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Trans - Border Communities Planning And The Problems Of Arms Smuggling In The West African Sub-Region: The Case Study Of Nigeria - Benin Border Development

Abstract

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Key words: Border planning, arms smuggling and cross-border trade

Trans-border crimes and arms smuggling in the West African sub-region has in recent times been identified as a fundamental problem that requires concerted efforts by individuals, groups, organizations and governments to solve. Thus, we have national governments, regional organizations, the United Nations Organization and other non-governmental organizations making active efforts to stem smuggling of arms. This trend of event is quite understandable. The last decade had witnessed tremendous increase in the proliferation of arms across the West African sub-region. The arms were believed to be used to actualize certain socio-political objectives which in many cases become violent. The violence involved necessitated the smuggling of arms to actualize those objectives. While smuggling of arms had led to the availability of arms being possessed illegally, it has facilitated outright destruction of peace and security in Africa especially the West African sub-region. The availability of these small arms had made it easy for some countries to go to full scale war and in countries where there is no war; it is a common place that life is lived as if it is always in a state of war. Every person whether while staying in his home or moving about does so with the feeling that the next person to him is armed with a small weapon and about to kill him. Suddenly, the international community in the last two decades came to the realization of the havoc the smuggling/proliferation of small arms had done to mankind. It has suddenly been discovered that the biggest agent of destruction of human life is small weapon which are very cheap and easy to acquire and moved about. Human destruction is facilitated by small arms through violent ethnic/political/religious conflicts, kidnapping, armed robbery, assassination and cultism in the tertiary institutions. Consequently, an international Campaign was initiated through the United Nations Organization (UNO) by concerned countries to end the smuggling in arms. This research study attempts to examine the perception of trans-border communities to arms smuggling with specific focus on Nigeria-Benin Republic border, and how they can assist in tackling smuggling in arms across the borders.

Introduction

Border region planning has not really been an interesting area of research to planners especially as it relates to other activities that take place between the border communities (Aluko, 2011). To date, little scholarly attention has been paid to smuggling of arms in the West African sub-region especially in comparison to research on the trade on major weapons system (such as artillery tanks, war ships and air craft fighters). Historically, small arms have been assumed to follow the same pattern of trade as heavy weapons, but this assumption has proved to be increasingly erroneous in the post cold war era as smuggling in small arms has surged despite efforts at depressing markets for major weapons system.

The conflict ridden West African sub-region is a sad showcase of human rights and humanitarian costs of uncontrolled smuggling of arms. Large quantities of small arms have flowed to the region despite the rampant misuse of such weapons by states and non-state actors alike. The wide spread availability of small arms to abusive actors in West Africa as elsewhere greatly contribute to further atrocities and makes peace harder to achieve. Of greater concern is how these weapons make their way to such forces through both international transfer and recycling of weapons within the sub-region, secondly, how those weapons are misused and contribute to conflict and thirdly the impact of small arms on pervasive use of militia forces and foreign fighters in the sub-regions conflict areas. Each of these areas of concern shows that an essential key element in the resolution of conflicts and reduction of human rights abuses and

achievement of peace and security is that attention must be paid to smuggling in arms across the borders and the general ways of life of the border communities' dwellers.

The Nigerian Customs and other security agents are having running battles with smugglers while making efforts to curtail the menace. According to Lisa Misol (2004), a Human Rights Watch researcher, small arms are not supposed to be flowing into West Africa. For instance, Liberia and non-state actors in Sierra Leone were subjected to mandatory United Nations arms embargoes for years. More broadly, the member countries of the Economic Communities of West African States (ECOWAS) in 1998 pledged not to import, export or manufacture these weapons. But both measures have been routinely flouted, with disastrous consequences for human rights and regional security.

The growing trend in the availability of small arms apart from its enormous implications for international security in the current post cold war era, is contributing to the intensity and duration of the internal conflicts that have erupted and had raged on in the countries of West African sub-region. Although these conflicts have deep roots, the availability of small arms made possible by active smuggling has enabled the parties involved – including both states and non-state actors to sustain intense combat despite sanctions imposed by the United Nations and other international organizations and other efforts made towards conflict control. The carnage resulting from such has overwhelmed the world's humanitarian aids resources, produced millions of refugees and internally displaced persons and had overstretched the peacemaking capabilities of the International Organizations such as the ECOMOG, African Union and the United Nations Organizations.

Research Problem

Trans-border communities being routes of passage for smuggled goods, including small arms, occupy strategic positions in respect of the security of the country. This is due to the fact that, while it serves as the points of arrival for the goods coming into the country, it attracts people from different places, backgrounds and situations who have come with different intentions that could be of security risk to the country. Little or no attention had been paid to the roles that trans-border communities could play in addressing the menace of arms smuggling and border development. It is against the forgoing that this research seeks to examine the position of trans-border communities to arms smuggling. That is, what are the

challenges faced by trans-order communities as a result of arms smuggling?

It is expected that the border communities play vital roles in the economic relationship between Nigeria and Republic of Benin as it serves as markets for exchange of goods and services and as places of relaxation to traders and travelers (smugglers inclusive) one cannot rule out the possibility of criminal activities as many such criminally minded people would take advantage of the available opportunities to actualize their tendencies. The focus on small arms in West African sub-region had from the past been on supply and transfer aspects while the potential for the reduction in the demand, smuggling and the severity of its effects had not been explored.

Conceptual Literature

In this paper, some conceptual issues were identified and discussed with the hope that they will offer better understanding of the research problem. Such conceptual issues include small arms, smuggling, borders, borderlands and border community.

According to the United Nations panel of Governments Experts on small arms in 1997, "Small arms range from clubs, knives, and machetes to those weapons just below those covered by United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, for example, Mortars below the caliber of 100mm". On the other hand, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) enlarged the original Second World War definition of small arms by describing it as 'all crew portable direct fire weapons of a caliber less than 500mm and which will include a secondary capability to defeat light armour and helicopters', such broad classification would include weapons such as automatic assault rifles like the AK – series Kalashnikovs, the USM – 16, the Isrealis Uzi e t c; rocket propelled grenades (RPG's) machine and sub – machine guns, shoulder – fire surface – air – missiles (SAMS), personal weapons such as pistols and revolvers etc. Many other weapons which are man-portable like the land mines are also taken into consideration. Also, the United Nations Centre for Disarmament Affairs view small arms as essentially any means of lethality other than the sheer use of physical force. In this sense, small arms need not be manufactured and may not even be seen as weapons until so used, example of such includes stones, combat sticks machetes, knives, etc.

Smuggling on the other hand involves the movement of illegal goods across the border. The Nigeria – Benin border, especially at the Ogun State axis, had remained a notorious zone of unabated trans-border crime such as smuggling and armed banditry. This

anti – state activities are facilitated, though not necessarily caused, by the fact of identified ethno – cultural landscape prevailing on both sides of the border. The border at Ilara (and its environs) is of considerable overlapping ethno-cultural and socio-economic activities owing to the mutilation or partitioning of “a people”. Partitioning here is defined as the political, administrative and legal division into two or more politically bounded territories of people who, before that division, showed strong evidence of organization as a sovereign state or integrated whole. Hence, ethno-culturally coherent territories with people of definite ethno-cultural identities are splitted into two or more units, each fractions being placed in the area of jurisdiction of a distinct state which functions to integrate such a part of a pre-existing ethno-cultural whole. A host of scholars advance the argument that “ethnic groups, even when not nations are strong potentials and candidates for nation hood by virtue of the basic properties which they share with nationalities”. Thus, the bond that exists amongst persons of the same ethnic group, regardless of the presence of a borderline, is only to be expected. Smuggling is on a considerable scale in the area. Commodities that are commonly smuggled include: farm produce, clothing materials, beverages, fruits (e.g. apple), frozen meat (e. g turkey and chicken), second-hand vehicles (popularly called Tokuboh), petroleum products, second-hand spare parts, motorcycle, bicycle, plastic products and general goods. Similarly, heavy illicit trafficking in currencies is a daily occurrence: and this is largely responsible for the falling value of the Naira vis-à-vis the French CFA-the amount of the Naira notes that is exchange for CFA, at Kanga and Ilikimoun, every single day runs in to Millions. Also, cases of smuggling of hard drugs as well as arms and ammunition are of considerable level of occurrence.

Border is an international line or a region encompassing both sides of a political boundary. Borders are artificially constructed, geographic or astronomic lines that form the boundary of a nation. Within this delimited boundary, a nation exercises power and jurisdiction and carries out its activities. In accordance with the sovereignty of the state, the central government can curtail, restrict or totally ban the unauthorized movement of goods and people across such lines. (Afolayan, 2000).

Borderlands around the world share a variety of similarities including portioning of ethno-cultural groups; informer trans-border relationships; interactions and activities; formulated laws and regulations and presence of security agencies to

enforce same and control movement across; and political and scholastic neglects. Asiwaju (1984) noted that just as the boundaries set the limits of the areas of jurisdiction of particular States, the exercise of authority by the States effectively restrict most human activities, including scholarly interests and intellectual pursuits, within the boundaries, are generally terminated near or at the borders. Also, infrastructural facilities usually peter out as one approaches the boundaries. In other words, according to Afolayan and Egunjobi (2006), borderlands are those sub-national geographic units whose economic and social life is directly and appreciably affected by being located close to an international boundary.

The term border community is characterized by sustained two-way contacts and links between the country of origin and the neighbouring country. This is primarily due to the proximity of the border communities to the borders. In taking this initial step in the definition of border communities according to John A. Mears, (2003), the recognizably uniform cultural characteristics of a given group of people in a given geographical area is of importance. However, the distinctive patterns of human interactions and the correlation that are found in human interrelations and the geographical place brings to the fore a clear understanding of border - communities. Put in other words, border communities include the geographical regions around the border, the people, their interaction among themselves, their interrelations with the environment and their general ways of life.

Smuggling of arms across Nigeria/Republic of Benin border has led to increase in incidents of armed robberies, rising waves of ethnic militias and their attendant violent conflicts. According to Eliagwu (2003), by July 2002, there have been no less than fifty violent conflicts in Nigeria leaving thousands dead, injured and homeless. With the increase in cross-border banditry and smuggling of arms there were grave consequences for both national and regional security as was evidenced with the attack of the daughter of Nigeria former president, Olusegun Obasanjo. During the attack, two kids Akinolu and Adeife Akindeko and a police orderly were killed. (Guardian on Sunday September 28, 2003). According to the Guardian, this incident was traced to Hamani Tijani, a 41 year old Niger Republic national whom security reports have identified along with members of his gang as being responsible for the snatching of over two thousands exotic cars and the killing of over one thousand people between 2000 and 2003. Also, in early 2003, there was a report on Republic of Benin television where cargos of sophisticated weapons intercepted by men of

Republic of Benin customs service were displayed. The cargos were allegedly moved into the country by Hamani Tijani.

Smuggling of arms has largely continued to aid the formation of ethnic armies and kidnapping especially in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria and has remained a source of worry to security experts who believed that their supply is through illegal means. In buttressing the danger posed by small arms smuggling, a former director in Nigeria foreign affairs ministry –Olusegun Akindeko during the 58th session of the United Nations Conference on Disarmament and International security in New York, said that the proliferation of arms constituted an impediment to development (Guardian, October 9 2003 pg 8). According to him, “these arms continue to have devastating effect on the African continent considering their capacity to fuel and prolong conflicts”. The rise in the formation of ethnic militia and ethnic related violence lend credence to the puzzle that security experts have not been able to unravel since between November 1999 and October 2011, there were at least one hundred and fifty ethnic and religious violence in Nigeria (Aluko, 2011; Eliagwu, 2003).

Research Methodology

The data used in this study was obtained mainly from primary source through the use of questionnaires, interviews and focused group discussion (FGD) and the study area were nine communities along Nigeria/Benin border. The communities include Ketu, Kanga, Ilara, Ilikimoun, Alagbe, Idofa, Oke Agbe and Ijoun. Out of the 500 questionnaires administered, 470 were completed and returned and all the data collected were free from any influences.

The sample size of 500 was spread over the selected communities in the area. The sampling technique used was the Simple Random Sampling. The reason for using this method is because of its importance of giving each element in the region an equal opportunity of being selected for the sample. The random selection was conducted in such a way that it was representative enough at least having respondents from the selected communities at the border. The questionnaire contained closed questions. Closed ended questions gave the respondents the opportunity to choose from alternatives and it also gave room for easy analysis of data. The questions were divided into seven sections. The Interview involved the administration of guided questions which was administered over a period of 3 days. The interview bothered on socio-economic status, their views about smuggling and other trans-border crimes.

Focused Group Discussions were held at Ketu, Ilara and Alagbe. The FGD examined the histories and cultural relationships of the border communities, the traditional characteristics and their existing’ inter-relationships. Those that provided information for the study included the communities’ leaders, the women groups, the youths and opinion leaders as well as security agencies at the border and these included the police, the customs and the immigration officials.

The method of data analysis used basically were: simple percentage and the frequency table for the test of hypothesis, the PPMC was used to test for the existing relationship between the variables in each of the hypothesis while the chi-square (χ^2) technique was used to test for the level of significance of the relationship existing between every two variables in the hypothesis.

Results: Analysis and Discussion

The questionnaires were administered to respondents from ages 20 years and above. Respondents between the age of 30 years and 39 years accounted for 40% of the respondents. Others are within age range 20-29, 40-49, 50 and above with about 25%, 26% and 7% respectively. That is ages 20 to 39 accounted for 65%. This implies that majority of the respondents are within the active age range. It is found that most of the respondents are male which account for about 60% of the total respondents while the female accounted for only 40%.

It is found also that most of the respondents are Christians making up or about 52% of the total respondents. The Islamic religion accounted for 40% while traditional religion worshipers accounted for 8%. It was discovered that most of the respondents are responsible people in that 57% them are married, 30% of them are widowed. Most of the respondents were educated to the secondary level as they account for about 47% of the total respondents. About 29% of had primary education, while 11% were educated to the tertiary level, 13% of the respondent do not have formal education. This is a clear reflection of the fact that the level of literacy among the respondent is put at average and at least a very good number of them can read and write.

Majority of the respondents are employed in a way as about 70% of them are self employed, about 10% of them are in the civil service while about 20% of them were unemployed. It is interesting to state that most of those who stated that they are self employed are actually into smuggling related business. They are either outright smugglers or trader of smuggled goods. The presence of civil service is hardly felt in the communities. This is a clear reflection of the

government neglect of the region for a very long time and had in a way influenced smuggling especially smuggling in arms.

Most of the respondents had stayed for 2 years and above in the communities. 27.2% of them had stayed for between 2-5 years, 44% of them had stayed for between 6 and 10 years while about 28% had stayed for above 10 years only 0.19% of them had stayed for less than 1 year. This indicates that most of the respondents are used to the environment and would really understand what obtains there. It can rightly be stated that smuggling actually goes on in the communities going by the position of most of the respondents. About 97% of them stated that smuggling actually goes on in the communities and as many as 97% of them stated that it occurs very often. The goods that are smuggled mostly is motor vehicle which account for 61%, textile materials accounted for 14%, arms (guns) and ammunition accounts for 12.3% while drugs and crude oil accounts for 10%. In the course of discussion (FGD), that vehicles accounted for the highest of the goods that are usually smuggled indicates that arms smuggling could be in the same proportion as in many cases, small arms are concealed in fairly used vehicles that are being smuggled across the border into the country.

There are illegal motorable routes in the communities going by the position of most of the respondents. This is established as one of the factors that aid smuggling in which case security is beaten by making use of such routes that are not policed by security agents. These are routes directly linking the communities on both sides of the borders. Despite that the prevalence of arms smuggling is very high, armed robbery only occur occasionally, electoral violence, assassination and inter-communal clashes occur seldomly. It can thus be established that though smuggling especially in arms go on in these communities, it does not provoke violence which means that the border communities are relatively peaceful.

It is established that people come from afar to settle in the communities and they including the women and the youths don't usually get employed. As trading remains the major occupation in the communities, there are no adequate infrastructural facilities and this account for the poor socio-economic status of the communities. It can be deduced that many of the respondents might be in the communities on temporary basis for the purpose of trading and would not want to settle there because of lack of infrastructural facilities. This is done

deliberately to make the border communities less attractive for sojourners for the purpose of security at the borders.

Significantly, no effort had been made either by the government, Non-Governmental Organization, individual or the communities to improve the socio-economic standard of the communities. This could be attributed to the deliberate governmental policy to leave border communities out of developmental areas as mentioned earlier. Trans-border crimes such as smuggling in arms, human trafficking e.t.c are the major problem faced with in the communities aside the unavailability of infrastructural facilities. To cope with this problem, internal security arrangement was put in place with assistance from government security outfits.

Despite the establishment of smuggling in these communities, it does not bring about or promote violence going by the position of most of the respondents. Unemployment, safety for smuggling and poverty on the part of individuals as well as economic benefits derivable from arms smuggling are factors which promote it as this is the position of most of the respondents. For instance 98% of them agreed that economic benefits, would prompt an individual into arms smuggling while 95% of them stated that it is unemployment, 90% of them agreed that it is poverty and because it is safe to smuggle arms through the communities.

If given the opportunity, as many as about 81% of the respondents would support anyone who is into arms smuggling even as they know that economic benefits is not the only reason people go into arms smuggling, lack of adequate penalty for smugglers and the availability of many unsecured roads accounts for why smuggling in arms is prevalent in the communities even as it has had negative influence on youths and the communities as a whole. Over 90% of the respondents stated that violent conflict brings about under development even as most respondents agreed that many individuals and groups benefit greatly from violent conflicts which include women and children through the supply and availability of arms to prosecute mild conflict which could have been resolved peacefully. Furthermore, the communities at the border posts are in a way promoting violent conflict in the larger society through their position as border communities where smuggling goes on. Interestingly, reasoning along with about 98% of the respondent, the process of preventing, resolving or managing violent conflict can begin from the border communities based on

identifying the fact that arms smugglers can initiate and promote violent conflict.

While 34% of the respondents see arms smuggling as a good venture, 37.9% sees it as a bad venture and 26% of them are indifferent, this indicates that a good number of the respondents would participate in arms smuggling while a good number will not. That about 53.6% of them would help keep smuggled arms for safety, 55.7% will not report arms smuggling to security agents, 51% would participate in defence and security of the community and 50.6% would be willing to participate in a local security outfit in the community, it means that the people of the communities at the borders would relatively assist in checking arms smuggling. Those who support smuggling of arms could shift to the side of providing assistance because their position as it was found during FGD, was influenced by a number of factors such as total neglect of the border communities, abject poverty and unemployment, by and large if their socio-economic status can be improved upon, they can go a long way in helping to combat the menace of arms smuggling.

Challenges of Combating Arms Smuggling Across Nigeria-Benin Border

The problem of combating the trans-border crime as gathered from the communities have been hampered by the following factors

1. The ethno-cultural linkages of the inhabitants on both sides of the body have created the tendency to condole the criminal exploit of the federal operating along the common border. Hence, offenders readily seek and find prompt and safe asylum or sanctuary from the border community. The border communities rather than being helpful to ensure that criminals are brought to book, actually collude with them to work against the effect of the state security apparatus.
2. The authority of the Republic of Benin does not demonstrate the necessary enthusiasm in bringing these criminals to justice. For instance, while offenders are chased from Nigeria, as soon as they succeed in crossing the Republic of Benin side of the border, they completely disappear and one never hears of them again. This is because the country is a beneficiary in the illegal activities going on along the common border.
3. The length of the Nigeria-Benin borderline, which is about 710km (Asiwaju, 1994); the characteristics terrain, its porous nature, as well as other natural constraints makes the thought of its effective policing unthinkable. The situation is such that no amount of resources and manpower deployed towards the manning of the common border can bring about very

effective security coverage if such effort is concentrated on just one side of the common border. Aside from the fact that the considerable distances between control posts and the difficulty of the terrain, which generally presents formidable obstacles, there is the fact that no boundary can ever be completely patrolled. Therefore, there must be a mutual agreement, on both sides, of the will to implement agreed decisions.

From the presentation and analysis of data coupled with the results of hypothesis tested, it is crystal clear that smuggling in various goods including arms go on along Nigeria/ Benin border and that the people at the border communities have a stake in its process especially in arms and control of violent conflict in the larger society.

The general findings of the study shows poor socio-economic conditions, trans-border crimes such as smuggling including smuggling in arms which are usually concealed in other smuggled goods such as rice, textile material and even vehicles. In many cases, some of such smugglers impersonate clergy men while they smuggle arms into the country, many even go to the extent of paying physically challenged persons to be in possession of such contrabands as arms with the hope that security agents will not suspect them. In many other cases, such contrabands are usually being transported through non motorable narrow paths with the use of motor cycles to cover a journey that could last over three hours such as from Kanga through Alagbe to Ayetoro or Abeokuta in Ogun state. Despite the prevalence of smuggling in this region, violence is very minimal, or hardly noticed.

Both scholarly interest and governmental presence dwindles as one moves towards Nigeria/Benin border region. This is readily observed in the decline of all modernization and developmental or infrastructural facilities such as physical infrastructural, economic facilities and social amenities, towards this region. This is largely the result of deliberate policy decision that up till now, there has not been any significant shift from such policy stand point. This has resulted in activities such human trafficking and smuggling in the region. Also the continent of Africa was partitioned with neither African interest nor involvement, but with the sole interest and participation of European powers, had in the wake of African independence and consciousness turned the border regions to regions of clandestine activities such as smuggling. This has generally laid them opened to suspicion and so targets of neglect. These imposed boundaries that have remarkably mutilated

ethno-cultural groups and that have remained lines of separation rather than those of contact should be revisited and a realignment (by African themselves) considered, bearing in mind African interest and the all important factor of compatibility.

Recommendations

The existence of inequalities between countries of Africa and their respective administrative and political centre and her periphery has necessitated the need for paying greater attention first to the periphery and then the entire geographical milieu in order to first elevate the socio-economic conditions of the periphery and on the long run bring about effective control of smuggling in arms (including other contrabands) and reduce the spate of violent conflicts in the country in particular and in the West African sub-region in general.

1. Government should provide basic social amenities and services in all key communities in border regions. Such amenities should include educational facilities, electricity and communication facilities.
2. Interventionist approach, which canvases for the establishment of specific project designed to take the communities out of the socio – economic plight should be embraced.
3. Border communities forum, which should be a pressure (non- partisan) group, should be established with a view to organizing Lectures, Conferences, Symposia e. t. c. on border related issues especially smuggling and how it can be managed.
4. Fields of joint initiative on both sides of the borders region should be established. This will entail increasing cross – border cooperation.
5. Over concentration of border inspection agencies at the borders should be reconsidered.
6. Transportation is about the most important factor in development. The construction of all season feeder roads should therefore be given top priority.
7. To effectively control arms smuggling in the West African sub-region, international agencies as well as Non-Government Organisations should increase their presence and activities in the border communities.

Though the recommendations above focus on Nigerian/Benin border region, the issues raised are relevant to all border regions the world over. To reduce smuggling in arms to its barest minimum, attention must be paid to the development of border communities and this must be at the same pace with the central part of the country.

Conclusion

The discussion of trans-border communities and the problems of arms smuggling has led to the realization

of some fundamental issues which must be genuinely appraised and addressed in order for the efforts at reducing arms proliferation to achieve meaningful results. The partitioning of Africa that took place in November 1884 was purely a European affair as there was neither Africans interest involvement nor participation. The result was that conflicting and incompatible ethno-cultural groups were forced on one another while, some other ones were mutilated, and consequently, the border regions have remained boiling spots. The effect of this is their continual neglect by successive governments culminating in their under development. We should avoid a situation where two countries will be sharing a building as a border line as it is the case at Ilara along Nigeria/Benin border where in some home buildings, the sitting room falls into Nigeria side and other parts of the building fall to the side of Benin Republic.

To a reasonable extent, it is often sometimes tempted to believe that such partitioning as that of Nigeria and Benin along Ilara axis was a deliberate attempt to make it serve as a point of contact for international commercial activities going by the presence of such large/heavy markets as that in Ketu that served as the port for goods which are in transit from Europe to West Africa and that going to Europe from the sub-region. Such markets had made it possible for all manner of goods including food items, clothes and fairly used vehicles to be available which in a way made smuggling of small arms much easy as the arms can easily be concealed in such other items as some arms smuggling suspects confessed to have made some previous trips successfully by concealing arms in packs thought to contain fruit juice.

Developing border communities and infrastructural facilities must be seen as a major step towards stemming the tides of arms smuggling along the borders, the long term effect of which will be effective management of conflict in the sub-region. To ensure effective control of arms smuggling, in the West African sub-region especially Nigeria/Benin border, the national governments, international organizations such as the ECOWAS, AU and the UN as well as NGOs must pay attention to developing the border communities and at the same time altogether team up and embark on enlightenment programmes on the dangers of arms smuggling and why they should be of assistance in checking the menace while the border communities are carried along in policy programmes aimed at controlling arms smuggling and border communities development.

Table 1: The major problems in the community

	Frequency	Percentage
Armed banditry	30	6.4
Youths involvement in violence	10	2.1
Trans-border crimes	428	91.1
Others	2	0.4
Total	470	100

Table 2: Arms dealers derive economic benefits from smuggling of arms

	Frequency	Percentage
SA	54	11.5
A	406	86.4
U	10	2.1
D	-	-
SD	-	-
Total	470	100

Source: Fieldwork 2010

Table 3: Arms smuggling is prevalent because there is safety for such activities in this community

	Frequency	Percentage
SA	118	25.1
A	308	65.5
U	10	2.1
D	28	6.0
SD	6	1.3
Total	470	100

Table 4: If given the opportunity, I will support arms smugglers

	Frequency	Percentage
SA	172	36.6
A	210	44.7
U	26	5.5
D	46	9.8
SD	16	3.4
Total	470	100

Table 5: Economic benefits is not the only reason for going into arms smuggling

	Frequency	Percentage
SA	216	46.0
A	234	49.8
U	13	3.0
D	6	1.3
Total	470	100

Table 6: Robbery and assassination can be promoted or prevented by the smuggling of arms through this community

	Frequency	Percentage
SA	292	62.1
A	166	35.3
U	12	2.6
Total	470	100

Table 7: The involvement of the youths in restiveness and communal clashes are promoted by smuggling of arms

	Frequency	Percentage
SA	328	69.8
A	132	28.1
U	10	2.1
Total	470	100

Table 8: Can you help to keep smuggled arms for safety?

	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	252	53.6
No	60	12.8
May be	128	27.2
Never	30	6.4
Total	470	100

Table 9: Would you report arms smuggling to security agencies?

	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	48	10.2
No	262	55.7
May be	82	17.4
Never	78	16.6
Total	470	100

Table 10: Would you help to apprehend smugglers?

	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	48	10.2
No	238	50.6
May be	54	11.5
Never	130	27.7
Total	470	100

Source: Fieldwork 2010

Hypothesis I: Trans –border communities are not instrumental in checking arms smuggling

Fo

Response	M	F	Total
Yes	15	9	24
No	76	55	131
May be	24	17	41
Never	27	12	39
Total	284	186	470

Fe

Response	M	F	Total
Yes	14.5	9.5	24
No	79.2	51.8	131
May be	24.8	16.2	41
Never	23.6	15.4	39
Total	284	186	470

$$\text{Chi-square } X^2 c = \sum \frac{(F_o - F_e)^2}{F_e}$$

$$X^2 c = 0.017 + 0.129 + 0.026 + 0.49 + 0.026 + 0.198 + 0.04 + 0.751$$

$$X^2 c = 1.677$$

Degree of freedom

$$DF = (nr - 1)(nc - 1) \text{ where } r = 2, c = 4$$

DF = (2-1) (4 -1)

DF = 3

Level of Significance = 5%

χ^2 t at 0.05⁽³⁾ = 7.815

χ^2 t = 7.815

The tabulated value for X is 7.815, the calculated value for X is 1.677, since $X_t > X_c$, the hypothesis that Trans – border communities are not instrumental in checking arms smuggling is accepted.

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