



# The Impact of Insecurity on Human Security in North East Nigeria

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| Abstract |  | Original Research Article |
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The pervasive insecurity in the North East Nigeria still lingers with its devastating effects on human security(all aspects of life). A region replete with desertification, drought, shrinking of the Lake Chad as a result of climate change, leaves people to force migrate to safer haven. Crop Farmers, Pastoralists, unskilled labour providers lose their livelihood and their abode. The prevalence of crop farmers-pastoralist violent conflict over land resources resulting from withered vegetation. Boko Haram Insurgency is another strand of the insecurity that has tremendously increased the quotient of insecurity in the region notwithstanding trans-national crime driven by porous borders, Internally Displaced Persons and Refugee crises. This study relies on secondary source of data as its methodology and used the Failed State Theory to explain the insecurity in the North East. The challenges confronting the state in curbing insecurity in the region are Ecowas free movement protocol, Porous borders, spurious religious cleric (misinterpreting holy book and using hypnosis in preaching), lack of portend counter insurgency mechanisms(kinetic and non-kinetic), lack of state capacity to mitigate effects of climate change. The study recommends that Climate change resilience and coping strategy be pursuit by the state to mitigate it effects on residents, a more efficacious counter insurgency operations be embarked upon, Border management should be strengthened, Ranching be introduced to limit the wandering for cattle grazing. The investigation concludes that, the insecurity in the North East is enormous therefore requires multi stakeholders efforts(States, North East Development Commission, Federal Government and International Partners) to evolve a working strategy that will reverse the unfortunate trend.

**Keywords:** Insecurity, Human Security, North East.

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## Introduction

Human security expresses the value of life of the people of a particular society. Anything that reduces the quality of life, which could include; conflict, scarcity of vital resources, environmental degradation or demographic pressures, infringes on

human security is considered a threat to human security (Dhirathiti, 2011). In the opinion of Dhirathiti, human security in its simplest form, are issues ranging from poverty, unemployment, conflict, violence, sicknesses and diseases, to environmental degradation, natural disasters, domestic violence, transnational crimes, and human



rights abuses constitute factors which cause insecurity in individuals thereby leading to displacement of these persons from their habitual homes (Betts et al., 2006).

According to the United Nations Development Programme 2018 National Human Development report, the attacks from Boko Haram had claimed 32,570 lives in Adamawa, Yobe and Borno State in the North-East of Nigeria within the a period of eight years (Tribune October 7, 2018).

The causes of insecurity in the North East Nigeria ranges from poverty and unemployment, religious extremism, mis-governance, climate change. The major causes of incessant conflicts and insurgencies in the North-East Nigeria are economic, political, and religious in nature. Economic factors are in the area of poverty, inequality, unemployment, low level and lack of education among others. The reason is not far to seek. Poverty reduces resilience to conflict by weakening government institutions, and compounds “vulnerability to insurgency at the individual and community level by lowering the opportunity cost of mobilising for violence” while “high rates of unemployment and inequality, combined with low levels of education and development, are thought to soften the ground for recruitment and provide motives to fight” (Marks, 2016).

Olagunju (2006) observes that Nigeria in particular, has been finding it increasingly difficult and is failing in its task to manage its plethora of IDPs. In essence, Nigerian authorities are overwhelmed by the flow of IDPs in the cities. There were no ready-made camps to house them. They are made to move to temporary shelters with no provision for water, sanitation and hygiene. There is no enough food, medicines and beds to support them. In some of the places they were camped in crowded areas, there is no arrangement for education their wards, or imparting skills to their men. Where such facilities are available they are overstretched. This plethora of issues motivated various groups, such as Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs), UN bodies, Civil Right Groups including local humanitarian and emergency management bodies to move to the scene.

## Conceptual Review

### Insecurity

Insecurity is a state of danger, harm, vulnerability, catastrophe faced by persons, community or state that changes a state of peace and tranquility of either of them. Achumba, Ighomereho and Akpor-Robaro (2013) defines insecurity as want of safety, danger, hazard, uncertainty, want of confidence, state of doubt, inadequately guarded or protected, instability, trouble, lack of protection and being unsafe, and others. Therefore, they consider insecurity to be a state of not knowing, a lack of control, and the inability to take defensive action against forces that portend harm or danger to an individual or group, or that make them vulnerable. Beland (2005) opines that insecurity is “the state of fear or anxiety stemming from a concrete or alleged lack of protection.” It refers to lack or inadequate freedom from danger. This definition reflects physical insecurity which is the most visible form of insecurity, and it feeds into many other forms of insecurity such as economic security and social security. The paper considers insecurity as lack of freedom from fear, anxiety and want.

### Human Security

The 1994 UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) launched human security as a distinctive concept within the United Nations, broadly defined as 'freedom from fear' and 'freedom from want'. The 1994 HDR characterized human security as "safety from chronic threats such as hunger, disease, and repression, as well as protection from sudden and harmful disruptions in the patterns of daily life whether in homes, in jobs or in communities” (UNDP Human Development Report of 1994 and the HSU-OCHA).

According John (2014) states that:

"The right of people to live in freedom and dignity, free from poverty and despair .....Recognizes that all individuals, in particular vulnerable people, are entitled to freedom from fear

and freedom from want, with an equal opportunity to enjoy all

their right and fully develop their human potential .....”.

This paradigm shift grew popular and on 10 September 2012, the General Assembly adopted by consensus the resolution "Follow up to paragraph 143 on human security of the 2005 World Summit Outcome" (A/66/290). The resolution has as its core the following elements:

- the right of people to live in freedom and dignity;
- people-centered, comprehensive, context-specific and prevention-oriented responses;
- human security recognizes interlinkages between peace, development and human rights, and equally considers civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights
- human security is distinct from responsibility to protect; it does not entail the threat or use of force or coercive measures; it does not replace State security;
- human security is based on national ownership; it seeks national solutions, which are compatible with local realities;
- governments retain primary responsibility for ensuring the survival, livelihood and dignity of their citizens; international community complements these efforts, while greater cooperation and partnership is required among Governments, international and regional organizations and civil society; human security does not entail additional legal obligations to states(John, 2014).

The aftermath of the Cold War, the security debate has become part of the international development agenda. Traditionally, it had focused on military activities, the control of military hardware, action against armed groups and networks and the reform of state military institutions. Yet increased attention is now being paid to other actors within the “security system” and the softer side of security including governance of security institutions, the links between security and insecurity, access to resources, well-being, poverty, environmental risk and security (Karim, Donata & Julia, 2004).

In the African context, “Security is more than military security or security from external attacks. For many of the 4 billion inhabitants in the developing countries, security is conceived as the basic level of the struggle for survival... Therefore, in order to provide an integrated African security assessment, the non-military dimensions of security should be added (Ogunbanwo, 1990).

Commission on Human Security CHS, *Human Security Now: Final Report*, 2003 state that:

‘The state remains the fundamental purveyor of security. Yet

it often fails to fulfil its security obligations....That is why

attention must now shift from the security of the state to the

security of the people—to human security’.

UNDP Human Development Report of 1994 and the HSU-OCHA gave the following as types of human security and attendant threats:

1. Economic security- Persistent poverty, unemployment, income.
2. Food security- Hunger, famine.
3. Health security- Deadly infectious diseases, unsafe food, malnutrition, lack of access to basic health care.
4. Social Sector – entails the identity of society or collective identity, which may exist independently of the state (e.g. people, religion, such as Albanians in the former Yugoslavia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Serbia, Montenegro etc.).
5. Political security- Human Rights, franchise, freedom.
6. Environmental security- Environmental degradation, resource depletion, natural disaster & pollution.
7. Personal security- Physical violence, crime, terrorism, domestic violence, child labour, kidnapping.
8. Community security- Inter-ethnic, religious and other identity based tensions. The UNDP (1994) human development report also

captures community security and the protection it offers. The Report states that most people derive security from their membership in a group—a family, a community, an organization, a racial or ethnic group that can provide a cultural identity and a reassuring set of values. Such groups also offer practical support. For the purpose of this study, community security may be defined as processes that protect an individual from unexpected loss of membership to a group or sudden loss of benefits hitherto derived from being a member of that group.

9. Additionally, Cyber Security: The revolution in information communication technology has brought development where nation-states struggle to key in in order not to lag. These assets need to be safeguarded from hacking and intrusion.

## Theoretical Framework

### Failed State Theory

This theory is expedient to the problematic of the study. Max Weber, in musing about what constitutes a failed state, first of all, reeled out the basic functions of the 'state' which include the enactment of law (legislative function); the protection of personal safety and public order (police); the protection of vested right (administration of Justice); the cultivation of hygienic educational, Social welfare, and other cultural interests (the various branches of administration); and, last but not least, the organized armed protection against

outside attack (military administration) (Weber, 1978). These functions or deliverables of the state are seen as not the case in the olden society in comparison with the modern day state. Whether these stated structures and institutions of the state are established, it takes the proper functioning of them to have a secured society. The reverse of the actual functions of the state as it involves provision of social and economic goods and protection of personal or physical security to the populace, takes the nation back to the primitive era. The Nigeria situation captures this essence where the state over

the years has been unable to provide security for lives and property especially the pastoralist and crop farmers conflict.

Rotherg (2004) provides detailed and graphic descriptions of state failure and its consequences. It is expressed in civil unrest undermining the potency and efficacy of institution and legal framework. Rotherg's description of the failed state is "a polity that is no longer able or willing to perform the fundamental tasks of a nation-state in the modern world" and his notion that "failure is a fluid halting place. There is no visible departure from this reality from the posture of the state, in terms of responses and reactions.

The most central and perhaps the most important political good that needs and must be delivered by every state is the provision of security. What this translates to is that the citizens depend on the state for security. Rotberg (2002) comments that failed states are deeply conflicted, dangerous and bitterly contested by warring factions, the state faces multi-faceted civil unrest, differing degrees of communal discontent, massive deterioration in the standard of living, decay in infrastructure and the greed leaders overwhelms their socio-political responsibilities to better their people and their surroundings; forcing the people to turn to their ethnic affiliations for safety and protection.

Failed state theory has seamless postulation with State fragility which Sara (2008) says that it is the term used for countries facing severe developmental challenges such as weak institutional capacity, poor governance, political instability, unemployment, poverty and low level of economic development. Slater (2012), a leading proponent of this theory has observed that a fragile state is significantly susceptible to crisis in one or more of its subsystems. According to Slater, a fragile state is a state that is particularly vulnerable to internal shocks as well as domestic conflicts.

In this situation, the characteristics of a failed state captures the nature of the Nigerian state as it has demonstrated incapacity to curb the palpable insecurity in the North East. The insecurity has created a huge loss of lives and property, forced/involuntary migration, poverty and

unemployment and disenfranchisement for a very long time now. If the efforts of the state has been result oriented, the high incidences of insecurity in the geo-political zone would have been mitigated drastically.

### **Major typology of insecurity in North East Nigeria**

#### **i. Insurgency**

The activities of Boko Haram Jihadist sect created a deteriorating security condition in the northeast, and chaos in small pockets in most Nigerian states. They commenced their dehumanizing operation in 2002 and today stand tall as the biggest threat to Nigerian. In 2009, Boko Haram started an armed rebellion against the government of Nigeria. The conflict took place within the context of long-standing issues of religious violence between Nigeria's Muslim and Christian communities, and the insurgents' ultimate aim is to establish an Islamic state in the region. After years of fighting, the insurgents became increasingly aggressive, and started to seize large areas in northeastern Nigeria (Amusan et al, 2015). The violence escalated dramatically in 2014, with 10,849 deaths, while Boko Haram drastically expanded its territories.

In 2014, thousands of people were killed through bomb blasts, gun shots, arson and other violent attacks from the group while over 250 high school female students at Chibok Girls High School in Borno state were kidnapped (Aliyu, Moorthy, & Idris, 2015; Onapajo & Usman, 2015). Despite the security measures deployed by the Nigerian state and its surrounding countries to respond to Boko Haram insurgencies, the sect remains capable of initiating significant attacks. Factors conducive to the emergence of Boko Haram have been subsumed under political and socio-economic situation of north-eastern Nigeria, while issues such as economic disequilibrium/inequality, poverty, unemployment, corruption at all levels, perceived anti-Islamic stance of the state, the expansionist desires of Muslims, or a lack of regulation of Islamic teachings, play part in the emergence of Boko Haram (Amusan & Oyewole, 2014)

#### **ii. Crop Farmers and Pastoralist Violent Conflict**

The region is replete with the incidences of violent conflict between herders and crop farmers. Though Taraba, Adamawa and Bauchi states have high preponderance owing to historical clashes. Resource conflict regarding to access to grazing and crop farming.

#### **iii. Trans-national Crime**

Trans-national crime across the border of Nigeria and Cameroun, Chad, and Niger has been a common phenomenon that occurs. Criminal activities like illegal arms trade/sale, drug and human trafficking, smuggling, illegal currency exchange etc. These are notable at the border areas of the north east.

#### **iv. Kidnapping**

The Boko Haram mode of operations involves kidnapping, either as a form of shield or for ransom. On 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2014, Boko Haram kidnapped over 250 girls of the Government Girls Secondary School, Chibok in Borno State. A group of lecturers who went for exploration were kidnapped and ransom was paid to secure their release. The trends of the kidnapping is dynamic as their kidnapped victims could either be killed without seeking for ransom or will be killed after some time in captivity. Only recently, 20 woman were kidnapped.

#### **v. Climate Change**

### **Catalysts of insecurity in North East**

#### **i. Porous Borders**

The Nigerian Customs Service (NCS) has on many occasions intercepted and foiled attempts to smuggle arms and ammunition into the country. Border control towards Niger, Chad and Cameroon is not quite effective and this makes smuggling of goods relatively easy (West African Network for Peacebuilding, 2013, 4).

The porous border gives fillip to illegal migration into Nigeria. According to Adetula (2015), around the

northeastern border region of Nigeria, cattle theft, land rights infringement by nomadic herdsmen from neighbouring countries and violent crimes such as armed robbery, car theft and smuggling are a daily occurrence. Cases of criminal violence in the cities and urban centres such as Jalingo, Jimeta, Yola, Gashua, Dikwa, Mubi, Gembu, Damaturu, and Maiduguri are increasingly linked with the presence of immigrants in these communities. Initially, criminal activities by the migrants were loudest in the border communities. However, recently their activities have penetrated the hinterland(p.10)..

## ii. Religious Belief

The beliefs of the Boko haram sect has roots in religion, it pledged allegiance to the Islamic state in March, 2015, the group has killed over 15,000 people in Nigeria, Niger, Chad and Cameroon, their hatred for western influence is one of the forces that drives them to do what they do. Their ideology opposes western education as they believe that western education is forbidden by Islam. The group also claim that its violent activities is as a result of a decade long history of oppression against Muslims in Nigeria and its neighboring countries, (Alex, 2016). This religious beliefs has driven the members of the group to continue in their evil acts as they see the Muslims in power as fake Muslims and they are determined to take over the region and make it an Islamic state ruled by true Muslims under Shariah law.

## iii. Climate Change

The insecurity which is climate change pushes, is causing tremendous loss of lives and property. Societies unable to adjust to the new challenges are left with two main options: fight or flee. According to Halvard, Nils and Ole(2008), adverse environmental changes are expected to act as a threat multiplier by adding strains to already vulnerable populations in poor and fragile societies. Moreover, today's most fragile and conflict-prone societies are among the countries expected to be most severely hit by adverse climatic changes in the coming decades.

These societies do not have the resources and political capacity necessary to adapt successfully to the added challenges imposed by increasing climatic variability.

## iv. Poverty and Un-employment

Most of the foot soldiers of Boko Haram are youths that are frustrated because the lack employment, income and they have been disdained by politicians after being used by these politicians for their elections victory. Cook (2013); Awojobi (2014); Onuoha (2014) all assert that the youths enlisted into Boko Haram because of the prevalence of poverty in the North. The poverty profile of Nigeria that was released in 2011 by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) indicated that the northern region has more poor people than people in the south.

The poverty levels by zones as at 2008 shows that South -South has 35.1%; South East 26.7%; South West 43.0%; North Central 67.0%; North East 72.2% and North West has 71.2% as well (Soludo, 2008). Another interesting dimension is regional inequality between the regions and the states with poverty incidence being highest in the North West (71.4%), followed by North East at 69.1 % and North Central at 60.7 %. The South West has the lowest poverty rate at of 49.8 % followed by the South South (55.5%) and South East (59.5%). There is also gender inequality mediated through a myriad of discriminatory traditional and socio-cultural practices that put women at disadvantage in a number of areas compared to men (Oxfam, 2017).

The high rate of poverty, unemployment and political corruption in the region have been blamed on prolonging the menace. Unfortunately, most of the foot soldiers of Boko Haram are youths which are frustrated because they lack employment, they do not have any reasonable source of income to meet their needs and they have been abandoned by politicians who promised them a better life only use them solely for their political purposes, (Onuoha, 2014).

The prevalence of poverty and unemployment widens the level of inequality in a society. The North East Nigeria has come under intense insecurity some of the implications of such are unemployment and

poverty. These two instrumental in creating inequality.

**Table 1: Key findings of Per Capita Income and Conflict**

| Source                          | Finding   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Collier/Hoeffler (2004)         | Countries at different income levels have the following risk experiencing civil conflict at \$ 250 GDP per capital, a 15% risk of war within 5 years; at \$600 GDP per capita, a 7.5% risk of war within 5 years; and at \$5,000 GDP per capita, less than 1% risk of war within 5 years (Humphreys 2003) |
| Fearon/ Laitin (2003)           | Countries at different income levels have the following risk of experiencing civil conflict: at \$579 GDP per capita, a 17.7% risk of war within 1 year; at \$2,043 GDP per capita, a 10.7% risk of war within 1 year; and at \$9,466 GDP per capita, less than 1% risk of war within 1 year.             |
| Sambanis (2003)                 | Average GDP per capita for countries that experienced war within 5 years is \$2,176. Average GDP per capita for countries that did not experience war within 5 years \$5,173  |
| Collier/Hoeffler/ Rohner (2006) | Average GDP per capita for countries that experienced war within 5 years is \$1,100. Average GDP per capita for countries that did not experience war within 5 years \$5,764.   |

Source: Rice et al. 2006

**Impact of Insecurity in North East Nigeria**

**i. Humanitarian Crisis**

The crisis has also been exacerbated by “conflict-induced food insecurity and severe malnutrition” which have also risen to critical levels in all four countries cited above and despite the efforts of Governments and humanitarian aid in 2019(UNHCR,2019). The affected people would need healthcare, shelter, jobs for sustenance.

**ii. Internally Displacement of Persons**

Olanrewaju (2018) observes that the salient challenges facing internally displaced person while in the camps are; lack of adequate care, lack of freedom, financial problem, family disintegration poor education and freedom of movement. According to him lack of adequate care is mostly accounted for by respondents in various camps of in state. This is due to their unmet expectation of being cared for in terms of good food, good shelter, proper

clothing etc. by the government. He opined and suggested that the government and the management agencies seemingly need to improve the provision of healthcare, food, clothing, and shelter for IDPs in the camps.

**iii. Social Dislocation and Educational deficits of Children**

Boko Haram insurgency has dire consequences upon children. According to Chinwokwu et al (2014), children who are lost in the process of trying to escape and caught end up being adopted, child slaves and most as street children, a menace to society. Their situation is likened to the 1967-1970 civil war experience and the reprisal war of 1990; the outcome of these children is the burden placed on the society in the form of providing care for them in prison as a result of their involvement in crime, thereby enshrining a vicious cycle whereby the economy, has its share of the psychological impact of violence in the violence such as perpetrated by Boko Haram

(Chinwokwu & Arop, 2014).

Harris et al. (2016) and Rosshandler et al. (2016) claimed that violence may pose a profound long-term psychological effect on children, often resulting in the development of permanent mental health problems (Sharma, Fine, Brennan, & Betancourt, 2017). Luthar and Eisenberg (2017) revealed that in some cases, children relied on community and familial support to develop adaptive coping mechanisms after exposure to traumatic events. The impact of violence on children's educational attainment is profound because it may impair students' learning and exam performance, in addition to having a lasting effect on human capital accumulation (Shany, 2017).

Bloom and Matfess (2016) find a relationship between exposure to terrorism and poor academic performance among children exposed to violence. Qouta et al., (2007) also claim that exposure to terrorism causes poor concentration problems and low cognitive capacity in children. Children who have experienced severe trauma from violence have weaker school performance (Miller et al., 2000a). According to Piaget's cognitive development theory, when children are exposed to violence between the ages of 11 to 15 years, their assimilation and adjustment process may be impaired, and they may find it difficult to process new information (McLeod, 2015).

#### iv. Women and Girls Predicaments

From 2010 to 2017, 49% of households in the North East experienced at least one event of conflict or violence. Households affected by conflict or violence experienced an average of 3.4 conflict events between 2010 and 2017. According to Azad, A. et al, (2018) more than one in five households had a member displaced (27%), their dwelling robbed (22%), or access to school blocked (21%) at least once between 2010 and 2017.

The horrors experienced by girls and women, particularly adolescent girls violate, impair or nullify their enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms (Human Rights Watch, 2002). From the outset of a crisis, protection of their safety, physical

and psychological well-being and prevention of such atrocities must be paramount. Care should be taken to provide psychological assistance to both women and men, and to view men not only as perpetrators of gender-based violence but also as survivors or empowered bystanders who can confront abusive peers (Human Rights Watch, 2002).

#### v. Food insecurity

Food Shortage set in since the heightened insecurity in the region has not abated. With the shrinking of the Lake Chad as a result of climate change. According to UNHCR (2019), not less than "3.5 million people remain food insecure in the Lake Chad Basin region and will depend on assistance. The continuous killing of farmers by the insurgents have driven a huge farmers from farming. One of the effects of climate change is that it makes pastoralists to move southwards, have caused eviction of resident farmers from their farming areas.

The activities of insurgents have made farmers to abandon their farms to safer haven. Most move to the urban areas. This situation reduces the agricultural outputs.

#### vi. Restricted Movement/ Immobility

Lack of free movement of persons and goods is rife in the region. There are several areas that movements are restricted in the region because of the operation of Boko Haram. To go to Maiduguri from Biu down to areas in Adamawa state, commuters have to go to Damaturu through Buni Yadi, Gujba Local Government Area of Yobe State. This is because the road from Biu through Danboa to Maiduguri is marked high risk though a short distance.

People cannot move freely because of insecurity. They are highly restricted or confined to safer areas. Places that they were used to going on business, relational or some other purposes, are no go areas now.

#### vii. Disenfranchisement

The political security of the people is

jeopardized. A lot have lost their voter's card, their polling units are destroyed and wards and constituencies are deserted for fear of attacks. For those who aspire to political positions have their dreams dashed.

#### **viii. Death/Loss of Lives**

Death toll following the insecurity in the north east remains high as the case of insurgents' attacks still exists.

#### **v. Forced /Involuntary Migration**

Forced migration is rife in the north east where insecurity forces people to move about. When people move as a result of the escaping violent conflict, insurgents' attacks and other forms of insecurity induced movement of people, for example, when migrants are forced to flee to escape conflict or persecution or become trafficked.

### **Challenges Confronting the State in curbing Insecurity in the Region**

#### **i. Economic Community of West African States(ECOWAS) Protocol and recreation of borderless West Africa**

Economic Community of West African States Protocol on Free Movement of People, Goods and Services was established by the ECOWAS Member States in 1979. The main aim of this Protocol is to facilitate the free movement of people, goods and services within the West Africa without Visa. This simply means that any ECOWAS citizen who poses valid travelling document and International Health Certificate can transverse the entire region without a visa. This therefore compels all member states to abolish the use of visa in order to ease the movement of people in the region. However, in spite of the positive pronouncement of this protocol, it has its own negative effects. It gives unfettered access to all kinds of persons with little or no restriction and checks.

#### **ii. Porous borders**

Nigeria, has 770 km of shared land border with the Republic of Benin to the west, about 1500 km with Niger to the north, 1700 km with Cameroon to the east, 90 km with the Republic of Chad to the north-east and 850 km maritime border on the Atlantic Ocean. Out-stretched these tally up to 4910 km of borders which have to be controlled. Each of these entry points, along with the airports, has been used to smuggle arms into the country. One can imagine how tasking it is to effectively control these borders. It may well be that their size and their porous borders make it easy for weapons to be smuggled inflaming and protracting violence Ngang (2007).

#### **iii. Spurious religious cleric (misinterpreting holy book)**

These preachers use incitement against the state and western education. Most times the population fall and heed to their messages. This area has not been controlled yet.

#### **iv. Lack of portend counter insurgency mechanisms(kinetic and non-kinetic)**

The lack of effective counter-terrorism/ insurgency measures have left the book haram violence unabated. The measures via military, policy, legislative, socio-economic and bilateral responses have not created the desired responses.

#### **v. Frail state capacity to mitigate effects of climate change.**

There are many efforts that the Nigerian government has made in a bid to correct the devastating effects of climate change on the environment. Though a constitutional framework, for realizing above stated goals, which allocates various responsibilities to each tier (federal, state and local government) and levels (executive, legislator and judiciary) of government exist, their activities are rarely collaborative or coordinated. Similarly, adaptive policies, including the 'National Policy on Drought and Desertification; Draught Preparedness Plan,

2007; National Policy on Erosion, Flood Control and Coastal Zone Management 2005; and National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, 2004'. Lacking both the technicalities and political will to create and support requisite institutional framework needed to carry out these policies, their activities have barely gone beyond mere rhetoric. The Special Climate Change Unit (SCCU), charged with the responsibility of coordinating the activities of Inter-ministerial Committee on Climate Change; with members drawn from various ministries, including Non-Governmental Agencies (NGOs) and academic, including "Centre for Climate Change and Fresh Water Resources, Federal University of Technology Minna; Centre for Energy, Research and Development, Obafemi Awolowo University Ile-Ife; and Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi" remains the primary institution for adaptation in Nigeria. These are laudable and well enough legal and institutional framework for mitigating the effects of climate change but no significant change has been achieved.

### Recommendations

- i. North East Development Commission should live up to achieving its objectives by being accountable, responsive and efficient.
- ii. State Governments of the states that constitute North East should strengthen their bonding with deliberate template for implementation for the over- all development of the geo political zone.
- iii. Climate change resilience and coping strategy be pursuit by the state to mitigate its effects on residents
- iv. A more efficacious counter insurgency operations be embarked upon. Adoptable measures from nations that have overcome insurgency should be taken after. Military measures should leverage on the use of technology in countering the insurgents.
- v. Border management should be strengthened. The Nigerian government should create platforms for inter-agency

integration and collaborations where all statutory agencies will work for common purpose for the management of our borders effectively.

- vi. There should the establishment of modernised way of cattle breeding by sedentary model (ranching). This will curb the violent interface between crop farmers and pastoralists. An arrangement of lease from the natives could be consummated. This is recognising ownership of land by natives or government. These lands could be leased to the pastoralists under a suitable arrangement.

### Conclusion

The insecurity in the North East is enormous therefore requires multi stakeholders efforts (States, North East Development Commission, Federal Government and International Partners) to evolve a working strategy that will reverse the unfortunate trend. The establishment and funding of the NEDC by federal government is commendable and the states affected should support the commission to succeed.

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