

**Combating covid- 19 with e-governance and good-governance in Nigeria**

Aluko Opeyemi  
Ajayi Crowther University

**Abstract**

E-governance and good governance had not been at its best in Africa before the advent of corona virus (Covid-19). There is therefore an obvious need to introduce high level technology in the governance system. Governance entails the administering of public and essential services to the people per time by the people that has been vested with such powers and duties. The outbreak of Corona Virus in 2019 brings an urgent need for service delivery to the citizen by the government. Good governance can be adjudged as good only when the basic needs of the people are given to them as at when due. In the twenty first century, governance had become complex than ever because of population outburst, the resources are limited and socio-political and economic challenges are multiplying daily. The need for speed, accuracy, effectiveness and efficiency in governance and administration becomes imperative. This is the obvious need to introduce high level technology in governance system. This study is focused on Nigeria as a prominent country in Africa. This paper opined that e-governance brings about good governance and development also it will help to reduce the scourging nemesis of the Covid-19 in Nigeria. Therefore, what is the level of e-governance implementation required in Nigeria so as to surmount the effects of corona virus? As a prompt measure to reduce the scourge of Covid-19 pandemic in Nigeria, rational choice theory is adopted to explain the need for e-governance and good governance.

**Keywords:** Corona Virus, Good Governance, Development, E-Governance, Service Delivery and Technology

**Combattre le Covid-19 avec l'e-gouvernance et la bonne gouvernance au Nigeria***Résumés*

*L'e-gouvernance et la bonne gouvernance n'avaient pas été les meilleurs moyens efficaces de luttés en Afrique avant l'avènement du virus corona (Covid-19). Il y a donc un besoin évident d'introduire une technologie de haut niveau dans le système de gouvernance. La gouvernance implique l'administration des services publics et essentiels à la population à chaque fois par la population qui a été investie de ces pouvoirs et devoirs. L'épidémie de Corona Virus en 2019 entraîne un besoin urgent de prestation de services aux citoyens par le gouvernement. La bonne gouvernance ne peut être considérée comme bonne que lorsque les besoins fondamentaux de la population sont satisfaits à temps. Au XXIe siècle, la gouvernance est devenue plus complexe que jamais en raison de l'explosion démographique, les ressources sont limitées et les défis socio-politiques et économiques se multiplient quotidiennement. Le besoin de rapidité, de précision, d'efficacité et d'efficience dans la gouvernance et l'administration devient impératif. C'est le besoin évident d'introduire une technologie de haut niveau dans le système de gouvernance. Cette étude se concentre sur le Nigeria en tant que pays le plus développé de l'Afrique. Ce document démontre que la gouvernance électronique contribue à la bonne gouvernance et au développement, elle contribuera également à réduire cet ennemi juré qui est le Covid-19 au Nigeria. Par conséquent, quel est le niveau de mise en œuvre de la gouvernance électronique requise au Nigeria pour*

*surmonter les effets du virus de corona ? En tant que mesure rapide pour réduire le fléau de la pandémie de Covid-19 au Nigeria, la théorie du choix rationnel est adoptée pour expliquer la nécessité d'une gouvernance électronique et d'une bonne gouvernance.*

*Mots-clés : Corona Virus, bonne gouvernance, développement, e-gouvernance, prestation de services et technologie*

## **Introduction**

The advent of corona virus in 2019 and its subsequent declaration as pandemic in early 2020 by the World Health Organization due to its global spread and high mortality rate is a delicate matter in global governance and international relationships. Covid-19 affects all aspects of human life and the repercussions are deemed to have a long lasting effect on the economies of countries. The developed countries in the global North are finding it difficult to curtail its trend and flatten its curve with the available enormous economy and technological resources (Khanthavit, 2020). Then if that is the case in the global north, what will be the fate in the global south where the economy and technology are not very strong? There is an obvious need to introduce high level technology into African especially in the governance system in Nigerian.

Governance is all about administering the basic and essential needs of the people to them per time by the government. In any form of government; democratic government where all citizens can lay claim on the government directly in order to obtain their rights without any hesitation or an autocratic government where the citizen cannot lay claim on the government directly for their rights to be expressed. The government is expected to provide some basic need to the people and more promptly in emergency situations like Covid-19 pandemic.

Good governance cannot be adjudged as good if the basic needs of the people are not given to them as at when due. However, it is not about infrastructure provisions alone but also the acknowledgement of the basic rights of the people. In other words, governance process that focuses on common good provisions for a limited number of people at the expense of the greatest number of the people have jeopardise the basic right of the people. The provision of public good by the government must reach the absolute majority of the people in all classes of the society in order to bring about the greatest happiness to the greatest number of the people (Oyedele and Aluko, 2018a). Therefore, in a complex society with rapid population growth, every individual in the population is expected to be treated as a stakeholder in the government.

Aluko (2020a) observed that in the twenty first century, governance and its processes is getting more complex than ever because the population is getting larger, the resources are limited and socio-political and economic challenges are multiplying daily. This situation in most political system appears to be a problem. Malthusian population is at exponential growth rate while available resources cannot be satisfactorily distributed among the people. This means that there must be a way to go around this huddle. Therefore Homburg (2018) advocates the need for speed, accuracy, effectiveness and efficiency in governance and administration. Speed is needed so as to overcome social, political, psychological and economic menace of crime, protests, agitations and government breakdown whenever government services become limited.

Accuracy is essential because the available resources must be distributed to all and sundry without omission, duplication or any form of corrupt manipulation of the citizens (Rahman, 2019). Pal, (2019)

opined that whenever speed and accuracy are embedded in governance, effectiveness and efficiency of policies becomes a reality. Oyedele and Aluko, (2018b) further noted that e-governance makes government closer to the people and service delivery becomes more efficient and effective. The necessary speed and accuracy in government in an emergency time such as the corona virus pandemic can be achieved by introducing technology in governance system.

The necessary speed and accuracy in governance is much needed in developing countries due to the development gap accrued over the years. Nigeria as a developing country in the global south requires a system that utilises prompt distribution of the basic developmental and individual's need as at when due not only in emergency period as the novel Covid-19 pandemic but also at all times in order to reduce the scourge of poverty and the danger of political, social and economic loss in the country. No doubt the population is increasing steadily yet the available resources can be utilised by the government for an encompassing growth and development of all individuals within her territory. This implies that there is a need for good governance, speed and accurate data in the distribution of the common wealth in the country (Osezua, et al 2018). There is also need for reduction or eradication of all corrupt acts within the management of the country much more during emergency covid-19 pandemic period by introducing transparency and accountability into system.

The mingling of corruption with art of governance had been a bane in Nigeria (Das, 2018; Aluko, 2020). It has limited the act of good governance. The outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic coupled with inept governance will result into a disaster that can perpetually submerge the country into an abject and irrecoverable poverty. This is because over the years the resources meant for the entire country are been circumvented and diverted into private hands by government officials (Ogundiya, 2009; Hope, 2017). There is therefore a drastic need for more transparency and accountability in governance coupled with speed and accuracy in the distribution of the common wealth in the country. This can be promptly achieved through e-governance.

This paper opined that e-governance brings about good governance and development in the country and it will help to reduce the scourging nemesis of the Covid-19 in Nigeria. Therefore, what is the level of e-governance implementation required in Nigeria so as to surmount the effects of corona virus? The rational choice theory is used to justify the need for e-governance and good governance as a prompt measure to overcome Covid-19 pandemic. This paper emphasises on having holistic socioeconomic and political policies on e-governance down to the local government or the grass root so as to possibly revamp the country's economy by promoting accuracy, speed, transparency, accountability and good governance in the daily public administration and to reduce eventually reduce the scourging effect of Covid-19 pandemic.

## **Conceptual Clarification**

### **COVID – 19**

Corona viruses are viruses that circulate among animals but some of them are also known to affect humans (World Health Organization, 2020; World Bank, 2020). The Corona virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness caused by a novel corona virus, namely severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), first detected in December 2019 in the city of Wuhan in Hubei province, China (Lai, Shih, Ko, Tang, and Hsueh, 2020; Miller, Bhattacharyya and Miller, 2020). It is simply a type of virus that affects the respiratory tract. This group of viruses are associated with the common cold,

pneumonia, and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), and in more severe cases it causes death (World Health Organization, 2020).

The outbreak and spread to all provinces of mainland China and almost the entire countries of the world with more than 9.63 million confirmed cases and 4.86 million discharged while 490 thousand confirmed deaths as at 25th June, 2020 (World Health Organization, 2020). The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control as at 25th June confirmed 22614 cases, 7822 patients were discharged while 549 deaths were recorded. (World Health Organization, 2020). According to the report by World Health Organization (WHO) (2020), the speed of transmission for COVID-19 virus is estimated to be 5-6 days; the reproductive number is said to be rapid replication yet there are presently no licensed vaccines or therapeutics available to curb the virus.

### **E-Governance**

E-governance means electronic governance. Electronic inform of information and communication technology (ICT). ICT strengthens the value chains and impacts the entire country. E-governance is a potent enabler of administrative performance by effective, transparent, and accountable institutions and encourages the participation of citizens. ICT can concretize governance initiatives for enhanced access to and delivery of mostly web-based government information and services (Qi et al, 2017). In view of that, the government wants to streamline government to-citizens (G2C), government-to-business (G2B), government to- government (G2G), and government-to-employees (G2E) processes and interactions (Aluko and Gabriel, 2019).

The UNESCO (2019) definition of E-governance is the public sector's use of information and communication technologies with the aim of improving information and service delivery, encouraging citizen participation in the decision-making process and making government more accountable, transparent and effective. E-governance involves new styles of leadership, new ways of debating and deciding policy and investment, new ways of accessing education, new ways of listening to citizens and new ways of organizing and delivering information and services. E-governance is generally considered as a wider concept than e-government, since it can bring about a change in the way citizens relate to governments and to each other. E-governance can bring forth new concepts of citizenship, both in terms of citizen needs and responsibilities. Its objective is to engage, enable and empower the citizen.

Electronic governance is using information and communication technologies (ICTs) at various levels of the government and the public sector and beyond, for the purpose of enhancing governance. Governance need not necessarily be conducted exclusively by governments. Private firms, associations of firms, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and associations of NGOs all engage in it, often in association with governmental bodies, to create governance; sometimes without governmental authority. E-governance definition adopted in this study is the application of electronic means in (1) the interaction between government and citizens and government and businesses, as well as (2) in internal government operations to simplify and improve democratic, government and business aspects of Governance.

### **Good governance**

Good governance is the process whereby public institutions conduct public affairs, manage public resources and guarantee the realization of human rights in a manner essentially free of abuse and corruption, and with due regard for the rule of law (Oyedele, Omede and Aluko, 2018). Good governance is fundamental to economic growth, political stability, and security. The applications work to

tackle many aspects of weak governance, including corruption and money-laundering, and to promote full respect of the rule of law, increase transparency, and develop effective legislation as the foundation of a functioning State. The true test of "good" governance is the degree to which it delivers on the promise of human rights: civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights.

There are some basic features of good governance. These features must be seen both in principle and in practice in the day to day governmental activities. These features include; Participation, Rule of law, Transparency, Responsiveness, Consensus orientation, Equity, Effectiveness and efficiency, Accountability and Strategic vision. Participation; all men and women should have a voice in decision-making, either directly or through legitimate intermediate institutions that represent their interests. Such broad participation is built on freedom of association and speech, as well as capacities to participate constructively. Rule of law characteristics entails the legal frameworks which should be fair and enforced impartially, particularly the laws on human rights. Transparency characteristic is built on the free flow of information. Processes, institutions and information are directly accessible to those concerned with them, and enough information is provided to understand and monitor them.

The responsiveness entails institutions and processes trying to serve all stakeholders. Also the consensus orientation of good governance mediates differing interests to reach a broad consensus on what is in the best interests of the group and, where possible, on policies and procedures. However, equity as a feature of good governance implies that all men and women have opportunities to improve or maintain their well-being without being jeopardised. The effectiveness and efficiency characteristics explains the need and processes why institutions produce results that meet the needs while making the best use of the available resources.

Accountability as a feature of good governance centres on good and accurate record keeping of (financial) transactions and other events by decision-makers in the public sector, the private sector and civil society organisations. The level of accountability differs depending on the organisations and whether the decision is internal or external to such organisation. Lastly, the Strategic vision characteristic enable the leaders and the public to have a broad and long-term perspective on good governance and human development, along with a sense of what is needed for such development such as the political, economy, historical, cultural and social acumen.

### **Rational Choice Theory**

The rational choice theory, also known as choice theory is a theory for understanding and often modelling social, group, institutional and other individual behaviours among the group. The goal of the rational choice theory is chiefly to describe choices, to generate predictions, to understand choice group behaviour and or to provide normative criteria for rationality. It is a central theory in microeconomics school of thought and modern political science, as well as other disciplines such as sociology and philosophy (Acheson, 2002; Wittek, 2013). A pioneering figure in establishing rational choice theory was George Homans (1961), he set out some basic frameworks of choice in governance. Becker (1976) further explained that the rational choice theory was early popularized in social sciences to explain why a group of people, an institution, an organization or governments respond to situation in a particular way.

Elster (1989) stated the essence of rational choice theory that when people, an institution, organization or the government is faced with several courses of action, emergency situation like the covid-19 pandemic or severe situations that needed urgent responses, they usually do what they believe is likely

to have the best overall outcome. Ogu (2013) noted that Friedman, (1953) opinion that the rationality in the rational choice theory means that an organization or government react so as to balance the effect of cost against benefits in order to arrive at actions that maximizes collective advantage. Rational Choice Theory is an approach that is adopted by social scientists to understand the reasons behind the choices made by the governments by considering their technical composition, intellectual resource base and the alternatives choices available to them especially in periods of emergency such as the Covid-19 pandemic.

The four assumptions made by rational choice theorists include: Individualism, Optimality and Self-Regarding Interest and Rationality. Individualism implies that it is the individuals who ultimately take actions in the name of the government especially in a representative democracy. Individuals, as actors in the society behave and act as rational beings, self calculating, self-interested and self-maximizing, these individual actions are the decision makers for the government. They determine the policy to be implemented for the larger society and the extent of e-governance and good governance features to be implemented in the country. Optimality implies that the government choose her actions by considering the best of the available options. The rational choice theory, therefore assumes that governments are in their best frame of mind and intentions when taking actions for the larger society.

Self-Regarding Interest as an assumption in the rational choice theory states that the actions of the government and individual are as well concerned and connected to the personal interest and welfare of the group or individual at the helm of the affairs. They can hasten the process of e-governance and good governance attainment or decelerate developmental processes. All of these depend on the various types of group sentiments that could exist within the group. These include; mutual aid, altruism and charity or selfishness and embezzlement among others which are contrary to optimality. Rationality –is another assumption that appears the most predominant assumption of the rational choice theory. All individuals, according to this assumption act in ways that would benefit them more; every individual is most like to undertake courses of actions that they perceive to be the best possible option and one that would immensely be to their own advantage.

### **Models of e-governance for corona virus pandemic era**

Social distancing and stay at home decisions of the government have impacts on government and the people. The following models of e-governance are recommended so as to reduce the effects on the country. Oakley, (2002) make a three models of e-governance. E-governance is different in America, Europe, Asia or Africa, just as it different at the local levels – in Inner London or rural Nigeria for example. The technological processes may be similar, but the norms, assumptions, and political drivers will vary hugely. This political drive is the determining factor in the success or failure of the scheme regardless of the economic, social or the political climes. From the comparative studies of various international locations, there are at least three main models of e-government currently operating on which other revolves around.

These include; the ‘new economy’ model, the ‘e-community model’ and the ‘planned economy’ model. The first model is the new economy model – this stresses the similarities between e-government and e-business. It is focused on delivering high quality public services and on moving to a more ‘self service’

citizenship, which over time will shrink the size of the state to a global village. E-governance is seen both as a response to the demands of businesses and of citizens in dealing with e-businesses and hence it stresses on convenience, all time (24-hour) access and so on. It is also seen as a regional and local tool for economic development that will help to attract high technology businesses to an area, perceived as technology friendly (Pal, 2019). In this model, the development of infrastructure tends to follow the market. The US is the best example of this, but other countries such as New Zealand or the UK have adopted elements of this model.

The second model is the e-community model – more favoured in continental European societies, particularly those such as the Netherlands or Scandinavians which have a strong tradition of civil society and freedom of information, high levels of education and technology penetration and a relatively even distribution of wealth. Civic networks and public access have always been importance in this model (Agrawal, Sethi, and Mittal, 2019). There is often local level public intervention to mitigate the worst aspects of digital divides. This model stresses potential social innovations resulting from widespread access and the role of citizens as co-producers of services.

The third model is the planned economy model – used in countries such as Singapore or Malaysia, which traditionally use interventionist public sector tools to drive and shape private sector activity and investment. Just as it is in the new economy model, economic development is very much a driver, but the development of infrastructure and the skills to use it is seen as a government responsibility, with heavy subsidies for the construction of particularly broadband networks (Lee-Geiller and Lee, 2019). This third model is easily adaptable by African countries especially in Nigeria most especially during the Covid 19 pandemic so as to reduce its effects on the citizens both on the short term and long term basis.

### **E-governance and good governance prowess against covid-19 in Nigeria**

The concept of good governance can be linked to principles and rights set out in the main international human rights instruments. Article 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights recognizes the importance of a participatory government while article 28 states that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedom set forth in the Declaration can be fully realized. No doubt, the novel covid-19 pandemic has placed some limitations on the human rights and freedom such as freedom of association, and participatory government in Nigeria. It is also making life difficult because of its economic, social, political and educational effects on the country.

E-governance and good governance have a great chance of mitigating the scourge of Covid-19 pandemic and poverty in Nigeria. This is because it will reduce the time wasted by government in reaching out to the people in terms of data capturing, basic amenities distribution, palliative measures distribution and other important information. The government in Nigeria over the past years had been facing the problem of inadequate citizens' data capturing (Eme, 2015). Therefore, at the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic, the distribution of palliative measures seems to be difficult. This makes government far from the people and ineffective in the discharge of its duties and responsibilities to the people.

There are several benefits that can be derived whenever e-governance is utilised in governance despite any emergency such as covid-19 pandemic. These include; speed in government response to societal needs like food distribution, money transfer to citizens, health and social data capturing and collection of feedback from the citizens among others. This is because technology makes communication more effective. Internet, Phones, Cell Phones have reduced the time taken in normal communication. Government will not be require to start operating a manual laborious steps in reaching out to the

remotest or poorest of the poor among the citizen in the country (Lee-Geiller and Lee, 2019). It will also reduce the cost on both the government and the citizen's side because the money spent on transportation from one part of the country to the other will be reduced or eliminated. Most of Government's expenditure appropriated towards the cost of stationeries – paper-based communication that requires a lot of stationary among others will also be reduced (Budget Office Nigeria, 2019). E-governance will reduce the high overhead cost and budgets with much recurrent expenditure on stationeries often seen in the budgets and other financial plan by channelling it to other developmental needs amidst the covid-19 pandemic era. Internet and Phones makes communication cheaper saving valuable money for the Government. The cost of transportation from one part of the country to the other by the citizens in order to access government's goods and services will also be reduced to their own comfort amidst the covid-19 lockdown policy.

A prominent benefit e-governance will offer in the corona virus period is transparency in governance – The use of ICT makes governing process transparent. All government information would be made available on the internet where by the citizens can see and utilise the information. Current governing process in Nigeria leaves many people in oblivion while some people with classified access conceal information that could benefit the people in making informed choices despite the freedom of information law entrenched in the country's constitution. E-governance will mitigate this thereby promoting good governance with adequate citizens' participation. ICT makes information available online and eliminate all the possibilities of concealing of information and the possibility of spreading of fake news by misinformed personnel (Aluko, 2019; Agrawal, Sethi and Mittal, 2019).

Furthermore, amidst the covid-19 pandemic, e-governance utilization will promotes accountability in the country. Financial records of both income and expenditure will be made known to the people. The government and the entire citizenry will have the proper feedback on how adequate or inadequate government responses are in controlling the spread of the virus, distribution of palliative measure and in the distribution of public goods. This will expedite actions of improvement in government distribution of goods and services to the public if the feedbacks are either positive or negative.

What is the level of e-governance implementation required in Nigeria so as to surmount the effects of corona virus? To surmount the effects of covid-19 in Nigeria, there is an urgent need for a holistic view of e-governance initiatives across the country; integrate them into a collective vision and a shared mandate. Around this idea, a total implementation model of e-governance is required in Nigeria so as to be able to effectively combat the effects of the corona virus pandemic. The e-economy model of e-governance which is applicable in the developed countries will best help Nigeria to combat the scourge of covid-19 pandemic. Other models such as e-community and planned economy will not fully help the country because they are not as effective in operation as the e-economy model among other inherent limitations. There is a need for massive countrywide e-governance infrastructure reaching down to the remotest of villages to cover a large-scale digitization of records. This will enable easy and reliable government access to her citizen especially on matters relating to food, health care, clothing, shelter, security and jobs.

Other specific advantages of e-governance are that it propels good governance in political and economic communication and operations of the government and in that case, it helps in reducing the spread of covid-19 effectively. These political and economic communication include; i-Voting, e-service and e-Cabinet. I-Voting will be a unique solution that will simply and conveniently help to engage people in the



governance process regardless of the pandemic. Internet voting, or i-Voting, is a system that allows voters to cast their ballots from any internet-connected computer anywhere in the world. It is completely unrelated to the electronic voting systems which involve costly and problematic machinery (Aluko, 2020b). This can be used in the general elections or parliamentary elections. When i-voting is properly connected, the chance of contracting corona virus in the popular open and secret ballots will be eliminated in Nigeria. It will make elections to be simple, elegant, rapid and secure.

During covid-19 era, elections and government meetings can be conducted freely with minimal contact of people. The workability of i-Voting is open to the public during a designated pre-voting period, the voter logs onto the system using an ID-card or Mobile-ID, and casts a ballot. The voter's identity is removed from the ballot before it reaches the National Electoral Commission for counting, thereby ensuring anonymity. The problems of traditional postal ballots such as the possibility of votes being forced, falsified, ballot stuffing or figure manipulation will be minimised or abolished. Voters are allowed to log on and vote as many times as they want during the pre-voting period. Since each vote cancels the last, a voter always has the option of changing his or her vote whenever they wish superior information are acquired.

Covid-19 spread in Nigeria can as well be combated if e-services are put to effective usage. E-service works with the government portal, the portal is a one-stop-shop for hundreds of e-services offered by various government institutions. Rather than having to hunt for a particular service on the internet, citizens, entrepreneurs or officials can simply visit this gateway site and find the right link or contact details for the e-service they need. Once logged into the system with a secure electronic ID, the user does not have to repeat the log-in to access any of the other available services. This saves time and resources of the user. It as well helps to prevent duplication and falsification of registration on the portal by the users. More so, it will make government businesses to continue amid the pandemic with little or no impact on the internal economy.

The legislative and executive business can as well be done using e-cabinet. It is the information system for government sessions. This will reduce the risk of contracting covid-19 by the legislators. E-Cabinet is fast, effective and more efficient decision-making process. It is a powerful tool that the government can use to streamline its decision-making process. At its core, the system is a multi-user database and scheduler that keeps relevant information organized and updated in real time, giving ministers or legislators clear overview of each item under discussion. The legislator or executives can access the system to review each week agenda and determine their position. They can click a box stating whether they have any objections or would like to speak on the topic. The legislator or ministers' positions can be known beforehand. Decisions that have no objections are adopted without debate, saving considerable time.

The government will also eliminate the need to print and deliver thousands of pages of documents each week – a significant benefit for the environment and the tax payer. Because e-Cabinet uses web-based software and audio-visual equipment, ministers, legislators, commissioners or other government officials can take part remotely. Decisions made at the meetings can be e-mailed to interested parties or posted on a website even while the meeting is still going on. Therefore, Nigerian government and other African countries can combat the short and long term effects of corona virus in their countries, improve good governance and as well reduce the money spent on stationeries and fully go digital.

## **Conclusion**

The effect of covid-19 on the world is enormous. Nigeria and indeed Africa need to do more so as to reduce the negative effects on the political, economy and social lives of their citizenry. The adoption of good governance strategies and e-economy model of e-governance platform will mitigate covid-19 effects on Nigeria. The current performance of Nigerian Government in e-governance is not at par with the best practice as the three models have provided. There are a lot of lacunas in government communication network with the citizens. The service delivery channels are mostly slow, ineffective or obsolete. Therefore, in some communities, there seems to be no trace of government presence in terms of basic amenities and other provisions. Where the provision is slightly effective, anti government characters such as ethnicity, religious segregation, diversion of funds and other public resources among other corrupt practices have made the process to be ineffective. Therefore there is an urgent need to effectively revamp the government presence in the country through holistic application of the e-economy model of e-governance so as to consolidate and sustain the good governance and developments in the country.

It is suffice to say that the current performance of Nigerian Government in good governance is poor base on the characteristics of good governance. The obedience to the rule of law, rights of the citizen, transparency in governance and accountability in government events among others are mirage of the reality in Nigeria. All of these characteristics must be imbibed by the central government to the least official at the local or grass root especially in combating covid-19 pandemic. The rational choice theory explains that proper rationalization of decision by the government will bring about development. Resources allocation must be utilised judiciously and in that process, the government must be transparent. This will bring about effective and efficient rational actors in handling the national resources at all times.

Whenever the tools of e-governance and good governance are employed by the government, there will be a positive propelled and promptly sustained development with other social, political and economic attainment in the country. The extent of negative impact of covid-19 on the socio-political and economic landscape of the country will be minimised. Therefore, holistic socioeconomic and political policies on e-governance down to the local government–grass root must be embark on by the government. These include; basic infrastructures for e-economy model like regular electricity, accessibility to good intra and internet networks and education of the general public on the new structures. This will revamp the economy, promote the level of good governance in the country and effectively combat the scourge of covid-19.

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