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The determinants of foreign direct investments (FDIs) in digital economy: a policy study on Nigerian economy

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Abstract. This study examined the factors influencing foreign direct investment (FDI) and their effects on the economy of Nigeria. Ex-post facto methodological design was used. The annual time series data for thirty years (1988–2018) from Central Bank Statistical Bulletin, Mundi Index and World Bank Development indicators were used. Augmented Dickey-Fuller (ADF) unit root test of stationarity and cointegration test were employed to verify the fitness of the series and exist of long run relationship. Multiple regressions analytical technique was applied. The results reveals that, market size, energy consumption, capital infrastructure, trade policy, foreign debt, political regime (risk) and exchange rate all have significant impact on FDI inflow in Nigeria. Therefore, we recommend that government need to enhance infrastructural facilities such as good road networks, healthcares, energy to accelerate more investments. Also In light of rapid advancement of technology which has necessitated digitalization of the economy as evident by the disruption the covid-19 has caused, government should direct more resources towards improving digital infrastructure and programmes to improve digital culture to guarantee FDI and knowledge based operations.

Key words: foreign direct investment, determinants, Nigeria economic growth, digital infrastructure, digitalization, digital culture.

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Научная статья

Детерминанты прямых иностранных инвестиций (ПИИ) в цифровую экономику: политическое исследование экономики Нигерии

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Аннотация. В этом исследовании рассматривались факторы, влияющие на прямые иностранные инвестиции (ПИИ), и их влияние на экономику Нигерии. Была использована методологическая конструкция Ex-post facto. Были использованы годовые данные временных рядов за тридцать лет (1988–2018 гг.) из статистического бюллетеня Центрального банка, индекса Мунди и показателей развития Всемирного банка. Для проверки пригодности ряда и наличия долговременной связи были использованы расширенный тест единичного корня Дикки-Фуллера (ADF) стационарности и тест коинтеграции. Была применена аналитическая методика множественных регрессий. Полученные результаты свидетельствуют о том, что размер рынка, потребление энергии, капитальная инфраструктура, торговая политика, внешний долг, политический режим (риск) и валютный курс оказывают значительное влияние на приток ПИИ в Нигерию. Поэтому мы рекомендуем правительству усилить инфраструктурные объекты, такие как хорошая дорожная сеть, медицинское обслуживание, энергетика, чтобы ускорить увеличение инвестиций. Кроме того, в свете быстрого развития технологий, которое обусловило необходимость цифровизации экономики, о чем свидетельствует

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разрушение, вызванное covid-19, правительство должно направить больше ресурсов на совершенствование цифровой инфраструктуры и программ по совершенствованию цифровой культуры, чтобы гарантировать ПИИ и операции, основанные на знаниях.

Ключевые слова: прямые иностранные инвестиции, детерминанты, экономический рост Нигерии, цифровая инфраструктура, цифровизация, цифровая культура.

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1. Introduction

Nigeria as emerging nations presently experience able to attract a reasonable FDI commensurate abundant labour and deficits funds due to inability with its socio-economic potentials endowments. to save locally, that retards accumulation capital It is worth mentioning that, the major obstacles to that decreases growth economically. In a situation economic stability, development and FDI in Nigeria capital/fund could be generated with sufficient are over dependence on oil and gas sector, which manpower supply, the increased in productivity accounts for 95% of foreign currency income, 80% may be hindered by deficiency in external inputs national budget; Budget deficit and external debt (technological knowhow, equities, machines) upon caused by free-spending economic policies under which manufacturing of goods and services in past military junta regimes; infrastructural deficit; developing nations rely on. This makes foreign capital bribery and corruption; unstable institutional flow a very germane aspect of efforts by emerging and regulatory environment; crime, youth unrest, nations to bridge saving gap. The significant of FDI Niger Delta Militants, Boko Haram in the North East, to national building cannot be overemphasized by multiplicity of approving agencies, exchange rate, host nations. Receiving nation is nourished with high interest rate. Furthermore, the inability and the technological know-how, facilitates local firms' unwillingness of governments to invest in technology access to global markets; capital inflows; enhances and leverage on the global trend of digitalization and global trade integration; provides avenues for risk connectivity is starving the economy of much needed and product diversification; enhance human capital diversification. These and other related issues have development; encourages favorable competition prompted investors to prefer countries with peaceful among businesses, increases product diversity, environments for investment. Hence, given potential managerial expertise required acceleration and role of FDI to economic growth, this study will x-ray sustain economic growth. It is pertinent to argue socio-economic determinants of FDI, and it impacts that developing nations that desire to stimulate and on the Nigeria economy in this digital era. have a sustainable economic growth must formulate and implements policies that will facilitates investors' Foreign direct investment (FDI) is the largest friendly environments. Investors generally believe component of capital inflows; its roles over the that, the existence of investment friendly nations World economic growth have been well-recognized. where tax incentives, export-import promotion, FDI contributes to economic growth in receiving appropriate macroeconomic policies, stability that guarantee safety of lives and property by providing capital investment; also carries new will facilitate good business environment. Nigeria as technologies and managerial know-how's to the a nation being giant of Africa, given her vast natural receiving nations [Vu, 2015]. Oba and Onuoha (2013) resources base, population of over 200 million view FDI as transfer of foreign capital as a form of and large market size, qualifies to be a major FDI equities and other assets of international investors. recipient in Africa [World Development Indicators, It may rely on joint ownership between foreigners 2018]. In Nigeria, however, level of FDI attractiveness and government domestic economy where capital is low compared with natural resource endowments. is invested [Oba, 2013]. Thus, FDI promote socio-Despite the policy strategy and huge resource base economic growth. In addition, FDI enabled receiving of the country, Nigeria has not been able to achieve nations to utilize procurement, sales, information

a higher level of economic growth, nor has it been

2. Literature review

political nations in various ways. FDI fills capital deficits networks developed through foreign resulting in a better improvement in production and marketing efficiency. Today, the FDI story of Nigeria is have improved significantly. A large market size dominated by oil industry and foreign investors has suggests a prosperous business climate and hence been instrumental to development of oil extraction serves as a factor to attract external investors in one to level where Nigeria is the largest producer in hand, and a means to measuring impact on foreign Africa and 11th in the world. At independence in investments in receiving nations. It's accepted that, 1960, it was not always so, there was widespread market size is significant in terms of economies of FDI presence in economy. Olatunji (2001) argued scale of resource utilization and exploitation that irrespective of government favorable policies [Chakrabarti, 2003]. Nigeria economic growth and towards providing incentives to many investors, increase population of over 200 million in 2019 many of them are still adamant and unwilling to has equally been incentive of foreign firms'market come to Nigeria [Olatunji, 2001]. This reveals that, seeking investments. The expansion of market this might not be due to lingering problems such size led government of Nigeria to a programme as infrastructural decaying, insecurity challenges, of privatization and commercialization of public impunity, youth and Niger Delta hostilities, injustice enterprises that received a greater attention that and macroeconomic instability that are becoming attracted foreign inflow since 1999. For example, so alarming in Nigeria.

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attracting FDI into the economy. Government offer holidays, rebates, infrastructural investments among strategy. National Economic Empowerment and Economy & Market.., 2020].

FDI location decisions [Nazeer, 2017]. Political risk is a major component that influences FDI flows into Nigeria. Government stability, internal and external bureaucratic quality are important determinants of to invest in Nigeria, but recently foreign investments economy in a digital economy. There is currently

deregulation of telecommunication created opportunities for granting licenses to Global System for Mobil Communication (GSM) investors in 1999 which attracted FDI inflows to the Government policy is a significant influence in telecommunications sector from mere 50 million US dollar to 2.1 billion US dollar by the end of incentives to potential investor(s) in form of tax 2002. Furthermore, ICT infrastructure development plays a crucial role in enhancing the economic others. Following the return to democracy in May activities in this modern global economy because 1999, the reform process was re-energized, mainly these infrastructures serves as medium in which through Nigeria's home-grown poverty reduction economy activities are channeled and largely serves as salient instrument for bridging trade barrier Development Strategy (NEEDS) were adopted between developed and developing nations - a 2003. The broad agenda of social economic reforms major causation of the flow of FDI [Brennen, 2016]. according to Nigerian investment policy Review Thus, through digitization, FDI does not become (2009) was based on four key strategies to reform just an end product in the value chain but also an government works that will improve efficiency in ingredient in the value creation. Natural resource service delivery, eliminating waste, free up resources attracts investors into Nigeria like crude oil, for infrastructure and social services. This will make bitumen, ore, limestone, coal, tantalite, gypsum, private sector major driver of economic growth, barite, manganese, lead/zinc, gold, tin, columbite, turning Nigeria Government into business regulator; kaolin, marble, etc. promotes FDI flows to Nigeria implement social charter, that includes improving economy. Dinda (2008) opine that, Nigeria dominate security welfare and participation; and Push a value receiving FDI in Africa continent, over 70% in subre-orientation by shrinking the domain of state, regional total, 11% Africa's total, Nigeria oil industry hence, pie of distributable rents that been haven approximately receive 90% between 1988 and 2016. of public corruption and inefficiency [Estrin, 2018; Infrastructures: Soft infrastructure implies marketoriented institutions, governance structures and Political economy consideration strongly influences hard infrastructure means physical infrastructures; roads. telephone connections, airports, distribution networks, electricity transmissions, railroads etc [Dinda, 2008]. It is worth noticing that conflicts, law and order, ethnic tensions, and telephone penetration and internet connectivity create a major avenue for government to attract FDI. Before 1999, most foreign investors were scared direct foreign investment and helps diversify the Madojemu M., Gomado E. D. The determinants of foreign direct investments (FDIs) in digital economy: a policy study on Nigerian economy, p. 41–48

Nigerian authorities need to improve on quality low interest rate [ibid]. In addition, government of infrastructure so to reduce transaction costs established faced by investors. It has been proven that poor Development Fund that allows commercial banks infrastructural development is one reasons Nigeria to set aside 10% of their pre-tax profit to fund small has been receiving low levels of FDI in comparison businesses. Inflation rate can determine cost of to developing regions. It is clear that issue of doing business with multinational firms that may infrastructures and security conditions in Nigeria enter into long-term contracts with host nation. must be given closer attention if major progress is to When actual inflation rate turns out different from be attained on FDI inflow. Over decades, the Nigeria anticipated inflation rate, foreign firms might government has given top priority to this issue lose out purchasing power due to decrease. High of infrastructural decayed; however, inadequate inflation rate has negative impacts to attracting funding has hindered the much-desired pace for inward FDI. Exchange rate has also been considered resolving this problem.

Gross National Product (GNP) is important indicator inflows [Osinubi, 2009; Muhammad, 2018]. in determining point of openness in Nigeria. The Bilateral investments agreements are agreement more a nation engaged in open economic activity among two nations that encourage promote and with external investors, the more it will succeed to protect investments made with each other nations. attract better FDI. Nigerian government has given Preferential trade agreements are among different serious attention in addressing problems of long- nations that reduce tariff of some goods. Nigeria term fund of investment as a matter of high priority. government have quite numbers of bilateral In this regard, three developments-banks Nigeria: agreement that increase FDI inflows like New Import-Export Bank, Nigeria Bank for Industry Partnership for Africa's Developments (NEPAD) that and Nigeria Bank for Agriculture, Cooperatives was launched to stimulate FDI in Africa of which and Rural Development- have been restructure Nigeria is a signature to.

huge shortage of infrastructural development and and recapitalized to provide long-term loans at Medium Small and to be important in determining FDI flows to Nigeria. Openness to trade is significant factor that influence In Nigeria, real exchange rate volatility has negative FDI flows into Nigeria [Foreign direct investment.., influence on FDI inflows. This means that exchange 1998]. Ratio of trade volume (import-export) of rate volatility, which measure risk, decreases FDI

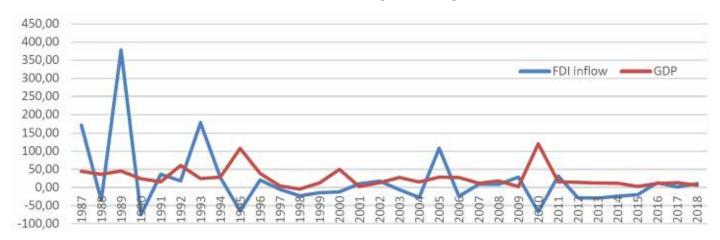


Fig. 1. Trend Analysis: Percentage Growth Rate in FDI and GDP Source: Author's Analysis (MsExcel Output)

The trend of FDI inflow growth rate shows existence democratic rules in 1999, FDI inflow was irregular of high fluctuations and volatility in early part of with high inflow and high drops as a result of 1987 to 1990. This fell from 171.77 percent in 1987 to protracted political instability that disrupted socio--35.79 percent in 1988. It later rose in 1989 and fell economic activities during the period, although, in 1990 respectively. This could be due to the oil glut in 1995 government introduced the Nigerian and fall in crude oil prices in the late 1980's towards Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC) and the early 90's. In early 1990's, 1991 to the beginning of deregulation polices like the Foreign Exchange (Monitoring and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999, the establishment of Export Processing Zones (EPZ), This study used ex-post facto design. Choice of this all to help to improve, accelerate and built foreign design is base on the fact that, it does not provide investors' confidence in business environment in the study an opportunity to control variables Nigeria. From beginning of millennium in 2000 to mainly because they have already occurred, and not 2005, Nigeria experienced slight increased due to subjected to manipulation. the privatization and commercialization policy, and Data collection: Time series data were collected for this attracted huge FDI into telecommunication period of 30years, 1988-2018 from Central Bank of sector from 50 million US dollar in 1999 to 2.1 billion Nigeria Statistical Bulletin, Mundi Index and World US dollar 2002. From 2006 to 2018, FDI inflows had Bank Data Development Indicator. negative growth rate points that moved below trend Data analysis: The ordinary least square multiple line as shown in Figure above. This could be due to regression analytical technique was used. The global financial meltdown in 2008, insecurity issues technique was adoption because it minimizes such as insurgency and terrorism attacks mostly in the error sum of square, has minimum variances, the north east which may have discouraged foreign efficiency, investors from investing in Nigeria. From year 2010 advantages. Also applies correlation matrix to test to 2015 reveals negative trend continues, due to glut extents which variables were correlated. Finally, unit in oil price, uncertainty in election of 2015, change root test was conducted using Augmented Dickey in government and unidirectional government Fuller and Phillips Perron test to determine whether policies all discouraged foreign investors. However, or not the time series are stationary. 2016, 2017 and 2018 experienced increased trends Models specification in foreign direct investment [Nigeria – foreign This paper seek to trace relationship between FDI, direct.., n.d./2020].

rate. This could be due to implementation of second in log linear form is specified as follows: national plan which encouraged foreign investment and better diversification of the economy into various sectors – other than oil exploration. The year trend from 1996 to 1999; shows slow growth while 1998 had a negative growth at -4.77 percent. From 1999 when democratic rule began in Nigeria, GDP growth rate has maintained positive growth with highest value at 120.26 percent in 2010 and lowest at 2.05 percent in 2009. A decrease in 2011 value 15.32 percent, 13.87 percent in 2012, 11.68 percent in 2013, 11.18 percent in 2014 and further decrease in 2015 of 2.66 percent, this could be due to global declining commodity and oil prices. Again 2016 and 2017 experienced an increase GDP of 11.15 percent, this might be due to improved political and stability in macroeconomic variables and 13.09 percent, however, 2018 experienced a decreases to 5.75 percent [ibid].

3. Methodology

unbiasedness consistency

official developments assistances (oda) political On the other hand, GDP growth rate shows rate of risk (pr) exchange rates (exr) inflation rates changes (increase or decrease) in monetary value (infr) market size (mas) foreign debt electricity of goods and service produced in country annually. consumption transport telecommunication proxy From 1988 to 1994, GDP growth rate has maintained for infrastructural developments (ind), and FDI a positive growth trend at double digit rate ranging impact on real gross domestic product growths from 15 percent to 60.4 percent. As at 1995, growth (rgdp) in context of Nigerian economy. As part of rate rose to three digit value of 107.7 percent growth methodological design, basic estimating equation

LnFDI =
$$\beta$$
0 + β 1LnMAS + β 2LnERC + + β 3LnCINF
+ β 4TP + β 5LnFD + β 6PR + β 7EXR

Where: β 0, β 1 ... β 7 are parameters to be estimated; FDI = foreign direct investment;

MAS = market size; ERC = energy consumption;

CINF = capital infrastructure;

TP = trade policy proxied with trade openness;

FD = foreign debt;

PR = political regime or risk;

EXR = exchange rate; Ln = natural logarithm.

4. Results

The study showed the result of the unit root test

Table 1: Unit Root test results on the Variables

,	Var.	ADF	Critical values		— Order of Integration	
		statistics	1%	5%	– Order of Integration	
'	FDI	-9.0415	-3.6616	-2.9604	I(1)	
	MAS	-5.1339	-3.6616	-2.9604	I(1)	
	ERC	-4.3999	-3.6616	-2.9604	I(1)	

Var	ADF	Critica	al values	Ouder of Internation	
Var.	statistics	1%	5%	– Order of Integration	
CINF	-5.8784	-3.6616	-2.9604	I(1)	
TP	-4.4925	-3.6537	-2.9571	I(0)	
FD	-4.1735	-3.6537	-2.9571	I(0)	
PR	-5.5677	-3.6616	-2.9604	I(1)	
EXR	-3.9046	-3.6616	-2.9604	I(1)	

Source: Regression result from (E-views version 9)

EXR were stationary at first difference i.e. integrated long run estimate is shown in table below. at order one I(1). Hence, the null hypothesis of no unit root exist was retained for TP and FD, but rejected for the other series - FDI, MAS, ERC, CINF, PR and EXR. Before estimating the equation, the longrun relation among the series was examined using Johansen Co-integration test.

Table 2: Unrestricted Cointegration Rank Test (Trace)

Sample (adjusted): 1988-2018

Included observations: 31 after adjustments Trend assumption: Linear deterministic trend Series: FDI MAS ERC CINF TP ED PR EXR Lags interval (in first differences): 1 to 1

Hypothesized		Trace	0.05	
No. of CE(s)	Eigenvalue	Statistic	Critical Value	Prob.**
None *	0.898017	207.2057	159.5297	0.0000
At most 1 *	0.759488	136.4344	125.6154	0.0092
At most 2	0.621122	92.25977	95.75366	0.0849
At most 3	0.565682	62.17299	69.81889	0.1748
At most 4	0.445128	36.31964	47.85613	0.3804
At most 5	0.288688	18.06006	29.79707	0.5616
At most 6	0.203611	7.500089	15.49471	0.5203
At most 7	0.014169	0.442379	3.841466	0.5060
Trace test indicates 2 cointegrating eqn(s) at the 0.05 level				

^{*} denotes rejection of the hypothesis at the 0.05 level

Table 3: Unrestricted Cointegration Rank Test (Maximum Eigenvalue)

Hypothesized		Max-Eigen	0.05	
No. of CE(s)	Eigenvalue	Statistic	Critical Value	Prob.**
None *	0.898017	70.77130	52.36261	0.0003
At most 1*	0.759488	44.17460	24.23142	0.0008
At most 2	0.621122	30.08678	40.07757	0.4182
At most 3	0.565682	25.85335	33.87687	0.3298
At most 4	0.445128	18.25958	27.58434	0.4736
At most 5	0.288688	10.55997	21.13162	0.6909
At most 6	0.203611	7.057711	14.26460	0.4823
At most 7	0.014169	0.442379	3.841466	0.5060

Max-eigenvalue test indicates 2 cointegrating eqn(s) at the 0.05 level

From Table 2 and 3, trace and maximum eigenvalue statistics revealed that there are at least two co integrating equations or vectors among variables respectively. Therefore, there is a long run relationship among variables in the model. This result confirms the finding of Bakare and Olubokun (2011) found that there is a long run relationship among foreign direct investments. Similarly, Inuwa Results from Table 1 on the ADF statistics indicate and Haruna (2017) found that there is a long run that TP and FD were stationary at level i.e. integrated relationship between market size, foreign direct at order zero I(0) while FDI, MAS, ERC, CINF, PR and investments and health quality growth. The result of

Table 4: Long-run regression output for estimate for model

Variables	FDI
(-2.3206
	(0.5470)
MAS	0.1364*
כחוזו	(0.0077)
FRC	0.8961*
LITC	(0.0073)
CINF	0.1929*
CINI	(0.0210)
TP	0.6429*
"	(0.0037)
ED	-0.0090
LU	(0.9575)
PR	0.0603*
110	(0.0180)
EXR	-0.0013
LAIT	(0.2643)
R-squared	0.5812
Adjusted R-squared	0.4638
F-statistic	19.556
Prob(F-statistic)	0.0000
Durbin-Watson stat	1.8070

Table 4, MAS, ERC, CINF have direct and significant relationship on FDIs. Coefficient value 0.1364 for MAS, 0.896 for ERC and 0.193 for CINF show that a unit decrease of MAS, ERC, CINF will bring about 0.136, 0.896 and 0.193 increase of FDIs respectively. - Furthermore, TP, PR have direct and significant - relationship with FDIs. Coefficient value 0.643 for - TP shows units decrease in TP will bring about - 0.643 increases in FDIs while changes in political - regime from military to democratic rule promoted - FDIs in Nigeria. On contrary, FD, EXR has inverse - and insignificant relationship with FDIs. Coefficient value -0.019 for ED, -0.001 for EXR shows that unit increase of FD and EXR will bring about decrease in FDI.Coefficient of determination value (R2) 0.5812, reveals independent variables explains 58.12%

^{**}MacKinnon-Haug-Michelis (1999) p-values

^{*} denotes rejection of the hypothesis at the 0.05 level

^{**}MacKinnon-Haug-Michelis (1999) p-values

unexplained residue 41.88% attributed values error to FDI; FDI to TP, EXR to FDI, ERC to TP and PT to CINF. term or other randomized variable not captured This result has been able to uncover that MAS, CINF, prominent effected dependent variable. Similarly, FDI, ERC and PR in past year period causes current adjusted coefficient of determination (R-2) 0.4638 years FDI. By implication, results of this study have measures reduced models explanatory power. shown FDI may be undermined where market size, It further reveals independent variables explain trade policy, exchange rate, capital infrastructure are 46.38% systematic changed dependent variable neither stable overtime. This is because the quality while unexplained residue 53.62% attributed of FDI inflow depends on trust of foreign investors in values error term or other randomized variables not macroeconomic stability in host country. captured prominent effected dependent variable.

(prob<0.05), therefore, overall parameter estimates energy consumptions, capital infrastructure, trade model is jointly significant. The Durbin Watson policy, foreign debt, political regime, exchange rate (D.W) statistics of models 1.8070, since value is all have direct and significant impacts on FDI inflow. approximately equal to 2. It explains no presence It shows increase in any of the variables promotes of serial auto-correlation among dependent and FDI inflow in Nigeria. Following outcome of the independent variables. Determining directions study, government must increase expenditures on causation among health indicators and national capital accumulations to encourage investments productivity, Granger causality tests was employed. by foreign investors. Furthermore, modern trade Accordingly, test variable MAS said Granger causes policies like digitization and digitalization policy another variable FDIs if past and presents value of must be implemented with consideration of foreign former (MAS) predicts latter FDIs.

Result of the causality test is presented in Table 5.

Table 4: Result of the causality test

Pairwise Granger Causality Tests Date: 03/16/20 Time: 17:33

Sample: 1986-2018

Lags: 1

Obs	F-Statistic	Prob.
32	7.59840*	0.0100
	1.81302	0.1886
32	5.25970*	0.0293
	0.11210	0.7402
32	0.00498	0.9442
	7.01132*	0.0130
32	8.20330*	0.0077
	2.34132	0.1368
32	0.53378	0.4709
	4.63525*	0.0398
32	4.17288*	0.0503
	0.01399	0.9067
	32 32 32 32	32 7.59840* 1.81302 32 5.25970* 0.11210 32 0.00498 7.01132* 32 8.20330* 2.34132 32 0.53378 4.63525* 32 4.17288*

Source: E-view result

tests conducted on variables shows that there exist operations.

systematic changed dependent variable while unidirectional causalities, running MAS to FDI; CINF

5. Conclusion

The f-statistic 19.556 significant at 5% level Based on findings, it was concluded that Market size, investors.

6. Recommendation

Based on the analyses and findings emanated from the study and their respective policies implication, the following recommendations were made.

Since economic growth rate serves as catalyst of FDI, therefore, government should increase investment on infrastructural developments (energy, roads and digital terminals) to serve as avenue to stimulate more FDI into Nigeria.

Government should create enabling environment, by formulating policies, programmes and strategy to enforce laws and regulations that will guarantee a secure investments atmosphere.

Since market size influence FDI inflow to Nigeria, government should create opportunities of incentives for production and policies that will potentially increase the purchase power activities of the population that will motivate more FDI into economic.

Again, government should formulate macroeconomics policies, programmes and strategy The result (Table 5) pair wise granger causality to accelerate more investment and open market

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