

The Role of Family in the Management and Administration of Internally Displaced Camps in Kaduna State

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Abstract

The paper examines the role of the family in the management and administration of Internally Displaced persons camps IDPs in Kaduna State Nigeria. Methodological contexts of the paper are based on in-depth interview and content analysis. Public Choice theory of Non-governmental organization is adopted because it argues that the failure of state to effectively and sufficiently protect and provide assistance to the lives and properties of its citizens motivates Non-governmental organizations to intervene to bridge the existing gap. The paper argues that Family have been providing relief materials such as food, clothes, mattresses, beds, blankets etc to the vulnerable victims of IDPs. Despite this, the assistance has not effectively reached the target beneficiaries thus the IDPs continue to wallow in food insecurity, malnutrition and poor sanitary condition. The paper attributes the scenario to corruption and inordinate ambition for personal aggrandizement by the officials mandated to monitor the management of IDPs. Therefore, the paper recommends that people of high integrity should be mandated to distribute relief materials to victims of IDPs

Keywords: *Family IDPs, Humanitarian assistance, Corruption, Integrity*

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Background to the Study

Nigeria is Africa's most populous country and its largest economy (BBC, 6th April 2014). It has a rapidly growing population of at least 180 million. More than half of its people are from three main ethnic groups – the Hausa and Fulani in the north, Igbo in the south-east and Yoruba in the south-west. The remainders are divided into nearly 400 other ethnic and tribal groups (UNISDR, Mustapha, (2006). There is huge territorial, population and economic disparities between the country's 36 states. Endemic corruption, political instability and bad governance mean that many parts of the population fail to benefit from the country's strong economic growth and its vast oil and mineral resources. Nigeria ranked the 144th in Transparency International's corruption index for 2013 (TI, 2013), more than 70 per cent of its population are classified as living in poverty or absolute poverty, with a higher concentration of both groups in the north-east, where Boko Haram is most active (ICG, 3 April 2014; Africa Confidential, April 2014). Poverty, rising inequality and social frustration have spawned other militant groups, across Nigeria which derive support based on ethnic and religious identities.

Objective of the Study

Objective of this paper is to examine the role of the family in the management and administration of internally displaced persons camps in Kaduna state. And to ensure proper policies and programs that would enhance the lives of those displaced.

Statement of the Problems

The North central part of Nigeria has suffered a lot of devastation from religious and ethnic conflict who have been carrying out several killings and suicide bombings that produced displacement of several people in the region. Similarly, the group has bombed schools, mosques, and churches, kidnapped women and children, assassination of politicians, security agents, religious leaders and numbers of government infrastructure was also destroyed (Gay, 2016). Therefore, this research intends to review the effects of and social welfare provision by the state to see how such has improved or not the living condition of the internally displaced persons on camps.

Theoretical Explanations

For the purpose of this topic the researcher will employ, *Social Conflict Theory (SCT)*. Social conflict theory is a macro oriented paradigm in sociology that views society as an arena of inequality that generates conflict and social change. Key element in this perspective is that society is structured in ways to benefit a few at the expense of the majority, and factors such as race, sex, class and age are linked in social inequality. Theory views society as a system of groups that are not equal, and therefore, consistently generate conflicts and change. According to the prominent of this theory Karl Marx and Fredrick Engels (1848), provided the theoretical explanations for competition among social classes, state actor and non-actor in their attempt to protect their selfish interest (Marx, 1848).

The fundamental assumption of this theory is human society emerged from it primitive and relatively undifferentiated State it remained fundamentally divided between class who clash in the pursuit of class interest. This continues struggling between or over a political authority, economic resources, religious members between the rich and the poor, police and civilian ruling parties and opposition parties (Ritzer, 2008).

According to this theory social inequality occur when resources in a given society are distributed unevenly, typically through norms of allocation, that engender specific pattern along lines of socially defined categories of persons. For Marx, there exist two major classes with significant inequality

Role of family in the Management Mechanisms of people living in IDPs Camps

The response of family to IDPs' assistance and protection needs is generally implemented via disaster management mechanisms. NEMA in collaborative mission with the family have greatly achieved it mandates in the provision of social welfare to IDPs it was mandated under the 1999 National Emergency Management Agency Act to provide emergency relief to victims of “natural or other disasters” and to assist in their rehabilitation. It tends to oversee the provision of assistance during the first two to four weeks of displacement (IDMC interview with NEMA, May 2013). It has recently expanded its role to coordinate, and in some cases deliver, assistance to displaced communities. NEMA collaborates with federal, State and Local agencies, with SEMAs being the primary responders on the ground. The notable exception to this is in kaduna state, where NEMA has responded to the crisis directly during much of NEMA, 2014.

NCFR works to support IDPs after the emergency phase in their pursuit of durable solutions. It assists the most vulnerable communities with the reconstruction or repair of infrastructure such as homes, clinics, schools and boreholes, and by providing livelihood support including boats, fishing nets and farming tools. It has also commissioned training centers for IDPs in several States (NCFR, 2013, on file with IDMC). NCFR's activities are meant to complement NEMA's and to be coordinated with them. In reality, however, this rarely happens, in part because of a lack of clarity surrounding NCFR's mandate. (NEMA, 2014)

NRCS is present throughout the country and maintains branches and volunteers in each state. It has rapid response capacity for humanitarian crises and provides relief supplies. Civil society organizations also assist and support IDPs. Organizations such as the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and the Social and Economic Rights Action Centre regularly denounce the violation of the rights of people displaced by forced evictions. (NHRC, 2013).

The Management of International Response on people living in IDPs Camps

Feb. 11th2012, UN agencies, international NGOs and donors focused primarily on development programmes and few organizations responded to emergency humanitarian needs arising from displacement. In the last quarter of 2012, however, a

humanitarian country team led by OCHA was set up. Coordination and joint planning among international responders and their government partners led to the publication of JHAP in September 2013. An overview of humanitarian needs and the 2014 to 2016 strategic response plan were also developed.

Nigeria received \$3.55 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) in 2014. This was earmarked for responding to IDPs' needs in the north-east, improving access to protection and assistance for both displaced people and host communities, and strengthening national capacities to prevent and respond to GBV. UN agencies and international NGOs, along with their government partners, requested \$93 million to respond to the humanitarian needs of eight million beneficiaries in the August 2014 revision of the 2014 to 2016 strategic response plan (SRP, 2014).

The size and robustness of Nigeria's economy has contributed to donor reticence about contributing to the strategic response plan. Contributions to humanitarian financing instruments and bilateral programming remain low (IDMC interviews, October 2014; FTS). The country's roles as a regional power and Africa's leading oil exporter have also made foreign governments reluctant to exert meaningful pressure. Funds raised by the Nigerian government, the business community, the Nigerian diaspora and civil society have not been added to those collected through humanitarian financing instruments. There is little or no information on how Nigerian funds raised for emergency relief have been used. (SRP, 2014).

It is encouraging that both national and international entities have made progress in recent years in terms of IDPs' protection and assistance. The absence, however, of a law and policy framework that clearly defines roles and responsibilities has and will continue to hamper the coordination of humanitarian and development efforts to mitigate the effects of displacement. Such a framework is also essential to a holistic and comprehensive approach to supporting IDPs in their pursuit of durable solutions, and to prepare for and prevent future displacement.

New Platforms for Coordination for people living in IDPs Camps

National agencies improved their coordination of emergency relief to IDPs in late 2013 and 2014. This was largely the result of the growing displacement crisis in the north-east attracting increased international attention. With support from UN agencies, international humanitarian organizations and NGOs, NEMA published a joint humanitarian action plan (JHAP) in September 2013 to respond to emergencies caused by hazards and conflicts.

The plan established nine sectoral working groups to coordinate data collection and the response to humanitarian needs, with the government, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), IOM, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) co-leading quarterly working groups. It aims to provide a common platform for the government and humanitarian community to address the challenges they face in a principled, timely and coordinated way. (UNICEF, 2015)

Following the Chibok abductions, in May 2014 the government launched a \$100 million safe schools initiative, with support from the UN, Nigerian business leaders, the African Development Bank and international donors. It aims to pilot 500 safe facilities in the north of the country, with a focus on school and community-level interventions to prevent further attacks, abductions and displacement. (NEMA, 2014).

In June 2014, NEMA began working with the inter-agency emergency preparedness and response working group on a contingency plan to prepare for displacement and humanitarian needs that might be caused by violence in the run-up to the February 2015 elections. Fifteen states were identified as potential hotspots for such violence, with widespread displacement anticipated in many states in the north. The plan also predicted that the elections are likely to make the ongoing conflict in the north-east and inter-communal violence in the Middle Belt worse. (NEMA, 2014)

An inter-agency strategic response plan for 2014 to 2016 includes the establishment of coordinated protection monitoring by partners of the protection sector working group chaired by NHRC. The body had not, however, been set up as of October 2014 because of resource gaps. Until a coordinated monitoring mechanism is in place, there will only be limited information on IDPs' protection risks and that which does exist will be anecdotal, time-bound and collected largely from displacement camps.

Families Contributions Towards IDPS Maintenance

The families spend about N3.5million on maintenance of IDPs belonging to government due to voluntary responsibilities. condiments from the food items on a daily basis for all camps. What mean by the condiments are onions, fish, beans, tomatoes, hot and sweet pepper, seasoning, palm oil, groundnut oil, firewood, water and other essential needs to the kitchen. The N3.5million is also used for logistics like transporting the goods items to the various and our ambulance, track, laborers. The families are trying to reduce it to a minimum of about N1.5 or N1.6 million. (NEMA, 2016).

Borno State Government trying, for the first time in 10 years the government has received so far the lowest allocation from the federation accounts and families have contributed alots in ensuring poper services to IDPs. The Sure P. Money is no more. The money from the excess crude account is no more there and what the Government received is just little above the salaries of our staff, a lot of states cannot even pay their salaries but because the government of Borno has saved for rainy days. This is why news of Borno state not paying its salaries has not been hard. (SEMA, 2016).

Role of Stakeholders

The government has invited all the key stakeholders and actors in humanitarian services and those that are willing to partner with the state government to take care of IDPs. The Government also partner with international committee on Red Cross (ICRC), UNICEF, doctor without borders, we intend to receive more international donor agencies. Have met with NEMA.

Without their contribution and assistance the government of Nigerian, would not achieve their mission on providing social welfare to people living in IDPs Camps. With the way things were handled ourselves in the last four years can the government will overcomes the crisis, taking care of the IDPs, rebuilding, restructuring, rehabilitating and resetting the IDPs to their various localities at the same time. SEMA, 2015. IDPs are seriously in needs of assistance without political interference. They need primary health care and proper modern assistance, proper humane living condition and other benefits and assistance. The state and the federal government need to do more.

Nigerian Billionaire Aliko Dangote on Vanguard newspaper August, 28th 2016:6:17pm was reported to have donated over 11 million USD to Nigeria Internally Displaced Persons (IDPS). The Bill and Melinda gates foundation on Punch newspaper, August 14th 2016. Also donated 1 million dollars, International donor channel founds by donating millions of dollars to Nigerian agencies and government in addition to the billions of naira donated benefited by the Nigerian government and it agencies. The government continues to receive photographs of malnourished IDPs. Mostly children Nigerian IDPs.

Ogundamisi, 2016, Nigerian is a country reputed for having every disaster into money making venture. An increase in the population of IDPs is an opportunity to get rich quick, officials and non-governmental organization, used to see IDPs crisis as an opportunity to share in the national cake. and do not see the sorrow, tears and blood of the vulnerable. Here is another opportunity for those trusted with taking care of the vulnerable, now diverting millions into private pockets, stealing food, and resetting it on the open market. Ogundamisi noted that, Millions of dollars' worth of food donated to Nigerian IDPs have been stolen or one way or the other, those who are responsible for making service, that food gets to the IDPs are often from the same areas as the IDPs – they speak the same language, a reaffirmation that corruption and weakness does not have a tribal mark.

Those responsible have forgotten that, they share the same religious affiliation with the victims, Christians stealing from Christian IDPs, Muslims stealing from Muslims IDPs. While, there are many and early gallant people in the North East and other parts of Nigerian, without any links to government who have stuck their neck out to support of the IDPs. The Federal Government and kaduna State Government continued to use unnecessary tribalism and nepotism to try and address issue that is technical. (Ogundmisi, 2016).

President Buhari and his team are better off acknowledging the complete failure of the Danjuma committee. Billions raised under President Jonathan have yet to be accounted for, while the Buhari government continued to use the same on tired policies of the past, the same sets of people who terrorized the national emergency management and its affiliated agencies into some money making venture are still applying the same filled methods.

Conclusion

Nigeria, has witness series of unrest, resulted from natural disaster, violence, communal clashes, terrorism, riots and religious crises, particularly, Boko Haram insurgency, which directly hindered people living in Maiduguri, Borno State, that forced innocent people to relocates into another place called IDPs. Series of Boko Haram attacks leads to increases in IDPs in North Eastern part of the country, particularly, Maiduguri, Maiduguri, has become the founder of insurgents and home of Boko Haram, and has the highest number of IDPs. Increasingly, the researcher intend to find out the fundamental course of IDPs, in Maiduguri, and to examine the vital contributions of both state, federal government and non-governmental organization towards people living in three selected IDPs, in Maiduguri, Borno State.

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