

A Geographical Analysis of Collapsed Plastic Small-Scale Industries in Kano, Nigeria

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Abstract

Plastic Small-Scale Industries is an important business in Nigeria. It provides job opportunities to willing individuals, and material for many other industries besides tax to the government. However, for some reason, it is facing several difficulties, which lead to the collapse of many. This research aims to identify the causes of the collapse of Plastic Small-Scale Industries (CPSSIs) clusters in Sharada Janbulo, Challawa, and Gwammaja Masaka of Kano. Survey research was employed. Eight CPSSIs were identified and their proprietors as well as employers served questionnaires. Results show that the cost of power, raining season, and the high cost of materials with 13% each are the major causes. Next in magnitude with 11% are obsolete technology, marketing, and high cost of raw materials. These are followed by sole proprietorship, management issues, and capital with 10%. Lastly sole proprietorship with 8%. The Kano State Ministry of Commerce and Industry (KSMCI), Kano Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mines and Agriculture (KACCIMA), and National Association of Small-Scale Industry (NASSI), should council and monitor the operation of PSSIs, to avoid continuous collapse. KACCIMA should organize seminars for employers and employees, to improve PSSI production capacity. Modern types of machinery should be provided for the smooth operations of PSSIs, via the Bank of Industry at a subsidized rate.

Keywords: *Industry, Small Scale Industries, Collapsed Industries, Plastic Industries.*

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Background to the Study

Although Nigeria is mainly an agricultural state, small-scale industries (SSIs) have been developed which engage in processing, preserving, and manufacturing. Nigeria remains a major hub of this sub-class of industries in Sub-Saharan Africa. The prime purpose of SSIs is to utilize local raw materials and labour as well as industrial entrepreneurship. The development of small-scale Industries is an integral element of the economic growth of any state (Ajayi, 2011). Vast and diverse small-scale industries have sprung up all over the country. They consist of raw foodstuff, recharge cards, day-care, dry cleaning, restaurants, car rentals, bakeries, film production, graphic design, phone repair, gym business, wine bars, transport, car wash, events centers, fast food and delivery, nursing home, poultry farm, cosmetics, tailoring, garments and textile, vegetables and fruits sellers, furniture's, fish farming, organic farming, block making, welding and fabrication, and likes (NASSI, 2010). Four major industrial regions could be identified in Nigeria: Port-Harcourt-Aba-Onitsha-Enugu, Lagos-Ibadan, and the Benin-Sapele-Warri and Kano-Kaduna-Zaria (Ajayi, 2011) as shown in Figure 1.

The Nigerian industrial problems were deep-rooted since its 1967 political crises, which turned into the country's civil war that lasted up to the early quarter of the 1970s. This has damaged almost all the small, medium, and large-scale industries (Teriba et al. 1981; Adesola, et al. 2014). Others include the liberty to choose the location of SSIs response to the fierce competition feature as one of the hindrances of SSI growth (Basant & Sebastine, 2006; Agwu & Emeti, 2014); the weak linkages with the external market, weak technological innovation and lack of professional information on obtaining bank loans (Basant and Sebastine, 2006; Liu, 2008). Moreover, other hitches preclude Nigerian SSI growth, some are financial whereas others are non-financial (Onwualu, 2012). Another major hitch is the government attitude that led the country to be behind earlier contemporaries: Egypt and South Africa in terms of manufacturing activities and placed at the bottom of the Newly Industrialized Nations (NINs) of the world. Despite that anomaly of SSIs, the country remains an industrial hub in the sub-region of West Africa (Ajayi, 2011; OECD, 2017).

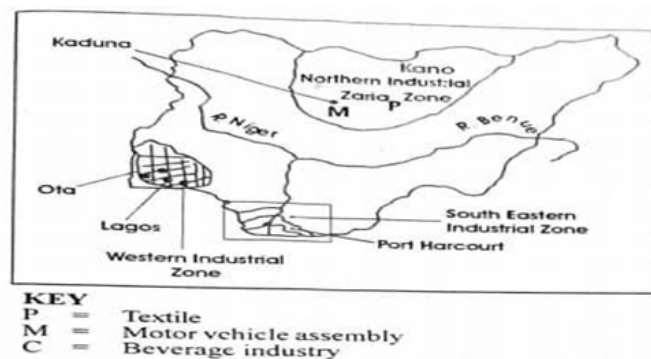


Figure 1: Map of Nigerian Industrial Zones

Source: Adopted from West Africa Examination Council, 2013

Concept of Small-Scale Industry (SSI)

There is no generally accepted definition of SSIs as such it would be based on the capacity of industry and the country's level of development which usually changes over time. The capital requirements of industry signify the industrial type. Nevertheless, the basic definitional yardstick remains unchanged, which includes; asset base, financial strength, and number of employees.

Oduntan, (2014) asserted that developed states such as Canada, the United States of America (USA), and the United Kingdom (UK) adopted a mixture of annual turnover and levels of employment as a criterion. In the USA, SSIs have had a maximum of one hundred (100) employees, and medium-scale industries with five hundred (500) employees. Germany recognized SSIs as one that has (250) employees, whereas Belgium pegs a hundred (100) employees. Recently, the European Union has modified and homogenized the concept of SSIs by labeling industries as micro with less than ten (10) employees, small scale having fifty (50) employees, and medium scale with two hundred and fifty (250) employees. SSIs in Nigeria, however, are involved in hired labour mainly not more than 50 workers in the absence of power use (Ifechukwu, 2000; Ali 2003; Ogbuabor, et al. 2013).

In Nigeria, the definition takes into consideration other variables outside employees. While the Nigerian Bank for Commerce and Industry (NBCI) described SSIs as industries having maximum capital of 750,000 Naira including working capital but the cost of land excluded, the Federal Ministry of Industry defines SSIs as one having a maximum cost of 500,000 Naira, comprising working capital and excluding the cost of land. (Oduntan, 2014). According to the monetary policy circular No 22 of 1988 of the Central Bank of Nigeria, SSIs are those with a maximum of 500,000 Naira as annual turnover (Ali, 2003). Any industry that employs up to 50 individuals and possesses overall capital (land, building machinery, and working capital) of 60,000 Naira is considered a small-scale industry (The Nigerian Federal Ministry of Industries, 1973). Whereas, the small-scale industry is usually categorized with flexible operation, low gestation period, low level of skills, use of indigenous raw materials, and intensive mode of production (Ifechukwu, 2000; Ali 2003; Ogbuabor, et al. 2013). Nevertheless, in 2015 a survey was conducted and discovered about 68.35% of small-scale industries began with not more than N50,000 (Kale, 2015). In some places in Nigeria, the SSIs operate with a capital of less than N100,000. They are rendering various services to different individuals (OECD, 2015; Oladele & Ezinwo, 2017).

Classification of Small-Scale Industries (SSIs)

There are two main classes of SSIs in Nigeria, namely; Traditional and Modern Industries. Therefore, the traditional industries consist of handlooms, cottages, coir industry, artisans, and handcrafts industry (Deniss & Elina, 2012; Micah, Okafor, Idowu & Orija, 2017; Martin & Jaroslav, 2020).

- 1- The Handloom Industry is an industry that adopts simple machines used to weave cloth and tapestry (James, 2015).

- 2- Coir Industries is an industry that uses natural fiber to extract the outer husk of coconut and produce products such as doormats, brushes, and floor mats (Adeoye & Bhadmus, 2013)
 - 3- The cottage industry is an industry that specializes in making homemade products such as baked goods, canned goods, handmade body care as well as candles (Oyediran & Fakoya, 2015)
 - 4- An artisan is a craftsman or woman, who makes or creates material objects such as furniture, decorative art, sculpture, and food items (Adeoye & Bhadmus, 2013).
- Modern SSIs produce a wide range of goods from comparatively simple items to sophisticated products (Sanni, 2009; Micah, Okafor, Idowu & Orija, 2017).

Government Agencies in Promoting Nigerian Small-Scale Industries

Several agencies of government promote SSIs in Nigeria. Some of them are:

- 1- The Nigerian Export Promotion Council (NEPC) is an institution engaged in supporting and promoting SSI activities, aimed at increasing the nation's export capacity (Micah, Okafor, Idowu & Orija, 2017).
- 2- The National Economic Reconstruction Fund (NERFUND), established by Decree No. 2 of the 1989 Act, is to stimulate SSI production, by providing medium and long-term loans to entrepreneurs via commercial banks (Ayozie & Latinwo, 2010).
- 3- The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has over the years performed numerous developmental functions, including large, medium, and small-scale industries, by allowing commercial banks to give loans to industries (CBN, 2019).
- 4- The Federal Institute of Industrial Research (FIIRO) is an institution under the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, which is mandated to accelerate industrialization via the improvement of technology as well as training for its personnel (FIIRO, 2018).
- 5- The Nigerian Bank of Industries (NOB) is one of the financial institutions under the Federal Ministry of Finance mandated to provide long-term loans to the Nation's industries (NBO, 2020).
- 6- National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) regulates and controls industrial quality standards of goods (NAFDAC, 2020).
- 7- The Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC), was established by Decree No. 39 of 1989, to promote the utilization of Nigerian industrial raw materials (RMRDC, 2019).
- 8- Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN), was established by the SMEDAN Act of 2003, to promote Small and Medium Enterprise (SMEs) sectors of the economy (James, 2015; Oladele & Ezinwo, 2017).

Problems Faced by Small-Scale Industries Development in Nigeria

Literature has shown that SSIs have been facing hitches by some constraints adumbrated as follows:

1. **Inadequate Infrastructure:** Nigeria is faced with insufficient infrastructural facilities. This includes “erratic power supply”, “epileptic telecommunication facilities”, “inadequate water supply” and the like (Agwu & Emeti 2014; Feyitimi, et al., 2016).

2. **Inadequate Information:** The SSIs are associated with deprived record keeping which consequently leads to an absence of vital information required for planning and management purposes (Adesola, et al. 2014; Feyitimi, et al., 2016).
3. **Low Entrepreneurial Skills:** This consists of low industrial skills and management expertise. The situation is further assisted by the failure to embrace modern techniques and refusal to be exposed to the latest methods and ways in management, training, and practices (Oduntan, 2014).
4. **Poor Policy Implementation:** Good policies have been formulated in the past by the Federal Government and many more may be in the pipeline; however, implementation and control remain the most difficult tasks (Ogunleye, 2004; Churski, 2014).
5. **Inadequate Access to Finance Capital:** Access to institutional credits and foreign exchange are also challenges for SSIs. Although some policies have been adopted including the creation of lending institutions and sometimes the designing of policy measures that ensure a fixed percentage of the lending to SSIs. Reports have it that political considerations are the determining factors for access (Teriba et al. 1981; Adesola, et al. 2014; Oduntan, 2014).
6. **Difficulties of high-interest rates:** The high-interest rates of 20-25% have remained a difficult task that commonly spreads between borrowing and lending rates. Many banks would prefer lending to blue chips rather than SSIs mainly due to assured yield and economic positives across other sectors (Udechukwu, 2003; Liu, 2008; Adesola, et al. 2014; Oduntan, 2014).

This paper is aimed at analyzing the causes of the collapse of Plastic Small-Scale Industries (PSSIs) in Kano. This will be achieved via the following objectives:

- 1- To identify the Location of Plastic Small-Scale Industries in Kano
- 2- To identify the Nature of Ownership of Small-Scale Plastic Industries
- 3- To trace the date of establishment and the length of operation
- 4- To examine factors responsible for the Collapse of Small-Scale Plastic Industries

This study would limit itself to industrial clusters within Kano: Sharada Janbulo, Challawa, and Masaka Gwammaja of Kano, Kano State, Nigeria.

Material and Methods

A reconnaissance survey was conducted in 2021, across the three clusters of PSSIs including Sharada Janbulo, Challawa Industrial Area, and Gwammaja Masaka. It was conducted to explore the causes of the collapse of PSSIs and to establish rapport with all stakeholders to ease data collection processes. A cross-sectional research design was adopted to acquire insights from the employers of PSSIs. It assisted in identifying the causes of PSSI collapse. Quantitative data type was used in identifying coordinates of the clusters, identifying the nature of ownership of PSSIs and the date of establishment as well as the causes of collapse. Coordinates were sourced from the sites, including ownership nature, the date of establishment, and the operational length as well as factors responsible for the death of PSSIs were sourced from employers using a questionnaire. The questionnaires were administered in the form of self-administered questionnaires and it

was distributed to the respondents. The population of the study consists of all employers of the collapse of Plastic Small-Scale Industries in Sharada Janbulo. Materials used were a Global position system (GPS) and a Digital Camera (DC). The location of the Cluster was established using mapping and coordinates. The coordinates were processed on ArcGIS 9.3 to produce a map of the Collapse of Plastic Small-Scale Industries (CPSSIs). In addition, the Microsoft EXCEL was used to identify the ownership of CPSSIs, operational length, and factors responsible for the collapse of PSSIs.

Results and Discussion

The Plastic Small-Scale Industries are located at Sharada Janbulo Small-Scale Industries Cluster in Kano Municipal Area, Challawa Industrial Cluster in Kumbotso Local Government Area and Masaka Gwammaja Small-Scale Industries Cluster, formerly known as Leader Industry in Dala Local Government Area, Kano. Figure 2 below shows the location of the clusters of PSSI.

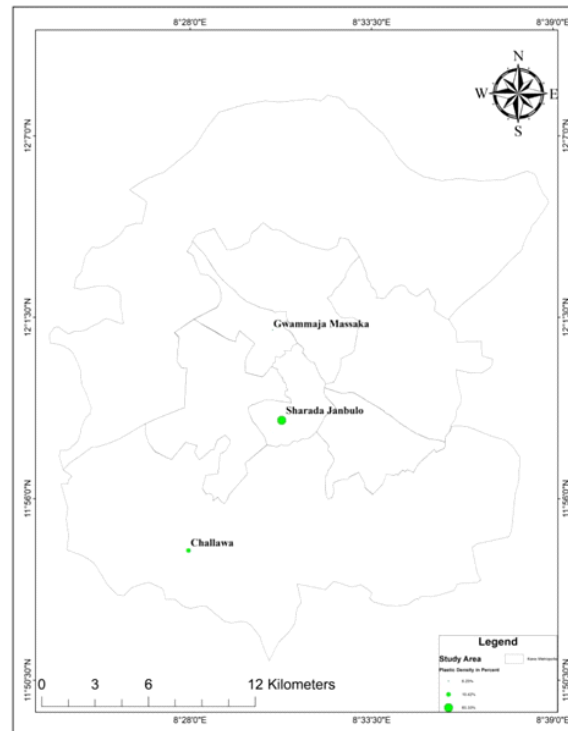


Figure 2: Location of Plastic Small-Scale Industries in Kano Metropolis

Source: Geography Dept, FCE (T) Bichi, 2022

Table 1 below describes Figure 2 above. There were about forty-eight (48) PSSIs in the three (3) clusters, Sharada Janbulo, Challawa, and Masaka Gwammaja. The Sharada Janbulo has about forty (40) PSSIs, Challawa five (5) PSSIs, and Gwammaja Masaka has a total of three (3). Therefore, out of forty-eight (48) total PSSIs in Kano, forty (40) were in full operation, while eight (8) were not, thus collapsing. Among the operational PSSIs,

thirty-two (32) were in Sharada Janbulo, five (5) in Challawa, and three (3) in Gwammaja Masaka. The Collapse PSSIs were all located at Sharada Janbulo and took 16.6% of the total PSSIs.

Table 1: PSSIs Clusters

S/ N	Clusters of PSSIs	No of PSSIs	No of O_PSSIs	No of CPSSIs	% of CPSSIs
1	Sharada Janbulo	40	32	08	16.6%
2	Challawa	5	5	00	00.0%
3	Gwammaja Masaka (Leader Industries)	3	3	00	00.0%
	Total	48	40	08	16.6%

Source: Field Survey, 2021

Obj I: To determine the Nature of Ownership of Small-Scale Plastic Industries in Kano Respondents were required to identify the ownership of the collapsed PSSIs in Kano. The result is as contained in Figure 3 below:

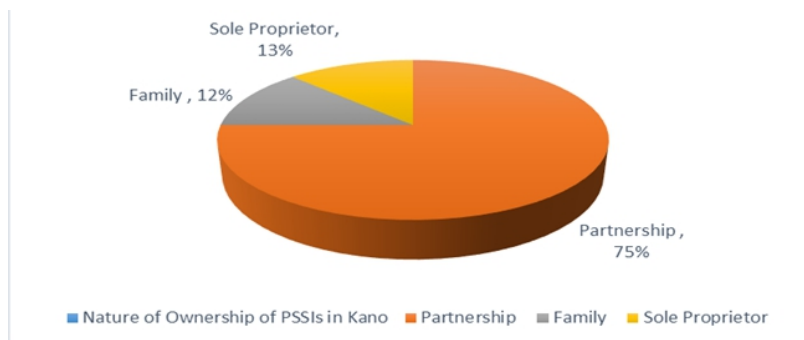


Figure 3: Shows the Nature of Ownership of Collapse Plastic Industries in Kano

Source: Field Survey, 2021

From the figure above, it can be seen that a quarter of the collapsed PSSIs are jointly owned as against 13% owned by single individuals. Families own 12%. Sole proprietorship is blamed as a major cause for the collapse of SMEs (Liman, 2015; Rimash, 1999). Where sole proprietorship is dominant, Ali (2004) observed that capital flow is restricted which ultimately results in the collapse of the SMEs.

Obj II: To Analyze the Year of Establishment, the Year of Collapse, and the Length of Operation

Small-scale plastic Industries that have collapsed in Kano were established from 2005 to 2012 and collapsed from 2011 to 2021 as shown in Table 2. Thus, the length of operations varies from 6 years to 11.

Table 2: Years of Establishment, Collapse, and Length of Operations

YoE	YoC	LoO
2005	2011	06
2006	2016	10
2007	2013	06
2008	2017	09
2010	2021	11
2010	2016	06
2012	2020	08
2012	2018	06

YoE: Year of Establishment; **YoC:** Year of Collapse and **LoO:** Length of Operation
Source: Field Survey, 2021

Table 2 shows the years of establishment, collapse, and length of operation, regarding PSSIs at Sharada Janbulo. On average, CPSSIs in Kano spend 7.75 years in existence with 50% spending above 8 years with the longest being 11 years. A report by Lagos Business School, titled Why SMEs Fail and Its Impact on National Development stated that a significant number of the SMEs in Nigeria do not attain maturity, and 50% collapse annually. Chirisa (2009) similarly reported that SMEs collapse at an early age in most developing countries.

Obj III: To examine factors responsible for the Collapse of Small-Scale Plastic Industries
 Factors responsible for the collapse of PSSI in Kano have been sourced from the respondents. 10 of such have been found and the magnitude of the factors stated is contained in the piechart (Fig 4) below:

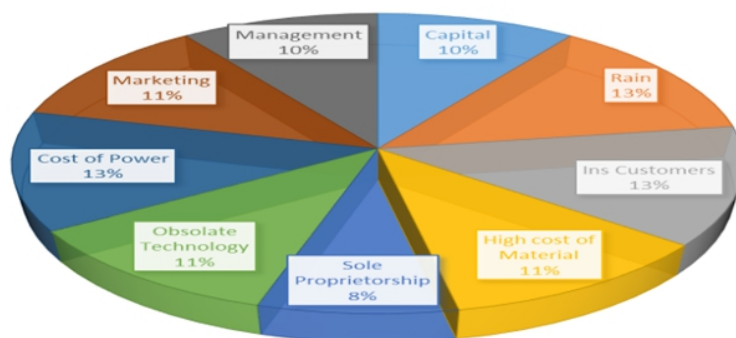


Figure 4: Shows factors Responsible for the Collapse of PSSIs
Source: Field Survey, 2021

From Figure 4, the major factors responsible for the collapse of PSSSIs in Kano are the high cost of power, insufficient customers, and raining season which is 13%. Pandey (2013) listed the cost of power as well OECD (2018) and Devlin (2015); Low patronage of local products, which spells insufficient customers, has also been identified by OECD (2018) and Yakubu and Akanigbu (2015). Poor infrastructure which includes power was found

to be a crucial factor in the SMEs in Nigeria (Inua, 2009). Obsolete technology, high cost of material, and marketing with 11% are the combined second-ranked factors. These agree with the findings of OECD, 2018 (technology); OECD, 2016b (high cost of material) and marketing (Ademola et al, 2013; Yakubu and Akanigbu, 2015). The third-tier factors are Management and capital with 10% and then sole proprietorship having the lowest grade of 8%. This is not in agreement with Liman (2015) who found that the major cause of the collapse could be attributed to sole proprietorship. Ihua (2009) on his part identified Management as an important factor in Nigeria but not as much as it was in the United Kingdom.

Conclusion

The PSSIs in Sharada Janbulo and Gwammaja Masakawere are located along with Oil Mills and Small-Scale Industries, while the Challawa PSSIs are situated within the large industries. The PSSI ownership structure is associated with the partnership. Therefore, the collapse of PSSIs was due to the following problems; marketing, capital, sole proprietorship, high cost of raw materials, obsolete technology, rain, high cost of power, insufficient customers, and management.

Recommendations

- 1- The stakeholders should ensure, an independent location for PSSIs to avoid sharing space.
- 2- The Kano state government should ensure and enforce policy implementation of PSSI operations guidelines.
- 3- Partnership conditions should be adhered to, to avoid inconveniences and disputes among the partners
- 4- The Kano State Ministry of Commerce and Industry (KSMCI), Kano Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mines and Agriculture (KACCIMA), and National Association of Small-Scale Industry (NASSI), should council and monitor the operation of PSSIs, to avoid unplanned collapse.
- 5- The KACCIMA should organize seminars for employers and employees, to improve PSSIs production capacity.
- 6- Modern machinery should be provided for smooth operations of PSSIs, via the Bank of Industry (BOI) at a subsidized rate.
- 7- The Kano State Ministry of Commerce and Industry (KSMCI), should be involved in the marketing aspect of the products, to avoid market failure
- 8- Therefore, Price Control Board (PCB) should be in place, to enable market stabilization
- 9- Electrical tariff should be subsidized, to enable producers to have less cost of production

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