

## **THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS OF DISPLACEMENT IN NIGERIA- A SURVEY ON THE INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS) IN THE NORTH-EAST**

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### ***Abstract***

*The crisis of displacement has become a global phenomenon that deserves global attention. Nigeria has witnessed series of insecurity leading to displacement of persons, destruction of lives and property with its negative impact on the IDPs. This study examines the socio-economic implications of displacement in Nigeria with reference to the Internally Displaced Persons in the North-East. It reveals that the inhabitants of the North-Eastern part of Nigeria are negatively affected by insecurity leading to their displacement. While the study adopts Lee’s theory of migration as a theoretical framework, a total of 200 sample size was used for interview using judgmental sampling technique. The study reveals that the displacement has negatively affected their socio-economic condition which adversely resulted to extreme poverty, hunger, starvation and outbreak of diseases that had led to death of many. It concludes that Internal Displacement remains a drained and stumbling block in the cogwheel of national development in Nigeria, Africa and other parts of the world. While some significant displacement crises have attenuated due to the cessation of hostilities and tens of thousands of IDPs have been able to return to their original place of residence, over a million more in Nigeria remain psychologically challenged while new situations of internal displacement continue to occur. The study recommends among others that government should address the root causes of displacement by dealing with issues that lead to conflict and promoting peace and reconciliation as well as respect for human rights.*

**Keywords:** *Socio-Economic, Development, Implications, Displacement, IDPs*

### **1.1 Introduction**

The plight of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) anywhere in the world is a concern of the global community. The total number of displaced persons is currently estimated around fifty million

worldwide, with majority of these people in Africa and Asia. Human Displacement remains one of the most significant humanitarian challenges facing the world. Of the 33.3 million internally displaced persons in the world (excluding the development induced displacement), 15 million internally displaced persons can be found in Africa with an increase of 7.5% between 2013 and 2014 and Nigeria hosting over 3.300,000 IDPs (Osagioduwa and Oluwakorede 2016:194). It is however, worthy of note that millions of people have been forced to leave their homes to seek safety unfamiliar to them in the process losing their assets and in the process being exposed to untold hardship (Onaedo, Samuel and John 2017:21).

The current crises across Nigeria justify the above assertions on the displacements of persons. For instance, the menace of Boko Haram terrorist organization is causing violence leading to internal displacement in the northern part of Nigeria (Adamu and Rasheed, 2016). Thus, displacement in any environment constitutes threat to lives and property, hinders economic activities, and discourages local and foreign investors and in turn, retards human and economic development of that nation. With the Boko Haram menace, many people have been forced out of their ancestral abode because the security of their lives is not guaranteed. There are no limits to which the effects of displacement can go as it affects every facet of human life, the states and the nation in general.

In the North Eastern Nigeria for instance, the socio-economic effects of displacement which is a bi-product of insecurity on the IDPs has been devastating when compared to other regions prior to the advent of Boko Haram insurgency in the region. It has been reported that in the North Eastern part of Nigeria, 71.5% of the population lives in abject poverty, over half of the residents are malnourished, about 85% are illiterates, and 60% are formally unemployed, (Onaedo, Samuel and John 2017:30). Thus, the above facts and figures suggest that little or insufficient attention has been given to IDPs in Nigeria. Apparently, this premise is problematic in nature. Therefore, it is against the foregoing background that this paper examined the socio-economic implications of displacement in the North-Eastern Nigeria with particular reference to the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

## **1.2 Statement of Problem**

Nigeria is bedeviled with security challenges as a result of the activities of different terrorist groups in the country which has led to displacement of thousands of persons from their habitual places of residence. The situation in the North Eastern part of Nigeria is of course, not an exception to the above fact. The region is faced with the challenges melted at its people by the activities of Boko Haram insurgency which has caused forced migration of persons in the affected states who are now sheltered in the Internally Displaced Persons' Camps in different parts of the country. Worthy of note is that the IDPs' camps lack adequate security, social amenities, food, cloth, shelter and above all, adequate health care facilities. The IDPs are also exposed to so many risks such as diseases and life hazard due to the fact that they live in a crowded accommodation in the various cities they are camped. In addition, the young women among them are exposed to prostitution while children are abused with resultant consequences on their health, security and urban areas.

Thus, a number of studies have been carried out on the effects of insecurity on IDPs and the activities of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria as a whole and particularly Northern Nigeria. However, from the literature consulted so far, there have been few or no empirical studies on the socio-economic implications of displacement in the North-Eastern Nigeria with particular reference to the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) which this study sets to explore. This stands as the gap which this study sets to fill so as to engender empirical and scientific validation.

## 1.2 Objectives of the Study

The main aim of this study is to examine the socio-economic implications of Displacement in Nigeria by surveying the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the North-East.

The specific objectives are:

- 1) To examine the actual causes of Displacement in the North-Eastern Nigeria;
- 2) To study the effects of the displacement phenomenon in the North-Eastern Nigeria;
- 3) To assess the efforts of government in managing the affairs of the IDPs in the North-East

## 1.4 Research Methodology

This section basically explains the sources of data, instruments of data collection, study area and population, sampling format and study sample, method of data presentation and analysis upon which is predicated.

### 1.4.1 Research Design

This research basically adopts the Descriptive Survey Research Design. The reason is that, the study aimed at collecting data on the socio-economic conditions of the IDPs and describing it in a systematic manner. Thus, such socio-economic features aided the study to identify the present condition of the IDPs and point to their present needs. For the descriptive survey to be scientifically and successfully conducted, the following steps were followed appropriately.

### 1.4.2 Sources of Data

This study used both qualitative and quantitative data. The reason is that, the qualitative data provided analytical base for the study so as to answer the research objectives. This study used in-depth (face-to-face) interview to obtain primary data. The in-depth (face-to-face) interview was used to generate qualitative data from the IDPs, officials of NEMA and community leaders of the affected communities. Also, other qualitative data were gotten from the secondary sources such as NEMA, textbooks, journals, magazines, newspapers, internet materials and unpublished materials relevant to the research problem.

### 1.4.3 Instruments of Data Collection

Since the study is descriptively designed to use qualitative data, the instruments used for the qualitative data is interview. The study adopts opened-ended style of interview.

### 1.4.4 Study Area and Population

The study population consists of IDPs in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States. Meanwhile places such as Kaduna, plateau and Abuja were summed together as a cluster. IDPs are with an aggregate population of 1,188,018, see table 1.1

**Table 1: Population of IDPs's in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states**

S/NO	Selected States with IDPs	Population Size of IDPs
1	Borno	672,714
2	Adamawa	220,159
3	Yobe	135,810
4	Plateau, Nasarawa, Abuja, Kano and Kaduna	47,276
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,188,018</b>

Source: NEMA (2019).

The demographic characteristic of this population include male, female, literate or illiterate, young and old IDPs. Therefore, it is from this study population of 1,188,018 (see table 1.1) that the sample size was drawn from, using the appropriate sampling technique.

#### 1.4.5 Sample Size Determination Format and Sampling Method

Since the study population is known, Taro Yamane's (1976) formula will be used to determine the sample size using a significant level of 0.0025. Therefore, a total of 200 respondents were selected for the study. Having determined the sample size; the study used purposive/judgmental sampling to distribute the interview in the study areas. Thus, the respondents were selected on the judgment of the researchers that the selected persons satisfy the need of the research problem. This is why this non-probability technique was used.

In addition to ensure that the numbers of interview are proportionately distributed among respondents in each of the four IDPs cluster areas selected, the study used Bowley's (1964) formula as expressed below:

$$n_h = \frac{nN_h}{N}$$

Where:

$n_h$  = number of units that was allocated to each of the four IDPs cluster area

$n$  = the total sample size

$N_h$  = number of population in each of the four IDPs cluster area

$N$  = the population size

$$\text{Borno} \quad \frac{200 \times 672,714}{1,188,018} = 113$$

$$\text{Adamawa} \quad \frac{200 \times 220,159}{1,188,018} = 37$$

$$\text{Yobe} \quad \frac{200 \times 135,810}{1,188,018} = 22$$

$$\text{Plateau etc} \quad \frac{200 \times 47,276}{1,188,018} = 28$$

Therefore, the questionnaires were shared among the four IDPs cluster selected areas as indicated in table 2 below.

**Table 2: How the Questionnaires were shared among the IDPs in Study Area**

S/NO	The States with IDPs in the study area	Population Size	Questionnaires For Each State
1	Borno	672,714	113
2	Adamawa	220,159	37
3	Yobe	135,810	22
4	Plateau etc	47,276	28
<b>Total</b>		1,188,018	<b>200</b>

**Source:** Authors' calculation using Bowley's (1964) formula

The reason for the adoption of the Bowley's formula method of questionnaires' distribution among stratified study area is to make the study more scientific so as to avoid fallacy of proportion and bias in distributing the questionnaires among the IDPs' states.

#### **1.4.6 Method of Data Presentation and Analysis**

This study used simple percentage method of data presentation and analysis. The data were classified in percentage form using table. The essence of this technique is to provide basis for the qualitative data accordingly.

### **2.1 Theoretical Framework**

For the purpose of this study, Lee's (1966) theory of migration was applied as a theoretical framework. The main thrust of this theory is that migration is determined by the presence of attracting factors at the targeted destination which he termed pull factors, while at the repelling, push factors are at the place of origin of the migrant. Difficult variables that push the migrants to leave rural to urban areas include humanitarian crisis, armed conflicts, environmental problems that are increasingly becoming frequent due to climate change. The softer variables are poverty, social, economic, ecological and unemployment. These are salient variables that are also contributory factors in the case of North-East rural areas. Igube (2012) posited that Lee (1966) makes reference to pull and push factors. The push factors include economic factors, pressure on land in turn leading to pressure on food, especially as the population is growing; it also include poor social and economic conditions in some rural areas, lack of other amenities such as good housing, hygiene, and access to health care, education, cultural and leisure activities, poverty and harshness of life in the rural areas. Other push factors include hostile environment as a result of conflict, war, insurgency and persecution as is the case in the North-Eastern part of Nigeria as a result of Boko Haram activities, severe draughts, floods, famine, epidemics and vexation of all kinds (Conde, 1987). The North-Eastern part of Nigeria and Maiduguri in particular, the rural areas and Maiduguri metropolis as well as towns like Bama, Gwoza, Chibok, Biu and so on in Borno state and Damaturu, Buniyadi in Yobe state and Madagali, Yola and so on in Adamawa state were targeted and suffered bombings, persecution and loss of lives and property in the hands of Boko Haram insurgents since 2009. This led to forced migration of young, old, women and children to close towns and cities across Nigeria for safety and pursuit of livelihood. Some also moved to towns across border to Neighboring countries like Niger, Chad and Cameroon. The migrants were sheltered at the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camps in Maiduguri, Damaturu, Yola, Bama, Bauchi, Kano, Kaduna, Benin and Abuja. The IDPs are young, adults and particularly women and children. However, the causes of the displacement remain issues of intellectual interest.

#### **3.1 Causes of Internal Displacement in North-East Nigeria**

It is however, pertinent to at this juncture discuss some causes of internal displacement for proper understanding and clarity. The Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (2002) averred that the return to democracy in Nigeria created the propensity for competition for political opportunities. The propensity often leads to increased violence in Nigeria. Competition for resources has often been aggravated by "inter-elite" rivalries over privileges such as political and public service appointments, oversight of projects and admission into schools (IPCR, 2002). Additionally, the specific tripodal ethnic structure (with the Hausa, Yoruba and the Igbo constituting the three major groups) in Nigeria is particularly unstable and often in conflict. The interplay between the tripodal structure and communal identities has been aggravated overtime by systematic patterns of inequalities.

Furthermore, in a study carried out by Asplet and captured in Gwadabe, Salleh, Ahmad and Jamil (2018), causes of displacement were identified to include armed conflict which is a situation in which

differences between two or more states or non-state actors leading to the intervention of armed forces. Due to fear of attacks in most cases and as a result of a breakdown of the socio-economic structures during armed conflict, people are usually left with no option than to flee. There is also the problem of generalized violence which is refer to a situation of an indiscriminate spread of violence as in this case there is no specific target. Such attacks could be launched by or against unknown parties to the conflict. In a situation of such violence, majority of the mass population who are unprotected are usually vulnerable thus, fleeing for safety becomes the only option for the victims. The unleash of violence on innocent rural poor by non-state actors principally forms the major causes of internally displacement in Damaturu, Yola, Bama, Bauchi, Kano, Kaduna, Benin and Abuja and other areas that IDPs are camping due to the Boko Haram menace. The extent of the displacement and its attendant consequences obviously constitute the concern of all and sundry.

#### 4.1 Empirical Analysis of Displacement in the North-Eastern Nigeria

Using the 2019 Field Survey Data from Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states, the IDPs population is composed of 53 per cent women and 47 per cent men with 56 per cent of the whole population as children.

**Table 3 Percentage of IDPs in States and LGAs in the Study Area**

S/N	State	LGAs	Percentage
1	Borno	Bama	24.1
		Gwoza	18.6
2	Adamawa	Michika	15.8
		Madagali	21.4
3	Yobe	Geidam	19.4
		Gujba	14.7

**Source: NEMA's Records (2019)**

Going by the figure from the above table, majority of the IDPs identified in Borno state comes from the same state, mostly from Bama (24.1%) and Gwoza (18.6%) LGAs, while in Adamawa state, most IDPs come from Michika (15.8) and Madagali (21.4) LGAs. Most IDPs in Yobe state come from Geidam and Gujba LGAs.

**Table: 4**

Original State	Host State	Percentage
Borno	Bauchi	42
	Gombe	61.9
	Taraba	55

**Source: NEMA's Records (2019)**

From the survey conducted, majority of the IDPs identified in Bauchi and Gombe states come from Borno State (42% of IDPs in Bauchi and 61.9% in Gombe). In Taraba state for instance, most IDPs come from Wukari LGA (55%) which was dangerously affected by communal clashes.

The followings are the total number of IDPs identified in Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba, Yobe; and Plateau, Nasarawa , Abuja, Kano and Kaduna states as at 2017.

**Table: 5**

S/NO	State	No. of People Displaced
1	Borno	672,714
2	Adamawa	220,159
3	Yobe	135,810
4	Plateau, Nasarawa, Abuja, Kano and Kaduna	47,276

**Source: NEMA's Record (2019)**

From the table above, with the total figure of 1,188,018 IDPs, Borno state has (672,714); the highest number of IDPs, followed by Adamawa (220,159) and Yobe (135,810). 47,276 IDPs were identified in Plateau, Nasarawa, Abuja, Kano and Kaduna states. This implied that the total numbers of 1,235,294 IDPs are found in the north eastern Nigeria with the highest number found in Borno followed by Adamawa and Yobe states respectively.

#### 4.1 Data Presentation and Discussion of Findings

**Table 6: Selected Local Government Areas and Distribution of Respondents in the Study Area**

State	Impact	LGA	Male	Female	URBAN	RURAL	Unit Total
					Male	Female	
ADAWAMA	Most Affected	Madagali	6	3	5	1	137
		Michika	5	4	3	2	
	Least affected	Demsa	1	1	1	0	
		Ganye	2	2	1	0	
BORNO	Most affected	Maiduguri	9	8	6	9	113
		Bama	7	4	8	5	
	Least affected	Kwayakusar	9	11	4	8	
		Bayo	5	3	10	7	
YOBE	Most affected	Damaturu	3	8	0	0	22
		Gujba	2	7	0	0	
	Most affected	Nangere	2	0	0	0	
		Fune					
PLATEAU etc	Jos	Jos	0	0	10	14	28
	FCT	FCT	0	0	5	9	
		<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>200</b>

**Source: Researchers' compilation (2019)**

From table 6, for each LGA, the Headquarters was chosen as the urban area and then selected one rural community not adjoining the Headquarters as the rural area for the interview. The findings revealed that there is no gainsaying that the activities of Boko Haram insurgency in the North Eastern Nigeria which began since 2009 has led to loss of lives and property, breakdown of the family structure of the victims, destruction of both individual and government's infrastructures and crippling the means of livelihood in the region. This

situation of fear and insecurity according to Norwegian Refugee Council, (2017) left people with no other choice but to migrate out of the troubled areas. Thus, the study has outlined the implications of the displacement leading to IDPs as discussed below.

**(i) The Life-Saving Assistance**

The study revealed that the Internally Displaced Persons are faced with the challenge of severe food insecurity and nutrition problems with Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) level of 27.3%. In addition, 12, 871 children below five years of age were identified to be suffering from severe acute malnutrition. In 2013, the Nigerian government made official declaration of emergency on nutrition (Dunn, 2018; UN News, 2016); yet the situation is by no means improved.

In the health sector for instance, most of the medical infrastructural facilities have been closed down as a result of non availability of doctors who fled for the security situation in the region, unavailability and inaccessibility of drugs and medical equipment (Sambo, 2017). The World Health Organization Reports (2018) indicates that endemic malaria, acute respiratory infections and watery diarrhea are critical health concern bedeviling the IDPs; with malaria featuring in 50% of all the health-related cases in the IDPs camps. Furthermore, compounding to the health crisis is the problem of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH). Due to the increase in number of the IDPs in camps, the available water and sanitation facilities and structures are inadequate to cater for the basic needs of the IDPs. This lack of WASH in the views of UNICEF, (2016) increases the risk of the spread of diseases, dehydration and other related ailments among the displaced persons. That situation accounts for why Sambo (2017) opined that there is an absence of waste management and inadequate provision of essential utility such as potable water and electric power. This state of poor sanitation and hygiene explained the frequency of the outbreak of diseases such as cholera and related ailments. The IDPs that live outside the camps mostly stayed with host communities or in worship sites such as churches, mosques, and in dilapidated and abandoned buildings that are not humanly habitable.

According to the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA Report 2018), there exist an alarming number of children among the IDPs whom education was truncated by their displacement and a number of them are unaccompanied due to the death of their parents or separation during the conflict. The breakdown of the system of education in the north-east Nigeria was accelerated by the destruction of schools, killing and kidnapping of students and teachers by the insurgents. Besides, the usage of school buildings by the displaced population as shelter further affects IDPs education. Moreover, in some camps and communities where the displaced children are accessing education, the quality is poor and far below the standard due to absence of a conducive environment for teaching and learning and absence of teaching materials. In most cases, the teaching is done by incompetent volunteer teachers (Abdulazeez, 2016).

**(ii) The Issue of Protection**

The study discovered that it is worrisome to note that the condition of the IDPs in the northeast is not safe and has exposed them to many challenges of protection such as exploitation, child and gender-based violence, human trafficking, family separation and detention with no consideration of the rule of law. In the opinion of Obaji & Aloba (2016), the IDPs are sheltered under the most inhumane condition such as overcrowded camps; with few overstretched infrastructural facilities and defective or inadequate Non-Food Items (NFI), such as blankets, buckets, mosquito nets etc.



**(iii) The Issue of Durable Solution**

The study finds out that another issue of concern is that the security forces are gaining ground against the Boko Haram insurgents; but still, the IDPs expressed fear to return to their ravaged communities, as there is no assurance for safety, no clear and sustainable strategy for durable solutions in place for them. On the other hand, other affected populations by the conflict that took refuge in neighbouring countries are voluntarily or forcibly returning to Nigeria. These returnees are likely to out-weigh the already inadequate resources and widen the need gaps. As a result, it may add to the suffering of the existing IDPs and returning refugees who are now IDPs (Gwadabe, Salleh, Ahmad and Jamil, 2018). See the ravaged communities in table 7.

**Table 7: “Most affected” and “least affected LGAs in the three selected states”**

STATE	IMPACT	LGA	POPULATION	NO. OF ATTACKS	NO. OF DEATH	
ADAMAWA	Most affected	Madagali	90,159	48	999	
		Michika	155,238	15	642	
		Hong	169,183	13	459	
		Gombi	147,787	17	357	
		Mubi South	129,956	6	263	
		Mubi North	151,515	8	168	
		Adamawa North	199,674	8	144	
	Maiha	83,192	3	98		
	Least affected	Demsa	178,407	1	1	
		Ganye	169,948	2	2	
		Song	195,188	1	2	
		Adawama South	196,197	4	22	
		Girei	129,855	3	57	
	BORNO	Most affected	Maiduguri	540,016	348	7,824
Bama			270,119	104	3,636	
Gwoza			276,568	129	3,089	
Konduga			157,322	73	2,321	
Dambo			233,200	83	2,077	
Kukawa			203,343	39	1,976	
Ngala			236,498	30	1,293	
Jere			209,107	29	1,013	
Least affected		Kwayakusar	56,704	0	0	
		Bayo	79,078	0	0	
		Shani	100,989	4	63	
		Guzamala	95,991	6	81	
		Magumeri	140,257	5	82	
		Gubio	151,286	9	140	
	Hawul	120,733	21	274		
	Marte	129,409	15	311		
	Damaturu	87,706	41	930		
	YOBE	Most affected	Gujba	129,797	24	646
			Potiskum	204,866	36	367
Karasuwa			105,514	2	115	
Tarmuwa			77,667	6	108	
Geidam			155,740	7	71	
Least affected	Nangere	87,517	1	3		
	Fune	301,954	3	6		
	Gulani	103,516	3	13		
	Yunusari	125,940	2	17		
	Bade	139,804	3	22		
	Fuka	136,736	7	41		
<b>Total</b>			<b>6,653,676</b>	<b>1,159</b>	<b>29,733</b>	

Source: Field Work 2019

Looking at the nature and volatility of the study area, we selected two most affected and two least affected local government areas for this survey. The above table shows the most affected LGAs which are Madagali and Michika for Adamawa State, Maiduguri and Bama for Borno state as well as Domaturu and Gujba for Yobe state respectively. While the least affected LGAs are Demsa and Ganye for Adamawa state, Kwaya Kusar and Bayo for Borno state while Nangere and Fune for Yobe states respectively.

#### **(iv) The Absence of National Humanitarian Response Frameworks**

Based on the study's findings, it is fundamental to note that in spite of the humanitarian situation in Nigeria, there is non-existence of legislation, definite and sustainable institutional and policy frameworks in addressing internal displacement. It has impeded national and international humanitarian efforts (Gwadabe, Salleh, Ahmad and Jamil, 2018:50). This situation has no doubt, made planning, implementation, coordination and evaluation of humanitarian intervention and efforts very difficult in Nigeria. It has also affected the assigning of roles and responsibilities to humanitarian actors, which led to the clash of interests among humanitarian actors, and duplication of duties in some sectors, while other sectors are handled negligibly or inefficiently. Even the draft and yet to be implemented National Policy on internally displaced persons in Nigeria has been discredited for not having any legal status, but a mere outline of policy objectives that are not enforceable (Akuto, 2017; Itumo & Nwefuru, 2016).

In a nutshell, the inability of Nigerian government to provide a secured and safe environment for lives, property and economic activities has led to resentment and disaffection among ethnic groups. This has resulted to ethnic violence, communal clashes and religious violence in different parts of the country leading to wanton destruction of lives and property, disrupted businesses and economic activities, and retarded economic growth and development of the country causing massive displacements. There is no investor whether local or foreign that will be motivated to invest in an unsafe and unsecured environment. In a globalized world investors are not only looking for high returns on their investments but also safe haven for their investments. Thus, the alarming rate of insecurity in Nigeria has made the economy unattractive to foreign investors, and this has impacted negatively on economic growth and development.

### **5.1 Conclusion and Recommendations**

The study has established that Internal Displacement remains a drained and stumbling block in the cogwheel of national development in Nigeria. While some significant displacement crises have attenuated due to the cessation of hostilities and tens of thousands IDPs have been able to return to their original place of residence, over a million more in the North Eastern Nigeria remain psychologically challenged and new situations of internal displacement continue to occur. It is however, important to note that in contemporary Nigeria, one of the major challenges retarding socio-economic development is internal displacement of people resulting from the activities of Boko Haram, MEND, IPOB, etc.

A great deal, therefore, remains to be done to address IDPs protection and assistance needed to find lasting solutions to their plight and to prevent further displacement from taken place. There is no doubt that Nigerian government and other humanitarian partners have committed a reasonable amount of both human and material potentials in the course of ameliorating the continuous internal displacement in the north-eastern Nigeria. In spite of these efforts however, Nigerians are yet to see

and feel the impact of such spending taking into consideration the rate at which people are being displaced continually. It is also important to note that the causative effects have been identified and recognized and pertinent among them is the lack of clear policy, institutional and legal humanitarian frameworks. Therefore, there is the need for national policy backed up by legislation that would cater for the prevention, management and to address long-term issues associated with the displacement such as return, resettlement and the integration of the Internally Displaced Persons in the North East, Nigeria.

Indeed, given the magnitude and complexity of crises of internal displacement, working in partnerships with regional bodies and the international community may prove valuable to ensuring effective responses. The interplay of prompt intervention, constructive vibrant institutions embedded in the value of good governance, social-welfare and functional institutions engendering nation building and true dividends of democracy for the people should be ensued to enable aggrieved ethnic divides to chef their positions and embrace national dialogue in order to attain the desired objectives.

Also, the government should address the root causes of displacement by dealing with issues that lead to conflict, promote peace and reconciliation as well as respect for human rights. It is in this context that this paper is adjudged valid, given the empirical instance of poverty, inequality, unprecedented levels of bomb blast across the country and above all displacement vis-à-vis what development connotes.

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