Civil Unrest, Insurgences and the Challenges of Community Displacement in Sub–Saharan Africa: A Silhouette of selected states in Nigeria

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Abstract

Global efforts at managing community displacement have concentrated more on refugees than internally displaced persons (IDPs), yet the latter equally constitute a challenge to global civilization. This study therefore, examines the everyday problem of insurgences and community displacement in Nigeria. It examines these in Adamawa, Bornu and Yobe state having explored secondary data. Of 678,713 IDPs officially registered in these states as at the year 2014, findings showed that female accounted for 68.0% while the proportions of children and aged were 48.0% and 32.0% respectively. The proportion of IDPs whose spouse died as a result of insurgences was 37.0%. While 8.0% of the children lost both parent, findings showed that 78% lost their source of income to insurgences. Findings showed that Boko Haram's brutality remained the significant cause of community displacement in the study area. Nonetheless, inter-communal, religion conflicts, forced eviction and natural disasters have also caused some displacements. Community displacement remains serious issue in Nigeria that, given the sheer scale of the present disasters, has fundamental implications for the future well-being of Sub-Saharan Africa. Policies towards addressing these problems are discussed.

Keywords: Civil unrest, Community Displacement, Internally Displacement Persons (IDPs), Sub–Saharan Africa, Insurgences, Boko Haram.

Introduction

Civil unrest is a term that is typically used in law enforcement to describe disorders caused by a person or group of people (Schurink, 1990). It is typically a symptom of, and a form of protest against major socio–political or economic problems in a state. Examples of civil disorder include: parades, sit–ins and other forms of obstructions like rallies, marches, riots, sabotage, among others. Civil unrest is typically intended to be a demonstration to the government, but can escalate into insurgency (Black, 2007). Insurgency is a violent move by a person or group of persons to resist or oppose the enforcement of law or running of government or revolt against constituted authority of the state or of taking part in insurrection (Inchi, 1996). According to Ladan (2012), insurgency, as describe by Inchi becomes an offense, at least in the Nigerian context when (a) it constitutes an attack on unarmed civilians resulting into injuries, loss of lives and property as well as forced or massive internal displacement of people out of their habitual

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places of residence;(b) it drives local and foreign business/investors away from the nation; and (c)it constitutes the elements of treasonable felony, terrorism, murder, crimes against humanity and genocide.

Whenever it occurs, insurgency usually has two major characteristics; crime and an act of human right violation. Insurgency is a crime because it is a pattern of internal disturbances and tensions that poses serious problems of public safety and public order for the relevant authorities, which can eventually lead to situations that threaten the life of a nation and tempt the government in power to proclaim a state of emergency. In the above circumstances, insurgents could possibly be prosecuted for treasonable felony, terrorism, murder, crimes against humanity and genocide. Furthermore, insurgency constituting any of the above crimes violates the constitutional and internationally guaranteed human rights to life, human dignity, and liberty, freedoms of movement and religion, conscience and thought among others (Ladan 2012).

It is internationally recognizable that civil unrest or/and insurgency has posed serious problems of public safety and order for the Nigerian authorities in recent years. This has even led to situations that threaten the life of the nation, the unity of the country and its continued existence as a sovereign state. With a population of about 130 million and more than 250 ethnic groups, Nigeria is Africa's most populous nation with a multitude of religious, ethnic and political differences that periodically erupt into unrest and insurgences. This has created a sizeable, notwithstanding, unstable internally displaced population particularly since the return of democracy in 1999.According to Osagie (2015), Nigeria has one of the highest rates of internal violence in the world and this is driven by ethnic and religious tensions. Between 1999 and 2006 alone, over 50000 were killed in ethno-religious violence and over 80000 displaced (Osagie, 2015).

This explosive development could be seen for example in the Jukun-Tiv crisis in the north central to the Niger-Delta militancy in the South and the increase in terrorists' attacks and abductions throughout the north-east. In addition, the semi-nomadic cattle-herders and settled farmers' conflict has consistently claimed several lives and saw many people displaced from their homes particularly in Middle Belt states are also responsible for continued instability. Besides, polls in Nigeria also come with civil unrest. For instance, Nigeria's presidential election conducted on 16 April 2011 turned violent when the outcomes of the election started coming out on 17 April, 2011. Violent protests were recorded mostly in the northern part of Nigeria. Supporters of different candidates took to major streets in the north, especially in Kano, Kaduna, Bauchi, Gombe, Niger and Borno States, protesting the outcome of the election. Property including houses and vehicles was burnt while many lives were lost and others were displaced.

Displaced persons under international law are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obligated to flee or to have cause to leave their homes or place of habitual residence in particular, as a result of or in order to avoid the effect of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and they must have either remain within their own national borders (as internally displaced persons) or they must have crossed an internationally recognized state border (as refugees) (Ladan, 2006). From this definition therefore, displaced persons are of two categories: Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). However, the focus of this study is on the latter. IDPs are people that have been forced from their homes for many of the same reasons as refugees, but have not crossed an international border. They

are sometimes called 'internal refugees', but are more often known as internally displaced persons.

Notably, global efforts at managing displacement have concentrated more on refugees than IDPs, yet the latter equally constitute a challenge to global civilization. IDPs are frequently in a more distressed situation than refugees. They most time outnumber refugees yet no international agency has a formal mandate to aid them until recently when they are increasingly at the forefront of the humanitarian agenda. The plight of displaced persons has in recent years become a daunting problem of global significance and implications (Ladan, 2001). The total number of displaced persons is currently estimated to be around fifty million worldwide, with the majority of these people in Africa and Asia (Oduwole & Fadeyi, 2013). A report by the Internal Displaced Monitoring Centre (IDMC) and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), "Global Overview 2014: people internally displaced by conflict and violence," stated that out of the 33 million internally displaced persons all over the world, Africa accounts for about 50 per cent (16.5 million) of the total as at May 2014while Sub-Saharan Africa hosts about 15 million, with an increase of 7.5% between 2013 and 2014. The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Nigeria was approximately a third of the IDPs in Africa. The report said that in 2013 alone, 470,500 persons were displaced in Nigeria and that was the third highest in the world, after Syria and Colombia with highest and second highest displaced persons respectively.

Situations of internal displacement in sub-Saharan Africa are complicated by the fact that the governments simply lack the capacity to protect citizens effectively when violence or disaster erupts. At the same time, international actors, being aware of national sovereignty, or influenced by geopolitical or other concerns, are often unable or unwilling to fill the protection gap in a coordinated way that is timely and sufficiently effective. Possibly, no situation illustrates these complexities better than Nigeria since the end of military rule and the return of democracy in 1999. This situation took a dramatic turn in 2011 as many were displaced during post-electoral protests. An inter-agency assessment mission that took place in 2014 showed that the number of IDPs was about 847,000 (National Emergency Management Agency "NEMA", 2014) while at least 150,000 to take refuge in neighbouring Chad, Niger and Cameroon.

IDPs are living in a precarious situation not only in Nigeria, but in other parts of the World where there are displacement crises. IDPs face a range of threats to their physical safety, health and deprivation of basic quality of life. Among IDPs in camps in Nigeria, there have been several claims of sexual assaults accompany with all sort of infectious diseases. Furthermore, there have been quite a few outbreaks of transmittable diseases associated with poor food, protection, security, water and sanitation as well as shelter. As at the beginning of 2014, about 86000 children under five have been admitted for the treatment for severe acute malnutrition and diseases associated with water and sanitation. There are physical health complaints and clinical mental health as well as environmental problems. These are important issues that, given the sheer scale of the crisis, have fundamental implications for the future well-being of Nigeria, Africa and the global civilization.

Despite these profound effects, surprisingly, little attention has been paid by the Nigerian government, national and international aid agencies to the physical, psychological, social and environmental impacts of being a displaced person. This article

therefore, focuses on insurgences, displacement crises and the situation of IDPs in Nigeria. Particular emphasis is on three states in the north east geo-political zone of the country, namely; Adamawa, Bornu and Yobe. This article outlines the number of IDPs in order to design effective policies and programmes. The number is further disaggregated by age, gender and other key indicators so that the specific attentions of different groups are taken into consideration. This study further gives attention as to proportions of IDPs that are uprooted by armed conflict, violence or by natural disaster or by development projects. Besides, the present study identifies some of the basic challenges facing IDPs as well as ways in which their needs can be effectively met. It is believed that this study will help government and concerned bodies in developing means of meeting special needs of the IDPs.

Nigeria, Insurgences and Internal Displacement Crises

Nigeria is located on Latitudes $4°$ 0' to $14°$ 0' North and between Longitudes $2°2'$ and $14°30'$ East. It has a total area of 923,768 km^2 making it the World's 32nd-largest country. To the north, Nigeria is bounded by the Niger Republic and Chad; in the West by the Benin Republic, in the East by the Cameroon Republic and to the South by the Atlantic Ocean. Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa. Almost one in four Sub-Saharan people reside in Nigeria, making it Africa's most populous country**.** It also has largest economy in the continent. It's also the seventh most populous country in the world. From an estimated 42.5 million people at the time of independence in 1960, Nigeria's population has more than quadrupled to 186,988 million people in 2016. More than half are from three main ethnic groups which comprises of the Hausa/Fulanis in the north, Igbos in the southeast and Yorubas in the south-west. The rest are divided into nearly 400 other groups (Mustapha, 2006). The United Nations anticipates that Nigeria will become the third largest country in the world by 2050 with 399 million people (United Nations, 2015).

Administratively, the country, at present is divided into 36 states (*See Figure 1*). These states were further subdivided in six (6) geopolitical zones. The division includes South East (Abia, Anambra, Eboyi, Enugu and Imo); South-South (Akwa-Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River, Delta, Edo and Rivers); South West (Ekiti, Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Osun and Oyo); North East (Adamawa, Bauchi, Bornu, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe); North West (Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Sokoto and Zamfara) and North Central (Benue, Kogi, Kwara, Nassarawa, Niger and Plateau). There are huge territorial, population and economic disparities between the country's thirty six (36) states and geopolitical zones. Northern Nigeria consists of 19 out of 36 states in the country.

The region is divided into three (3) geo-political zones of North-West, North-East and North-Central. When compared with other region, Northern region is a region characterized in the last ten years by violent, ethno-religious and political conflicts and rising violent crimes resulting into socio-economic and political insecurity (Ladan, 2012). In terms of absolute poverty line by geo-political zone, the North-East has retained the title of the poorest zone in Nigeria since 1985, with the highest incidence of poverty (Ranging between 54.9% – 72.2%). Next to this are the North-West and North-Central (National Planning Commission 2006 and National Bureau of Statistics, 2006). Recently, the North-East is reported to be the home of the state with the highest unemployment rate in the Federation with Yobe State accounting for 60.6% as at the end of 2011 (National Bureau of Statistics, 2011).

Figure 1. Map of Nigeria indicating the 36 States and FCT
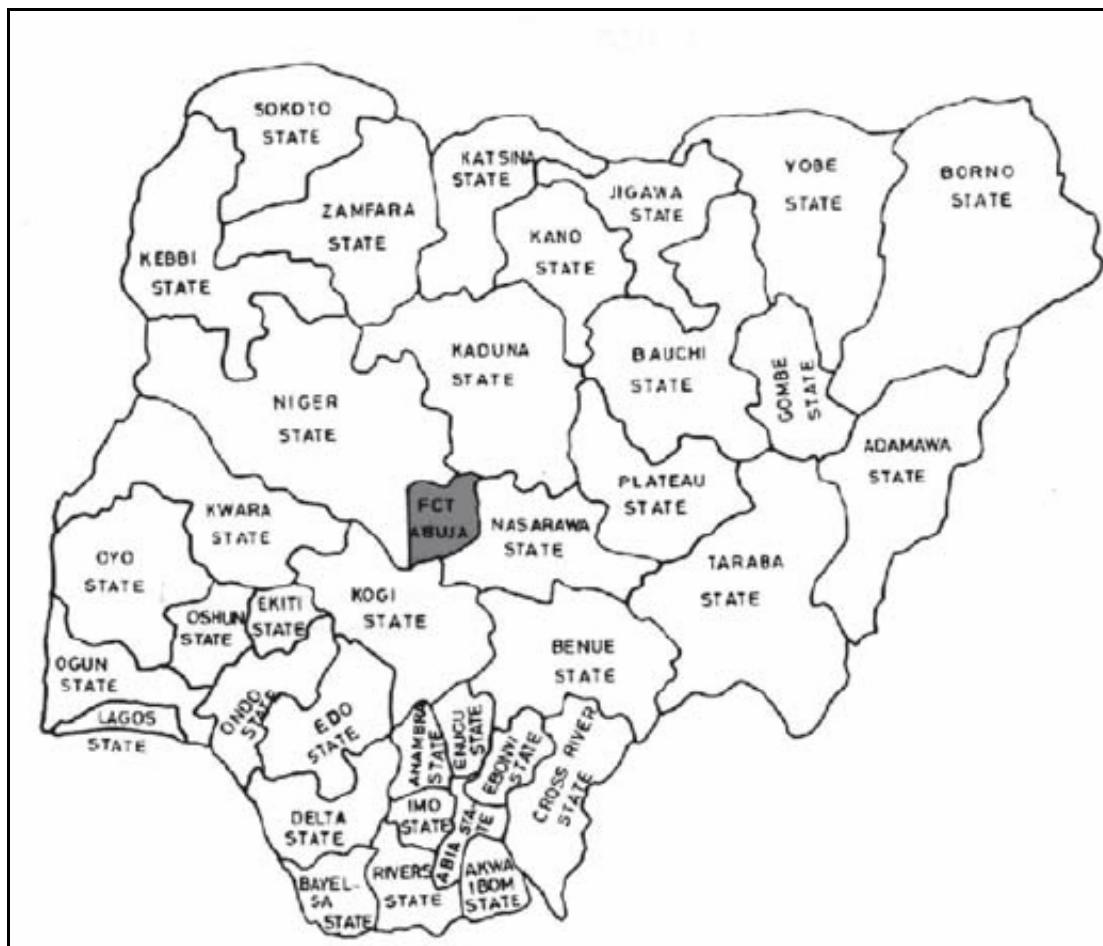
On internal displacement crisis in the country, there are complex causes, phases and types. First, Nigeria is prone to frequent flooding particularly in lowlands and river basins where vulnerable communities live in unplanned informal settlements. Displacement is caused not only by the rains and overflowing water courses, but also by the mismanaged release of water from dam reservoirs, both in Nigeria and countries upstream such as Cameroon. The country suffered its most devastating floods between July and October 2012, displacing millions of people on the vast plains of the Benue and Niger rivers and their tributaries across 33 out of the 36 states in the country (IDMC, 2014). In 2013, floods displaced 117,000 people from many of the same areas, with Bauchi, Kogi and Zamfara states worst affected (IFRC, 2013; OCHA, 2013 in IDMC 2014).Flooding caused by heavy rainfall in Anambra, Cross Rivers, Delta and Oyo states in June 2014 caused at least 20 deaths and loss of public infrastructure and more than 100 homes (Floodlist, June 2014; July 2014 in IDMC 2014).

In addition, thousands of people have been displaced as a result of desertification and outbreak of diseases (IDMC 2014). It has been noted that desertification caused by increased pressure on the environment drives displacement in at least 11 northern states (This Day, 16 August 2014 in IDMC 2014). Many of the same areas are also affected by

inter communal conflict and the activity of armed groups. Since year 2000, more than one million urban Nigerians, mainly slum-dwellers have been forcibly evicted from their homes since 2000. This was notably in Abuja, Lagos and Port Harcourt. Evictions were sanctioned by governments for the purpose of security and urban renewal (IDMC 2014).

There are different conflicts and unrests experienced in Nigeria. First, religion unrest between the two major religion groups (Islam and Christianity). For instance, clashes between Muslim and Christian gangs triggered by disputed local government election kill at least 700 people in Jos. Also, in November 2008, three gunmen attack the congregation in Biu Town, in Borno state. In Jos as well, the Christ Chosen Church is attacked wounding 41 people (Cutler, 2012). Second, is communal violence that is usually triggered by competition between local farming communities and nomadic herdsmen. This has plagued this region of North east for many years and is spreading to other states in northern Nigeria. Third, political unrest which is usually influenced by partisan interests or political ideology. Fourth, labour unrest where industrial actions in which members of a workforce obstructs the normal process of business and generates industrial unrest. Fifth, social unrest which started as a result of social injustice in the social status and degrading environment of the inhabitants due to extraction of crude oil in the region.

Nigeria accounts for about 13% of Africa's people internally displaced by conflict and generalized violence as at January 2011. In fact, between October 2010 and October 2011, NEMA accounted for a total of 377701 IDPs in Nigeria. As at 2013 alone, 470500 persons were displaced in Nigeria and that was the third highest in the world as at that time. According to (NEMA 2014), north east region is the zone with the highest number of IDPs totaling 11,360 in the first quarter of 2012 and with the third highest number of forced displacement of internally displaced persons (IDPs) (about 22% or 82,000, North–West with 31% or 116,207 and North-Central with 42.4% or 162,281 out of 377701). This upsurge was due to identity-based conflicts such as ethno–religious and political conflicts and violent clashes between the religious militia/armed group and government forces. Hence within this period of coverage, the North accounted for 95% of IDPs in Nigeria (NEMA 2014).

An inter-agency assessment mission that took place in May 2014 showed that in the northeast states alone (*See Figure 2*); the number of IDPs had reached almost 847000. At this same time, a report by the Internal Displaced Monitoring Centre (IDMC) and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) stated that the number of internally displaced persons in Nigeria was approximately a third of the IDPs in Africa and ten per cent (10%) of IDPs in the world. These figures do not include internal displacement induced by development projects that are regulated by states. The 2014 assessment mission showed that in Bornu, Adamawa and Yola alone (*See Figure 3*), the number of IDPs had reached almost 647000. This is approximately 70 per cent of the IDPs in the country. Besides, these three states have been one of the world's largest concentrations of human displacement and suffering in recent times and whose sheer enormity is almost unimaginable (NEMA 2014).

A large percentage of affected people are now living in camps and host communities within or outside their states. Concerns now are that the humanitarian state of affairs of IDPs is fluid and chaotic. The psychological effects of this on the affected people will mostly likely generate considerable Post–Traumatic Stress Disorder. There is therefore, the need to understand the present state of affairs and generate critical data on all aspects of the

socioeconomic life of the affected people ahead of the humanitarian planning. The analysis presented in this study therefore, reveals important of the many IDPs plights and humanitarian conditions in Nigeria.

Figure 2. Northeast States within Nigeria
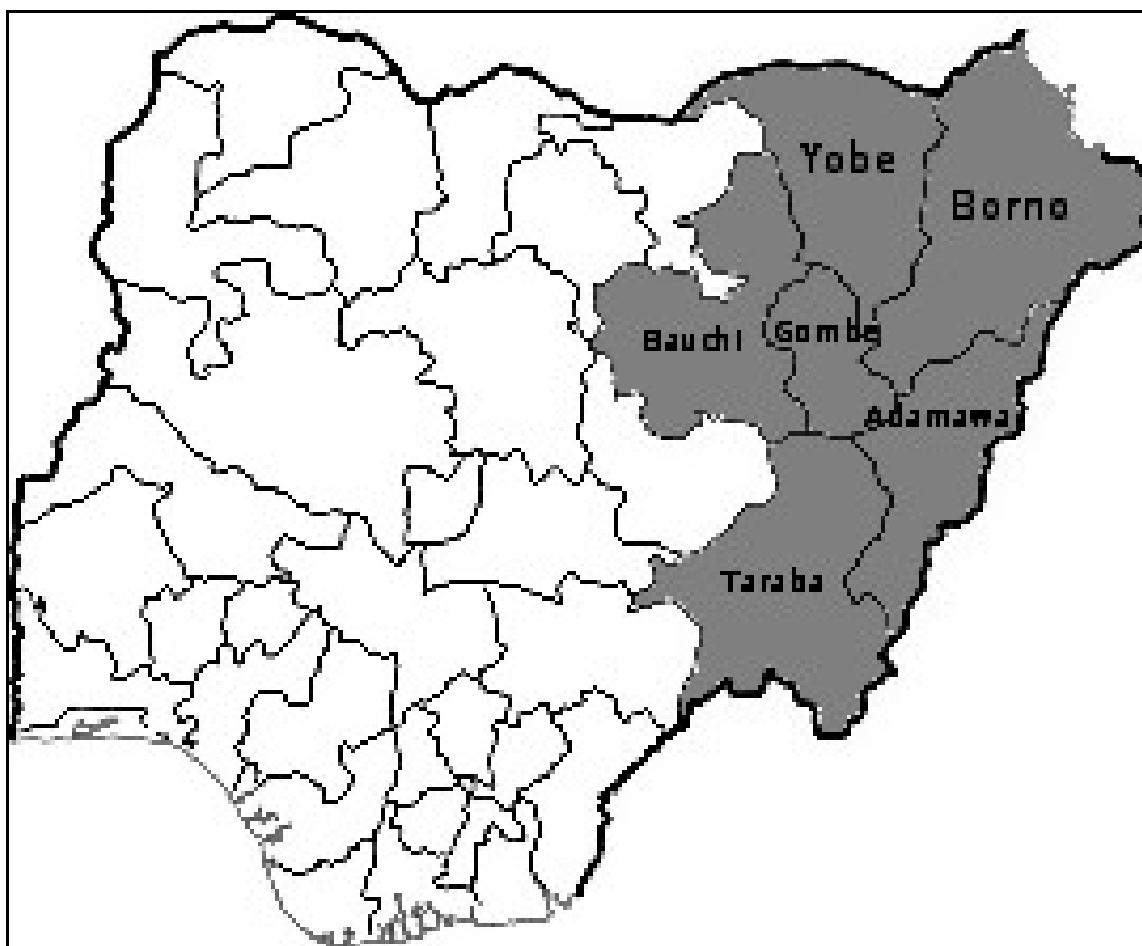
Discussion

The paper relies on information from the records of the NEMA as at December, 2014. This is the agency saddled with the responsibilities of caring for the IDPs in Nigeria. The reliability of this data is based on the fact that the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) area offices use a standardized form to collect data in camps. The standardized forms are distributed across to partnering governmental and non-governmental agencies for collection of information on the Internally Displaced Persons across the nation. The agency, then create a centralized database on IDP. In addition, the study summarizes technical reports of the office for the coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) on the challenges facing IDPs. Summary of the data retrieved is presented in Table 1. The author, then further explored the data retrieved by grouping into the socio-economic characteristics of IDPs, causes of displacement and impact of displacement on IDPs. Findings are summarized in Tables 2 and 3.

Figure 3. Selected states within the Northeast States
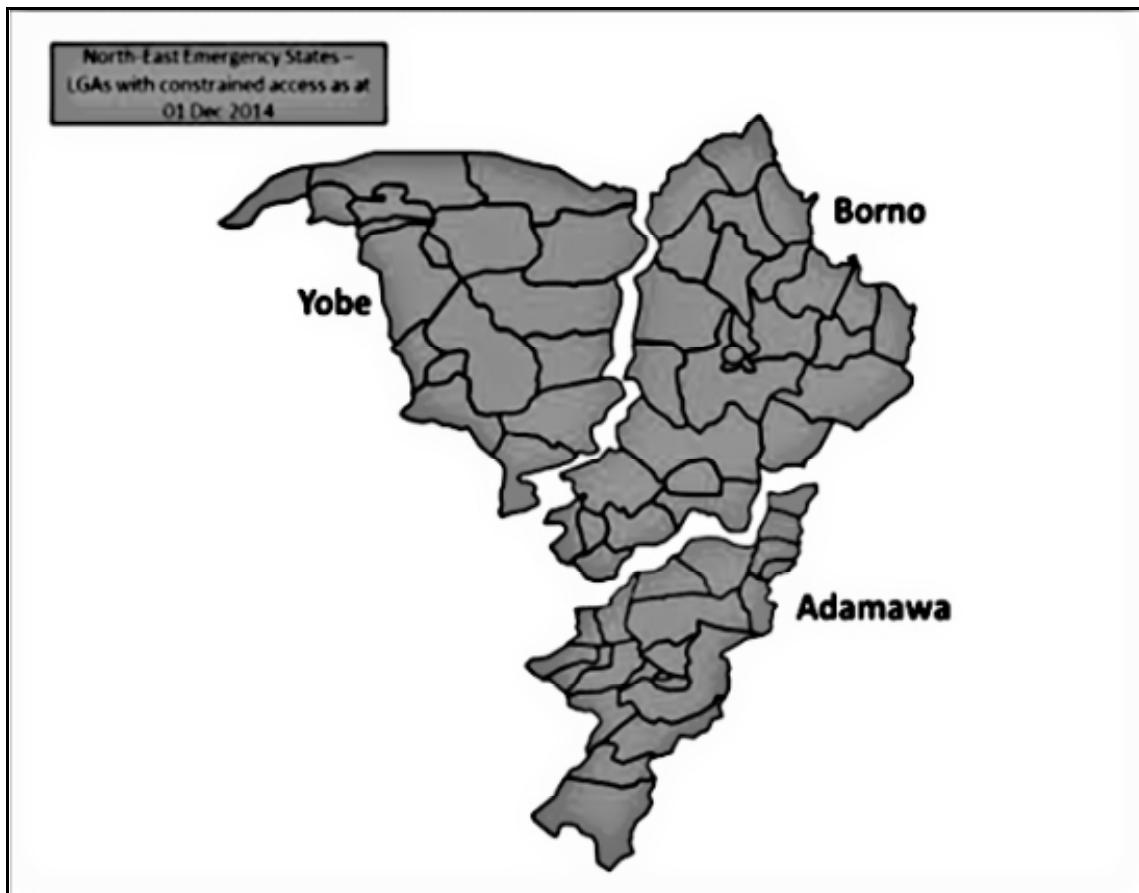
From the summary presented in Table 1, it was revealed that 678,713 internally displaced persons were officially registered in the selected states by the agency (*Note: According to the Agency, there are some internally displaced persons that could not be accounted for. This is because data collection efforts focus on camps and camp-like settings, but most IDPs find refuge with host families and communities*). The geographical distribution revealed that 24% of the total IDPs are from Adamawa while 59% and 17% were from Bornu and Yobe states respectively. Although, these three states had been noted to be highly affected by civil disorders, findings presented above showed clearly that internal displacement crisis is not evenly spread across these states but tends to have more concentration in Bornu State. The likely reasons for these figures are discussed latter in this study.

Findings on the demographics characteristics of IDPs presented in Table 2 showed that 32% were male while 68% were female. Further analysis revealed that children (0-17years) were 48.0% while youth (18-40 years) accounted for 08.0%. The proportion of IDPs who were adult (41-65 years) and aged/old (above 65 years) were 12.0% and 32.0% respectively (See Table 2). The socio-economic characteristics of IDPs showed that female and children were more affected by the unrests. This is in line with previous studies in Africa (Mooney 2005; Daudu 2010) which have revealed that the overwhelming majority of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are women and children who constitute about 80%

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of the displaced populations. They are as well widely recognized as the most vulnerable during any form of civil unrest or disorder.

Table 1. Dimension and Magnitude of IDPs in Selected States

S/N	State	No. of IDPs	%
1	Adamawa	160, 198	24.0
2	Bornu	402, 039	59.0
3	Yobe	116, 536	17.0
4	Total	678, 713	100.0

Source: NEMA, 2014.

Table 2. Socio–Economic Characteristics of IDPs

Total numbers of IDPs	Characteristics	Variable	%
678, 713	**Gender**	Male	32.0
		Female	68.0
	Age	Children (0–17years)	48.0
		Youth (18–40 years)	08.0
		Adult (41–65 years)	12.0
		Aged (above 65 years)	32.0
	Causes of Displacement	Internal Crisis (communal, ethnic political and religion clashes)	19.0
		Natural Disasters (such as flooding and outbreak of diseases)	13.4
		Boko Haram Insurgences	55.4
		Forced Eviction	10.2

Source: Author, 2016

According to the records presented in Table 2, the immediate causes of civil unrests in the selected states included internal crisis (particularly communal, ethnic and religion clashes), natural disasters (such as flooding and outbreak of diseases), Boko Haram insurgences and State-sponsored forced evictions. These respectively accounted for 19.0%, 13.4%, 55.4% and 10.2% of the causes of displacement of official IDPs registered as at 2014. It is therefore deductible that Boko Haram's brutality has caused more internal displacement than ethnic/communal crises, natural disasters and state–sponsored forced evictions combined. This study further confirmed that of Osagie (2015); Oduwole and Fadeyi (2013) and Landan (2006) that Boko Haram activities remain the significant cause of internal displacement in Nigeria in 2014. This may probably be the reason why national and international attentions have been on this militant group. However, while international attention has tended to focus on Boko Haram's brutality, evidences from

these findings clearly showed that inter-communal conflicts, flooding, and desertification as well as forced eviction have also caused significant internal displacement. Hence, these disasters overshadowed by Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria also require both national and international attentions. At this juncture, it is important to briefly account the development of this most significant insurgence called 'Boko Haram'.

The genesis of Boko Haram is connected to Mohammed Yusuf, an Islamic scholar who led a wing of radical youth scholars in the 1990s in Maiduguri. However, its origins are most commonly dated to 2002, when Yusuf and his followers, in protest against the corruption of Nigerian society, left Maiduguri for the neighbouring Yobe state. The movement tried to establish its own community where true Muslim values could be pursued, with morality police and a welfare system (a 'state within a state'). Following a conflict with the local community in 2003, the remaining followers of the movement regrouped in Maiduguri in 2004 (Loimeier, 2012). The sect was nicknamed Boko Haram in 2004 by residents of Borno State in Northeast Nigeria because of the fiery anti–Western sermons. The name Boko Haram is an alias for the Islamist sect *Jama'atuAhlisSunnaLidda'awatiWal-Jihad* (People Committed to the Propagation of the Prophet's Teachings and Jihad).

Boko Haram is essentially against the corrupt western educated Muslim elites and government. The group was also capitalizing on popular discontent with bad governance in Nigeria particularly, in the northern region of the country (Ladan, 2012). In 2009, the government took security actions on this sect because of her activities that was becoming alarming and unbearable. The leaders were captured alive, or arrested from their homes and placed in police custody, who extra-judicially executed them. The sect believes that the government took the decision to wipe out its leadership. Following the death of Mohammed Yusuf in 2009, the sect regrouped and went on what was essentially a revenge mission. The movement's radicalisation and extremism were accentuated under the leadership of Abubaker Shekau, who took over as head of the organization's core faction. Since Boko Haram re-emerged in 2010, its attacks have grown in intensity and scope. The organization has also strengthened its international linkages as the Nigerian Taliban or Yusufiyya (Loimeier, 2012). That was how Boko Haram insurgency evolved from a largely anti–corrupt western educated Muslim elites and governments, to a vengeful sect and currently a revolutionary threat to the Nigerian nation and economy (Ladan, 2012).

Boko Haram began its insurgency with assaults on members of the security services, politicians, civil servants and other authority figures in the northern states of Bauchi, Borno, Kano and Yobe. A lot of criminal and terrorist activities had been claimed by Boko Haram. These include the December 2013 attack on an air force base in Maiduguri, in which two helicopters were burnt down, and Yobe prison attack in June 2012 freeing 40 inmates. Kidnappings of western nationals for ransom have also been attributed to Boko Haram. The sect has also carried out raids on banks and money convoys in order to swell its own coffers. The group bombed buildings in Jos. It pushed further, bombing police and UN offices in Abuja in 2011, and its targets have come to include schools, churches, and parks among others. In July 2013, militants set fire to a student dormitory near Potiskum in Yobe state, burning some inside alive and shooting others as they tried to flee (IRIN, 8 July 2013 in IDMC 2014). Between 2013 and 2014, Boko Haram destroyed over 200 schools in Borno state, killing an unknown number of students and teachers (UNICEF, 23 June 2014 in IDMC 2014).

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In July 2014, Boko Haram was reported for the first time to have taken control over a city - Damboa in Borno state - setting up road blocks and checkpoints in what would represent a major strategic victory over the military. In August 2014, it proclaimed a caliphate in captured territory including ten major towns in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states (HRW, 27 October 2014 in IDMC 2014). More than 15 000 people fled as a consequence of the attack, increasing the number of internally displaced people (IDP) which is estimated to have surpassed 3.3 million since 2010. Boko Haram came into the international limelight in April 2014 after the group raided a state secondary school in Chibok, Borno State and abducted 276 schoolgirls. The abduction of these 276 teenage girls in April 2014 has been the largest single incident so far, and 219 of those captured are still unaccounted for as at the time of compiling this study.

Aside the immediate causes identified in Table 2, there are other fueling factors responsible for the development of insecurity challenges facing Nigeria. Principal is that Nigeria is a land of endemic poverty and high unemployment rate. Hence, crime is appealing to the young, unemployed and underprivileged people. For instance, Boko Haram has targeted young students of Islam called '*almajiri*'. This is a Hausa word for emigrant child; also sometimes referred to as 'street children' (Onuha 2012). Boys aged as young as six are traditionally sent away by their parents to travel between various teachers, only to end up living in poverty and appalling conditions, begging in the streets or working as child labourers. According to the Nigerian Ministry of Education, the estimated number of *almajiris* in 2010 was 9.5 million, concentrated primarily in the northern states. Due to their socioeconomic circumstances, they are particularly vulnerable to indoctrination and radicalization by religious fanaticism (Goodluck & Juliana, 2014).

Nigeria is a land of pervasive corruption. According to Human Rights Watch (2007), the endemic nature of corruption and stealing in Nigeria has led to the loss of 380 billion US Dollars between 1960-1999. It is estimated that 130 billion US Dollars' worth of illicit financial dollars to the fuel subsidy racket alone causes our national loss due to corruption to over 500 billion US Dollars between 1960 and 2011 (Global Financial Integrity Initiative 2011). This has made Nigerians not to have confidence in the state. With its appeal similarly grounded in the regional socio-political situation, insurgents (such as Boko Haram) won public support owing to people's dissatisfaction with the state. As the movement started targeting the state security forces and critiqued the state's impunity and incapability, it was able to gain some support among the public.

Disparity in income is another serious factor responsible for the development of civil unrest in the country. In Nigeria, 10% of the people own or control about 90% of the resources (World Bank 2008). In 2010, 65% of Nigeria's wealth is owned by just 20% of the population (i.e., 32 million out of 160 million). Thus, 80% of the population share between them only about one third of the nation's wealth. Nigeria is richly endowed with natural resources particularly oil and gas as well as other solid mineral resources such as gold, coal and bitumen. With a nominal Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of 280 billion US dollars in 2011, Nigeria is the second largest economy in Africa and the sixth fastest growing economy in the continent with a real GDP economic growth rate of 6.9% in 2011. Nigeria is also the largest producer of oil in Africa and the seventh largest in the world in 2011 (Central Bank of Nigeria, 2009; National Planning Commission, 2006).Despite this rich human and natural resource endowment, Nigeria's GDP per capita is only 1,200 US dollars; average life expectancy at 51.9%, average years of schooling at

5.0% rate and poverty is widespread, with about 70% of the population living below the poverty line in 2011. Hence, Nigeria was ranked as the 156 out of 187, among the "least human development" countries globally in terms of income, education and life expectancy (United Nation Development Programme UNDP 2011).

The inequality in the distribution of resources in Nigeria, child abuse and abandonment malnutrition, corruption, poverty, unemployment, destitution, lack of education and even lack of expectation after education such has identified above make some Nigerians ultimately become frustrated and alienated from their society (Badiora & Fadoyin, 2012; Badiora, 2015). All these are remote factors responsible for the development of civil unrest and insurgences facing Nigeria. The youth who constitute the majority of the urban population in Nigeria are now emerging as potential threat to the national security as growing unemployment in the urban areas has forced the youth into crime and violence (Sommers, 2003; Anyambola, 2007). This class of youth sees no one or government being interested in them, and they, have no approval reference point anymore within the legitimate society (Badiora & Fadoyin, 2012; Ladan, 2012). Therefore, organized criminal groups certainly finds them useful, and usually gives them help, protection, and an element of identification with an authority figure, but harnessing their aggressive and destructive drives for their benefit (Badiora 2015).

It is generally believed that Nigeria as a country has the potential to build a flourishing national economy, reduce poverty significantly, and provide the basic social and economic services for her population. Nevertheless, several years of military dictatorship, poor public expenditure management, dependency on oil sector and sheer corrupt deeds have work together to destabilize the country's development. To this end, criminals and militant sectarian group on the bases of ethnicity and religion have sprung up in the country. Nonetheless, the situations of the country are not, in anyway, a license for any militant sectarian group to engage in acts of terrorism and violent crime (Ladan, 2012).

The acts of insurgents crime has created enormous problem in the Nigerian society with tremendous impact on individuals, social groups, communities and the nation in general. The impacts of multiple displacement crises in the selected states on IDPs as summarized in Table 3 revealed that 85% of the IDPs had lost their house, 82% had lost asset/properties worth billions of naira while 78% lost their source of income (Jobs, Businesses and Farmland). The proportion of IDPs whose spouse (husband or wife) died due to displacement crises and civil unrests was 37.0%. Death of children (a child) and both parent was recorded in respect of 10.9% and 7.6% IDPs respectively while 34% were out of school due to displacement crises. It is evident from these findings that this development has in turned, increased the unemployment ratio and poverty in the country. At the time of filling this study, the selected states particularly Bornu has become a carcass of itself. About 60% of economy activities have shut down, not because of their inability to manage businesses properly, but because of the demonic activities of civil disorders. With daily record of killings cases, potential investors are afraid of investing in Nigeria. In fact, cases of brutality have reduced significantly foreign and home investors to North east states.

From the findings presented above, it is deducible that IDPs may often unable to exercise their basic rights to food and essential household items such as sleeping mats, mosquito nets, jerry cans, soap and cooking utensils. This is because majority has lost access to their sources of revenue. Furthermore, the destruction of property, crops and stores of food at the time of displacement is a major driver of food insecurity among IDPs.

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However, since the inception of displacement crisis, some national and international aid agencies have been working in collaboration with the Nigerian government to provide shelter, food, water, healthcare, education and employment for the IDPs. Nonetheless, given the sheer numbers of people in need, it is an extremely, and increasingly, difficult situation to manage. Attending, for example, to the complex security, healthcare and sanitation needs of such a large population represents a major challenge. Hence, challenges faced by IDPs and communities affected by displacement crises are enormous.

Table 3. Impacts of Insurgences on IDPs

Total Numbers of IDPs	Item	Percentage (%) (of the total affected)
678, 713	Loss of House	85.0
	Loss of Asset/Properties	82.0
	Loss of source of income (Jobs, Businesses& Farmland)	78.0
	Death of Spouse (Husband or Wife)	37.0
	Death of children (a child)	10.9
	Death of both Parent	07.6
	Out of school/Drop out	34.0

Source: Author, 2014. *Note: This is the percentage of the total IDPs (678,713) with respect to each item (Multiple impacts).*

According to the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) (2014), it is reported that the recent increase of IDPs has further strained household resilience to acute food insecurity as poor households are reported to be reverting to atypical and unsustainable coping strategies. According to state authorities, Adamawa State which faces stressed acute food insecurity might slip to crisis acute food insecurity as a result of the current lose of farmland and upsurge of IDPs. In many IDP communities, it is reported that meal consumption has dropped. For instance, the 2014/15 agricultural season had been severely impeded, since most of the displaced are rural farmers who fled from their farms just as the harvest season approaches. Many host families, who were also into farming, are reported to have exhausted their food stocks, which was shared with IDPs, and had turned to eating the grain they reserved for seed. Border closure with Cameroon had also affected communities depending on cross-border trade

The report also identified that water and sanitation were much-needed by affected populations and were cited among the top three priorities for IDPs. Most of the spontaneous IDP's camps like settlements springing up had no water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities and where they exist, they were inadequate and overcrowded. Most IDPs were observed to resort to open defecation in all the camps visited and sanitary conditions are deplorable. It was reported that some schools have been converted by IDPs as sleeping quarters; this has also disrupted teaching in such schools. Thus, emergency education is an urgent need in the camps and other IDP settlements. Furthermore, access

to adequate shelter is the most immediate need IDPs face in the initial stages of displacement. Health was commonly cited among the top three essentials of IDPs. Cases of diarrhea among children and reproductive health issues associated with deliveries without trained birth attendants were common health challenges facing IDPs. As a result of the loss of houses and properties, most of the IDPs had been sleeping in the open. Consequently, various protection violations were occurring to IDPs. Paramount of these violations is sexual abuse; dehumanization of women and female children such as rape, child neglect/abuse.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The paper examined insurgences and internal displacement crises in selected Northeast states of Nigeria. It also examined the IDPs plight in the study area. Findings showed that IDPs in Bornu state as at 2014 was twice as that of Adamawa and three times that of Yobe. This is expected as the state (Bornu) is the base of the Boko Haram sect from where her activities stated and gradually spread to the neighbouring northeastern states such as Adamawa and Yobe as well as some targeted places (such as motor parks and offices) in northern Nigeria and Abuja: the Federal Capital Territory. It was revealed that insurgences have increased the number of IDPs in Nigeria making the country one of the highest IDP populations in the world. Findings showed that some IDPs lost their spouse as a result of the insurgence while some children lost both parent to insurgence. Findings further showed that some IDPs lost at least a child due to the civil unrest. It was revealed that Boko Haram's brutality remained the significant cause of displacement in the study area. Nonetheless, inter-communal, religion conflicts, forced eviction and natural disasters have also caused some displacements. From the findings, it is deducible that IDPs are often unable to exercise their basic rights to security, movement, food and essential fundamental human right. Internal displacement remains a pressing issue in the selected states that requires immediate response. In fact, new situations of internal displacement continue to occur on regular basis till now. A great deal therefore, remains to be done to address displacement crises and IDPs protection and assistance needs and to find durable solutions to their plight and to prevent further displacement from taken place.

The challenges of IDPs that must be addressed include access to good accommodation or shelter, clean drinking water and nutrition, child and women protection, provision of safe spaces, structured recreational activities and psychosocial support. Furthermore, government should ensure health service provision in affected communities and provision of quality education in IDP settings. In addition, efforts should be made to increase security around and in IDPs settings as they are extremely vulnerable. It is recommended that steps be taken to improve the physical protection of displaced women and children particularly. There is need to improve upon the design of displaced persons and refugee women's settings to promote greater physical security. Measures that should be implemented include security patrols, improved lighting and physical barriers to the access to camps or IDPs settings.

Government should ensure that IDPs and affected communities participate and have access to national development initiatives that will direct or indirectly affect them. Such may include among others programmes like Resettlement plan, National Area–Based Development Programme, or the National Rural Access Programme to support local integration and return for IDPs as well as their wellbeing while waiting for durable solutions. There must be development of compressive plan for camps and resettlement so

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as to creating more liveable, resilient, integrated, connected and socially inclusive neighbourhoods. Hence, there is a need to involve the affected communities and the participation of professional such as Town Planners and allied professionals.

Efforts should be encouraged to develop and sustain a more integrated approach among international humanitarian agencies, Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) and government partners to plan and implement a comprehensive strategy for solutions for those IDPs affected by loss of livelihoods. It is laudable that national and international humanitarian bodies have made progress in recent years in terms of IDPs' protection and assistance. However, the absence of a policy framework that clearly defines roles and responsibilities has and will continue to hamper the coordination of humanitarian and development efforts to mitigate the effects of displacement in Nigeria. Such a framework is moreover, essential to a holistic approach to supporting IDPs in their pursuit of durable solutions, and to prepare for and prevent future displacement from occurring.

Since internal crisis (communal, ethnic political and religion clashes) as well as Boko Haram insurgences remain the significant causes of displacement in the selected states, there is need to address these problems. First, there is need to aggressively implement criminal sanctions with regards to these public disorder and also reinforce the weaken police and military base of the country. Second, it should be noted however, that no country has been able to contest insurgency by criminal sanctions or martial might alone without addressing the factors fuelling it. Some of the root causes of terrorism and violent acts in Nigeria that need urgent attention include poor implementation of constitutional measures to address widespread of corruption; inequities among the diverse Nigerian masses, a sense of marginalization, discrimination, exclusion and disadvantage. Other include failure by the state to effectively prevent and control crime; the proliferation of small arms and light weapons and their possession by militant sectarian and ethnic militia groups; the harmful attitude of do or die politics in Nigeria; rising unemployment rate among youths; politicization of ethnicity and manipulation of religion by the politicians for their selfish interest thereby providing a fertile ground for extremism, intolerance, ethno-religious violent conflicts and perpetual series of revengeful killings.

Besides, evidence from this study clearly showed that natural disasters (such as flooding, outbreak of diseases and desertification) have also caused significant internal displacement in the selected states. These displacement crises dwarfed by communal, ethnic, political, religion clashes and Boko Haram insurgences also require both national and international attentions. Natural disaster problem could be handled through community-based planning strategies and design guidelines that provide guidance on how the physical environment can be designed or retrofitted in response to a natural disaster assessment or identified threat level. These standards should be based upon risk assessments that reflect the specific needs of the affected community. Like previous recommendations, affected people, urban and regional planners also have a significant role to play in planning for these natural disasters causing displacement in some parts of the country. This is because history has shown that the success of a disaster management exercise is hinged on the extent to which the affected people are directly involved in its planning,, execution an imbibing in them a sense of ownership of the project. Also, threat and vulnerability assessments will be flawed if they do not incorporate basic urban and regional planning principles.

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