive from the Government?

60 What benefits do think you can derive from international trading if you are into it? (Multiple Responses Allowed)
 (1) Can enlarged my world view () (2) enlarged my business network ()
 (3) Increase my income () (4) Learn new culture ()
 (5) Make me desirous of expanding my business outside Nigeria ()
 (6) Others (Specify)

61 As an internal migrant trader, do you plan to buy goods for sale from outside Nigeria?
 (1) Yes () (2) No ().....

62 If you plan to buy goods for sale from outside Nigeria, state your reasons.....

63 In your opinion, what are your suggestions to government to improve trading activities in Nigeria?

THANK YOU