

## PEACE BUILDING STRATEGIES USED BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION IN MITIGATING THE EFFECT OF BOKO HARAM CRISES IN NORTHEAST NIGERIA

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**Abstract:** This study examined Peace Building Strategies Used by Non-Governmental Organization in Mitigating the Effect of Boko Haram Crises in Northeast. The study employed secondary data obtained through Journals, articles, newspaper, text books etc were used to collect and present findings. Findings revealed that Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are doing even more peace building activities than any official governmental agencies. In many of the areas in Northeast, they have long term presences that are afflicted with intractable conflicts in the region. Based on these findings, International partners are currently working with Nigerian government and Northeastern governors to ensure that peace building programme in the State are expand and taken to the inner villages because the rural poor in remote villages are the ones who are vulnerable to insecurity, economic exclusion, and social hardship.

**Keywords:** Peace building, insurgency, Humanitarian, Conflicts, Nongovernmental organisation Mitig

### Introduction

In 2019, the conflict in north-eastern Nigeria entered its eleventh year. Since 2009, the Boko Haram insurgency and the government's military response have killed tens of thousands of civilians and displaced millions across the Lake Chad region, which straddles Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria. Although major military campaigns in 2015–2016 succeeded in degrading the group's territorial control, Boko Haram has proven remarkably adaptable in its tactics: the end of 2018 once again saw an uptick in attacks in Nigeria's Borno State Mercy Corps (2018).

Since the early years of the crisis, Nigeria's international partners have cautioned that Boko Haram is unlikely to be defeated on the battlefield alone. They have stressed the need for a multidimensional response that tackles the drivers of insecurity in the region, including chronic weaknesses in service delivery, corrupt governance, and environmental degradation. However, the perception of limited leverage over Nigerian counterparts, restricted access to the country's northeast, and a response to the crisis shaped by the U.S.-led Global War on Terror limited donors' focus on these governance dimensions on the ground. In practice, international assistance came late and donors struggled to identify viable national counterparts for stabilization programs. As a result, their efforts centered on supporting regional military efforts and responding to the large-scale humanitarian crisis.

Donor programs have helped restore basic infrastructure and service's needs, but the political end goals of stabilization programming are more uncertain. Some aid providers found that small-scale efforts to bring back local government proved insufficient to address long-standing perceptions of neglect, and shifted to circumventing the government by providing services directly to communities and individuals deemed at risk of extremist recruitment. Other programs combine reconstruction with community-based development, with the aim of improving bottom-up participation in service delivery. Yet systemic governance shortcomings, particularly the lack of local political accountability and weak state incentives to prioritize service delivery, present significant hurdles that need to be addressed in long-term program planning and design. Several overarching challenges have complicated local-level stabilization efforts over the past two years. Ongoing insecurity presents the most immediate challenge, particularly in Yobe, Adamawa and Borno State. Donors have struggled to work through and with the Nigerian government, whose conflict response has been plagued by weak coordination and corruption. However, of all these problems, Non-governmental organization has been implementing series of activities aim at peace building and at the same time to cushion the effect of the insurgency on the community members. But this had still not yielded significant progress as we still leave with the scourge. Educational development in the North-Eastern Nigeria is drastically at its lowest level in spite of all funds invested by government and international humanitarian bodies, to the extent that the region ranked first in the Northern

Nigeria, out of school children. According to Daily Trust (2017), of 10 million out of school, in the Northern Nigeria, the North-East constitute seven million (7 million). The following question will guide this study and attempt will be made to provide answers to it within the framework of the study: What are the strategies employed by NGO in mitigating the effect of Boko Haram

### Objective of the Study

The broad objective of the study is to determine the Peace Building Strategies Used by Non-governmental Organization in Mitigating the Effect of Boko Haram Crises in Northeast while the specific objectives is to Identified peace building strategies employed by NGO. This study is of great importance to policy makers in that it will highlight the economic and socio-political effects of Boko Haram insurgency to the polity and how to stem the tide of Boko Haram in the country. The study will also be important to the relevant government agencies responsible for safeguarding the national security and the integrity of Nigeria's territorial sovereignty as it will highlight the root causes of Boko Haram insurgency in the country and strategies to curb the scourge. The study will pinpoint flaws in the strategies at containing armed conflicts and rebellions in the country and propose lasting solutions aimed conflict resolution and guaranteeing national security. This study utilises the interpretivism research paradigm. According to Collis and Hussey (2009), *"a research paradigm is a framework that guides how research should be conducted, based on people's philosophies and their assumptions about the world and the nature of knowledge"...* *"Interpretivism is underpinned by the belief that social reality is not objective but highly subjective because it is based on human perceptions"*.

The study make use of secondary source of data. To this end, the extant literature and body of work on the subject matter of Peace Building Strategies Used by Non-governmental Organization in Mitigating the Effect of Boko Haram Crises in Northeast Nigeria will be critically evaluated and evidence from these literatures reviewed and presented. The study employ the use of descriptive method of analysis because of the dearth of data in the area of study and the sources of data is secondary, the researcher employ the use of published materials i.e. textbooks, journals, newspaper, magazines, seminar papers, and extracts from the internet.

### Concept of Non-Governmental Organization

*Non-governmental Organisation* (NGO) to mean any grouping of people who have a common mission to meet particular need in their society or community, and are not formed or controlled by government.

Throughout the world groups of people identify needs in their communities which government institutions are either not designed to meet or which government institutions are unable to meet because of the unavailability of resources, and the government having other priorities. This is particularly the case in poor countries. It does, however, happen that private citizens are compelled to organize themselves to meet certain needs because government is not willing to address these needs, even where resources may be available. This happens in oppressive regimes and dictatorships of various kinds. So, an NGO may address a need which is normally not a concern of government, but it frequently happens that NGO's address needs which in a normal society should be addressed by government (Mazibuko, 2017),

A NGO is an organization consisting of private individuals who believe in certain basic social principles/ obligations and who structure their activities to bring about development to communities that they are servicing. The World Bank (2006) defines NGOs as "Private organizations that pursue activities to relieve suffering, promote the interests of the poor, protect the environment, provide basic social services, or undertake community development." In wider usage, the term, "NGO" can be applied to any non-profit organization which is independent from government. NGOs are typically value based organizations which depend, in whole or in part, on donations and voluntary service.

The United Nations (2003) describes an NGO as: Any non-profit, voluntary citizens' group which is organized on a local, national or international level. Task-oriented and driven by people with a common interest, NGOs perform a variety of services and humanitarian functions, bring citizens' concerns to governments, monitor policies and encourage political participation at the community level. They provide analysis and expertise, serve as early warning mechanisms and help monitor and implement international agreements.

In simple terms, NGOs can be defined as “self-governing, private, not-for-profit organizations that are geared to improving the quality of life for disadvantaged people” (Vakil, 1997). Duggal (1988) opined that an NGO is an organization of private individuals who believe in certain basic social principles and who structure their activities to bring about development to communities that they are servicing. NGOs are social development organizations assisting in empowerment of people or are a group of people working independent of any external control with specific objectives and aims to fulfil tasks that are oriented to bring about desirable change in a given community or area or situation.

An NGO is an organization not affiliated to political parties, generally engaged in working for aid, development and welfare of the community. NGOs are organizations committed to the root causes of the problems trying to better the quality of life especially for the poor, the oppressed, the marginalized in urban and rural areas. NGOs are organizations established by and for the community without or with little intervention from the government; they are not only a charity organization, but work on socio-economic-cultural activities (United Nations 2006).

The term, "non-governmental organization" or NGO, came into currency in 1945 because of the need for the UN to differentiate in its Charter between participation rights for intergovernmental specialized agencies and those for international private organizations. At the UN, virtually all types of private bodies can be recognized as NGOs. They only have to be independent from government control, not seeking to challenge governments either as a political party or by a narrow focus on human rights, non-profit-making and non-criminal (World Bank 2006).

The structures of NGOs vary considerably. They can be global hierarchies, with either a relatively strong central authority or a more loose federal arrangement. Alternatively, they may be based in a single country and operate transnationally. With the improvement in communications, more locally-based groups, referred to as grass-roots organizations or community based organizations, have become active at the national or even the global level (Willetts 2016).

The most difficult question about the independence of NGOs is whether they come under governmental influence. Individual governments do at times try to influence the NGO community in a particular field, by establishing NGOs that promote their policies. This has been recognized by quite common use of the acronym GONGO, to label a government-organized NGO. Also, in more authoritarian societies, NGOs may find it very difficult to act independently and they may not receive acknowledgment from other political actors even when they are acting independently. Beyond these unusual situations, there is a widespread prejudice that government funding leads to government control. In the field of human rights, it would damage an NGO for such a perception to arise, so Amnesty International has strict rules that it will not accept direct government funding for normal activities. On the other hand, development and humanitarian relief NGOs need substantial resources, to run their operational programs, so most of them readily accept official funds. While these NGOs would like the security of a guaranteed budget for their administrative overheads, governments generally only want to support field costs for projects.

Nominally NGOs may appear to be independent, when they design their own programs, but government influence can arise indirectly if the program is designed to make it more likely that government grants or contracts will be forthcoming. On the other hand, confident experienced NGOs can appeal for funding for new approaches and in so doing cause government officials to reassess policy. The best example of this is the way in which NGOs, particularly the International Planned Parenthood Federation, dragged governments into adopting population programs. There is no obvious method to identify the direction of influence, without detailed knowledge of the relationship between an NGO and a government. Environmental NGOs may have either type of funding relationship. Conservation and research groups may happily obtain government funds to support their programs: some are innovative and some are not.

Beyond these situations, radical campaigning groups may be unwilling and unable to attract government funds.

It used to be widely argued that NGOs were predominantly a feature of Western societies. This false proposition was derived from a mixture of ignorance, Western presumptions of their superiority in the Cold War and nationalist rhetoric from authoritarian regimes. All societies in modern times have had large numbers of NGOs at least at the local level. Under the most authoritarian regimes or in the least developed countries

there are still self-help co-operative groups, community welfare associations, religious groups, professional and scientific associations, sports and recreational bodies, etc

Operational NGOs have to mobilize resources, in the form of financial donations, materials or volunteer labor, in order to sustain their projects and programs. This process may require quite complex organization. Charity shops, staffed by volunteers, in premises provided at nominal rents and selling donated goods, end up providing finance to the national headquarters. Students in their vacations or during a break in their education provide labor for projects. Finance obtained from grants or contracts, from governments, foundations or companies require time and expertise spent on planning, preparing applications, budgeting, accounting and reporting. Major fund-raising events require skills in advertising, media relations and motivating supporters. Thus, operational NGOs need to possess an efficient headquarters bureaucracy, in addition to the operational staff in the field. Campaigning NGOs will carry out much the same functions, but with a different balance between them. Fund-raising is still necessary, but on a smaller scale and it can serve the symbolic function of strengthening the donors' identification with the cause. Persuading people to donate their time is necessary, but, in addition to a small number of people giving a great deal of time, it is also necessary to be able to mobilize large numbers for brief periods. External donors may not impose onerous administrative burdens, but supporters still have to be supplied with information on an efficient regular basis. Major events will aim to attract favorable publicity rather than raise funds.

Therefore, despite their differences, both operational and campaigning NGOs need to engage in fund-raising, mobilization of work by supporters, organizing special events, cultivating the media and administering a headquarters. Only the defining activities – implementing projects or holding demonstrations – serve to differentiate them. In reality, the distinctions are not as sharp as the labels suggest.

Operational NGOs often move into campaigning when projects regularly face similar problems and the impact of the projects seems to be insufficient. All the large development and environment operational NGOs now run some regular campaigns, at least by supporting campaigning networks. Similarly, campaigning NGOs often feel they cannot ignore the immediate practical problems of people in their policy domain. Human rights NGOs and women's NGOs end up having programs to assist the victims of discrimination and injustice.

### Elite Theory

Theories act as foundation of analysis especially if the analysis is social science oriented. Theoretical framework therefore, provides a focal guide within which to test our propositions, verify our variables. For this purpose, 'Elite theory' is adopted to guide the analysis and as well theoretical framework Ghani & Abdullahi(2018), Scholastically, Elite theory had posited that power resides in and is always in the control of a network of elite. The proponents of Elite theory include Pareto Mosca, Robert Mitchels, C. Wright Mills, Ortega Y and Gasset among others. They maintained that public policy is by and large the mirror image of elite interest. Further stressed that in order to understand public policy – one has to examine the socio-economic status as well as power relations within the community. The underline premise of elite theory is that the masses are basically apathetic hence, elite are left to dominate the policy making process.

### The Peace Building Strategies use by Non-Governmental Organization in the Northeast Nigeria

In recent years, Nigeria has been burdened by terrorism. In the last Eight years, it has proven values, which include a strong spirit of volunteerism and independence. Most humanitarian agency considers providing succour to any victim and empowerment of the poor as their major goal and objective. Some of the common roles and responsibilities of humanitarian agency in the North-eastern part of Nigeria according to NRCS, 2015 report include:

As opined by Aliand Umar (2015), humanitarian agency are tremendously working, and helping government, institutions, and the poor in fight against terrorism, poverty and unemployment. They have played an increasingly prominent role in the developmental programmes as innovative and grass roots driven organizations with the desire and capacity to pursue participatory and people oriented centred of development and to fill the gaps left by the failure of the government in meeting the needs of their poorest citizens. Humanitarian agency because of their situation and interaction with local people can be very effective in bringing change since they are able to address



issues that government are often not able to comprehend. That is, because these organizations work at the grass roots level they are able to sense the urgency of issues and prioritize into the problems solving mode at a quicker pace. Some of the peace building strategies used by Non-governmental organization to curtail the spread of violence are outline below;

- i. **MEDIATION SUPPORT:** Mediation is vital in ensuring different sides of a conflict arrive at an agreement. Non-governmental Organization improve mediation processes by providing support and advice to mediators and peace negotiations. In order to create peace, the parties involved in the conflict need to agree on how to end the fighting and move forwards. However, these peace talks often fail or the agreements don't last. Many peace deals are struck between elites without involving the populations, or the balance of power is strongly on one side, making negotiations difficult.

To create agreements that last, non-governmental organization peace talks in Northeast Nigeria address the grievances driving the conflict and so be informed by the views of the wider population and complexities of each conflict. They facilitated and create opportunities for meaningful participation and they provide support and guidance to facilitators of official peace processes, and links to wider peace initiatives. Sharing their experience from other conflicts which help inform and improve processes of mediation

- ii. **DIALOGUE:** Dialogue is an essential part of addressing conflict and building peace. Non-governmental Organization creates opportunities for divided groups to come together, discuss the issues affecting them and develop solutions. Conflict generates practical and emotional divisions within and between societies. It creates environments where there are extremely limited opportunities to meet with the 'other side', and where negative stereotypes and enemy images thrive. In the absence of communication and exchange, adversarial narratives about the root causes of conflict are allowed to flourish.

NGO in the northeast connect divided groups who would not normally meet, providing a safe space for them to air their views and communicate with each other. This could be young people, community leaders or politicians. It could be people in power, or without it. Such meetings help them to understand each other's grievances, so they can deal with the past and move forwards. When well crafted, over time dialogue builds trust and relationships, breaks down barriers and helps dispel negative perceptions of the other side

- iii. **DEALING WITH THE PAST:** In moving forwards towards peace, it is important that the legacies of war and violence are addressed. Non-governmental Organization work on the memory and narrative around conflict, to avoid them continuing to feed into future violence. The end of fighting does not equal the resolution of conflict. Historical grievances and the legacies of past conflict can continue to fuel ongoing conflict. The root causes of conflict and past legacies need to be dealt with, if a society is to have a just and lasting peace.

Most Non-governmental Organization in the northeast focus on identifying the impact that violent conflict has had on groups and individuals within society, as well as the underlying factors driving conflict. And they strive to understand the various perspectives held by the different sides of a conflict. They work with the people affected, to create solutions which deal with the causes and consequences of conflict, and take steps towards peace.

- iv. **INCLUSION:** For peace to be sustainable, the views and experiences of all those impacted by conflict need to be included in finding solutions. NGOs work to ensure different groups, especially those most marginalised, have a voice. Peace processes often centre around small groups, with leaders being responsible for brokering deals. The needs, experiences and potential contribution of large segments of society are therefore overlooked. In many conflict situations, there is also a limited understanding of the links between gender, violence and peace.

Non- governmental organization work to ensure that peace processes do not start and end with the

negotiating table. They use gender as a lens to understand the deeper causes and impact of conflict and the opportunities for peace and reach out to those often on the sidelines, including women, youth, displaced people and indigenous communities. Facilitating conversations, delivering training and building links with formal peace talks, they enable these groups to lead and participate in initiatives to build peace.

- v. Humanitarian agency are often able to reach segment of rural population that government neglect or do not target as priority. They often find their way into remote rural areas to identify the poorest segments of communities, deliberately seeking out those who are normally excluded from development processes because of their isolation, their lack of assets and their vulnerability.
- vi. Humanitarian agency possesses extensive knowledge of local condition. Humanitarian agency with long-term experience in the target area can help provide baseline data and information on the local economy and infrastructure, the existence (or absence) of self-help organizations, and the major obstacle to development.
- vii. Humanitarian agency engages the poor in capacity-building activities as a major component in their programmes and projects, whether literacy programmes, development process, agriculture or handling of credit etc. These activities lay the foundation for creating local groups and organization that can then link with other groups having common interest through coalition, and networks etc.
- viii. Humanitarian agency deems active participation by the poor in their development process as an essential precondition to their empowerment-participation not only in the implementation of programmes or project but also in their conceptualization, design, monitoring and evaluation. Many of these participatory tools and methodologies have gone on to be adopted by official development and in some instances, even by government.

### Boko Haram Insurgency in Nigeria

Boko Haram, means “Western education is sinful” in Hausa, was established in 2002 in Maiduguri, the capital of Nigeria’s Borno State. It has since spread to other northern and central Nigerian states. The group officially is known as *Jama’atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda’awatin wal-Jihad*, Arabic for “group committed to propagating the Prophet’s teachings and jihad.” Individuals in the country have referred to Boko Haram as Nigerian’s Taliban in reference to the group’s call for Sharia throughout Nigeria. Indeed, Boko Haram has been unsolved since its inception in several outbursts of inter-communal violence, including the November 2008 violence in which 800 people lost their lives in Jos. The July 2009 violence, which brought Boko Haram to the world’s attention, Boko Haram founder Mohammed Yusuf and his deputy, Abubakar Shekau, were both killed. Yusuf died in police custody during an escape attempt; however his followers have called his death an extrajudicial execution. Since the destruction of Boko Haram’s leadership, the exact structure and makeup of the group has been unclear. Boko Haram now seems to lack organizational structure or strong leadership. If the group has any central leadership, it has maintained a very low profile since Yusuf’s killing. It may even be in hiding, possibly in a neighboring country. Mixed messages have emerged from various individuals claiming to speak for Boko Haram. Some figures have come across as more moderate and willing to negotiate, while others have been more strident, rejecting talks. This difference makes it appear that Boko Haram comprises a loose confederation of militants operating relatively independently from one another, rather than a cohesive, hierarchical organization pursuing a unified set of objectives. Boko Haram initially was involved mostly in fomenting sectarian violence. Its adherents participated in fairly rudimentary attacks involving clubs, machetes and small arms. By late 2010, the group had added Molotov cocktails and simple improvised explosive devices to its tactical repertoire, as reflected by the series of small bombing attacks against Christian targets in Jos on Christmas Eve in 2010.

Boko Haram also conducted a number of armed assaults and attacks in 2011. The Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) involved in these attacks were small devices either thrown from motorcycles or left at the attack location. On June 16, Boko Haram made a huge detonation of its first suicide Vehicle borne improvised Explosive Device (VBIED). The attack was directed against the police headquarters in Abuja. While it proved largely ineffective, security kept the vehicle in a parking lot away from the targeted building the attack nonetheless represented a significant tactical development in that it demonstrated that Boko Haram had mastered a completely new aspect of terrorist tradecraft. Employing a suicide VBIED is a far cry from throwing a few sticks of dynamite with a

piece of time fuse at a police station or leaving a small IED with a crude timer outside a church. The VBIED was also quite sizable; it destroyed some 40 vehicles in the parking lot. On August 26, Boko Haram conducted a second suicide VBIED attack in Abuja; this time attacked a U.N. compound. This attack proved far more successful than the June attack against the police headquarters. The VBIED driver managed to enter the compound by ramming an exit gate, then manoeuvring his vehicle into a parking garage before detonating it. The attack also stands out in that the U.N. compound was located in the diplomatic district of Abuja, where numerous high-profile facilities are located, demonstrating that Boko Haram possessed the ability to spot a soft target amid harder targets like foreign embassies and government buildings. The group's preoperational surveillance efforts also permitted it to accurately identify a security weakness — the exit gate — which it then successfully exploited.

This attack was Boko Haram's first attack against a transnational target rather than against a government or sectarian target. Boko Haram has no clear structure or evident chain of command. Poverty in the area has helped drive young men into the arms of radical Islam. Fervent religious extremism has encouraged people to assail the government. The security services' heavy-handed tactics in trying to quash the violence with random arrests, killings and disappearances have fuelled the discontent. There is the possibility of al-Qaeda having a strong hold in Nigeria if Boko Haram is not tackled early enough.

With these indices, we can say that the insecurity situation in Nigeria from 2009 is unprecedented. In addition to the usual crimes, the coordinated attacks from the Boko Haram sect in the northern part of the country, besides making life miserable for Nigerians, has affected so many businesses operating in that region. The bomb explosions initiated by this group have been on the increase leading to enormous loss of life and property and a general atmosphere of fear and social tension in the country. Statistics have also indicated that in the last one year, there is a significant decline in peace as Nigeria dropped four places to 146<sup>th</sup> out of 158 countries in the 2013 Global Peace Ranking. In fact, Nigeria has been identified as the least peaceful country in West Africa (GPI, 2013). According to Igbuzor (2011) West Africa is among the most unsecured region in the world.

### Possible Causes for the Emergence of the Insurgents

There might be other factors leading to the emergence of the sect but presumable ones include:

- i. **Effects of Elitesism:** According to Tamuno cited in Obaro 1980, prior to British colonization, Nigeria had various ethnic and cultural communities. The amalgamation brought various ethnic groups together by the then Governor General Lord Lugard administration of high imperialism in 1914. Our post-colonial elites for one reason or the other could not do away with the imperialism. The resultant effects are ethnical and regional politics to the advantages of the elites in the Country. The elites preserved the postcolonial status quo to themselves and their children maintaining commanding positions and leadership seats with no recourse to what happen to the masses. This had led to the neglect of the masses over the years creating room for bitterness and hate rate against government and its official thereby subjecting the youth to joining any opposition that promise liberation. This was proving putting on the table the rate at which youth were destroying their certificates joining the Boko haram sect group instead of unwilling idleness in the midst of works.
- ii. **Corruption:** Corruption is a global phenomenon but it is more prevalent in developing countries particularly Nigeria. Corruption in Nigeria has become an endemic problem threatening the country's unity and its existence as one sovereign state. Public resources are being carted away by few under the nose of the law and before the presence of the populace without perjury and indictments. The act of corruption has thrown the nation into confusion and chaos, economic backwardness, poverty hurricane, unemployment and others. Giving militant groups that are specifically fighting the government and its officials a kind of holy face before the populace because they are seen as saviours. Reason being that the people do not trust government anymore. Many people have been concealing the sect members, joining them and providing the sects with information against the government forces? This situational vacuums were created by corruption, our leaders gets stinky reach and wealthy while the masses were dying of hunger on daily basis.

- iii. **Poor Education and High Level of Illiteracy:** Nigerian educational institutions are not designed to accommodate the poor in the society no matter their quest and intellectuality. Good schools are not affordable and the ones affordable have nothing to write home about. Children are abandoned in incomplete buildings and dilapidated structures to take lessons. Candidates are subjected to series of examinations from WAEC, UTME, POST UTME AND UTME screening to secure admissions into Universities. Our leaders have forgotten they were admitted into universities at no costs with only WAEC. Parents pay for primary and secondary Schools, WAEC exams, UTME exams and UTME exam yet without admission. Parents and their children are frustrated and as a result have to accept anything that comes their way. This of course enhanced the strength of the book haram sect in the Northeast where youth were abundantly available with little or no education at all ready for any jobs that could earn them a living anyhow.
- iv. **Bad Governance:** Good governance is defined as a system of values, policies and institution within the State, Civil Society and Private Sector promoting the general wellbeing of the people (Shabir C, 2004, UNDP 1997, 2000). Good governance is all about the questions of how society can organise itself to ensure quality opportunities and equities (social and economic justice) for all citizens (Shabir, 2004). In contrast, once this is missing it becomes bad governance which is apparent by our leaders at all levels. There is no freedom, justices and fairness, no adequate food, water and power security and no respect for sanctity of lives. Therefore the sect and their supporters probably believed that only Islamic state is credible to ensure justices, equality and fairness.
- v. **Inadequate Quality Human Resources Development:** human resources play an imperative role in the success or failure of any organization or nation in terms of capability and strength of characters. The neglect of human capacity building by the government and owners of businesses have resulted into having a decayed attitudinal populace all over the country. Thousands of our youth cannot secure employment because our leaders (elites) instead of building them to become useful to themselves and the society they were used as political thugs, guards as economog and dumped after being used.
- vi. **Wrong Pro-Poor Projects deliveries:** pro-poor projects refer to all public policies and programmes that benefit everyone in the society especially the bottom poor. This implied that all government projects e.g. housing, water, education and health services should be 6 provided to benefit everyone especially the poor. In contrast today, Nigeria's government projects especially developmental projects do not benefits the poor but the rich. Nigerian government is always executing pro-rich projects and not pro-poor projects. In Nigeria housing estate built by the government is given to the top government officials, directors, chairmen, members of house of assemblies and etc, roads networks, electricity and water supply are provided in government reserved areas (GRAs) where there is no single poor household (field Survey, 2013). In Nigeria, a director who already has two or more houses is given another or others by government at low or no cost at all while the poor man who does not have any is not given any and yet they called those projects pro-poor projects. This is one of the major factors giving birth to most of the ill social unrests particularly the book haram insurgents bedevilling the northeast.
- vii. **Lack of True Federalism:** federalism is globally regarded as the appropriate government principle for countries with huge ethno-cultural diversities. Nigeria with over 250 ethnic groups inherited a federal system from Britain in 1960. However, our leaders at all levels have failed to fulfil their obligations to offer good governance anchored on equitable political arrangements, transparency, practices and accountability. Lack of true federalism today create a room whereby government ministries, parastatals and institutions are occupied and filled by family, tribal and regional members. Decisions are taken base on family, tribal and sectional lines rather than on common interest. People have been marginalized and subjected to becoming second class citizens in their father land. There is lack of powers sharing; minorities are not represented in government. All these are factors leading to social vices and in the Northeast book haram was seen as a panacea to ending the marginalization and lack of representation of the minority by believing in Islamic state.



### Key Areas of Intervention by Non-Governmental Organization in Yobe state

Non-governmental organizations are launched with various missions. Based on the region or local demand and problems, divergence in each humanitarian agency targets and objectives can be observed. But everywhere the main purpose of humanitarian agency is the much-desired to promote peace, assist deprived people and service to humanity. The missions and visions with which the humanitarian agency are established and conducting their operations in Yobe are:

- i. Establishment of schools for the internally displaced persons. Since there are millions of out of school children in the region. Statistics has shown that the insurgents in the region have rendered about 7 million children out of school (Mohammed and Yalwa 2018).
- ii. Assisting the poor and suffering people as well as exercising self-control through utilization of own resources
- iii. Identifying with local leadership and ensuring effective utilization of the welfare and development
- iv. Coordinating the activities that will improve the lives of the deprived ones through formation of co-operatives and thus facilitate the socio-economic progress
- v. Health and nutrition services
- vi. Acting as the associate of the government not oppressors or competitors
- vii. Creating awareness to overcome special social problems and hurdles besides taking necessary steps to enlighten the general public.
- viii. Create positive attitude to the security, annihilation of superstition and beliefs against modernization and bringing in the deprived person of concern in the main stream of life.

### The Socio-Economic Implications of Boko Haram Insurgency in the Northeast of Nigeria

Aside the human cost in the Boko Haram insurgency, the atrocities of the sect have socioeconomic implications, especially in the northeast where Boko Haram has dominance. The economic, social and psychological costs of the insurgency cannot be quantified. Commercial activities in the northeast have been reduced because of the unprecedented attacks by the sect. Banks, markets and shops do not open regularly due to the fear of the coordinated attacks from Boko Haram. According to Okereocha (2012) human capital and investors drain is hampering economic development in the northeast this is due to the attacks on banks, markets, parks and government departments. The attacks on these commercial areas have led to the migration of people to other parts of the country. Shiklam (2012) posits that: "The Maiduguri Monday Market said to be the biggest market in the city is reported to have been seriously affected as hundreds of shop owners, especially Southerners are said to have closed their businesses and left the troubled city. Ovaga (n.d) asserts that under this situation, the economy of the northeast will seriously be affected if foreign citizens who contribute large quota to the development of the northeast vis a vis their economic activities are sent back to their countries of origin. The never-ending attacks by Boko Haram in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa states have a severe impact on the economic lives of people living in these areas. A case in point is that the working duration of most commercial banks in the affected areas hit by Boko Haram bombings has been reduced from eight hours to three hours (Mohammed, 2012). There is already a dichotomy in the north and south development in Nigeria. The poverty profile released by the National Bureau of Statistics illustrates that there is the prevalence of poverty in the north as compared to the south. It is in this data that the Business day newspaper predicted if the insecurity situation continues development in the northern part will remain static and the gap between the north and south will broaden further (BDN, 2012). But if the government delays in the implementing comprehensive plans to tackle insecurity from its roots, then not only will the northern region be economic desolation, the country as a whole risk losing billions of dollars in foreign direct investment" The business activities of telecom operators have not been left out from the attacks of Boko Haram. For instance, some telecom masts belong to some major mobile telephone operators were destroyed by Boko Haram and the banning of telephone services by the military affected the income generation of some of the mobile phone operators. Just as the economic implications of Boko Haram atrocities cannot be quantified, the social costs are enormous. The church, school, market, clinic and mosque are potential targets of Boko Haram. For example, in April 2014, a federal government girls' college was attacked which subsequently led to the abduction of over 250 female students. Attacks on these social places have prevented people from going to these places. Some students have stopped going to school, others have been transferred to the southern part of the country to continue their education. Christians are afraid to go and worship in the church on Sundays due to the fear of being attacked by the sect. The markets have become deserted. The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC)

that was created by the government after the end of Nigerian civil war to foster unity among Nigeria is under threat due to Boko Haram attacks. The NYSC directorate posted 4171 corps members to Adamawa state, 1041 of the corps members have to abandon their national duty due to the precarious security situation (Ovaga (n.d.). Some parents from the south of the country have protested vehemently against the posting of their children to the northeast. Aside the socioeconomic implications, the human cost is more worrisome, more than 10,000 have been killed, a lot of people have been maimed and women have been kidnapped and raped these have left the family of the dead, the injured, the raped and the kidnapped in agony.

**Conclusion:** The literature established the important aspect played by the NGOs in the fight against terrorism understanding, coordination and collaboration with security agencies. NGOs through their project implement various activities such as finances, capacity building, self-reliance, peace building etc.

Since the philosophy of community development is independent from any outside agents thus, the community must rely on their own resources; NGOs do assist them to discover their potentials and also mobilize them on self-reliance. Therefore, it was proven that the active presence of NGOs is a benefit for the overall and social development of the country. The NGOs have proven themselves as the true associate/partners of the government in fighting against terrorism and other unsocial vice.

**Recommendation:** An integrated effort of NGOs with other civil organizations requires effective partnership to yield better activities and aggregate for a significant impact. Nigerians should recognize the importance of NGOs in conflict resolutions and peace building in societies, and therefore undertake researches on the activities of NGOs in Nigeria for significant documentation.

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