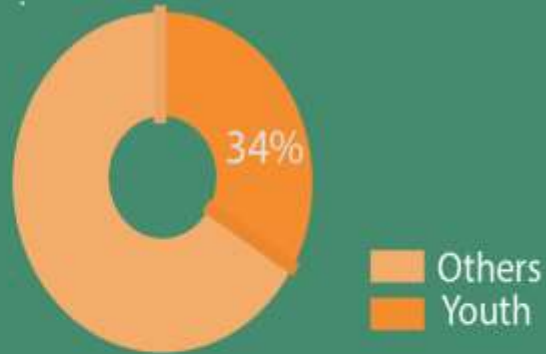




# YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT IN NIGERIA

1

Nigeria has the largest youth population in Africa – 62.8 million in 2016 which is 34% of its population



with projected 135 million youth population by 2050

2

In the 2016 **Global Youth Development Index (YDI)** Nigeria was ranked 141 out of 183 countries, but in the domain of Employment & Opportunities the country ranked 158



Between the first and third quarter of 2016, **the economy created 422,133 net jobs**



while 3.7 million people (comprised of about 70% youth) entered the labour force in the same period.

The youth account for 68% of Nigeria's combined unemployed and under-employed population. This implies that 19.3 million youths in Nigeria were either unemployed or underemployed during the period under consideration



As at the fourth quarter of 2016, 7 out of every 10 unemployed and underemployed person in Nigeria is a youth.

3

Within the next five years, the economy needs to create about 3 million jobs per annum to maintain the current unemployment rate of 14%

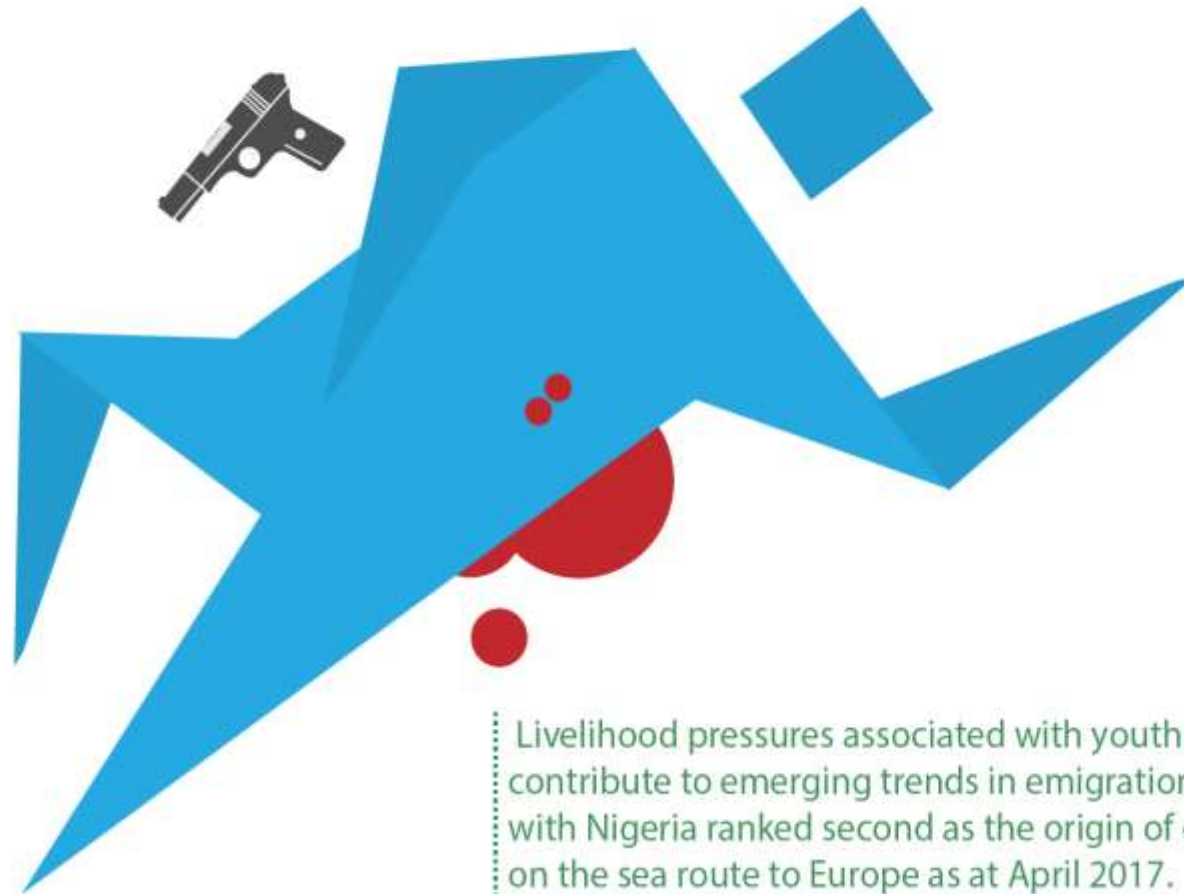
4



# Why is youth employment important as a specific object of policy?

## The link between unemployment and (violent) social eruptions such as crime and insecurity is intuitive

Youth unemployment compounds the security and socio-political challenges currently faced in Nigeria, including the insurgency in the North-East, an active secessionist movement in the South-East, periodic irruptions of militancy in the Niger Delta and other serious crimes.



Livelihood pressures associated with youth unemployment contribute to emerging trends in emigration from the country, with Nigeria ranked second as the origin of desperate migrants on the sea route to Europe as at April 2017.

# What has the government done to combat youth unemployment?

1



Ministry of Youth Development sought to develop policies and programmes to promote the development of Nigerian youth and protect their interests.

2



CBN created several job creation initiatives. Neither of these published data on jobs created via these initiatives.



3



Youth Enterprise With Innovation in Nigeria (YOUWIN) spearheaded by the Federal Ministry of Finance from 2012 sought to create jobs via the provision of business start-up or scale-up grants to award winners. Despite producing a total of 3900 award winners, it is not known if it positively impacted the youth unemployment challenge.

4



N-POWER is a national social investment programme under the OVP. It selected 200,000 young graduates as beneficiaries of the programme to undergo two-year training empowered 174,160 as at the first quarter of 2017.

