

Evaluation of Passive Security Measures for Tourism Development in Nigeria

Hayes, N.Y.¹ & Isah, A.D.²

^{1,2} Department of Architecture, Federal University of Technology Minna, Nigeria.

¹hayesnathaniel24@gmail.com; ²arcmuzaifa@futminna.edu.ng

Corresponding author: hayesnathaniel24@gmail.com

Abstract:

Security issues continue to raise a threat to tourism development. This has caused several setbacks for tourism development within the country and as such security challenges should be evaluated and resolved as much as possible. The aim of this study is to evaluate security measures for tourism development in Nigeria. The research method employed in this study is the qualitative research method and the process of observation has been employed for gathering data. Observation schedule was used as an instrument for data collection and these data were sampled using the non-random sampling method. These data were analysed through content analysis and the findings showed that security measures have not been properly adopted in tourism development and that most tourism centres have not been optimally developed thereby making them vulnerable to security threats. The research recommends that designing for security should be considered as an utmost importance in the design of tourist centres by professionals and urges the government to look into the development of potential tourist centres within the country.

Keywords: Passive Security, Planning, Tourism, Development, Tourist centres.

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Generally, the importance of tourism keeps rising day by day and in its entire ramification that is of significant importance to the economic, social, and environmental well-being of a country. The planning and development system has a vital role to play in realizing the benefits of tourism in any country. According to Yusuff (2015), Nigeria has 7000 tourist centres and tourism is gradually becoming an essential part of the country's economy. The world travel and tourism council (WTTC) in 2014 predicted a growth of 6 per cent annually on tourism in Nigeria. Throughout the world, the tourism industry has been significantly affected by threats of civil unrest, terrorism and instances of terrorist attacks in the modern era. Safety and security are vital to providing quality in tourism. More than any other economic activity, the success or failure of a tourism destination depends on being able to provide a safe and secure environment for visitors (Nwokorie, 2014). Eja (2012) also added that security is of utmost importance in the tourism sector and must be considered as a significant variable. Tourism is an increasingly important source of income, employment and wealth in many countries and its rapid expansion has been considered as an interesting possibility for sustainable development, including poverty reduction, in Nigeria. Tourism is a human activity and can only survive in a peaceful environment. However, the industry faces numerous challenges such as civil unrest, kidnapping for ransom and, recently, terrorism. Terrorism is an issue of a disputed concept which is open to different interpretations regarding motives and causes. However, it can be broadly defined as “premeditated, politically motivated violence against non-combatant targets by sub-national groups or agents, usually intended to influence an audience” (US Department of State, 2004). Notwithstanding, there is a need to proffer solution to this security issues since the benefits and importance of tourism cannot be over emphasized. Thus, the study seeks to examine security measures for tourism development in Nigeria.

Conceptualization of Tourism

Freuler (1905) describe tourism in the modern sense of the world "as a phenomena of modern times based on the increased need for recuperation and change of air, the awakened, and cultivated appreciation of scenic beauty, the pleasure in and the enjoyment of nature and in particularly brought about by the increasing mingling of various nations and classes of human society, as a result of the development of commerce, industry and trade, and the perfection of the means of transport. Also the World Tourism Organization (WTO) defines tourism as comprising the activities of persons travelling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes. The WTO further explains that "Tourism" refers to all activities of visitors including both "tourists (overnight visitors)" and "same-day visitors". These concepts have been adopted based on the study at hand and for a proper understanding of the phenomenon.

Tourism generally over time has proven to be a very strong economic activity that helps to strengthen and boost the economy of nations, by creating lots of job opportunities and providing revenue. In Nigeria, organized tourism can be said to be dated as far back as 1962 with the creation of Nigeria tourist attraction by group of tourism practitioners (Ashikodi, 2010). Much later in the year 1976, tourism was officially seen or considered as a potential economic activity by the government with the establishment of Nigeria Tourism Board (NTB). NTB was replaced by the Nigerian Tourism Development Contribution (NTDC) in 1992. Security challenges in Nigeria have escalated over the years constituting a threat to the industry with foreigners having fears of travelling to Nigeria. Beyond that Nigeria has a limited facility for tourism which in turn poses a considerable risk to tourists.

Passive Security Measures

Skavland and Mejdell (2000) defines security as protection against intended incidents. Desired incidents happen due to a result of deliberate and planned act. The application of security measures or controls is described by Nunes-Vaz, *et al.* (2011) as a physical, psychological, procedural, technical or other device that performs or contributes to one or more security functions. This is achieved through the demarcation/ division of physical space; referred to as zones (Williams, 1981).

Generally, security is classified among prerequisites which continuously undertake leading position when it comes to holidays and travelling. An unsafe or threatened environment usually creates a negative impression of tourist destinations (Richard, 2003). The fluctuation in Nigeria's international tourist receipts is surely as a result of the local security challenges over the years. Meanwhile, changes experienced in the World during the last two decades have been enormous. Security has significantly been compromised due to terrorist acts, local wars, natural disasters, epidemics and pandemics. The travel and tourism industry could not avoid the negative impacts and consequences of these events.

According to Randal (2003), the possible security measures could be discussed around certain terms such as perimeter and exterior security, entry security, interior security, security planning, and crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED). These measures revolved around both passive and active means, covering even the type of plants to be used during design. CPTED is one of the most popular planning strategies for improving safety in cities and large areas or facilities (Jae, 2016). Although the concept of CPTED continues to evolve, basically CPTED is identified by major themes as; natural surveillance, territoriality, access control, activity support and maintenance/image (Moffatt, 1983). Generally, the CPTED principle puts in view the fact that criminals do not wish to be observed and so prioritise over this in form of surveillance such as watch towers, CCTV cameras, and security post. Jae (2016) opined that the safest urban place is one that is continuously watched by humans. Newman

(1972) argued that buildings and community designs that encouraged natural surveillance were critical for deterring crime.

Zahner (2017) emphasized that designing for security should be about designing without sacrificing beauty. He explained that this could be done with landscaping art, secondary buildings and disguise barriers. The necessity for security consideration in built environment is so important that it tells us why we started building in the first place, security is so important in building design and should be considered strictly. Similarly, Bulla (2004) asserts that designing for security is like peeling an onion: it is accomplished layer by layer. Security defences include series of overlapping layers using mechanical and electronic systems, operational procedures, and natural and architectural elements.

The Art Council England (2013) on a practical guide for security stated that the following which have been summarised are security measures that can be fully considered and planned for at the design stage.

- a) As the shell of the building is usually regarded as the security perimeter the number of openings should be limited to those necessary for access, ventilation and natural light.
- b) Doors, windows and roof lights must all be protected to reduce the risk of large volume loss during the silent hours and have the ability to resist a determined physical attack for as long as the time needed for response forces to attend.
- c) The presence of pipes, ledges and buttresses can make windows, roof lights and doors accessible to the intruder.
- d) Access/exit can also be made easier through the provision of emergency escape routes that are not secured internally during closed hours or sufficiently protected during open hours
- e) Good design can also reduce the possibility of thieves concealing themselves within premises during open hours to break out after closing time. By avoiding unused spaces, dead ends, insecure ducts and panels spaces where someone could hide threats to the collections from theft can be limited.
- f) Provision needs to be made for a secure division between the areas which are open or closed to the public with the intruder detection system designed accordingly.
- g) Attention paid to the exterior can prevent areas for concealment such as vegetation, porches, deeply recessed doors and adjacent buildings.

From the summarized practical guide on security, major highlights based on passive security measures are building perimeter, openings, accessibility, escape routes, vegetation design, and proper layout design.

According to Crowe (1991), security measures can be well addressed with the adoption or the implementation of the measures provided by the CPTED measures for security. According to Leong (2000), security has been identified as one of the five global forces intended to drive the tourism industry in the new millennium. According to Karam (2015), the important and most widely used measures are related to two dimensions; “Detectors and Access Control”. Access Control as referred by Karam can be referred to as mostly passive means. Over the years the reoccurring issues of robbery, assault, rape, fire, kidnapping, and other incidents have been the concern for tourists. Design and layout, are key passive measures that can be considered in tourist centres.

General Deductions

It can be observed that passive security measures in tourism planning are basically revolving around two broad terms, which are design and layout. After Further looking into these broad

terms, certain variables based on the desk study of relevant materials has been deduced. These variables are;

Zoning for Security, Perimetre Fencing, Watch Tower, Landscaping, and Physical/Artful Barriers.

METHODOLOGY

The research method employed by this research is the qualitative research method. A descriptive research design is employed which is a scientific method that can be used in observing and describing the nature of a subject.

The first phase included desk study of relevant materials on tourism development. Thereafter, the research adopted primary source of data collection for the case study stage. This include derivation of first-hand information with data obtained through physical observation. An observation guide was developed by the researcher for the physical observation and extraction of data. This was structured to enable the researcher collect relevant information for analysis. Desk study for the research covers review of relevant literature, reports, journals and manuals by security bodies as well as literary works from experts on passive security. Elements considered in structuring the observation guide were: Zoning, Landscaping, Perimeter fencing, Watch tower, and Physical barriers. These elements were observed across the samples, through both covert and overt observations.

Samples in this research were gotten through convenience non-random sampling technique, which refers to a selection of samples based on targeted interest and subjective judgement. These samples were simply selected for physical case studying based on their relevance to the study at hand, out of a list of known tourist centres in Nigeria. Seven Tourist centres were observed, which were randomly selected across the country. They are; The Obudu Mountain Resort in Cross river state, the Yankari Game Reserve in Bauchi state, the Irin Ijesha Water Fall in Osun State, the Olumo Rock in Ogun State, the Nok Settlement in Kaduna State, the Gurara Water Fall in Niger State, and the Tinapa Resort in Cross River State.

DATA ANALYSIS

Due to the qualitative nature of this research, data gotten have been analysed using qualitative data analysis principles. The data gotten by the researcher using the observation guide was analysed using the Microsoft excel software. Afterwards, the results were presented using plates and figures.

Assessment of Passive Security Design Measures

i. Zoning for Security

The Zoning of site is done in order of privacy, from the parking to residential units. The effective use of zoning laws for security offers a first form defence to the facility. The tourist centres observed showed that four (57%) had a zoning planning to a considerable level as compared to the others as shown in Table 1 and Figure 1 respectively.

Table 1: Zoning design consideration

Names	Present	Absent
Obudu Mountain Resort	✓	
Yankari Game Reserve	✓	
Irin Ijesha Water fall		✓
Olumo Rock	✓	
NOK Settlement		✓
Gurara Water Fall		✓
Tinapa Resort	✓	

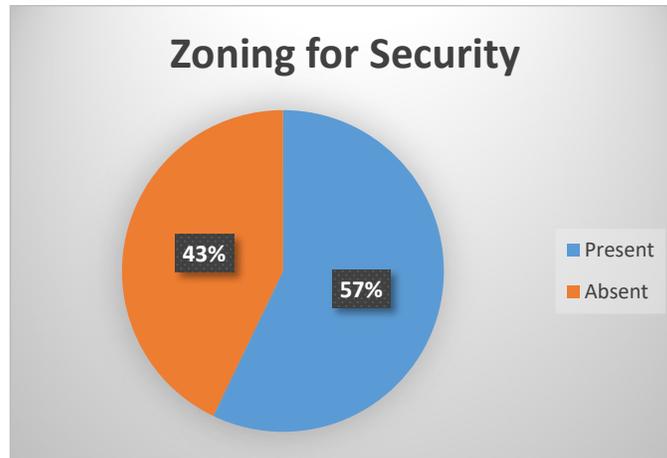


Figure 1: Zoning planning within the observed tourist centres.

ii. Perimeter Fencing

A proper perimeter demarcation goes a long way in showing the first line of defence and giving a keep off warning to passers-by. The tourist centres observed showed that two (2) had site demarcation and five (5) had no site demarcation as shown in Table 2 and Figure 2 respectively.

Table 2: Perimetre Fencing

Names	Fencing	Absent
Obudu Mountain Resort		✓
Yankari Game Reserve	✓	
Irin Ijesha Water fall		✓
Olumo Rock		
NOk Settlement		✓
Gurara Water Fall		✓
Tinapa Resort	✓	

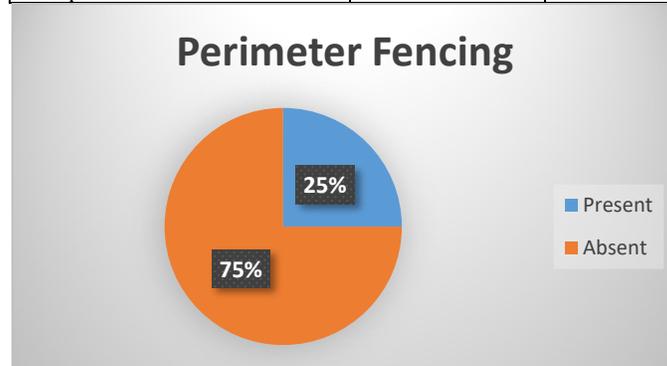


Figure 2: Nature of perimeter fencing within the observed tourist centres.

iii. Availability of Watch Tower for boundary observation

The usage of watch tower as outlined by CPTED is a good passive security measure that can be adopted for general overview in a large gathering or large space. The tourist centre observed showed that the usage of watch towers was not considered in the design as shown in Table 3 and Figure 3 respectively.

Table 3: Availability of watch tower

Names	Present	Absent
Obudu Mountain Resort		✓
Yankari Game Reserve		✓
Irin Ijesha Water fall		✓
Olumo Rock		✓
NOk Settlement		✓
Gurara Water Fall		✓
Tinapa Resort		✓

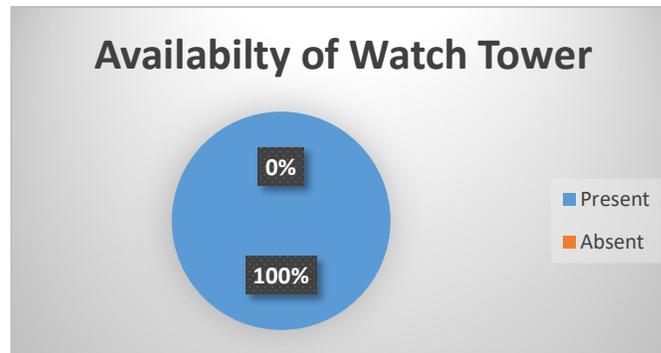


Figure 3: Pie chart showing indication of watch tower within the observed tourist centres.

iv. The Application of Landscape Elements for Security

Landscape elements offer a very interesting passive security measures. The proper usage of landscape goes a long way to provide perimeter demarcation, good sightline, beautiful scenery, channelling movements and good coverage. The use of palm trees has been notably pointed out as ideal plantings near homes as they have long stems giving a clear sightline and avoiding climbing of branches by thieves into buildings. The tourist centres observed showed that three (3) had a reasonable planning of landscape elements to cater for security, out of seven that was observed as shown in Table 4 and Figure 4 respectively.

Table 4: Use of landscape elements for security

Names	Adequate	Inadequate
Obudu Mountain Resort	✓	
Yankari Game Reserve		✓
Irin Ijesha Water fall		✓
Olumo Rock	✓	
NOK Settlement		✓
Gurara Water Fall		✓
Tinapa Resort	✓	

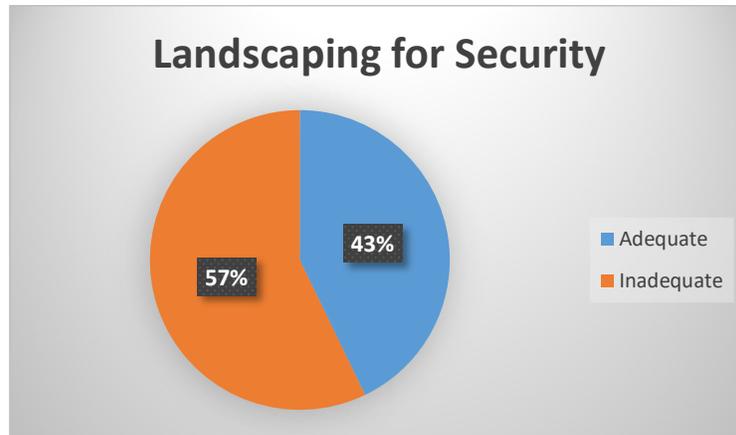


Figure 4: Adequacy of landscape elements planning within the observed tourist centre

v. Physical and Artful Barriers for Access Control

Barriers for channelling movements have gone beyond just mere obstacles to creative and decorative art features that can bring aesthetics to a space. The tourist centres observed showed that there were no much considerations in the use of artful barriers. However, the generic physical barriers were adopted and their usage across the observed tourist centres is shown in Table 5 and Figure 5 respectively.

Table 5: Use of proper access control features (Barriers)

Names	Adequate	Inadequate
Obudu Mountain Resort	✓	
Yankari Game Reserve	✓	
Irin Ijesha Water fall		✓
Olumo Rock		✓
NOk Settlement	✓	
Gurara Water Fall		✓
Tinapa Resort	✓	

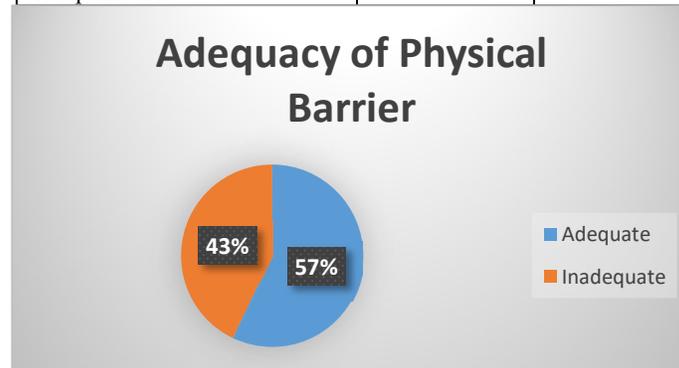


Figure 5: Adequacy of physical barrier planning within the observed tourist centre

FINDINGS

Generally, the analysis shows that security measures are not properly adopted in tourism development. Also, some tourist centres have not been properly developed, which makes them poor in terms of the variables considered and therefore vulnerable to security threats.

The findings show that zoning and physical barrier has a consideration level of nearly 60 per cent which represents the optimal level of consideration.

The design consideration of site boundaries and landscaping for security appears inadequate in most situations.

Watch towers which also is a passive security measure, especially in public areas and tourist centres were observed to be absent.

The implication of these findings is the need to rethink tourist centre designs for passive security measure provisions in order to improve tourism development in Nigeria.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION

In sum, security challenges must be dealt with for tourism to be developed, and these challenges could be tackled with passive security measures in design. Security measures such as landscaping, perimeter fencing, watch towers and even artful barriers are vital as passive security measures as deduced from the desk study. Meanwhile, tourism in Nigeria generally has not been properly planned with consideration to these security measures and the potentials of most tourist centres have not been harnessed by properly designing for these potential areas. Therefore, this study recommends that professionals in the built industry should take a keen look at designing with respect to security for tourism development within the country and urges the government to look into the development of potential tourist centres within the country.

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