

## **Operational Equipment and Public Property Protection-A Study of Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Cross River State Command**

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### **Abstract**

*The study aims at unmasking the nexus of operational equipment, effective public property protection and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), in the wake of the apparent, persistent threat to public property and the increase in wanton destruction, vandalization, stealing and misuse of critical assets and infrastructure of the nation. Specifically, the study sets out to determine the impacts of operational equipment as used by NSCDC for and in public property protection, as well as identify how electronic governance compliant and modern technology based operational equipment would engender and enhance effective public property protection by the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC). The study adopted a case study research design. The research design is suited for this study because it supports data collection and analysis with the context of a phenomenon, integrates quantitative and qualitative data in data analysis and has the ability to capture complexities of real life situation, so that the phenomenon can be studied at greater levels or depth. Findings from the study showed that adequate and e-governance compliant/modern technology operational equipment is key and central to effective public property protection and that, the NSCDC lacks that, due to poor funding. Based on the findings, the researcher recommended that the NSCDC should acquire adequate modern electronically and technologically driven operational equipment to provide effective protection to public property in Nigeria and that government should fund the NSCDC adequately to increase its financial capacity and capability to acquire the necessary modern technology operational equipment and for training its personnel in the effective use of such modern equipment when acquired.*

**Keywords:** *Operational equipment, Public Property, Protection, Security, Civil Defence Corps, Nigeria,*

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### **1.0 Introduction**

The task of protecting public property the world over has never been an easy one and it has been on the front burner of the agenda of all Nations and States of the world. Public property which comprises all critical national assets, infrastructure and facilities of every nation are essential for the proper functioning of the Society and the economy of nations (NSCDC Critical infrastructure Protection Manual, 2014). So when these infrastructural facilities are safe/effective, then development is assured. Ola(2010) was of the opinion that sustainable development is attainable with solid infrastructural base. Badiora and Obadiora (2011) were of the opinion that deficit in supply of infrastructure is actually worsened by man's activities and there is need to plan for protection. These infrastructures and assets are essential and critical in the sense that what happens to the socio-economic and political future of the nations, depends on them. Public property as State or government owned, are for the general welfare and interest of the people or public. Protection of public property may include, building resiliency around the facility, installing security systems, monitoring,

mounting guard, surveillance and initiating counter measures (James: 2014) However, adequate and effective protection of public property has been an illusion and a "dream not come true" particularly in Nigeria, in spite of having some paramilitary formations being in charge of providing security or protection to public property (Aluire, 1993). The paramilitary formations performing the task of protection of public property in Nigeria currently are the Nigeria Police Force and The Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps. The Nigeria police, by the Police Act of 1967 is charged indirectly with the responsibility of providing protection to public property, in view of her statutory roles of protecting life and property, as well as prosecuting offenders and preserving law and order in the country. As was evident in modern societies, emerging diversities and contradictions arising from population explosion and heterogeneity, urbanization and industrialization with the attendant increase in crime wave, overwhelmed the police, in its efforts to fight crime and protect life and property in the midst of some challenges.

Then came the establishment of the Nigeria Security and Defence Corps (NSCDC) in 2003. As a paramilitary agency of government, the NSCDC, in addition to assisting in maintaining peace and order, fighting against vandalism and crime generally, is directly charged, among other functions, with the protection of public infrastructures and maintaining 24 hour surveillance over infrastructure, sites and projects of Federal, State and Local Government of Nigeria (NSCDC, Acts, 2003 and 2007 as Amended) It is expedient to say that the NSCDC, in order to justify its establishment, and to forestall Nigerians, from taking the outfit as one of those duplications in Nigeria's attempt to combat crime and security, has been doing its best (Brown, 2013). According to the author, a cursory flip into the activities of the NSCDC, would reveal that across the state of the federation such as Rivers, Cross River, Akwa-Ibom, Bayelsa, Delta, Ondo, Edo, Abia, etc, her personnel and foot soldiers are on ground, providing security and protection for government buildings and projects, road infrastructure, petroleum, oil and gas pipelines, Nigeria Communications Commission (NCC), and Nigeria Telecommunication facilities, Electric Power transformers/transmitters and transmission lines, JAMB & INEC properties, etc..

In course of protecting public property, many suspects have been arrested and prosecuted for theft of NITEL cables, for power and pipeline vandalism, as well as oil theft, illegal bunkering, and adulteration of petroleum products. During the process of arrest of suspects, drums of petroleum products, armoured cables, light weight vehicles, tankers, trucks, pumping machines, engine boats, sophisticated weapons etc., were being recovered and recorded (A Compendium of NSCDC, 2018). While the above highlighted activities speak for themselves, a cross section of the public still share the opinion that the days when public property is effectively protected are not yet here. This is because on a daily basis, petroleum products are stolen, electric power transmission lines, oil pipelines, communication facilities, traffic/street lights and public utility installation are still continuously vandalized or stolen. Sadly according to Brown (2013), the rate has been alarming as a result of high level insecurity in the country characterized by the youth restiveness and militancy in Niger Delta, ethnic militias, agitations of self-determination of Independence People of Biafra (IPOB), in the East, Oduduwa in the West and Boko Haram insurgency in the North. But the questions asked by some people are:- in the face of the rising insecurity and crime, does the NSCDC have appropriate and adequate operational equipment to provide effective protection to the public property in Nigeria? And, how adequate is the funding of the NSCDC by the government, to enable it meet up with the finances needed for acquisition of equipment and effective mobilization of personnel and materials for the task of protecting public property in Nigeria?

This takes us to the problem of this study which is the persistent threat to public property and the

increase in the wanton destruction, vandalization, stealing and misuse of public property in Nigeria. This is regardless of the fact that public property is heavily protected by paramilitary formations, particularly the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) with the operational equipment at its disposal. Therefore, the general objective of this study is to unmask the nexus of operational equipment, effective public property protection in Nigeria and the NSCDC. The specific objectives are:

- i. To determine the impact of operational equipment on public property protection in Nigeria by NSCDC.
- ii. Identify how e-governance and modern technology based operational equipment would engender and enhance effective public property protection, in Nigeria by NSCDC.
- iii. Make suggestions that would enable NSCDC provide effective protection to public property in Nigeria

The study adopted a case study research design. The case study research design is suited for this study because it supports data collection and analysis within the context of a phenomenon, integrates qualitative and quantitative data in data analysis, and has the ability to capture complexities of real life situation so that the phenomenon can be studied at greater levels or depth (Research Methodology, 2019). The ability to mix qualitative and quantitative data would provide a comprehensive analysis of the research and interpretation of the study result (Creswell, 2003).

Details in Table 1:1 shows specifically the types, source and category of data that will be used for this study.

**Table 1:1 Types, category and source of data**

S/N	Data type	Category	Source	Technical and instrument for data collection
	Data on the impact of operational equipment on public property protection in Nigeria	Primary	Respondents (NSCDC personnel)	Questionnaire administration, focus group discussion and key informant interview.

Geographically, the study was carried out in Cross River State, but will be limited to the domain of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), Cross Rivers State Command, which cut across the three senatorial districts of the State. The command operates, three Area Commands, spread across the State as follows: Area A (Calabar), Area B (Ikom) and Area C (Ogoja), each to cater for the security needs of the citizenry in the three (3) Senatorial Districts of the State: Central, South and North. The Cross-River State Command of NSCDC has about 1000 officers and men, serving in the State Headquarters, Area Commands and Divisions, all put together. It has 18 Divisions with headquarters situated in the 18 Local Government Areas of the State, with each Division headed by a Divisional Officer. The command has a centralized operational base. Command and, control flow downwards in hierarchical and regimented order, from, the State commandant, who is in charge of the State Command to the Area Commanders and to the Division Officers.

Cross River State is situated in the south-south geo-political zone of Nigeria, with 18 Local Government Areas. Ambekeh (2005), asserted that the State is located between latitude 5<sup>0</sup>32 and 4<sup>0</sup>27, North and Longitude 7<sup>0</sup>5' and 9<sup>0</sup>28 East. With landmass of approximately 23,074,425 sqkm, and an estimated population of 2.9 million. The State is bounded to the North by Benue State while in the West by Ebonyi, Abia, Imo and Akwa Ibom States, and to the East by the Republic of Cameroon. While the population of the study is about 1000 staff (Officers & men) of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Cross Rivers State Command, the sample for the study, purposely selected is 400. The 400 respondents are selected from the State Headquarters, Areas A, B and C Commands and Divisions, respectively.

**A break-down of the sample selection is shown in the table 2 below**

**Table 2 Distribution of Respondents of NSCDC**

S/N	Command/Population	Population selected/sampled	Percentage Sample
1	State HQ & Area A (Calabar) with 7 Divisions-500	250	50 percent
2	Area B (Ikom) with 6 Divisions-250	75	50 percent
3	Area C (Ogoja) with 6 Divisions-250	75	50 percent
Total	1000	400	

## 2.0 Literature Review

### 2.1 NSCDC and Public Property Protection.

Gliding from mere Lagos Civil Defence Committee which was established in May 1997 for the purpose of sensitizing and protecting the Civil populace against the Civil Wars, the organization according to Brown (2013) grew to become the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps in 1984 - thereby transforming into a National Security outfit under the Special Duties Dept. of the then Federal Ministry of internal Affairs, now Ministry of Interior.

Brown (2013) further said that in 1988, a major restructuring and re-organisation by President Babangida's Military Administration, led to the establishment of commands throughout the Federation, including the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. Special functions were added to the Corps by the Federal Government of Nigeria. Further to that, history was made according to Uthman (2016) on 28th June, 2003, when an Act to give a statutory backing to the Corps was passed by the National Assembly and signed into law by President Olusegun Obasanjo. The Act was amended in 2007, with the following as some of the statutory principal functions in view of the inability of the Nigeria Police to cope with some functions.

- i. Maintenance of peace and order, protection and rescuing the civil population during emergency and disaster
- ii. Monitor and maintain twenty four (24) hours-surveillance over public o assets, infrastructure, sites and projects of the three tiers of government, fighting against vandalism, stealing adulteration of petroleum products and crimes generally.
- iii. Arrest suspects with or without warrant, detain, investigate and institute legal action by or in the name of the Attorney General of the Federation.
- iv. Regulate, supervise and monitor the activities of Private Guard Companies in Nigeria, and
- v. Monitor, investigate and take necessary steps to forestall any planned act of terrorism (including cultism), and report same to the appropriate agency of government.

In deed, the Corps has been reinvigorated by its new status. Thus from Lagos to Borno, and from Sokoto to Akwa Ibom, the effectiveness of the Corps has been glaring in the areas of protection of critical national assets and infrastructure, discovery and recovery, as well as restoration of peace and order ((Brown: 2013). Chidozie (2009) observes that the Corps has recorded a significant achievement and commitment in discharging it's duties with and without arms. According to him, NSCDC has done satisfactory work in the areas like escort/public Security of well meaning Nigerians and foreigners, carrying out anti-vandalization, arresting and prosecuting of vandals, restoration of peace and order in riot and conflict areas, among others. For instance, Master web (May 31, 2012) reports that officials of NSCDC, Abia command arrested seven persons (six man and a lady) for adulterating petroleum products. Substantiating further, Oche (2006) opines that the NSCDC has done well in providing security to public property including election materials and equipment in the Federal Capital Territory during the April 10th, 2010 elections in the six Area Councils. He stresses that because of the presence of NSCDC personnel, the election was violent free through the provision of adequate security or protection. Contributing, Uthman (2016) observed that upon all the numerous achievements recorded by the Corps, there are a lot of challenges that hinder it's optimum performance, among which are inadequate operational equipment, lack of personnel, poor welfare and training of personnel, due to poor financial resources. From the various accounts of some NSCDC personnel in field operations, and some others in the business of protecting life and property in Nigeria, most of the criminal elements, miscreants and vandals encountered during operations possess and display superior and modern hi-tech equipment, arms and ammunitions. And this according to them, has hindered their effective performance. Some opinions support the view, that this has grossly affected the operation and performance of NSCDC, in view of the archaic and analog operational equipment the Agency still use in her operations.

According to Uthman (2016), the tidal waves of criminal activities and general insecurity prevalent in the country today, requires modern or hi-tech equipment to tackle, as the absence of that poses a serious challenge to the Agency and as well, a big threat to lives and property of the citizens and the cooperate existence of the country. So to some up and with the present security situation in Nigeria, the task of protecting public property would be an uphill one, if the concerned agencies still operate without modern technology based and sophisticated equipment (John:2016). Therefore, the need for NSCDC to have a second look at the appropriateness of her operational equipment in the current situation, is a timely one hence the question agitating the minds of people is:- how would NSCDC provide effective protection to public property, as well as fight crime and vandals with analog and out dated operational equipment, while the criminals out there, are heavily armed with sophisticated and modern technology based equipment. This has been a contending issue particularly in this era of e-governance and administration. According to Oluforubi (2018), one doesn't bring a knife to a gun fight. And sadly this has been the case with security formations in Nigeria, including the NSCDC. The author opines that the need to imbibe the spirit of e-governance and information technology by Security Agencies in Nigeria is ripe. This is by the acquisition of the modern operational equipment to fight crime generally and for the protection of public property. He went further to cite countries like North Korea, USA, Russia, Israel, etc, which he observed, do not joke with acquisition of modern and sophisticated operational equipment for their military and paramilitary forces for the onerous task of protecting life and property of their citizenry.

## **2.2 Concept of Operational Equipment**

The term, operational equipment is ambiguous and ubiquitous in all human life. Every aspect of human endeavor requires one or more types of operational equipment. In the context of this study, the concept of operational equipment would be discussed in the perspective of the paramilitary

operational equipment, but not the heavy duty equipment type of hardware. However, according to Law Insider (2020), operational equipment means equipment necessary for or relating to an operation or operations. Such equipment must be in working order and very ready for use.

Operational equipment being the material to an operation are necessary to review, inspect and maintain the project. Collins English Dictionary explains operational equipment in military parlance, as those equipment capable of, needed on, and actually involved in operations.

In the context of paramilitary, operational equipment covers a wide range of hardware or assortment of protective, detective, identification, monitoring and surveillance devices such as Remote Control Cameras, WalkieTalkies , GSM phones, Robots, Drones, PABX/Talk back communication/Base systems, Alarms systems, Scanners, Shocker batons, closed-circuit television (CCTV), Stun guns, X-ray machines, and Binocular lens or telescope. It includes other basic items like tags, remote doors and gates, tear gas, access cards, remote locks, wire-gauge as well other facilities for security operations.

### **2.3 Defining Public Property**

Public property is a property that is dedicated to public use and a subset of state property. The term may be used either to describe the character of its ownership (owned collectively by the population of a state) (Alison & Kohler, 2005). Public property comprises all critical national assets and infrastructural facilities of every nation. They are essential for the good and warfare of the society and proper functioning of the economy of nations (NSCDC Critical Infrastructure Protection Manual, 2014). These infrastructures and assets are essential and critical in the sense that what happens to the socio-economic and political future of the nations, depends on them. According to Hayes (2019), government-owned property is often considered ‘public’ property, although that does not mean that all such property is freely accessible to all citizens. For instance, an army base or laboratory may be government-owned, but with highly restricted access. A public playground, on the order hand, may be owned by local government and free to anybody to enjoy.

Hayes said in addition, that public property are what people of a country own and use jointly. If the government is responsible for building and maintaining public property, it is the duty of the people to help the government in maintaining it, as it costs a lot of public money to government to acquire them. In the Global United Nations Development Programmes (UNDP), Human Development Index ranking (HDI) of 2004, 2006, and 2008, the National Bureau of Statistic (NBS) ranked Nigeria low because of infrastructure deficit. Public property is a right enjoyed by all and must be protected. The right to access public property is the strongest when the area which one wish to access has historically been open to the pubic forums and includes spaces such as side-walks, parks, and town squares. One may freely enter and gather information while in these public spaces, but one should do so without disturbing the peace or interfering with those around. The right of access does not confer immunity from liability, if ones conducts is disruptive or harassing (Digital Media law, 2019).

### **2. 4. Impact of Electronic Governance/Information Technology on Public Property Protection**

The concept of e-governance has enjoyed resounding acceptance as a new easy & better way of doing business and rendering service globally. It is nothing but the application of information and communication technology (ICT) in service delivery and business transactions. Its use promises to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of government and alter its relationship with the public (Bisong & Ogwumike; 2020). According to Kemi (2016), the growing problem of public property protection in Nigeria is now of great concern to the public. So every effort should be employed to

address this challenge by embracing e-governance. The author believes that information technology (IT) would play a critical role in strengthening the efforts of security agencies in effective protection of public property in Nigeria. Specifically, ICT will help and enable the NSCDC promptly identify potential threat to public property, share information easily, rapidly and readily as well as provide effective mechanism to protect life and property generally, and develop more rapid response capabilities too. Kemi, further observed that USA spends trillions of dollars from tax payers money to acquire hi-tech and sophisticated equipment and weapons for her security forces. As the world develops, according to the author, the potentials and importance of e-governance/Information Technology cannot be over emphasized in the protection of public property. This is because, since the advent of Information Technology, it has recorded greater advantages than disadvantages, most especially in the areas of security, information and communication. So, as the Security situation in the country is getting deteriorated and more complex by the day, and the need for effective protection of public property becomes imperative, there seems to be no better option than for the Security Agencies, particularly the NSCDC, to key into the e-governance and Information Technology revolution and go for modern electronically operated and technology based operational equipment for their operations.

In addition to the observations by Kemi, Nte (2013) notes that intelligence gathering is a key factor to effective public property protection. He observed that intelligence gathering and management have not been effective in public property protection in Nigeria. This is as a result of the insignificant impact of intelligence on the operations of the paramilitary agency protecting the public property in the Country. And it's due to some obvious reason, according to the author.

From the study conducted by Adigun (2018), it is clear that intelligence agents lacked the necessary facilities and training to gather reliable information and to process it, which would effectively support the conduct of effective of public property protection in Nigeria. The research identified some challenges, which include: lack of appropriate surveillance / monitoring, poor funding and training, lack of real time intelligence, lack of analytical facilities and absence of other technical/data collection means.

Also Bodunde, Balogun and Layefa (2019) in their own study, identified the challenges of intelligence gathering and sharing, among Security Agencies, as militating against protection of public property in Nigeria. The politicization of intelligence shared really makes a mockery of intelligence sharing among security agencies; hence though they may lack modern facilities, they compete rather than collaborating, giving room for ineffective and inefficient public property protection. Fields (2012) stated that for effective information and intelligence gathering, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVS), Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA), or drones being electronically and remotely controlled aircraft without an onboard pilot, are gaining ground, in addition to use in real warfare. This technology has existed for decades, but is attracting growing attention due to its increase used in intelligence gathering, surveillance, monitoring (that is in protection public property generally) and in armed conflicts by a growing number of States.

In line with the adoption of technology in National Security, Bakare, Odu, and Ngeri (2016) noted that satellite communication as a wireless means of transmission of intelligible signals, if properly utilized in public property protection operations, will bring great and positive development on the economic growth of any nation. The Federal Government of Nigeria made a giant step in the communication sector by launching five satellites into orbit, NigeriaSat-1, NigComSat-1, NigeriaSat-2r, Nigeria Sat-x and NigComSat-1R. Though faced with challenges, Nigeria and her citizens are utilizing, though minimally, the benefits of satellite communication in several ways such

as internet facilities, information sharing, distance learning, security, GPS services, GSM communication, TV and Radio Broadcasting. Therefore, for Nigeria to make any headway in effective protection of her public property, including critical national assets and infrastructure, the security agencies, particularly the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) which is directly charged with the responsibility of protecting public property, should be provided with modern technology driven operational equipment as well as adequate funds for training her personnel in the use of the modern equipment.

In support if this, Umaru and Enyinna (2012) stated that paramilitary and military Agencies should embrace the use of technologically and electronically operated operational equipment in order to drive intelligence gathering/sharing, operational, tactical, and strategic business of protection of life and property as well as making information technology an intrinsic part of their operations. The significance of the above, apart from helping the rapid technological transformation of the paramilitary personnel in the business of protecting public property, they could use such skills to contribute to the development of the wider society after disengaging from public service.

### **3.0 Discussion of findings**

#### **3.1 Testing of Hypothesis**

The hypothesis is stated thus:

H1: There is no relationship between operational equipment and effective public property protection in Nigeria by NSCDC.

H2: There is a relationship between operational equipment and effective public property protection in Nigeria by NSCDC.

The Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient was used to determine the relationship between operational equipment and effective public property protection in Nigeria by NSCDC. The output of the analysis as presented in Table 3.1, shows there was strong correlation ( $r = 0.891$  or 89 percent) between both variables in the study area. It is worthy to know that there was strong positive relationship ( $p = 0.008 < 0.05$ ) between the two variables. Based on this, the alternate hypothesis is accepted and the null rejected. This denotes that operational equipment has a critical role to play in determining the effectiveness of public property protection by the NSCDC in Cross River State.

<b>Table 3.1 Correlation Result For Hypothesis</b>			
		Operational Equipment	Effective Protection Of Public Property By The NSCDC
operational equipment	Pearson Correlation	1	.891**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.008
	N	1000	1000
Effective protection of public property by the NSCDC	Pearson Correlation	.891**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.008	
	N	1000	1000

Source: Researcher's field work, 2020

To support the findings of the hypothesis of this study, the following tables obtained from the Key Informant Interview. -Table 3.2, depicts the responses of respondents in the notion that NSCDC



formations have adequate operational equipment to protect all public property locations in Cross River State. Based on the data obtained =, it was noted that 22.25 strongly agreed that NSCDC formations have adequate operational equipment to protect all public property locations in Cross River state and 19 per cent agreed that NSCDC formations have adequate operational equipment to protect all public property locations in Cross River State. However, 25 per cent of the respondents disagreed that NSCDC formations have adequate operational equipment to protect all public property locations in Cross River State, while 33.75 per cent of the respondents strongly disagreed that NSCDC formations have adequate operational equipment to protect all public property in Cross River state.

**Table 3.2 NSCDC formations have adequate operational equipment to cover all public property locations in Cross River State**

<b>Options</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>percent</b>
Strongly agree	89	22.25
Agree	76	19
Disagree	100	25
Strongly disagree	135	33.75
Total	400	100

Source: Researcher's field work, 2020

Table 3.3 shows the responses of respondents and the idea that NSCDC formations have modern technology driven operational equipment to combat or deter any threat to public property. Based on the data obtained, it was noted that 22.25 percent strongly agreed that NSCDC formations have modern technology driven operational equipment to combat or deter any threat to public property and 19 percent agreed that NSCDC formation have modern technology driven operational equipment to combat or deter any threat to public property. However, 25 percent of the respondent disagreed that NSCDC formations have modern technology driven operational equipment to combat or deter any threat to public property while 33.75 percent of the respondent strongly disagree, too.

<b>Options</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>percent</b>
Strongly agree	89	22.25
Agree	76	19
Disagree	100	25
Strongly disagree	135	33.75
Total	400	100

Source: Researcher's field work, 2020

The result displayed on table 3:4 revealed that 12.25 percent of the respondents strongly disagreed that adequate funding by government, acquisition and use of modern technology and e-governance compliant operational equipment by NSCDC formations, would ensure effective public property protection in Nigeria and 11.5 percent of the respondents also disagreed. However, 32.5 per cent of the respondents agreed that adequate funding by government, acquisition and use of modern technology and e-governance compliant operational equipment by NSCDC formations, would ensure effective public property protection in Nigeria and 41.25 percent strongly agreed to that, too.

**Table 3.4. Adequate funding by government, acquisition and use of modern technology and e-governance compliant operational equipment by NSCDC formations would ensure effective public property protection in Nigeria.**

Options	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	165	41.25
Agree	130	32.5
Disagree	46	11.5
Strongly disagree	49	12.25
Total	400	100

Source: Researcher’s field work, 2020

Plates 1-2 visualize the Researcher conducting interview with audience of the focus group discussion. At the discussion, respondents all agreed that inadequate as well as lack of modern and technology based operational equipment hinders effective protection of public property by the NSCDC.



Plate 1: Researcher with interviewee during focus group discussion  
 Source: Fieldwork, 2020



#### **4.0 Conclusion and Recommendations**

Based on the findings of this study, the researcher arrived at the conclusion that not only that operational equipment is central and key to the effective public property protection by the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), but adequate, electronic governance compliant and modern technology driven operational equipment, for that matter. Without doubt and based on the revelation of the study, the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) being the agency of government charged directly with the responsibility of protecting public property in Nigeria among other duties, is grappling with lack of adequate and modern technology based operational equipment due to poor funding by the government. In view of the above, the following recommendations are made.

1. The Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) should as a matter of great importance, acquire adequate modern electronically and technologically driven operational equipment for effective protection of public property in Nigeria from wanton destruction and vandalization, stealing and misuse, and
2. Government should adequately fund the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, so as to increase her financial capacity and capability to acquire the necessary modern technology operational equipment, as well as train her personnel in the effective use of such modern equipment when acquired for effective protection of public property in Nigeria.

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