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DISPLACEMENT OF PERSONS IN NIGERIA: CAUSES AND MANAGEMENT

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Abstract

This study examined the causes and management of displacement of persons in Nigeria. Terrorism, displacement and insecurity are major issues that have plagued the Nigerian State for years. Nigeria faces several security threats, including terrorism, banditry among others, and these have led to the displacement of persons in the country. The theoretical framework adopted for this study is the framework for national responsibility. The study adopted a qualitative research method and data were collected from secondary sources. The study found that in Nigeria, most of the incidences of internal displacement occur because of violent conflicts with ethnic religious and/or political undertones. Thousands are annually internally displaced as a result of natural disasters including flooding in the North and West, erosion in the East, oil spillage and development projects in the Niger Delta (South-South). The study also found that the Nigerian state is at the forefront of managing IDPs in Nigeria. In the area of camp coordination, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is working with NEMA and SEMA. From the findings of the study, it was recommended, among others, that the Federal Government of Nigeria, in collaboration with the state governments should build permanent camps for the registered IDP s with schools and health clinics in order to facilitate healthy life and produce skilful human being among the internally displaced persons for the betterment of their life and the general society.

Keywords: Internally Displaced Persons, Insecurity, Terrorism, Nigerian State

Introduction

Terrorism and insecurity are major issues that have plagued the Nigerian State for years. Nigeria faces several security threats, including terrorism. Boko Haram and its offshoot, the Islamic State of West African Province (ISWAP) continues to be threats. The Niger Delta militancy and Boko Haram insurgency pose the greatest security threat to Nigeria since the end of the civil war in 1970 (Abdulkadir, 2020). Despite a general decrease in terror related deaths, the country recently recorded the ninth highest number of people who died in terrorist attacks worldwide, after Afghanistan. Several militant groups are active in Nigeria, leading to attacks on both civilian and military targets. The Nigerian government has been criticized for its poor response to these security threats. The response of its various security agencies has been largely poor, ineffective and reactive. The national security system has been unduly centralist and militarist. Its command and control approach needs to be developed through state and community policing (Sunde, 2021).

Adegbami, (2021), noted that the Nigerian government can take several measures to tackle insecurity in the country. According to a report by the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, Nigeria's national security system has been unduly centralist and militarist. Its command and control approach needs to be devolved through state and community policing. Local participation in security should be encouraged.

Elder statesman, Afe Babalola, has offered ten principles that can help tackle the insecurity challenges facing the country. These include true federalism, constitutional restructuring, making politics unattractive, introduction of a six-year single term for the office of President and Governors, reform of the electoral body, clear ideology of political parties, population control among others. Nigeria faces several security challenges, including secessionist groups, lack of freedom of expression, high level of insecurity, high unemployment rate, electoral fraud, terrorist attacks, unemployment, poverty, armed robbery, political violence, ethno-religious conflicts, Fulani herdsmen, Boko Haram insurgents and Niger Delta insurgency. The country is faced with an unprecedented wave of different but overlapping security crises - from kidnapping to extremist insurgencies - almost every corner of the country has been hit by violence and crime. Porous borders have also enhanced insecurity in Nigeria Akpan-Robaro, (2020).

Statement of the problem

Internal displacement disrupts the lives not only of the individuals and families concerned but of whole communities and societies. Both the areas left behind by the displaced and the areas to which they flee can suffer extensive damage. Socio-economic systems and community structures often break down, impeding reconstruction and development for decades (Global Protection Cluster Working Group, 2007). Byym, and Lie, (2020) avers that, millions of internally displaced persons worldwide live in dire conditions and often spend long years in protracted displacement. More often than not, they remain unprotected and are unable to assert their rights, National legislation often provides insufficient protection to the particular situation of the internally displaced. Specific legislation on internal displacement can thus be an essential cure. National parliaments therefore are crucial in protecting their internally displaced citizens through legislative action.

The impact of internal displacement can therefore be equally devastating for States, which may lack the capacity or institutional structures needed to protect and assist formerly self-sustaining populations. The areas to which IDPs relocate may very likely be ill-prepared and under-resourced to cope with a sudden influx of people. Large-scale displacements can destabilize entire regions, posing severe security and humanitarian challenges (Adegbami, 2021).

IDPs have been compelled to leave their homes and often cannot return because they face risks at their places of origin from which State authorities are unable or unwilling to protect them, because they might have been specifically prohibited to return, or because their homes have been destroyed or are being occupied by someone else. They also may face the risk of forced return to an area that is unsafe. In some cases, they may be compelled to seek shelter in crowded camps or settlements, which can give rise to various protection risks. They have often lost access to their land and other property and are cut off from their normal livelihoods and sources of income. As a result, they may suffer poverty, marginalization, and exploitation and abuse (Byym, & Lie, 2020).

Aim and objectives of the paper

The aim of this study is to critically examine the displacement of persons in Nigeria. The specific objectives are to:

1. Examine the causes of displacement in Nigeria.
2. Interrogate the management of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Nigeria.

Significance of the Study

1. It will serve to explain the underlying motives behind terrorism and internal displacement of persons in Nigeria.
2. Secondly, the study will help interrogate the reasons behind the Government's poor response to the conflict in Nigeria, and increase knowledge on the role of the Nigerian state in the management of terrorism and internal displacement in the country.

Theoretical Framework

Framework for National Responsibility

The theoretical framework adopted for this study is the framework for national responsibility. This framework was instituted by the Brooking-Bern Project in 2005. It states that National responsibility is fundamental to ensuring an effective approach to internal displacement. The simple fact that IDPs remain within the borders of their country means that it is their own state that bears primary responsibility for protecting and assisting them and for safeguarding them against arbitrary displacement in the first place. This principle is affirmed in international standards, namely the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, and regularly restated, both by the international community and by individual states.

Although there exists broad consensus on the non-native principle of national responsibility, realizing it often proves challenging in practice. Because internally displaced persons (IDPs) reside within the borders of their own countries and are under the jurisdiction of their governments, primary responsibility for meeting their protection and assistance needs rests with their national authorities. The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement underscore this point, setting forth the rights of IDPs and the obligations of governments toward these populations. They provide a framework for better understanding what national responsibility should entail (Brooking Institution, 2005).

As reflected in Principle 3 of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, national authorities have the primary duty and the responsibility to protect and assist IDPs living within their borders. The Guiding Principles themselves set forth the rights of IDPs and the obligations of governments toward these populations. In order to

provide more specific guidance to governments about how to exercise their national responsibility for IDP protection and assistance (Salama, Spiegel and Brennan, 2001)

In 2005 the Brookings-Bern Project on Internal Displacement developed the document entitled Addressing Internal Displacement: A Framework for National Responsibility (hereafter "Framework'" or "Framework for National Responsibility"). The Framework sets out twelve broad areas in which states can directly contribute to the mitigation and resolution of internal displacement.

1. Prevent displacement and minimize its adverse effects.
2. Raise national awareness of the problem. 3. Collect data on the number and conditions of IDPs.
3. Support training on the rights of IDPs.
4. Create a legal framework for upholding the rights of IDPs.
5. Develop a national policy on internal displacement.
6. Designate an institutional focal point on IDPs.
7. Support national human rights institutions to integrate internal displacement into their work
8. Ensure the participation of IDPs in decision making.
9. Support durable solutions.
10. Allocate adequate resources to the problem.
11. Cooperate with the international community when national capacity is insufficient.

This is not an exhaustive list of the measures expected of governments but twelve minimum steps that governments can take to translate their responsibilities into concrete actions. Taken together, they seek to guide governments through specific suggestions on actions to take. Further guidance is given on how to implement each of the twelve benchmarks by outlining certain essential elements (for example, that data collection on IDPs should encompass all categories of IDPs, should be disaggregated and should protect privacy) as well as by suggesting different practical ways of achieving each objective (Brooking Institution, 2005). Since the publication of the Framework, national authorities; regional intergovernmental organizations; international experts on internal displacement; UN human rights, humanitarian and development agencies; and NGOs, IDP associations and academics have made use of the it in a number of different ways, including as a tool for advocacy, awareness-raising, monitoring national responses to internal displacement, training of government officials, and providing technical assistance for the development of national legislation and policies to address internal displacement.

International organizations and local NGOs have translated the Framework from English into eleven additional languages: Arabic, Azerbaijani, Chinese, French, Portuguese, Russian, Serbian, Sinhala, Spanish, Tamil and Thai. This theoretical framework is applicable in this study because it emphasizes the need for the Nigerian government to protect those who are internally displaced within her border following the guiding principles of internal displacement.

CONCEPTUAL REVIEW

Concept of Terrorism

Terrorism, especially in this era of globalisation, is a current trend or discourse in areas like international relations and development studies. As a result of its numerous adverse consequences, terrorism has become a major source of concern to the international community. The concept terrorism, like many other concepts in social science, lacks a universally accepted definition as several scholars define the concept differently. However, terrorism often involves the use of violent actions in order to achieve certain aims or force a government to act in certain ways. Terrorism is perceived to be relative. This is because what is considered to be terrorism by one may not necessarily be seen as terrorism by another. Okeke, (2005) posits that to the victims of terrorism the perpetrators are terrorists while to the perpetrators, terrorism is an act targeted at reforming or enforcing change.

According to the Arab Convention for the Suppression of Terrorism (1998), terrorism is any act or threat of violence, whatever its motives or purposes, that occurs in the advancement of an individual or collective criminal agenda and seeking to sow panic among people, causing fear by harming them, or placing their lives, liberty or security in danger, or seeking to cause damage to the environment or to public or private installations or property or to occupying or seizing them, or seeking to jeopardise a national resources.

Also, Schmid and Jongman (2004) disclosed that terrorism is an anxiety-inspiring method of repeated violent action, employed by (semi-) clandestine individual, group, or state actors, for idiosyncratic, criminal, or political reasons, whereby – in contrast to assassination – the direct targets of violence are not the main targets. The immediate human victims of violence are generally chosen randomly (targets of opportunity) or selectively (representative or symbolic targets) from a target population, and serve as message generators.

Onuoha, (2011) argued that terrorism is ineluctably political in aims and motives, violent – or, equally important, threatens violence, designed to have far-reaching psychological repercussions beyond the immediate victim or target, conducted by an organisation with an identifiable chain of command or conspiratorial cell structure (whose members wear no uniform or identifying insignia), and perpetrated by a subnational group or non-state entity.

The United Nations General Assembly (1994) sees terrorism as "Criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons, for political purposes and unjustifiable circumstances, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or any other nature that may be invoked to justify them". On their part, Enders and Sandler (2012) define terrorism as a premeditated use of or threat to use violence by individuals or sub national groups to obtain a political or social objective through the intimidation of a large audience beyond that of the immediate victims. Terrorism is a strategy employed by actors (state and non-state actors) with widely differing goals they intend to achieve and constituencies they intend to reach (Post, 2007; Enders & Sandler, 2012).

Laqueur (2007) stated that terrorism is the use or the threat of the use of violence, a method of combat, or a strategy to achieve certain targets… It aims to induce a state of fear in the victim, that is ruthless and does not conform with humanitarian rules… Publicity is an essential factor in the terrorist strategy. Schmid (2004) admitted to what he described as 'the definitional problem of terrorism'. This is because terrorism may well be the most important word in the political vocabulary these days. Hundreds of billions of dollars are spent worldwide to bring this particular form of violent political crime or illicit mode of waging conflict under control while people die every day from acts of terrorism. Nevertheless, some people do not seem to bother to define terrorism nor do they consider it worthwhile defining the concept. But surely, when governments ask young men and women to fight a 'war on terrorism', the soldiers, policemen and other first line responders are entitled to a proper answer to the question of what exactly they are supposed to fight in the 'Global War on Terrorism' (GWOT).

Is it a metaphorical war like the 'war on drugs' or the 'war on poverty' or is it a real war? Soldiers are trained to fight against another army or against guerrilla formations. Yet to fight against a phantom enemy like 'Al Qaeda', 'al Qaedaism' or a 'jihadi international' movement is less concrete, although still more concrete than to fight an abstract generic evil like in the 'war on terror' (Schmid, 2004).

Concept of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

There is no legal definition for IDPs as there is for Refugees. However, the United Nations report, guiding principles on Internal Displacement posit that IDPs are groups that are forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or homes, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border (Adenitan, 2014). The 'push' and 'pull' factors are often due to armed conflict or violation of human right(s) or man-made disasters. In other words, displaced persons are individuals or groups of persons who have been forced or obligated to flee or to have cause to leave their homes due to the effect of armed conflict, violations of human rights, situations of generalized violence, natural or manmade disasters, to another place considered relatively safe within their own national borders. Ibeanu (1999) submitted that IDPs are those who seek relocation due to a conflict in their region. However, Hampton (2013) opted that people that flee their homes to seek safer net within the confines of their national borders or home country are classified as IDPs. Irrespective of the cause of the displacement, the phenomenon always leaves negative socio-economic footprints on millions of people worldwide. IDPs encounter enormous challenges and uncertainty in camps, which ranges from the right to property to dehumanizing conditions. Poverty and hunger, diseases, neglects and feelings of alienations among others scourge them. All these conspire to worsen their status as internally displaced persons to psychosocially and emotionally displaced persons. According to Adenitan (2014) there is no clear international responsibility for assisting and protecting the internally displaced aside the general international humanitarian law, this makes displaced persons most especially women susceptible to sexual exploitation, rape and other dehumanizing conditions.

Kelly (2000) contends that in periods of violence, there is likelihood to experience the effect of the vulnerability of a particular kind, linked to gender. Thus, analyzing the position of Kell one could apprehend the rate of exposure of women to threats in IDPs camps. Reimann (2002) clearly observed that majority of reported cases of sexual violence is usually against the women and girl-child who experience variations of physical dangers compared to men. Women are considered most vulnerable and often exposed to a high degree of risk, which ranges from sexual exploitation to becoming victims of domestic violence or being impregnated by enemy soldiers. It has also been stated by the Brookings Institute that the degrees of violations that IDPs women often experienced deserves specific attention.

Concept of Insecurity

Diver views have emerged in academia on insecurity. Nevertheless, just a few of these perceptions that are strongly related to this discourse are briefly considered. According to Nwagboso (2020) insecurity is the danger that entrepreneurs and executives of business organizations exercise by relocating their business ventures from an insecure environment to a more secure one. This view is applicable to Igbo and Yoruba business men who relocated to their native lands in the wake of Boko Haram Insurgency Suileman, (2021), as cited in Adegbami (2021). The view is also applicable to many manufacturing companies that relocated from the Northeast geo-political zone of Nigeria to other countries due to the high level of insecurity occasioned by the Boko Haram Insurgency (Ajodo Adebanjo and Okorie, 2021). For Achumba et al. (2020), insecurity is an absence of protection or safety. These scholars argue further that insecurity entails peril; deathtrap; ambiguity; dearth of fortification, and lack of security. They also discuss the problem of insecurity from the following two major perspectives: Firstly, insecurity is the state of being prone or vulnerable to danger or threat of danger. In this situation, the tendency of experiencing hurt based on insufficient measures against danger is very bright.

Secondly, insecurity is the state of being exposed to risk or anxiety. The exposure could be as a result of inadequate measures against insecurity by the state or by a group of people etc. This usually happens when the law enforcement agents are poorly educated, trained, remunerated and motivated. It could also occur when peoples‟ basic necessities of life are lacking.

Similarly, (Beland, 2022) views the concept of insecurity as a state of fear or anxiety, due to absence of protection. Also, Ezemonye (2020), cited in Udoh (2021) see the concept as a state of not being secured, in certain environments (Adegbami, 2020) while (Ajodo-Adebanjo and Okorie, 2021) view insecurity as a state of being subject to danger or threat. Under this scenario, people's state of mind concerning safety could be categorized by self doubt and defenselessness and such persons could consider themselves targets for harm. In the past few decades, mostly during the Cold-War between the United States of America and the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republic (USSR), scholarly works on insecurity were centered on traditional tactics (Pierce, 2021), which means state-centric. Hence, the problem of insecurity, then, was largely considered as a threat between one country and another and the struggle for arms and ammunition was to defend the state from external aggression. The issue of insecurity after the post-war era later changed to the centre state as many rebels began to increase within countries, most especially in developing countries. The recent phenomenon of non-violent conflicts within the least developed countries has prompted scholars to perceive insecurity as threats to human life.

The key points to observe from the above perceptions are as follows:

i. Insecurity could be regarded as a condition of anxiety or whatever that has the capacity to cause fear, impairment or injury in the lives of people. Such a phenomenon is rooted in politics, economics, religion, ecology factors.
ii. Insecurity could arise from both violent and non-violent conflicts.
iii. Insecurity could be a business stratagem to avoid loss of human and material resources.
iv. Insecurity is something which can be felt.
v. The problem of insecurity has been extended from violent conflicts to non-violent conflicts with serious implications in developing countries.
vi. The above perspective of scholars on insecurity failed to see the concept of insecurity as the failure of the state to provide the necessary facilities or amenities for the safety of the citizenry.

Under normal circumstances, it is one of the roles of the state to ensure adequate safety of lives and property and to also make adequate provision for necessities of life. But such vital roles can only be successfully carried out under effective and efficient leaders. Thus, an insecure society could be said to have its political and social control institution malfunctioning which could also cause disequilibrium in other institutions in the society. The foregoing therefore, brings to the fore the need for a social discourse of

insecurity considering its implications on national development and the wellbeing of Nigerians.

Methodology: Design, Sources and Analysis of Data

This study adopted a qualitative research design, which is concerned with understanding the meaning, depth, and experiences of human behavior and social phenomena through non-numerical data. The sources of data collection were secondary; it entailed teasing out data from sources such as textbooks, journal articles, newspapers, government publications, constitutions, and the Internet. Content analysis was applied in analysing, describing and interpreting data since the work is predominantly desk research. It allowed for the evaluation of texts, images, and other communications to uncover patterns, themes, and underlying meanings. The method is suitable for this research because it is non-intrusive, and brings to the fore all the facts about the causes of displacement and the management of internally displaced persons in Nigeria.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Causes of Displacement in Nigeria

In Nigeria, most of the incidences of internal displacement occur because of violent conflicts with ethnic religious and/or political undertones. Thousands are annually internally displaced as results of natural disasters including flooding in the North and West, erosion in the East, oil spillage and development projects in the Niger Delta (South-South). Some incidences also occur because of clashes between Fulani herdsmen and farmers and between government forces and armed groups. This is in addition to the over 400,000 Bakassi returnees that were internally displaced from the oil rich Bakassi Peninsula that was handed over by Nigeria to Cameroon in 2008 resulting from the 10th October, 2002 ruling of the International Court of Justice.

Analysts have always expressed fears that the level of conflict and with it the level of internal displacement, may increase each time general elections year draws nearer. These fears were confirmed when the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) reported that about 65,000 persons were displaced internally due to post-election violence spread across six Northern states including Bauchi, Kaduna, Kano, Niger, Katsina and Sokoto.

Recent studies have also shown that people's vulnerability to internal displacement in Nigeria is not only due to natural and human-made disasters, armed conflict, ethno-religious-political conflicts but also worsened by extreme poverty, lack of equal access to socio-economic resources and balanced development, high unemployment rate among able-bodied and frustrated youths as well as development and environmental-induced displacements. It has been noted, however, that undue emphasis on disaster-induced displacement led to the government prioritizing disaster risk reduction and narrowing its focus to responding to disaster-induced displacement (Sunde, 2021).

This approach has largely ignored non-disaster-induced internal displacement and lack of strategic framework to address the plight of such displaced populations and to provide durable solutions to all types of displacement. The endorsement of this IDP policy by the Federal Government is a demonstration of political will to provide durable solutions to the plight of IDPs and a practical admission of the fact that ensuring IDPs protection and assistance primarily lies with national authorities whose mandate and obligation it is to protect and care for them.

Management of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Nigeria

Different sectors through humanitarian, NGOs and government agencies seek to highlight the current gaps and challenges in meeting the needs of IDPs, and provide concrete recommendations to improve protection, assistance and durable solutions for IDPs identified. According to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR, 2014), the management of IDPs in Nigeria is from these organizations mentioned below:

Food Aid and Security

i. NEMA, ADSEMA and faith based organisations have supplied food items to the camp in Girei Local Government Area of Adamawa state. The food items include rice, semovita, maize, cassava flour, noodles, yams, beans, bread and palm oil. ADSEMA provides meat and fish. According to ADSEMA the food items available in the camp will be sufficient for a period of 3 months. FOMWAN volunteers and IDPs cook food and serve wet rations 3 times a day.

ii. In the month of August, 2014, CISCOPE/OXFAM from its SCHO funded responses distributed food items mainly maize and rice to 1, 050 IDP households in Michika Local Government Area.

iii. American University of Nigeria (AUN) has distributed food items to 2,000 IDP households in host communities in Yola metropolis and Jimeta through Adamawa Peace Initiative.

iv. The Mubi Emirate Council, NEMA and Dangote Foundation have supplied food items to support registered 6, 561 IDPs in Lamode and Kolere in Mubi Local Government Area.

Water Sanitation and Hygiene

i. SEMA, Red cross, OXFAM/ CISCOPE and IRC are the leading agencies providing WASH support in the IDP camp.

ii. OXFAM through its implementing partners, CISCOPE leads WASH committees in the IDP camp and conducts regular hostel to hostel awareness on personal and menstrual hygiene. It also mobilizes the IDPs and volunteers to remove solid waste, washing of toilets, sweeping of IDP camp and cleaning of drainages prior to the attack on Michika Local Government Area, OXFAM/CISCOPE distributed hygiene kits to 1,00 households, trained 50 volunteers, on water pre-filtration treatment and time delay before consumption, sensitized communities on appropriate hygiene practices and constructed 15 VIP latrine in Michika Local Government Area before the attack.

iii. OXFAM through its partners, CISCOPE has prepositioned hygiene kits for 1, 200 households to support IDPs in the communities from its ongoing ECHO funded responses.

iv. Red Cross and coordinates environmental sanitation in the IDP camp. In order to meet the urgent need for additional toilet facility in the camp, NRC advocated with AUN which has commenced the construction of 5 bio-degradable pit latrines and 5 washing cubicles in the female hostels (UNHCR, 2014).

v. IRC has distributed 30 hand washing station stands, 50 wash solid waste disposal bins, 62 liters, 2 Wheel Barrows, 2 Shovels, 3 Metal Brooms, 60 Mobs/Buckets, 87 Hand Brush, 2 public address systems, weighing scales and supported excavation of 4 solid waste maintenance

pits in the camp. IRC has trucked water to meet the urgent need for drinking water among IDPs living in host communities in Mubi Local Government Area.

vi. SEMA has supplied cutlasses, brooms and disinfectant to support environmental sanitation in the camp.

Education

i. The Adamawa state Government has announced 13 October as the resumption date for schools in the state. In preparation for the resumption of schools, SEMA has commenced registration of pupils according to age groups and allocated a temporary learning space in the camp. This shall give about 2, 000 school age children access to education.

ii. Essential recreational materials supplied by UNICEF have been distributed in the N-VSC camp.

iii. SEMA and Red Cross have finalized plans with the Local Education Authority to supply learning materials to the camp. In the same vein, AUN is in the process of deploying 23 teachers and supplying 300 text books to the camp.

iv. Some of the registered IDPs are teachers by profession and they are being mobilized to support educational activities in the camp.

Health

i. A 6 bed clinic has been set up in the camp. The clinic is managed by staff of Girei Local Government Area. Currently, 4 nurses who run two shifts (morning and evening), 1 medical doctor and 2 environmental officers provide ongoing medical and health care support in the camp. The camp has a store where drugs are kept.

ii. 80 percent of drugs are supplied by the state Government through the state ministry of health. However, Primary Health Care Agency (PHCA), Nigeria Medical Association (NMA) Sure-P and faith based organizations supply drugs to the Clinic.

iii. Most of the drugs include anti-malaria, antibiotics, de-wormer and pain reliving drugs. Immunization and vaccination of newly registered IDP children is carried out.

iv. An agreement between SEMA and the specialist hospital in Yola to support IDPs for referral and secondary care is in place. IDPs with critical or special medical attention have been supported to access secondary care in the specialist hospital.

v. UNICEF has distributed dignity kits in some host communities and RH kit in health centres.

vi. IRC has conducted a survey of Primary Health Care (PHC) centres in some of the communities hosting IDPs with the aim of supporting IDPs to access medical and health care.

Emergency Shelter and NFIs

i. ADSEMA provides emergency shelter for the 4, 236 registered IDPs in a camp located in Gieri Local Government Area. The IDP camp is fenced with a security post at the entrance to check indiscriminate movement in and out of the camp. Newly registered IDPs are allocated a space in the hostels and supplied with essential NFIs such as mattresses, nylon mats, cups, plates and spoons.

ii. Males and females are put in separate hostels in the camp, children under 5 stay with their mother in the female hostels.

iii. As at 27 September, 2014 750 mattresses, 5, 000 blankets, 500 mosquito nets, 150 plastic buckets and 200 cups have been supplied to the IDP camp.

iv. It was reported that some IDPs preferred nylon mats to mattresses. The store officer reported that the women in particular most times return mattresses in exchange for nylon mats. This is common among women with a high number of children (between 5-7 children) as the mattresses do not provide enough sleeping space for the victims. The government plan to relocate the IDPs in Mubi Local Government Area to Biu, Yola and Maiduguri has not been accomplished there by causing agitation among the IDPs.

Safety and Security

i. A combination of State Security Service (SSS), Police, Civil Defense, Peace Corps and civilian JTF provide general security in the camp. They participate in the screening and registration of new IDPs. They also screen food and NFIs that are supplied to the camp. They are represented in different camp committees such as security and discipline, psycho-social support, registration and secretariat.

ii. During Displacements, children, girls and women at hostels or IDP camps are most vulnerable. Hence, the Civil Defence Corps or Peace Corps help to provide security at those camps and hostels.

Summary of Findings

The study found that in Nigeria, most of the incidences of internal displacement occur because of violent conflicts with ethnic religious and/or political undertones. Thousands are annually internally displaced as a result of natural disasters including flooding in the North and West, erosion in the East, oil spillage and development projects in the Niger Delta (South-South) but this study on how terrorism in the North East has led or increased the incidences of Internal Displacement in the region.

The study also found that the Nigerian state is at the forefront of managing IDPs in Nigeria. In terms of camp coordination, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is working with NEMA and SEMA. With respect to food security, the World Food Programme (WFP) is working with International Medical Corp (IMC). In terms of health, UNICEF is working with Action against Hunger (AAH), International Rescue Committee and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Conclusion and Recommendations

The causes of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Nigeria are multi-faceted, complex and often overlapping. Inter-communal clashes, fuelled by ethnic and religious tensions and also the Boko Haram insurgency are the causes of the displacement of persons from their various communities. However, the Boko Haram insurgency in particular is the major cause of internal displacement of persons in northern Nigeria. The study findings revealed that majority IDPs in the North-Eastern Nigeria are caused by the Boko Haram insurgency, while significant number of IDPs North-Central were forced to leave their place of origin because of community

clashes between herder men and farmers and others IDPs were caused by natural disaster. The study therefore recommends that:

i. The Federal Government of Nigeria, in collaboration with the state governments should build permanent camps for the registered IDPs with schools and health clinics in order to facilitate healthy life and produce skillful human being among the internally displaced persons for the betterment of their life and the general society.

ii. The government should provide stable electricity in all the camps and also provide efficient food items and portable drinking water for the IDPs, safety and security of their life.

Contribution to Knowledge

The study was able to reveal that the Federal Government of Nigeria should put in place intensive policies in order to checkmate the excess of government officials vested with the responsibility of managing the IDPs in order to prevent mismanagement and embezzlement of funds. The government should also punish any official caught appropriating funds meant to cater for the IDPs.

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