

© Kamla-Raj 2005

PRINT: ISSN 0971-8923 ONLINE: ISSN 2456-6756

J. Soc. Sci., 11(1): 63-69 (2005)

DOI: 10.31901/24566756.2005/11.01.10

Problems of Policy Implementation in Developing Nations: The Nigerian Experience

Taiwo Makinde

Department of Public Administration, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

KEYWORDS Implementation gap; critical factors; corruption; implementors

ABSTRACT The paper attempted to identify and proffer possible solutions to the various problems facing developing nations as regards implementation of policies. Apart from discussing the general overview of policy implementation problems in both developed and developing nations, focus was on Nigeria while a great number of examples were taken from the Nigerian experience. The Better Life Programme (BLP) and the Family Support Programme (FSP) embarked upon by Nigeria's successive First Ladies between 1983 and 1998 (Mrs. Maryam Babangida and Mrs. Maryam Abacha respectively) were highlighted for empirical studies. Some implementation problems identified in the study include corruption, lack of continuity in government policies, inadequate human and material resources, all of which often lead to implementation gap, i.e. the widening of the distance between stated policy goals and the realization of such planned goals. The study concluded that it is apparent that policies are rolled out regularly in developing nations but, most of the time, without achieving the desired results.