

# **REHABILITATION REALITIES: EXAMINING RECIDIVISM REDUCTION EFFORTS IN OGUN STATE PRISONS - PERSPECTIVES FROM NIGERIA**

**Segun Adewale Adekunle**

<sup>1</sup> Department of Public Administration, the Federal Polytechnic, Ilaro, Ogun State

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## **Abstract**

This study presents a comprehensive assessment of the availability and adequacy of rehabilitation programs in correctional facilities in Ogun State, Nigeria, with a focus on their impact on recidivism reduction. The research employed a descriptive survey research design, involving on-site observations, questionnaire administration, and interviews conducted in selected correctional facilities across Southwestern Nigeria. The objective was to determine the extent to which rehabilitation programs are accessible to inmates and whether they effectively contribute to their reintegration into society.

Findings indicate that while certain rehabilitation programs, including religious activities, counseling, recreation, and case work, are consistently available across sampled correctional facilities, there are notable disparities. Academic programs, such as adult literacy and SSCE remedial courses, were observed in some facilities, while vocational training, such as carpentry and tailoring, were widely available. However, the provision of after-care programs was limited, with only tools, financial, and technical support being offered in select facilities.

Notably, inmate commissary and case work were lacking, as some inmates reported no knowledge of legal aid. Insights from recidivist inmates suggest the need for enhanced support systems post-release. The study concludes that, while rehabilitation programs are present in Ogun State correctional facilities, a significant focus on after-care services is necessary to provide adequate support for inmates as they transition back into society. This research contributes valuable insights into the state of rehabilitation services in Nigerian correctional facilities and their potential role in reducing recidivism.

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**Keywords:** Rehabilitation, Correctional Facilities, Recidivism, Inmates, After-Care Services

## **INTRODUCTION**

Correctional facilities across the globe were established for safekeeping of those incarcerated by a court awaiting judgement or serving a term for the purpose of rehabilitation to live a better and law abiding life after incarceration. Johnson (2008) and Ndukwe & Nwuzor (2014) argued that Correctional strategies have yet to prove their effectiveness in reducing re-offending. The fact to this remain that most rehabilitation services providers are either ill-equipped or not at all to give wholesome service that can affect inmates' lives positively. Rehabilitation services are notable for their pivotal prison role in

changing lives of the inmates; unfortunately these are either not there or grossly inadequate (Cullen & Gendreau, 2000; Asokhia & Osumah, 2013).

However, the common complaints across penal institutions in African countries is that penal institutions are overpopulated as well as having dilapidated facilities, dismaying environment. This verified worrisome description encapsulate the failure and causes of failure in the administration of prison inmates (Jefferson, 2010). Given that many prisons across continents do indeed suffer from these problems, it is not surprising that there is very little discussion on what these prisons can do to help facilitate change in the prisoners with a view to helping them lead crime-free lives upon their release or after incarceration (Amanda, 2008).

The main objectives of confinement as provided by Part 2(4) in the 1972 Prison Act of Federal Republic of Nigeria tend to make effort towards identifying rationale behind reason for committing offences by law-breakers; to correct, reform and readapt for the purpose of re-integration into mainstream of the society. The expectation was that re-incarceration should reduce if the main goal of internment is achieved through adequate organisation and provision of necessary programmes that will rehabilitate the prison inmates. This will ensure that they become law abiding citizens in the community. They will also be involved in legal economic activities to earn daily needs after the period of incarceration. This against the testimony of those released from correctional facilities across Nigeria that there were no plan for rehabilitation and time spent in correctional facilities is nothing but waste of time and life, as well as time that can mar the future of the inmates due to lack of care and meaningful activities. These necessitate the need to empirically verify the availability and adequacy of rehabilitation programmes in correctional facilities across Southwestern Nigeria, since correctional facilities are exclusive function of the Federal Government of Nigeria.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

Awopetu (2014) asserts that, rehabilitation is a transactional and after-care services rendered to inmate to avoid subsequent re-arrest. To rehabilitate an inmate, he/she must be strengthened out deep within his/her own personality. He maintains that the rehabilitative activities of the modern prison which generally have been of two kinds: Psychological or Psychiatric treatment and Educational or Vocational programmes.

Rehabilitation programmes for prison inmate in Nigeria is coordinates by the Health and Social Welfare section under Inmate Training and Productivity (ITP), a Directorate of the Nigerian Prison Service. The section is amalgamation of various units that are charged with the physical, psychological and developmental wellbeing of the inmates. The Social Welfare unit of the Directorate ensures realization of the main objective of the Prison Service, that is, reformation and rehabilitation of inmates (NPS, 2017).

Obioha (2011) noted that the Nigerian prison system is more punitive and dehumanising than the supposed corrective assignment it should be focused on. The same conclusion was reached by Tanimu (2010) who opined that current facilities and programs of the prison are out dated, unsuitable, and irrelevant to the declared reformative and rehabilitation ideals. Esiri (2016) also concluded that penitentiary institutions are not doing enough on rehabilitation and reformation of inmates, as they

return to society to commit the same or more dangerous crime as to first offence. This she suggested can only be solved if administrators can do more on the issue of well-equipped facilities and trained staff, adequate funding and orientation about solving society neglect and stigmatism.

Ugwuoke and Ojonugwa (2014) uncovered that 43 (10.6%) out of 404 were recidivist while majority were first time offenders. This infers that ex-convicts really go back to wrongdoing. The investigation additionally uncovered that majority 372 (92.0%) were experiencing professional vocational programmes while only 32 (8.0%) were not. So also, majority of the respondents demonstrated that their contribution in Vocational Training Program would better their lives on release. A handful (12) representing 3.0% demonstrated that the explanation behind detainment was to guarantee that they languished over their wrong doing. 338 (84.8%) showed that open belittling could prompt recidivism, 66 (16.3%) opposed this idea. This finding repudiates the conclusion of Adoyi, Akpabio, Chigozirim and Ebo (2009) that: "recreational offices and ability obtaining focuses are inadequate in jails. This is an awful news for a place that should be rehabilitative and reformatory focus".

In an examination on the difficulties of convicts' recovery process in Nigeria utilizing GoronDutse and Central Prison in Kano State by Ali (2013), it was uncovered that while 65.2 percent of the respondents said they were never assigned any work since their detainment, 24.6 percent said they were once in a while appointed work to do. The kind of work relegated to this class of convicts incorporated running errands in the jail, cooking, general cleaning and such other difficult work. The investigation likewise uncovered that only 10.2 percent of the convicts were consistently allotted work in the jail. Their works incorporated education on out of jail obligations and jail workshops. The respondents revealed that undoubtedly, not very many of them are presented to exceptionally insufficient and frequently, non-working offices in the workshop. As far as instructive offices, the two detainment facilities were observed to be enormously incapacitated. Religious educators visited the jail to instruct and lecture their devotees. Religious lessons and instructive classes were sorted out for intrigued convicts to go to. Also, in the examination done by Esiri (2016) on the upsurge of recidivism and the prison institutions in Nigeria, she inferred that, prison establishments were intended to hold captured and sentenced wrongdoers for discipline and additionally for re-socialization and re-introduction and after discipline, to come back to society as changed people. The offenders, as a rule are not rearranged and come back to a similar wrongdoing or other criminal practices (in spite of the endeavours before, by different organizations). She opined that, it gives the idea that Nigeria still has a long way to go before its prisons move toward becoming spots where detainees are tended to, prepared/appropriately prepared and re-situated to return and fit into a free society.

The study was hinged on humanitarian theory of punishment as propounded by Lewis, C.S in 1954, removed from Punishment in the concept of Desert. According to this theory, punishment should be therapeutic. To punish a criminal because of offence and as much as the offence deserves, is mere revenge and therefore, barbarous and immoral. The humanitarian theory talks of the treatment of offender during imprisonment. This means that if an offender is put behind bars, he should not be released until it is believed that he has been cured. According to Ayatollah (1970), the idea of this theory is that, discipline ought to be restorative, that is, to rebuff a man since he merits it, and as much as he

merit it is negligible reprisal, and subsequently, primitive and improper. It is maintained that the main intention in rebuffing is to retouch the criminal and the need to stop others by case. The theory acknowledges the view that all wrongdoing is pretty much neurotic and criminals should be mended and cured. The pertinence of the theory to this examination is predicated on the way that any significant change of the jails welfare administrations will be founded on this rationality and suppositions that a jail is a recovery focus and not a prison. Detainees are not those sentenced to death rather, they should be viewed as subjects who require restorative measures, during their isolation from the bigger group.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The study adopted descriptive survey research design through on-site observation and administration of questionnaire to sampled respondents. The population of the study involved total number of inmates in Ogun, Osun, Oyo, Ekiti, Lagos and Ondo State as at 30th December, 2018 which was 5,116 inmates. Multi-stage sampling technique were adopted to select three states out of six states in Southwestern Nigeria, three correctional facilities in the three selected states of Ogun, Osun and Ondo state in Southwestern Nigeria. Simple random sample size of 5% was applied to the total population, which gives 256 sample size for questionnaire purpose to verify the adequacy of rehabilitation programmes in correctional facilities in Southwestern Nigeria. The researcher adopted on-site observation in Ibara Medium Security Correctional facility, Ogun State, Ilesha Maximum Security Correctional facility, Osun State and Olokuta Medium Security Correctional facility, Ondo State, to verify availability of rehabilitation programmes in correctional facilities in Southwestern Nigeria. Also, head of Welfare Unit and Counselling Unit in each sampled correctional facilities were interviewed as well as some inmates who have been in the correctional facilities for more than five years. Secondary source of data, through textbook, journal publications, government reports, internet material, among others were used to supplement the primary data. Data collected were analysed using descriptive statistics to show the level of availability as well as adequacy in rehabilitation programme for inmates in correctional facilities across Southwestern Nigeria.

## **DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSIONS**

**On-Site Observation of the Availability of Rehabilitation Programmes in Selected Correctional Facilities in Southwestern Nigeria**

Table 1 shows the result of physical observation of the availability of rehabilitation programmes in the sampled prison facilities, based on on-site availability of facilities and evidence by the correctional official (Head, Social Welfare Unit). The report shows that, despite prison administration being exclusive function of the federal government with expected homogeneous activities, there are some disparity in the rehabilitation programmes available in the sampled correctional facilities within Southwestern Nigeria. The result shows that Chaplain (religious) activities/ programmes, counselling/ cognitive therapy programmes, recreation activities/programmes and case work are available in all the sampled correctional facilities. However, the report is not the same for Inmate commissary, which is available in Olokuta Medium Security correctional facility and Ibarra Medium Security correctional facility, but not available at Ilesha Maximum Security correctional facility. On the Academic programmes, adult literacy programmes that were intended toward enhancing ability to read and write

for those that lack the skill before imprisonment, was observed to be available in all the sampled correctional facilities within Southwestern Nigeria, remedial programmes for make up on SSCE examination was observed to be available only in Ibarra Medium Security correctional facility and National Open University Programme for Bachelors' Degree is available in Ibarra Medium Security correctional facility in Abeokuta, Ogun State in Southwestern Nigeria.

On-site observation of vocational programmes such as carpentry, shoe and bag making, tailoring, soap making, barbing and hairdressing e.t.c. in selected correctional facilities within Southwestern Nigeria, shows that there are similar and congruency in vocational programmes being implemented in the Nigerian Correctional Services, except tie and dying observed in Ibarra Medium Security correctional facility, Ogun State, which is not available in other correctional facilities sampled. Also, most after care programmes were not available in sampled correctional facilities, as only tools and space support, and finance and technical support is available in Ogun State, and Ogun State and Ondo State respectively. A cross section of interviewee opined that after-care programme is not easy to provide for inmates, even if the prison administrators provide for that, as most inmate never bothered to contact them (prison officials) after their release from prison. Also, those that are provided are done through Non-Governmental Organisations that are supporting our programmes for rehabilitation, either by provision of tools or financial assistance to inmates when graduating from the chosen programme. However, content analysis of information gathered from recidivised inmates revealed that case work and inmate commissary are not available, as those inmates denied knowledge of any legal aid.

**Table 1: On-Site Observation Report on Availability of Rehabilitation Programmes within Sampled Correctional Facilities in Southwestern Nigeria**

Rehabilitation Programmes		Olokuta Medium Security Prison (Ondo State)	Ibarra Medium Security Prison (Ogun State)	Ilesha Maximum Security Prison (Osun State)
Chaplain (Religious) Programmes		✓	✓	✓
Counselling / Cognitive Therapy Programmes		✓	✓	✓
Recreational Activities such as Football, TableTennis, Ludo game, Volleyball, e.t.c		✓	✓	✓
Case work		✓	✓	✓
Inmate Commissary		✓	✓	
Academic Programmes	Adult Literacy	✓	✓	✓
	Remedial Classes (WAEC & NECO Examination)		✓	
	Degree Classes (NOUN Degree)		✓	
	Carpentry	✓	✓	✓
	Soap Making	✓	✓	✓
	Shoe and Bag Making	✓	✓	✓
	Tailoring	✓	✓	✓



Vocational Programmes	Painting	✓	✓	✓
	Building and Stone Work	✓	✓	✓
	Tie and Dying		✓	
	Barbing and Hairdressing	✓	✓	✓
	Beads Making and Make Up	✓	✓	✓
	Farming	✓	✓	✓
After-Care Programmes	Tools and Space		✓	
	Finance and Technical Support		✓	✓
	Post Discharge Supervision			
	Business Patronage			

*Source: Field Survey, 2019*

*Note: Marked (✓) Means Availability of the Corresponding Programmes in the Facility*  
**Examination of Adequacy of Rehabilitation Programmes for Prison Inmates in Southwestern Nigeria**

This section presented the quantitative and qualitative data analysis as well as interpretation of the view of respondents on the adequacy of rehabilitation programmes for prison inmates in Southwestern Nigeria. Table 4.2 below shows the quantitative analysis on frequency distribution and percentage of sampled respondents on each of the variables stated to test the adequacy of rehabilitation programmes for prison inmates in Southwestern Nigeria. Its responses were organised in 5 Likert rating scale of measurement, that is, Strongly Agree (4), Agree (3), Undecided (0), Disagree (2) and Strongly Disagree (1). In summary, the responses were categorized into agreement (%) and disagreement (%) in order to make inferences pertaining to each of the items raised in this section of research instrument. In addition, qualitative data obtained from interviews was use to complement the quantitative data obtained so as to ensure detailed discussion on the adequacy of rehabilitation programmes for prison inmates in Southwestern Nigeria.

As shown in table 4.2 below, vocational programme is the first variable to examine the adequacy of rehabilitation programmes for prison inmate. The sampled respondents were asked to react to the adequacy of vocational programmes for inmate rehabilitation. Their reaction to this first variable shows that 71.3% of the total sampled respondents agreed that there is adequate vocational programme and its facilities in the prison, 21.5% of the total sampled respondents disagreed, and 7.2% of the total sampled respondents are indifferent to the variable. This shows that percentage of agreement is greater than that of disagreement on this variable.

In term the second variable, counselling/cognitive behavioural therapy, to examine the adequacy of rehabilitation programme for prison inmates in Southwestern Nigeria. The sampled respondents were asked to react to adequacy of counselling/cognitive behavioural therapy for inmate rehabilitation. In their response, 56.0% of the total sampled respondents agreed that counselling/cognitive behavioural therapy is enough for inmate rehabilitation, 23.7% of the total sampled respondents disagreed and 20.3% of the total sampled respondents are indifferent to this variable. This shows that the percentage level of agreement is higher than percentage level of disagreement on this variable.

The third variable is on healthcare programme for inmate rehabilitation in Southwestern Nigeria. The sampled respondents were asked to react to the adequacy of healthcare programme for inmate rehabilitation in Southwestern Nigeria. Based on the result, 68.9% of the total sampled respondents agreed that healthcare programmes available in the prison is enough for inmates rehabilitation, 25.7% disagreed with the statement and 5.4% are undecided to the statement. This result shows that there is greater percentage of agreement than that of disagreement.

The fourth variable is on the educational programmes for inmate rehabilitation in Southwestern Nigeria. The sampled respondents were asked to react to the adequacy of healthcare programme for inmate rehabilitation in Southwestern Nigeria. The result shows that 83.8% of the total sampled respondents agreed that there is enough educational programme for inmate rehabilitation, 9.5% of the total sampled respondents disagreed with the statement and 6.7% of the total sampled respondents are indifferent with this variable. The result shows that there is greater percentage of agreement than percentage of disagreement on this variable.

The fifth variable is on religious activities and programmes for prison inmate rehabilitation in Southwestern Nigeria. The respondents were asked to react to adequacy of religious activities and programmes for prison inmate rehabilitation in Southwestern Nigeria. The result show that 88.0% of the total sampled respondents agreed that there is enough religious activities and programmes for inmate rehabilitation, 9.1% of the total sampled respondents disagreed and 2.9% of the total sampled respondents are indifferent on the variable. This result shows that percentage of agreement is greater than percentage of disagreement on this variable.

The sixth variable is on information and communication technology programme for prison inmate rehabilitation in Southwestern Nigeria. The respondents were asked to agree or disagree to adequacy of information and communication technology programme for prison inmate rehabilitation in Southwestern Nigeria. The analysis of responses show that 45.6% of the total sampled respondents agreed that there is enough information and communication technology programmes for inmate rehabilitation in Southwestern Nigeria, 51.5% of the total sampled respondents disagreed to adequacy of ICT programmes and 2.9% of the total sampled respondents are indifferent on the variable. The result shows that the percentage of disagreement is greater than that of agreement on this variable.

The seventh variable is to test adult literacy programmes for prison inmate rehabilitation in Southwestern Nigeria. The respondents were asked to react to adequacy of adult literacy programme for prison inmate rehabilitation in Southwestern Nigeria. The result shows that 41.9% of the total respondents agreed that there is enough adult literacy programmes for inmate rehabilitation, 53.5% of the total sampled respondents disagreed with the statement and 4.6% of the total sampled respondents are indifferent on the variable. The result shows that the percentage of disagreement is greater than that of agreement on this variable.

The last variable is on recreational programmes for prison inmate rehabilitation in Southwestern Nigeria. The respondents were asked to react to the adequacy of recreational programme for prison inmate rehabilitation in Southwestern Nigeria. The result show that 90.9% of the total sampled respondents agreed that there is adequate recreational programme for prison inmates rehabilitation in

Southwestern Nigeria, 3.7% of the total sampled respondents disagreed with the statement and 5.4% of the total sampled respondents are indifferent on the statement. This result shows that percentage of agreement is greater than percentage of disagreement on this variable.

**Table 2: Examination of the Adequacy of Rehabilitation Programmes for Prison Inmates in Southwestern Nigeria**

S/N	Variables	Agreement (A)					Disagreement (D)					Survey Result
		SA		AG		Σ(%)	DA		SD		Σ(%)	
		F	%	F	%		F	%	F	%		
1	Vocational Skill Acquisition Programmes/training is enough for inmate rehabilitation	91	34.8	88	36.5	71.3	43	17.8	9	3.7	21.5	A> D
2	Counselling/CognitiveBehavioural Therapy is enough to rehabilitation inmates	34	14.1	101	41.9	56.0	53	22.0	4	1.7	23.7	A> D
3	Healthcare Programmes for inmates is enough during rehabilitation	92	38.2	74	30.7	68.9	46	19.1	16	6.6	25.7	A > D
4	There is enough Educational facilities/programmes for inmate rehabilitation	105	43.6	97	40.2	83.8	23	9.5	-	-	9.5	A > D
5	Religious activities and programmes is enough to change inmate for better	108	44.8	104	43.2	88.0	19	7.9	3	1.2	9.1	A>D
6	Information and Communication Technology (ICT) facilities and programmes is enough for rehabilitation	21	8.7	89	36.9	45.6	85	35.3	39	16.2	51.5	A<D
7	There is enough adult literacy programmes for the inmates rehabilitation.	18	7.5	83	34.4	41.9	108	44.8	21	8.7	53.5	A <D
8	Recreational facilities/programmes is sufficient for all inmates rehabilitation	88	36.5	131	54.4	90.9	6	2.5	3	1.2	3.7	A >D

Source: Fieldwork, 2019

A cross section of interviewee opined that most of the equipment for vocational programmes is supported by Non-Governmental Organisations, religious bodies, philanthropist and private individuals, as government alone may not be able to provide adequate materials and equipment for their training. Head, Social Welfare Unit in Ibarra Medium Security Prison, Abeokuta revealed that mostly, vocational programmes are undertaking by Non-Governmental Organisation in the prison, who provide adequate material including trainers, and provided some list of prospective graduate on various vocational programme for the next graduating ceremony based on each NGOs' sponsored as evidence.



Through content analysis of interview report, it was discovered that interviewee emphasised on the provision of adequate counselling programme for the inmates that has capability to change offenders to law abiders. Also, it was revealed that government provide adequate healthcare for prison inmates, as there is primary health facilities within the prison, with a Doctor posted to the correctional facilities from the Ministry of Health, while critical health issues will be referred to government hospital based on the advice and written referral of the Doctor in charge. This means that prison inmate impossibly lack healthcare that is necessary for them to stay healthy and achieve the purpose of imprisonment, which is rehabilitation.

On the religious activities for inmate as a rehabilitation effort to teach them the way of God. The interview held revealed that religious service and preaches is a regular activity by various religious groups such as Redeemed Christian Church of God, Pentecostal Gospel Fellowship, Mountain of Fire Miracle Ministry etc, to teach Christian inmates the way of God. Islamic religious activities are also regular and adequate to teach Muslim inmate the way of God and be observing their prayers within the confinement area. The day of interview in Ibarra Medium Prison Abeokuta even falls on Friday, in which the researcher witness Jumat prayers of inmate within the confinement area. However, there is a contrast report of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) programme in correctional facilities. Prison Official complained about the problem of ICT programme on inadequate equipments for training such as computer and its accessories, cum poor power supply. Interview with Head, Social Welfare in Ilesha Maximum Security correctional facility, Osun State revealed absent of Information and Communication Technology Programme due to lack of equipment for the programme. Similar situation of inadequate equipment for ICT programme was revealed in Olokuta Medium Security correctional facility, Ondo State. But, in Ibarra Medium Security correctional facility, Abeokuta Ogun State, it was revealed that there is enough computer facilities supplied by National Open University and some Non-Governmental Organisation, to support inmates Degree programme which are usually computer based examination for some courses. The only issue is power supply which is not always available, but effort of supporting organisations is assisting.

It was revealed through interview session with prison officials that adult literacy is adequately provided in the confinement area, specially use for those that cannot read and write in their own language and in English language. It is supported by the NGOs and religious bodies, so that inmate will be able to read and write, for example, to read bible for Christians or translated quran for Muslims. And, recreational programmes are adequately provided since there are facilities for such. There is football space, table tennis, ludo game, 'ayo olopon', card game etc. Sometimes, organised bodies such as schools, youth corpers etc are invited to have a match with inmate.

## **Discussion**

This section provided supplementary discussion on both quantitative and qualitative analyses. It further synchronized the findings with related literatures on the research study. However, it attested to the divergence views between the findings of this study and existing studies. As note on the onsite observation report, Chaplain (religious) activities/programmes, counselling/cognitive therapy programmes, recreation activities/programmes and case work are available in all the sampled prison

facilities. However, the report is not the same for Inmate commissary, which is available in Olokuta Medium Security correctional facility and Ibarra Medium Security correctional facility, but not available at Ilesha Maximum Security correctional facility. Interview report with Prison Officials support the above that those programmes are regular activities carried out in prisons on daily basis, with the support of NGOs and religious body such as Pentecostal Fellowship, Redeemed Christian Church of God, Winners Chapel, NASFAT Islamic Group, Ahmadiyyah Muslim Jamat e.t.c. Heads, Social Welfare Unit stated that, Chaplain programme is usually coordinated by religious group in conjunction with Social Welfare Unit, which regulated which religious body will be on duty each day. Whereas, Oroleye (2012) reported, based on his 2011 survey on assessment of administration of inmates' welfare in prison service in Southwestern Nigeria, that 69.5% disagreed on the existence of regular counselling in the selected prison and 69% of the sampled respondents disagreed on the availability of library facility in selected correctional facilities. The improvement is likely the impact of 2012 re-organisation of Inmate Training and Productivity Directorate of Nigeria Correctional Services (NCS).

On the Academic programmes, adult literacy programmes that were intended toward enhancing ability to read and write for those that lack the skill before imprisonment, was observed to be available in all the sampled prison facilities within Southwestern Nigeria, remedial programmes for make up on SSCE examination was observed to be available only in Ibarra Medium Security correctional facility and National Open University Programme for Bachelors' Degree is available in Ibarra Medium Security correctional facility in Abeokuta, Ogun State in Southwestern Nigeria. This was not supported by Oroleye (2012) which reported that 82% of the total respondents disagreed on the existence of any formal school in the prison. Whereas, evidence from interview with prison official shows supplies of textbooks and other material being used for NOUN programme from the University management to prepare the student ahead of examinations in the custody of the Social Welfare Unit in Ibarra Medium Security Correctional facility, Ogun State.

On-site observation of vocational programmes such as carpentry, shoe and bag making, tailoring, soap making, barbing and hairdressing e.t.c. in selected correctional facilities within Southwestern Nigeria, shows that there are similar and congruency in vocational programmes being implemented in the Nigerian Prison Services, except tie and dying observed in Ibarra Medium Security correctional facility, Ogun State, which is not available in other correctional facilities sampled. The observation was substantiated by interview with Head, Social Welfare Units in selected facilities, in which they stated and shows evidence of those listed among inmates for the next graduation ceremony on various vocational programmes and the workshop for those trainings. This evidence negates the report of Oroleye (2012) that 68.7% of the respondents disagreed on availability of skill and vocational training in the selected prison. However, in a research carried out in United State of America, it was revealed that inmates in most states today have the opportunity to participate in vocational programmes in prison and more than half of them participate in college programmes (Jonathan, 2011; Sheldon, 2017 & Gideon and Sung, 2011).

On the adequacy of rehabilitation programmes for prison inmates in Southwestern Nigeria. It was reported that 71.3% of the total sampled respondents agreed that there is adequate vocational programme and its facilities in the selected prison, 56.0% of the total sampled respondents agreed that counselling/cognitive behavioural therapy is enough for inmate rehabilitation, 68.9% of the total sampled respondents agreed that healthcare programmes available in the prison is enough for inmates rehabilitation and 83.8% of the total sampled respondents agreed that there is enough educational programme for inmate rehabilitation. This was supported by Stanley (2012) that there is a suite of rehabilitation programmes provided for prisoners in Singapore, to facilitate purposeful engagement during incarceration. Content analysis of interview revealed that most rehabilitation programmes are adequately provided in selected prison facilities with the support of private initiatives by the Inmate Training and Productivity, a Directorate in Nigeria Correctional Service.

### **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Rehabilitation is the main purpose of correctional services across the globe. Nigeria Correctional Services through its Act identify this as its main objective, but the practices or what is being obtained in those facilities always create argument. Based on the findings, the study had been able to provide empirical evidences that various rehabilitation programmes are available and adequately provided in Nigeria Correctional facilities. These programmes include, but not limited to football and other recreational activities, counselling programmes, religious activities, adult literacy, degree programmes, and vocational programmes, among others. This findings contradict the conclusion of Asokhia & Osumah (2013) that, the most preferred and mostly provided rehabilitation services football activities. This study has been able to establish fact that NonGovernmental Organisations, National Open University, Religious Bodies, among others is partnering with Nigeria Correctional Services to ensure availability and adequacy of rehabilitation programmes in Nigeria. The following recommendations were made;

1. There should be a National Policy on Inmate Rehabilitation that will ensure uniform rehabilitation programmes since prison service is exclusive function of the Federal government. This will eliminate marginal differences noticed in rehabilitation programmes provided in Correctional Facilities in Nigeria.
2. Government should improve funding for Correctional Services instead of focusing on combating crime without effective rehabilitation, which has continuously increasing recidivist across the Correctional Facilities.
3. All stakeholders, including individuals in the society need to support rehabilitation programmes for a peaceful and secured society.
4. There is need for reform in Nigeria Correctional Services to be in line with United Nations Minimum Standard for Correctional Facilities and Services released in 2015 at Pretoria, South Africa.
5. There is need for after care service for those inmate being discharged from incarceration to prevent re-offending or recidivism.

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