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CHALLENGES HINDERING THE MANAGEMENT OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN NORTH-EASTERN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The rate of internally displaced persons in the Northeastern Nigeria occasioned by the violent attacks perpetrated by the Boko Haram insurgency is highly alarming. Even though both federal and governments of states in that region have made efforts to address the plights of IDPs by providing IDPs camps, many of such displaced persons are still facing severe socio-economic, health and environmental challenges. These include joblessness, insecurity, lack of foods and good drinking water, overcrowding and poor sanitation in their camps across the states of Northeast. This situation has in some occasions forced the IDPs to even flee the camps thereby worsening their predicaments. This study examines the challenges hindering the management of IDPs in North-Eastern Nigeria. The gatekeeper state theory was employed as theoretical framework. Both primary and secondary methods were utilized. The study relied on the interview source of primary method while secondary data was collected via documentary approach and analyzed through content analysis. The study found out that there is gross negligence by the country in the assistance and protection of IDPs as far as International law is concerned. In addition, there is evidence of gross violation of IDPs rights in Nigeria as the capacity of the institutions created to effectively manage their affairs is limited. It was also revealed that the effective management of IDPs in Nigeria is being hampered by several challenges, the most common cause of which are corruption, continuous insecurity, mistrust and diversion of relief materials. Redressing internal displacement points to lack of sincerity on the part of the manager. It's therefore recommended that there should be institutional centralization of the national humanitarian agencies to avoid the clash of the interest and duplication of roles by various international humanitarian organizations.
Keywords: Challenges, Management, IDPs, North-Eastern and Nigeria.

INRODUCTION

The phenomenon of internal displacement has been on the increase in recent years, and the trend continues to rise. The former Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-Moon stated in 2014 that displacement remains arguably the most significant humanitarian challenge facing the world. For instance, there were over 30 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the world as of 2014, with about one-half of this figure in Sub-Saharan Africa alone, with Nigeria taking the lead (Ban Ki-Moon, 2014). As the number of IDPs continues to increase, attempts at management become more challenging for these countries.

Notably, global efforts at managing displacement have concentrated more on refugees than IDPs, yet the latter equally constitute a challenge to global civilization.

Internal displacement in Nigeria is a recurring decimal and large-scale phenomenon engulfing virtually every part of the country. The country has been through many waves of displacement, both small and large scale. Post-independence Nigeria had its share of IDPs. During Nigeria's civil war between 1967 and 1970, a good number of eastern Nigerians crossed Nigeria's border to become refugees in Cameroon, Chad, Niger, but the majority of south easterners were internally displaced within Nigeria. Forced migration and internal displacement in and into Nigeria in the last 63 years of independence has been triggered by violent conflict, natural disasters and environmental degradation, generalized violence, inter-communal and inter-ethnic clashes, disputes over land, boundary conflicts between indigenous people and settlers, communal and ethno-religious clashes, electoral violence as well as other forms of human rights violations.

The highest recorded number in the last decade, however, was due to the insurgency in the northeast part of the country, where a spate of violent attacks since 2009 has left well over two million people displaced within and across the borders to neighbouring countries. Between July and October 2012, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) estimated in a published report that a total of 7.7 million people were affected by the flood disaster across the federation. Out of the affected population, 2.1 million people were internally displaced (IDPs); 363 persons died and 18,282 people were treated for injuries they sustained during the flooding. As at the end of 2014, of the global 38 million forcefully displaced by armed conflict and generalized violence, Nigeria accounts for at least one million. As of January 2014, about 165, 000 people were displaced by both floods and conflict in IDP camps in Nigeria. In June 2015, the total number of IDPs identified in the Northeastern states of Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba, and Yobe stood at 1, 385, 298 IDPs. As of October 2016, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in collaboration with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) in its 12th round of Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) programme estimated the total number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) at 2,155,618 across 13 states in Nigeria. As of December 2016, the DTM Round 13 Report estimated 1,770,4444 IDPs in the northeast alone (Olarewaju & Adekunle, 2019).

Over the years, IDPs in Nigeria have faced many challenges. These include poor housing in IDP camps, hunger, a gross violation of their rights, and many more challenges. In response, various stakeholders, governments, civil society organisations and regional bodies, have made efforts to address these challenges. Efforts have also been made to confront the structural factors that trigger forced displacement. Many of these challenges are borne out of socio-economic, political, and cultural issues, which have increased the rising discontentment and instability in the country, and IDPs are only victims of a broken society where little or no efforts are made to resolve the country's problems.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has a complex position in international relations, being the guardian of international humanitarian law but often acting discreetly to advance human dignity. Discretion also contributes to its image of neutrality, as it can sometimes avoid public controversies. Treated by most governments as if it were an inter-governmental organization, the ICRC is a private or non-governmental organization, which is given rights and duties in the 1949 Geneva Conventions for Victims of War, being the sponsor of the Convention for the protection of wounded military personnel, and of the humanitarian Conventions which supplement it. Each of these fundamental international agreements is inspired by respect for human personality and dignity; together, they establish the principle of disinterested aid to all victims of war without discrimination – to all those who, whether through wounds, capture or shipwreck, are no longer enemies but merely suffering and defenceless human beings.

In the North Eastern Nigeria for instance, the socio-economic effects of displacement which is a bi-product of insecurity on the IDPs has been devastating when compared to other regions prior to the advent of Boko Haram insurgency in the region. It has been reported that in the North Eastern part of Nigeria, 71.5%

of the population lives in abject poverty, over half of the residents are malnourished, about 85% are illiterates, and 60% are formally unemployed, (Onaedo, Samuel and John, 2017:30). Thus, the above facts and figures suggest that little or insufficient attention has been paid to the plight of IDPs in Nigeria. Apparently, this premise is problematic in nature. Therefore, it is against the foregoing background that this paper examined the challenges hindering the management of IDPs in North-Eastern Nigeria.

Statement of the Problem

Nigeria is bedeviled with security challenges as a result of the activities of different terrorist groups in the country which has led to displacement of thousands of persons. According to Mba (2017), communal fighting displaced 13.33% of the IDPs in the region, natural disasters only caused 0.99 percent of the displacement, and Boko Haram's insurgency was responsible for 85.68% of it. The aforementioned figures demonstrate that insurgency is substantially to be blamed for the large-scale internal displacement of people, particularly in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe states, which have been the focal point of insurgent activity in northern Nigeria since 2009. This proves that the crisis of existence and challenges of survival confronting internally displaced persons in North-eastern Nigeria has assumed a disturbing phenomenon with protracted implications for the displaced.

According to the DTM (2020) Round 33 Report, there were 2,118,550 internally displaced people living in 436,058 homes in the northeastern states of Borno, Yobe, Adamawa, Gombe, Bauchi, and Taraba as of August 2020. Aside from the abrupt removal from their homes, which is enough physical torment for the majority of people in North-Eastern Nigeria, the displaced are more exposed in the camps to additional dangers such as shortages of necessities, insecurity, psychological trauma, and low self-esteem. The federal and state governments, as well as local and international donor organizations, have made concerted efforts to address the plight of the internally displaced people (IDPs) within the confines of the resources at their disposal through a variety of measures, such as the provision of food and non-food items (DTM, 2020). Insufferable misery still exists in the IDP camp in north-eastern Nigeria despite their best efforts.

Research Questions

i. What are the challenges facing Nigeria government officials in the management of IDPs in North Eastern Nigeria?
ii. What are the factors hindering effective performance of International Humanitarian Organizations in the management of IDPs in North-Eastern Nigeria?

Objectives of the Study

i. To examine the challenges facing Nigeria government officials in the management of IDPs in North Eastern Nigeria.
ii. To examine the factors hindering effective performance of International Humanitarian Organizations in the management of IDPs in North-Eastern states.

Research Propositions

i. Weak institutions and abuse of humanitarian laws are some of the challenges facing Nigeria government officials in the management of IDPs in North Eastern Nigeria.
ii. Unhealthy competition among donor agencies and corruption among camp coordinators are some of the factors that affect humanitarian conflict and internally displaced persons in the Northeast.

Literature Review

Oduwole and Fadeyi (2013) evaluated the state of internally displaced persons in Nigeria. The study elicited its information gathering using an ethnographic approach, a semi-unstructured interview was purposefully conducted on some of the survivors of bomb attack on UN building at Abuja. The major

findings of the study revealed neglects on the part of the State apparatus (government) in ensuring better, effective and functional policies. Its magnitude is capable of threatening national cohesion of the country and endangering high rate of internally displaced persons across the country. The study concluded that given the magnitude and complexity of crises of internal displacement, these are inimical toward the discourse "Development". This affects the country from achieving Millennium Development Goals goal number eight (8): rights to safety of lives and properties as equally enshrined in other international treaties choices to healthy, creative life and to enjoy a decent standard of living, freedom, dignity and self-respect and the respect of others.

Eweka and Olusegun (2016) comparatively interrogated the management of internal displacement in Africa with focus on Nigeria and neighbouring Cameroon. The study adopted the quantitative research design, employs survey method for data collection, and simple percentage as well as content analyses techniques for data analysis. With much focus on (dis)similarities in managerial stakeholders and their number, challenges, and degree of success recorded by both countries, it is summed that no one country is more successful than the other in IDPs management, rather both countries have a lot to learn from each other, and there is an urgent need to improve on the management of IDPs in both countries.

Olanrewaju and Adekunle (2019) examined insurgency and the invisible displaced population in Nigeria. The study addressed the gap of the effects of the invisibility of internally displaced persons living in host communities to the Government as less attention has been given to the discriminatory treatment of IDPs in host communities arising from the neglect of the government towards providing humanitarian aids to IDPs in host communities against the Government presence in formal camps. The study deployed Vulnerability Theory as its theoretical compass and employed interviews and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) as its research instruments. The study found that the destinations of IDPs settlements were very vulnerable in terms of their access to quality education, shelter, food, health care, and potable water as they were often cut off from the government's humanitarian interventions and only visible to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and individual philanthropists who have limited resources to allocate. The study recommended among others that, there should be a holistic intervention mechanism in managing the displacement crisis in Nigeria irrespective of their resettlement destination.

According to Titilope, Atiyah, Zakuan, Osman (2019), the Boko Haram insurgency has led to major displacement particularly in Nigeria's North-East region. The study used qualitative approach and thematic analysis to explain the major problems of integration among the internally displaced women. The study found struggle to return home, security concern, poor infrastructure and lack of economic opportunities as the major challenges affecting the integration of the displaced women. It was recommended that the government and other stakeholders should adopt the Inter-Agency Standing Committee framework to address the integration of internally displaced Women in Nigeria. Onoja, Ogedengbe, Sanni, Abiodun, Ayorinde and Okeme (2020) interrogated the challenges facing the IDPs with a view to evaluating the effects of humanitarian response projects in alleviating these challenges. The study deployed mixed methods approach in data collection and analysis with quantitative dominance. The study found hunger, lack of clothing regular sickness and lack of drugs as the major challenges confronting IDPs. The study equally found that humanitarian services positively impacted the IDPs, yet there is need for government and the humanitarian services providers to put more efforts to alleviate the suffering of the IDPs in Nigeria.

In another study, Oghuvbu and Okolie (2020) disclosed that the challenges facing displaced people in Nigeria as a result of Boko Haram, natural and man-made disasters, as well as the Hausa-Fulani Mayhem are peculiar to all the IDPs irrespective of demographic disparities. The study employed qualitative and quantitative research methods drawing data from primary and secondary sources. Questionnaire was administering to 256 respondents complemented by Key Informant Interviews (KII) and FGDs with IDPs in the study area. The study found that starvation, inadequate potable water supply; hunger, lack of electricity, accommodation shortages and lack of sustainable occupation foretell serious human security threats for the

country. The study recommended relevant policies for government and other related agencies working with the IDPs; while, concluding that government should collaborate with individuals and organizations in providing vocational skills, that will help alleviate their plights.

Theoretical Framework

The analysis of this study is anchored on the gatekeeper state theory. The concept of 'gatekeeper state' was coined and expounded by an African historian Frederick Cooper in his seminal work titled Africa Since 1940: The Past of the Present. Cooper (2002) attempted to explain the character of African states who depend on recognition and support from external agents to be able to extend their powers internally and command the respect of the people. Cooper (2002) traced the gatekeeper character of contemporary African states to their colonial history and experiences.

Essentially, the basic assumptions of the gatekeeper state theory as articulated by Beresford (2016:471) include inter alia:

i. External dependency on international resources;
ii. An inability to provide basic services or perform basic social functions for the population.
iii. Volatile gatekeeper politics based on political patronage.

On the basis of the basic postulations of the gatekeeper state theory, the study argued that that there has been proliferation of IDPs in the North East since 2014 due to state failure to contain Boko Haram insurgency. Meanwhile, Nigeria has depended largely on charities by donor agencies to meet the humanitarian needs of the IDPs. For instance, out of the 139 billion naira budgeted by the Presidential, Committee on the North East Initiative (PCNI) for providing comprehensive relief to IDPs in the North East, over 110bn was expected to come from external donors. Worse still, as a gatekeeper state, much of the funds received from donor agencies together with funds appropriated by the federal government have mainly been appropriated by the leadership and their cronies through shady contracts (Presidential Initiative for the Northeast (PINE), 2016).

An assessment of the implementation of the situation in the North East have shown that the huge amount of money from donor agencies and federal government appropriation to provide relief materials to the IDPs have not translated to improvement of the conditions of the IDPs in the North East. Some of the funds donated by non-governmental organizations and individuals towards alleviating the plight of the troubled people include: the sum of N6.3 billion donated by Dangote and other individuals; $800 million donated by World Bank; $248 million donated by UNDP for the rebuilding of the North East out of which $24 million has been released so far; $200 million donated by United States; $750 million donated by Saudi Arabia and N900 million donated by the donated by Australian government, among others. From the sum of N55.92 billion pledged by donors in 2014 for the Safe School initiative, the sum of N23 billion has been redeemed (Odufowokan, 2016).

Methodology

Research methodology refers to the sources of data on the research and the method of investigation used for this study. This study used both qualitative and quantitative data. The reason is that, the qualitative data provided analytical base for the study so as to answer the research objectives. This study purposively selected ten (10) persons for in-depth (face-to-face) interview in obtaining primary data. The in-depth (face-to-face) interview was used to generate qualitative data from the IDPs, officials of the Red Cross, UNICEF, National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI), NEMA as well as camp officials of Government Girls Collage Camp, Ahmed Crèma, Lamido Lawal Primary School and

Michika Camp. The study used purposive/judgmental sampling to distribute the interview in the study areas. Thus, the respondents were selected on the judgment of the researchers that the selected persons satisfy the need of the research problem.

Also, other qualitative data were gotten from the secondary sources such as NEMA, publications, textbooks, journals, magazines, newspapers, internet materials and unpublished materials relevant to the research problem. Since the study is descriptively designed to use qualitative data, the instruments used for the qualitative data is interview. Information generated from both interview and secondary sources were analyzed using content analysis.

Analysis and Interpretation of Results

Objective One: To examine the challenges facing Nigeria government officials in the management of IDPs in North Eastern Nigeria.

Respondent 1 submitted that:

> Different actors play a role in the problem women and children face in IDP camps. The military plays a huge role in the lives of the displaced persons in North-East, Nigeria. The military is one of the main government actors. They control how humanitarian organizations operate in the North. At the beginning of the Boko Haram crisis, most IDP camps were run by the military, not until several humanitarian organizations took an interest in the situation in Nigeria. On the arrival of several Humanitarian organizations, the Government of Nigeria required these organizations to require permission to operate in that region. In the UN humanitarian report the humanitarian assistance coordinator response to military intervention states that "The restrictions of movements of personnel or assistance by military or civilian authorities and threats of attacks by armed groups remain constraints on humanitarian access in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe states".One Major actor of one of the significant factors that contribute to halting the progress of organizations who come to the aid of the women is the military (February, 2023).

Respondent 2 went further to states that the decision to leave the military in charge of handling almost all the Humanitarian activities caused rifts between the humanitarian organizations willing to help these displaced women and children. Constant disagreements between the military and different Humanitarian organizations that work on the field have been continuously amongst the reported hindrances for progress in coming to aid these women and children. The human rights watch has actively reported the role the military plays in hindering aid in the North. The 2020 report of Humanitarian watch shows thatAid agencies are at the mercy of military and civilian authorities.

He went further to explain that the gap between the military and humanitarian organizations affects women and children in the long run. These consequences include the inability to save lives, loss of livelihood, the camps getting over congested without having the required supplies to manage them. As of 2019, the U.N. recorded that four local governments in Borno state are inaccessible to aid workers due to area termed high-risk zones for humanitarian actors. One of the reasons why these organizations cannot respond effectively is due to the operational requirements that have been imposed by these authorities who represent the Nigerian Government (February, 2023).

The challenge with the responses from government includes the fact that much of the agencies like NEMA and SEMA are not specialized agencies for IDP management and as such lack the relevant resources and skills to adequately address the challenge of IDPs being experienced in the North East region of Nigeria. This manifested in operational ineffectiveness witnessed in their management of IDPs. There was also no efficient over-arching coordinating framework to coordinate activities of participating agencies especially with the deluge of agencies and organizations especially NGOs which tried to respond directly to the challenge of IDPs in the North East. In order to address these challenges of operational ineffectiveness, lack

of coordination and the like, the Presidential Initiative on North East (PINE) was created overarching framework for government response to the humanitarian crisis in the North East. In 2016, the Presidential Committee on the North-East Initiatives (PCNI) was set up to coordinate existing initiatives, strategies, and stakeholders in order to ensure a concerted action to support the northeast. The Committee launched 'The Buhari Plan' which serves as a comprehensive plan for the northeast recovery (Mohammed, 2017).

P5 noted that:

> Various challenges are connected with internally displaced person's management inNigeria which is classified as cultural and structural challenges. It shows that overlapping policies, corruption, inadequate funding are the key structural challenges facing the management of IDPs in the country. Internally displaced persons get funds through management agencies basically via donations, international aids, and revenue. The supports are most times not sufficientin meeting the needs of displaced persons in Nigeria. Insufficiency or lack of assistance brought about shortage of infrastructure, manpower, commodities, mobility and equipment (February, 2023).

Further evidence showed that although the emergence of Boko Haram crisis in the North-East geo political zone has resulted in the establishment of temporary camps managed by National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and other international agencies, low priority is given by both the federal and state governments to IDPs issues. Besides, there is absence of clear cut policy and legal instruments and institutions to deal with pre-and post-displacement situations. To further bolster the capacity of the federal government to address the mounting humanitarian pressures in the North East, on 17th of November 2015 the Senate raised the amount proposed by the Executive in the budget for the IDPs from six billion naira (N6,000,000,000.00) to ten billion naira (Nl0,000,000,000) (National Assembly Proceedings, 2016). In addition to this funding, funds donated by non-governmental organizations and individuals towards alleviating the plight of the troubled people include: the sum of N6.3 billion donated by Dangote and other individuals; $800 million donated by World Bank; $248 million donated by UNDP for the rebuilding of the North East out of which $24 million has been released so far; $200 million donated by United States; $750 million donated by Saudi Arabia and N900 million donated by the donated by Australian government, among others. From the sum of N55.92 billion pledged by donors in 2014 for the Safe School initiative, the N23 billion has been redeemed (Odufowokan, 2016). However, much of the fund were expended through bogus contracts and did not translate to alleviation of the challenges of IDPs in the North East.

> The issue of policy is another problem in managing IDPs in country. There is the issue of overlapping, unclear policies and institutions as been problematic to agencies responsible in the management of IDPs as they bring about restrictions andhindrances in the discharge of responsibilities. The agencies responsible for managing IDPs are somewhat ignorant of the particular responsibility allocated to them (Interview with P6 February, 2023).

The humanitarian crisis has now been turned into a humanitarian industry where people make a profit. The situation of the North-East internal displacement has been turned to "cash cow" with people profiting from the agony of IDPs. For instance, Zorro (2016) posits that the absence of strong central regulatory or coordinating agencies on internal displacement is occasioned by the following challenges to tackling internal displacement in North-East:

i) Too many actors with varied and often conflicting roles in the field.
ii) Lack of coordination and monitoring mechanisms by stakeholders.
iii) Absence of a road map or approved policy regulatory framework for IDPs.
iv) Delays in the passage of bills.
v) Refusal to implement bills and resolutions from the National Assembly on matters relating to internal displacement by the Executive.

vi) Absence of top government functionaries as advisers or managers of IDPs
vii) Mismanagement of resources meant for IDPs/Misappropriation of funds to national emergency agencies, and sundry corruption.
viii) Ineffective legislative oversight
ix) Lack of synergy between the National Assembly and emergency agencies.
x) Lack of transparency and accountability from the emergency agencies.

P8 believes that neglect of responsibility by the government and State actors, significantly hinders the IDPs and those NGOs to come to assist them. To these scholars the necessary care needed for the survival of the people has been neglected, this remains a major challenge to the activities of NGO's in Borno State and indeed the entire North east, Nigeria. Negligence on the part of the government has made IDPs to rely mostly on NGOs, religion organizations, donor agencies and individuals, in alleviating the situation of the IDPs in Borno State. The absence of humanitarian guideline, law and framework of operation affects the NGO's in North east Nigeria. The absence of codified laws affects the role and responsibility of these bodies. This invariably has affected the systematic collectives of data of IDPs in Northeastern Nigeria.

P9 submitted that it is one thing for a government to come up with a policy directed towards addressing a specific problem in a country, and it is another to implement the policy in order to realize the goals and aspirations of the government. In Nigeria, many policies have suffered as a result of poor implementation. The implementation of policy of government designed for the promotion of welfare and assistance of IDPs is faced by several challenges which include: (a) Challenge of absence of national Legal Framework for Protection of Victims of Internal Displacement. (b) Challenge of Implementing the Kampala Convention for the protection and assistance of IDPs in Nigeria. (c) Challenge of Lack of Effective national Policy with Legal Flavour for Protection of IDPs in Nigeria. (d) Challenge of Institutional Decay, Corruption and perceived State irresponsibility for the protection and assistance to IDPs in Nigeria.

Now, we cannot go five km from Damboa town to farm because Boko Haram members may kill you. The military had also restricted people from going to avoid being killed or mistakenly targeted as a militant. We live in hunger. There is no other means of earning money. But the army stopped us from bringing charcoal from Damboa to Maiduguri. Yet what the NGOs are giving us is not enough and they don't give to everyone. The government said that the Mamman Nur faction ISIS-WA has agreements with those who get firewood in the bush to buy things for them in Maiduguri, and in turn the Nur faction allows them to cut the firewood. People are beginning to hate the government, and some say it is better to join Boko Haram (interview with an IDP, February, 2023).

I have been in a camp for three years now. We receive just enough food for six to seven days each month – there is some hard labour we can do for extra money, but it still doesn't cover enough. We don't need anything from the government – we know their promises cannot be fulfilled. But just let them provide security so I can farm. If I can do that, I can get everything I want. There is nothing that will be given to you that can equal the independence of working on your own. As long as there is security, we will return to our village (interview with IDP, February, 2023).

> At present, there is no National Legal Framework in Nigeria specially enacted to protect, promote and assist the internally displaced persons. The purport of this is that notwithstanding the vulnerability of the IDPs orchestrated by the situation and circumstances they find themselves, they are mainly protected just like any other citizens. Hence, there is no law recognizing their peculiar situation and they are more or less protected by the same law protecting the other citizens including the constitution and other legislations. This is a serious setback in the quest to place the country at the same pedestal in the emerging international practice and standards for the protection of and assistance to IDPs (interview with P7 February, 2023)

One of the key elements compounding the plights of IDPs in Nigeria lies in the weak or non-existent process of enabling IDPs make an informed decision voluntarily as to whether to return to their home communities or remain or settle elsewhere in the country. This process can only be motivated and boosted by a provision of a law or an enactment prescribing how and when or the modus operandi for the process. At present, there is no law in Nigeria to drive the process. Without the driver in the form of law, the situation remains as it is and the plight of the IDPs in Nigeria continues to remain a mere academic exercise without any legal probative value attached to it which at the end becomes a conclusion of being neither here nor there. In the whole analysis, the policy thrust of the Federal Government of Nigeria on IDPs is planned with a direction to provide a framework and platform for national responsibility towards preventing and protection of citizens from all forms of displacement, rehabilitation of victims of displacement, return them, reintegrate them and resettle them after displacement (interview with P4 February, 2023).

Objective Two: To examine the factors hindering effective performance of International Humanitarian Organizations in the management of IDPs in North-Eastern states

Muhammed (2013) maintained that while some efforts are made by humanitarian and faith-based organisations and government agencies to address some of the basic needs of IDPs, their vulnerability tend to be increased by barriers to accessing healthcare services, education, employment, economic activities and information for participation in decision making affecting their lives. With some IDPs camped in school buildings, education is usually disrupted for both local communities and displaced children. IDPs in Nigeria faced insecurity and all forms of exploitation and abuse, including rape, largely because IDPs are camped in congested shelters, isolated, insecure or inhospitable areas. IDPs are also largely separated from their families especially, unaccompanied children and teenagers, the elderly and sick, the handicapped and pregnant women, whose special needs and privacy are not attended to, due to fragmented and uncoordinated humanitarian response to the needs of IDPs. It was also observed that governments have not allocated sufficient human and financial resources, complemented by accountability and monitoring mechanisms to find durable solutions to IDPs. Asset protection is important for guaranteeing impact of intervention for vulnerable people. An effective intervention approach should consider providing at least three years of support that incorporates follow up, continuous training, and consumption support. This is particularly important to augment household consumption and avoid the depletion of business capital. In addition, IDPs will have a better chance of business success if they are provided with training on business and financial management.

P4 expressed that:

> Despite the glaring difficulties faced by the IDPs in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States, Northeast Nigeria, diversion of the little available relief materials by collection of certain elements among officials saddled with the responsibility of providing relief to the people remains a fundamental challenge to the activities of the IHO's in the region. Those entrusted with responsibilities of providing, co-ordinating, organizing and distributing relief materials in the IDP camps in BAY States unfortunately have unpatriotically engage in diversion of relief material, thus increasing the suffering of the IDP, and reducing the impact in the activities of the IHO's (February, 2023).

The lofty ideals of the IHO's towards the IDPs in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States have been hindered by insecurity. Insecurity which has led to the proliferation of IDPs camps in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States, due to the activities of insurgent remains a big challenge to the activities of IHOs in BAY States, Nigeria. It is imperative to note that a number of persons among the IHO's have been at one point, killed, rape and robbed during the cause of carrying out their responsibility. This unfortunate security situation has not only limited the intervention of the IHO's to the people living in internally displaced camps, it has equally hampered to a great extent. The military and the IHO's crisis over certain reportage or insecurity is an

important example, where trust was loss in the humanitarian activities among those two groups in the States (P9, interviewed February, 2023).

Lathaa & Prabhakarb (2011) maintained that one fundamental challenge faced by the NGOs operation in Borno State is the lack of collaboration and coordination between the NGOs, the government and security officials. Even the lack of co-ordination and collaboration amongst the NGO's across all levels of the federation has led to duplication of ideas, operations, and consequent over stepping of bounds. The absence of collaboration and co ordination has affected the voluntary participation of the indigenes of Borno State. The proliferation of IDPs with similar or same mandate or overlapping ideas, including government agencies with similar structures and mandates has not help matters. For example, the National Commission for Refugees (NCFR), now National Commission for Refugees, migrants and internally Displaced persons, State Emergency Management Agency Nigeria Emergency Management Agency, all these mandates to cater for IDPs, which here create dilemma and some level of ignorance of responsibility and duties. This remains a challenge because it has led to clashes of role, confusion, overlapping of duties, and multiplication of responsibility which has affected the IDP management by NGOs and international organization (Olanrewaju, et al 2019).

The International Committee of the Red Cross in 2016 acknowledged the humanitarian situation in North-East Nigeria as complex. Each case is diverse and varies. The ICRC also published a report after the Kampala convention in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states which highlighted the needs and the challenges in meeting these needs. The report acknowledged that the vast majority of IDPs which are mostly women and children in the North east need Humanitarian assistance, including food, water, shelter, sanitation, medical services, and support in rebuilding livelihoods. Though efforts are being made by the government and humanitarian organizations, the above mentioned basic need remains inherent for the vast majority of the IDPs (International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), 2016).

P10 stated that insufficient data continues to be a severe constraint for humanitarian and development actors in their work to support IDPs. The needs and vulnerabilities of IDPs need to be well documented and understood in order to be adequately addressed in development planning. Key obstacles to collecting data on IDPs include that families can become separated by conflict or disaster, IDPs can easily blend in with host communities in cities or move to remote areas, and non-IDPs may present themselves as such to receive assistance. These challenges are compounded by inadequate gathering of independent data by UN entities and a lack of transparent information sharing. Country authorities both local and national are often unable to provide reliable figures on internal displacement.

Report from USAID (2019) opined that the humanitarian response to women and children gained rapid attention in 2016. As of 2016, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) records 80 local and international organizations that collectively employed an estimated 4,000 aid workers. As at the end of 2019, these included: 37 Nigerian local and national NGOs (L/NGOs); 34 international NGOs (INGOs), eight U.N. entities (including OCHA and the International Organization for Migration (IOM); and four Nigerian government entities).

The U.N. 2020 report reveals the hostility these organizations face from the military authorities placed in the North. In September 2019, the military decided to close different aid organizations in Northern Nigeria. The organizations affected by these decisions were Action Against Hunger and Mercy Corps in Borno State and Maiduguri under the guise of corruption, which was never proven. The closure ofthese aid offices definitely impacted the aid provided to women and children. Action Aid and Mercy Corps lost the ability to provide assistance to a number of people. About 400,000 people were left with no aid for about two months. The constant disagreements that the military and aid organizations have can be seen as a hindrance for women and children to get the assistance they needed.

The constant attack on aid workers and the kidnapping of aid workers contribute to the ineffectiveness of providing aid to women and children in the IDP camps. In 2020 the U.N. and theEuropean Union civil

protection and Humanitarian aid released a joint press statement on the concerns of the kidnapping of aid workers in the North-Eastern states of Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe. In The report of the commissioner, Janez Lenracic, expressed was his concern on the upscaleof the violent attacks on aid workers in the states. This concern came from the fact that twelve aidworkers were kidnapped and brutally murdered by armed groups in the year 2019. In the year 2018, two aid workers Alice Loksha and Grace Taku were held hostage by the sect groups. Theseaid workers are still held hostage.

Discussion of Findings

i. The effective management of IDPs in Nigeria is being hampered by several challenges, the most common cause of which is corruption. The National Assembly has made efforts to ensure that the IDPs are well protected and assisted. However, there are numerous drawbacks in tackling internal displacement. Redressing internal displacement points to lack of sincerity on the part of the manager. Negligence on the part of the government has made IDPs to rely mostly on NGOs, religious organizations, donor agencies and individuals, in alleviating the plight of the IDPs in Borno State. The absence of humanitarian guideline, law and framework of operation affects the NGO's in North east Nigeria. The absence of codified laws affects the role and responsibility of these bodies. This invariably has affected the systematic collectives of data of IDPs in Northeastern Nigeria.
ii. Despite the glaring difficulties faced by the IDPs in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States, Northeast Nigeria, diversion of the little available relief materials by collection of certain elements among officials saddled with the responsibility of providing relief to the people remains a fundamental challenge to the activities of the IHO's in the region. Those entrusted with responsibilities of providing, co-ordinating, organizing and distributing relief materials in the IDP camps in BAY States unfortunately have unpatriotically engage in diversion of relief material, thus increasing the suffering of the IDP, and reducing the impact in the activities of the IHO's.

Conclusion

The number of IDPs scattered in the six North Eastern states has continued to increase. The Internally Displaced Persons and the humanitarian response they are receiving are consequences of the Boko Haram insurgency in the Northeast Nigeria. It is evident that the Boko Haram insurgency has incapacitated many people, some of whom have lost their loved ones, whom many have become refugees in the neighboring countries of Chad, Niger and the Cameroon; and still, many people are internally displaced. The effects of the Boko Haram insurgency are great and defy explanations. It is not in doubt that the Nigerian government in its efforts to tackle the challenges faced by the Internally Displaced Persons in the North east as a result of the Boko Haram insurgency has received support from foreign governments, agencies and individuals, both national and international agencies, most especially UNICEF.

However, the humanitarian supports have not matched the enormous challenges the Internally Displaced Persons are facing which, among others, include inadequate food, shelter, sanitation, water and health care facility. There are still the challenges of insecurity, inadequate protection and educational needs. One major issue b e d e v i l i n g the progress of curbing the situation is primarily corruption associated with the distribution and management of the humanitarian funding to the Nigerian government, and above all, the government's inability to implement the Kampala convention on the Internally Displaced Persons through the legal, logistical and resources pool framework. This has accounted for the poor humanitarian condition of the Internally Displaced Persons in the North east Nigeria.

The capacity of the institutions created by the government to effectively manage internally displaced persons is limited. There are huge gaps in the institutional mandates in giving clear authority to specifically handle internal displacement issues, as well as the absence of a National Legal Framework or policy

document on the Assistance and Protection of Internally Displaced Persons thus creating a constrained national response. Nigeria has displayed a high level of negligence to the protection and assistance of internally displaced persons. It has conformed to neither international conventions nor state obligation to protect its displaced citizens. Specifically, it is discovered that Nigeria lacks an institutional framework to address the plight of IDPs in conformity to international law notably Kampala convention which Nigerian was a party to. It is a settled principle that under International law, States parties to a particular international convention are expected to conform to its principles.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations were put forward:

i. The government of Nigeria has always been a reactive one instead of being proactive. They get all the warning signs of violence, invasions from herdsmen, flood alerts etc, yet they treat such warnings with kid gloves. Hence, such attitude needs to be addressed. On this note, government should erect a fully equipped designated area for IDPs in all states, as this will reduce the rush IDPs often face which eventually create security challenges in camps.
ii. There is the need for proper coordination among NGOs and other humanitarian bodies to ensure items provided for IDPs (especially women and children) are not diverted. More so, those found to be culprits of such despicable acts should fully face the weight of the law.

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