CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The creation and implementation of foreign policy are universally recognized as integral parts of the political decision-making process. Regardless of a state's level of development or ideological orientation, its foreign policy arises from complex political processes involving multiple factors. As noted by Dye (2013), institutional and regulatory frameworks are crucial considerations in foreign policy decisions and implementation. This encompasses the structure of the foreign policy-making system, including the organizational framework and the bureaucracies involved. Key government agencies in Nigeria include the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Nigeria Institute of International Affairs, and the Nigeria Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM).

In Africa, similar efforts are mirrored by the African Diaspora Policy Centre (ADPC), a leading think tank in Europe focused on migration and development. The ADPC is dedicated to exploring the intersection of migration and development, emphasizing an environment where differences drive innovation, promote creativity, and enhance institutional capacity for foreign policy development. The ADPC underscores the need to strengthen institutions addressing diaspora issues, aiming for impactful, large-scale diaspora-led development initiatives across the continent (www.afriacan.diaspora.policycentre, 2020). This vision has prompted NIDCOM to intensify its efforts in this domain. Hermann, Hermann, and Hagan (2019) observed that diasporas are increasingly recognized by global policymakers and academia, although there has been limited incorporation of this phenomenon into formal policy frameworks.

Externally, Nigerians in the diaspora significantly contribute to the global economy. The establishment of NIDCOM aligns with Chapter Two, Section 19 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, emphasizing the government's focus on both continental and global issues, with a significant emphasis on African concerns. This perspective echoes Balewa's assertion (1960, cited in Ajaebili and Oyewole, 2011) that Nigeria should prioritize domestic affairs without neglecting its immediate neighborhood.

Established in 2019, NIDCOM aims to foster beneficial relations with Nigerians in the diaspora, leveraging their human and material resources for Nigeria's socio-economic, cultural, and political development. Akinteriwa (2020) referred to NIDCOM as "Nigeria's Newest Foreign Policy Instrument." The commission employs technology and social media platforms (including a functional website, Facebook page, and active Twitter handle) to achieve its goals, complementing existing foreign policy frameworks (www.nidcom.gon.ng).

NIDCOM facilitates the engagement of Nigerians abroad in foreign policy implementation, aiming to harness their resources for the country's development. The commission hosts various online programs, such as interactive sessions via Zoom (e.g., the 2020 National Diaspora Day) and virtual town hall meetings (www.nidcom.gon.ng). NIDCOM's social media initiatives have successfully engaged its digital audience, using influencers and contests to enhance foreign policy engagement. The establishment and functions of NIDCOM are outlined in its 2015 establishment bill, comprising twenty-seven clauses.

Despite its successes, NIDCOM faces challenges, including operational difficulties, inadequate data on Nigerians in the diaspora, poor coordination, and insufficient diaspora funds for targeted Foreign Direct Investment (Madobi, 2022). Nonetheless, NIDCOM has achieved significant milestones. This study seeks to identify the challenges facing NIDCOM in promoting Nigeria's foreign policy objectives.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

As previously noted, a state's foreign policy is an extension of its domestic policies. The institutional framework for foreign policy formulation and execution, especially concerning the Diaspora Commission, faces significant challenges. These challenges undermine Nigeria's policy effectiveness in the international arena. The foreign policy practice, particularly with regards to the Nigeria Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM), is hindered by professional deficiencies that limit the commission's success in achieving its objectives (Nigerian Diaspora Report, 2018). According to the National Diaspora Policy (2021), despite recognizing the immense potential of the diaspora, many obstacles impede the effective deployment of the diaspora for national development. These challenges include a lack of skills and expertise, insufficient data to support evidence-based interventions, high remittance costs, difficulty in obtaining relevant data, and the absence of an effective information portal.

The Government of Nigeria has long recognized the importance of engaging with the diaspora in foreign policy-making and implementation. Historically, Nigeria adopted a multifaceted approach, comprising various initiatives rather than a singular, focused policy. Early efforts included the establishment of the Nigerian National Volunteer Service and the celebration of a National Diaspora Day (first celebrated in 2005). Recent initiatives include the creation of NIDCOM, the promotion of diaspora investment through the issuance of a diaspora bond, and active engagement with diaspora organizations. Notable actions include the response to the killings of Nigerians in Cyprus, where students were warned to avoid the country. Additionally, Nigeria has received support from organizations such as the International Organization for Migration in developing profiles of different skill sets, gaps, and needs of the diaspora (Lawal and Aluko, 2016).

The shortcomings of previous efforts led to the establishment of NIDCOM, with a focus on national development through a comprehensive national policy that captures the government's commitments and strategies towards foreign policy. Identifying key stakeholders and defining

their roles and responsibilities within the institutional and regulatory frameworks for foreign policy implementation has become imperative. These efforts aim to create a favorable environment for harnessing the immense potential of the diaspora towards effective policy implementation.

1.3 Objective of the Study

i. To examine how the challenges faced by Nigeria Diaspora Commission affects her ability to deliver on its core objectives; and

1.4 Research Questions
i.   What challenges faced by Nigeria Diaspora Commission affect her ability to deliver on its core objectives?

1.6   Significance of the Study

The study will identify the challenges faced by Nigeria Diaspora Commission affects her ability to deliver on its core objectives as well as suggesting additional diplomatic measures that can be put in place to strengthen the activity of Nigeria Diaspora Commission. Filling this gap will make this study a novel within the field of institutional approach and foreign policy.

Moreover, this study (evaluation of Nigeria Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM) in Promoting Nigeria's Foreign Policy) is one of its kinds as far as Nigeria Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM) is concerned. It will therefore be more or less pioneer research that is set out to enlighten the entire diaspora community and government on the need to concentrate on diaspora contribution through engaging them in actualization of foreign policy.

1.7   Scope and Limitations to the Study

The study examines the challenges faced by Nigeria Diaspora Commission assess the ability of the commission to deliver on its core objectives as well as suggesting additional diplomatic measures that can be put in place to strengthen the activity of Nigeria Diaspora Commission. In terms of time coverage, the study covers four (4) years interval (i.e. from the implementation date – 2019 till 2022). This period is considered long enough to evaluate the effectiveness of a particular commission towards the actualization of Nigeria's foreign policy objectives. In terms of context, the study was conducted in Nigeria Diaspora Commission.

The study is not without challenges. There are limitations that hindered the study. We came across limitations such as difficulty in accessing enough documents relating to the NIDCOM and its achievements. More so, some of the respondents are unenthusiastic in with their responses which has reduced the rate of return of the questionnaire. Against all odds, we were able to get necessary information to arrive at logical conclusion.

1.8   Operational Definition of Concepts

   i.   **Diaspora Nigerians:** Diaspora Nigerians as used in National Diaspora Policy refers to Nigeria citizens who have been spread or been dispersed from their homeland.

   ii.   **Existing Institutional and Regulatory Frameworks:** According to the study, this refers to previous institutional framework for involving the Diaspora in the affairs of the country

   iii.   **Challenges:** Challenges as used in the study has to do with internal and external challenges. Internal in terms of operational challenges.

   iv.   **Diplomatic Measures:** Diplomatic measures according to the study refers to suggestions the Nigeria Government will commit herself to create the needed platform to ensure effective Nigeria foreign policy implementation.

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CHAPTER TWO
LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1   Introduction

The chapter is broadly partitioned into three: (a) Conceptual literature; (b) empirical literature and (c) theoretical framework. Conceptually, we reviewed literature on foreign policy, including determinants of foreign policy. Empirical works linking foreign policy implementation

have been reviewed in order to explore the development in the area with a view to establishing gaps in the existing literature. Lastly, the theoretical framework (review of theories and underpinning theory) is discussed.

2.2 Conceptual Review

2.2.1 Foreign Policy

After the treaty of Westphalia and the end of the First and Second World War, the international system has witnessed an increasing growth in the development of nation states. The end product of this development is thus, the creation of an interaction between these nation states. In addition, the establishment of United Nations and the process of decolonization that has liberated many states into sovereign entities have further provided the impetus to interrelationships among states. Such has resulted into the formation of 'foreign policies'. With the aim of determining and identifying the decisions, strategies, and ends of interaction of a state with another (Ozkececi-Taner, 2017).

Furthermore, the modern world of "globalization"; the "widening, deepening and speeding up of global inter-connectedness" 1has increased this interrelationships or interactions among states. Hence, there is unanimity among scholars on the necessity of a "foreign policy" for each state, since no state will like to function in complete isolation (Bojang, 2017). This made scholars like Feliks (n.d.), to say that "even a decision to have no relations with a particular state is also a foreign policy. Additionally, a state without a foreign policy, has been compared to a ship in the deep sea without any knowledge of directions". (Dinesh, 2016) Thus, foreign policy leads a state in fulfilling its national interests and acquiring rightful place among comity of nations. In Gibson's (2003) insight, "foreign policy is a well-rounded comprehensive plan based on knowledge and experience for conducting the business of government with rest of the world. It is aim at promoting and protecting the interests of the nations. Finally, in Gerner's dictum, cited in Bojang (2016) foreign policy is "the intentions, statements, and actions of an actor-often, but not always, a state-directed towards the external world and the response of other actors to these intentions, statements and action.

2.2.1.1 Determinants of Foreign Policy Decision-Making

There is consensus among scholars that foreign policy serves as an intersection point of domestic and international politics. Thus, from here we can say that, the foreign policy of every state is influenced by mainly two determinants; international or external and domestic or internal. These are considered as factors which help in shaping and moulding foreign policy. However, the linkage between international and domestic determinants has long been a widely debated topic in the field of international relations and Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA) in particular (Jacobs and Page, 2005). While others argue that domestic politics and foreign policy are two 'independent' arenas of issue, others are of the view that foreign policy and domestic politics are 'interdependent' and could spill over into each other (Held, McGrew, Goldblatt, and Perraton (2022).

While both school of scholars made convincing arguments, however, the level of influence between domestic and international determinants of foreign policies varies from state and the political environment in which these states exist. In some cases, international factors play a major role, whereas in other cases, domestic determinants are more important.

i. **External Determinants of Foreign Policy:** Undoubtedly, the international environment plays an important role in shaping the foreign policy of every state. Since foreign policy in general is about the interaction of a state with another, this interaction only takes place at the international level and as such, cannot be ignored in analyzing the foreign policy of any state. As scholars in this school acknowledge the importance of both international and domestic factors, however, they argue that international factors play a more important role in determining country's foreign policy. The main external factors that determine the foreign policy of a state are but not limited to: the international system or power structure, international law, international organizations, alliances, and military strength or arm race. Now we can analyze this factors in details (Gambia severs diplomatic ties with Taiwan, 2013).

ii. **The International System or Power Structure:** The modern state system has been in existence since the treaty of Westphalia in 1648. It includes big, middle and small powers. As mentioned above, the interaction between these states takes place at the international level and as such it plays a significant role in shaping and moulding the foreign policies of those interacting states. The establishment of friendly and cooperative relations between states is the aims of a sound foreign policy. Foreign policy is essentially shaped by one's relative power within the international system. The world is continuously changing, new events and personalities create fresh foreign policy problems for all concerned. To select events at random, the impact of the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, the rise of Communist Power in China in 1949, the rise of De Gaulle to power in France and Hitler in Germany, and the emergence of new states in Asia and Africa; brought about significant changes in the power structure and that has impacted the foreign policy of many states (Baskın, 2017).

iii. **International Law:** The international law is generally defined as a set of rules that regulate relations between states. Cali defined it as "a system of rules created deliberately and explicitly by states. Where states have expressly willed to be bound by the rules". The existence of international law and international norms limits the freedom to maneuver of states in the system. It is constituted by interstate agreements and treaties and thus, does not entirely favor every interest a state may have. It limits a state in one way or another. That been said, international law regulates the foreign policy of states, and has a binding function in foreign policy as it offers a legal framework through which states should interact. By foreign policy in this sense, is defined as the objectives that guide the activities and relationships of one state in its interaction with other states. It is believed that states actually obey and comply with international law because it constraints the making and enacting of their foreign policy (Sotong, 2013).

iv. **International organizations:** Currently, there are over 68,000 International Organizations (both active and inactive) in the world. Many International Organizations (IOs) play an enormous role in the current international system. It is hard to imagine how world affairs would

operate without international bodies such as the United Nations (UN) and its affiliates, international financial institutions, such as International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (WB). Such organizations are considered as active actors in the field of International Relations, as they facilitate the interaction between states at the global level. A state's foreign policies is thus, often affected by its membership of international, regional and sub-regional organizations, since they surrender partially their sovereignty to these organizations. As their operations will be guided by the constitution of the organization; the policies of member states will undoubtedly be affected by the nature of the particular institution (Bojang, 2018).

v. **Military Strategy/Arms Race:** An arm race denotes the quantity or quality of instruments of military and naval power by rival states in peacetime. Arm race are a competitive defense spending and military capability building between two states or bloc of states (like the cold war). Examples of such states locked in long-term rivalries with other states include India-Pakistan, China-India, North-South Korea, and Turkey-Greece. In the pursuit of foreign policy objectives, states adopt different strategies, and military strategy is one of those. Scholars assert that one of the main prerequisite of a credible state actor is to develop the military compatibilities and political will, to back its diplomacy by force when necessary (Trevo, 2017). As the famous saying, 'when negotiations fail, confrontation is inevitable.' Thus, the use of military power is considered as the ultimate tool of international relations following the conception of war as the continuation of politics by other means. However, in either case whether used defensively or offensively, military power lends a measure of international freedom of action to the state involved. Thus, this is affirming the political theory of war which argues that "in a world system of competing states, the basis of diplomacy, and of all contractual obligations beyond the boundaries of the state rest on the capacity to use (diplomacy of) violence, both to protect the state, and to protect one's interest in the face of opposition from other states." This assertion is in **concord** with the notion that military strategy occupies a fundamental place in a countries foreign policy (Caitlin, 2012).

vi. **Alliances:** Alliance formulation is considered to be one of the most curious aspects of international relations. It is regarded as the cornerstone of security policy; however, conventional wisdom holds that is commitment are notoriously unreliable. Alliance formation is considered as a strategy that states use in the formulation and implementation of their foreign policies. Morgan and Palmer (2013), examined the consequences of alliance formation for other foreign policies of a state, including defense spending and the initiation of militarized disputes, using a theory of foreign policy that is based on several assumptions (Morgan and Palmer, 2013).

vii. **Domestic Determinants of Foreign Policy:** Like the external determinant factors, scholars agree that the internal environment of state also influence the nature and course of its foreign policy. Countries differ in size, socioeconomic development and political regime. They also differ in their political institutionalization and societal structures, military and economic capabilities, and strategic cultures. In the same vain, public opinion, national role conceptions, decision making rules and personality traits of political leaders vary from one state to another. These differences according to Taner cited in Bojang (2018), "directly affect both foreign policy making process and foreign policy decisions." By this, the "stuff of foreign policy derives from issues of domestic politics as well as foreign relations".

viii. **Culture and History:** Culture provides people with ways of thinking, seeing and interpreting the things around them. It shapes our ideas and serves an instrument for us in analyzing everything happening around us. Everything from our racial features, to the food we eat, the way we dress, the language we speak, the music we listen to, and where we live, all form a part of culture. In Frode Liland's dictum, "the cultural side of foreign policy is a vast and treacherous area." However, a heated debate exists among scholars on whether and how culture impacts and shapes a state's foreign and security policy in particular as well as international relations in general. Nevertheless, many scholars of international relations argued vividly that the way we think (i.e., our culture) has an effect on the policies we make. Vlahos argued that "pattern of thought and bahaviour are shaped by culture; they are not the product of mere nationalism." Frode (2018) again asserted that cultural diplomacy has deep root and can easily be found in the archives of foreign ministers. A nation inherits a style and culture which in turn influence and decide the course of actions, the nation has to follow in relation to other sovereign states.

2.2.2 Development and National Development

In order to get the definition of national development right, the study decided to give some clarifications of development. Development which is the most topical issue of the present century. Every nation strives after development. It used to be seen as synonymous with economic growth. After taking many formats and going through many forms, it is now usually defined in broad terms. It certainly includes growth but it should lead to a significant and continuing improvement in the quality of life of people, particularly the poor. It is essentially a process whereby the real per capita income increases over time. It is growth accompanied with change in condition of living of people in general. Whether rich or poor, all human beings are constantly engaged in the search for means and opportunities to better conditions of life. In virtually all countries, this search for better conditions takes place at community level, at individual level, and at national level (Jumare, 2007).

This quest for a better quality of life is what has come to be labeled as development and efforts to define it, and the conditions under which it can be realized identified by a number of scholars. This was the preoccupation of development theory during the post-Second World War (II) period and following the process of decolonization. Development theorists has attempted to shed light on the causes of economic transformation in human society, as well as spelling out what governments can do in order to stimulate the process of economic growth. Those who argued along this trend have followed the modernization theories, the famous 'stages economic growth' by Rostow in the 1960s, which major focus was on the role of savings in development. Arthur Lewis's focus on what he called the 'dual economy' writing about what he called the 'modern' and the traditional 'sector'. Lewis (1955) advocated for a shift from the traditional sector to a modern sector as a key activity that would increase savings and lead to growth. There were indeed other theorists such as Gunder Frank (1967) on the dependency theory, and the subsequent Brandt Report whose focus was on the relations between the wealthy countries of the North and the impoverished South and how these relations perpetuated the situation of the South (Jumare, 2007).

Seers (1960) called into question the thinking of the time particularly concerning the link between growth and development. He was among the first to indicate that in order to understand whether development is indeed taking place in a country, the questions to ask about a country's development are therefore: What has been happening to poverty? What has been happening to unemployment? What has been happening to inequality? He indicated that if these had been decreasing, then we could say a country had indeed experienced development. Seers contends that: *If all three of these have declined from high levels, then beyond doubt this has been a period of development for the country concerned. If one or two of these central problems have been growing worse, especially if all three have, it would be strange to call the result "development" even if per capita income doubled (Seers, 1969 cited in Todaro and Smith, 2015, p. 17).*

This assertion was neither idle speculation nor the description of a hypothetical situation. A number of developing countries experienced relatively high rates of growth of per capita income during the 1960s and 1970s but showed little or no improvement or even an actual decline in employment, equality, and the real incomes of the bottom 40% of their populations. By the earlier growth definition, these countries were developing; by the newer poverty, equality, and employment criteria, they were not (Todaro and Smith, 2015, p. 17). Todaro (2015), has attempted a reformulation of the definition of development as: *Development must therefore be conceived of as a multidimensional process involving major changes in social structures, popular attitudes, and national institutions, as well as the acceleration of economic growth, the reduction of inequality, and the eradication of poverty. Development, in its essence, must represent the whole gamut of change by which an entire social system, tuned to the diverse basic needs and evolving aspirations of individuals and social groups within that system, moves away from a condition of life widely perceived as unsatisfactory toward a situation or condition of life regarded as materially and spiritually better (p. 18).*

2.3 Review of Empirical Studies

Gamlen, Cummings, Vaaler and Rossouw (2013) explains why states engage their diasporas, and specifically why they are more likely to establish and attribute greater importance to the institutions tasked with such engagement. To that end, the study identified and then investigates empirical support for three theoretically-grounded perspectives on diaspora institution emergence and importance: instrumentally rational states tapping resources of emigrants and their descendants; value-rational states embracing lost members of the nation-state; institutionally-converging states governing diasporas consistent with global norms.

Lawal and Aluko (2016) critically analyze the core issues in Nigerian foreign policy and challenges facing Nigerian foreign policy in the Fourth Republic. The study concludes that Nigeria cannot ignore Africa's problems rather she must maintain the principle of Afrocentrism. This is so because; one out of every five Africans is a Nigerian. The study recommends that Nigeria needs to tackle the problems facing her domestically ranging from insecurity posed by the members of the Boko Haram with frequent bombings, killing and kidnapping of school children especially in the north eastern region, official corruption in the public sector in form of what some scholars describe as prebendalism or patrimonialism, high level of illiteracy and poverty, all these issues have attracted international condemnation of the self-acclaimed 'Giant of Africa' and that is a major setback to her foreign policy objectives, to achieve the foreign policy highlighted in the vision 20:20:20 all the aforementioned evils have to be eradicated or minimally reduced.

Sekhri (2009) assessed the effectiveness of one of the approaches to the study of foreign policy, that is, the Role Approach, in analyzing foreign policy in Third World states. This critical assessment has skillfully explored that the Role Approach is a functional theoretical framework for the analysis of foreign policy in Third World countries that have recurrently endeavored to play a range of roles at the international, regional and sub-regional levels. The study concludes that despite the existence of shortcomings in the Role Approach, the paper has demonstrated that the Role Approach is in general a reasonable and efficient theoretical framework. In relation to the utilization of the Role Approach in the study of foreign policy in Third World countries, the study has illustrated that this theoretical tool is not always practical. The reasons behind the impracticality of the Role Approach when analyzing foreign policy in Third World countries can be related to the nature of Third World states which are mostly known for their poor capabilities, dependency, limited international weight and political instability or nature of Third World regimes which are often known for being dishonest and sometimes irrational.

2.4 Theoretical Framework

In this section, we reviewed one related theory (i.e. Institutional Theory of public policy) and the underpinning theory that anchors the focus of the study (i.e. Diasporas and International Relations Theory) as discussed as follows:

2.4.1 Diasporas and International Relations Theory by Shain and Barth (2003).

The origin of the theory started immediately after the World War II (1945). After five years of post-conflict peace, the risk of renewed conflict is six times higher in the societies with the largest diasporas in America than in those without American diasporas. Presumably this effect works through the financial contributions of diasporas to rebel organizations. This is perhaps the strongest formal indication of the influence of diasporas on the international scene, but it is far from being the only one. It is therefore, seen that the diasporas and many others have influenced world affairs in numerous ways, passive and active, constructive and destructive; this led to the introduction of Diasporas and International Relations Theory by Shain and Barth in 2003 (World Bank, 2003).

The Diasporas and International Relations Theory commenced by defining diaspora as a people with a common origin who reside, more or less on a permanent basis, outside the borders of their ethnic or religious homeland – whether that homeland is real or symbolic, independent or under foreign control. Diaspora members identify themselves, or are identified by others – inside and outside their homeland – as part of the homeland's national community, and as such need to often be called upon to participate, or are entangled, in homeland-related affairs.

The theory went further to divide members of mobilized diasporas into three categories: core members, passive members, and silent members. Core members are the organizing elites, intensively active in diasporic affairs and in a position to appeal for mobilization of the larger diaspora. Passive members are likely to be available for mobilization when the active leadership calls upon them. Silent members are a larger pool of people who are generally uninvolved in diasporic affairs – in the discursive and political life of its institutions; but who may be mobilized in times of need. They are mostly part of the 'imagined community,' to use Benedict Anderson's expression, often existing only in the minds of diasporic political activists, as well as those of home or host governments; the theory suggests the involvement or engagement of all the aforementioned categories of diaspora especially the silent members (Shain, 1989).

2.4.1.1   Diasporic Interests

According to the proponents of the theory, there are four possible motivations for allowing diaspora to exert influence on the homeland. These motives are not mutually exclusive and are often intertwined.

i.   First, diasporas might be helpful to the homeland's foreign policy by having an impact on the interests of "the people" – the entire kin community inside and outside the homeland.
ii.   Second, diasporas may have a strong stake in the ways the homeland's foreign policy affects the homeland's future. Obviously, the interests of the homeland, its existence, its well-being, and its international alliances are ultimately the concern of its government, and thus diasporas may be proactive in this domain (Jepperson, Wendt, and Katzenstein, 1996).
iii. Third, diasporas might view the homeland's foreign policy as affecting the interests of a specific community. These interests may be almost existential or 'merely' material. The diaspora will try to advice to make it general of the benefits will affects the entire citizens.
iv.   Fourth and last, diasporas might view the homeland's foreign policy as affecting the narrow bureaucratic interests of their organizations. Because diasporic organizations are largely focused on homeland-related affairs (Weiner and Teitelbaum 2001).

2.4.1.2   Criticisms of Diasporas and International Relations Theory

The theory has been adopted in many works because of its inclusive nature and its focus on the marginalized groups called the silent members of diaspora. Notwithstanding its numerous adoption by previous researchers, it has been condemned by many. For example, Katzenstein (1996) condemned the theory for it focus on how diasporas strive to influence the foreign policies of their homelands through the political process in the homeland. The 'theory failed to identify the methods to be devised to locate these three categories of diaspora. In addition, Doty (1996) observed and warned against the operational guidelines of Diasporas and International Relations Theory, by stating that the identity is actually not of the nation but of 'the people,' "who constitute the elites of nations. As such, it is elites' based theory and cannot serve the needs and aspiration of the masses.

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CHAPTER THREE
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1   Introduction

This chapter contains the various strategies used in carrying out this study. It includes the research design, population and sample (sampling technique and sample size), the method (s) of data collection, validity and reliability of research instruments and data analysis.

3.2   Research Design

This research design for the study is sequential mixed method also known as integrating or multimethod. Sequential mixed method procedures are those in which the researcher seeks to elaborate on or expand on the findings of one method with another method. This may involve beginning with a qualitative interview for exploratory purposes and following up with a quantitative, survey method with a large sample so that the researcher can generalize results to a population (Bryman, 2006; Tashakkori and Teddlie, 2003).

3.3   Population and Sample Size

The study examines the challenges of Nigeria Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM) in promoting Nigeria's foreign policy objectives. The target population of the study comprised the Executive Officers of Nigeria Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM, staff of Programme Development Department, Diaspora Relations Department, Training and Development Unit and Accounts and Audit Unit.

3.3.2   Sampling Technique
The questionnaire for the study was distributed via probability proportionate cluster sampling technique by dividing the total by the number of cluster.

3.4   Method of Data Collection

The instruments required for data collections are both primary and secondary sources of data.
3.4.1   Primary Sources of Data: Data that is obtained from the primary source are through the Questionnaire, Face-to-Face interview and Focus Group Discussion (FGD).

1.   **Questionnaire:** The questionnaire consists of two parts; part ‟A‟ contains questions on the personal data of the respondents. Part ‟B" contains questions relating to the research questions and hypotheses. The questionnaire is structured using Likert scale (summated rating scale). The choice of Likert scale is not by accident but because it is attitudinal in nature and by far, one of the most popular measuring scales in use in social science research which not just measure the absolute intensity of the response but simply measures it in relation to another response (Kumar, 2011, p. 84).

a.   **Face-to-Face Interview:** Face-to-Face interview is one of the primary sources of data the study employed. This was done with two (2) executive staff of NIDCOM and two (2) political analysts. It is important to state that the interview is necessitated because of the nature of the research design.

b.   **Focus Group Discussion (FGD):** Focus Group Discussion is conducted with eight (8) staff of Diaspora Relations Department and ten (5) staff of Programme Development Department.

2.   **Secondary Sources of Data**

The following documents are useful in the course of the study in corroborating the information generated from interview and Focus Group Discussion. NIDCOM is captured in Nigeria Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM establishment bill (2015); Nigeria Constitution, 1999; National Diaspora Policy, (2021); Textbooks, Journals and Periodicals).

3.5   Method of Data Analysis

Since the study depended on mixed methods of data collection, a mixed technique was equally used for data analysis. Quantitative data collected via questionnaire were analyzed both descriptively and inferentially. The descriptive statistics is the use of tables to assess the respondent's views; while inferential statistics is the use of statistical method that enabled the realization of logical inferences. The inferential statistical method appropriate for the study is chi-square (Cresswell, 2017). This was done with the help of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (Version 25.0).

On the other hand, the responses from the interview schedule were thematically analyzed. Thematic analysis is a method of analyzing data by putting similar responses in the same category (Kerlinger, 1986).

CHAPTER FOUR
DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.1   Introduction

The chapter deals with the data presentation and analysis. It presented, analysed and discussed the data collected through the questionnaire and interview with regards to the objectives and hypotheses postulated in chapter one. Data collected are presented in tables and analysed using frequency tables and percentages. The chapter also test the hypotheses earlier postulated in chapter one using chi-square through SPSS computer package (Version 25.0) in order to draw inferences and establish relationship between the variables that featured prominently in the study.

4.2   Data Presentation and Analysis

A total of one-hundred and eighty-six (186) copies of questionnaire were administered to the staff of NIDCOM, Returnees, Trafficked Nigerians and Nigerian's Platform in United Kingdom (Scotland and England) etc. Though, one-hundred and eighty-six (186) questionnaires were printed and administered but One-hundred and Seventy (170) representing (91.4%) approximately (91%) of the total questionnaire were duly filled and returned, while sixteen (16) respondents representing 8.60% approximately (9) percent of the total questionnaire were not returned. Therefore, One-hundred and Seventy (170) questionnaires formed the basis for presentation, analysis and interpretation of result. This is as a result of the assertion made by Sproul, (2021) that 85% and above returned questionnaire of the total questionnaire distributed can be representative for logical analysis. The following are the bio-data of the respondents before the responses of the questions relating to our variables.

Table 4,2 Challenges hindering the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission

Table 4.2.1   There are operational challenges hindering the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Stronglyagree	77	45.3	45.3	44.1
Agree	38	22.4	22.4	67.7
Undecided	20	11.8	11.8	79.5
disagree	17	10	10	89.5
Stronglydisagree	18	10.6	10.6	**100**
Total	**170**	**100**	**100**	

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2025

Table 4.2.1 presents and analyse the data collected with respect to whether there are operational challenges hindering the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives. The result revealed that 45.3% and 22.4% with a cumulative percent of 67.7% of respondents strongly agree and agree that there are operational challenges hindering the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives; 11.8% of the respondents are undecided; while 10% and 10.6% given a cumulative percent of 20.6% of the respondents disagree and strongly disagree respectively. Based on the response in this table, one may come to a conclusion that there are operational challenges hindering the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives.

Table 4.2.2   **There is inadequacy of data on Nigerians in the Diaspora**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Stronglyagree	82	48.2	48.2	48.2
Agree	33	19.4	19.4	67.6
Undecided	20	11.8	11.8	79.4
disagree	18	10.6	10.6	90
Stronglydisagree	17	10	10	**100**
Total	**170**	**100**	**100**	

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2025

Table 4.2.2 presents and analyse the data collected with respect to whether there is inadequacy of data on Nigerians in the Diaspora. The result revealed that 48.2% and 19.4% given accumulative percent of 67.6% of respondents strongly agree and agree that there is inadequacy of data on Nigerians in the Diaspora; 11.8% of the respondents are undecided; while 18 respondents representing 10.6% and 17 respondents representing 10% given a cumulative percent of 20.6% of the respondents disagree and strongly disagree respectively. Based on the response in this table, one may come to a conclusion that there is inadequacy of data on Nigerians in the Diaspora.

Table 4.2.3   **Poor coordination has hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Stronglyagree	70	41.2	41.2	41.2
Agree	47	27.6	27.6	68.8
Undecided	18	10.6	10.6	79.4
disagree	13	7.6	7.6	87.0
Stronglydisagree	22	12.9	12.9	**100**
Total	**170**	**100**	**100**	

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2025

Table 4.2.3 presents and analyse the data collected with respect to whether poor coordination has hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives. The result revealed that 45.3% and 23.5% given accumulative percent of 68.8% of respondents strongly agree and agree that poor coordination has hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives; 18 respondents representing 10.6% of the respondents are undecided; while 13 respondents representing 7.6% and 22 respondents representing 12.9% given a cumulative percent of 20.6% of the respondents disagree and strongly disagree respectively. Based on the response in this table, one may come to a conclusion that poor coordination has hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives.

Table 4.2.4   **Inadequate infrastructure has hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Stronglyagree	77	45.3	45.3	45.3
Agree	40	23.5	23.5	68.8
Undecided	18	10.6	10.6	79.4
disagree	17	10	10	89.4
Strongly disagree	18	10.6	10.6	**100**
Total	**170**	**100**	**100**	

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2025

Table 4.2.4 presents and analyse the data collected with respect to whether inadequate infrastructure has hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives. The result revealed that 45.3% and 23.5% given accumulative percent of 68.8% of respondents strongly agree and agree that inadequate infrastructure has hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives; 18 respondents representing 10.6% of the respondents are undecided; while 17 respondents representing 10% and 18 respondents representing 10.6% given a cumulative percent of 20.6% of the respondents disagree and strongly disagree respectively. Based on the response in this table, one may come to a conclusion that inadequate infrastructure has hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives.

Table 4.2.5 **Low pooling of funds from the Diaspora for targeted Foreign Direct Investment has hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Stronglyagree	71	42.1	42.1	42.1
Agree	38	22.4	22.4	65.5
Undecided	26	15.3	15.3	80.8
disagree	16	9.4	9.4	89.9
Stronglydisagree	19	11.1	11.1	**100**
Total	**170**	**100**	**100**	

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2025

Table 4.2.5 presents and analyse the data collected with respect to whether low pooling of funds from the Diaspora for targeted Foreign Direct Investment has hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives. The result revealed that 42.1% and 22.4% given accumulative percent of 67.5% of respondents strongly agree and agree that low pooling of funds from the Diaspora for targeted Foreign Direct Investment has hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives; 15.3% of the respondents are undecided; while 16 respondents representing 9.4% and 19 respondents representing 11.1% given a cumulative percent of 20.6% of the respondents disagree and strongly disagree respectively. Based on the response in this table, one may come to a conclusion that low pooling of funds from the Diaspora for targeted Foreign Direct Investment has hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives.

4.3 Discussion of Findings

The study examined the challenges faced by Nigeria Diaspora Commission. From the presentation and analyses of data, a number of findings were arrived at which are discussed below. These findings were discovered from both questionnaire analysis and interview reports above under their respective themes. The study found that the   have significantly affected her ability to deliver on its core objectives. Some of the challenges identified by the respondents are inadequacy of data on Nigerians in the Diaspora; poor coordination has also hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives; inadequate infrastructure is another factor that has hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission.

CHAPTER FIVE
SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1   Summary

The study evaluates institutional approach to the promotion of foreign policy. In terms of substance, the study examined the role played by Nigeria Diaspora Commission in complementing existing frameworks for Nigeria's foreign policy; identify the challenges faced by Nigeria Diaspora Commission affects her ability to deliver on its core objectives as well as suggesting additional diplomatic measures that can be put in place to strengthen the activity of Nigeria Diaspora Commission.

The study reviewed literature within the confine of the study and the variables of interest by different scholars. Various textbooks, journals, articles and other scholarly materials were reviewed to get conceptual meaning of terms, concepts as well as professional viewpoints. The effectiveness of Nigeria Diaspora Commission was carefully evaluated using institutional approach bearing in mind the theory of institutionalism of public policy that shows how Governmental institutions lends legitimacy to policies; government policies involve universality that extend to all people in a society. Finally, government monopolizes coercion in society i.e. only government can legitimately imprison violators of its policies.

5.2 Conclusion

The study concludes that the challenges faced by Nigeria Diaspora Commission have significantly affected her ability to deliver on its core objectives. Some of the challenges identified by the respondents are inadequacy of data on Nigerians in the Diaspora; poor coordination has also hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives; inadequate infrastructure is another factor that has hindered the ability of Nigeria Diaspora Commission to achieve its core objectives and low pooling of funds from the Diaspora for targeted Foreign Direct Investment.

5.3 Recommendations

Nigeria Diaspora Commission in her bid to deliver core objectives, there is need for incentives to be given out to Nigerians in the Diaspora for greater performance in trade and investment. This is in line with additional diplomatic measures that are identified to be relevant by the respondents be put in place to strengthen the activity of Nigeria Diaspora Commission e.g. establish mechanisms to encourage Nigerians in the Diaspora towards active engagement in Trade and Investment; continue to provide incentives such as tax rebates and waivers on duties of certain goods and services in accordance with extant fiscal policy measures etc.

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