



Assessment of Internally Displaced Persons Needs in Maiduguri Metropolis, Borno State, Nigeria: Implications for Counselling

Hamsatu J. Pur* Amos Audu and Wasinda Gideon

Department of Education, University of Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria

*Contact: hamsatupur@gmail.com, +2348068864703

Abstract

The study assessed internally displaced persons needs in IDP's camps, Maiduguri Metropolis, Borno State, Nigeria. Five objectives were stated and five research questions were answered. Survey research design was used for the study. The target population for the study comprised all the 66,466 IDP's across the ten internally displaced persons camps in Maiduguri Metropolis, however, 528 IDP's were drawn through stratified and simple random sampling technique as the sample for the study. Need Assessment and Counselling Implication of Internally Displaced Persons in Maiduguri Metropolis (NACIIDPMM) developed by the researchers was used for data collection, pilot study was conducted to determine the reliability of the NACIIDPMM, the data collected was computed using a test-retest method and reliability coefficient of .81 was found which shows that the instrument was reliable for the purpose of this study. The descriptive statistics: percentages and frequency, and cross tabulation and chi-square were used to answered research questions one to five. The findings of the study showed that there was sufficient and comfortable accommodation in IDP's camps, IDP's eat daily but not to their satisfaction, and there were insufficient health personnel and health facilities in the IDP's camps. It was further discovered that there are provisions for formal education in the IDP's camps, but no adequate supply of man power and educational materials have been provided and there are provisions for the security to the IDP's but not adequate. Based on the findings of the study, it was concluded that with the exception of accommodation, the basic needs of IDP's are not adequately met. Based on the findings of the study, it was recommended that there is need for authorities involve in the management of IDP's to review their welfare strategies so as to reach the average need of IDP's.

Keywords: assessment, internally displaced persons, needs, and counselling.

Introduction

In the past 5 years, an alarming number of people in north-eastern Nigeria have had to abandon their homes and livelihoods in the face of Boko Haram insurgency, couple with other threats. These people relocate from their home of abode to other destination without preparation, as they do not cross an international border; therefore, they are considered 'Internally Displaced Persons' (IDPs) and not refugees. According to the African Union Convention for Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa

(Kampala Convention, 2009), as cited in National Policy on Internally Displaced Person's in Nigeria (2012) Internally Displaced Persons (IDP's) are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border.

Internally displaced persons are left with no choice than to leave their homes and are deprived of the most physiological and security needs such as water, food, shelter, warmth, sex, sleep, security, these needs are essential for survival and well being of an individual. Most of these IDP's experienced and witnessed war-related trauma, some of their families and relatives have been killed, forced to displace to unknown location or taken as prisoners, while others were raped, abducted and forcibly married while in captivity. Adamu and Rasheed (2016) states that insecurity situation in contemporary Nigeria has forced large number of Nigerians to be vulnerable and susceptible to all forms of exploitation, abuse, neglect and many rendered homeless in the northern part of the country.

Recently, internal displacement has become a global phenomenon, according to Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) (2014), at the end of 2013, 33.3 million people were displaced by conflict and violence globally, however, 1,538, 982 IDP's in Nigeria as of April 2015, and 70 percent of them being women and children were still living in IDP's camps. Perhaps more alarming than the number of IDPs; are the poor conditions under which most of the IDPs are living. A large majority of Nigeria's over 1.5 million displaced persons are housed in overcrowded camps across the disturbed northern regions, these camps which are mainly school facilities and empty government buildings with few basic amenities are supervised by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA). Muhammed (2012) reported that the volume and spread of Internally Displaced Persons (IDP's) in Nigeria reveals that about 1.4 million displaced persons are been hosted across the country, for example, Akwa-Ibom (200,000); Cross-River (115,000);

Ebonyi (80,000); Bauchi (45,000); Kebbi (50,000); Jigawa (200,000); Plateau (250,000); Taraba (250,000); Benue (480,000); Gombe (100,000); Edo (250,000); and Borno States (16,000).

United Nations (2000) identified three main types of displacement and these are: development-induced displacement, conflict-induced displacement and disaster-induced displacement. Development-induced displacement refers to the relocation of people due to development programme such as industrialization, electrification, road expansion/construction and urbanization. Conflict-induced displacement is the forced and involuntary migration of people because of wars, confrontation, armed conflicts, terrorism, and violence. However, disaster-induced displacement implies a situation where people are forced to flee their homes suddenly or unexpectedly in large numbers as a result of natural or man-made disasters such as flood, earth quake or tsunami but who are still within the country.

Statement of Problem

The intensity of internal displacement arising from violent conflicts and its direct consequences on the displaced population over the past years has turned the attention of both local and international agencies to the north eastern states of Nigeria, where human activities are paralyzed because of involuntary temporary relocation. Many people are traumatised and depressed as a result of alien activities of Boko Haram insurgents in the north eastern Nigeria. The displaced female experience sexual abuse in the highest order while the males are exposed to forced labour and criminal activities such as arson, fire arm possession, stealing and drug abuse "for survival" and other social misconducts that could cause permanent damage to their personality. However, some internally displaced persons reside in

camps and others are living in the host communities and are face with different challenges ranging from physical, social, emotional, psychological and otherwise, therefore, the study assessed internally displaced persons needs in IDP's camps in Maiduguri Metropolis, Borno State, Nigeria.

Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study were to determine availability and adequacy of:

1. Accommodation for internally displaced persons in the IDP's camps in Borno State.
2. Food for internally displaced persons in the IDP's camps in Borno State.
3. Health facilities and adequate health personnel for internally displaced persons in the IDP's camps in Borno State.
4. Educational facilities and sufficient teachers for internally displaced persons in the IDP's camps in Borno State.
5. Physical security for internally displaced persons in the IDP's camps in Borno State.

Research Questions

The research questions of the study were answered:

1. What is the level of accommodation in internally displaced person's camp in Borno State?
2. What is the extent of food in internally displaced persons camp in Borno State?
3. What are the extent health facilities and personnel in internally displaced persons camp in Borno State?
4. What are the extent educational facilities and teachers in internally displaced persons camp in Borno State?
5. What is the extent of physical security in the internally

displaced person's camp in Borno State?

Methodology

The design for the study was survey research design adopted to assess the needs of internally displaced persons in Maiduguri Metropolis, Borno State, Nigeria. The target population for the study comprised all the 66,466 IDP's across the ten internally displaced person's camps in Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria. The names of these camps are as follows: Dalori I, Dalori II, Bakassi, Wulari, Muna, Women Teachers College, Govt. Girls College, Yerwa, Govt. College and Shehu Sanda Kyarimi. Through the process of stratified random sampling technique, all the ten IDP's camps were selected for the study. Accordingly, five hundred and twenty eight (528) IDP's were selected from the sampled IDP's camps through simple random sampling techniques. These sample size of 528 IDP's were selected based on the recommendation of Krejcie and Morgan (1970) with regard to the determination of sample size from a given population.

The instrument used for data collection during the course of this study is a questionnaire designed by the researchers and is tagged; Need Assessment and Counselling Implications of Internally Displaced Persons in Maiduguri Metropolis (NACIIDPMM), was used to gather data on assessment of IDP's needs in Maiduguri Metropolis. The instrument consists of sections, section A contains the demographic characteristics of the IDP's and section B determines the needs of internally displaced persons. The instrument was validated by some expert in Measurement and Evaluation Unit of the Department of Education, University of Maiduguri. The researchers employed test-retest technique to determine the reliability of the research instrument used in this study. The researcher administered

the instrument on 60 respondents who had the same characteristics as the main survey group and this were randomly selected. The instrument was re-administered to get the score and the reliability coefficient was 0.81 was obtained at $p < .05$ which shows that the instrument was reliable for the purpose of

the study. The data collected were analysed using descriptive statistics: frequency count and percentage.

Results

Research question 1: What is the level of accommodation in internally displaced person's camp in Borno State?

Table 1: Results of Frequency Count and Percentage on Accommodation Assessment of IDP's

S/N	Variable		Frequency Count	Percentage
1	Sufficient water supply	Yes	387	73
		No	141	27
2	Sufficient power supply	Yes	342	65
		No	186	35
3	Sufficient kitchen facilities	Yes	351	67
		No	177	33
4	Sufficient bed rooms	Yes	300	57
		No	228	43
5	Sufficient accommodation	Yes	333	63
		No	195	37
6	Comfortable beddings	Yes	291	55
		No	237	45

Table 1 indicates that there was sufficient and comfortable accommodation for IDP's in IDP's camps, Maiduguri Metropolis. This implies that 63% and above of the IDP's expressed satisfaction as far as accommodation, water supply,

power supply, good kitchen, good place to sleep and comfortable beddings in the IDP's camp were concerned.

Research question 2: What is the extent of food in internally displaced persons camp in Borno State?

Table 2: Results of Frequency Count and Percentage on Feeding Assessment of IDP's

S/N	Variable		Frequency Count	Percentage
1	Three square meals daily	Yes	306	58
		No	222	42
2	Eat to satisfaction	Yes	255	48
		No	273	52
3	Eating balanced diet	Yes	285	54
		No	243	46

Table 2 indicates that 306 IDP's eat three square meal daily, but not to their satisfaction. This implies that 58% gets three square meals daily, yet only 48% eat to satisfaction, however, 54% responded they gets balance diet. In summary, about half of the population in

the IDP's camps have accessed to food and eat to their satisfaction which was good number.

Research question 3: What are the extent health facilities and personnel in internally displaced persons camp in Borno State?

Table 3: Results of Frequency Count and Percentage on Health Care Assessment of IDP's

S/N	Variable		Frequency Count	Percentage
1	Sufficient health personnel	Yes	255	48
		No	273	52
2	Access to health care	Yes	249	47
		No	279	53
3	Sufficient health facilities	Yes	240	45
		No	288	55
4	Access to maternity care	Yes	228	43
		No	300	57
5	Sufficient mosquito nets	Yes	219	42
		No	309	58
6	Sufficient drugs	Yes	234	44
		No	294	56

Table 3 indicates that majority of the IDP's responded that there were insufficient health personnel, health facilities and drugs in the IDP's camps health centres.

Research question 4: What are the extent educational facilities and teachers in internally displaced persons camp in Borno State?

Table 4: Result of Frequency Count and Percentage on Education Assessment of IDP's

S/N	Variable		Frequency Count	Percentage
1	Provision of formal education	Yes	216	41
		No	312	59
2	Sufficient teachers	Yes	252	48
		No	276	52
3	Sufficient educational materials	Yes	228	43
		No	300	57

Table 4 indicates that majority of respondents responded that there were insufficient teachers and educational facilities even though attempt to provide

formal education in the IDP's camps was made.

Research question 5: What is the extent of physical security in the internally displaced person's camp in Borno State?

Table 5: Result of Frequency Count and Percentage on Security Assessment of IDP's

S/N	Variable		Frequency	Percentage
1	Sufficient security personnel	Yes	222	42
		No	306	58
2	Sufficient security facilities	Yes	213	40
		No	315	60

Table 5 indicates that majority of the respondents responded that there are provisions for physical security of the

IDP's camps, on the other hand both the security personnel and facilities were insufficient.

Discussion

During the course of this study about 63.1% of IDPs in the camps revealed that as far as accommodation is concerned all registered IDPs are provided adequate and comfortable accommodation in the camps, however, this finding contradicts the finding of IDMC (2014), which found that many IDPs do not have a place to sleep because there are too many of them. According to IDMC (2014), there was congestion in IDPs' camps which led to many IDPs sleeping in the open space due to lack of accommodation.

The results of this study also revealed that more than half of the IDPs' population in camps were being fed to satisfaction daily. However, less than half of the respondents responded that their meals are insufficient thereby leading to high rate of malnutrition among children in the camps. This finding disagreed with the findings of IDMC (2014), which showed that feeding arrangements in the camps are very poor and majority of the IDPs can access good food in the IDPs' camps. According to IDMC (2014), the quantity of food served in the camp is usually too small to satisfy them, evident in their malnourished children, furthermore, the fact that the quantity of food served in the camp is insufficient, it was also of poor quality, and not nutritionally balanced.

The findings of the study showed that health care delivery was far from reaching the needs of the IDPs due to insufficient health personnel and facilities in various camps. This is in harmony with the findings of IDMC (2014) which revealed that the health facilities in the IDPs' camps are inadequate and this is affecting the health of the IDPs because diseases easily spread in the camps. The medical personnel are not enough and also do not have enough medicines to

treat the sick or handle the cases, drugs/vaccination and sanitary items that can be used to take care of the IDPs' health needs, especially the women and the children.

Furthermore, the findings revealed that even though there were provisions for formal education in the camp, man power supply is inadequate and educational materials are in short supplies to the IDPs, this conforms with the findings of IDMC (2014), which found that there was no facilities for the education of the IDPs' children, not even make shift facilities hence the children do not have access to education. This has led to the school-age children roaming the IDPs' camps aimlessly.

The study further revealed that though there were provisions made for the security of the IDPs, but there are inadequate in security personnel and facilities in the camps. This finding concurred with the finding of IDMC (2014), which showed that there are issues of security in IDPs' camps due to some of the insurgents are hidden among the genuine IDPs thereby constituting emotional and psychological insecurity that leads to physical insecurity. The insufficient number of security operatives present in the camps cannot handle petty crimes; therefore security provided in the camp is not adequate and needs to be improved. The IDPs' camps were too porous and the IDPs are exposed to security threats from their former tormentors.

Conclusion

Based on the findings of this study, the researchers concluded that the basic needs of IDPs in camps in terms of accommodation, food, health, education and security were not adequately met. Comfortable and sufficient accommodations were provided in the IDPs' camps but not enough. It was also

concluded that food, educational facilities and physical security were provided to the IDP's but were not sufficient. Furthermore, educational and health man power are in shortages, health facilities and physical security are also not sufficient in various IDP's camps.

Implications for Counselling

The findings have implications for counselling. The counsellors should extend his or her effectiveness through the employment of different counselling therapies and techniques to assist the IDP's in the camps; however, special attention should be given to those IDP's lacking basic needs like food, accommodation, access health, access to formal education and security. Based on these findings, it was also recommended that counsellors should presents the IDP's needs to appropriate authorities' (NEMA, NGO's and Borno State Government) saddle with responsibility for management of IDP's welfares and camps in the state.

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