

An Assessment of the Impact of Internal Displacement on Human Security in Northern Nigeria (2009- 2016)

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Abstract: The crisis of internally displaced persons constitutes one of the world's most worrisome humanitarian crises. With the Boko Haram insurgency attacks, the number of internally displaced persons in the northern part of the country rose tremendously. In addressing this crisis in the country, efforts of the government have not been pleasing and encouraging. This paper is therefore set to interrogate the extent to which the internally displaced persons affect human security in northern Nigeria. Forced migration and social inclusion theories were the theoretical frameworks adopted for the study while it relies on primary and secondary sources of data for analysis. Findings of the study reveals that measures of the government in addressing the crisis of internally displaced persons in the country is on ad-hoc basis with no solid and durable solution in view. In addition, the crisis of internally displaced persons hinders immensely the developmental process of the region. The paper therefore advocates for the inclusion of the internally displaced persons' affairs at the local government level thereby establishing offices for the representatives of these displaced persons. The increments of funds to enhance and protect human security amongst the citizens are alternative measures in addressing the crisis of internally displaced persons in the country thereby enhancing human security in the region.

Keywords: Internal Displacement; Human Security; Crisis; Northern Nigeria

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Introduction

Human security refers to the value of life of the people of a particular society. Anything that reduces the quality of life, which could include; conflict, scarcity of vital resources, environmental degradation or demographic pressures, infringes on human security is considered a threat to human security (Dhirathiti, 2011). In its simplest form, issues ranging from poverty, unemployment, conflict, violence, sicknesses and diseases, to environmental degradation, natural disasters, domestic violence, transnational crimes, and human rights abuses constitute factors which cause insecurity in individuals thereby leading to displacement of these persons from their habitual homes (Betts, et al., 2006).

One of the significant symptoms of human insecurity crises is internally displaced persons. As opined by the United Nations Guiding Principles, these are ‘persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border’ (Oladeji, 2015, p. 44). Internally displaced persons receive little or no attention from the government of their habitual residence. These persons leave their comfort for a life of uncertainty elsewhere which triggers insecurity from within them coupled with the minimal attention received from government thereby exposing these people to economic threats, health threats, personal threats, political threats, environmental threats and community threats. Great concerns have been generated by both local and international agencies due to the poor living conditions of these persons which in turn, leads to poor sanitation therefore raise in sicknesses and diseases (Emmanuelar, 2015). Importantly, internally displaced persons become dependent on others for basic amenities either on the host community or external intervention (Brookings, 2008). With all these, internally displaced persons’ crises make it very difficult for the government to actualize the Millennium Sustainable Goals (Osagioduwa & Oluwakorede, 2016).

Human displacement remains one of the most significant humanitarian challenges facing the world. Of the 33.3 million internally displaced persons in the world (exclusive of the development-induced displacement), 15 million internally displaced persons can be found in Africa, with an increase of 7.5% between 2013 and 2014 and Nigeria hosting over 3.300,000 IDPs (Osagioduwa & Oluwakorede,

2016, p. 194). The issue of human displacement in Africa involves more of internally displaced persons than refugees (United Nations Human Committee on Rights [UNHCR], 2012). This is due to the fact that after the Cold War, armed conflict took on a new dimension to include wars between non-state actors within the state and the sovereign state unlike the pre-Cold War era which saw armed conflict as conflict between sovereign states (Emmanuelar, 2015). As the number of internally displaced persons continue to increase, attempts at mitigating this crisis becomes more challenging for troubled countries. Notably, global efforts at managing displacement have concentrated more on refugees than internally displaced persons, yet the internally displaced person's crisis equally constitutes a challenge to global civilization (Osagioduwa & Oluwakorede, 2016).

Millions of people have been forced to leave their homes to seek safety unfamiliar to them in the process losing their assets and being exposed to enormous hardship. In the midst of these hardships, these displaced persons experience challenges with regards to their rights and their welfare condition. More than half of the world's internally displaced persons can be found in Africa (Crisp, 2010). Recently, in Uganda an estimated 1.4million persons were displaced by conflict whereas in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) an estimated 1.5million displaced persons while in Sudan, over 6million persons were displaced. However, only 30,000 displaced persons became refugees from Uganda, for Sudan 703,000 persons became refugees and for the Democratic Republic of Congo, 469,000 persons became refugees with the rest of the population as internally displaced persons (UNHCR, 2004, p. 1). Some factors have been identified which leads to the continual rise of the numbers of internally displaced persons as against refugees. The latest facet of wars from inter-state wars to intra-state wars is the most important factor. In addition to this, mountains and rivers sometimes hinder migration across national borders, coupled with the strict migration policies and hostility of neighbouring countries which make it quite difficult for the migrants to seek refuge in foreign states (Betts, et al. 2006). Moreover, displaced persons often times prefer to stay back in their countries clinging to the smallest thought that everything would go to normalcy and that they would be home once again (Bhagwan, 2013).

In Nigeria, the post-election violence of 2011 saw about 65,000 persons internally displaced in the Northern part of the country (Osagioduwa & Oluwakorede, 2016). An estimation by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) reports that from July to October, 2012, a total of 2.1 million residents were sacked by

flood in Nigeria. Between January, 2013 and February, 2014, about 470,565 and 143,164 persons were displaced in Nigeria by internal conflicts and natural disasters, respectively, while internal displacement cuts across 24 states of the federation (Osagioduwa & Oluwakorede, 2016, p. 195). Reports have shown that a good number of persons are displaced as results of both federal and state governments' activities such as demolitions, the oil explorations in the Niger-Delta region leading to environmental degradation and pollution, loss of the people's sources of livelihood in the region. Under the Governor Fashola's led administration, over 1 million people were displaced from the demolition of Ijora, Oshodi, Makoko and many other communities (Hamzat, 2013, p. 1). Although the causes of displacement differ, armed conflict and other forms of mass violence are the major causes of human displacement in the country. Since 2009 however, continuous and recurrent violence caused by Boko Haram insurgency in the Northern region of the country has resulted in the rapid increase of the number of internally displaced persons in the region. The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) recorded over 1 million internally displaced persons as of April 2015. However, the number of internally displaced persons as at December 2015 increased to over 2 million IDPs in the region. This is evident due to the Boko Haram insurgency which is identified as the major cause of the internal displacement of people in the region with a percentage of 91.98% (Alobo & Obaji, 2016, p. 30). Moreover, just like the number of recorded internally displaced persons in the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) increased from 390,000 at December 2014 to more than 2 million at December, 2015 (Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs [OCHA], 2015, p. 3).

Northern Nigeria is a region of the country which has some of the least human indexes in the country. "71.5% of the population resides in abject poverty; over half of the residents are mal-nourished; about 85% are illiterate; and 60% are formally unemployed" (Abdulazeez, 2016, p. 4). This explains the attractiveness of the Boko Haram sect in the region. The group recorded chains of attacks in various forms against local and international actors therefore leading to the displacement of over 2 million people across northern Nigeria (Oyewole, 2016, p. 1). One of the consequences of this movement's violence is the displacement of people from their habitual homes as a result of fear over their lives. The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), recorded as at 2013, 3.3 million displaced persons in Nigeria especially as a result of the insurgency. It also recorded over 1 million internally displaced persons as of April 2015 and at December 2015, the total

figure of IDPs identified in Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe amounted to 2,152,000 people (Alobo & Obaji, 2016, p. 30). From the total figure of internally displaced persons in this region, the examination shows that “13.33 per cent were displaced due to communal clashes, 0.99 per cent by natural disasters and 85.68 per cent as a result of insurgency attacks by Boko Haram’ activities in the region” (Obikaeze & Onuoha, 2016, p. 4).

The Nigerian constitution places the responsibility of the welfare and the security of the general public on the government (Adamu & Rasheed, 2016). However, the Nigerian government has over the years failed in discharging the constitutional responsibilities that expects them to provide a secured and safe environment for both lives and properties of her citizens, which has caused insecurity in some states hence leading to human displacement for the fear of their lives.

In a bid to curb the IDP crisis in Nigeria, the federal government of Nigeria, along with other African states became a signatory to the African Union Convention for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons also known as the Kampala Convention of 2009. The Convention reflects the international guidance provided in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement as an international standard setting norm on IDPs (Ekpa & Dahlan, 2016). The main objective of the Kampala Convention is to “promote and strengthen regional and national measures to prevent or mitigate, prohibit and eliminate root causes of internal displacement as well as provide for durable solutions” (as cited in Kampala Convention, 2009, p. 4). The establishment of National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) by the federal government was a bid to address and respond swiftly to emergency situations in the country. The Nigerian government has made several unending efforts to addressing the plights of IDPs by putting in place different strategies to address the IDP crisis, paradoxically, the problems of hunger, overcrowding, poor sanitation, joblessness and insecurity continues to persist among internally displaced persons across the country (Itumo & Nwefuru, 2016). Moreover, there are IDP camps set up in over 200 local government areas of Nigeria. These camps are provided in collaboration with the United Nations, other international organizations, and non-profit organizations (UNHCR, 2014). The Nigerian government also established programs to help alleviate the IDP crisis in the region such as the North-East Development Commission (NEDC), Presidential Committee on North East Initiative (PCNI). These efforts seem to have yielded little or no impact as crisis of internally displaced persons persists in the country.

Despite all these efforts of the government to alleviate the IDP crisis, there seems to be obvious inadequacy of programmes and effective delivery of the strategies of government in tackling the challenges of IDPs in Nigeria. Thus, the needs to come up with better or improved strategies that will help the existing effort of governments (federal, state and local) to tackle the problem of the internally displaced persons became imperative at this juncture. This study therefore, investigates the impacts of IDP on human security with particular focus on Northern Nigeria. It aims at examining the extent to which the strategies put in place to address the crisis of IDPs with a view to proffer alternative strategies in addressing the crisis in the country.

It is against this background that this study seeks to examine the extent to which internally displaced person's crisis constitutes a threat to human security in the Northern Nigeria between 2009 -2016. It also interrogates how effective are the strategies put in place to address IDP crisis in the area.

Literature Review

This section reviewed literature which relates to the key concepts of this paper with a view to clarifying the gap in knowledge that this study seeks to fill.

Human Security

The term human security gained prominence by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) leading to several attempts to gainfully explain what the term means. The UNDP in 1994 viewed human security to mean freedom from war and violence as well as the basic needs for and rights to economic security, food security, health security, environmental security, community security and political security (Bariledum, 2013). Accordingly, when people are not secured, they become burdens on the society. To the UNDP, unlike the traditional concept of security which entailed a defensive concept, human security is an integrative notion such that when people are able to take care of themselves by earning a living, they contribute development to their society and gradually to their country and gradually globally (Bariledum, 2013). Thakur in addition posited that human security refers to the quality of the life of an individual of a society. Anything which degrades their quality of life- demographic pressures, diminished access to or stock or resources and so on- is a security threat. Conversely anything which can upgrade their quality of life- economic growth, improved access to resources,

social and political empowerment, and so on- is an enhancement of human security (as cited in Dhirathiti, 2011, p. 257). In other words, the individual must be able to enjoy alienable needs within the society. It is on this basis that Gomez and Gasper (2013) related human security as security not only from violence and conflicts but the security of individual's livelihoods. Hence the definition of human security by Frechette as "those things that men and women anywhere in the world cherish most: enough food for the family; adequate shelter; good health; schooling for the children; protection from violence whether inflicted by man or by nature; and a State which does not oppress its citizens but rules with their consent" (as cited in Annan, 2001, p. 3). Newman (2010) opined that the concept of human security defies the traditional concept of security with the main focus on the individuals as the referent object rather than the state as the referent object. Human security as well defies institutions that place much emphasis on the superiority of the state over the individual experiences of her citizens. By this, the traditional definitions of security are necessary but are not sufficient conceptions of human welfare. By this greater importance of state security can be at the detriment of human security. Therefore it is possible for a state to be secure from external aggressions but is insecure in dealing with the conditions of her citizens. An example of such is Bangladesh which is secured traditionally but the state of human security within the nation is worryingly.

Factors Affecting Human Security

In discussing the threats to human security, the UNDP (1994) identified 7 groups of these threats which are economic threats, food threats, health threats, environmental threats, personal threats, community threats and political threats. Economic security refers to an assured basic income which comes usually from productive works or from government financed institutions. Food security implies that people must have ready access to food and enough food to go round. Here individuals go hungry because they cannot afford it and not because there is no food. Health security is essential as it explained that people should be able to get access to health related services. Personal security entails security from violence physically. Community security entails security or a sense of belonging to a particular group by being a member of the group. The members of such groups often times do share some values or principles together. Political security entails that individuals should be able to live in a society that respects their basic human rights. Often times, human rights violations are prominent during political crisis.

However these, there are factors that hinder governments of state to accomplish human security. These factors vary from chronic and persistent poverty, armed violence, human trafficking, climate change, and health pandemics to international terrorism, poor civil and military relations, the politics of exclusion, and sudden economic and financial downturns. Accordingly, claims were laid to four interconnected groupings of fundamental factors of human insecurity as: “causes that are unobstructive and hence not easily acknowledged and explained; causes that have historical origins; causes that are systematically reproduced through existing social, political, and economic institutions; and causes that reflect the immediate consequences of existing institutional conditions” (Akokpari, 2007, p. 22). These causes were grouped fundamentally to two groups as external threats and internal threats. These factors endanger the security of individuals residing in such unstable societies. From the recent occurrences of human insecurity issues in Africa, it is deduced that as states are instigators of human security, they are also the creators of human insecurity (Akokpari, 2007). Hence, Nwanegbo and Odigbo (2013) asserted that the basic threats to insecurity in Nigeria are ethno-religious conflicts, the unemployment of youths, and the political nature of the state and political corruption which has become a norm in the society.

Human displacement also known as forced displacement creates the opposite of a secure environment for the individual thereby forcing the individual to leave his habitual home to seek safety in a strange environment. To Bhagwan (2013) displacement is in itself a firm pointer of the creation of insecurities to human beings. Displaced persons either cross the national border to another sovereign state or relocate to another area within their national state therefore producing refugees or internally displaced persons respectively.

Internal Displacement

The end of the Cold War experienced rapid increase in the displacement of people internally than externally. The definition of the United Nations Secretary-General on internally displaced persons as: “persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border” (Mooney, 2005, p.11). Although the idea of displacement caused by developmental activities have not been included in the working definition which was reflected in

the 1998 Guiding Principles of the United Nations which is at the international level, at the regional level, some states have adopted the United Nations Guiding Principles' definition and have included development activities as one of the causes of internal displacement in their regions. Regions as South Asia and West Africa governments have included displacement from development projects as one of the causes of internal displacements in their regions. As a result of the negligence of persons displaced by development projects, these persons receive less support from their governments and even less of international aids as compared to persons displaced by conflict and violence.

Betts et al., (2006) asserted that diverse reasons have been attributed to the possible rise of internally displaced persons as against refugees in the world today. One of which is that sometimes mountains and rivers restrict migration across borders. Another reason is that displaced persons at times prefer to remain in environments familiar to them and so they prefer to stay back in their own countries rather than cross the national border. Most importantly is the fact that neighbouring countries have adopted strict policies on the migration of refugees into their country. This is as a result of the economic burden, these displaced persons place on their societies. With all these, there is an opposite relationship between the increasing numbers of internally displaced persons and the decreasing numbers of refugees. For instance, in 2001 during the Afghanistan war, the number of internally displaced persons in the country was 2 million. That same year, only 200,000 Afghans crossed the national border into Pakistan as refugees. This is also evident in the African countries at which in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), there was an estimated 1.5 million displaced in the country. However, only 469,000 became refugees. As well, in Sudan of the 6 million displaced persons in the country, only 703,000 persons became refugees. The Global IDP Survey posited that over 13 million IDPs are in Africa, between 5 and 6 million IDPs are in Asia, with 3 million in Europe and between 3 and 4 million in the Americas. This goes on to show the increase of internally displaced persons as against refugees in the world today. According to Bhagwan (2013) internal displacement disrupts socio-economic activities and systems of areas left behind by the displaced persons and areas to which these displaced persons flee into.

One feature of internal displacement according to the Asplet (2013) is that internal displacement occurs on a massive scale. Hence, large scale of the migration of internally displaced persons into an area can disrupt an entire region especially if such regions are not prepared for such influx or the region is under-resourced to

cater for the influx of internally displaced persons into the area. However, from the definition of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, Asplet identified three phases of internal displacement which are pre-displacement, during displacement, and post-displacement. By pre-displacement, the central focus of the state is to prevent the causes of displacement from occurring. During displacement, the basis of concentration is the protection of the internally displaced persons as well as rendering assistance to these persons. The post-displacement phases emphasis finding long lasting solutions for the affected internally displaced persons as well as building sustainable livelihoods for these persons. Despite the challenges encountered by the internally displaced persons, these displaced persons have the right to some privileges as identified in the Guiding Principles of the internally displaced persons. These key rights include “right to life, liberty and security of person, protection against violence; right to food; right to water and sanitation; right to adequate housing; right to medical assistance and healthcare; right to property; protection against attacks on property; freedom of movement; right to be recognized as a person before the law; right to family life and unity; right to education; right to work and an adequate standard of living; right to freedom of expression, freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief; right to participate in the public affairs of the nation; and right to humanitarian assistance” (Asplet, 2013, p. 24). In trying to reduce the internally displaced persons’ crisis in Africa, the 2009 African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (the Kampala Convention) was adopted in 2012. The Convention relied heavily on the Guiding Principles on internal displacement in mitigating the IDP crisis befalling the continent at large.

This study therefore adopts two theories which are the theory of Forced Migration and theory of Social Inclusion.

The Forced Migration theory can be traced to the establishment of the League of Nations and its High Commissioner for Refugees in 1921 as a reaction to the large scale displacement caused by the 1917 Russian Revolution and the oppression of the Jews by the Nazis in Germany and with the dissolution of the League of Nations and the Second World War, over 30 million people were displaced hence the creation of the United Relief and Reconstruction Agency (UNRRA) in 1944 (Benz & Hasenclever, 2009). Forced migration theory entails the involuntary movement of people from their places of habitual residence as a result of events which are threatening to their lives or their safety (Benz & Hasenclever, 2009).

Prior to the Cold War, trends in the number of people seeking political asylum from their countries were alarming not until the end of the Cold War that the trend took another perspective to include numbers of people seeking refuge in their own countries as a result of being displaced by one activity of the government or the other. From the above it can be deduced that categories of person who are internally displaced include those displaced by armed conflict, natural disasters, environmental disasters as well as developmental projects. All these are the works or activities of the government. Forced migration increases fears of the inability of the government to control the state especially within the context of recent concerns about migration and security (Castles, 2003). The forced migration theory tries to explain the dramatic increase of involuntary movement of people in the post- Cold War era and describes the harsh conditions in which these persons strive for a living.

The limitation of this theory is the inability of the theory to include the responsibility of the government as being obligatory in curbing the excesses of the forced migration either internally or externally. Nevertheless, in the context of this study, the theory of forced migration explains the involuntary movement of the people internally displaced and explains the vulnerabilities of these people within their countries.

It is on this note that the second theory, the theory of Social Inclusion is adopted for the research. The Social Inclusion theory is concerned with groups of people who need assistance due to their prevailing situation. The theory is easily associated with 'Social Exclusion' as a theory and is traced to the French notion of *les exclus* in 1970 with the authorship of the expression credited to René Lenoir (Robo, 2014). This theory postulates that in a socially inclusive society, everyone is valued and their basic needs are supplied to them. This in turn leads to a sense of belonging amongst the people. However, there are some values that form the basis of the social inclusion theory such as: everyone needs support, can learn, can contribute, can communicate, is ready and together we are better (Robo, 2014). Social inclusion is a result of the action taken positively to change the circumstances of these people. In a lighter form, social inclusion is the opposite effect to the social exclusion theory (Charity Commission, 2001). This theory is best understood when explaining social exclusion theory as both theories are 'the inseparable side of the same coin' (Robo, 2014). The Social Inclusive theory is apt for the purpose of this study as it supports the integration of the internally displaced persons into the larger society. In Nigeria, if the internally displaced persons are

well integrated into the society, this alignment would allow for better management of the crisis and enhanced security of persons in the country. This in turn would enhance human security.

Methodology

Data were gathered from both primary and secondary sources the nature of information gathered included both qualitative and quantitative sources of data. The qualitative source of data consisted of the descriptive aspect of the study and the quantitative source of data entailed the use of figures primarily for observing trends of the level and the rate of human displacement internally at the national, regional as well as global levels. Both primary and secondary data were utilized to enhance the quality of the study. The data analysis adopted was the textual analysis. The textual analysis aids the researcher to analyze the content of communication instead of the formation of the content. It as well aided the use of narratives and historical documentations of the crisis of internally displaced person's crisis to understand the ideas which were expressed in written words.

The scope of study covers the period 2009-2016. This period was chosen because it was the period of heightened threat of insecurity in terms of internal displacement in the country due to the Boko Haram insurgency in the region.

Findings

Human security in the northern part of the country has been poor as compared to other regions prior to the advent of Boko Haram in the region. In the northern part of the country, "71.5% of the population resides in abject poverty; over half of the residents are mal-nourished; about 85% are illiterate; and 60% are formally unemployed" (as cited in Abdulazeez, 2016, p. 4). Of the 36 states in Nigeria, northern Nigeria consists of 19 states as a region that has been symbolised with years of conflict based on ethno-religious and political underpinnings. This in turn has led to widespread of crimes and corruption as a result of ill governance, socio-economic disparities as well as the plight of the citizens in the region. Northern Nigeria has retained the label of the poorest region in terms of poverty since 1985 in the country (Adamu & Rasheed, 2016).

It was acclaimed that at a certain time, Boko Haram took up the economic duty of the state by providing easy access to the basic services of the people where both the state and federal governments had failed (Abdulazeez, 2016). It is at this junction the State Failure theory of John Burton asserts that the failure of the government to

provide legitimate concerns and needs of their citizens makes the government to lose legitimacy before the people which in turn would make the citizens turn their allegiance to a more responsive groups like religious or clan groups, or even go the extreme and resort to terrorism (Abdulazeez, 2016). As a result of the evil practices of the sect in the northern part of the country, the sect created an opposite state of living for the people (Emmanuelar, 2015).

Analysis of information gathered from the respondents pointed out to the fact that internal displacement affected human security in the region. Accessibility to education was also affected a little.

This is in contrary to researches from literatures which posit that internal displacement has hampered greatly access to educational facilities and education itself such as stated by Adamu and Rasheed (2016) and Omilusi (2016). This is as a result of the fact that internally displaced persons' camps set up schools or learning centres for their children and thereby teach these children in the best way available. It was also opined that displacement has affected the quality of labour force which is as a result of the fact that the youths are often times recruited to join the insurgency hence displaced persons constitutes primarily of children and the elderly ones. An environment lacking possible availability of jobs for the large numbers of youth in the region has been created in the region (Adamu & Rasheed, 2016).

Health security has been distorted with the continuous rise of sicknesses and diseases. This in turn has been tripled due to lack of proper waste management and poor sanitation management. In terms of unity among the internally displaced persons and the host community, relations have not been good hence the presence of tensions and hostilities among the IDPs and the host communities. The food industry in the northern region of Nigeria has experienced enormous set-back over reasons with human mobility as the foremost challenge. This is due to the restriction of movements of the farmers beyond areas with protection over fears of heightened insecurity. Over 1 million persons face severe food insecurity in the region (Food & Agriculture Organization, 2016). These assertions are indicated in the table below.

Table 1.1. Internal displacement and human security in the Northern Nigeria

	Strongly agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly disagree	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Educational sector in the region is crippled with lack of educational facilities, lack of teachers and high rates of school dropouts	19	10.9	19	10.9	16	9.2	58	33.3	62	35.6
The quality of the labour force in the is reduced tremendously	22	12.6	58	33.3	50	28.7	22	12.6	22	12.6
Internal displacement projects the country as a weak and unstable country	34	19.5	55	31.6	34	19.5	36	20.7	15	8.6
Internal displacement has multiple effects on the health of the population such as the outbreak of communicable diseases	44	25.3	53	30.5	30	17.2	26	14.9	21	12.1
The food industry in the region has been cut short due to internal displacement	50	28.7	42	24.1	41	23.6	19	10.9	22	12.6
Internal displacement hinders national unity amongst the people as feelings of resentment persists amongst the populace	54	31.0	40	23.0	31	17.8	25	14.4	24	13.8
Increase in the level of insecurity such as crime rates, human trafficking, child soldiers amongst the internally displaced persons on the nation	58	33.3	51	29.3	27	15.5	18	10.3	20	11.5

Source: Field Data (2017)

In asserting the measures adopted by the government in addressing the crisis of IDPs in northern Nigeria, respondents opined that international organizations have been effective in curbing some of the crisis that befall the IDPs. Respondents also asserted that the government has been crucial in mitigating the crisis on IDPs in the country by way of providing shelters for the displaced people, as well as other immediate needs of the people. In as much as the government address the issue of internal displacement on emergency basis, the efforts of the government especially

through NEMA cannot be relegated aside. Although relations between the IDPs and the host communities have not been good, host communities curb the crisis of the IDPs by sharing their scarce resources with them. This has helped to reduce some of the burdens of the internally displaced persons. These assertions are represented in the table below.

Table 1.2. Effectiveness of the Strategies for addressing IDP crisis in the Region

	Strongly agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly disagree	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
IDPs thrive on voluntary donations of human agencies	32	18.4	29	16.7	14	8.0	43	24.7	56	32.2
The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has been effective in addressing the IDP crisis	27	15.5	61	35.1	48	27.6	20	11.5	18	10.3
International organizations have been highly supportive in addressing the IDP crisis	45	25.9	41	23.6	42	24.1	28	16.1	18	10.3
The government has been effective in addressing the crisis of internally displaced persons in the country	40	23.0	41	23.6	43	24.7	28	16.1	22	12.6
The IDP camps provided by the government have contributed to reducing the crisis of internally displaced persons	46	26.4	48	27.6	38	21.8	26	14.9	16	9.2
Host communities have aided the internally displaced persons by accommodating and sharing resources with the IDPs	45	25.9	54	31.0	34	19.5	20	11.5	21	12.1
The government addresses the IDP crisis on emergency basis	62	35.6	31	17.8	29	16.7	23	13.2	29	16.7

Source: Field Data (2017)

Despite the strategies adopted by the government in mitigating the crisis of internally displaced persons, yet the crisis of these displaced persons seem to be on the rise. There some challenges posed which affects the effective mitigation of the crisis of internally displaced persons. Respondents stated that the absence of a legal framework is an issue to the effective addressing of the IDP crisis. Another challenge identified was that the National Emergency Management Agency has not been well funded which in turn has affected the service delivery. Therefore poor funding of the NEMA makes the organization to deliver sub-standard service delivery which in turn affects effective management of the IDP crisis. Notwithstanding, the little funds gotten by the agency from the government have however been used to address the victims of internal displacement. Notwithstanding, the efforts of the government in addressing the crisis of internally displaced persons in the country, some displaced persons do not receive aid from the government. This is because their IDP camps are not being recognized by the federal government. Respondents attested to this by 50% votes. In addition to these

myriad of challenges, the respondents revealed that there is no official or reliable data on the statistics of the internally displaced persons. The presence of corruption in the country also hinders the effective management of the crisis of these displaced persons. The table below indicates these statements.

Table 1.3. Challenges of Managing IDPs settlements in Northern Nigeria

	Strongly agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly disagree	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Lack of an appropriate legal and policy framework on addressing the affairs of internally displaced persons in the country	47	27.0	25	14.4	27	15.5	38	21.8	37	21.3
The NEMA is not well funded to address the IDP crisis therefore service delivery is not satisfactory	32	18.4	54	31.0	49	28.2	24	13.8	15	8.6
Long term goals such as reintegrating these displaced persons are absent hence the short term goals were adopted for the immediate basis of intervention towards the IDPs	49	28.2	35	20.1	47	27.0	24	13.8	19	10.9
Attitude of the host communities have not been pleasing nor accommodating to the internally displaced persons	31	17.8	44	25.3	50	28.7	27	15.5	22	12.6
Some internally displaced persons' camps are not recognized by the government hence persons do not receive aid from the government	36	20.7	56	32.2	32	18.4	20	11.5	30	17.2
There is no reliable data on the statistics of internally displaced persons in the country	49	28.2	46	26.4	34	19.5	25	14.4	20	11.5
Corruption affects the proper alleviation of the crisis of internally displaced persons	45	25.9	57	32.8	21	12.1	23	13.2	28	16.1

Source: Field Data (2017)

Combination of the Research Findings and Hypothesis

An assessment of the research findings with the hypothesis was carried out in this section. The acceptance or rejection of these hypotheses was tested with regression statistical technique. The Statistical Package for Social Sciences version 17.0 is used for the statistical exercise. Below are the results which are analyzed.

Hypothesis 1: The continuous increase in the number of internally displaced persons in Nigeria is not a challenge to human security.

Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.553 ^a	.305	.280	1.13767

a. Predictors: (Constant), Internal Displaced Persons

ANOVA^b

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	95.056	6	15.843	12.241	.000 ^a
	Residual	216.145	167	1.294		
	Total	311.201	173			

a. Predictors: (Constant), Internal Displaced Persons

b. Dependent Variable: Human security in Nigeria

Interpretation: The result of the test as shown in the ANOVA table above shows an F-cal value of 12.241 at the associated significant level of .000a. Following the conventional statistical rule for hypothesis testing, a null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted when the level of significance is less than 0.05. By this statistical rule, since the ANOVA test showed a level of significance that is less than the conventional significant level of 0.05, hence hypothesis 1 is rejected. The alternative hypothesis which is the continuous increase in the number of internally displaced persons in Nigeria is a challenge to human security is therefore accepted.

Hypothesis 2: The policies and strategic measures put in place to combat internally displaced persons' crises in Nigeria have proven to be ineffective.

Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.315 ^a	.099	.078	1.43528

a. Predictors: (Constant), Policies and Strategic Measures

ANOVA^b

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	38.383	4	9.596	4.658	.001 ^a
	Residual	348.146	169	2.060		
	Total	386.529	173			

Predictors: a. (Constant), Policies and Strategic Measures

b. Dependent Variable: Internally Displaced Persons

Interpretation: The result of the test as shown in the ANOVA table above shows an F-cal value of 4.658 at the associated significant level of .001a. As stated a null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis accepted when the level of significance is less than 0.05. Following the statistical rule, the hypothesis 2 is rejected. Therefore, the alternative hypothesis which states that the policies and strategic measures put in place to combat internally displaced persons' crises in Nigeria have proven to be effective is accepted.

The vital objective of ensuring human security is to achieve development which is the central part of the concept of human security. When nations are able to protect and render services to support human existence in their societies, these citizens are given maximum allowance to utilize their potentials thereby contributing development to the society. As a result of the mass displacement of persons in the region, the educational sector of the region has suffered severe havoc. Several schools have been shut down with some other schools set ablaze beyond recognition. Besides this, the educational system of the few schools which have continued to be in operation is being affected. When the educational sector is affected in the region, the future generation which includes the pupils as well as the students becomes nuisances. This in turn creates a situation where these people do not contribute any form of development to the society. This as well affects the quality of the labour force in the region. Due to the poor waste management and inadequate access to health facilities, IDPs aid in escalating the spread of diseases and sicknesses especially from the camps to their families and friends and then to the larger society. In the context of community security, rise in the numbers of IDPs can also affect peace in the host community. By this, IDPs constitute a nuisance to the host community especially in communities which have been relatively peaceful before the presence of IDPs in their midst. The females engage in prostitution to cater and make ends meet for their basic needs while the males build pockets of robbery attacks. Although it is on few occasions that IDPs contribute economically to the development of their host communities. All these projects the myriad threats posed by the increase in the numbers of internally displaced persons which affect every form of human security in the region. In as much as other factors play role in affecting effective implementation of human security in the region, internal displacement adds to the deteriorating role of human

security in the region. These findings are complementary to researches from the literatures by reaffirming that the presence of internally displaced persons signifies a threat to human security of the region.

In an attempt to curbing the crisis of internally displaced persons in the country, the federal government of Nigeria became a signatory to the African Union Convention for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons which is also known as the Kampala Convention of 2009. Yet the ratification by Nigeria on the Kampala Convention in May 2012 is not being adopted in the country (Atala, 2011). At the national level, the establishment of National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) in 1999 by the government was a bid to address and respond swiftly to emergency situations across the country. Due to the fact that IDPs are products of disasters which are either natural or human disasters, these persons are the concerns of the NEMA the NEMA Act specifically makes no reference to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Nigeria but describes these persons as 'victims of disaster' hence serving a key loophole of the NEMA Act that affects the agency's authority as well as the capacity in mitigating the IDP crisis (Atala, 2011; Akume 2015; Ekpa & Dahlan 2016). The national policy on the management of IDP crisis in the country is yet to be adopted which was drafted in 2007 and revised thrice in 2009 and 2010-2011 as it still remains to be adopted by the federal government (Atala, 2011). The absence of this legal framework indicates failure of a clear definition of the roles and responsibilities hence this will restrict humanitarian and development efforts in managing the consequences of internal displacement as an holistic approach is needed in supporting IDP's quest for durable solutions (Atala, 2011).

Moreover, there are internally displaced persons' camps set up in over 200 local government areas of Nigeria. These camps are provided in collaboration with the United Nations, other international organizations, and non-profit organizations (UNHCR, 2014). The Nigerian government also established programs to help alleviate the IDP crisis in the region such as the North-East Development Commission (NEDC) with a long term approach in view as against the ad-hoc basis of intervention by the federal government, Presidential Committee on North East Initiative (PCNI). Relief materials as well as humanitarian aids are provided for the internally displaced persons to cater for their immediate welfare in the society which is often done by voluntary organizations as well as individuals moved by empathy in the society.

In addition to these, the rehabilitation process in the IDP camps has been dwindling which is a result of the several promises as well as efforts of the government unfulfilled thereby politicizing the crisis of these displaced persons. This has served as grounds for several politicians to donate items with no view of durable solutions to the crisis in the country (Obikaeze & Onuoha, 2016).

This could be attested to the fact that IDP crisis in the country is not well mitigated loosing in view durable solutions that will sustain the peace and encourage development in the country. Hence assistance to internally displaced persons in the country is on the basis of a short-term approach in view.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The crisis of internally displaced persons is a big challenge in Nigeria's effort at enhancing human security in the region. It is evident that the crisis of internally displaced persons threatens every sphere of human security and if security is not assured, myriad of challenges which affects the people will arise. The lack of basic needs among these groups makes them become vulnerable to any form of radicalization. It is therefore the duty of the government to make these groups feel more secured to enhance human security in the region. Hence for the Nigerian state to fully attain high level of human security in the region, the government must take into recognition the internally displaced persons as they have a great role to play in the development of the region and the nation at large. There is an emerging understanding that states will not be secured and cannot be secured until the people feel secured as well.

This study therefore argues that in as much as it is important to secure the territorial sovereignty of the state and to dissolve any form of internal aggressions within the country, other sectors of the economy are also important in securing the existence of the people in the country hence the need to increase budget allocation to the educational sector, the health sector, agricultural sector, infrastructural sector, transportation and housing sectors. With the increment of the budget allocation towards these sectors, these would enable easy access and affordability of services by the citizens. As well, the government is able to lessen insecurities amongst her people and the people will feel more secured too. By this way, the government would also be rendering rehabilitation to the internally displaced

persons in the country because there are sufficient resources to cater for and integrate these persons back into the society.

In addition to this, the issue of internally displaced persons should be included at the local government level. By this, the government should establish offices for internally displaced persons at the local government level with representatives of internally displaced persons occupying positions in these offices. The local government is the third tier of government which is the closest arm of the government to the people. This way, the government will find it very easy to access the displaced persons and cater for them. It would be much more difficult for the government to cater for these people especially at the federal level and sometimes the state level unlike the local government. Moreover, these displaced persons would find it easy to respond to the government through the local government owing to the fact that this arm of government is the government that the people know very well because of their grass root involvements in the development and rendering services to their communities.

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