



United Nations Humanitarian Aid and Internally Displaced Persons in North East Nigeria

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Abstract

The effects of the catastrophic activities of bandits and terrorists in North East Nigeria have forced families to vacate their homes for safety elsewhere. The persistent violence witnessed in the region has led to an unprecedented humanitarian crisis which in turn attracted the attention of the United Nation in 2014, and have spent chunk of fund in the region. Despite the release of these funds in addressing the plights and needs of IDPs in the North-East Nigeria, still over 75% of the IDPs are currently in dire need of humanitarian aid. It is on this note that the paper examined the United Nations Humanitarian Aid and Internally Displaced Persons in North-East Nigeria. Specifically, the study scrutinized the mandate of the UN humanitarian aid to IDPs in North East Nigeria and the associated impediment(s) to the UN Humanitarian aid in affecting the lives of the Internally Displaced Persons in North-East Nigeria. In view of the problem, this study employed descriptive research design, using secondary sources of data, with the combination of Structural Functional theory and the liberalist theory of humanitarian intervention as its theoretical framework of analysis. The paper revealed that the UN Humanitarian agencies in North-East Nigeria are mandated to provide IDPs with adequate shelter, food and non-food materials, adequate potable water and sanitation, counseling facilities, education and educational facilities for school age children, medical care and assistance to persons with special needs and sustainable livelihoods. More so, the challenges that hindered humanitarian response to IDPs in North-East Nigeria ranges from insecurity and hijacking of aid by local officials, concludes that intentions of the UN humanitarian aid to IDPs in North-East Nigeria are good ones, as regards to what they have been commissioned to do to IDPs and recommends that the government should as a matter of urgency within the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development strictly monitor and ensure that materials and funds made available by donor agencies are utilized to the core. This will go a long way at ensuring self-reliance, sustainable livelihoods and independence of the internally displaced persons in North East Nigeria. Also adequate security mechanism of Joint Task Force should be put in place at the camp sites to relax the apprehensive minds of the IDPs.

Keywords: United Nations, Humanitarian, Interventions, Internally Displaced Persons, Dependence, Aid

Introduction

In the wake of the Boko Haram insurgency in North-East Nigeria, the region has experienced perpetual chaos and insecurity. Banditry and Boko Haram's ongoing attacks have resulted in the loss of many lives and property, while many are forced to flee their homes and are relocated as either Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the various camps across the region or as refugees in the neighbouring countries of Chad, Niger and Cameroun. The literature notes that the persistent violence witnessed in north-east Nigeria has led to an unprecedented humanitarian crisis which in

turn attracted the attention of the United Nation in 2014 (Abdulmalik, Dahiru, Jidda, Wakil, & Omigbodun, 2019) Notable among the international agencies that have intervened in providing succour to IDP^s are the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), The World Food Programme (WFP), and private International Non-Governmental Organizations. According to Kallon (2021), there are currently over 62 Humanitarian Organizations operating in various IDP^s camps in the North –East, Nigeria.

These agencies of the United Nations commenced full aid-giving in the North-East in 2014 and spent roughly 70million USD in 2014, over 158 million USD in 2015, 460 million USD in 2016, 825million USD in 2017, 44million USD in 2018, 32 million USD in 2019, 305 million USD in 2020. Despite these funds and in addressing the plights and needs of IDP^s in the North-East, Nigeria still over 75% of the IDP^s in the North East Nigeria are currently in dire need of humanitarian aid. (OCHA, 2020).

Responses and Financial Commitments from International Actors and Non-Governmental Organizations

Historically, international humanitarian NGOs have played a key role in conflict zones that suffer humanitarian crises. They are usually at the forefront in such zones and in saving lives at the expense of their own. International state actors, mainly developed countries also respond to humanitarian crises by sending relief materials and funds to alleviate suffering. Since Boko Haram and banditry started in 2009 in the North-East Nigeria, various international humanitarian organizations, under the auspices of the United Nations have been active in North-East Nigeria, particularly in the different IDP camps.

According to OCHA in their 2017 report, (p. 4,) “90 humanitarian organisations have provided aid to 4.5 million people, including nearly 2 million people monthly with food assistance, and over 4 million people who received out-patient or medical health services’. Different countries, international organisations and concerned individuals have also made donations in the form of cash or kind.

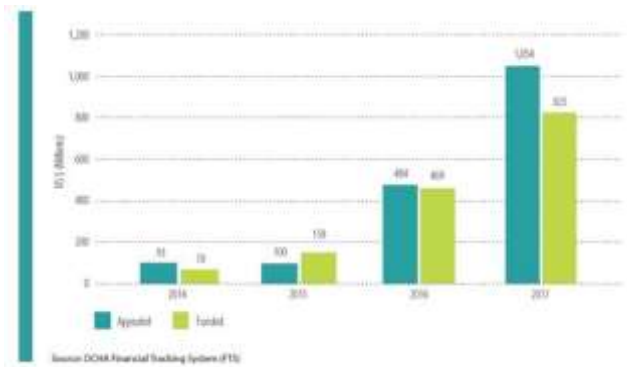
While the bulk of the funds available for humanitarian missions in the region are donations by international state actors, NGOs and concerned individuals that are targeted at dislodged communities and displaced persons. Odufowokan (2016) notes that the World Bank has donated 800 million US dollars, and Aliko Dangote and other concerned individuals donated 6.5 million naira, while the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP) donated 248 million US dollars. Australia offered support to the tune of 9 million Naira, the United States government 200 million dollars, and 750 million naira was received from Saudi Arabia (Odufowokan, 2016; Okunade & Ogunnubi, 2020)

Food items donated included grains such as millet, maize, groundnut, sorghum and cowpea, clothing such as dresses for women and children and shelter in the form of tents. Table 2 shows the support received from different countries and agencies for 2019. The United Kingdom tops the list with a donation of \$US 5,193.523 million while the International Organization for Migration (IOM) gave the least at \$59,750 million. The total sum reveals the enormous support that the humanitarian crisis in the region has attracted from both international and local agencies

Source	Funding US\$	% of response plan/appeal funding
United Kingdom, Government of	5,193,523	48.0
Germany, Government of	4,597,881	42.5
Central Emergency Response Fund	688,130	6.4
Spain, Government of	284,414	2.6
International Organization for Migration	59,750	0.6

Source: Nigeria 2019 (Humanitarian Response Plan)

In a more detailed analysis of the United Nations Humanitarian spending in North-East Nigeria, OCHA (2021), In a Business Case Assessment For Accelerating Development Investments in Famine Response and Prevention in North-East Nigeria



In consonance with the above, Edward Kallon (2021) “the United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Nigeria” Posits that the year 2021 marks the twelfth year of conflicts and crises in the North East Nigeria, and the sixth year of the international Community working together with the government of Nigeria to provide humanitarian supports and aids to the internally displaced.

He further noted that in 2014, the United Nations Humanitarian Aid spent roughly 70 Million USD, in 2015, spent 158Million USD, in 2016 funded of 460 Million USD, in 2017 funded over 825 Million USD, in 2018 funded over 44 Million USD, in 2019 funded 32Million USD, In 2020, funded Over 305 Million USD, While that of 2021 according to Sunday Maroun the Public information Officer, OCHA Nigeria Noted that the Humanitarian Response Plan in North East Nigeria, launched on 16th march 2021 in Abuja requests 1billion USD to enable partners to provide critical services to the 6.4 Million most vulnerable in North –East, Nigeria.

Okunade .S.K, & Ogunnubi O (2020), on his part added that a UN-Adamawa Peace Initiative in partnership with United Nations High Commissioner for refugees supplied food items such as rice, maize, and beans. Other organizations also gave assistance through the Red Cross to the IDP’s and other vulnerable once. They sent items like blankets, mats, rice, maize, and milk which were given to women, clothes for little children, and drugs for pregnant women and the sick as well as the old people to relieve them of the hardship/pains they incurred while escaping for their lives. Despite these chunks of fund the IDPs are currently in a dire need of humanitarian aid than ever.

Theoretical Architecture

The Structural Functional theory originated in the work of anthropologists such as Radcliffe Brown and B Malinowski in the early twentieth century. It was imported to Political science through its sister discipline sociology by Talcott Parsons, Robert Merton and Marion Levy.

Structural functional theory was popularized by Gabriel Almond and James S. Coleman (1960) as a framework of political analysis, which sees the society as consisting of a system of parts that function together for the overall effectiveness and efficiency of society. According to Igwe (2003), the theory views the society as “a system made up of a certain arrangement of parts (structures), which perform in a coordinated and interdependent manner to achieve the objectives intended for them by the society.

Biereenu-Nnabugwu (2013), opined that Structural Functional Theory “hinges on order, interrelation and balance among parts as a means of maintaining the smooth functioning of the whole; and at the same time regards norms and values as the basis of society, while focusing on social order, which is based on tacit agreement between groups and organizations; structural functional analysis

views social change as something that occurs slowly and in an orderly fashion”

In a nutshell, the Structural Functionalism holds the view that in a political system, there are institutions or structures that perform specific functions and that when such institutions fail to perform their functions, the political system will be drastically affected and dysfunctional leading to upheavals which sometimes creates feeling of insecurity in the country” Mark, (2019).

In view of the above, Mark (2019), further noted that “Structural-functional theory explains how political institutional failure has engendered insecurity in Nigeria which is a by-product of arms smuggling emanating from weak border control on the part of the governmental agencies and institutions, which in turn result to terrorism and banditry activities, which have triggered families to flee their homes in search of safety in the IDP camps.

Relating this theory to the problematic in Nigeria, reveals that the Army, Navy, Air force Customs, DSS and other security agencies are institutions or structures that perform designated function capable of sustaining security or thwarting it. Also, government (legislature, executive and judiciary) on the other hand performs basic functions to support security forces, by way of creation of motivations etc. The implication of the above is that these institutions and structures in Nigeria has not satisfactorily perform their statutory functions and most often, their activities are outright whelmed by selfish and corrupt practices with overwhelming emotional influence, most often engulfed in aiding and abating crimes and other terrorist activities. This has done no good to the country than a feeling of insecurity, which has seen to the displacement of many families in the North-East.

Meanwhile, the primary function of government is to protect lives, respect fundamental human rights of the citizens, freedom of the press, and maintain law and order. The study contends that these functions are hardly enforced by the Nigerian Government and has been the reason why the country is suffering from insecurity of all kinds. That is why the system continues to suffer from different kinds of violence ranging from Islamic fundamentalism, ethnic militias, youth restiveness and regional/sectional violence etc. This shows that the institutions or structures (security agencies) charged with the responsibility of security of lives and properties have not been performing their functions as expected, as their errors and mistakes have marred adequate security resulting in terrorism, banditry, crises and conflicts in the country. (Mark, 2019)

Liberalist theory of Humanitarian Intervention

The liberalist theory of humanitarian intervention advocates the protection of human rights as a positive or idealistic view of the world politics. It is a philosophy founded on the ideas of liberty and equality (Goodhand, 2003). According to Teson (2001), the liberalist theory of humanitarian intervention is built upon the foundation propounded by the 17th century philosopher, John Locke, who is often credited as the founder of liberalism as a distinct philosophical tradition.

The liberalist theory of humanitarian intervention began in the late 18th century as a movement towards self-government and away from aristocracy. It included the ideas of self-determination, the primacy of the lives of individuals as opposed to the state and religion being the fundamental units of law, politics and economy. The major proponents of this theory include Richard Rorty, John Rawls and Francis Fukuyama, all from United States as well as Amartya Sen and Peruvian Hernando de Soto from India (Kaldor, 1999).

With the end of the Cold war, the beginning of the 1990’s saw a flurry of optimism regarding new found scope of the international community to deal with humanitarian issues. Indeed, as Douzinas, 2003 puts it “a new kind of international law and international spirit seemed to have been made possible in the changed conditions of a world no longer structured around the old certainties of a

struggle between communism and capitalism”. It has been argued that the end of the cold war ushered in a “new moral order in which individual human rights and aid givers were promoted at the expense of state sovereignty (Douzinas, 2003).

This revolution of moral concern as Teson (2001) terms it, has been promoted heavily within liberal circles who have repeatedly emphasized the moral necessity to intervene in humanitarian assistance/aid in serious security situations that have killed and displaced families. Scholars such as Kaldor (1999) and Fukuyama (2004) have noted that with the collapse of the Soviet Union and the deepening effects of globalization, new conflicts and security problems were emerging which could no longer be viewed from a state centric perspective. Indeed, the 1990s saw many liberals, including the then United Nations Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, speaking of a “developing international norm” of humanitarian aid intervention, reflecting the influence of the predominant liberal school of thought regarding intervention (Weiss, 2004).

It is on the above stated that the United Nations an international organization founded in 1945 after the Second World War by 51 countries committed to maintaining international peace and security, developing friendly relations among nations and promoting social progress, better living standards and human rights. Whose Humanitarian aids have reached every corner of the globe. Although best known for peacekeeping, peace building, conflict prevention and humanitarian assistance, there are many other ways the United Nations and its System (specialized agencies, funds and programmes) affect our lives and make the world a better place. The Organization works on a broad range of fundamental issues, from sustainable development, environment and refugees protection, disaster relief, counter terrorism, disarmament and non-proliferation, to promoting democracy, human rights, gender equality and the advancement of women, governance, economic and social development and international health, clearing landmines, expanding food production, and more, in order to achieve its goals and coordinate efforts for a safer world for this and future generations.

The UN has 4 main purposes

To keep peace throughout the world;

To develop friendly relations among nations;

To help nations work together to improve the lives of poor people, to conquer hunger, disease and illiteracy, and to encourage respect for each other’s rights and freedoms;

To be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations to achieve these goals

<https://www.un.org/un70/en/content/history/index.html>

Conceptual Framework

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

The need for a comprehensive definition of IDPs arose in the early 1990s, when the United Nations Secretary-envoy General's was tasked with overseeing the affairs of internally displaced individuals. Two fundamental components of the idea of internally displaced individuals became obvious in the midst of such a challenging endeavor, and thus provided a framework for the definition of internally displaced persons. The first was the movement's spontaneous nature, and the second was the reality that it took place within national lines. Internally displaced people were distinguishable from refugees who were outside of their nation by this status (Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, 1951).

It was based on these principles that the first definition of internally displaced persons was coined in 1992 by the United Nations Secretary-General, which was defined as: “Persons or groups who have been forced to flee their homes suddenly or unexpectedly in large numbers, as a result of armed conflict, internal strife, systematic violations of human rights or natural or man-made disaster, and who are within the territory of their own country” (United Nations Commission on Human Rights, 1992).

This concept reflected a variety of situations in which the main characteristics of internal displacement, or involuntary migration across boundaries, may occur. These conditions are based on refugee classifications used in Africa and Latin America in the 1951 Refugee Convention, which include oppressed people escaping persecution, military conflict, internal struggle, and systematic human rights violations. Nonetheless, the concept was broadened to include those displaced by natural and man-made calamities (Mooney, 2005). Many incidents of population relocation have occurred as a result of natural catastrophes such as floods, earthquakes, and starvation, as well as man-made disasters such as nuclear or chemical mishaps, and it could not be denied that they were also key factors (Mooney, 2005).

These additional causes to the internal displacement of persons gave another dimension to internally displaced persons. This is because it is broader than the earlier definition put forward by United Nations Commission on Human Rights (1992). Hence, a definition that was broad enough to take these other causes into account, therefore, was required, which was put together by the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement in 1998.

Internally displaced persons are defined as "persons or groups of persons who have been forced or induced to flee or leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights, natural or man-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border" according to the Guiding Principles on Internally Displaced Persons (United Nations Commission on Human Rights, 1998). The numerous causes of internal displacement acknowledged in the 1992 working definition all were retained. However, in recognition that internal displacement was not necessarily limited to these causes alone, the definition in the Principles prefaces the list of causes with the qualifier "in particular" so as not to ignore the possibility of other circumstances that meet the main criteria of involuntary movement within one's country.

The components of the IDP definition put forward by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (1998) was further marshaled out by the Internally Displacement and Monitoring Center for the benefit of clarity (Internally Displacement and Monitoring Centre, 2020) concerning the nature of internal displacement and causes.

Considering the nature of internal displacement, the first of all the components in the definition of an IDP is "persons of a group of persons"; what this connotes is that internal displacement can affect people in particular or a whole group of persons. The second component is "forced or obliged"; this covers a range of possibilities of being expelled by force, or intimidated to leave by threat or necessity. The most significant point is that displacement is compelled or involuntary. To flee or to leave is the third component. Buttressing on the third component, displacement does not only include movements of people running away from immediate danger but can also take the form of more prepared and organised departures in anticipation of dangers, evictions, etc. The fourth component tag "as a result of or in order to avoid the effects" is flexible in terms of proximity to the causes of displacement (conflicts, disasters) or whether they have taken place or not. The expression "as a result of" indicate effects that have already taken place while the phrase "in order to avoid" denotes fear that these effects are likely to take place. Lastly is the component "their homes or places of habitual residence". Habitual residence is not necessarily a house or a building but can be land on which groups traditionally live, as in the case of pastoralists.

Causes of displacement mentioned in the definition were "armed conflicts", "situation of violence", "violations of human rights", "disasters" and "in particular". Armed conflicts were further categorized into international armed conflicts and non-international armed conflicts. International armed conflicts are, fighting between the armed forces of at least two states. Of recent, wars of national liberation have been classified as international armed conflicts. While fighting on the territory of a nation between the regular armed forces and identifiable armed groups, or between armed groups fighting one another is categorized as non-international conflicts.

Situations of violence are also enlisted as a possible cause of internal displacement. Many IDPs live in situations of internal tensions or disturbances. Internal tensions and disturbances refer to conditions that fall short of armed conflict but encompass the use of force and other repressive measures by government agents to uphold or reinstate public order. Examples of unrest and disturbances include riots, such as demonstrations without a determined plan from the outset, isolated random acts of violence, as contrasting to military actions carried out by armed groups, and vicious ethnic conflicts not amounting to full armed conflict.

In addition to the aforementioned example, a situation of serious internal tension characteristically involves specific types of human rights violations such as large-scale arrests, and other large-scale measures restricting personal freedom, administrative detention and assigned residence, a large number of political prisoners, and the probable existence of ill-treatment or inhuman conditions of detention are also regarded as internal tensions and disturbances. Violation of human rights also has the tendency of instigating internal displacement. They include government transgressions of the rights guaranteed by national, regional and international human rights law, and acts and omissions directly attributable to the state involving the failure to implement legal obligations from human rights standards.

Aside from situations of violence, disasters also cause internal displacement of persons. Disasters are of human or natural origin. Disasters like droughts, floods, earthquakes or typhoons, nuclear disasters or famine have been known to cause internal displacement. Victims of disasters are captured by the definition, as they too might become victims of discernment and other human rights violations as a consequence of their displacement simply because, they have to move to a region where they constitute an ethnic minority. Natural or man-made disasters are also included because, in some disasters situation, the nature of government response to victims of disasters could on its own become a problem. For instance, if government respond by discriminating against or neglecting certain groups of victims on political or ethnic or religious grounds could be regarded as a man-made disaster. The expression "in particular" shows that the list is not complete. Additional likely grounds of internal displacement can for instance comprise extensive development projects such as dams built without any government attempt to resettle or compensate those displaced.

Beyond the global picture, it is important to shed light on locally. In 2019 recorded that Sub-Saharan Africa and North Africa recorded most of their internally displaced persons caused as a result of conflict and violence, most of which took place in Syria, DRC and Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Mali Libya and Yemen. Armed conflict, communal violence and jihadist attacks continued in several parts of Africa, some of these places bedevil by armed and communal violence are ravaged by poverty, longstanding economic stagnation, lack of development, and competition over diminishing resources caused as a result of climate change are among the factors that increase the risk of displacement. The same factors also heightened and prolonged IDPs' vulnerability.

Historical data on internal displacement shows that internal displacement associated with conflict and violence has increased in

sub-Saharan Africa over a ten years period. There was 4.6 million additional figure of internally displaced persons recorded in 2019, accounting for nearly 54 per cent of the global total. Jihadist groups operating in the Sahel region escalated their attacks and generated mass displacement in countries including Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Nigeria. Boko Haram's insurgency is now in its tenth year, and operations of the group continued to cause new displacement in these regions of Africa.

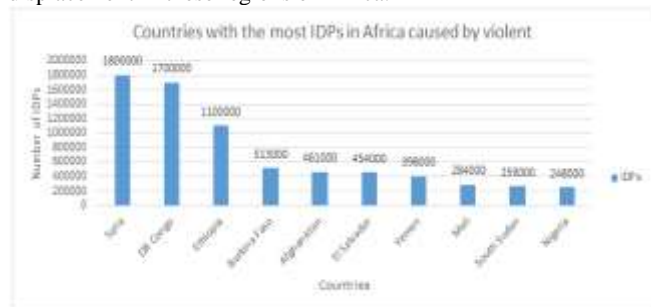


Fig 4: Ten countries with the most new displacements by conflict and violence in 2019 in sub-Saharan Africa. Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Center (2020)

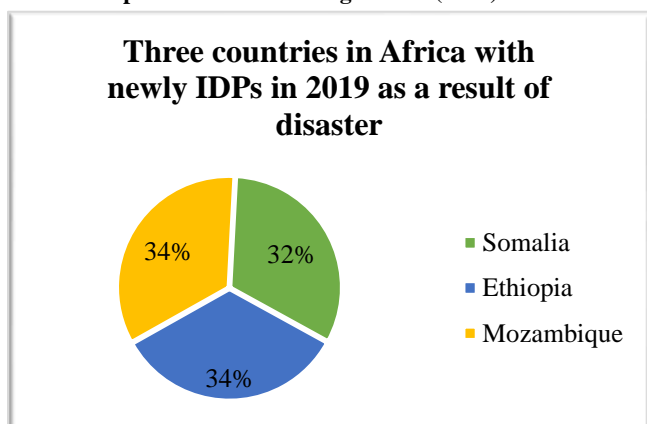


Fig 5: Three countries with newly IDPs in 2019 as a result of disaster. Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Center (2020)

In Nigeria, internal displacement occurs majorly as a result of violent conflicts with ethnic-religious and/or political undertones (Alobo & Obaji, 2016). Thousands are annually internally displaced as a result of natural disasters such as flooding in the North and West part of Nigeria, erosion in the Eastern part of Nigeria, oil spillage and development projects in the southern part of Nigeria, specifically in the Niger Delta (United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 2011). Some incidences also occur because of clashes between Fulani herdsmen and farmers in the middle belt of Nigeria and between government forces and armed groups due to one form of marginalization or the other.

United Nations Humanitarian AID on IDPs

Humanitarian action simply means the active provision of humanitarian aid, designed specifically to save lives, alleviate suffering, and restore and promote human dignity in the midst of disasters and during large-scale emergencies resulting from either conflicts or natural disasters (Pringle, & Hunt, 2015). Beyond this definition, there is a discrepancy in how humanitarian action is framed and understood. It can also be purported as political or nonpolitical, as secular or non-secular, as a movement or an institution, and as short-term emergency response or longer-term development and guided by or apart from humanitarian principles.

The idea of humanitarian action is attributed to the Dunantist tradition of humanitarianism, named after Henri Dunant, a founder of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in 1863 (Pringle, & Hunt, 2015). The Dunantist custom of humanitarianism is emblemized by the Red Cross, preserved in the Geneva

Conventions, and protected under international humanitarian law. This kind of action came up in response to people in danger and communities in distress and provides touchable succour in the form of food, education, materials, services, shelter, and medical care. However, providing care to groups of people and communities in emergency situations requires coordinated, collective responses, calling for workers with a range of skills and from a variety of vocations and professions and bringing them into line with the needs specific to particular contexts, and in some cases, government support (Pringle, & Hunt, 2015).

Humanitarian action was initiated on the value placed on humanity, that is, all human beings are entitled to be treated humanely and to receive lifesaving assistance simply by virtue of being human. Therefore, people have a right to receive humanitarian support and humanitarian actors or agencies have a right to provide assistance wherever it is needed irrespective of geographical location. Thus, humanitarian action is carried out considering the following three guiding principles: neutrality, impartiality, and independence (Pringle, & Hunt, 2015).

Neutrality means abstaining from or partaking in military operations or taking sides in hostilities or controversies of a political, religious, or ideological nature. Impartiality means providing help based on need alone and without discrimination, with priority given to the foremost imperative cases of distress (Pringle, & Hunt, 2015). The principle of independence stipulates that humanitarian organizations shouldn't have links to parties within the conflict nor have a stake in its outcome.

Principled humanitarian action, therefore, serves the interests of beneficiaries instead of political, religious, or different agendas. It is to not function protect military operations, non-secular proselytism, or industrial enterprise, neither is it to be manipulated by economic or government strategic interests. Terms and conditions of humanitarian action guided by these principles are enshrined within the Geneva Conventions and guarded underneath international humanitarian law.

It covers protection of IDPs from non-discrimination, which is, by ensuring that IDPs are treated humanely; protection as part of the civilian population; guarantee them the right to life, to dignity and to freedom; guarantee them the right to life, dignity and to freedom; IDPs shall enjoy all life standard (standard of living) such as hygienic living, quality health care, quality food & nutrition and accommodation, unity of family shall be protected; IDPs shall be a guarantee of national documentation; protection of their properties and possession from destruction or use etc; employment and social lifestyle shall be protected; guarantee them their right to education; and prohibition of forcible recruitment of children (ICRC, 2010). Among all the listed IDPs protection rights, shelter is not specifically provided for in the protection of a protected person's right. That does not mean or justify IDPs to be kept in any form of shelter that is inhumanly habitable.

Humanitarianism found its origin on the battlefield but has since broadened its scope. While it still responds to the overwhelming and far-reaching effects of war and political/sectarian violence, it also responds to other assaults on human life such as natural disasters, famines, disease outbreaks, population displacement, and systemic social injustices relating to poverty, inequality, and neglect etc. (Pringle, & Hunt, 2015). Such problems of human suffering, or crises of humanity, that overwhelm local capacities to respond to and thereby demand external assistance are the nature of affairs that warrant humanitarianism (Pringle, & Hunt, 2015). In a clearer perspective, emergencies are not humanitarian emergencies as such, but social, political, economic, and/or environmental emergencies demanding a humanitarian response (Pringle, & Hunt, 2015).

The notion of the humanitarian emergency is therefore argumentative in that the tag may have a sanitizing result, obscuring the root causes of the crisis and delimiting the response to the humanitarian sector. Several actors like governments, militaries, non-secular organizations, and charitable organizations, likewise as family, friends, and neighbours, offer immediate and longer-term help to victims of crisis and disaster. However, these responders are generally thought-about to be a {part of} native resiliency the social safety net and don't seem to be thought-about part of the humanitarian enterprise. In usual expression, humanitarian aid refers to emergency help provided by intergovernmental organizations and international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs): these organizations are usually primarily based within the world North and have satellite offices around the world (Pringle, & Hunt, 2015).

They typically mobilize in response to crises and disasters in resource-poor settings within the global South. Examples of humanitarian organizations embody in the United Nations organizations including the United Nations refugee agency (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and also the World Food Programme (WFP), in addition, because the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and also the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and private international NGOs like CARE, Oxfam, Save the children, and Me ´decins Sans Frontières (MSF) (Pringle, & Hunt, 2015).

Humanitarian action is context-specific, however generally includes the availability of primary healthcare, water and sanitation, food and nutrition, shelter and site planning, public health surveillance, vaccination campaigns, and disease occurrence response. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) incorporates a mandate to coordinate the various giant and tiny organizations that conjure the international humanitarian response. High-profile emergencies (the donor darlings) generally elicit well-funded responses from multiple organizations, whereas low-profile, extended emergencies in less geopolitically strategic areas (the donor orphans) may expect very little or no response (Pringle, & Hunt, 2015).

Unlike development aid, humanitarian aid is usually supposed to be short term in nature and in response to immediate needs. After mounting an emergency response, humanitarian organizations can formulate an exit strategy and withdraw once the crisis is over or when they can deliver to a partner organization like the local ministry of health or another nongovernmental organization. Whereas humanitarian projects may be supposed to be short term in nature, the reality is usually totally different. Humanitarian organizations find themselves locked into complicated situations of utmost deprivation, serial natural disasters, chronic low-intensity conflict with continual spikes of violence, and deliberate abuse or neglect of vulnerable populations. In such situations, there's rarely a possible exit strategy.

Humanitarian aid organizations might find themselves operating for many years during a single scene. Humanitarian operations are independent of the aid and services provided by governments and militaries; it also excludes the utilization of military groups and is not synonymous with the term "humanitarian intervention," an expression for a military intercession on a supposedly humanitarian grounds like the United Nations responsibility to protect (R2P) initiative. During armed conflict, humanitarian actors talk over humanitarian space, a space of each conceptual and geographic importance wherever humanitarian action will occur unhampered.

The term "humanitarian space" was popularized within the Nineties when the previous president of MSF used the phrase *espace humanitaire* to refer to an environment within which humanitarian agencies may operate independently of external

political agendas. Should civilians be trapped by fighting, humanitarian actors can talk over a humanitarian corridor permitting safe passage to humanitarian space. Whereas the delivery of humanitarian aid is unpolitical, it can have profound and extensive political effects. For instance, the decision for humanitarian healthcare and vaccination campaigns has expedited ceasefires in what has been delineated as health-for-peace initiatives.

Supporting the health, nutrition, water, sanitation, education and protection of youngsters living in humanitarian crises is central to the mandate of UNICEF. In accordance with this mandate, under the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021, the main focus of UNICEF are on the delivery of a quicker, simpler and at a large scale, humanitarian response in accordance with the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action (CCCs). The CCCs promote inevitable, effective, responsible and timely humanitarian action, and provide a framework for steering the organization's contextually tailored responses to acute sudden-onset and protracted humanitarian situations (Pringle, & Hunt, 2015).

The impacts of United Nations humanitarian AID on IDPs in Nigeria cannot be overlooked. As of 2019, about 7.1 million people in the northeastern part of Nigeria were in severe need of aid, including 2 million persons displaced by the conflict, a significant fraction of whom are living in camps for IDPs within stronghold towns established by the Nigerian military (Stoddard, et al., 2020). Humanitarian assistance provided by the international aid agencies has largely been narrowed to these stronghold towns. As of late 2019, an additional 1.2 million people were in need of assistance outside the Nigerian military zones and, by all indications, were unreached by and unable to access humanitarian aid agencies (OCHA, 2019). These issues faced by the humanitarian agencies reflected on the IDPs on a negative note. The UN reports showed that many of the IDPs who have made it out of the insurgent-controlled areas were malnourished and 'report being held for years in hostage-like situations by non-state armed groups with no access to basic services, and suffering abuse' (OCHA, 2018).

At the early stage of the crises in the northeastern part of Nigeria, the humanitarian presence was not well felt by the IDPs. Gradually their presence picked up significantly since 2016. Their presence has risen from just a few operational NGOs and the UN to over 80 local and international organizations that collectively employ an estimated 4,000 aid workers (Edward, 2017). As of the completion of the year 2019, the number of humanitarian aid include among others: 37 Nigerian local and national NGOs (L/NNGOs); 34 international NGOs (INGOs), eight UN entities including OCHA and the International Organization for Migration (IOM); and four Nigerian government entities. The majority of the humanitarian aid presence was intense in the three states of northeast Nigerian, which are Borno, Adamawa and Yobe, where the Nigerian government declared a state of emergency (Folode, 2016; OCHA, 2017). These three states, and Borno in particular, are the states with the most IDPs in Nigeria, and such place became a place of most people in need of assistance. That is not to say that the other three northeast states of Bauchi, Gombe, and Taraba do not have IDPs with needs, however.

Empirical Discuss

Lenshie and Yenda conducted research on the Boko Haram conflict, internally displaced individuals, and humanitarian assistance in Northeast Nigeria (2016). In accordance with the Kampala Convention for the protection and assistance of IDPs in Nigeria, the study evaluates empirical literature based on social, political, and economic dynamics and how these aspects are related with IDPs and humanitarian response. IDPs in the following states were given special attention: Yobe, Taraba, Gombe, Borno, Bauchi, and Adamawa. The research examined empirical literature based on secondary data. According to the report, the operations of

Boko Haram Islamists have resulted in the displacement of more than 3 million people across Nigeria, as well as the displacement of around 300,000 people in neighboring countries. Despite the government's and foreign donor organizations' efforts to aid the IDPs, it is clear that there is a humanitarian shortage, since many of these people live in deplorable circumstances, including inadequate food, housing, sanitation, and water, as well as a lack of access to healthcare. Insecurity, poor protection, and educational needs continue to be issues. Finally, the study identified some of the reasons that make humanitarian response difficult. The government's inability to implement the Kampala convention on the IDPs through the legal, logistical, and resource pool framework, as well as corruption associated with the distribution and management of humanitarian funding to the Nigerian government, account for the poor humanitarian condition of the IDPs in Northeast Nigeria. There were some parallels between the previous research and the current one. Both studies used secondary data and looked at relevant variables. The current study, however, includes primary data, qualitative data, and descriptive and inferential statistics, which were not included in the previous study.

Moslehi, Fatemi, Mahboubi, Mozafarsaadati, and Karami (2015) performed a research on the difficulties experienced by humanitarian organizations in reaching out to the impacted community. The study's major goal was to identify the key issues with humanitarian access, as well as the reactions of humanitarian organizations to these issues, and to offer some ideas and tactics. The research is a narrative one. The database was used to gather secondary data for their investigation. Yemen, Somalia, Sudan, Pakistan, and Afghanistan were studied for empirical data on security risks, bureaucratic limits, and indirect impediments. According to the report, political issues are one of the primary roadblocks to humanitarian access to a community in desperate need of aid. Kidnapping, criminal attacks, violence, mobility restrictions, visa travel, influencing programming, donor control, the politics of aid, and ultimately, internal security regulations were all listed as restraints. In areas such as studied factors and secondary data, the previous study and the current study are identical. However, the current study varies from previous studies in that it uses a triangulation technique. Apart from that, the previous study focused only on the issues that humanitarian agencies face, but the current study looked at the extent and effect of humanitarian services to IDPs. So, this research intends to bridge the gaps in these areas as lacked by the previous study.

Nezih and Melissa conducted a research in Haiti on the problems of humanitarian information management and exchange (2011). The study focused on the immediate aftermath of the Haiti earthquake, which is known as the emergency response phase of the disaster management cycle. The study used a real-time structured desk research approach. The study found that technical factors of Humanitarian Information Management and Exchange (HIME), including as accessibility, formatting inconsistency, and storage medium misalignment, had the greatest impact on humanitarian decision-making in Haiti. Coordination was inhibited, on the other hand, when information flows were given a low priority and humanitarian actors were hesitant to exchange humanitarian data. There are several parallels between the two studies. Both studies investigated the challenges facing humanitarian actors, however, the present study went further to investigate the scope and impact of humanitarian agencies on IDPs. The present study is more robust in terms of its approach to data collection and analysis.

Eweka and Olusegun (2016) carried out a study on the management of internally displaced persons in Africa. These researchers compared the management of IDPs in Nigeria and Cameroon. Three research questions were raised by the researchers to guide the study. The study adopted an evaluative research design. Two hundred thirty (230) IDPs participated in the study. Although, the analysis was based on 160 respondents. Data for the study were gotten from both primary and secondary sources.

Secondary data were sourced from relevant documents, while a questionnaire was used to collect primary data. Data collected were subjected to quantitative and qualitative analysis. Quantitative data were analysed using simple percentages, while qualitative data were subjected to content analysis. Results from the study showed that insufficient funding, corruption and overlapping/insufficient policies are the principal structural challenges of IDP management while the host community is the most critical cultural challenge. Both studies are similar in variable investigated. They are also similar in terms of sampling technique, the instrument for data collection and the method of data analysis (descriptive). However, the present study differs from the past study in the research design adopted, and also, more variables will be considered in the present study which was not the case with the past study.

Hakamies, Geissler and Borchert (2008) carried out a qualitative study that examined the barriers encountered by relief and development agencies to providing reproductive health care to IDPs in conflict situations, as well as the agencies' strategies for overcoming these barriers in the US, Europe, Canada, Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East. The study adopted a survey research design. Twelve (12) agencies comprising of 11 NGOs and 1 multilateral/government agency. Questionnaire and telephone interviews were used as an instrument for data collection. Data collected were subjected to thematic content analysis. Results of the analysis revealed that the main challenges encountered by relief and development agencies to providing reproductive health care to IDPs include among others ideological orientation, managerial and policy barriers, as well as those related to donor influence. Furthermore, the absence of a legitimate instrument that recognises IDPs internationally added to the difficulties agencies face in systematically reaching IDPs. The study is similar to the present study in areas such as in variables investigated, research design and instrument of data analysis. However, the past study cannot be used to generalize. These areas that the past study lack would be covered in the present study.

Olanrewaju, Omotoso and Alabi (2018) conducted a study on the Boko haram insurgency and the management of internally displaced women in Adamawa State, Nigeria. The study examined whether IDP camps provided adequate solutions to the challenges of internally displaced women in Nigeria or not. The study was a focus group discussion (FGDs) and interviews. Four IDP camps were purposively selected, after which 40 participants were drawn out of the four camps using a stratified random sampling technique. A questionnaire and tape recorder were employed in collecting data. Data collected were analyzed content analysis. Findings from the study revealed that despite the running of internally displaced women in the camp was below international standard. Both studies are similar in terms of variable investigated and instrument for data collection. However, the past study limited its study to qualitative data analysis, whereas, the present adopted both qualitative and quantitative methods of data analysis which would give the present an edge over the past study in terms of generalization.

A study on the causes, effects and the role of social workers on displaced persons in North-Eastern Nigeria was carried out by Surajo, Umar, Musa and Haruna (2019). The presentation examined the causes and effects of the displacement of persons in the Borno and Yobe State. Three research questions and two hypotheses were formulated by the researchers as a guide for the study. A mixed-method research design was employed by the researchers. The population of the study was made up of 500 internally displaced persons. In the study, 217 IDPs were sampled using a stratified random sampling technique. Furthermore, for the sake of triangulation, six respondents were selected purposively. Questionnaires both structured and semi-structured were used as the instrument for data collection. Quantitative data collected were subjected through frequency, percentages and t-test analysis. Findings from the study showed that injustice, security lapses, weak and inefficient governance, illiteracy and unemployment

were the causes of displacement. The study also revealed that lack of peace and stability, family disintegration, loss of economic opportunities, breakdown of cultural identity, loosening of social and family structure, interruption of children's schooling and increased poverty were the effect of displacement. Lastly, social workers in collaboration with NGOs were able to address some issues like mental health problems, provision of relief materials, engaged in public awareness, advocate for resources and education, organize peace and reconciliation programmes. Both studies used the same approach for data collection and analysis. However, the present study will be wider in scope because it covered more states than the past study.

Evaluation of the coverage and quality of the UNICEF humanitarian response in complex humanitarian emergencies covering Nigeria, Pakistan, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Philippines, Somalia, Burundi, Mali, State of Palestine and the Syrian Arab Republic was carried out by UNICEF (2019). The study was carried out to generate data, through robust and systematic analysis across a range of country contexts, practical solutions that can inform how UNICEF improves the coverage and quality of its humanitarian response. An evaluative research design was employed involving a mixed-methods approach. Five research questions were raised as a guide to the study. Key informant interviews (KIIs) were conducted involving 504 participants. Focus group discussions were conducted with 402 community members receiving UNICEF-funded assistance. Qualitative data were collected through a literature review, semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions. Quantitative programme performance data and funding information was collected and analysed. The results from the study showed that the coverage and quality of UNICEF's assistance in complex humanitarian emergencies could not be ascertained due to the paucity of the data available. The lack of adequate data collection, disaggregation and reporting mean that UNICEF cannot reliably calculate its coverage about need. Neither can it determine accurately enough whether it is targeting those whose needs are the greatest. The system that the United Nations security management system, which is meant to assist UNICEF to 'stay and deliver' often fails to fulfil its function. One finding was that the working relationship between the Department of Safety and Security and UNICEF was frequently governed by personality and background, which meant that there was no guarantee of success. Therefore, UNICEF needs to continue to maintain its own security risk management capacity.

Olanrewaju, Olanrewaju, Omotoso, Alabi, Amoo, Loromeke, and Ajayi (2019) conducted a study on the insurgency and the invisible displaced population in Abuja, Nigeria. The study made use of focus group discussions (FGDs) and interviews to explore the effects of the biased perception of the notion of internal displacement among stakeholders on displaced persons living in IDP settlements. The study used a purposive sampling technique to select three IDP camps in Abuja while a stratified random sampling technique was used to select respondents used for the study. Each camp was made up of two focus group discussions comprising 8-10 persons per group. A questionnaire and tape recorder were deployed to collect data. After which the data collected were subjected through systematic content analysis. Results of the study found out that the destinations of IDPs determined the level of vulnerability as well as the protection they experienced during displacement. IDPs in the informal settlement 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 nongovernmental organizations and individual philanthropists who have limited means. Both studies share similarities in the variable of investigation, the instrument for data collection and the method of data analysis. However, the present study will be wider in scope both in variables and geographical coverage and also differ in research design.

Barau (2018) conducted a study on protection issues for displaced and distressed women and children in Northern Nigerian cities. The study identified strategies deployed for the protection of IDPs, recognising and supporting the considerable goodwill of international humanitarian agencies, host communities and fellow Nigerians. For this cause, the study formulated five research questions. A mixed methods research technique was used by the study. Seven hundred IDPs were sampled for the study (350 each from Kano and Maiduguri). Data collected were subjected through thematic analysis for qualitative data while frequency and percentages were used to analysed quantitative data. The study revealed that The situation of IDPs in both cities studied fails to meet the IDP protection standards set by the UN in their guideline principles on internal displacement. IDPs often face malnutrition, and over 80 per cent of focus group participants in both cities said food shortages were among the most serious problems they faced. Similarly, IDPs in both cities said lack of access to shelter and education were major concerns for them. However, overall IDPs seemed to be facing worse situations in Maiduguri than in Kano. Far more IDPs in Maiduguri said they experienced water scarcity, insecurity, lack of privacy, poor healthcare, harassment and poor access to amenities than in Kano. It is disturbing that IDPs lack trust in the local humanitarian organisations whose activities are fragmented and poorly coordinated in both cities. Five hypotheses were raised for the study. The study shared some similarities with the present study.

Imasuen (2015) analysed the impact of the Boko haram insurgency on humanitarian crises in northern Nigeria. The study examined the various dimensions of the humanitarian crisis posed by the Boko haram in northeast Nigeria with Borno, Yobe and Adamawa states in focus. A survey research design was adopted by the researcher. A sample of 1, 500 IDPs were randomly drawn from a population of 10, 000 IDPs. A structured questionnaire and in-depth interview were used as an instrument to collect data for the study. The study involved both quantitative and qualitative data. Quantitative data obtained were subjected through regression analysis while the index matrix and table technique was used to analysed qualitative data. Results from the regression analysis showed that food insecurity, human casualty and displacement appears to be the most resounding humanitarian effects of Boko haram insurgency in the IDP camps. The study also revealed that Government and humanitarian agencies' responses in addressing the humanitarian crises did not make any significant positive impact on IDPs.

In trying to understand the needs of adult internally displaced persons in North East Nigeria, Onoja, Ogedengbe, Sanni, Onoja, Abiodun, Ayorinde and Okeme (2020) carried out a study to identify the challenges facing IDPs and evaluate the effect of the humanitarian response projects in alleviating these challenges. The study used a survey research design. Samples of 645 adult IDPs were the respondents used by the study. A structured questionnaire and focus group discussion were used to collect data for the study. The study involved both quantitative and qualitative data. Quantitative data acquired were subjected through frequency, percentages and charts, while thematic analysis was used to analyse qualitative data. The study showed that the major challenges facing the IDPs were hunger, lack of clothing, regular sickness and lack of drugs and rape cases. The major sicknesses were malaria and skin infections. Items received from the NGOs include foodstuff, soap and detergents, clothing, and drugs. The majority rated their situation since they arrived in the camp very good.

From the empirical review therefore, the operations of the UN humanitarian agencies in the North-East Nigeria are been limited by series of factors. Access, insecurity, government/military obstruction, hijacking of aid and lack of international prioritization posed a stumbling block for the effective operations of the numerous humanitarian agencies (Stoddard, et al, 2020). Stoddard et al. (2020) identified other challenges that are limiting collective action and individual initiative by humanitarian, logistics and

information gaps. In Borno state, the two most commonly reported problems for people to access aid were 'unsafe to reach it' and 'local authorities took it'. In Adamawa and Yobe states, diversion by the authorities was reported as a bigger obstacle in accessing aid than insecurity, and significant numbers of IDPs reported that aid available for them was 'too far away from their reach. In the other three states (Bauchi, Gombe and Taraba) less affected by conflict do not pose much of a problem to UN humanitarian agencies (Stoddard, et al., 2020).

Summary

From the avalanche of literatures on the problematic, the intentions of the United Nation Humanitarian aid to IDPs in North-East Nigeria are good ones. It speaks volume as regards to what they have been commissioned to do to IDPs. All things been equal, IDPs in North-East Nigeria are expected to feel safe, with all their rights as human being protected. Therefore, IDPs are meant to have adequate shelter, adequate food, potable water supply for drinking, cooking, sanitation, and for other domestic needs. Non-food items that such as blankets, mattresses etc, are also meant to be provided to IDPs. Psychological, emotional and mental well-being of IDPs was meant to be met as well. For this reason, facilities for counselling IDPs, and as well to meeting the educational needs of IDPs most especial school age children in IDP camps were also meant to be in place. Medical care and health services are not left out as well.

As laudable as the intentions of the United Nation Humanitarian aid are towards IDPs in North-East Nigeria, it is unfortunate that it did not make much impact in affecting the lives of IDPs in the study area. The United Nation Humanitarian aid only met food, water and the education needs of IDPs in North-East Nigeria. The little impact made United Nations Humanitarian aid on the lives Internally Displaced Person in North-East Nigeria was as a result of the numerous challenges that hindered their humanitarian response to IDPs. Challenges that hindered humanitarian response to IDPs in North-Eastern Nigeria ranges from insecurity, Government and military obstruction, information gap, hijacking of aid by local officials, bad roads and distance of aid from IDPs.

Recommendations

From the above stated, it would be germane to posit the following as meaningful recommendations, that if applied will help to ease the thorny experienced by the United Nations Humanitarian donors in giving the aid to the internally displaced persons in the North East and will further achieve greater result on the part of the living condition and standard of the internally displaced persons in North East Nigeria.

As part of the mandate the United Nations Humanitarian aid is expected to meet in North-East Nigeria is in the area of promoting self-reliance and sustainable livelihoods of the internally displaced persons. The government should as a matter of urgency within the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development strictly monitor and ensure that materials and funds made available by donor agencies for such purposes are utilized to the core, rather than conniving with the aid officials to syphon the aid. This will go a long way at ensuring self-reliance, sustainable livelihoods and independence of the internally displaced persons in North East Nigeria.

Also Adequate security mechanism of Joint Task Force should be put in place at the camp sites to relax the apprehensive minds of the IDPs while there, and also, security escorts should be provided to accompany humanitarian agencies in carrying out their duties.

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