

Assessment of Humanitarian Intervention in A Post Insurgency Region: A Case Study of Wash Programmes in Geidam and Gujiba LGAs of Yobe State, Nigeria

Abatcha Melemi PhD

Department of Economics,
Federal University Gasuhua (FUGA)
Email; melemi2@yahoo.com
Phone Number: +234 (0)8065535964

Godwin Boniface PhD

Department of Economics,
Adamawa State University (ADSU), Mubi
Email: gboniface2@gmail.com
Phone Number: +234 (0)7035154470

Abdullahi Ahmed PhD

Department of Accounting,
Adamawa State University (ADSU), Mubi
Email: ahmed655@adsu.edu.ng
Phone Number: +234 (0) 803690193

Musa Audu PhD

Department of Economics,
Federal University Gahua (FUGA),
Email: musaaudu208@gmail.com

DOI: 10.56201/ijssmr.v10.no5.2024.pg169.189

Abstract

Evaluation of completed interventions is essential for understanding their impact. However, existing evaluations often lack independent scrutiny, primarily funded by donors or implementing organizations. This study aims to provide an unbiased assessment of selected humanitarian interventions on Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) in Gujba and Gaidam Local Government Areas of Yobe State, Nigeria. Utilizing both qualitative and quantitative methods, including cross-sectional surveys and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)/Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), the study examines the effectiveness of WASH services provided by International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs)/Donors such as the World Bank, Mercy Corps, International Rescue Committee (IRC), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), German Corporation (GIZ), among others. Findings indicate that a

significant percentage of WASH services in the study areas are provided by these INGOs/donors, with reported effectiveness and efficiency. However, there is room for improvement, particularly for entities with lower discrimination coefficients like the World Bank and USAID. Recommendations include enhancing the clarity and effectiveness of WASH programs, conducting regular assessments of service quality perception, engaging stakeholders for tailored interventions, and investing in capacity building initiatives to empower local communities and organizations for high-quality service delivery. These findings underscore the importance of independent evaluation in ensuring the relevance, effectiveness, and sustainability of humanitarian interventions in WASH.

Key Words: *Humanitarian Intervention; WASH: Graded Items Response Rate Theory.*

1. Introduction

Over the last eight years since the emergence of the *Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'aawati Wal-Jihad* (JAS), commonly known as *Boko Haram*, with dominance in the North East Nigeria, not fewer than 2 million people have suffered internal displacement. Almost 2,000 - 7,000 women and girls have been lost to abduction and sex slavery. Furthermore, over 8 million have become food insecure, and around 3 million civilians are caught up in inaccessible and insecure areas. The physical devastation of private properties and civilian infrastructure is also stated to be massive (Gough-UN Humanitarian Coordinator, 2016). The United Nation Humanitarian overview for September 2017 revealed that since October 2016, humanitarian partners have significantly scaled up the response to the urgent needs of millions of people in the North East Nigeria. This was commended in the first UN Security Council Resolution on the Lake Chad region in March 2017 following a UNSC mission. Since the beginning of the year 2017, over 90 humanitarian organizations have provided aid to 4.5 million people, including nearly 2 million people who are reached monthly with food assistance and over 4 million people who received out-patient or medical health services. Assistance has also included early recovery and livelihood interventions to strengthen resilience and re-building North East, Nigeria (UN Humanitarian Overview, 2017). The report further confirmed that the number of humanitarian specialists deployed to the region has also considerably increased. At the beginning of 2016, only a dozen of international humanitarian staffs was operating in the area. As of mid-2017, more than 500 international and 2,000 national staffs are dedicated to the humanitarian response, mainly in Borno State. A continued priority for 2017-18 is to continue to deploy the most engaged qualified and efficient people to run and scale up humanitarian operations.

Consequently, several interdependent and collective actions have been put in places that have increased the level and quality of the humanitarian response. Some of these include strengthened collaboration at inter-agency and multi-sectoral levels, strengthened local area coordination, and joint interventions to boost self-reliance of affected people. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP), for example, have partnered to have distributed cereals, pulses and fertilizers to 1.2 million individuals while contributing to covering their food needs for six to nine months. Cash Transfer Programming is also on the rise and is being used by

the humanitarian community in Nigeria as an effective modality to deliver assistance, where feasible, handing the consumption decision to those in need. Partners have reached over 115,000 households with cash transfers to date: 100 per cent of these have been through unconditional transfers. It was established that by the end of July 2017, over 90 humanitarian organizations have assisted about 4.5 million people with nutrition, food, shelter, health, education, protection and water and sanitation support. Assistance also includes early recovery and livelihood interventions to strengthen resilience and re-building (UN Humanitarian Overview, 2017).

It is evident on records that series of interventions have been made in those post crisis areas over time from different sources. It is therefore imperative, to independently assess the impact of these interventions in one of the benefiting communities to validate or invalidate those findings.

1.2 Statement of Problem/Justification

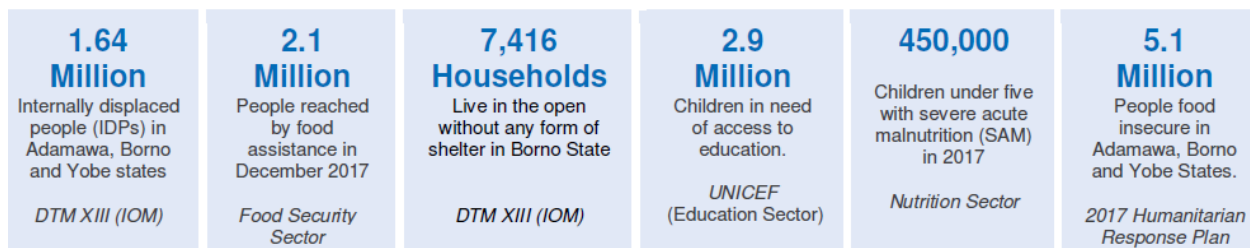
According to UN Humanitarian Overview of 2017, not fewer than 90 humanitarian organizations have assisted about 4.5 million people with nutrition, food, shelter, health, education, protection and water and sanitation support. This also includes early recovery and livelihood interventions to strengthen resilience and re-building. Nearly all these interventions have been evaluated to tell the impact story of such interventions.

However, these evaluations are donor/implementing partner funded, and the results have continuously appeared lip-sweet, with no independent lens especially from the academic community to ascertain whether livelihoods have improved, and to what extent leveraging on global standards in a post insurgent society. Also, several reports have emerged to present how certain humanitarian interventions are abused or rather undermined by corrupt activities at different levels of the intervention, and nicely written impact assessment reports are written, while the beneficiary livelihoods are compromised. In Geidam, NEMA and FEMA officials have been accused of allowing aids to go astray. Sani Babagana, a United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) IDP protection monitor in Geidam, recounted what happened after a shipment of relief materials including rice, milk and soap arrived at Geidam town last June “Surprisingly, after the materials were delivered and received by the authorities of the local council, only very few of the IDPs benefitted from the materials,” Babagana said. “The NEMA officials bribed the local council officials by giving them a portion of the items while they carted away the bulk of the relief.”¹ The report of this intervention, no doubt would have been nicely produced at the expense of the IDPs in Geidam. Similarly, a report by United Nations Development Programme, (UNDP) and National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) showed that between 2015 & 2017 there were high spate of corruption and diversion of funds and other items meant for IDPs by officials of the Presidential Initiative on the North East (PINE). According to the report, PINE officials pay less attention to the critical needs of IDPs in the areas of housing, food, education and healthcare. The

1

report also alleges that the officials rather use the bulk of the resources on contracts that are found to have immensely benefited some public officials. It reports that corruption and conflict of interests result in gross breaches of public procurement rules by which public officials have personal interests and are paid for jobs not done. The 103-page report reveals that out of the N8.352 billion released by PINE in 2016, only N6.326 billion was spent, leaving N2.026 billion unaccounted for.² Although most of the narratives around misuse of humanitarian funds are Nigerian government (public institution) inclined. This presents another gap in the narratives around publicly available information on the crisis surrounding validity of impact assessment data of humanitarian interventions supposedly completed by private organizations.³ To this end, it therefore becomes imperative to launch independent assessment of selected donor driven humanitarian interventions completed in Geidam and Gujiba with the aim of balancing the narratives, while ensuring improved livelihoods of the victims are not compromised. Key livelihood indicators including water, health, sanitation, hygiene, shelter and nutrition is proposed for investigation against the standard bench mark for a post conflict society. Figure I give a clear illustration of the humanitarian emergency in the region under consideration.

Figure I: Overview of Humanitarian Emergency Situation in North-east Nigeria.



Source: UN Office of the Coordination of Human Affairs (2017).

This justifies the reason for this independent assessment which is expected to answer the following research questions:

- (i) To what extent have those humanitarian interventions in the Gaidam and Gujiba Local Government Areas of Yobe State impacted on the livelihoods of the beneficiaries?
- (ii) What is the correlation between the successes recorded by the findings of those implementing partners in aspect of improving the livelihood of the beneficiaries and the reality on ground in the affected communities?

The main aim of this research is aimed at assessing the impact of humanitarian interventions on livelihoods of the beneficiaries in Gaidam Local Government Area of Yobe State, Nigeria. The specific objectives are:

- (i) To identify the extent of humanitarian interventions on the core livelihood indicators of the beneficiaries specifically on WASH programmes within the study area; and
- (ii) To establish the correlation between the findings of the implementing partners on improving the livelihood of the beneficiaries while implementing WASH programmes and the reality on the ground within the study areas.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW ON HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTIONS

2.1 Conceptual Clarification

Traditionally, humanitarian intervention refers to peaceful enforcement aimed at halting or preventing serious human rights abuses. Thus, if the U.N. sanctions humanitarian intervention, the purpose should be to address a human rights catastrophe and no other political objectives or interests, Lillich (1980).

While Centre for Strategic Study of the UN (2000) in its attempt to give a broader perspective of humanitarian intervention defined it as an armed intervention in another state, without the agreement of that state, to address (the threat of) a humanitarian disaster, in particular caused by grave and large-scale violations of fundamental human rights. This definition was adopted by a NATO seminar in Scheveningen on the topic in November 2009. The key aspects of this definition are related to sovereignty and human rights. Firstly, for an action to be intervention, sovereignty of the state being intervened in must be breached. Under this definition, INTERFET action in East Timor, while motivated by humanitarian concerns, was not an intervention as the action was undertaken with the consent of the Indonesian government (questions of the power of that government to enforce the decision aside). Secondly, for an intervention to be humanitarian, the desire to address violations of human rights should be the driving force in the intervention decision.

The UN Charter gives the Security Council the power under Article 24(1) and Chapter VII to take any measures necessary to “restore international peace and security”. These provisions allow the Security Council to authorize action based on subsequent agreements, such as the

Universal Declaration of Human Rights; if consensus be reached in the Council that a humanitarian disaster is a threat to international peace and security then the UN can act.

However, in the African context, debate over humanitarian intervention has broadened beyond humanitarian goals to include the ‘possibility of intervention to address a range of important political and other objectives, including whether intervention should also be considered where effective state authority has completely collapsed, where ripple effects threaten regional stability, or where democratization or democratic processes are threatened’, Samkange (2002:73). Indeed, by simply addressing or halting the consequences of the conflict at the surface without making

further efforts to address the root of the conflict, it is like dealing with the symptoms of an illness rather than its diagnostically prescribed cause.

Furthermore, some have argued for wide definition of humanitarian intervention to understand the best ways to deal with the increasing complex humanitarian crisis in the world today. This argument about humanitarian intervention is consistent with customary international law under certain circumstances and should be launched only when diplomatic and other peaceful means have failed, and when U.N. Security Council fails to launch an effective operation, for example, because of a veto by a permanent member of the U.N., Lillich (1980).

According to Evans et al, any new approach to intervention for human protection purposes needs to meet at least four basic objectives such as:

- (i) To establish clearer rules, procedures and criteria for determining whether, when and how to intervene;
- (ii) to establish the legitimacy of military intervention when necessary and after all other approaches have failed;
- (iii) to ensure that military intervention, when it occurs, is carried out only for the purposes proposed, is effective, and is undertaken with proper concern to minimize the human costs and institutional damage that will result; and
- (iv) to help eliminate, where possible, the causes of conflict while enhancing the prospects for durable and sustainable peace, Evans et al (200), but cited in Charles (2010).

Furthermore, Intervention for human protection purposes has been conceptualized not to focus on the 'right to intervene' but on the 'responsibility to protect':

- 1) The responsibility to protect focuses on the interests or needs of the vulnerable populations, rather than the intending interveners, in other words, the need to protect civilian populations from gross murder, women from systematic rape and children from starvation;
- 2) The responsibility to protect recognizes the state to possess the chief responsibility to protect its population. This responsibility is assumed by the international community when the state concerned is unwilling or unable to exercise it;
- 3) The responsibility to protect, not only, implies the 'responsibility to react', but the 'responsibility to prevent and responsibility to rebuild', Evans et al (2001).

2.2 A Brief Overview of Humanitarian Interventions in Post Conflicts Areas in Some Selected Developing Countries and North-East Nigeria

The fact is that humanitarian assistance by developmental partners/Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) requires safeguarding other fundamental rights, including access to adequate shelter, clean water and sanitation, sufficient food, primary health care and education (UN:2007). Despite serious security problems and logistical constraints, humanitarian agencies made every effort to deliver food assistance and protection to displaced populations. In 2007, UNWFP food aid reached over 1.5 million people in Somalia, and UNICEF provided family relief kits to over 240,000 individuals displaced by flooding or conflict in the country (UNWFP 2008). In Chad, insecurity and poor road conditions required complex logistics operations and intricate planning to pre-position food stocks supplied from long distances. Detailed planning allowed the UNWFP to respond effectively to the crisis, particularly in mid-2007 when the numbers of IDPs in need of assistance rose from 50 000 to 150 000 (UNWFP 2008).

A critical Analysis of the impact of food aid on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Zimbabwe was done by Wonesai where in focused on household's food security, migration-trends and assets loss by displaced persons, and how food aid affects these aspects. He used sustainable livelihood framework in analyzing the role of food aid on IDPs. The study results showed that food aid played a significant role in cushioning the displaced households when it is integrated with other sustainable livelihood interventions, for instance those that promoted the value of household assets and land holding. It was noticed that due to denied access to land, IDPs were dependently on food aid for their household food security; social improvements in form of increased school attendance were noted because of food being provided to IDPs (Wonesai, 2011).

The World Health Organization Humanitarian Response Plans (2016) reported that violent attacks since 2009 on civilian by *Bokko Haram* have caused widespread devastation in North-Eastern Nigeria; generating a crisis that has affected more than 14.8 million people in Adamawa, Borno, Gombe and Yobe States. More than 2.2 million people have fled their homes and 7 million are estimated to need urgent and serious humanitarian assistance with an estimated 3 million people lived in unknown or inaccessible areas, the report further emphasized. This soaring humanitarian crisis has attracted 62 organizations to intervene in the four focus states of north-east Nigeria in support of a Government led responses by the National and State Emergency Management Agencies (NEMA/SEMA) in particular. This includes 27 international non-governmental organizations (INGOs); 19 national NGOs; 11 United Nation offices, agency funds and programmes; three Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement organizations; and one inter-governmental organization (United Nation Humanitarian Response Plan, 2016).

On a similar note, United Nation Refugee Agency (2017) while reviewing the humanitarian crisis in the region confirmed that the incidence of insurgency and counter insurgency operations have resulted in the displacement of approximately 1.9 million people and created a food and nutrition crisis in Nigeria's north east. Consequently, the worst affected local government areas of the

Northeast are facing Emergency food security conditions, lack of shelter, water and sanitation, as well as limited and over overstretched health facilities.

An impact assessment of Humanitarian Assistance research was conducted by Shoham (2017) where he established that for many of the displaced person, day-to-day survival remains an existential struggle because conflict and displacement have led to the direct loss of property, particularly farm land, which then translated into loss of livelihood assets and trade network. Livelihoods, including from farming, livestock trans-human flows, cross-border trade and for those from the coastal areas of Lake Chad, fishing, continue to be severely curtailed. Fisheries in Lake Chad region contributed significantly to households' income, food security, nutrition and employment and provided an important safety-net for the rural community. The report also reveals that access to food, water and basic services is also severely restricted, resulting to negative coping mechanism. Hence, malnutrition has become more prevalent especially among children and women with rates above the WHO alerts threshold as the quantity and quality of available food has dramatically decreased during the conflict.

Despite the series of intervention by NGOs and other humanitarian partners, shelter, water and sanitation, health and education services remain inadequate in newly liberated areas. In Banki for example, most schools have not resumed since the area was recaptured nearly 2 years ago. WFP supplies food to every household twice a month, and the government recently distributed food to the affected population, but firewood remains a challenge. In addition to other interventions including shelter, non-food items, wet feeding, and registration and profiling, UNHCR is also providing charcoal to families in Banki, Bama, Pulka and Ngala where access to firewood continues to be a challenge. UNHCR is working with other humanitarian agencies including OCHA, UNICEF, IOM, ICRC and OXFAM for a coordinated response approach to ensure that IDPs and refugee returnees receive the necessary life-saving support in the face of all the difficulties. Because of these collaborated efforts, the agencies have largely succeeded in mitigating the possibility of any outbreak in camps and communities so far (UNHCR, 2017).

The Africa Development Fund (ADF) during its rural water supply and sanitation sub-programme for Yobe and Ogun States made significant improvement in the aspects of people having access to new improved water points and sanitation facilities such as latrines in households and public places with an estimated 3.76 million benefitting from the water facilities and 160 million from sanitation services thereby reducing the average water distance from more than 15 km to less than 500 metres (ADF, 2022).

In related research conducted by United State Agency for international Development (USAID) in North Eastern Nigeria where it was established that in a bid to relief the plight of the IDPs, contracts were awarded on the rehabilitation/upgrading and new construction of phase one WASH facilities in small towns of Kwaya-Kusar, Vinikilang and Dukkumari in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe (BAY) states respectively. Contractors under phase 1 construction activities have completed eight toilet constructions in Kwaya Kusar three, Vinikilang two, and Dukkumari, three small towns

of Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe, respectively. Water facilities with few toilets under the same phase are close to completion. Construction activities under Phase 2 will commence in some of the small towns after the selection process of competent contractors is completed in January 2022 (USAID, 2022)

The report further identified key challenge such as lack of road access to IDPs and return areas outside Maiduguri is significantly affecting response including movement of items. Boko Haram is also targeting relief convoys, stealing items and taking occupants hostage in exchange for ransom. UN helicopters remain the only means of transport for humanitarian workers. In Maiduguri, attacks on the town and IDP camps are also making interventions and service delivery operationally challenging.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework upon whom the research is anchored is the theory of change which was adopted from the work of Multi-Donor Trust Funds Mechanism (MDTF). This is a mechanism that pooled funding approach through which cooperative stakeholders-countries bilateral and multilateral partners- combined their resources to solve urgent problems associated with post-conflict contents. MDTFs are usually “large in scale and designed to support clearly defined programmatic purpose and results framework based on a shared theory of change”. The theory is considered as one of the most effective, flexible, responsive and innovative ways to deliver post conflict reconstruction, on the primary thing that such communities and people need are speedy and scaled interventions that will help restore orderliness, stability, progress, prosperity and help them avoid a relapse to destabilization. Indeed, MDTFs in post-crisis situation have in fact been found to be important instruments for resource mobilization, policy dialogue, and risk and information management which are principal determinants of how solid and fast a reconstruction can turn out (Assessment Capacity Projects ACAPs, 2015).

3. Methodology

3.1 Description of Study Area

Geidam local government area is in Yobe state, North-east geopolitical zone of Nigeria. The headquarter of the LGA is in the town of Geidam and is made up of 11 wards and villages which include Jororo, Tombaeji, and Tumbulgo. Geidam LGA shares boundaries with the Yunusari LGA and Meine-Soroa in Niger Republic. Geidam LGA is a part of the prestigious Gazargamu Emirate and boasts an estimated population of 121,397 inhabitants with the clear majority of the area’s inhabitants being members of the Hausa and Fulani ethnic nationalities. The Hausa and Ffulde languages are widely spoken in the area while Islam is the commonly practiced religion in the LGA. Notable landmarks in Geidam LGA include the Mai IdrisAloma Polytechnic (Yobe State Ministry of Budget and Planning, 2016).

The geographical land mass of Geidam local government area covers a total area of 4,375 square kilometres and it experiences two distinct seasons which are the dry and the rainy seasons. The average humidity level of the LGA is 16 percent, while wind speed in the area averages 10 km/h.

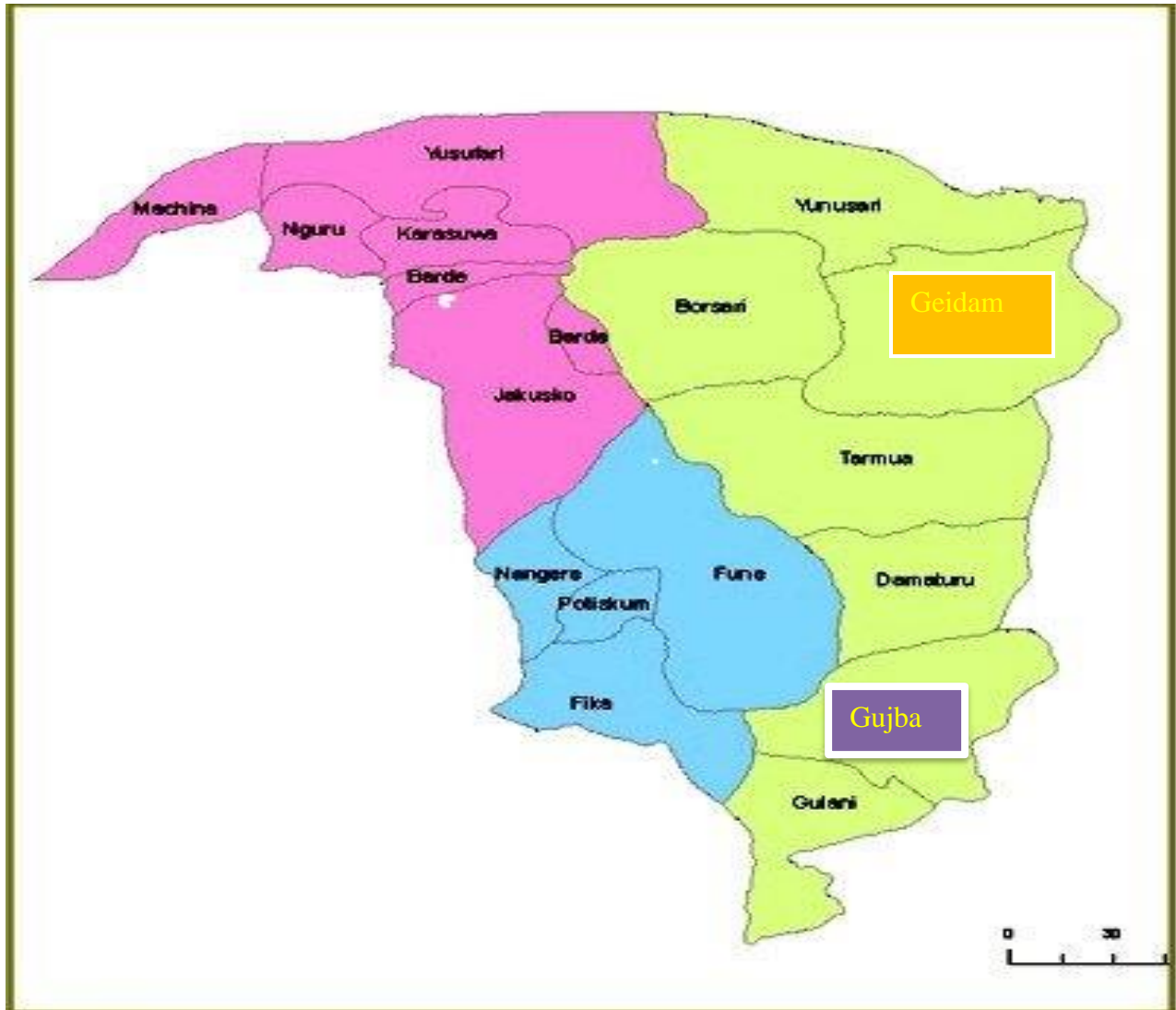
On the aspect of economic activities, the LGA is majorly an Agrarian community and is known for the cultivation of a variety of both food and cash crops. The LGA is also a hub for the rearing of a variety of animals such as cows, donkeys, and rams. In recent times however, the economy of Geidam LGA has seriously been degraded due to the activities of this prolonged insurgency whose reign of terror has led to massive loss of lives and property and the displacement of a wide percentage of the area's inhabitants.

Gujba local government area is also found in Yobe state, Northeast Nigeria and has its headquarters in the town of BuniYadi. Gujba LGA was formerly a part of the Fika Emirate but now has its own emirate known as the Gujba Emirate. Gujba is made up of 10 wards and villages which include Muktum, Nannawaji, Katarko, Goniri, Buni Yadi, Jiri, Kilbiri, and Munyim Kura. The estimated population of Gujba LGA is 148,303 inhabitants with the most prominent tribes in the area being the Hausa and the Fulani. The Hausa and Ffulde languages are widely spoken in the area while Islam and Christianity are the commonly practiced religions in the area.

Gujba LGA covers a total area of 3,239 square kilometres and has an average temperature of 34 degrees centigrade. The total precipitation in the area is 700 mm of rainfall per annum while the average wind speed in the LGA is 9 km/h.

Farming is a key economic activity undertaken by the residents of Gujba LGA with a variety of crops grown in the area. Animal rearing is another popular enterprise undertaken by the inhabitants of the area with animals such as camels, sheep and rams reared and sold in the area. Other important economic activities in Gujba LGA include trade, pottery, hunting, and carpentry (Yobe State Ministry of Budget and Planning, 2016).

Map of Yobe State showing the selected LGAs



3.2 Source and Method of Data Collection

The research proposes the use of both quantitative and qualitative data. The source of quantitative data was collected using both structured and semi-structured questionnaires, while qualitative data will be sourced via the use of Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) will be conducted by selecting key relevant stakeholders of the intervention activities in the selected Local Government Areas.

3.3 Sample Size of the Study

Since research is a systematic process, the study adopts Dillman (2007 & 2011) formula which is an advancement of Krejcie and Morgan (1970) and is specified below as:

$$N_s = \frac{(N_p)(p)(1-p)}{(N_p-1)(B/C)^2 + (p)(1-p)} \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

Where:

NS = Computed Sample size needed for the desired level of precision;

Np = Size of the population of the study;

p = proportion of population expected to be sampled;

B = acceptable amount of sampling error (in this case assume +/-5 =0.05);

C = z-statistic associated with the confidence level (in this case assume a 95% confidence level =1.96).

A sample size of 327 was arrived at using the above formula to be administered on the two selected LGAs- namely, Geidam and Gujba with respective sample size of 176 and 151.

3.4 Sampling Technique

To achieve unbiased estimators, a multi-stage sampling technique was deployed, but with specific interest to purposive, cluster and stratified random sampling techniques which was implemented into three stages. Since the study is targeted at assessing the impact on post insurgency communities, Geidam and Gubja LGAs have been purposively selected because of their ugly experiences and humanitarian interventions targeted at those communities as well.

The second stage of the sampling was cluster sampling technique since the pattern of settlements in most rural and urban centres is often influence by certain socio-cultural and natural factors. Lastly, the simple random sampling technique is being proposed so that every beneficiary of the intervention will be given equal chance of representation, consequently avoiding sampling bias.

3.5 Data Analysis

Basically, descriptive analysis such as the use of tables and inferential statistics (Graded Item Response Rate Theory GIRRT) was used as the tool of quantitative data analysis. This method of data analysis will be used at two stages. In the first stage, the researchers will utilize descriptive tools of analysis to summarize and deduce certain pieces of information from key variables of interest. Thus, measure of central tendency which include mean, median and mode will be computed so that information for easily processing and analysis. Additionally, the study will

compute statistic on the degree of dispersion of the data using standard deviation (variance), minimum and maximum values. These statistics will enable the researcher to ascertain the extent of dispersion of information collected. Furthermore, shape of the distribution will be determined by computing skewness and kurtosis. Normality assumption of the data will be verified using these statistics.

The second stage of the quantitative data analysis is the inferential analysis. Fundamentally, Graded Items Response Rate Theory (GIRRT) was used in this regard comparing its comparative advantage in the aspect of efficiently analyzing ranked data over time.

The *a priori* or expected outcome of the research which is anchored on the theory of change where donors often employ a multi-Donor Trust Fund approach to implement projects/programme in post-conflict is a positive correlation between the amount of intervention and those key livelihood indicators that have been considered for this study. In other words, the beneficiaries of those interventions are expected to have considerable improvement with respect to those indicators of livelihood namely, shelter, health, nutrition, water and sanitation in both Gaidam and Gujba local government areas since the available literatures have shown that a lot of funds have been spent on the beneficiaries.

4. DATA PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF KEY FINDINGS

The response rate from the field survey is 100% where a total of 327 respondents were interviewed. This success was attributed to the deployment of the ODK as a viable and reliable means of data collection. the Research Assistants (RAs) were able to access all the respondents and able to interface with them on a one on one bases. The sampling technique was efficient and effectively implemented as planned and therefore, the data integrity is assured.

The first segment of this section presents the summary of information on the respondent key socio-economic attributes with respect to the subject matter namely: humanitarian interventions on WASH programmes within the study areas.

Table 1 below provides data on some essential socio-economic features of the respondents before the analysis to give an insight for the researcher to know if he was speaking to the right persons or not.

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics on the Socio-Economic Characteristics of the Respondents.

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
Age	327	41.08482	12.76665	18	75
aveincome	327	42426.81	47558.63	15000	350000
aveexp	327	49785.91	36095.19	15000	250000

famsize	327	8.760602	4.381328	1	30
Expwash	327	300.2202	705.0769	0	7250
Avqwcd	327	350.3694	139.2067	75	1875
pmipw	327	6.895759	2.522304	0	25

Source: Outcome of Field Survey by the Researcher (January, 2024) and Computed Using Stata 14.

Note: aveincome = Average Monthly Income of Households, aveexp= Average Monthly Expenditure of Household, famsize= Family Size of Household, expwash= Household Expenditure on Water, sanitation and Hygiene, avqwcd= Average Quantity of water Consumed per day expressed in litres, pmipw= Percentage of Household Monthly Income Spent on Water Consumption. Hygiene and Sanitation.

Table 1 above shows summary of key variables for the research where it was established that an average household size from the field survey was about 9 members per household which is twice more than the national average size of 4. The average water consumption per household, that is, household per capita water consumption was established to be 350.37 litres and each household spends an average of three hundred naira, (₦300.00k) as its average daily expenditure on water. In other words, the sampled households have a cumulative average monthly expenditure ₦9,000. Furthermore, about 6.90% of their average monthly income of the entire household sampled is being spent on water consumption, sanitation and hygiene services which is a little above the recommended maximum thresholds of 3% and 5% by the WHO and the World bank respectively. Disaggregating this across the individual members of the households, the per capita water consumption was estimated to be about 30.35 litres. In other words, an average member of the household within the study areas relies on 30.35 litres of water per day which is far below the 100 litres per capita water consumption for persons living in the urban area as recommended by World Health Organization (2020). This by implication means that an average person within the study area has 69.65 litres per capita water deficit.

Table 2: Major Sources of Domestic Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene for Household

This table presents a comprehensive breakdown of the primary sources contributing to domestic water, sanitation, and hygiene practices within households. The data, obtained from an extensive reconnaissance survey conducted in January 2024, offers valuable insights into the distribution and significance of various water sources in the community.

Source of Water	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative
Public Utilities	40	12.23%	12.23%

Source of Water	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative
Household Effort	56	17.13%	29.36%
Water Vendors	98	29.97%	59.33%
Water Points by NGOs	133	40.67%	100.00%
Total	327	100.00%	

Source: Outcome of Author's Reconnaissance Survey, January 2024.

Key Observations and Implications from the table 2 reveals that there are basically four (4) diverse sources of water, sanitation and hygiene services which majority reported to reliance on external Support: Notably, a significant proportion of households rely on external interventions facilitated by Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), as evidenced by the high frequency (133 households, 40.67%) utilizing water points established by such entities. This highlights the crucial role played by NGOs in addressing water accessibility challenges in the community.

Secondly, the outcome of the survey also established that about 29.97% reported reliance on commercial vending popularly known as "mai ruwa" in Hausa Language whom mostly used push chart to convey water into individual households at a charged service fee: The substantial percentage of households obtaining water from vendors underscores the role of commercial entities in meeting water demands. Understanding the dynamics of such transactions can provide insights into affordability, convenience, and quality assurance aspects associated with commercial water vending services.

Household Initiatives was also reported to be the third source of water accounting for about 17.13% While external assistance is substantial, it's essential to acknowledge the proactive efforts undertaken by households themselves. The presence of "Household Effort" as a notable source signifies the community's resilience and commitment to addressing water and sanitation needs independently.

However, public utilities were reported to be the least source of service for water, sanitation and hygiene within the study area with just 12.23%. The relatively lower percentage of households relying on Public Utilities indicates potential challenges or limitations in the public water supply infrastructure. This finding may warrant further investigation into the accessibility, reliability, and quality of public water services within the area.

The cumulative percentage highlights the collective contribution of various sources to overall water access. It emphasizes the need for a multi-faceted approach involving collaboration between public institutions, private sector entities, NGOs, and community-driven initiatives to ensure comprehensive water provision and sanitation coverage.

Table 3: Most Cited NGOs/Donors/Developmental Partners Involved in the Implementation of WASH Programmes

This table presents the frequency distribution of NGOs, donors, and developmental partners engaged in Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) programs, arranged in descending order based on their frequency of citation. The data, derived from an author-conducted reconnaissance survey in January 2024, sheds light on the prominent actors driving WASH initiatives within the community.

NGOs/Donors/Partners	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative
World Bank (RUWASSA)	115	24.52%	24.52%
Mercy Corps	83	17.70%	42.22%
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	78	16.63%	58.85%
German Corporation (GJZ)	65	13.86%	72.71%
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	60	12.79%	85.50%
USAID	31	6.61%	92.11%
Others	37	7.89%	100.00%
Total	469	100.00%	

Source: Outcome of Author’s Reconnaissance Survey, January 2024.

A critical review of table 3 above suggests that the Dominance of Major Players as key stakeholders in the realm of WASH interventions, is the World Bank (RUWASSA) which emerged as the most cited entity (115, 24,52%). This underscores the substantial influence and investment of major international financial institutions in addressing water and sanitation challenges within the community.

Furthermore, humanitarian organizations such as Mercy Corps, International Rescue Committee (IRC), and Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) representing 17.78% and 16.63% respectively feature prominently in the list, reflecting their pivotal role in providing emergency relief and sustainable development assistance in WASH-related endeavors. This humanitarian is also further supported by presence of entities like USAID and German Corporation (GJZ) highlights the significance of bilateral and multilateral cooperation in facilitating WASH programs. Such partnerships often leverage technical expertise, financial resources, and institutional support to enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of interventions.

The category labeled "Others" encompasses a diverse range of NGOs, donors, and developmental partners not explicitly mentioned. While individually their contributions may be relatively lower,

collectively they play a significant role in complementing the efforts of major stakeholders and filling niche areas of intervention

The cumulative percentage delineates the combined contribution of the listed entities, indicating the concentration of efforts among a select group of organizations in driving WASH initiatives. However, it also underscores the importance of fostering a diverse ecosystem of stakeholders to ensure comprehensive coverage and resilience in addressing WASH challenges.

While gauging the effectiveness and efficiency of donors' interventions in ensuring that WASH services are delivered within the study area, a Grade Items Response Rate Theory (GIRRT) parametric model is used to draw inferential conclusion and is thus presented on table 4 below.

Table 4: Results of Graded Items Response Rate on How Households Perceived the Quality of WASH Services Provided by NGOs

	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
World Bank						
Discrim	1.466635	.1116906	13.13	0.000	1.247726	1.685545
Diff						
>=2	-2.627896	.1882729	-13.96	0.000	-2.996904	-2.258888
>=3	-1.581919	.1209833	-13.08	0.000	-1.819042	-1.344796
>=4	-.0116422	.0690983	-0.17	0.866	-.1470723	.1237878
=5	1.703959	.1257497	13.55	0.000	1.457494	1.950424
Mercy corps						
Discrim	2.305641	.1686147	13.67	0.000	1.975162	2.63612
Diff						
>=2	-1.76605	.1087995	-16.23	0.000	-1.979293	-1.552807
>=3	-.7227133	.0659169	-10.96	0.000	-.851908	-.5935186
>=4	.4239527	.0594484	7.13	0.000	.307436	.5404695
=5	2.2222	.1385443	16.04	0.000	1.950658	2.493742
irc						
Discrim	3.337951	.3007655	11.10	0.000	2.748461	3.92744
Diff						
>=2	-1.768331	.1010221	-17.50	0.000	-1.96633	-1.570331
>=3	-.8668335	.0629063	-13.78	0.000	-.9901276	-.7435395
>=4	.2578007	.0519128	4.97	0.000	.1560536	.3595479
=5	1.608933	.0877585	18.33	0.000	1.436929	1.780936
nrc						
Discrim	1.851243	.1375082	13.46	0.000	1.581732	2.120754

Diff						
>=2	-2.139864	.1407861	-15.20	0.000	-2.4158	-1.863929
>=3	-.8642347	.0770382	-11.22	0.000	-1.015227	-.7132426
>=4	.3625247	.0642755	5.64	0.000	.236547	.4885023
=5	2.097126	.1381502	15.18	0.000	1.826357	2.367895
usaid						
Discrim	2.002542	.147795	13.55	0.000	1.712869	2.292215
Diff						
>=2	-2.261022	.1457549	-15.51	0.000	-2.546696	-1.975347
>=3	-.9861551	.0781369	-12.62	0.000	-1.139301	-.8330096
>=4	.3025201	.0612085	4.94	0.000	.1825536	.4224866
=5	1.818465	.1150216	15.81	0.000	1.593027	2.043903

Source: Computed by the Researcher using State 14 (Refer to appendix iv)

Note: world bank =perception of respondents on the quality of WASH services provided by the world bank through tis RUWASSA programme, mercy corps= perception of households or respondents on the quality WASH services provided by Mercy Corps, irc= perception of respondents on the quality of WASH services provided by International Rescue Committee, nrc=perception of respondents on the quality of WASH services provide by Norwagian Refugee Council and usaid=perception of respondents o the quality of WASH services provided by United State Agency for International Development (USAID).

Discrimination Coefficient: This coefficient represents the extent to which respondents differentiate between different levels of WASH service quality provided by each entity. Higher coefficients indicate a stronger discrimination ability among respondents, implying clear distinctions in perceived service quality.

Z-scores and p-values: The Z-scores indicate the number of standard deviations a data point is from the mean. The p-values assess the significance of the discrimination coefficients. A p-value less than 0.05 indicates statistical significance, implying a strong perception of differences in service quality among respondents.

The discrimination coefficients for each entity reveal varying degrees of perceived differentiation in WASH service quality. Mercy Corps and IRC exhibit the highest discrimination coefficients, indicating a robust ability among respondents to discern differences in service quality provided by these organizations. Conversely, the World Bank and USAID have relatively lower discrimination coefficients, suggesting a less pronounced differentiation in perceived service quality.

The statistical significance of the coefficients, as indicated by the p-values, underscores the confidence in the observed differences in perceived service quality among the entities. This suggests that respondents hold distinct opinions regarding the effectiveness of WASH services provided by different organizations.

5. Conclusion

In conclusion, this research offers valuable insights into the landscape of stakeholders engaged in WASH programs within the community. By identifying the most cited NGOs, donors, and developmental partners, it provides a basis for understanding the dynamics of WASH interventions, facilitating strategic partnerships, and optimizing resource allocation to achieve sustainable improvements in water access, sanitation, and hygiene practices.

The results of the graded items response rate analysis provide valuable insights into the perceived quality of WASH services provided by different entities. Academic interpretation of these results, coupled with actionable recommendations, can inform strategic decision-making and foster continuous improvement in WASH program delivery

6. Key Recommendations from the Finding

Credible research should be able to produce practical recommendations in order to address the challenges identified or improve a working system, this research drawing from the major findings of the research has made the following recommendations:

- (i) **Targeted Improvement Efforts:** Entities with lower discrimination coefficients, such as the World Bank and USAID, should focus on enhancing the clarity and effectiveness of their WASH programs to better meet the expectations of beneficiaries.
- (ii) **Continuous Monitoring and Evaluation:** Regular assessments of service quality perception can provide valuable insights for organizations to adapt and refine their approaches in alignment with beneficiary needs and preferences.
- (iii) **Stakeholder Engagement:** Engaging with stakeholders to understand their perspectives and priorities is crucial for tailoring WASH interventions to local contexts and ensuring maximum impact and relevance.
- (iv) **Capacity Building:** Investing in capacity building initiatives can empower local communities and partner organizations to actively participate in and contribute to the delivery of high-quality WASH services.
- (v) **Collaborative Partnerships:** Collaboration among NGOs, donors, government agencies, and local communities can facilitate knowledge sharing, resource pooling, and coordinated efforts towards achieving sustainable WASH outcomes.
- (vi) **Transparency and Accountability:** Maintaining transparency in program implementation and accountability to beneficiaries is essential for building trust and confidence in WASH interventions.

By implementing these recommendations, organizations can work towards improving the perceived quality of WASH services and ultimately contribute to enhanced public health outcomes and sustainable development.

References

- African Development Fund (2022). Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Sub-Program for Yobe & Ogun States- Project Completion Report for Public Sector Operator (PCR).<https://reliefweb.int/report/nigeria/nigeria-when-aid-goes-missing>
- Assessment Capacities Projects ACAPs (2015). Secondary Data Review-North East Nigeria Conflict- Adamawa, Borno, Gombe and Yobe States.
- Centre for Strategic Study United Nation (2000). *Humanitarian Intervention: Definitions and Criteria*. Study Briefing Papers 3(1): 1-7.
- Charles, J. K. (2010). The Relevance of Humanitarian Intervention in the New International Dispensation: The Case of Burundi's Civil Conflict. *NUR- Rwanda Journal of Social Sciences*, 19(2): 177-33.
- Dillman, Don A. (2007). *Mail and Internet Surveys: The Tailored Design*, Second Edition—2007 Update. John Wiley: Hoboken, NJ. 565 pp. ISBN: 0-470-03856-x. 523 pp.
- Shoham, J. (2017). *Assessing the Impact of Humanitarian Assistance: A Review on Method in the Food and Nutrition Sector*. A Background Paper for HPG Research, Britain's Leading Independent Think- tank on International Development and Humanitarian Issues. Overseas Development Institute West... Bridge Road London, United Kingdom.
- Assessment Capacities Projects ACAPs (2015). Secondary Data Review-North East Nigeria Conflict- Adamawa, Borno, Gombe and Yobe States.
- Centre for Strategic Study United Nation (2000). *Humanitarian Intervention: Definitions and Criteria*. Study Briefing Papers 3(1): 1-7.
- Charles, J. K. (2010). The Relevance of Humanitarian Intervention in the New International Dispensation: The Case of Burundi's Civil Conflict. *NUR- Rwanda Journal of Social Sciences*, 19(2): 177-33.
- Dillman, Don A. (2007). *Mail and Internet Surveys: The Tailored Design*, Second Edition—2007 Update. John Wiley: Hoboken, NJ. 565 pp. ISBN: 0-470-03856-x. 523 pp.
- Shoham, J. (2017). *Assessing the Impact of Humanitarian Assistance: A Review on Method in the Food and Nutrition Sector*. A Background Paper for HPG Research, Britain's Leading Independent Think- tank on International Development and Humanitarian Issues. Overseas Development Institute West... Bridge Road London, United Kingdom.
- United Nation Development Programme and United Nation Humanitarian Centre for Refugee (2017). *Strategy on Protection Return and Recovery for the North-East Nigeria: Promoting Integrated Development and Humanitarian Solution in Principled Manner*.
- United Nation High Commissioner for Refugee (2017). Nigeria: Returnee Situation Update (External), Issue 2nd August 2017.

United Nation Humanitarian Overview (Sept. 2017). Rapid Response to Devastating Food Crisis in North-East Nigeria.

United Nation Office of the Coordination of Human Affairs (2017). Nigeria-North-east: Humanitarian Emergency Situation Report No.3.

UNWFP (2008). Food Aid and Livelihoods in Emergencies: Strategies for WFP, Valerie Guarnieri, Division of Strategy and Policy, World Food Programme, Rome.

Wonesai, S. W. (2011). *A Critical Analysis of the Impact of Food Aid on Internally Displaced Persons. The Case Study of Manical and Food Aid Interventions in Zimbabwe*. Being a Published M Sc. Dissertation Submitted to Disaster Management Training and Evaluation Centre for Africa, University of Free State.

World Health Organisation Humanitarian Response Plan (2016): A Case for North-East Nigeria.

Yobe State Ministry of Budget and Planning (2016). *Annual Review on Man Power Development*. Downloaded from <https://www.manpower.com.ng/places/lga/786/geidam>