implementation stages;

h) Failure to check the high level of instability within other macro economic policy environment;

i) Lack of political will from the public sector managers;

j) Bureaucratic bottlenecks in the provision of services such as rural credit, credit to small scale enterprises, education and health.

TOWARDS ENHANCING AN EFFECTIVE POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMMES

Poverty is a product of dynamic social forces and policies have often been developed overtime to combat or reduce it. If therefore, despite these policies poverty persists, then perhaps explanation should look not to the failings of the poor but to the but to the failings of anti-poverty policies, and to the agencies and institutions responsible for making them work (Alcock 1997). So if the policies in place do not work, perhaps as Macgregor (1981) argues, they (policies) are product of political decisions and poverty is a political concept; and its identification is linked to political action to eliminate it. Thus if poverty remains, then politicians have failed either to identify it accurately or to develop appropriate policies in response to it, However, it is suggested that sustainable poverty alleviation anchors on three approaches:

a) Policies that promote efficient growth and which make use of the poor's most abundant asset, labour.

b) Public expenditure on institutions that provide equitable access to education, health care, and other social services. These should properly integrate social safety net for the most valuable groups in the society.

c) Stable macroeconomic policy environment is also considered very vital and imperative.

Unfortunately, these approaches have either been neglected in Nigeria, or given very little attention.

CONCLUSION

So far we may have learnt that an understanding of the nature of economic growth, the size and distribution of income is central to the analysis of the poverty problem in low income countries, including Nigeria. While there may seem to be some relative growth had brought to the poor. We were taught to take care of our GDP as this will take care of poverty; perhaps, we have to reverse to take care of the GDP. This is because the elimination of widespread poverty and growing income inequality is at the core of development problems,