

Effect of Internally Displaced Persons on the Nigerian Economy (2015 - 2018)

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Abstract

This research work assesses the impact of internally displaced persons on the Nigerian economy with focus on the north eastern region where the issue of internal dislodgment of people from their homes or base is predominant and call for concern. The research work employ the use of secondary data covering the period between 2015 to 2018 that was extracted from the central bank of Nigeria's statistical bulletin and International Organisation for Migration (IOM)'s monthly displacement tracking matrix and emergency tracking tool reports. The study makes use of both descriptive and econometric technique of analysis. The descriptive techniques involved the use of line graph to analyse the trends, and ordinary least square that shows the relationship that exist between the variables. Contrary to the research apriori expectation, there was a positive correlation between internally displaced person's growth rate and real gross domestic product growth rate and a negative relationship with government expenditure. The study concluded that internal displacement of persons linked to Boko-haram insurgency and Fulani herdsmen/farmers clashes affects the growth of the Nigerian economy because of the negative effect on foreign direct investment growth rate as it tends to discourage foreign investors from investing as a result of insecurity. The research work proffers solutions and also recommend for further study.

Keywords: *Internally displaced persons, Gross domestic product, Insurgency, Foreign direct investment.*

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Background to the Study

The internally displaced persons, according to the United Nations Guiding Principles (1998), are: Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence as a result of conflict, situations of generalized violence, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border. There are different factors which have been identified responsible for the internal displacement of person. These factors can be broadly classified into two which are: natural disasters and man-made factors. The natural disasters causing internal displacement of persons includes erosion, flooding and desertification, while the man-made factor which accounts for the major cause of internal displacement of persons includes Violence, armed conflicts and Insurgency.

In Nigeria, there has been a significant increase in the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the last few years especially in the North Eastern part of the Country due to the armed conflicts and numerous violent attacks by the notorious Sect -Boko Haram terrorizing the region. Statistics has shown that over Six million people have been internally displaced while thousands have been killed and injured. Numerous private and public properties as well as infrastructures that worth billions of naira has been damaged and destroyed by this Infamous terrorist group.

According to Eniola (2007), the Fulani tribes indisputably represent a significant component of the Nigerian economy as they are the major cattle breeders, the main source of meat and cheap source of animal protein consumed by Nigerians. The Fulani own over 90% of the nation's livestock population which accounts for one-third of agricultural GDP and 3.2% of the nation's GDP. The recent emergence of Fulani herdsmen crisis had also accounted for a lot of killings and internal displacement of persons. The Fulani tribe who are prominently nomads have been carrying out their business of cattle rearing for ages without records of destruction of lives or property, however there has been a change in narratives as the name Fulani herdsmen is now synonymous to terror and sends a cold shiver down the spine, especially in those who lived in the troubled regions.

Statement of the Problem

In Nigeria the Boko-haram insurgency is a major source of the internal displacements of people has generated a lot of interest at both local and international level. This infamous sect has created a lot of tensions not only in the North eastern part of the country but also in other regions surrounding this area. The continuous act of terrorism and armed conflict has led to the Closure of many businesses in the north-eastern region and as also serve as a discouragement to investors to invest in the economy. A lot of people have been forced to flee their primary place of residence where they carry out their economic activities to a place where they nothing productive doing. There has also been mass destruction of both public and private properties as well as infrastructures that worth billions of naira, which could have been used to stimulate investment and generate income for the economy. Statistics has shown that the North Eastern states are far behind in terms of development compared to other regions in the country. The region is characterized with high level of poverty coupled with high level of illiteracy. The recent emergence of Fulani herdsmen brutal attacks in the region couple with

the country's decline in export earnings due to the shortfall in oil prices at the international market that has led to call for diversification of the economy, most especially into agriculture necessitated the need for this research study to be carried out.

Over the years, little or no research has been carried out to ascertain the effect of IDPs on the productivity of the agricultural sector as well as social and macroeconomic indicator that affect economic growth. Hence, this research is geared towards determining the effect of internal displacement of persons on the Nigerian economy as a whole, and to find out the relationship between: IDPs and Real gross domestic product growth rate, IDPs and Foreign direct investment (FDI) and IDPs and Government expenditure growth rate.

Objectives of the Study

This study aims to:

- i. Ascertain the relationship between internally displaced persons and government expenditure.
- ii. Examine the effect internally displaced persons has on foreign direct investments
- iii. Determine the effect of internally displaced persons on Nigerian GDP

Research Questions

- i. What is the relationship between internal displaced persons and government expenditure?
- ii. Do internally displaced people affect foreign investment?
- iii. What effect do internally displaced persons have on gross domestic product?

Conceptual Review

The research study looks at internal displacement in the north eastern part of Nigeria that comprises of state like Borno Adamawa, Bauchi, Gombe, Taraba, Yobe and Benue states. These states major cause of internally displaced persons can be associated with book haram insurgents' occupation in these areas with the belief that people should say no to western education and convert to Islam. However, between 2013 and 2015 the number of IDPs increased to 5 million within and outside Nigeria as a result of boko haram activities in north eastern part of the country that result to loss of life and properties that has rendered many homeless or displaced.

Also, the Fulani and farmers clashes in state like Benue, Adamawa and Taraba as resulted to more loss of properties and death because of fight over land ownership for grazing and farming in these areas aside Boko haram insurgent occupations. In Nigeria, Fulani herdsmen are nomads that move from place to place in search of green pastures for their cattle which makes them to encroach people farmlands and destroy all crops on it by making their cattle eat edible leaves that stops the planted crops growth and add more loss to the farmers in the time of harvesting.

Theoretical Review

The research is hinged on Traditional neoclassical growth theory, Harrod-Domar growth model, The Solow neoclassical model, Pattern of development analysis of structural change and modernisation theory of development.

Traditional neoclassical growth theory is based on the assumption that output growth results from one or more of three factors which are increase in labour quantity and quality (through population growth and education), increases in capital (through saving and investment), and improvements in technology. From the assumptions it could be deduced that labour, capital (which could also be infrastructure) and technology are essential determinants of economic growth and developments, which implies that a low or reduction in the level of the availability of this important factors. Harrod-Domar Growth Modelis theory is based on the believe that every economy must save a certain proportion of its national income, if only to replace worn-out or impaired capital goods (buildings, equipment, and materials). However, in order to grow, new investments representing net additions to the capital stock are necessary. The theory arrived at a simplified equation:

$$\frac{\Delta Y}{Y} = \frac{S}{C}$$

The above equation simply implies that the rate of growth of GDP ($\Delta Y/Y$) is determined jointly by the net national savings ratios, s and the national capital-output ratio

The Solow Neoclassical Model is theory is developed by Robert so low of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. It is often referred to as the exogenous theory owing to the fact that the theory is hinged on the believe that for long term economic growth to take place there is a need for technological progress which is determined exogenously, that is, independently of all other factors in the model. The add a second factor, labor, and introducing a third independent variable, technology, to the growth equation, which is expressed below.

$$Y = K^{\alpha}(AL)^{1-\alpha}$$

Where Y represents gross domestic product, K is the stock of capital (which may be human capital as well as physical capital), L represents labor, and A represents the productivity of labor, which grows at an exogenous rate.

Pattern of Development Analysis of Structural Change is a theory hinged on the believe that increase in savings and investments is a necessary but not sufficient condition for economic growth. It is of the opinion that in addition to the accumulation of capital, both physical and human, a set of interrelated changes in the economic structure of a country are required for the transition from a traditional economic system to a modern one. This theory is in alignment with the modernization theorist view of underdeveloped states, which is that the underdevelopment of these underdeveloped states is a function of the internal dynamics peculiar to the states. These internal dynamics referred to is the conservative culture and

traditional institutions that are not receptive to development as well as dogged loyalty to this traditional and religious institution. The identified internal dynamics are observable and true of the north eastern economy and to some extent have contributed to the emergence and development of armed conflicts which had accounted for the major cause of internal displacement of persons in the region.

Modernisation Theory of Development states that the underdevelopment of states should be traced to the peculiar internal dynamics of that particular country. There are variations in the definition of modernisation. Some of the variations focused on structural features, such as level of education, use of inanimate sources of energy and fertility. Others focused on attitudes like secularisation, achievement orientations, functional specificity in formal organisation, and acceptance of equal relationships.

Mohammed Danladi Tukur (2014) found out that in Bornu state the relocation of non-indigenes to other states due to insurgency had a negative effect on the state's economic wellbeing. There was also a noticeable decrease in the in the flow of grain. In 2008 prior to intense Boko Haram activities, both markets had boisterous business activities. An estimated 294,940 tonnes of grain passed through the market in contrast to only 148,700 tonnes in 2013. The multiplier effects of these losses transcends beyond the State to other States of the federation. S.A Adebisi (2017) examined the effect of book haram insurgency, which is a major cause of internal displacement of people, on the Agricultural sector of Nigerian business environment Adopting a time series analysis research method, also using descriptive and t-test to analyze the secondary data before and during the insurgency. The research found out that between the periods of 2004 to 2013 Boko Haram insurgency had a significant negative impact on Nigerian Agricultural Sector Output.

Ejiofor, (2017) assessed the Impact of Internal Displacement on Human Security in Northern Nigeria from 2009 to 2016. He concluded that internal displacement of people in the northern region is a challenge to human security but had a little effect on accessibility to education which is in contrast to researches from literatures which posit that internal displacement has hampered greatly access to educational facilities and education itself. There is a little impact on access to education due to the improvisations by internally displaced persons' camps in setting up schools or learning centres for their children and thereby teaches these children in the best way available.

Onime, (2018) analysed the effect of insecurity on economic growth in Nigeria and reported that insecurity which has a strong connection to internal displacement of people, affects economic growth by drying-out investments, increases unemployment and dwindles government revenue, amidst others.

Research Methodology

The Solow neoclassical theory was be adopted by the study as a framework for the research

$$Y = K^{\alpha}(AL)^{1-\alpha}$$

This research study made use of secondary data using ordinary least square method. Based on the traditional neoclassical growth theory, the model for this research is specified thus; RGDP = Real Gross Domestic Product; FDI = Foreign Direct Investment; G.EXP = Government Expenditure and IDP = internally displaced persons.

Using distributed lag model, equation (I), (ii) and (iii) are thus expressed in a linear form below:

$$\Delta \text{rgdpgr}_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \Delta \text{idpgr}_t + \beta_2 \Delta \text{idpgr}_{t-1} + \beta_3 \Delta \text{fdigr}_t + \beta_4 \text{lgexp}_t + \beta_5 \Delta \text{lgexp}_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t \quad (\text{i})$$

$$\Delta \text{fdigr}_t = \beta_0 + \beta_6 \Delta \text{idpgr}_t + \beta_7 \Delta \text{idpgr}_{t-1} + \beta_8 \Delta \text{gexpgr}_t + \beta_9 \Delta \text{gexpgr}_{t-1} + \beta_{10} \Delta \text{rgdpgr}_t + \beta_{11} \Delta \text{rgdpgr}_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t \quad (\text{ii})$$

$$\text{lgexp}_t = \beta_0 + \beta_{12} \Delta \text{idp}_t + \beta_{13} \Delta \text{idp}_{t-1} + \beta_{14} \Delta \text{lrgdp}_t + \beta_{15} \text{lrgdp}_{t-1} + \beta_{16} \Delta \text{fdigr}_t + \beta_{17} \text{fdigr}_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t \quad (\text{iii})$$

Where;

rgdpgr = real gdp's growth rate; idpgr = internally displaced persons' growth rate; fdigr = foreign direct investments growth rate; lgexp = log of government expenditure; gexpgr = government expenditure growth rate; lidp = log of internally displaced persons; lrgdp = log of real gdp

Apriori expectations

For equation 1: $\beta_1, \beta_2 < 0, \beta_3, \beta_4, \beta_5 > 0$.

For equation 2: $\beta_6, \beta_7 < 0, \beta_8, \beta_9, \beta_{10}, \beta_{11} > 0$.

For equation 3: $\beta_{12}, \beta_{13}, \beta_{14}, \beta_{15} > 0, \beta_{16}, \beta_{17} < 0$.

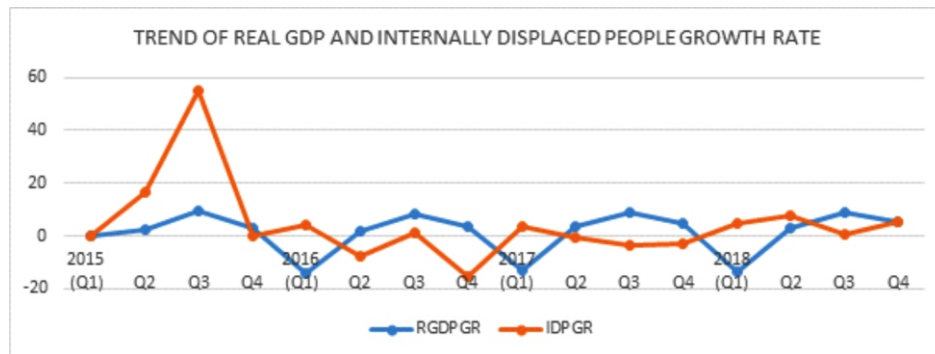


Fig. 1

Findings and Result

The graph above shows that there are fluctuations in both real GDP and internally displaced persons' growth rate. In year 2015 there was an upward trend in both IDP and RGDP growth rate between the first and third quarter of the year while there was a fall from about 55% and 9% to about 0% and 3% in internally displaced persons and real GDP's growth rate respectively. The first quarter of 2016 witnessed an increase in IDP's growth rate while there was a drastic fall in RGDP, with the growth rate dropping down to negative figure, however in

the second and third quarter of the year RGDP had an upward trend in growth rate but decline from about 10% in the third quarter to 5% in the fourth quarter.

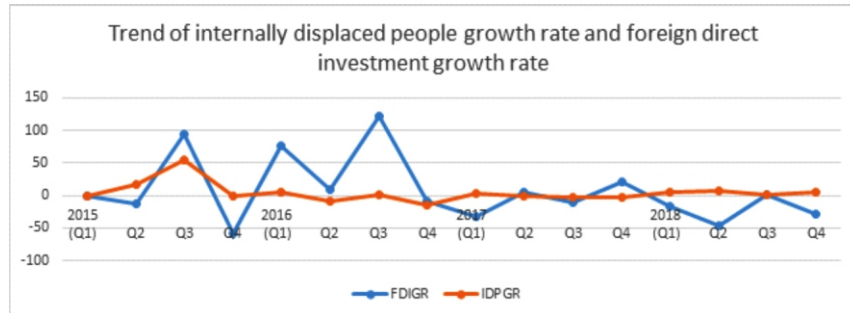


Fig. 2

The graph above shows fluctuations in both fdigr and idpgr. In the second quarter of year 2015, there is an increase in idpgr to about 17% while fdigr fell to around -13%. Both fdigr and idpgr increased in the third quarter and dropped in the fourth quarter. Though there were fluctuations also in 2016, the idpgr and fdigr had followed the same pattern of movement with both rising in the first quarter of the year and falling in the second quarter to about -8% and 8% respectively. There was an enormous increase in fdigr in third quarter of the year to around 122% while idpgr increased from around -8% in the second quarter to around 1% in the third quarter. The last quarter showed a dramatic decline in fdigr to about -8% while idpgr also decreased to around -15%.

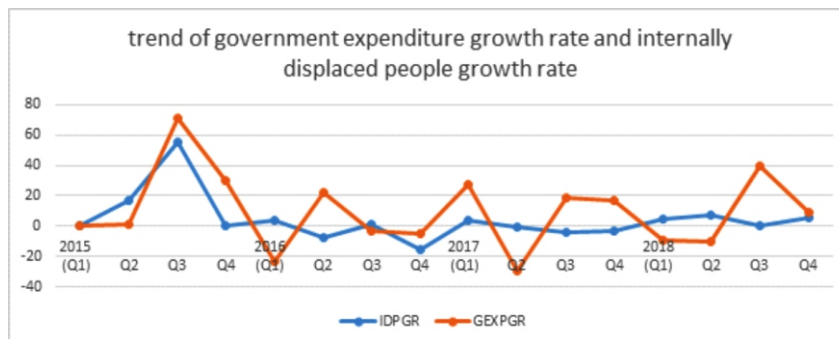


Fig. 3

From the above graph, there was an increase in IDPGR in the second quarter of 2015 to 16.6% while GEXPGR fell to -15%. Both IDPGR and GEXPGR increased in the third quarter and later declined in the fourth quarter of the year

Ordinary Least Square (OLS) Regression Result

Table 1: OLS Regression Result (I)

Dependent Variable: D(RGDPGR)

VARIABLES	COEFFICIENTS	STD.	T-VALUE	T-	DECISION
C	164.9100	118.5889	1.390603	0.2070	Not
D(IDPGR)	0.203737	0.213986	0.952105	0.3728	Not
D(IDPGR(-1))	0.601279	0.184146		0.0138	Significant
D(FDIGR)	0.096557	0.046502	2.076375	0.0765	Not
LGEXP	-21.99904	16.12619	-1.364181	0.2147	Not
D(LGEXP(-	-27.81545	11.15003	-2.494652**	0.0413	Significant
R-squared	0.732533				
Adjusted R-	0.541485				
F-statistic	3.834286				
Durbin-	2.169412				

The above OLS regression result is expressed mathematically as;

$$\Delta \text{rgdpgr}_t = 164.9100 + 0.203737\Delta \text{idpgr}_t + 0.601279\Delta \text{idpgr}_{t-1} + 0.096557\Delta \text{fdigr}_t - 21.99904\Delta \text{lgexp}_t - 27.81545\Delta \text{lgexp}_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t$$

The OLS regression result (I)table above showed that only the lagged value of internally displaced persons growth rate and government expenditure (i.e IDPGR(-1) and LGEXP(-1)) had a significant effect on the real gdp growth rate (RGDPGR) at 1% and 5% level of significance respectively, while foreign direct investments growth rate (FDIGR), current government expenditure (LGEXP) and current IDPGR had no significant effect on the Nigerian real gross domestic output at 5% level of significance.

The R-squared value showed that all the explanatory variables (IDPGR, IDPGR (-1), FDIGR, LGEXP, LGEXP(-1)) jointly accounted for at least 73% of the variation in the dependent variable which is the real gdp growth rate (RGDPGR). The adjusted R-squared value indicated that each of the explanatory variable accounted for at least 54.1% of the variation in the in real GDP which is the dependent variable.

The F-statistics value of 3.834286 showed that the whole OLS regression result is statistically significant at 5% level of significance.

The Durbin-Watson stat value of 2.169412 indicates the absence of autocorrelation in the time series.

In pursuant of the first objective of the research which was to determine the effect of internally displaced persons on the gross domestic output of the Nigerian economy, although the current value of IDPGR has no significant effect on the real gdp at 5% level of significance, the lagged value of IDPGR with the t- statistics value of 3.265233 showed that there is a positive and significant relationship between the internally displaced persons and the country's real gross domestic product at 1% level of significance, hence, the study reject the null hypothesis which states that internally displaced persons have no significant effect on the Nigerian economy. The OLS result showed that a unit increase in previous value of IDPGR (that is, value of IDPGR in the last quarter) will induce 0.6unit increase in the the country's real gross domestic product

growth rate (RGDPGR). This is contrary to the apriori expectation of the research which assumed a negative relationship between RGDPGR and IDPGR. The reason for the positive relationship might be due to inflows of domestic and foreign inflows of grants and aids into the country as a result of internal displacement of the people. Another reason that can be thought of to justify this positive relationship between IDPGR and RGDPGR is the fact that most of the internally displaced persons do not have something really productive they engage in as most of the issue of internal displacement of persons is dominant in the northern part of the country which is characterized by low human index. The internally displaced persons are divorced from their means of livelihood and are no longer economically active, hence inflows of grants and aids from both foreign and domestic sources tends to make them a little better off which may later in turn have a positive effect on the economy. This rationally explained why internally displaced persons had no negative effect on the Nigerian real gross domestic product as expected by the study.

The OLS regression result (I) table above also showed that government expenditure has a negative and significant effect on the real gdp growth rate. This is in contrary to the research's apriori expectation. This unexpected outcome might be due to the government's in frugality, or due to the fact that increase in the number of internally displaced persons was bound to increase government expenditure. Although increase in government expenditure is meant to increase real gdp, reverse is the case when the expenditure is to meet up for loss rather to trigger investment and also putting in the corruption factor where those funds meant to be expended are being misappropriated. The result showed that a unit increase in the previous value of government expenditure (that is, value of government expenditure in the last quarter) will induce 0.278 unit decrease in the country's real gross domestic product growth rate.

Table 2: OLS Regression Result Presentation (II)
Dependent Variable: D(FDIGR)

VARIABLES	COEFFICIENTS	STD.	T-VALUE	T-PROB	DECISION
C	-13.48963	15.29218	-0.882126	0.4117	Not significant
D(IDPGR)	0.454911	1.170303	0.388712	0.7109	Not significant
D(IDPGR(-1))	-2.987229	1.075159	-2.778408**	0.0321	Significant
D(GEXPGR)	-0.415249	0.601231	-0.690665	0.5156	Not significant
D(GEXPGR(-1))	0.555320	0.582903	0.952680	0.3775	Not significant
D(RGDPGR)	3.635553	1.433212	2.536648**	0.0443	Significant
D(RGDPGR(-1))	1.152179	1.546772	0.744892	0.4845	Not significant
R-squared	0.812410				
AdjustedR-	0.624820				
F-statistic	4.330775				
Durbin-Watson	2.334790				

The OLS regression result is expressed mathematically as $\Delta fdigr_t = -13.48963 + 0.454911\Delta idpgr_t - 2.987229\Delta idpgr_{t-1} - 0.415249\Delta gexpgr_t + 0.555320\Delta gexpgr_{t-1} + 3.635553\Delta rgdpgr_t + 1.152179\Delta rgdpgr_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t$

The R-squared value showed that all the explanatory variables (IDPGR, IDPGR (-1), GEXPGR, GEXPGR (-1)), RGDPGR, and RGDPGR (-1)) jointly accounted for at least 81.2% of the variation in the dependent variable which is the Foreign direct investment growth rate (FDIGR). The adjusted R-squared value indicated that each of the explanatory variable accounted for at least 62.5% of the variation in Foreign direct investment growth rate (FDIGR) which is the dependent variable.

The F-statistics value of 4.330775 showed that the whole OLS regression result is statistically significant at 5% level of significance.

The Durbin-Watson stat value of 2.334790 indicates the absence of autocorrelation in the time series. The OLS regression result showed that a unit increase in previous value of internally displaced persons growth rate (IDPGR(-1)) that is, value of IDPGR in the last quarter) will induce 2.98 units decrease in foreign direct investment growth rate. This simply implies that investors observe the past trend of internal displacement of persons and make a decision as to whether to invest or not.

Real gdp growth rate (RGDPGR) on the other hand, has a positive relationship with foreign direct investment growth rate (FDIGR).

Table 3: OLS Regression Result Presentation (III)

Dependent Variable: LGEXP

VARIABLES	STD. ERROR	T-VALUE	T-PROB	DECISION
C	7.777215	-1.762341	0.1214	Not significant
D(LIDP)	0.335707	-0.308455	0.7667	Not significant
D(LIDP(-1))	0.324324	-2.383740**	0.0486	Significant
D(LRGDP)	0.579625	2.996295**	0.0200	Significant
LRGDP(-1)	0.797609	2.708297**	0.0303	Significant
D(FDIGR)	0.000765	-2.943225**	0.0216	Significant
R-squared	0.768987			
Adjusted R-squared	0.570975			
F-statistic	3.883549			
Durbin-Watson stat	3.205843			

The above OLS regression result is expressed mathematically below;

$$lgexp_t = -13.70610 - 0.103550\Delta lidp_t - 0.773105\Delta lidp_{t-1} + 1.736727\Delta lrgdp_t + 2.160162lrgdp_{t-1} - 0.002251\Delta fdigr_t - 0.002705_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t$$

The OLS regression result (III) the table above showed that except for the LIDP, all the explanatory variables have a significant relationship with government expenditure, which is the dependent variable at 5% level of significance.

The R-squared value showed that all the explanatory variables (LIDP, LIDP (-1), FDIGR, FDIGR(-1)), RGDPGR, and RGDPGR(-1)) jointly accounted for at least 77% of the variation in the dependent variable which is the Foreign direct investment growth rate (FDIGR). The adjusted R-squared value indicated that each of the explanatory variable

accounted for at least 57% of the variation in the in Foreign direct investment growth rate (FDIGR) which is the dependent variable.

The F-statistics value of 3.883549 showed that the whole OLS regression result is statistically significant at 5% level of significance while Durbin-Watson stat value of approximately 3.20 indicates the presence of autocorrelation in the time series. In line with the third objective of the research which was to examine the relationship between internally displaced persons and government expenditure, the OLS regression result (III) above shows that there is a negative relationship between internal displacement of persons and government expenditure, which is contrary to the apriori expectations of the research. The result showed that a percentage change in previous value of internally displaced persons (that is, value of internally displaced persons in the last quarter) will induce approximately 0.8 percentage decrease in government expenditure. This simply implies that government expenditure decrease as the number of internally displaced persons increases because there is no positive relationship due to the fact that any increase in the number of internally displaced persons in the country tends to increase foreign and domestic aids gotten from international and local organisations which is often serve as relief palliatives and not government expenditure. Hence government spends less on affected areas due to the reoccurring nature of the cause of the displacement of people thereby reducing government expenditure.

Conclusion

Insecurity stands as a major impediment to economic prosperity, the Boko-haram insurgency and the Fulani herdsmen/farmers clashes has been a source of insecurity and internal displacement of persons in the northern region of the country, the various activities of this infamous has been a bane to foreign direct investment, hence the need for government to be swift and strict in militating against this obstruction to development. There is a need for the government to also take preventive measure against future reoccurrence of such an unfortunate incidence by addressing the problem of abject poverty, illiteracy and unemployment which is dominant in the northern region of the country.

Recommendations

The Nigerian government should engineer a transition from a primitive mode of Agriculture practice to a modern approach by adopting a modern approach to agricultural activities can also help in solving the problem of Fulani herdsmen and farmer clashes, through the adoption of a ranching system.

Boko-haram insurgence are extremists that see no reason for education, hence, government should adopt measure that will help in forestalling any future reoccurrence of similar notorious group and halt their occupation in northeastern part of the country by securing lives and properties of Nigerian through meaningful security measures to put an end to this menace. Provision of grazing land and farm land act to put an end to the menace of farmers Fulani communal clashes in the north eastern part of the country as well as other part experience farmers and Fulani herdsmen clashes. Also, setting up of orientation camp to educate both parties on the need to co-exist among themselves to boost productivity of the agricultural sector.

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