Budgeting, Governance and Sustainable Development in Nigeria: Military Versus Democratic Era

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Abstract

One of the goals of sustainability studies is to determine the capacity of government to meet current obligations without shifting the burden to other generations. The study seeks to ascertain whether there is a difference in budgeting for sustainable development represented by accumulation of public debt and deficit and expenditure on education, health and infrastructure representing concern for future generations during the military and democratic eras in Nigeria spanning the period 1981 to 2016. The study used the Levene's test for equality of variance and equality of means (Independent T-test) to ascertain whether the population means of budgeting for sustainability during the military and democratic eras are significantly different statistically. The study finds that while aggregate debt accumulation during democratic rule was N372.11 billion higher than the military era, expenditure on education, health and infrastructure were similarly higher by N145.00 billion, N86.04 billion and N70.97 billion respectively. It can thus be seen that debt accumulation exceed expenditure on the three variable measuring concern for future generations by N70.10 billion. The implication of this result is that expenditure on education, health and infrastructure may have been financed predominantly through public debt and deficit. The researchers also find that the average public debt for the period covered in the study is relatively high at N256.4 billion compared to the average expenditure on education, health and infrastructure of N93.02, N53.93 and N44.89 respectively. The study recommends that the Nigerian government should curtail its penchant for public debt to obviate shifting the burden of governance to future generations.

Keywords: Budgeting, governance, unborn generation, democracy, military era

1.0 Introduction

According to Allen-Prescott (2001, p.1) "The Chinese seek the five blessings of long life, riches, health, love of virtue, and a natural death in old age. The French desire liberty, equality, and fraternity. Indians aspire to power, pleasure, morality, and emancipation from the world. The English hope for health, wealth, and wisdom. Americans uphold life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness". The big question begging for answer is "what do Africans seek"?

The nation, Nigeria gained political freedom from colonial rule on 1st October, 1960 and thus came under self-rule. Regrettably, this experience was short-lived with the incursion of the military into politics in 1966 except for an interregnum in 1979. Both before and after independence, government has always prepared annual budget which serves as basis for the allocating resources among various needs in order to achieve national development. As a plan or target for the year, the budget represents a key tool of governance especially in planning for the financial and resource needs of government. The budget which presents government's revenue and spending proposals, including policy changes provides means of securing control and accountability over public funds. Governance can be described as the process of exercising rule either by a government, market or social network, over a family, tribe, organisations, or

territories either through the law, norms, power or language (Bevir, 2013). It relates to "the processes of interaction and decision-making among the actors involved in a collective problem that lead to the creation, reinforcement, or reproduction of social norms and institutions (Hufty, 2011). Budgetary governance consists of the processes, laws, structures and institutions put in place for ensuring that the budgeting system meets set objectives in a sustainable, enduring manner.

Sustainability entails sustaining human well-being on a long term basis by minimizing the impact of human activities on the natural environment that ultimately supports that well-being (Dietz, Rosa, York, 2009; Knight & Rosa, 2011). Sustainability, therefore is another way of seeing "the good life" as consisting of a high level of human well-being, and the high level well-being of the ecosystem upon which it depends. There are two dimensions adopted in conducting sustainability assessments which are: indicators of public debt and deficits, and medium-term fiscal projections.

This study focuses on the medium-term fiscal projections dimension. Medium-term fiscal projections are detailed estimates of government receipts and payments over a medium-term period usually 3-5 years. Fiscal sustainability is not just projecting into the future; it relates to the urgency of policy changes as well as the need for new budget tools to assess governments' fiscal estimates as conventional instruments may not be up to the task (European Commission, 2004). The debate on sustainability and sustainable development rests on the importance and practicality of each of the dimensions of sustainability namely: the ability of government to pay its financial obligations as they fall due; fiscal policy that sustains economic growth; the capacity of government to meet future obligations with existing tax burdens and the capacity of government to pay current obligations without shifting the cost to future generations (Knight & Rosa, 2011; Otalor & Oti, 2018).

Judging from the four dimensions of sustainability identified above, this study seeks to ascertain whether there is a difference in budgeting for sustainable development (as represented by accumulation of public debt and deficit) and expenditure on education, health and infrastructure (representing concern for future generation) during the military and democratic eras in Nigeria. To this end, the main research question of the study are: (1) is there any difference between budgeting for sustainability (public debt and deficit accumulation) during the years of military rule and the period of democracy? (2) Does expenditure on education during the military regimes differ from expenditure on education during democratic era? (3) Is expenditure on health during the military regimes different from expenditure on health during the democratic dispensation? and (4) Does expenditure on infrastructure during the military era differ from expenditure on infrastructure during the periods democratic rule? The motivation for this study stems from the author's lack of knowledge of any prior study conducted in Nigeria to find out if there is a difference in expenditure on education, health and infrastructure and public debt and deficit during the military and democratic regimes.

2.0 Literature Review and Hypothesis Development

2.1 Budgeting, Governance and Sustainability

Budgeting is an essential bedrock in the process of building trust between states and their citizens. The budget which presents government's revenue and spending proposals, including policy changes provides means of securing control and accountability over public funds. Good

budgeting supports, and is in turn supported, by the various pillars of modern public governance: integrity, openness, participation, accountability and a strategic approach to planning and achieving national objectives (Schick, 2005).

Governance refers to the processes by which a nation or country is directed, controlled, and public officers are made accountable. Goodson, Mory and Lapointe (2012, p.5) defines governance "as the combination of processes and structures implemented by the board to inform, direct, manage, and monitor the organization's activities toward the achievement of its objectives". Governance relates to the effective, transparent and accountable administration of the affairs of an institution by its management, while protecting the interests of shareholders, creditors, regulators and the public (Cabraa, 2007; Magdi & Nedareh, 2002). Governance in the public sector concern the means by which goals are set and achieved. It encompasses all activities that ensure a public sector entity's credibility, promotes equitable provision of services, and assure appropriate behaviour on the part of government officials which ultimately reduces the risk of corruption in public service (Goodson, Mory & Lapointe, 2012).

Sustainability refers to efforts aimed at achieving a balance between society's use of the environment and social wellness of both extant and upcoming generations. Sustainability is the action-oriented version of Sustainable Development (CCE, 2007). Sustainable Development entails maintaining a balance between the human need to enhance lifestyles and feeling of well-being on one hand, and conserving natural resources and ecosystems, on which both present and future generations depend (IMF, 2002). There is no universally accepted definition of sustainable development, nevertheless, the following definitions are worthy of note: Sustainable development is defined by World Commission on Environment and Development WECD (1987, p. 43) as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". WECD (1987) further assets that sustainable development is a process which ensures that the exploitation of resources, the direction of investments, the orientation of technological development, and institutional change are all in harmony and enhance both current and future potential to meet human needs and aspirations. Sustainable Development, thus, is maintaining a balance between the human need to enhance lifestyles and feeling of well-being on one hand, and preserving natural resources and ecosystems, on which we and future generations depend (Lee, Holland & McNeil, 2000; Potter, Binns, Elliott & Smith, 2004).

Sustainable Development (SD) means economic growth in conjunction with the conservation of the environment. Although economic growth enhances a nation's potential for reducing poverty and solving other social problems by increasing a total wealth, there are instances in history where economic growth was not followed by corresponding improvement in human development, rather, growth was achieved at the expense of greater inequality, higher unemployment, weakened democracy, loss of cultural identity, or overconsumption of natural resources needed by future generations (Soubbotina, 2004).

Most definitions of sustainable development encompass the idea that there are three interdependent pillars of sustainable development: environmental, economic and social (Elliot, 2006). Economic: An economically sustainable system must be able to produce goods and services on a continuing basis, to maintain manageable levels of government and external debt, and to avoid extreme sectoral imbalances which damage agricultural or industrial production.

Environmental: An environmentally sustainable system must maintain a stable resource base, avoiding over-exploitation of renewable resource systems or environmental sink functions, and depleting non-renewable resources only to the extent that investment is made in adequate substitutes. This includes maintenance of biodiversity, atmospheric stability, and other ecosystem functions not ordinarily classed as economic resources. Social: A socially sustainable system must achieve fairness in distribution and opportunity, adequate provision of social services including health and education, gender equity, and political accountability and participation. These three elements of sustainability introduce many potential complications to the original, simple definition of economic development (Holmberg, 1992; Reed, 1997; Harris, Wise, Gallagher, & Goodwin, 2001).

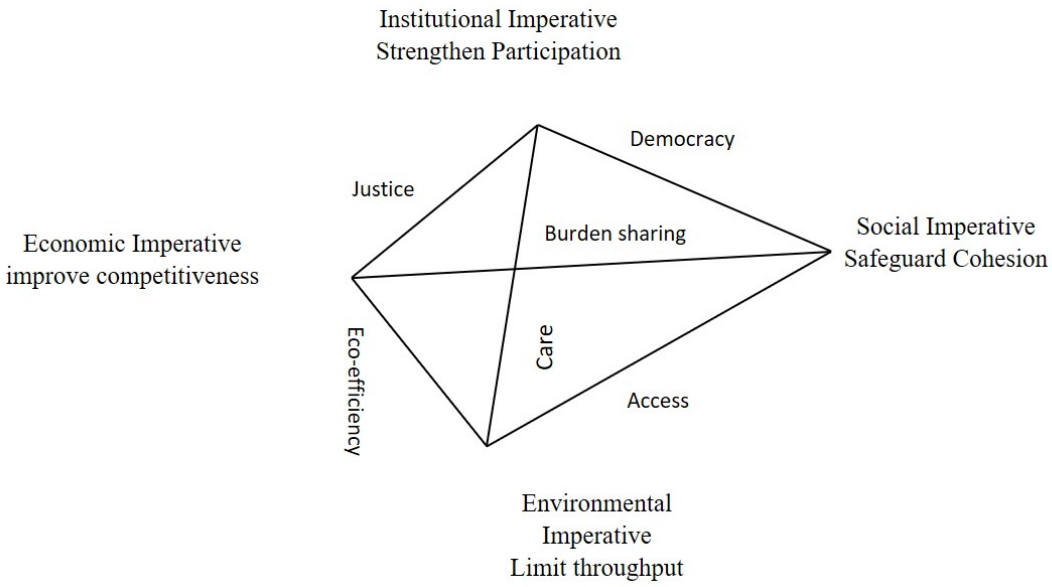
2.2 Models of Sustainability

There are five models of sustainability identified by the Centre for Environment Education (2007) namely: the Three Pillar Basic Model, the Egg of Sustainability, Atkinson Pyramid Model, the Prism of Sustainability and the Amoeba model but the interest of this study is the Prism of Sustainability model.

2.2.1 Prism of Sustainability

This model was developed by the German Wuppertal Institute and defines sustainable development with the help of four components - economy, environment, society and institution. In this model the inter-linkages such as care, access, democracy and eco-efficiency need to be looked at closely as they show the relation between the dimensions which could translate and influence policy. In each dimension of the prism, there are imperatives (as norms for action). Indicators are used to measure how far one has actually come in comparison to the overall vision of sustainable development. This is described in the following diagram:

Prism of Sustainability



Source: Centre for Environment Education (2007). Sustainable development. Internship series, vol. 1

2.3 Budgeting for Sustainable Development: Public Debt and Deficit

In this study sustainable development is represented by accumulation of public debt and deficit which is created by current generation, and expenditure on education, health and infrastructure representing concern for future generation. Public debt refers to the total amount owed by government, while deficit is the excess of government expenditure over revenue in a given year (Henry, 1999). Interest in sustainability has largely been stirred by innovations in accounting and economic analysis such as accrual accounting and budgeting, the application of present value analysis to government budgets, intergenerational accounting, and fiscal gap analysis (Schick, 2005). Fiscal sustainability entails the notion that governments should manage their finances prudently in such a manner that would guarantee future growth. According to H.M. Treasury, (2004, p. 4), "Britain's long-term fiscal objective is to ensure "that the public finances are sustainable, contributing to a stable environment that promotes economic growth". Australia's *Intergenerational Report* which states: "Fiscal sustainability ensures future generations of taxpayers do not face an unmanageable bill for government services provided to the current generation." Further, a sustainable fiscal stance "promotes fairness in distributing resources between generations of Australians" (Commonwealth of Australia, 2002, p. 2).

Thus, fiscal policy is adjudged to be unsustainable if it would cause potential output to be lower at some future time than it would otherwise be. A fiscal policy will be considered as sustainable when tax burdens and expenditure benefits are equitable across generations. In the views of this perspective, it would be unfair to provide benefits to one age cohort that will have to be paid for by taxes levied on younger cohorts. For example, when a government regime contracts debt obligations that would be repaid over several decades. Consequently, the following hypothesis formulated:

Hypothesis 1: There is no significant difference between public debt and deficit accumulated during the military and democratic dispensations in Nigeria.

2.4 Budgeting for Sustainable Development: Expenditure on Education

Governments spend public funds on education because they believe that a better educated population will contribute to faster and more sustainable development. Attending primary school helps children acquire basic literacy and numeracy as well as other knowledge and skills needed for their future education. In low-income countries primary education in itself often improves the welfare of the poor by making them more productive workers, enabling them to learn new skills throughout their working lives, and reducing the risk of unemployment. In addition, primary education—especially for girls and women—leads to healthier and smaller families and fewer infant deaths (Soubbotina, 2004). But "human capital"—people's abilities, knowledge, and skills—is at least as important tool for production, and at least as valuable to people who have it.

The importance of the "human factor" in modern production is reflected in the distribution of income among people who own physical capital and people who "own" knowledge and skills.

This recognition stemmed from the fact that the countries that invested most actively in knowledge creation and adaptation (through investing in research and development activities, R&D) as well as in knowledge dissemination (through investing in education as well as in information and communication technologies, ICT) tended to become most successful in solving their development problems. Moreover, it is now widely believed that even poor

countries, with insufficient resources to invest in creating new knowledge, can "leapfrog" in their development provided that they succeed in absorbing advanced global knowledge and adapting it for the needs of their developing economies (CBO, 2003; Crippen, 2003). A well-educated and adaptive population is seen as central to this task. The hypothesis for investigating the difference in expenditure on education during the military and democratic dispensations in Nigeria is stated thus:

Hypothesis 2: There is no significant difference between expenditure on education during the military and democratic regimes.

2.5 Budgeting for Sustainable Development: Expenditure on Health

Life expectancy at birth and the under-5 mortality rate are two statistical indices for monitoring the health of a country's population. These indicators are part of the overall measures of a population's quality of life because they indirectly reflect many aspects of people's welfare, including their levels of income and nutrition, the quality of their environment, and their access to health care, safe water, and sanitation (Soubbotina, 2004).

Life expectancy at birth how long a newborn baby would live if health conditions prevailing at the time of its birth were to stay the same throughout its life time. This indicator does not attempt to predict how long a baby will actually live, but rather reflects the overall health conditions characteristic of this particular country in this particular year. The under-5 mortality rate indicates the number of newborn babies who are likely to die before reaching age 5 per 1,000 live births. Because infants and children are most vulnerable to malnutrition and poor hygienic living conditions, they account for the largest portion of deaths in most developing countries. Therefore, decreasing under-5 mortality is usually seen as the most effective way of increasing life expectancy at birth in the developing world. Availability of quality health care facilities is still a big challenge for Nigeria and many other nations in sub-Sahara Africa (Olufemi, Olatunbosun, Olasode & Adeniran, 2013). Soubbotina (2004) opines that "the average level of public health expenditures in low-income countries is still only 1 percent of GDP compared with 6 percent in high-income countries". Therefore, the hypothesized relationship between budgets for health during the military and democratic eras is stated as follows:

Hypothesis 3: There is no significant difference between expenditure on health during the military and democratic eras in Nigeria.

2.6 Budgeting for sustainable development: Expenditure on infrastructure

The quest for development as encapsulated in the millennial development goals is rooted in the global desire to ensure eradication of extreme poverty; achievement of universal primary education; promotion of gender equality and women empowerment; reduction of child mortality rate; improvement in maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases; ensure environmental sustainability; development of global partnership for development especially in less advanced economies where the scourge of the menace is pervasive. In 2015, leaders from 193 countries across the globe created a plan called Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It consists of 17 set of goals aimed to rid our world of poverty and hunger and enable safety from the scourge of climate change. The United Nations Development Programme is one of the organisations working to fulfil the attainment of these goals by 2030. The goals are: No poverty; Zero hunger; Good health and well-being; Quality education; Gender equality; Clean water and

sanitation; Affordable and clean energy; Decent work and economic growth; Industry, innovation and infrastructure; Reduced inequalities; Sustainable cities and communities; Responsible consumption and production; Climate action; Life below water; Life on land; Peace, justice and strong institutions and Partnerships for the goals.

Infrastructure is a basic physical and organizational structural elements such as such as buildings, transport, energy resources, roads, telecommunications, pipe borne water supply, railways, urban transport, ports, waterways, airports and so on that provides framework for supporting an entire structure of development needed for the operation of a society or enterprise, or such services and facilities essential for enhancing and sustaining the living condition of societies (Omagu, 2016; Usman, 2014). Adenipekun (2013) examined the implementation of MDGs parameters in the rural areas of Atakunmosa West Local Government Area of Osun State using the basic infrastructure available. The goal of the study was to articulate the challenges confronting development in the area and the means of sustaining human development. The study found that the present state of the rural development in AWLGA of Osun state, is a clear indication that choices and opportunities for living a decent life within the context of MDGs may not be achieved in Nigeria by the year 2015. The study recommended that the natural endowments in the rural areas of Nigeria should be put to effective utilization as these constitute potential means of sustainable economic base of each rural settler. There is huge infrastructural facilities deficit in Nigeria, therefore, the relationship between budget for infrastructure and sustainability as measured by public debt is hypothesized as follows:

Hypothesis 4: There is no significant difference between expenditure on infrastructure during the military and democratic rule in Nigeria.

3.0 Methodology

To estimate the difference between military era and democratic dispensation, the researcher employed the independent t-test. The Independent T-test is used for comparing the mean of two groups which are selected independently so as to determine whether there is evidence that the associated population means of budgeting for sustainability during the military and democratic eras are significantly different statistically. The formula for equal variance not assumed is given as:

$$t = \frac{X1 - X2}{\sqrt{\frac{S1^2}{n1} + \frac{S2^2}{n2}}}$$

(3.1a)

$$\text{Where } S2 = \frac{(\sum x_1^2 - (\sum x_1)^2/n_1 + (\sum x_2^2 - (\sum x_2)^2/n_2}{n1 + n2 - 2}$$

(3.1b)

Where t represents the t-test calculated value

X1 =mean score of group 1

X2 =mean score of group 2

S2=common standard deviation of the groups

n1= sample size of group 1

n2= sample size of group 2

The formula for equal variance assumed is stated as:

$$t = \frac{X1 - X2}{sp\sqrt{\frac{1}{n1}^{1} + \frac{1}{n2}^{1}}}$$

(3.1c)

$$Sp\sqrt{\frac{(n1-1)S1^{2}}{n1} + \frac{(n2-1)S2^{2}}{n2-2}}$$

(3.1d)

Where:

X1 = mean of first sample

X2 = mean of second sample

n1 = sample size of first sample

n1 = sample size of second sample

S1 = standard deviation of first sample

S2 = standard deviation of second sample

Sp = pooled standard deviation

The *p*-value of Levene's Test for Equality of Variances helps the researcher to determine which equal variance to interpret. If $p < \alpha$, it implies that the samples are significantly different, then Equal variance not assumed and the corresponding confidence interval is reported. But if $p > \alpha$, the equal variance assumed and the corresponding confidence interval are reported.

4.0 Results and Discussion

Descriptive Statistics

Descriptive statistics reported in Table 1 show the summary of data and other basic characteristics of the series. The Jarque- Bera value is significant at the 1 percent level, indicating that the hypothesis of normality in the distribution cannot be accepted. This implies that the data series may have endogeneity issues but because the interest in this study is not to measure the effect of the variables, there is no cause to worry about endogeneity problem. The mean values of the various expenditures for the period are also shown. The average public debt of 43.98 is relatively low. The median value is low, suggesting di-similarity among the data

series over the period. The Table indicates that expenditure on education is higher, on average, during the period of the study than expenditure on health and infrastructure.

Table 1: Summary Statistics

	Mean	Median	Std. Dev.	Skewness	Kurtosis	Jarque-Bera	Prob.
PDEBTDEF	43.975	4.67	112.23	2.189	10.499	113.13	0.00
EXPEDU	93.02	27.37	126.32	1.28	3.17	9.86	0.01
EXPHEALTH	53.93	9.98	77.97	1.39	3.54	11.98	0.00
EXPINFRAS	44.89	7.79	60.95	1.19	3.10	8.55	0.01

Source: Researcher's computation (2018)

Discussion of result of Levene's test for equality of variance and equality of means:

In Table 2, $p = 0.001$ is less than the threshold significance level of this study, $\alpha = 0.05$, so the null hypothesis is rejected. The result indicates that PDEBTDEF variance in DEMERA is significantly different than that of MILERA. Therefore, equal variance not assumed is reported. The result of the t-test for the equality of means shows that the p-value ($p < 0.04$) is less than the chosen significance level of this study, $\alpha = 0.05$, so the null hypothesis is similarly rejected. The result indicates that the public debt and deficit during the military regime and democratic dispensation are significantly different. Thus, there is a significant difference between public debt and deficit accumulated during civilian and military eras at $t_{22.32} = 2.170$, $p < 0.04$ with average PDEBTDEF for democratic era being 64.854 higher than PDEBTDEF of the military era. The plausible reason for this is that expenditure on sustainability related matters were higher during the democratic era than military era requiring more funding. Conversely, it appears that expenditures as percentage of revenue were lower during the military era than democratic dispensation.

Table 2: Independent T-test

Group Statistics

	ERA	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
PDEBTDEF	DEMERA	22	69.196	137.986	29.419
	MILERA	14	4.342	19.648	5.251

Variable	Levene's Test		T-test for Equality of Means				
PDEBTDEF	F	p-value	t	df	p-value	Mean Diff	Std error
Equal variance assumed	13.069	0.001	1.738	34	0.091	64.854	37.31
Equal var. not assumed			2.170	22.32	0.041	64.854	29.884

Source: Researcher's computation (2018)

In Table 3, $p < 0.001$ is less than the threshold significance level of this study, $\alpha = 0.05$, so the null hypothesis is rejected. The result indicates that EXPEDU variance in DEMERA is significantly different than that of MILERA. Therefore, equal variance not assumed is reported. The result of the t-test for the equality of means shows that the p-value ($p < 0.001$) is less than the significance level of this study, $\alpha = 0.05$, therefore the null hypothesis is as well rejected. The result indicates that the expenditure on education during the military regime and democratic dispensation are significantly different. Expenditure on education during civilian and military eras differs at $t_{21.09} = 5.062$, $p < 0.001$ with average EXPEDU for democratic era being 145.00 higher than EXPEDU of the military era. The implication is that democratic governments were more concerned about human capital development than governments during military era.

Table 3: Independent T-test

Group Statistics

	ERA	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
EXPEDU	DEMERA	22	149.4127	134.20822	28.61329
	MILERA	14	4.4093	5.02165	1.34209

Variable	Levene's Test		T-test for Equality of Means				
EXPEDU	F	p-value	t	df	p-value	Mean Diff	Std error
Equal variance assumed	31.78	0.000	4.019	34	0.000	145.00	36.08
Equal var. not assumed			5.062	21.09	0.000	145.00	28.65

Source: Researcher's compilation (2018)

Similarly, the $p < 0.001$ in Table 4 is less than the threshold significance level of this study, $\alpha = 0.05$, so the null hypothesis is rejected. The result indicates that the variance in EXPHEALTH during the DEMERA is significantly different than that of MILERA. Therefore, equal variance not assumed is reported. The result of the t-test for the equality of means reveals that the p-value ($p < 0.001$) is less than the threshold significance level of this study, $\alpha = 0.05$, so the null hypothesis is rejected. The result indicates that the expenditure on health during the military regime and democratic dispensation are significantly different. There is a significant difference between expenditure on health during civilian and military eras at $t_{21.02} = 4.79$, $p < 0.001$ with average EXPHEALTH for democratic era being 86.04 higher than EXPHEALTH of the military era. The plausible reason for this is that government may have more health challenges to deal with during the democratic era than military era. This may also not be unconnected with the huge accumulation of public debt and deficit.

Table 4: Independent T-test

Group Statistics

	ERA	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
EXPHEALTH	DEMERA	22	87.3900	84.34667	17.98277
	MILERA	14	1.3471	1.52990	.40888

Variable	Levene's Test		T-test for Equality of Means				
EXPHEALTH	F	p-value	t	df	p-value	Mean Diff	Std error
Equal variance assumed	31.97	0.000	3.80	34	0.001	86.04	22.67
Equal var. not assumed			4.79	21.022	0.000	86.04	17.99

Source: Researcher's computation (2018)

Similarly, the $p < 0.001$in Table 5 is less than the threshold significance level of this study, $\alpha = 0.05$, so the null hypothesis is rejected. The result indicates that the variance in EXPINFRAS during the DEMERA is significantly different than that of MILERA. Therefore, equal variance not assumed is reported as in the earlier cases. The result of the t-test for the equality of means shows that the p-value ($p < 0.001$) is less than the threshold significance level of this study, $\alpha = 0.05$, implying that the null hypothesis should be rejected. The result shows expenditure on infrastructure during the military regime and democratic dispensation are significantly different. Thus, expenditure on infrastructure during civilian dispensation is significantly different than that during the military eras at $t_{21.03} = 5.173$, $p < 0.001$ with average EXPINFRAS for democratic era being 70.97 higher than EXPINFRAS of the military era. The plausible reason for this may due to the observed difference in public debt and deficit accumulation during the comparative eras.

Table 5: Independent T-test

Group Statistics

	ERA	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
EXPINFRAS	DEMERA	22	72.4886	64.32931	13.71506
	MILERA	14	1.5164	1.34526	.35954

Variable	Levene's Test		T-test for Equality of Means				
EXPINFRAS	F	p-value	t	df	p-value	Mean Diff	Std error
Equal variance assumed	62.05	0.000	4.106	34	0.000	70.97	17.29
Equal var. not assumed			5.173	21.029	0.000	70.97	13.72

Source: Researcher's computation (2018)

5.0 Conclusion

Effective budgeting should enhance proper planning and achievement of national objectives including sustainability. Since independence, various regimes in Nigeria have been preparing annual estimates which reflects how resources have to be allocated to various sector of the economy. This study sought to examine budgetary allocations and expenditure on education, health and infrastructure vis-à-vis public debt accumulation and deficit budgeting during the period of military rule and democratic dispensation in Nigeria. The study finds that public debt accumulation, expenditure on education, expenditure on health and expenditure on infrastructure were all higher during democratic era than military era. The plausible reason for this may be because revenue was higher during the democratic dispensation than the military era. No doubt, Nigeria need to watch the rate of accumulation of public debt to avoid shifting the burden of governance to its teeming youth population and unborn generations. However, the study suggests that further researchers may wish to ascertain whether figures for democratic era were higher than periods of military rule in real terms by taking cognizance of inflation.

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Appendices

YEAR	PDEBTDEF	EXPEDU	EXPHEALTH	EXPINFRAS	EXPSOAME	EXPAGRIC
	N' Billion	N' Billion	N' Billion	N' Billion	N' Billion	N' Billion
1981	1.03	0.17	0.08	0.13	0.04	0.01
1982	1.17	0.19	0.1	0.15	0.05	0.01
1983	1.01	0.16	0.08	0.12	0.04	0.01
1984	1.24	0.2	0.1	0.16	0.05	0.02
1985	1.61	0.26	0.13	0.2	0.07	0.02
1986	1.63	0.26	0.13	0.2	0.07	0.02
1987	3.93	0.23	0.04	0.59	0.03	0.05
1988	9.24	1.46	0.42	0.92	0.23	0.08
1989	13.27	3.01	0.58	0.79	0.64	0.15
1990	23.82	2.4	0.5	0.92	0.49	0.26
1991	26.41	1.26	0.62	0.65	0.80	0.21
1992	19.4	0.29	0.15	1.69	0.89	0.46
1993	81.08	8.88	3.87	4.35	1.91	1.80
1994	49.4	7.38	2.09	1.59	0.61	1.18
1995	51.06	9.75	3.32	2.78	0.75	1.51
1996	53.04	11.5	3.02	3	1.47	1.59
1997	68.54	14.85	3.89	3.39	3.32	2.06
1998	64.39	13.59	4.74	7.55	3.11	2.89
1999	30.84	43.61	16.64	27.76	11.2	59.32
2000	131.05	57.96	15.22	8.02	11.61	6.34

YEAR	PDEBTDEF	EXPEDU	EXPHEALTH	EXPINFRAS	EXPSOAME	EXPAGRIC
	N' Billion	N' Billion	N' Billion	N' Billion	N' Billion	N' Billion
2001	155.42	39.88	24.52	41.13	15.23	7.06
2002	163.87	80.53	40.62	36.78	31.03	9.99
2003	363.51	64.78	33.29	39.63	4.56	7.54
2004	382.5	76.53	34.2	22.97	23.66	11.26
2005	393.96	82.8	55.66	25.96	13.19	16.33
2006	249.33	119.02	62.25	29.83	12.9	17.93
2007	213.33	150.78	81.91	103.52	23.99	32.48
2008	381.2	163.98	98.22	161.85	70.73	65.40
2009	251.79	137.12	90.2	170.66	126.87	22.44
2010	415.66	170.8	99.1	99.5	281.00	28.22
2011	527.18	335.8	231.8	209	217.84	41.20
2012	679.3	348.14	197.9	106.5	243.76	33.30
2013	828.1	390.42	179.99	110.7	273.66	39.42
2014	941.7	343.75	195.98	134.6	235.66	92.19
2015	1060.38	325.19	257.72	138.99	235.03	116.30
2016	1584.11	341.88	202.36	119.4	224.71	114.60

OLS Regression

Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.542	.294	.273	66.47157

ANOVA

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	62544.010	1	62544.010	14.155	.001
	Residual	150227.973	34	4418.470		
	Total	212771.983	35			

Dependent Variable: EXPHEALTH

Coefficient

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		
		B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
1	(Constant)	1.679	17.765		.094	.925
	ERA	85.501	22.725	.542	3.762	.001

Dependent Variable: EXPHEALTH

Independent T-test

Group Statistics

	ERA	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
EXPHEALTH	DEMERA	22	87.1791	84.56869	18.03011
	MILERA	14	1.6786	1.72863	.46200

Variable	Levene's Test		T-test for Equality of Means				
EXPHEALTH	F	p-value	t	df	p-value	Mean Diff	Std error
Equal variance assumed	31.75	0.000	3.76	34	0.001	85.501	22.75
Equal var. not assumed			4.74	21.028	0.000	85.501	18.03