THE IMPACT OF FORCED DISPLACEMENT ON PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT IN ADAMAWA STATE, NORTH-EAST NIGERIA

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Abstract

This study explores the impact of forced displacement on peace and development in Adamawa State, North-East Nigeria. Forced displacement, driven by conflict and environmental factors, disrupts livelihoods and exacerbates social and economic instability. The study examines its socio-economic effects, contributing factors, and strategies employed to mitigate its consequences. Adopting a survey design, both quantitative and qualitative methods were used, including questionnaires, focus group discussions, and secondary data analysis. A sample of 400 respondents was selected using purposive and stratified random sampling, with 293 valid responses. Findings reveal that displacement leads to loss of livelihoods, limited access to education and healthcare, inadequate housing, and social integration challenges. Key drivers include violent conflicts, insecurity, land disputes, climate change, weak governance, and ethnic tensions. Efforts to address displacement involve government agencies, humanitarian organisations, traditional leaders, and security forces. The study concludes that forced displacement significantly undermines peace and development, contributing to insecurity issues such as banditry, insurgency, and farmer-herder conflicts. It recommends that the Adamawa State Government collaborate with the Nigeria Meteorological Agency to implement an early warning system for disaster preparedness. Additionally, the state should strengthen governance, promote inclusive policies, and prioritise local peacebuilding initiatives to foster coexistence between displaced persons and host communities.

Keywords: Forced Displacement, Peace, Development Impact, Adamawa State, Conflict and Disasters.

Introduction

Forced displacement has become a pressing global issue, particularly in the aftermath of the Cold War. It refers to the involuntary movement of individuals from their homes due to persecution, violent conflict, human rights violations, economic hardship, or natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes (Salleh, Ahmad & Jamil, 2018). These factors have displaced millions worldwide, disrupting peace and development (George & Adelaja, 2022). The United Nations (UN) reported that in May 2024, 120 million people were living in conditions of forced displacement, highlighting the severity of the crisis. Similarly, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) noted that many who arrived in Europe between 2023 and 2024 were fleeing conflicts in Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Eritrea, Somalia, Darfur and Nigeria. In 2023 alone, 27.2 million people were forcibly displaced, largely due to conflicts in Sudan, Myanmar, and Gaza, worsening global instability (Smart, Amaratunga & Haigh, 2023).

Africa has been significantly affected, with the Democratic Republic of Congo experiencing one of the world's largest displacement crises, with 3.8 million people forced from their homes (UNHCR, 2023). Forced displacement often fuels further violence and

prolonged conflicts, as seen in Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Myanmar, Nigeria, and Afghanistan (Salleh, et al. 2018). In Nigeria, force displacement is driven by insurgency, banditry, kidnapping, farmer-herder conflicts, and inter-communal clashes whereas in 2021 such conflict has displaced 360,000 people (Onuegbu & Lebari, 2022). Thus, George and Adelaja (2022) argued that the above mentioned displace population was has a result Nigeria hosts approximately 90,000 refugees fleeing conflicts in the Lake Chad Basin, exacerbating the displacement crisis. Since 2009, Boko Haram's insurgency and natural disasters have made Northeast Nigeria a conflict zone, displacing over two million people, with many seeking refuge in neighbouring countries (Onuegbu & Lebari, 2022). Additionally, farmer-herder conflicts have destroyed farmland, homes, and livelihoods, contributing to food insecurity and deepening poverty (Fadare, Srinivasan & Zanello, 2024). However, Jones (2024) studies examined the links between violent conflicts, displacement, and food security in Nigeria, yet there remains a gap in understanding how forced displacement affects peace and development in Adamawa State which informed this study to address this gap by assessing the impact of forced displacement and propose measures such as early warning mechanisms and community participation to mitigate conflict and prevent disasters, ultimately promoting peace and development.

Research Questions
i. What is the socio-economic impact of force displacement on the affected population in Adamawa State?
ii. What are the factors that contribute to force displacement and its impact on peace and National Development in Adamawa State?
iii. Who are the stakeholders and strategies employ to mitigate force displacement in Adamawa State?

Objectives of the Study
i. To analyze the socio-economic impacts of force displacement on the affected population.
ii. Explore the factors that contribute to force displacement and its impact on peace and national development in Adamawa State.
iii. Ascertain strategies stakeholders, employ to mitigating force displacement in Adamawa state.

Statement of the Problem
Force displacement has force thousand to flee their home as result of conflict such as banditry, kidnapping, insurgency, farmer-herder conflict among other conflict as well as natural disaster such as flood, drought, desertification among other environmental factors. As a result, Fadare, Srinivasan, and Zanello (2024) stated that lives and property are being destroyed, exacerbating poverty and loss of livelihood that disrupts income-generating activities, leaving individuals without stable employment or access to resources for economic survival, and limiting access to education, which led many displaced individuals, especially children, to face difficulties in continuing their education due to financial constraints, lack of schools, or instability in host communities. Thus, .Jones (2024) added that forced displacement has strained healthcare services and overcrowded host communities, as well as poor living conditions, leading to increased health challenges and limited access to medical care. Additionally, many displaced individuals struggle with inadequate housing, leading to poor sanitation, overcrowding, and increased vulnerability to

diseases, as well as exacerbated tensions between displaced persons and host communities, affecting social cohesion and hindering peace and development.

Significance of the Study
The study will assist stakeholders such as government officials, security personnel, academicians, politicians, traditional and religious leaders, and community leaders to highlight the impact of forced displacement on peace and development and to understand the socio-economic impacts of forced displacement on the affected population. The study will also unravel additional factors or variables that are caused by forced displacement that impact peace and development as well as the strategies employed to mitigate forced displacement.

Scope of the Study
The scope of the study focusses on Yola south local government areas (LGA) of Adamawa State. The reason behind chosen the scope of the study is because most of the force displaced population settled in this LGA.

Conceptual Clarification

Forced Displacement: Forced displacement refers to the involuntary removal of individuals from their homes due to conflict, violence, persecution, or human rights violations. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) (2021) defined it as coerced movement resulting from such factors like conflict and natural disaster with displaced persons classified as refugees or internally displaced persons (IDPs) based on their status. According to Adesola and Peters (2024), forced displacement may be displaced within their country or beyond its borders, depending on legal recognition and protection. Similarly, UNESCO (2022) highlights armed conflict as a leading cause of displacement, often forcing individuals to abandon their homes and livelihoods.

Peace: Peace, derived from the Latin "pax," signifies harmony and the absence of conflict (Johnson, Olosanye & Lawal, 2024). It involves justice, equity, and balance, fostering stability within societies (Kurtenbach, 2024). Toussaint and Rosino (2024) argued that peace is both an internal and external condition, encompassing individual serenity and broader societal stability. Rinehart (1995) further asserted that peace requires active participation in peacebuilding initiatives to sustain harmony and prevent violence.

Development: Development entails economic growth, social well-being, and infrastructural progress (Aeran Chung, Draudt & Tian, 2024). Jamil, Aslam, and Ali (2024) describe it as a multidimensional process involving sustainable policies, governance, and equitable resource distribution. A developed society is marked by strong institutions, security, and prosperity, requiring strategic planning and active civic participation (Aeran, *et al.*, 2024).

Causes of Forced Displacement in Nigeria
Nigeria faces multiple displacement drivers, including armed conflicts, natural disasters, economic challenges, and governance failures (Olakpe, 2024). Key factors include:
i.   **Armed Conflict and Insurgency:** Attacks by Boko Haram and ISWAP have caused mass killings, destruction, and widespread insecurity, particularly in the North-East.
ii. **Farmers-Herders Conflict:** Competition over land and water has led to violence, forcing many into displacement.

iii. **Ethno-Religious Clashes:** Tensions in states like Kaduna, Plateau, and Taraba have resulted in forced migration due to communal violence.

iv. **Political Crises and Election-Related Violence:** Power struggles often escalate into violent conflicts, displacing populations.

v. **Environmental Factors:** Floods, droughts, and desertification have driven rural populations to migrate in search of habitable conditions.

vi. **Urban Expansion and Evictions:** Government policies and infrastructural projects have displaced low-income communities in cities like Lagos and Abuja.

vii. **Economic Hardships:** Unemployment and lack of basic services force migration to urban areas or across borders

Socio-Economic Impact of Forced Displacement: Force displacement disrupts livelihoods, leading to poverty and dependence on aid (Anikwudike & Agabi, 2024). Abimbola (2024) highlights its effect on education, limiting future opportunities and exacerbating poverty cycles as well as poor living conditions that increase disease risks, while loss of skilled professionals reduces productivity.

Impact of Force Displacement on Peace and Development: Forced displacement fosters tension in both origin and host communities. Bakkour (2024) noted that competition over resources often leads to conflict that forcibly displace people whereby militant groups exploit for recruitment. Thus, Gabriel and Paul (2024) stressed that force displacement strains public services, disrupts local economies, and hampers development by reducing economic output and stability which call for comprehensive policies to mitigate its adverse effects and promote long-term peace and development.

Research Methodology: This section outlines the research design, area of the study, population of the study, sampling method, sample size, data collection techniques, research instruments, and methods of data analysis.

Research Design: This research employs a survey design to collect data from both qualitative and quantitative sources. The quantitative data were obtained through a set of self-structured questionnaires administered to respondents. While the qualitative data is obtained from Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), journal, book and internet.

Area of the Study: The study focuses on Yola South, which is positioned at 9°13′48"N latitude and 12° 27′ 36"E longitude.

Population of the Study: Yola South, Local Government Area under investigation, has a projected population of 185,313 (NPC 2023). This population consists of forcibly displaced people, internally displaced persons (IDPs), farmers, pastoralists, teachers, traders, religious and traditional leaders, community leaders, local government officials, and officers of Nigeria's security agencies.

Sample Population
The study employed the Taro Yamen Formula, given by n = N / (1 + N(e)^2), to determine the sample size for the questionnaire administration from the total population 400 within the study area. In this formula, 'n' represents the required sample size from the population under study, 'N' denotes the entire population being investigated, and 'e' stands for the precision or sampling error, typically set at 0.05. To clarify, the following provides a detailed

explanation of the formula and a step-by-step calculation for determining the study's sample population.

N = the sample size
N = the population of Study
E = the margin error in calculation

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N (e)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{185{,}313}{1 + 185{,}313 (0.05)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{185{,}313}{1 + 185{,}313 (0.0025)}$$

$$n = \frac{185{,}313}{1 + 463.2825}$$

$$n = \frac{185{,}313}{463.2825.}$$

n = 399. 1
n = 399.2
Approximated 400 is the sample size.

Below is the table of sample population;

Table1: Distribution of the Sample Population to Questionnaire Administration Based on Population Figures of the Selected Town in the LGA

S/N	Study Areas	Sample Size
1	Mbamba	100
2	Maalkohi	90
3	Yolde Pate	100
4	Ngorore	110
5	**Total**	**400**

Sampling Techniques
The study used purposive and stratified random sampling techniques to explore the factors contributing to force displacement assess its impact on the socio-economic conditions, identify the stakeholders and methods involved in resolving force displacement, examine the effectiveness of the strategies used, and suggest possible ways to mitigate force displacement.

Sources of Data Collection
The source of data collection was through primary sources, which include questionnaires and FGDs, while the secondary sources include books, articles, and journals. However, 400 questionnaires were administered, and 293 were retrieved. This is because 80 copies that were distributed at the Malkohi IDP camp of Yola South could not be retrieved as a result of

security reasons, which caused the disparity. However, remaining data obtained were analysed using SPSS.

Section A

Data Presentation and Analysis

Table 1: Percentage Distribution of Respondents according to Gender

S/N	Gender	Frequency	Percentage
1	Male	195	66.6
2	Female	98	33.4
3	Total	293	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025

From Table 1 above, the majority of respondents (66.6%) are male, with a total of 195, followed by females, who make up (33.4%) with a total of 98 respondents. This indicates that males are more active participants in the study.

Table 2: Percentage Distribution of Respondents according to Age

S/N	Age	Frequency	Percentage
1	20-30yrs	33	11.3
2	30-40yrs	66	22.5
3	41-50	130	44.4
4	51-60	64	21.8
5	Total	293	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025

From the above Table 2, the majority of the age bracket respondents are 41-50, with 130 respondents representing (44.4%), followed by 30-40, with 66 people representing (22.5%), then followed by 51-60, with 60 people representing (21.8%), and the minority age bracket is 20-30 years, with a respondent of 33 represents (11.3%).

Table 3: Percentage Distribution of Respondents according to Educational Background

S/N	Qualification	Frequency	Percentage
1	SSCE	33	11.3
2	NCE/OND/Diploma	65	22.2
3	First Degree	65	22.2
4	M.A/M.Ed/M.Sc	130	44.4
5	Total	293	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025

From the above Table 3, the majority of respondents have master's degree qualifications with a population of 130 that represents (44.4%), while those with first degrees and diplomas have an equal population of 65, which represents (22%).

Table 4: Percentage Distribution of Respondents according to Marital Status

S/N	Marital Status	Frequency	Percentage
1	Widow	65	22.2
2	Married	163	55.6
3	Divorced	65	22.2
4	Total	293	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025

From the above Table 4, the majority of the respondents are married, with a population of 163, which represents (55.6%), followed by widows with a population of 65 represents (22.2%), followed by divorced participants with a population of 65, which represents (22.2%).

Table 5: Percentage Distribution of Respondents according to Occupation

S/N	Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
1	Security Personnel	33	11.3
2	Civil Servant	163	55.6
3	Private Business	65	22.2
4	Clergy	32	10.9
5	Total	293	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025

From the above Table 5, the majority of the respondents are civil servants, with a population of 163 representing (55.6 %), followed by private business with a population of 65, which represents (22.2%), then security personnel are 33, which represent (11.3%), and clergy population is 32, which represents (10.9%).

Table 6: Percentage Distribution of Respondents according to Ethnic Group

S/N	Ethnic Group	Frequency	Percentage
1	Mbula	32	10.9
2	Bachama	33	11.3
3	Fulani	98	33.4
4	Bille	66	22.5
5	Bali	32	10.9
6	Others	32	10.9
5	Total	293	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025

From the above Table 6, the majority ethnic group respondents are Fulani with 98, which represents (33.4%), followed by Bille with 66, which represents (22.5%), then Bachama with 33, which represents (11.3%), and then Mbula Bali and other ethnic groups with a population of 32 each, which represents (10.9%).

Table 7: Percentage Distribution of Respondents according Religion

S/N	Religion	Frequency	Percentage
1	Christianity	195	66.6
2	Islam	98	33.4
3	Total	293	100

Source: Field Survey, 2025

From the above Table 7, the majority of the respondents are Christian, with a population of 195, which represents (66.6%), followed by Islam, with a population of 98, which represents (33.4%).

Table 8: Research Question One: What is the socio-economic impact of force displacement on the affected population in Adamawa State?

The following above purported question is to describe the socio-economic impacts of force displacement. Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the statement:

SA=Strongly Agree. A= Agree. U=Undecide. D= Disagree. SD= Strongly Disagree

S/N	Items	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecide (U)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Mean	Std Deviation
		N	%	N	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	M	Std.D
1	Loss of Livelihoods	162	55.3	131	44.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.55	.49804
2	Limited access to education	65	**22.2**	195	**66.6**	-	-	-	-	33	11.3	3.88	1.10735
3	Strain on Healthcare Services	162	**55.3**	131	**44.7**	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.55	.49804
4	Housing and Living Conditions	97	**33.1**	98	33.4	65	**22.2**	-	-	**33**	**11.3**	3.11	1.29018
5	Social Integration and Community Relations	98	33.4	130	**44.4**	32	**10.9**	-	-	33	**11.3**	3.88	1.20399

Source: Field Survey, 2025

Table 8 item 1 shows that 162 (55.3%) respondents strongly agreed and 131 (44.7%) agreed that forced displacement leads to loss of livelihoods, with no disagreement. A high mean score of 4.55 and a standard deviation of .49804 confirm strong consensus, aligning from the FGDs civil servant state:

Force Displacement often disrupts income-generating activities, leaving individuals without stable employment or access to resources for economic survival

Table 8 item 2 shows that 62 (22.2%) respondents strongly agreed and 195 (66.6%) agreed that forced displacement limits access to education, while 33 (11.3%) strongly disagreed. A high mean score of 3.88 and a high standard deviation of 1.10735 indicate strong consensus, aligning from the FGDs community leader state:

many displaced individuals, especially children, face difficulties in continuing their education due to financial constraints, lack of schools, or instability in host.

Table 8 item 3 shows that 162 (55.3%) respondents strongly agreed and 131 (44.7%) agreed that forced displacement strains healthcare services, with no disagreement. A high mean score of 4.55 and a standard deviation of 0.63186 indicate strong consensus, collaborate from the FGDs state:

overcrowding in host communities and poor living conditions among displaced persons lead to increased health challenges and limited access to medical care

Table 8 item 4 shows that 195 (66.5%) respondents agreed that forced displacement impacts housing and living conditions, while 65 (22.2%) were undecided and 33 (11.3%) strongly disagreed. A mean score of 3.11 and a standard deviation of 1.29018 indicate broad agreement, aligning from the FGDs state that "many displaced individuals struggle with inadequate housing, leading to poor sanitation, overcrowding, and increased vulnerability to diseases".

Table 8 item 5 indicates that 228 (77.8%) respondents agreed that forced displacement impacts social integration and community relations, while 32 (10.9%) were undecided and 33 (11.3%) strongly disagreed. A mean score of 3.88 and a standard deviation of 1.20399 suggest broad agreement, correlate with findings from the FGDs conducted state:

displacement has led to tensions between displaced persons and host communities, affecting social cohesion and access to support systems. Before there is this level of trust shared relationship but since this people migrated to this community, we have been facing challenges of theft, and attack with weapon to collecting our belonging.

Table 10: Research Question Two: What are the factors that contribute to force displacement and its impact on peace and National Development in Adamawa State?

The following above purported question state factor contributes to force displacement. Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the statement:

SA=Strongly Agree. A= Agree. U=Undecide. D= Disagree. SD= Strongly Disagree

S/N	Items	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecide (UD		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Mean	Std Deviation
		N	%	N	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	M	Std.D
1	Violent Conflicts and Insecurity	98	33.4	163	55.6	-	-	-	-	32	**10.9**	4.0068	1.14973
2	Land Disputes and Resource Competition	130	44.4	98	33.4	32	10.9	33	11.3	33	11.3	4.10	.99744
3	Weak Law Enforcement and Governance	98	33.4	162	55.3	33	**11.3**	-	-	-	-	4.22	.63186
4	Climate Change and Environmental Factors	65	**22.2**	196	66.9	-	-	-	-	32	10.9	3.11	1.09438
5	Political Manipulation and Ethnic Tensions	131	44.7	130	**44.4**	-	-	-	-	32	**10.9**	4.11	1.19189

Source: Field Survey, 2025

Table 10 item 1 shows that 261 (90%) respondents agreed that forced displacement contributes to land disputes and resource competition, while 32 (10.9%) strongly disagreed. A mean score of 3.88 and a standard deviation of 1.20399 indicate broad agreement that land disputes and resource competition contribute to forced displacement. These findings corroborate from the FGDs conducted with community leaders, state:

> ethnic clashes, farmer-herder conflicts, insurgency, and banditry force
> people to flee their homes, leading to instability and disrupting national
> development.

Table 10 item 2 shows that 228 (77.8%) respondents agreed that land disputes and resource competition contribute to forced displacement, whromile 66 (22.6%) disagreed or were undecided. A mean score of 4.10 and a standard deviation of .99744 indicate varied responses, reinforcing that land disputes and resource competition contribute to forced displacement. These findings, collaborate from the FGDs state:

> struggles over land ownership, water resources, and grazing areas often
> lead to violence, forcing communities to relocate and undermining
> agricultural and economic productivity.

Table 10 item 3 shows that 260 86.8% respondents agreed that weak law enforcement and governance contribute to forced displacement, while 33 11.3% were undecided. A mean score of 3.11 and a standard deviation of .63186 indicate minimal variation, reinforcing findings that weak law enforcement and governance contribute to forced displacement.

These findings corroborate from the FGDs state: the inability of authorities to prevent or respond effectively to conflicts contributes to displacement and weakens trust in government institutions, affecting peace and development.

Table 10, item 4, shows that 65 respondents 22.2% strongly agreed, while 196 69.9%agreed that forced displacement results from climate change and environmental factors. Only 32 10.9% strongly disagreed. The high mean score 3.11 and low standard deviation 1.09438 indicate strong consensus. This finding correlates from the FGD conducted with a private business owner who state:

> floods, droughts, and desertification reduce arable land and force
> communities to migrate in search of better living conditions,
> increasing pressure on host communities and national resources.

Table 10, item 5, shows that 131 respondents 44.7% strongly agreed, while 130 44.4% agreed that forced displacement contributes to political manipulation and ethnic tensions. Only 32 10.9% strongly disagreed. The high mean score 4.11 and low standard deviation 1.19189 indicate strong consensus, confirming minimal variation in responses. This finding correlates from the FGD conducted with a civil servant state:

> politicians and interest groups sometimes exploit ethnic or religious
> divisions for personal or political gain, escalating tensions and
> contributing to forced displacement.

Table 11: Research Question Three: Who are the stakeholders employ to mitigate force displacement in Adamawa State?

The following above purported question states the stakeholders employ to mitigate factor force displacement in Adamawa State. Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the statement:

SA=Strongly Agree. A= Agree. U=Undecide. D= Disagree. SD= Strongly Disagree

S/N	Items	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecide (UD		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Mean	Std Deviation
		N	%	N	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	M	Std.D
1	(Adamawa state emergency management agency ADSMA)	162	55.3	131	44.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.55	.49804
2	NGOs and International Agencies	130	44.4	163	55.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.10	.99744
3	Traditional and Religious Leaders	130	44.4	98	33.4	-	-	-	-	65	**22.2**	3.7782	1.54895
4	Community-Based Organisations (CBOs	98	33.4	195	66.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.33	.47261

5	Security personnel such as Police, military and NSCDC	132	45.1	161	54.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.45	.49840

Source: Field Survey, 2025

Table 11, item 1, shows that 162 respondents (55.3%) strongly agreed, while 131 (44.7%) agreed that the Adamawa State Emergency Management Agency (ADSMA) mitigates forced displacement. No respondents disagreed. The high mean score (4.55) and standard deviation (.49804) indicate strong consensus, reinforcing ADSMA's key role in addressing displacement. his finding correlates from the FGDs conducted with a civil servant state:

> ADSMA, Government Agencies Federal, State, and Local Governments provide relief materials such as shelter, drugs, food and other social amenities to force displace person even though some of this relief material dont reach them in time.

Table 11, item 2, shows that 130 respondents (44.4%) strongly agreed, while 163 (55.6%) agreed that NGOs and international agencies mitigate forced displacement. No respondents disagreed. The high mean score (4.10) and standard deviation (.99744) indicate strong consensus, confirming that these organisations play a key role in addressing displacement. This finding correlates from the FGDs conducted with a community leader state that "provide emergency relief, including food, shelter, and medical aid to displaced persons".

Table 11, item 3, shows that 130 respondents (44.4%) strongly agreed, while 98 (33.4%) agreed that traditional and religious leaders help mitigate forced displacement. Only 65 (22.2%) strongly disagreed. The high mean score (3.77) and low standard deviation (1.54895) indicate strong consensus on their role in addressing displacement. This finding correlates from the FGDs conducted with a religion leader state that:

> mediate conflicts and promote peaceful coexistence between conflicting groups and accommodate the force displaced people into their community.

Table 11, item 4, shows that 98 respondents (33.4%) strongly agreed, while 195 (66.6%) agreed that community-based organisations (CBOs) help mitigate forced displacement. No respondents disagreed. The high mean score (4.33) and standard deviation (.47261) indicate strong consensus, confirming the crucial role of CBOs in addressing displacement. This finding correlates from the FGDs conducted with some of the members of the community member who state that "CBOs engage in local peacebuilding initiatives and dialogue among communities to enhance peace and development".

Table 11, item 5, shows that 132 respondents (45.1%) strongly agreed, while 161 (54.9%) agreed that security personnel—police, military, and NSCDC—are key stakeholders in mitigating forced displacement. No respondents disagreed. The high mean score (44.45) and standard deviation (.49840) indicate strong consensus. This finding correlate with FGD conducted with some of the members of community who state:

> security personnel are often deployed at the force displace community and camp for protection of lives and property and orderliness

Discussion of Findings

The study's findings reveal key demographic trends among respondents. Table 1 indicates that male respondents form the majority at 66.6%, while females make up 33.4%. Table 2 shows that most respondents (44.4%) fall within the 41-50 age group, followed by 30-40 years (22.5%), 51-60 years (21.8%), and 20-30 years (11.3%). Table 3 highlights educational qualifications, with 44.4% holding a master's degree, while those with first degrees and diplomas each account for 22%.

Table 4 presents marital status, showing that 55.6% are married, 22.2% are widowed, and 22.2% are divorced. Table 5 indicates that 55.6% are civil servants, followed by private business owners (22.2%), security personnel (11.3%), and clergy (10.9%). Table 6 shows that the dominant ethnic group is Fulani (33.4%), followed by Bille (22.5%), Bachama (11.3%), and Mbula, Bali, and others (10.9% each). Table 7 reveals that Christians constitute 66.6% of respondents, while Muslims account for 33.4%.

Table 9 shows that forced displacement has severely impacted livelihoods, leading to loss of income, extreme poverty, and destitution. This aligns with George and Adelaja (2022), who found that displacement exacerbates poverty. The study also highlights limited access to education, as financial constraints and instability hinder schooling, corroborating Jones (2024). Healthcare services are strained due to overcrowding, poor sanitation, and disease outbreaks, consistent with Olakpe (2024). Housing conditions are also affected, with inadequate accommodation and sanitation challenges increasing vulnerability.

Table 10 indicates that forced displacement has contributed to violent conflicts and insecurity, worsening ethnic clashes, farmer-herder conflicts, and insurgency. This supports findings by Odalonu and Obani (2018), who linked displacement to rising violence. Land disputes and resource competition further escalate tensions, undermining peace and development, as noted by Olakpe (2024). Weak law enforcement and governance also contribute, with authorities struggling to prevent or respond to conflicts effectively, leading to a loss of public trust. Aeran Chung, Draudt, and Tian (2024) found that weak governance allows communities to take the law into their hands, escalating conflicts.

Environmental factors such as floods, droughts, and desertification also drive displacement by reducing arable land, forcing migration, and increasing pressure on host communities. Political actors and interest groups exploit ethnic and religious divisions for personal gain, fuelling conflicts and displacement, as highlighted by Anikwudike and Agabi (2024).

Table 11 outlines measures taken to mitigate forced displacement. Agencies such as the Adamawa State Emergency Management Agency (ADSMA), the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), and local authorities provide essential relief, aligning with Jamil, Aslam, and Ali (2024). Humanitarian organisations, including NGOs and international agencies, support these efforts by distributing necessities to displaced persons. Traditional and religious leaders play a key role in conflict mediation and fostering peaceful coexistence, a view supported by Abimbola (2024). Community-based organisations engage in peacebuilding initiatives, while security forces, including the police, military, and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, work to prevent conflicts and protect lives and property.

Summary

Examining force displacement and its impact on peace and development in Adamawa State North East Nigeria. 400 structure questionnaires were developed and distributed in Yola South LGA 293 were retrieved. The Biodata of the respondents indicate that majority of the

respondent are male represent 66.6 % while the age bracket of the majority respondent 41-50 representing 44.4 %, the majority of respondents has qualification of master degree representing 44.4 % and majority respondents are married with 55.6% also majority are civil servant with 55.6%, while majority of the ethnic group are Fulani represent 33.4% and the majority religion respondents that participated are Christian with 66. 6%. Majority of the respondents indicate that force displacement as result to loss of livelihood, limit access to education, strain to healthcare service, housing and living conditions as well as social integration and community relations furthermore, the findings revealed that factors contributing to force displacement that impact peace and development are violent conflicts and insecurity , land disputes and resource competition, weak law enforcement and governance, climate change and environmental factors and political manipulation and ethnic tensions, while stakeholders employ to mitigate force displacement are Adamawa state emergency management agency and other government agencies, humanitarian organisations, traditional and religion leaders, community base organisation and security personnel.

Conclusion

From the results of this study that examining the impact of force displacement on of peace and development in Adamawa state north east Nigeria. Force displacement as led to loss of livelihood, limit access to education, strain to healthcare service, housing and living conditions as well as social integration and community relations furthermore, the findings revealed that factors contributing to force displacement that impact peace and development are violent conflicts and insecurity , land disputes and resource competition, weak law enforcement and governance, climate change and environmental factors and political manipulation and ethnic tensions, while stakeholders employ to mitigate force displacement are Adamawa state emergency management agency and other government agencies, humanitarian organisations, traditional and religion leaders, community base organisation and security personnel. Thus, force displacement has exacerbated insecurity like insurgency, banditry, kidnapping sexual assault as other form of criminality in the host community which has hindered peace and development with the study area and the state at large.

Recommendation

i. The Adamawa State Government should work in synergy with the Nigeria Meteorological Agency to create an early warning mechanism system to provide weather and climate change services for foreseen natural disasters and educate people on activities that can cause environmental disasters.

ii. The state executive council should strengthen governance and inclusive policies to address conflicts arising from force displaced people and host communities

iii. The Adamawa state government should partner with the Ministry of Humanitarian and Disaster Management for robust resettlement programs that prioritise social integration, community engagement, and economic opportunities for displaced persons.

iv. The Adamawa state governor should prioritise local peacebuilding initiatives that involve both displaced and host communities to significantly reduce tensions, and promote coexistence.

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