



Policy coherence and intergenerational poverty reduction in Kano state, Nigeria: A Sustainable Development Goals Perspectives

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Abstract

Intergenerational poverty remains a critically challenging phenomenon in Nigeria, where inconsistent policies and fragmented strategies have hindered sustainable poverty reduction efforts. This study examines the effect of policy coherence on intergenerational poverty reduction in Kano State, with a focus on three key dimensions: goal alignment among relevant policies and agencies, inter-ministerial collaboration, and stakeholders' participation in the design and implementation of poverty alleviation programmes. The research seeks to assess how these components of policy coherence influence efforts to break the cycle of poverty transmitted across generations. This study adopts a quantitative research design, using a cross-sectional survey, with a sample size of 362 respondents drawn from Kano Municipal, Dala, Bichi, Danbatta, Rano, and Sumaila Local Government Areas of Kano State. The study utilizes a structured questionnaire adapted from established instruments such as the Intergenerational Transmission of Poverty Questionnaire used in the Survey on Income and Living Conditions and policy coherence indicators from the study of Nilsson et al. (2018). Data were analysed using Partial Least Squares Structural Equation Modeling. The measurement model confirmed that all three indicators of policy coherence were valid, reliable, and free from multicollinearity, while also showing strong convergent validity. The structural model results revealed that policy coherence has a strong and significant positive effect on intergenerational poverty reduction in the selected local governments, Kano State. The findings further showed that policy coherence explains a substantial proportion of changes in intergenerational poverty reduction. The study therefore established that improving policy coherence is an important pathway toward achieving the goal of ending poverty in all its forms. The study recommended that Government should strengthen mechanisms for aligning policy goals across ministries, departments, and agencies involved in poverty reduction programmes; government ministries and agencies should establish stronger platforms for inter-ministerial collaboration in the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of poverty reduction programmes; and government should also promote greater stakeholder participation in poverty reduction initiatives by actively engaging local communities, civil society organizations, traditional institutions, and development partners throughout the policy.

Keywords: Inter-ministerial Collaboration, Intergenerational Poverty, Policy Coherence, Stakeholders' Participation

1. Introduction

Poverty is a global development challenge that continues to undermine economic growth, social stability, and human development, particularly in developing countries (Abubakar & Obomeghie, 2024). In Sub-Saharan Africa, the problem remains more severe due to weak institutional capacity, unemployment, inequality, and inconsistent policy implementation. In Nigeria, despite abundant human and natural resources, poverty levels remain high and persistent across both rural and urban areas (Olaniyi & Odhiambo, 2026). Successive governments have introduced a range of poverty alleviation initiatives such as the National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP), the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS), and the more recent Social Investment Programme (SIP). However, the problem of poverty continues to deepen. According to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS, 2022), approximately 63% of Nigeria's population—about 133 million people—live in multidimensional poverty, lacking access to basic education, health services, and adequate living standards. In Kano State, the situation is equally alarming, with large segments of the population engaged in informal and low-income economic activities (Gambo, 2023). A key factor contributing to the limited success of these efforts is the lack of policy coherence—the strategic alignment and harmonization of policies across government sectors. Without coherence, initiatives tend to operate in silos, leading to duplication of efforts, inefficient resource allocation, and minimal impact on long-term poverty reduction (OECD, 2019; Aiyede, 2020; Yero, 2024).

The concept of policy coherence has gained global attention as a tool for achieving the Sustainable Development

Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 1: No Poverty. Yet in Nigeria, and specifically in Kano State, its practical application in poverty reduction strategies remains underexplored. While empirical studies have examined the causes of poverty and assessed the effectiveness of various intervention programs, few have evaluated how policy coherence—through goal alignment, inter-ministerial collaboration, and stakeholder inclusion—affects intergenerational poverty outcomes (Eboh, 2018; Yusuf, 2022; Mustafa, 2024). Moreover, most existing literature on policy coherence stems from developed countries where institutional capacity and governance structures differ considerably from Nigeria's context (World Bank, 2020). This presents a significant gap in localized research and calls for a critical investigation of how coherent policymaking can enhance poverty alleviation efforts at the subnational level. By focusing on Kano State and adopting a SDGs perspective, this study contributed to both academic literature and practical policymaking by offering evidence-based recommendations to improve coordination, effectiveness, and sustainability of poverty reduction initiatives in Nigeria.

In recent years, Kano State has implemented a range of poverty alleviation programs, such as the *Kano State Youth Empowerment Programme (KAYEP)*, the *Women Empowerment Programme (WEP)*, and agricultural support under the *Kano Agricultural and Rural Development Authority (KNARDA)*. At the federal level, initiatives like the *National Social Investment Programme (NSIP)*—which includes N-Power, Government Enterprise and Empowerment Programme (GEEP), and the Conditional Cash Transfer—have been extended to the state. Despite these interventions, poverty remains deeply

entrenched. A central problem is the absence of policy coherence—meaning there is little or no alignment between various poverty reduction strategies and poor coordination across implementing agencies. For example, beneficiaries of GEEP often lack access to complementary state-level programs, and KNARDA’s agricultural schemes operate in isolation from the Central Bank of Nigeria’s Anchor Borrowers’ Programme, reducing the overall impact of interventions (CBN, 2022; World Bank, 2020). These fragmented efforts contribute to redundancy, inefficiency, and resource misallocation, making it difficult to sustainably reduce poverty in the state.

The consequences of these incoherent policies are alarming. The National Bureau of Statistics (2022) reports that 55% of Kano residents live below the poverty line, with the state among the top contributors to Nigeria’s 133 million multidimensionally poor population. Without an examination of the structural causes—particularly the incoherence in policy planning and implementation—poverty interventions will remain ineffective. Continued misalignment will exacerbate unemployment; deepen inequality, and fuel insecurity and social unrest, especially among disillusioned youth in urban areas like Kano metropolis. Without this study, there is a possibility that policymakers and development partners will continue to depend on fragmented strategies that may not effectively address the underlying systemic causes of poverty. Additionally, while studies have examined poverty reduction in Nigeria, few have focused on the role of policy coherence within specific subnational contexts like Kano (Ajakaiye & Olomola, 2019; Yusuf, 2022; Haruna et al., 2023; Adeyanju et al., 2023; Yero & Abdu, 2024). This gap in the literature highlights the need for empirical research to examine how aligned policies, inter-ministerial collaboration, and stakeholder

inclusion can affect poverty alleviation outcomes in Kano State and beyond.

Based on the foregoing, the major objective of this paper is to assess the effect of policy coherence on intergenerational poverty reduction in Kano State, Nigeria. The study therefore proposed the hypothesis in a null form to avoid bias, that policy coherence does not have significant effect on intergenerational poverty reduction in Kano State, Nigeria. Specifically, the study examines whether goal alignment, inter-ministerial collaboration, and stakeholders’ participation affect intergenerational poverty reduction in Kano State, Nigeria. And the rest of this paper is organized as follows: section two is the literature review and theoretical framework; section three shows the Methodology employed for this study; section four presents the Result, Discussions and Analysis; and finally section five provides Conclusion and Recommendations.

2. Literature Review and Theoretical Framework

This section presented the review of important variables studies coupled with the theoretical explanations of the research framework/model.

2.1 Intergenerational Poverty

Intergenerational poverty refers to the transmission of poverty from one generation to another, whereby children born into poor households are more likely to remain poor throughout their lives and subsequently pass poverty to their offspring. It is characterized by persistent deprivation of economic, social, educational, and health opportunities across generations (Bird, 2007). This form of poverty extends beyond temporary income shortages and reflects entrenched structural disadvantages that limit upward social mobility. Intergenerational poverty occurs when economic and social disadvantages experienced by parents

significantly influence the life outcomes of their children, thereby creating a cycle of deprivation that persists over time. Children raised in poor households often face inadequate access to quality education, healthcare services, decent housing, and employment opportunities, which negatively affect their future earning capacities and social mobility (World Bank, 2018). Empirical evidence suggests that intergenerational poverty is strongly linked to deficiencies in human capital development. Corak (2013) observed that societies characterized by unequal access to education and economic opportunities tend to experience higher levels of intergenerational poverty persistence. Likewise, Bird (2013) contends that breaking the cycle of poverty requires integrated interventions focusing on education, health, employment creation, and social protection. A study also by Olayemi et al. (2020) on intergenerational poverty in Nigeria found that children born into poverty-stricken families are more likely to face challenges such as malnutrition, poor health, and limited access to education. These challenges severely limit their chances of escaping poverty, as they grow up without the necessary tools to succeed in life. The study concluded that breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty requires comprehensive interventions in education, healthcare, and social protection that target the specific needs of vulnerable children. For the purpose of this study, intergenerational poverty refers to the persistent transmission of economic deprivation and social disadvantages from parents to children, resulting in limited opportunities for socioeconomic advancement among successive generations in Kano State.

2.2 Policy Coherence

Policy coherence refers to the systematic promotion of mutually reinforcing policy actions across government sectors and

institutions to achieve agreed development objectives while minimizing contradictions and unintended consequences. It emphasizes the alignment of policies, programs, and institutional arrangements to ensure that government interventions collectively contribute toward desired outcomes (OECD, 2019). Policy coherence has both horizontal and vertical dimensions. Horizontal coherence concerns coordination among ministries, departments, and agencies operating at the same governmental level, while vertical coherence focuses on alignment between national, state, and local government policies (Nilsson, Griggs, & Visbeck, 2016). Scholars argue that policy coherence is particularly important for poverty reduction because poverty is a multidimensional phenomenon requiring coordinated interventions across multiple sectors (Weitz, Nilsson, & Davis, 2014). For instance, poverty reduction policies may be ineffective if educational reforms are not supported by healthcare improvements and employment generation strategies. Based on the conceptual literature of policy coherence, three variables or formative indicators of policy coherence, as the latent independent variable, have been selected for this paper, thus: Goal alignment, Inter-ministerial collaboration, and stakeholder participation. To actualize this, the study observed that the selected factors or determinants of policy coherence should be more appropriate.

2.2.1 Goal Alignment

Goal alignment refers to the degree to which the objectives, strategies, and priorities of different government ministries, departments, and agencies are harmonized towards achieving common developmental outcomes. It is an essential component of policy coherence because it ensures that public policies across sectors complement rather than contradict one another. According to the Organisation for

Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD, 2019), goal alignment promotes consistency in public policy by ensuring that governmental institutions pursue mutually reinforcing objectives. In the context of poverty reduction, goal alignment involves integrating the objectives of sectors such as education, healthcare, agriculture, social protection, and employment generation to address the multidimensional nature of poverty. In Nigeria, policy inconsistencies and fragmented development planning have often undermined poverty reduction efforts, as different ministries and agencies sometimes pursue conflicting objectives (Ajakaiye & Adeyeye, 2002; National Planning Commission, 2017). For instance, agricultural empowerment programmes designed to improve rural livelihoods may fail to achieve their intended outcomes when they are not adequately aligned with educational, infrastructural, or financial inclusion policies. Such inconsistencies can result in inefficient allocation of public resources and weakened developmental outcomes. According to Nilsson, Griggs and Visbeck (2016), effective goal alignment enhances policy coherence by fostering synergy among public institutions and ensuring that sectoral policies collectively contribute to broader developmental objectives. Therefore, strengthening goal alignment within government institutions is essential for achieving sustainable intergenerational poverty reduction in Kano State.

2.2.2 Inter-Ministerial Collaboration

Inter-ministerial collaboration refers to the coordinated efforts and cooperative interactions among government ministries, departments, and agencies in the formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of public policies and programmes. Collaboration among government institutions is particularly important in addressing complex societal challenges such as poverty,

unemployment, and inequality, which often transcend the responsibilities of a single ministry. According to Peters (2018), inter-ministerial collaboration enhances policy effectiveness by facilitating information sharing, resource pooling, joint planning, and integrated service delivery. In many developing countries, including Nigeria, public sector institutions often operate in isolation due to bureaucratic structures, overlapping mandates, and weak coordination mechanisms (Adegoye, 2006; Olaopa, 2012). Such institutional fragmentation frequently results in policy duplication, resource wastage, and ineffective service delivery. For example, poverty reduction programmes implemented by social welfare agencies may achieve limited success if they are not adequately coordinated with educational, health, labour, and agricultural interventions. Studies have shown that collaborative governance arrangements enable ministries to leverage their comparative advantages and jointly address the multiple dimensions of poverty (OECD, 2020). According to Gash and Ansell (2008), collaborative public management strengthens policy outcomes by fostering trust, collective decision-making, and shared accountability among participating institutions. Consequently, effective inter-ministerial collaboration remains an essential determinant of policy coherence and sustainable poverty reduction efforts in Kano State.

2.2.3 Stakeholder Participation

Stakeholder participation refers to the active involvement of individuals, groups, communities, civil society organizations, private sector actors, and development partners in public policy processes. It encompasses their engagement in policy formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation to ensure that policies reflect societal needs and aspirations. Stakeholder participation has become a

central principle of good governance because it promotes transparency, accountability, inclusiveness, and policy legitimacy (Bryson, Quick, Slotterback, & Crosby, 2013). In poverty reduction initiatives, stakeholder participation ensures that the voices of vulnerable and marginalized populations are incorporated into policy decisions that directly affect their welfare. According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, 2021), participatory approaches contribute to more effective and sustainable development outcomes because beneficiaries are better positioned to identify local challenges and propose context-specific solutions. In Nigeria, inadequate stakeholder engagement has often been identified as a major factor responsible for the poor implementation and sustainability of development programmes (Ikelegbe, 2013; Eboh, 2014). For instance, poverty alleviation programmes designed without sufficient consultation with local communities may fail to address the actual needs of intended beneficiaries. Empirical evidence suggests that involving stakeholders in policy processes enhances programme ownership, strengthens implementation capacity, and improves developmental outcomes (Reed et al., 2018). Community participation, civil society engagement, and private sector involvement provide valuable information, resources, and expertise that can enhance policy effectiveness. Therefore, strengthening stakeholder participation is essential for ensuring policy coherence and achieving sustainable intergenerational poverty reduction in Kano State.

2.3 Empirical Literature Review

Empirical studies globally have established a strong link between policy coherence and the reduction of intergenerational poverty. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, 2020) demonstrated that countries integrating poverty-reducing

policies across critical sectors—such as education, health, and income support—witnessed a decline in the transmission of poverty from parents to children. These countries benefited from aligning national strategies with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which improved child development, educational attainment, and economic access. Similarly, Gaventa et al. (2021) found that cross-sectoral policy coherence in regions like Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa facilitated more coordinated responses to the root causes of poverty. Their study confirmed that aligning social protection, education, and economic empowerment efforts produced better outcomes in children’s health, learning achievements, and future employment prospects—key indicators in breaking the cycle of poverty.

In Africa, and particularly Nigeria, the issue of policy fragmentation remains a significant barrier to intergenerational poverty reduction. Ayodele and Akintoye (2020) noted that Nigeria’s disjointed social protection framework failed to sufficiently address the compounded disadvantages faced by poor families, especially when education, health, and economic policies operated in isolation. Conversely, Obeng et al. (2021) highlighted Ghana’s success in aligning programs like the LEAP and Free Senior High School initiatives with health services, which significantly improved outcomes for children from low-income households. Within Nigeria, Olufemi et al. (2020) and Eze et al. (2021) emphasized that the lack of policy synergy undermined the impact of otherwise promising programs like the National Social Investment Program (NSIP). Haruna et al. (2023) further highlighted how uncoordinated rural development and land use policies in Rano Local Government, Kano State, hindered sustainable development outcomes, reinforcing the

importance of integrated strategies. Adeyanju et al. (2023) also demonstrated that youth-focused entrepreneurship initiatives under the National Directorate of Employment yielded better results when aligned with other social programs, thereby enhancing their impact on poverty reduction. Similarly, Yero and Abdu (2024) revealed that fragmented policy support for small-scale enterprise owners in Kano and Niger States limited the effectiveness of poverty alleviation efforts, emphasizing the need for better policy alignment and stakeholder coordination as well as participation.

Having critically reviewed so many literatures within the purview of policy coherence and intergenerational poverty reduction across different contexts, below are three hypotheses framed in null form to avoid bias and typed I & II errors.

H₀ (a): Goal alignment does not have significant effect on intergenerational poverty reduction in Kano State, Nigeria.

H₀ (a): Inter-ministerial-collaboration does not have significant effect on intergenerational poverty reduction in Kano State, Nigeria.

H₀ (a): Stakeholder Participation does not have significant effect on intergenerational poverty reduction in Kano State, Nigeria.

2.4 Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework adopted for this study is the Policy Network Theory (PNT), which was notably developed by Christopher P. J. Rhodes in the 1980s. The theory emerged as a critique of traditional state-centered approaches to policy-making and emphasizes that public policies are formulated and implemented through interactions among multiple actors, including government ministries, departments, agencies, civil society organizations, private sector institutions, and community groups. According to Rhodes (1997), policy outcomes are largely determined by the relationships, cooperation, and resource exchanges that

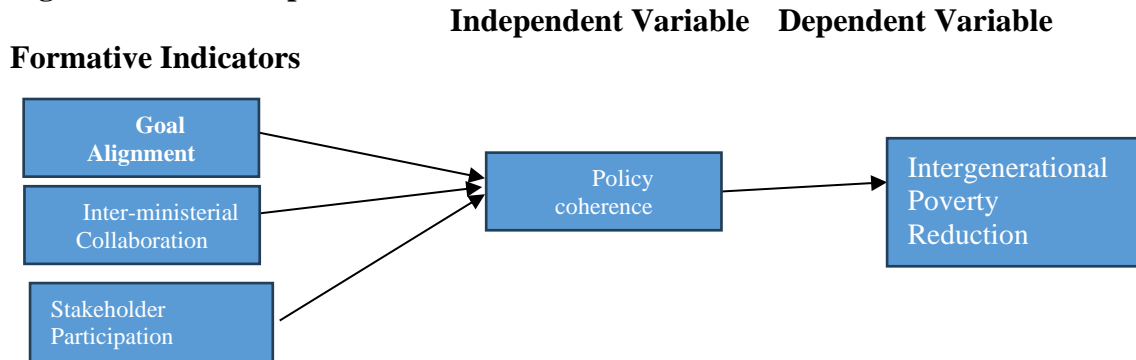
occur among actors within a policy network. Policy Network Theory is based on the assumption that policy-making is a collaborative process involving multiple actors with diverse interests and responsibilities. The theory further assumes that these actors are interdependent, meaning that no single institution possesses all the resources, information, expertise, or authority required to effectively address complex societal challenges. Consequently, successful policy outcomes depend on effective coordination, collaboration, and consensus-building among participating actors. The theory also emphasizes the importance of policy integration and coherence, arguing that fragmented and poorly coordinated policies often result in ineffective outcomes and developmental failures.

The adoption (relevance) of Policy Network Theory is appropriate for this study because it provides a comprehensive explanation of how policy coherence can contribute to intergenerational poverty reduction in Kano State. The theory highlights the importance of goal alignment, whereby government ministries and agencies harmonize their objectives towards common poverty reduction targets. Through coordinated policy goals, resources can be utilized more efficiently and developmental interventions can achieve greater impact. The theory is also relevant in explaining inter-ministerial collaboration, as it emphasizes the need for ministries and agencies to work together through information sharing, joint planning, and coordinated implementation of programmes aimed at addressing the multidimensional causes of poverty. Furthermore, the theory also indicates the significance of stakeholder participation, recognizing that civil society organizations, development partners, traditional institutions, community groups, and private sector actors possess valuable

knowledge and resources that can improve policy effectiveness and sustainability. Therefore, Policy Network Theory provides a suitable framework for understanding how goal alignment, inter-ministerial collaboration, and stakeholder participation collectively enhance policy coherence and contribute to sustainable

intergenerational poverty reduction. The theory demonstrates that effective poverty reduction efforts require coordinated actions among multiple actors whose collective efforts can help break the cycle of poverty transmitted across generations in Kano State, Nigeria.

Figure 1 Conceptual Framework



Source: Researcher’s Framework (2025)

The above figure shows how the independent variables have links with the dependents variable, this diagram has been designed based on the several empirical literatures’ assumptions and arguments on policy coherence and intergenerational poverty reduction.

3. Methodology

The study adopted a quantitative research design using a cross-sectional survey approach and examined the effect of policy coherence on intergenerational poverty reduction in Kano State, Nigeria, within the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) framework. The target population comprised policymakers and development actors drawn from relevant Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) in Kano State, including the Ministries of Budget and Economic Planning, Education, Health, Women Affairs and Social Development, and Rural and Community Development, as well as representatives of poverty-focused NGOs such as ActionAid Nigeria and Save the Children and selected local government

officials. The population was estimated at approximately 2,300 public sector actors and 75 NGO personnel actively engaged in poverty-related programmes (Kano State Civil Service Commission Records, 2024; NGO Coordination Unit Report, 2024). The sample size for the study was determined using the Krejcie and Morgan (1970) formula, which yielded 329 respondents for a population of 2,300. To account for potential non-response and incomplete questionnaires, a 10% adjustment was added, resulting in a final sample size of 362 respondents, and selected using a combination of purposive and simple random sampling techniques. Purposive sampling was used to identify respondents with direct involvement in policy formulation and poverty reduction implementation, while simple random sampling ensured equal representation among eligible participants. Data were collected using a structured questionnaire measured on a five-point Likert scale ranging from Strongly Agree (5) to Strongly Disagree (1). The research instrument was developed by adapting

validated measurement scales from established governance and development literature to ensure content validity. The instrument for policy coherence was adapted from the OECD Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development framework (OECD, 2019) and SDG governance indicators. The three indicators of policy coherence were operationalized as follows: goal alignment was adapted from OECD (2019) and Nilsson et al. (2016), inter-ministerial collaboration was adapted from the public sector collaboration literature (Agranoff & McGuire, 2003; Peters, 2018), and stakeholder participation was adapted from Arnstein's (1969) ladder of participation and Bryson et al. (2013). The dependent variable, intergenerational poverty reduction, was measured using adapted indicators from the World Bank poverty framework (World Bank, 2018), UNICEF child poverty indicators (UNICEF, 2021), and Alkire and Foster's multidimensional poverty approach (Alkire & Foster, 2011).

Data analysis was conducted using Partial Least Squares Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM) with SmartPLS software due to its suitability for prediction-oriented research and formative measurement models. Policy coherence was specified as a formative construct, while intergenerational poverty reduction was specified as a reflective construct. The formative measurement model was evaluated using established PLS-SEM criteria. Convergent validity was assessed using redundancy analysis, where a path

coefficient of ≥ 0.70 between the formative construct and a global single-item measure indicated acceptable validity. Multicollinearity was assessed using Variance Inflation Factor (VIF), where values were expected to be below 3.3 (preferred threshold) or below 5.0 (maximum acceptable limit). The significance and relevance of formative indicators were tested using bootstrapping with 5,000 resamples, where t -values ≥ 1.96 and $p < 0.05$ (two-tailed test) indicated statistical significance. Indicators with non-significant weights but outer loadings of ≥ 0.50 were retained based on theoretical justification. The structural model was assessed using path coefficients (β), coefficient of determination (R^2), effect size (f^2), and predictive relevance (Q^2). R^2 values were interpreted as 0.25 (weak), 0.50 (moderate), and 0.75 (substantial), while effect sizes were interpreted as 0.02 (small), 0.15 (medium), and 0.35 (large). Predictive relevance was established where Q^2 values were greater than zero, and model fit was assessed using SRMR values below 0.08 as an acceptable threshold for good model fit.

4. Results and Discussion

Tables below shows the responses of the questionnaire, in which out of 362 questionnaires distributed, 338 were returned and valid for analysis, representing a 93% response rate. This indicates a high level of participation, which enhances the reliability and representativeness of the study findings.

Table 4.1 Descriptive Statistics of Policy Coherence Indicators and Intergenerational Poverty Reduction

Variable	Mean	Standard Deviation
Goal alignment	4.21	0.73
Inter-ministerial collaboration	4.05	0.81
Stakeholder participation	3.98	0.71
Intergenerational poverty reduction	4.10	0.69

Source: Researcher's Survey (2026).

Table 4.2 presents the descriptive statistics of the study variables. Goal alignment recorded the highest mean score, indicating strong perceived alignment of policies across MDAs. Inter-ministerial collaboration and stakeholder participation

also recorded high mean values, suggesting their importance in policy coherence. The relatively high mean of intergenerational poverty reduction indicates perceived improvement in poverty-related outcomes in Kano State.

Table 4.2 Formative Measurement Model

Variable	B (Outer weight)	t-value	p-value	VIF	Coefficient
Goal alignment	0.42	5.81	0.000	2.21	
Inter-ministerial Collaboration	0.38	4.92	0.000	2.45	
Stakeholder Participation	0.29	3.77	0.000	1.98	

Policy coherence → Global items

0.82

Table 4.2 presents the outer weights, t-values, p-values, variance inflation factor (VIF) and coefficient of the formative indicators of policy coherence. The results reveal that Goal Alignment recorded an outer weight of $\beta = 0.42$, with a t-value of 5.81 and p-value = 0.000, indicating a significant contribution to the formation of policy coherence. This implies that aligning policy objectives across government institutions is the most influential component in shaping policy coherence in Kano State. Similarly, Inter-Ministerial Collaboration produced an outer weight of $\beta = 0.38$, with a t-value of 4.92 and p-value= 0.000. Since the t-value exceeds the threshold of 1.96 and the p-value is below 0.05, the indicator is statistically significant and contributes meaningfully to the policy coherence construct. This suggests that collaboration among ministries, departments, and agencies is essential for achieving coherent policy implementation and poverty reduction outcomes. Likewise, Stakeholder Participation recorded an outer weight of $\beta = 0.29$, at-value of 3.77, and a p-value of 0.000. Although it contributed relatively less compared to the other indicators, its t-value remains well above the recommended threshold of 1.96,

confirming its statistical significance and relevance in forming policy coherence. Overall, all three formative indicators demonstrated significant outer weights and satisfactory bootstrapping statistics. The findings therefore confirm that Goal Alignment, Inter-Ministerial Collaboration, and Stakeholder Participation are relevant and significant dimensions that collectively form the policy coherence construct. The relative magnitudes of the outer weights further indicate that Goal Alignment contributes most strongly to policy coherence, followed by Inter-Ministerial Collaboration and Stakeholder Participation. This supports the multidimensional nature of policy coherence and validates its operationalization in the present study. Furthermore, all VIF values were below the threshold of 3.3, confirming that there is no multicollinearity problem among the formative indicators. This indicates that each indicator contributes independently to the construct of policy coherence. And the redundancy path coefficient of 0.82 exceeds the threshold of 0.70, confirming adequate convergent validity. This indicates that the formative construct of

policy coherence adequately represents the global measure of the concept.

Assessment Results

Relationship/Construct	B	t-value	p-value	R ²	F ²	Q ²	SRMR
Policy coherence	0.76	11.92	0.000	0.58	0.41	0.39	0.061
Intergenerational–Poverty reduction							

Table 4.3 presents the structural model assessment results. The path coefficient ($\beta = 0.76$) indicates a strong positive relationship between policy coherence and intergenerational poverty reduction. The relationship is statistically significant, as evidenced by the t-value of 11.92, which exceeds the threshold of 1.96, and the p-value of 0.000, which is below the 0.05 significance level. The coefficient of determination ($R^2 = 0.58$) indicates that policy coherence explains 58% of the variation in intergenerational poverty reduction in Kano State. According to Hair Jr. et al. (2022), R^2 values of 0.75, 0.50, and 0.25 can be described as substantial, moderate, and weak respectively; therefore, the model demonstrates moderate explanatory power. The effect size ($f^2 = 0.41$) exceeds the recommended threshold of 0.35, indicating a large effect of policy coherence on intergenerational poverty reduction. Furthermore, the predictive relevance value ($Q^2 = 0.39$) is greater than zero, confirming that the model possesses satisfactory predictive relevance. Finally, the Standardized Root Mean Square Residual ($SRMR = 0.061$) is below the acceptable threshold of 0.08, indicating a good model fit. The findings align with OECD (2019), Nilsson et al. (2016), and Bryson et al. (2013), which emphasize that policy coherence through goal alignment, stakeholder inclusion, and cross-sector integration enhances the effectiveness of development interventions. These studies agree that coordinated and coherent policy actions strengthen implementation capacity and improve poverty reduction outcomes.

Table 4.3 Structural Model

Ansell and Gash (2008) further support this view by highlighting that inclusive and collaborative governance improves policy effectiveness in addressing complex development challenges such as poverty. In contrast, Peters (2018) argues that policy coherence efforts may be constrained by weak institutional capacity and bureaucratic rigidity, especially in developing governance systems. Similarly, Rhodes (1997) notes that policy network interactions can suffer from power imbalances and fragmented authority structures. These limitations may reduce the practical effectiveness of policy coherence in achieving intended poverty reduction outcomes.

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

This study assesses the effect of policy coherence on intergenerational poverty reduction in Nigeria, using Kano State as the empirical focus within the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) framework. The study was motivated by the persistent problem of poverty being transmitted from one generation to another despite various government interventions and development programmes. It focused on understanding how policy coherence, measured through goal alignment, inter-ministerial collaboration, and stakeholder participation, can influence the reduction of intergenerational poverty. The study adopted a quantitative research design and collected data from policymakers, government officials, and relevant stakeholders involved in poverty reduction and development programmes. The data were analysed using Partial Least Squares

Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM). The measurement model confirmed that all three indicators of policy coherence were valid, reliable, and free from multicollinearity, while also showing strong convergent validity. The structural model results revealed that policy coherence has a strong and significant positive effect on intergenerational poverty reduction in Kano State. The findings further showed that policy coherence explains a substantial proportion of changes in intergenerational poverty reduction. This means that when government policies are properly aligned, well-coordinated across ministries, and inclusive of stakeholders, poverty reduction becomes more effective. The study therefore established that improving policy coherence is an important pathway toward achieving the SDGs goal of ending poverty in all its forms.

Based on the findings, the study concludes that policy coherence plays a very important role in reducing intergenerational poverty in Kano State and Nigeria at large. The evidence shows that when government policies are aligned towards common development goals, poverty reduction efforts become more effective and sustainable. Among the indicators, goal alignment was found to be the most important factor, showing that shared policy direction across sectors is critical for long-term poverty reduction. The study also concludes that inter-ministerial collaboration is essential for addressing poverty in a coordinated manner. Since poverty is a multidimensional issue, no single ministry can address it alone. Therefore, cooperation among ministries such as education, health, finance, and social development is necessary to ensure that poverty reduction programmes are implemented effectively and without duplication or conflict. Furthermore, the study concludes that stakeholder

participation strengthens the effectiveness of policy implementation by ensuring that the voices of communities, civil society, and development partners are included. When stakeholders are involved, policies become more realistic, acceptable, and impactful. Overall, the study concludes that strong policy coherence significantly contributes to reducing intergenerational poverty and supports the achievement of SDGs in Nigeria. The Kano State Government should strengthen mechanisms for aligning policy goals across ministries, departments, and agencies involved in poverty reduction programmes. This can be achieved through the development of a unified poverty reduction framework that clearly outlines common objectives, targets, and implementation strategies for all relevant institutions. Such alignment will reduce policy inconsistencies and improve the effectiveness of poverty reduction interventions. The study recommended that firstly, government ministries and agencies should establish stronger platforms for inter-ministerial collaboration in the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of poverty reduction programmes. Secondly, regular joint meetings, shared databases, and coordinated budgeting processes should be encouraged to improve communication and reduce duplication of efforts. This will enable institutions to utilize resources more efficiently and deliver better outcomes for vulnerable households. Thirdly, government should also promote greater stakeholder participation in poverty reduction initiatives by actively engaging local communities, civil society organizations, traditional institutions, and development partners throughout the policy process. Finally, it recommended that providing stakeholders with opportunities to contribute to policy design and implementation will improve

programme relevance, increase public trust, and ensure that poverty reduction interventions effectively address the needs

of the people most affected by poverty in Kano State.

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