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International Digital Organization for Scientific Research ISSN:2579-082X
IDOSR JOURNAL OF BANKING, ECONOMICS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES 4(1): 1-12, 2019.

Effects of Treasury Single Account on Teacher Education in Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the effects of treasury single account (TSA) on federal teacher colleges with particular emphasis on Enugu Urban, Nigeria between 2012 - 2017, using structured questionnaires prepared following Likert's five points scale in the determination of the nexus between the single treasury account and education development in Nigeria. Theoretical analyses that contain some existing knowledge on educational development largely on the introduction of the single treasury account were critically reviewed. Even lines of argument that suggest that the theory of change can be used to explain the effects of treasury single account on education development were not left out. The findings show that the introduction of the treasury single account improved internally generated revenue, reduced the incidences of fraud and fraudulent practices and significantly impacted positively on payment of salaries of teachers in colleges of education in Nigeria.

Keywords: Treasury, single, account, Teacher, education, Likert, five, point scale.

INTRODUCTION

Unarguably, the adoption of the Treasury Single Account (TSA) by any government whether developed or developing can never be over-stated as it enhances transparency and accountability in the management of public funds, enhances economic growth and development. No doubt, Nigerian government under the leadership of Muhammadu Buhari, in a bid to fight corruption and strengthen accountability and integrity, announced the re - introduction of the treasury single account (TSA) at a political forum in other to block revenue leakages and stabilize the economy. With that pronouncement and without further prompting or other government circular, revenue generating agencies on their own promptly complied and moved several ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) accounts, which included offshore accounts that had boasted Nigeria's foreign reserves that were hitherto housed at different Deposit Money Banks (DMBs) outside the

purview and oversight of the treasury to Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) [1].

Prior to that action, the former president Goodluck Jonathan was said to have initiated the TSA policy in 2012 but could not implement it before it wound up in 2015. Several reasons were adduced for his inability to implement the policy earlier on. Such reasons included allegation of the regime not being clean enough to implement such a policy. Again that the then President did not have political will to resist pressure to drop the idea from bank executives and top business magnates in the country who were alleged to have played major roles in the sponsorship of his re-election bid [2], [3]. Other reasons were that bankers pressurized the former government that initiated the policy to soft pedal on the implementation of the policy on the ground of likely negative consequences such policy would have on the economy [4]. Yet another reason was that its implementation would

negatively affect the liquidity in the banking system and put pressure on interest rate and the availability of credit to the economy. But those on the contrary were of the view that it was as a result of the successes recorded in the 2012 pilot project where government was said to have saved 500 billion naira that motivated the adoption and full

implementation of the policy by Buhari government in 2015.

The work is arranged in the following order: Section two reviews related literature while section three discusses the results presents data and method of empirical analysis. The next to the last section discusses the results and the last section concludes the study.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The Stalwart report in [5] posited that treasury single account is a public accounting system that contains all government revenue receipts and income that is usually maintained by the country's Central Bank and through which all payments are made. It is a unified structure of government bank accounts enabling consolidation and optimum utilization of cash resources. [6] also posited that TSA is a banking arrangement for government transactions which is based on the principle of fungibility of all cash, irrespective of its use. [7] agreed no less with [8] on the definition of the treasury single account but added that the implementation of each country depends on the stage of the quality of its public institutions and financial development and communications infrastructure and the degree of maturity of its banking system. [8] in its guidelines for the operation of the treasury single account posited that government agencies are not to operate any bank account outside the purview and oversight of the treasury. The consolidation of government cash resources should be comprehensive and encompass all government cash resources, both budgetary and extra - budgetary. [9] posits that treasury single account is a public accounting system using a single account or a set of linked accounts by government to ensure all revenue receipts and payments are done through a Consolidated Revenue Account of the Central Bank of Nigeria. It also argued that MDAs therefore are expected under such arrangement "to remit their revenue collections to the Central Revenue Account (CRA) through

their individual commercial banks on a fee- for- service remuneration basis".

[10] [11] posited that TSA is a unified structure of government bank accounts enabling consolidation and optimal utilization of government cash resources and a bank account or a set of linked bank accounts through which government transacts all its receipts and payments and gets a consolidated view of its cash position at any time. [12] defined TSA as "one of the financial policies implemented by government to consolidate all the revenues from all the ministries, departments and agencies in the country by way of deposit into commercial banks traceable into a single account at the Central Bank of the country. He posited that the policy was introduced to reduce the proliferation of bank accounts operated by MDAs and also to promote transparency and accountability among all organizations of government. On his own, [13] defined TSA as the federal government independent revenue e- collection initiative that will automate revenue collections of ministries, departments and agencies directly into federal government consolidated revenue fund account of CBN through the remita e- collection platform and other electronic payment channel. He also said that the adoption of TSA will, therefore involve retail banking which commercial banks can perform and also includes collection of taxes, levies and disbursement of funds as well as payment of salaries to civil servants. Whereas [14] revealed that it is the effort of the federal government of Nigeria to be in full control of government financial assets.

[15], [16] posited that it is a bank account or a set of linked bank accounts through which government transact all its receipts and payments and gets a consolidated view of its cash position at any given time. Its implementation will therefore end the previous public accounting situation of several fragmented accounts for government revenues, incomes, and receipts, which in recent past has meant the loss of or leakages of legitimate income meant for federation account [17]. Treasury single account has its footing through section 80 (1) of 1999 constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria which provides that all revenue or other monies raised or received by the government shall be paid into and form one consolidated revenue fund of the federation. It is instructive to also note that the Treasury Single Account dates back to 1954 Lyttleton Constitution which conferred the status of a federation on Nigeria in which the Federal Government has always been mandated to operate a single revenue account for the country [18]. It is therefore an abuse of the constitution to pay government revenue into multiple bank accounts operated by MDAs in commercial banks, as obtained under the old order. This directive notwithstanding, successive governments in flagrant disregard to this constitutional requirement had continued to operate numerous accounts, thereby breaking the law. [19] argued that Bankers had pressurized the former government of Goodluck Jonathan, which had initiated the policy earlier to soft pedal on the implementation which was originally scheduled for February 2015, on the reasons of a likely negative impact on the economy. But the adoption and full implementation of treasury single account by any government, especially in a dwindling economy like Nigeria cannot be over looked due to its numerous benefits as it enhances the overall effectiveness of public financial management system among other benefits. The full implementation of this scheme puts to an end to the hitherto

fragmented accounts of ministries, departments and agencies, which provided room for several lapses and infractions such as difficulties in reconciliation of accounts, lack of accountability and many other fraudulent practices that fizzle away government funds. What about the abuse of official secrecy in the management of public account that the implementation of TSA is meant to resolve? The implementation of TSA is also expected to block all avenues of revenue leakages so as to shore up government revenue in the face of dwindling earnings due to the falling oil prices [20]. Treasury single account allows complete and timely information on government cash revenues when interfaced on banking system using Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS). It reduces fees, charges and other costs on the part of government and also reduces or eliminates ambiguities.

From the education perspective, the effect of treasury single account in Nigeria can never be overlooked bearing in mind that the huge federally generated revenue that were hitherto fizzled away or corruptly diverted, when added to the internally generated revenue(IGR), will go a long way to solving education problems among others.

Education is the sum total of culture which a society deliberately gives its younger generation to qualify them and raise the level of improvement it has attained starts from birth and ends at death [21]. [22] posits that education is an instrument per excellence for effecting national development and a practical way of attaining individual and societal fulfillment. It is directed to man as no other animal receives education (NTI, Kaduna). [23] defined education as a process of socialization, enculturation and transmission of what is worthwhile to those who are committed to do it, be they children or adults. Again [24] defined it as a process of developing knowledge ability to learners in such a way that they use this knowledge to

improve themselves and their society. Others describe it as the totality of life experience while some describe it as the process of developing knowledge and ability in learners for personal and societal enhancement.

Educational policies are therefore the views of what the schools should be doing. National policy on education as it were was a bold attempt to implement a blueprint of the educational curriculum that would religiously be followed so as to have a direction on educational matters in Nigeria (NPE 4TH Edition). It is an avenue of spelling out in clear and unequivocal terms the philosophy and objectives that underlie its investments in education. Indeed, the nation's policy on education could also be government's way of realizing that part of the National goals which can be achieved using education as a tool. It is said to be formulated after first, identifying the overall philosophy and

goals of the nation (NPE 2004). This is necessary when viewed on the import of education as a catalyst and a pillar on which all other structures rest.

Teaching on the other hand is said to be the oldest and noblest of all professions as all other professionals are all made or taught by teachers. These are the unique features that make the profession the most indomitable profession in the world [25]. Indeed the history of education in Nigeria shows that teachers occupied the position of great honour and influence in their communities as they epitomized integrity, knowledge, leadership, moral rectitude and selfless service [26]. They also spearhead the development of their communities and country. But over the years, things appeared to have changed for the worse in teacher welfare and the economy in general hence, the introduction of the treasury single account policy.

THEORETICAL REVIEW

The theory of change as adopted by [27] in its journal on the treasury single account was adopted in this work. According to this theory, a critical, problematic situation requires an approach that provides long term solution. A theory of change is a tool for developing solutions to complex social problems [28]. Theory of change is a product that provides a comprehensive picture of early and intermediate term change that are needed to reach long term goals. It is a tool that explicitly provides understanding of the early and intermediate steps required for long term change to occur. It thus creates a picture of the steps required to reach a goal. A basic theory of change according to [29] explains how a group of early and intermediate accomplishments sets the stage for producing long term goals. Theory of change he maintained was essentially a comprehensive description of how and why a desired change is expected to happen.

[30], insisted that the total of theory of change is realized by first identifying the desired long term goals and then work back from the goals to identify all conditions that must be in place for the identified long term goals to be accomplished. In the theory all outcomes are mapped in what is referred to as outcome framework. The outcome framework provides the basis for identifying the type of activity that will lead to the identified outcome as a pre-condition for achieving the long term goal. Theory of change provides a clear link of activities that lead to a desired change. The process of formulating theory of change is by first of all identifying a long term goals, then conduct back words mapping to identify the pre-conditions necessary to achieve the goals, identify interventions necessary, write a narrative as a summary of the theory, [21].

On the other hand, Brest in [12] sees the theory of change as a specific type of methodology for planning, participation and evaluation to promote social change. It emphasized that theory of change defines long term goals and

maps back words to identify necessary preconditions to achieve them. Historically, theory of change emanated from the field of program theory and program evaluation in the mid 1990s as a new way of analyzing the theories motivating programs and initiatives working for social and political change [19]. The report has it that it emerged in the 1990s as a new way of analyzing the theories motivating programs and initiatives working for social and political change [25]. According to the report, it emerged in the 1990s at the Aspen institute Round Table on Community change as a means to model and evaluates community initiatives. The Roundtable's early work focused on working through the challenges of evaluating complex initiatives. This culminated in a 1995 publications of a book titled "New approaches to Evaluating Comprehensive Community Initiatives". A member of roundtable's

steering committee, [10] stated that a key reason why complex programs are difficult to evaluate is that the assumption that inspire them are poorly articulated.

[1] posited that stakeholders of complex initiatives are typically unclear about how the change process will unfold and therefore place little attention on the early and mid-term changes needed to reach a long-term goals. She therefore popularized the theory of change [30].

[26] posited that the present government of Nigeria has as its major goal as "change" of society politically and economically as its slogan after taking over and one of the measures to achieve this was the full implementation of the TSA policy, believing that the previous government in Nigeria gave room for revenue leakages. This work therefore adopts this theory of change in this work.

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

Datasets for this study were structured questionnaires administered to four hundred and eleven (411) respondents, representing 100% of the population who were mainly teachers and staff at the Federal college of education Eha - Amufu in Enugu State, Nigeria. The choice of respondents was based on their knowledge and experience on the subject matter. The filled questionnaires returned and usefully filled were 380 representing 92.5% while the number of questionnaires not returned or wrongly completed were 31, representing 7.5%. Breaking down of respondents in order of characteristics, 200 respondents 48.6% represents male, 211 respondents, representing 51% are female. Among them, 250 respondents are tutorial staff while 61, representing 39% are non - tutorial staff. Still among the respondents, 200, representing 48.6% are senior staff, 150 respondent representing 36.4% are middle staff while 61 respondents representing 14.8% are junior staff.

Research Instrument:

The structured questionnaires were administered to the respondents and followed up to ensure prompt completion and return of the said questionnaires from relevant respondents within Enugu metropolis who are familiar with the subject matter. The questionnaires consisted of three questions in statement form, describing likely outcomes as it affects the introduction of the treasury single account in teacher education in Nigeria. Responses were measured using Likert's five point - scale of; strongly agree to strongly disagree. Specifically, the responses were as follows

SA = Strongly Agree
 A = Agree
 SD = Strongly disagree
 N = Neutral
 D = Disagree

Sample and Sampling Techniques

A sample of 411 teaching and non - teaching staff of the federal college of education Eha Emufu that comprise males, females, tutorials and no - tutorials, senior, middle level and junior staff are respondents as represented in the clauster table below.

Instrument for Data Collection

The data for this work were collected using structured questionnaires. The questionnaires were prepared following the Likert’s five points scale. There were specification for:

- SA = Strongly Agree
- A = Agree
- SD = Strongly Disagree
- N = Neutral

D = Disagree

The questionnaires were administered to the respondents and followed up to ensure prompt response and complete and return of the said questionnaires: Research assistant/personnel was used to fast track the distribution and collection of the questionnaire.

Methods and Techniques for Data Analyses

The collected data were accurately grouped, arranged, analyzed and presented with reasonable conclusion drawn as the outcome of the research work. Cluster means analyses were used to answer the research questions and complimented by percentage and table rating.

Table 1: Respondent Characteristics

	SA	A	N	D	SD
Effects of treasury single account on the internally generated revenue of federal teacher colleges of education in Enugu urban					
1					
The introduction of TSA has improved the financial status of federal teacher colleges of education in Enugu Urban					
2					
TSA has adversely affected the availability of fund to federal colleges of education in Enugu Urban					
3					
With the introduction of TSA, federal teacher college of education in Enugu Urban now generate more revenue to government treasury					
Effects of treasury single account on fraud and fraudulent practices in federal teacher colleges to government treasury					
1					
There is massive reduction in the incidences of fraud and fraudulent practices in federal colleges of education in Enugu Urban due to the introduction of TSA					
2					
TSA has created more opportunities in aiding and abetting fraud in federal teacher college of education in Enugu Urban					
The impact of treasury single account on the salaries of teachers in the federal teacher colleges of education in Enugu Urban					
1					
There is a regular payment of teachers and other staff salaries of teachers in the federal teacher college of education in Enugu Urban					
2					
Salary payment has not been affected by the introduction of TSA					
3					
Salary payment has become irregular as a result of the introduction of TSA					

DATA ANALYSES AND FINDINGS

The four hundred and eleven questionnaires distributed were duly collected, arranged and collated and based on the responses from the questionnaires returned by the respondents, cluster mean analysis was used to answer the research questions. The responses were ranked as follows:

SA = 5 Points
A = 4 Points
N = 3 Points
SD = 2 Points
D = 1 Point

A cut off is to be determined by finding the mean of the nominal values assigned

to the options in each questionnaire items using a formula.

A cut off is to be determined by finding the mean of the nominal values assigned to the options in each questionnaire item using the formula.

Where:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Mean (X)} &= \text{Score} \\ N &= \text{Number of the item} \\ X &= \frac{5+4+3+2+1}{5} = 3 \\ X &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

Decision rule:

If Mean (x) of the cluster is greater than the standard cluster (3), accept otherwise reject.

Table 2: Cluster Mean Analysis

	SA	A	N	D	SD	Cluster Mean	R/A	
Effects of treasury single account on the internally generated revenue of federal teacher colleges of education in Enugu urban								
1	The introduction of TSA has improved the financial status of federal teacher colleges of education in Enugu Urban	500	1120	-	-	-	4.2	A
2	TSA has adversely affected the availability of fund to federal colleges of education in Enugu Urban	-	-	-	600	80	1.78	R
3	With the introduction of TSA, federal teacher college of education in Enugu Urban now generate more revenue to government treasury	1500	300	-	-	-	4.79	A
Effects of treasury single account on fraud and fraudulent practices in federal teacher colleges to government treasury								
1	There is massive reduction in the incidences of fraud and fraudulent practices in federal colleges of education in Enugu Urban due to the introduction of TSA	1900	-	-	-	-	5	A
2	TSA has played no role in fraud and fraudulent practices check in federal teacher colleges of education in Enugu Urban	-	-	-	60	350	1.08	R
3	TSA has created more opportunities in aiding and abetting fraud in federal teacher college of education in Enugu Urban	-	-	-	-	380	1	R
The impact of treasury single account on the salaries of teachers in the federal teacher colleges of education in Enugu Urban								
1	There is a regular payment of teachers and other staff salaries of teachers in the federal teacher college of education in Enugu Urban	1400	320	60	-	-	4.68	A
2	Salary payment has not been affected by the introduction of TSA	-	-	300	360	100	2	R
3	Salary payment has become irregular as a result of the introduction of TSA	-	-	150	400	130	1.79	R

Decision Rule

If mean of the cluster is greater than then standard cluster mean (3), accept otherwise reject.

Break Down of Required Respondents

Number of questionnaires distributed	-	411
Number of returned/usefully filled	-	380
Error margin (default)	-	7.5%
% of returned, useful and analyzed questionnaire	-	92.5%

Table 3: Breakdown of respondents in Order of Characteristics

S/No	Characteristics	Number	% of the Total Population
1	Male	200	48.6%
2.	Female	211	51%
3	Tutorial	250	60.8%
4	Non-tutorial	61	39%
5	Senior staff	200	48.6%
6	Middle level	150	36.4
7	Senior staff	61	14.8%

Table 4 : Breakdown of Received Instruments

Description	Number	Percentage
Number of Questionnaires Distributed	411	100%
Number of Questionnaires Returned and Usefully Filled	380	92.5%
Number of Questionnaires not returned or returned but wrongly completed	31	7.5%

(A) Research Questions I:

To what extent does treasury single account significantly enhances the internally generated revenue of federal colleges of education in Enugu Urban?

The response to question 1 from the questionnaire has 100 say yes strongly and 280 agree, this represents 24.3% of respondents. 68.1% representing 280 respondents agree. We therefore accept that TSA has improved the financial status of federal colleges of education in Enugu Urban.

(B) Research Questions II:

To what extent does treasury single account significantly curb incidences of fraud and fraudulent practices in federal colleges of education in Enugu Urban?

The response to question 11 from the questionnaire directly addresses the research question: 380 of the

respondents representing 92.5% strongly agreed, while 31 people did not return the questionnaire issued. We therefore accept that there is reduction in the incidences of fraud in the federal colleges of education in Enugu Urban as a result of the introduction of TSA.

(C). Research Questions III

To what extent does treasury single account significantly enhances salaries of teachers of the federal colleges of education in Enugu Urban?

The response to question 3 from the questionnaire has 280 say strongly agreed, 80 say agree and 20 are neutral, representing 68.1%, 19% and 4.9% respectively. From their responses majority agreed that there is regular payment of teachers and other staff salaries as a result of the introduction of TSA

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The purpose of this enquiry was set out to include:

1. Establishing the effects the treasury single account (TSA) has on internally generated revenue of federal teacher colleges of education in Enugu Urban.
2. To ascertain the impact of TSA on fraud and fraudulent practices on

3. federal teacher colleges of education since its introduction. To evaluate the regularity of payment of salaries of teachers and other staff since the introduction of TSA.

Three research questions were answered and Cluster Mean analyses and

percentage rating were utilized for the research questions.

At the end, the following findings were made:

1. That the introduction of treasury single account (TSA) evidently improved internally generated revenue of federal teacher colleges of education in Enugu Urban.
2. That the incidences of fraud and fraudulent practices were evidently reduced due to the introduction of TSA in the federal teacher colleges of education in Enugu Urban
3. That there were great positive and significant impact of TSA on salaries of teachers and staff of federal teacher colleges of education in Enugu Urban

CONCLUSION

The study examined the effects treasury single account exerts on federal teacher colleges of education in Enugu Urban largely from the work of [18] which posited that the theory of change is a tool for developing solutions to complex social problems. It also provides a comprehensive picture of early and intermediate term changes that are

needed to reach long - term goals. In line with this, this study discovered that the implementation of TSA has improved internally generated revenue of federal teacher colleges of education, curbed or eliminated incidences of fraud and fraudulent practices and led to prompt payment of salaries of staff of federal teacher colleges of education.

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