Rehabilitation of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Ukpabi-Nimbo Community, Enugu State Nigeria

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Abstract

In Nigeria, conflict and violence have accounted for approximately 3.2 million people who have been internally displaced from their homes. Majority who are internally displaced residence in other communities outside of theirs, known as host communities. Such displacement of population generates challenges for host communities as they try to provide them with scarce physical, social and economic resources for their survival. Theories of social disorganization and hierarchy of needs formed its theoretical framework. This study examined the challenges encountered by host communities in the rehabilitation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Ukpabi-Nimbo community, Uzo-Uwani local government Area of Enugu State. The study adopted both primary and secondary sources of data collection. Findings revealed an overstretch and dwindling scarce resources in the host community, inadequate attention of government in the provision of necessary infrastructure and basic amenities of life in host communities, clashes of interest between the host and the IDPs thereby creating crisis. This study suggests a need assessment of host communities, a proactive government policy intervention to ameliorate their plights and the engagement of social workers for the management of stakeholders' relationship in the host communities and to bridge relationship gaps and conduct need assessments in host communities in order to avoid conflict with the host communities.

Keywords: Host communities, Conflict, Internally displaced persons, Violence, Rehabilitation.

Introduction

The office of the high commissioner on human rights guiding principle (OHCHR, 2022), posits internally displaced persons (IDPs) as "persons or groups of persons who have been forced to flee or leave their homes and places of residence, in particular as a result of the effects of armed conflict or in order to avoid hazardous situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights, natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized border" (Adamu and Rasheed, 2016). Displaced persons are vulnerable because; they suffer significantly higher rates of mortality than the general population. They also remain at high risk of physical attack, sexual assault and abduction, and frequently are deprived of adequate shelter, food and health services (OHCHR, 2022). This phenomenon has been a global concern for both human rights activists and policy-makers for many years. All over the world, it is reported that there are a total of 55.1million IDPs Worldwide as at 31st December 2020, More than 85 percent have fled their homes and communities due to conflict and violence. Around seven million have been displaced by disasters but given the incomplete data, this is likely to be a significant underestimate in the following distribution by age group: 65+ (2.6m), 5 - 24yrs (10.5m), 0-4yrs (7.2m), 25-64yrs (22m), 5-14yrs (12.8m), internal displacement monitoring center (IDMC, 2020).

Most new displacements triggered by conflict and violence in 2020 were recorded in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East and North Africa, where 6.8m were due to conflict and 4.3m to disasters. The majority took place in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Syria, and Ethiopia, as in previous years. Most new displacements triggered by disasters in 2020 were recorded in East Asia and the Pacific as well as South Asia. Tropical cyclones, monsoon rains, and floods hit highly exposed areas that are home to millions of people (IDMC, 2020). Nigeria has the third highest number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Africa. In 2022, it counted approximately 3.2 million internally displaced people. Overall, Africa has the largest number of IDPs in the world, (IOM-IDMC, 2022). Also reported is the fact that, there has been an alarming raise in the number of internally displaced persons in Nigeria and around the world, which is attributed to several factors including ethnic, religious, and political conflicts, both human-manmade and natural disasters, violence, and other rights abuses. The resultant effect of this

violence and or crisis is the destruction of habitation for which most women and children are greatly affected, the destruction leads to the migration of displaced persons to places where they will be protected from further violence, (Onuegbu C., 2021). Such a massive displacement of population therefore, creates challenges for the host communities trying to provide them with respites in form of shelter, infrastructure services and basic amenities of life (Felipe A., Kasey M. F., and Jessica A. K., 2019), which was in short supply. A recent example in Nigeria is the displacement of people in Akwa Ibom, Imo, Enugu, Kaduna, Ebonyi, Borno, Yobe, Adamawa, Benue, Niger, Gombe, Taraba, Plateau State, etc., occasioned by a violent insurgency by Boko Haram, Bandits, communal crisis, etc., (Felter C., 2021) leaving the host communities in deplorable conditions than they were before the arrival of the IDPs. However, internal displacement constitutes a significant economic burden for individuals, host communities and its socio-economies. The global cost of one year of displacement was nearly $20.5 billion in 2020, a figure that covers support for IDPs' housing, education, health, and security needs, and accounts for their loss of income. Persistent misconceptions surround disaster displacement, with serious implications for people, policy, and responses (IDMC, grid 2021).

In view of this, it is important to note that the challenge of receiving displaced persons in host communities is becoming a global issue, one that will call for innovative solutions (Dabaieh and Alwall, 2018). For example, in 2015 the United States received 262,000 first time asylum applicants, of whom more than 50% were from Mexico or countries in Central America (UNHCR, 2017). In other words, the technical issues involved in hosting displaced persons such as cost of accommodation, costs of additional infrastructure also are globally and domestically relevant to be looked into (UNHCR 2016; UNHCR 2017; UNHCR 2018) in other to mitigate the challenges faced by host communities and to engender peaceful coexistence among the IDPs and their host and for the government to be seen as playing their fundamental role of social welfare and security.

An Interview with Oxfam Care Concern - Kenya, Anne Davies (2012) revealed that, hosting IDPs can rapidly deplete the meager resources of the host communities and propel them from chronic to extreme poverty; residents often in tightly-packed neighbourhoods with general deterioration in hygiene and sanitation conditions, leading to outbreaks of communicable

diseases with the potential of infecting other neighbourhoods. Hence, many agencies in Kenya believe Nairobi slum areas to be perilously close to such a humanitarian disaster, which if it occurred would be of massive proportions (Davies, 2012). Rapid influx of population generates additional and unexpected demands on infrastructural systems which impact the services received by existing end users (Varis et al., 2006) as well as the displaced population. Researchers on infrastructural assessment often emphasizes on the physical components of infrastructural systems, indicating that what the people value most are the services these systems offer, whereas the system is unable to capture potential secondary migration patterns and the fact that the system does not take cognizance of the status or capacity of the existing infrastructural systems and that what was obtainable in the host communities are insufficient to service the existing and incoming new users (Little, 2002).

Christensen and Harild (2009) were of the stance that the idea of moving beyond emergency humanitarian assistance by using targeted development assistance to support durable solutions for displaced people is not new. However, a gap still exist in understanding how a disruption caused by hosting displaced persons affects the host communities vis-a-vis physical, social and economic systems, e.g., water, housing, schools, food, security, transportation, etc. Hence, this study is important due to a rise in the frequency and severity of disasters (Bier 2017; 81 Faust and Kaminsky, 2017; Mitchell et al., 2012; Sterett, 2012) all over the world and especially in Nigeria. Displacement as an occurrence is caused by two major factors; natural and human. The natural factor is related to climatic challenges, such as flooding, drought, famine, and other causes like earthquake. The human activities include construction projects by individual or organization, and conflict involving diverse forms of violence, boko haram, insurgency and communal clashes between clans or groups. Communal Conflicts, boko haram and insurgencies are the commonest cause of displacement in Nigeria. More than 99% of the IDPs in Nigeria are forced to leave their original place of life as a result of religious or ethnic conflict (NEMA, 2015) to other communities for safety and search for sustenance of life and living. Majority of IDPs in Nigeria move from rural to urban or semi-urban area, a situation that poses humanitarian, socio-economic and psychosocial consequences for both the IDPs and the host communities. At every level, the social and emotional impacts of their experience affect their ability to learn, become self-reliant and build a new life. Within the family, displacement

often leads to domestic violence, abuse and separation. The presence of large numbers of IDPs may have a negative impact on the development of host communities due to pressure on local resources, infrastructure and services, along with the environmental aspects which place the IDPs in a position where they can easily be exploited by host communities in a bid to access those facilities (Maystadt, Hirvonen, Mabiso, and Vandercasteelen, 2019).

The international office for migration's (IOM) Nigeria displacement report, round 41 displacement tracking matrix baseline assessment in North- East Nigeria revealed that approximately 1,333,908 IDPs lives in host communities (IOM – DTM, 2022). This rapid influx of population creates additional and unexpected demands on infrastructural systems, *the market, housing, transportation, schools and health facilities of the host communities*. These demands could impact the services received by existing end users – host communities (Varis et al., 2006) as well as the displaced population. It is important to thus understand the challenges faced by the host communities as a result of the surge of IDPs in their localities in relation to the changes in their scarce resource, infrastructural facilities (De'Franca, Doria et al., 2005) and other services.

More so, displacement caused by conflict involve psychosocial trauma, which can further trigger offending behaviour among the affected persons (Adirno, 2012). Any neighborhoods inhabited by IDPs constitutes people of different cultures, which may turn into a nursing ground of sub-culture which opposes and contends the existing culture, and consequently leading to emergence of culture conflict that threatens the peaceful coexistence of the neighborhoods, and giving rise to criminal gangs and other criminal activities. It is based on these that this study is important to beam more light on the awful predicaments of the host communities in their hosting and accommodating the IDPs.

Objectives of the study

The objectives of this study are to;

i. Determine the challenges encountered by host communities as a result of IDPs' presence in their localities.

ii. Provide solutions to the challenges encountered by host communities as a result of IDP's presence in their localities.

Research questions

i. What are the challenges encountered by host communities as a result of IDPs' presence in their localities?

ii. What solutions can be elucidated to mitigate the challenges encountered by host communities as a result of IDP's presence in their localities?

Conceptual clarifications

Overview of host communities' challenges

The united nation high commission for refugees (UNHCR, 2010) in their study ascertains that the phenomenon of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees residing with host communities is still relatively unexplored in comparison to what is known about IDPs and refugees living in camps. They were of the opinion that, rapid inflow of population into any community creates a shock on the system and unexpected demands on the people and resources available therein. It was assessed that among the nearly 14.7 million IDPs protected and assisted by UNHCR in 2010, an estimated 52% of the total lives outside formal camps in both rural and urban areas, atleast half of the 54 countries monitored by IDMC have few or no camps for IDPs, alternative coping mechanisms which includes living with host families in host communities, are the norm for a majority of IDPs (UNHCR, 2010).

It is often assumed that IDPs in host communities are located mainly in urban areas and are likely to be more affluent than IDPs in camps, consequently less vulnerable or in need of assistance. This view is being challenged by studies showing the extent of hosting in rural areas

and the growing prevalence of host families and host communities suffering economic strains from sharing already meager resources with IDPs, (Anne Davies, 2012), which is the case of many host communities in Nigeria. When people are forced by conflict, violence, or persecution to leave their places of habitual residence or decide on their own to flee the dangers of conflict, and move elsewhere in search of safety in large numbers within relatively short periods of time, in such situations, the challenge for authorities, humanitarian actors and host communities is to deliver life-saving assistance such as food, water, security, shelter, sanitation, and medical services, (Mooney, 2005). While the emergency phase may sometimes be of fairly short duration, emergency measures may be needed for longer periods, particularly in situations where humanitarian access to the displaced is limited (e.g. for security and social reasons), or where vulnerabilities remain particularly severe due to situations such as overcrowding of camps, continuing fighting in the vicinity of IDPs camps, epidemics, or tensions with host communities deteriorating into violence and exploitation (secondary crisis) of the internally displaced people (Kumssa, Williams, Jones, and Des Marais, 2014).
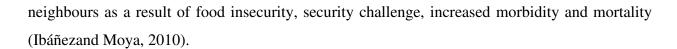
Although, the number of persons in emergency situations can change rapidly, depending on the specific situations, and can reach high numbers if proactive steps are not taken, for example in May 2009, numbers of IDPs in emergency situations rapidly increased within a few weeks or even days with more than One million in Pakistan, 200,000 in Sri Lanka, and 34,000 in Somalia (Christensen and Harild, 2009). This also was the situation with the north-east, Nigeria where people and sometimes whole communities had to flee their homes and communities to settle in other communities and in IDP camps in successive periods due to boko-haram and insurgency invasion. This invariably led to overstretch of social amenities, like water, food shortage, and overcrowded health facilities, surge in school enrolment and increase in teacher-student ratio, other scarce facilities and social vices within the host communities that also leave both the IDPs and the host communities more vulnerable. The International Center for Migration Policy Development's (ICMPD) research looks at the vulnerability of displaced Syrian people to trafficking in persons. The research found that IDPs are often trafficked or exploited because they are not able to meet their basic needs, leading to some criminal activities like trafficking, *kidnapping*, and some forms of exploitation involving the host communities, acquaintances and

neighbours as a result of food insecurity, security challenge, increased morbidity and mortality (Ibáñezand Moya, 2010).

Campbell (2011:831) asserted that "rehabilitation means the process of helping a person to readapt to society or to restore someone to a former position or rank". This provides more ground for consideration of IDPs and the host communities as subjects that require special intervention programmes, designed to in one part help IDPs readapt in their host communities, and in other part boost their resilience of returning to their original environment. In making this possible, there is need for a careful consideration of IDPs' socio-economic and psychological statuses and dispositions, in the provision of rehabilitation service, with the aim to restore their spirits of full human potentials, and poster them to resilience, because of the post traumatic disorder effect of conflict-induced displacement they had suffered. Hence, it is also pertinent to note that absence of benevolent concern through provision of rehabilitation infrastructural services, security, basic needs of life in the host communities leaves such environments and the inhabitants poorer and more vulnerable than they were and their facilities dilapidated and in ruin, when due attention and or upgrade is lacking to accommodate the obvious expansionary effect on it due to suddenly influx of the IDPs.

In Nigeria, the management of IDPs in various administrations remains a serious issue, especially the management of the host communities through provision of social amenities like education, medical facilities, schools, roads, environmental sanitation, etc. The rehabilitation of IDPs as well as provision of adequate security in the host communities have posed a big challenge despite claimed efforts of national authorities to achieve this goal. This is because of varied interests of personalities or groups taking advantage of the IDPs and using the aides provided by NGO'S to ventilate their selfish aggrandizement (Abada and Okafor, 2017).

Again, Nigeria has been finding it increasingly difficult and is almost failing in her responsibilities to manage its overabundance of IDPs. Obviously, the phenomenon of IDPs in Nigeria portends different dangers for the citizenry and undermines the indelible role host communities play in rehabilitation and reintegration of IDPs (Olagunju, 2006). Internally Displaced Persons, upon safe arrival at their new but temporary home, need a strong, domestic

institutional mechanisms for implementing policies and techniques on how to manage them educationally, security wise, clothing, food, information, etc., which have to be met in order to stay alive while developing better measures for ameliorating the condition of these IDPs (Lomo, 2000), which include issues of physical resources and savings to disaster; to this end, it becomes imperative for the government to provide basic needs such as reasonable shelter, food, potable water, school, and healthcare services, etc., in host communities to avoid exploitation and secondary conflict in the course of IDPs using the scares resources in the host communities (Plender, 1994).

Consequent population Shock on host communities

Paolo and Kirsten (2021) were of the view that influx of IDPs into host communities usually generates crisis which naturally results in population shocks. This shock which suddenly brings about obvious overstretches of facilities, conflicts in the use of meager resources, overcrowding of private and public space; palpable fear of meeting with strangers from strange places and the cultural and religious implication arising from sudden increase in population generated by an inflow of people in a particular geographical area. Sometimes epidemics of diseases and infections arises as a result of population surge and the kind of illnesses that enters the host communities as part of the baggages of movement, inadequate hygienic facilities, waste disposal, poor sanitation system, poor and inadequate toilet facilities that could serve the new entrants and the existing population in the host communities.

Consequent Economic Challenges on host communities

One of the first obvious challenges faced by the host communities in the rehabilitation of IDPs is economic shock of the host communities, Paolo and Kirsten (2021) revealed that, the crisis of increase in consumer goods and services, although some IDPs usually carry a minimum amount of food and cash which are typically spent on primary goods and services such as food, health services and shelter within a short period of their stay in the host communities, since their movement to destinations was sudden and sometimes based on proximity and security criteria rather than personal networks, although networks can occasionally play a role. They further posited that sometimes, international aid or government spending boosts the spending capacity of

the internally displaced via monetized social or conditional money transfers and via increased public spending that reduces living costs for the internally displaced. These factors often lead to increase in prices of consumer goods and service as many more persons and more money tends to pursue few available goods leading to incidence of inflation in the host community (Paolo and Kirsten, 2021).

In effect, local producers in the host communities are expected to expand production induced by higher prices and cheap labour available, occasioned by the presence of the internally displaced persons, but the absence of storage facilities, availability of improved seedlings, subsidized fertilizer that will facilitate capacity for higher yields, absence of mechanized farm implements, etc., still leaves the host communities to engage is subsistence farming, this was corroborated by Anne (2012) in her opinion, that the benefits of reducing vulnerability by assisting IDPs and their host communities before they fall into extreme poverty and deprivation have not yet filtered through to donors, siting an example in Haiti which shows that, had the above resources been available to provide seeds to IDPs outside camps in a rural setting and farmers in the host communities, they could have grown more food thereby increasing the gross domestic product of the host communities. She suggested that instead, they had to rely only on the host communities' subsistence farming endeavors to provide food for the expanded population - undermining the self-esteem of the IDPs thereby depleting the host communities' resources (Anne, 2012).

Consequent infrastructural challenges in host communities

The state of infrastructures in Nigeria has become a serious concern given the importance of infrastructures in the socio-economic well-being of the people. Infrastructural facilities as observed by Uhunmwaungho and Ekpo (2012) are grossly inadequate to meet the need of the population. Ehebha (2011) in his own assessment observed that, infrastructural development has assumed a central importance in the attainment of social and economic stability and in the ability of civil society organizations (CSOs) and the state to properly resettle IDPs in Nigeria. This argument was supported by Alabi and Ocholi (2010) when they noted that infrastructures in Nigeria are in a state of negligence and disrepair and the story is not different in the host communities where the IDPs are meant to live, this also lead rise in transportation mobility of commuters, goods and services around the host communities, due to the fact that more people

now contend for few available mode of transportation, because of neglect or lack of upgrade of roads, the roads became deplorable which in turn lead to grounded vehicles, leaving few vehicles available to people to commute, increased wear and tear of vehicles and the cost implication on motor part replacement that also impact the cost of transportation of goods and service and the overall effect on low cost of living within and around the host communities (Alabi and Ocholi, 2010).

According to the United Nation (2006), infrastructural development can play a major role in promoting growth and equity and by far goes a long way to guarantee the well-being and living standard of a country's population. Socio-economic development, therefore, it is a product of development and can be seen as the process of social and economic transformation in a society. It enables changes to take place in the social sphere mostly of an economic nature (Ewetan and Urhie, 2014). Socio-economic development, therefore, is the primary goal of every well-meaning government. To allow for a proper rehabilitation of IDPs and sustainable healthier living condition in and of the host communities, certain basic infrastructures need to be in place, especially those originally available at their homes (Abubakar, 2014) as the case may be. This will engender stability and relative peace in such host community.

Consequent Social and Security challenges in host communities

According to Nnoli, (2006), she opined that, national security "is a cherished value associated with the physical safety of individuals, groups, *communities* or nation States together with a similar safety of their other most cherished values". Security therefor is an indispensable part and the fundamental need of citizens for mutual coexistence and social integration. It provides the atmosphere for the citizens to thrive and interact without fear, feeling of wants and being inferior (Alemika, 2011). In as much as security implies freedom from threats, anxiety or danger. A feeling of inferiority or equality often arise as revealed in the Somali report that a feeling of inequality is high within the community among the host community, within IDP communities and between IDP and host communities due to clan, gender, and disability. Minority groups lack full participation in decision making processes and at times denial of resources (CCCM, 2020). Hence, vulnerability can be understood by the extent of deprivation from the security needs, due

to injuries and losses arising from criminal activities, oppression from or by corporate actors, institutions and officials of State and local authorities, manifested essentially as systematic exploitation, oppression as well as violation of fundamental human rights, and deprivation of or lack of access to the necessities of life – food and nutrition, shelter, clothing, healthcare, education and employment (Alemika, 2011).

Furthermore, Alemika (2011) stressed that domains of security include physical, emotional, social, economic, and political well-being. This definition suggested that, it is the responsibility of a State to cater for citizens' security needs. It is one of the most important contractual responsibilities citizens expect from their government, while Mohammed, (2011) asserted that, in Nigeria, IDPs are left to their fate and the mercy of circumstances, the task could sometimes be difficult for the agencies to carry out their activities because of serious security challenges in the host communities, and at times the process of delivering the services meets with obstacles because of corruption and many other problems.

Mohammed (2011), further buttressed that, rehabilitation services in Nigeria have some security implications of weakening and curtailing potential problems that may compound and aggravate the existing wounds created by consequences of crisis before displacement, this implication may create more dangerous impacts, such as rise in crime rate, because of the relationship between emotional dispositions among the IDPs and offending behaviour in their host communities as well as development of subcultures that may emerge, to confront and oppose the existing norms in their host communities, the situation that may eventually usher in new phase and dimension of insecurity known as secondary crisis, Mohammed (2011); Moreso, the psychosocial and economic strain, due to losses of family members, friends, personal assets and belongings, as well as lack of economic opportunity, to care for themselves and their families in the host communities sometimes, may lead the IDPs into inventing illegal means of meeting their needs. After all, the IDPs are citizens of Nigeria, an integral part of the larger Nigerian population; therefore they deserve to have every form of care and welfare, which is also essential part of the national security, Mohammed (2011).

Consequential needs of the host community

According to camp coordination and camp management cluster report as submitted to the UN Secretary General (CCCM, 2020), revealed that in Somalia, host communities reported that there are two main issues pertaining to the hosting of IDPs, the first being hygiene related issues due to overcrowding in common places and job sharing. When asked about their hopes for the future, members from the host communities conveyed that they expect better livelihood standards, jobs, housing and security, this response is similar as to that offered by IDPs. However, for this to be achieved some respondents from the host communities underscored that support from the government and humanitarian agencies is much needed. To better the relationship between IDPs and host communities, respondents were quoted in saying that the quality of life and ability to cope with basic needs need to improve. However, they also referred to the need of education, integration awareness, community meetings and to a smaller extend commend of host community's hospitality (CCCM, 2020).

Theoretical Framework

Because of the interface, intersection and inroad of the IDPs into the space of the host communities and the consequent challenges faced by these host communities, the study adopts an eclectic approach using social disorganization and hierarchy of human needs theory.

Social Disorganization Theory: *Clifford Shaw and Henry D. McKay* (1942)

Social disorganization theory is a perspective that emphasizes structural and cultural factors to better delineate how neighborhood conditions in urban areas created a crime-prone environment. How communities with low socioeconomic status, ethnic heterogeneity and how residential mobility are believed to be indicators of social disorganization, which in turn leads to a subculture of adoption of values that are contrary to those of larger society – gangs and crime. Community characteristics such as low socio-economic status and residential mobility lead to weak social ties among residents of the community and its institutions such as schools, hospitals, religious houses, etc. Since these communities are unable to provide basic services such as education, health care, and proper housing, there is then a sense of disorganization and lack of social ties and community solidity. Therefore minorities offend more because they are likely to reside in such communities (Michael and Jennifer, 2015).

Therefore, this theory is found useful to the study because the IDPs sometimes are communities of different culture and views of life, these differences need to be understood, the issue of superiority and inferiority complexes undoubtedly also ensue, maintenance of space and boundaries are limited as against what hitherto had existed, insufficient public utility, crimes and security also will become a thing of challenge in the communities which is a characteristics of poverty and unemployment, lack of dominant cultural values and social control mechanisms, inadequate or dilapidated housing, poor health and educational facilities, etc., and the struggles to accessing them. Often times, because of emergency situations being faced at the time of relocating the IDPs, the host communities are not properly integrated into the scheme of plan, hence there could be local or host community apathy which leaves room for different social vices like trafficking in person, sexual offences, kidnapping, robbery, etc., which further heightens the existing problems. Social disorganization theory therefore, implies that persons who live in such communities are more likely to be involved in criminal behaviours.

From this theory, this study infers that, crime is often prevalent in such neighbourhoods as the IDP's, which invariably threatens security of host communities. Moreso, when such persist such communities would begin to experience endemic crime patterns which may result into crime culture, where members of the society becomes lethargic towards the accepted behavioural norms due to lack of order in the society; hence resulting into frustration, distributive justice, cumulative strain, negative relations and general chaos due to social and structural inequality.

Hierarchy of needs theory: *Abraham Maslow (1945)*

The theory of human needs explains human behaviour and social interaction, postulating that, all individuals have needs they endeavor to fulfill, either by using the system 'acting on the fringes' or acting as a reformist or a revolutionary. Human needs theory is just a few decades old, was propagated in the works of Abraham Maslow, John Burton, Marshall Rosenberg and Manfred Max-Neef (Coate and Rosati, 1988). Human hierarchy of needs theory holds the belief that individual is in collective pursuit of needs and values which forms the core of their social and international behaviour. They argued that human needs must serve as a primary element of individual survival. According to Christian Bay, 'Needs refer to any requirement for a person's survival, health, or basic liberties; this basically implies that when these needs are inadequately

met, mental or physical health might be impaired' whether as individual or as a community. This way, needs refer to necessities for not only biological survival but also for health and development (physical and mental growth) of persons as human and as a community that shares common asset beings (Coate and Rosati, 1988). In Marshall Rosenberg's approach, human needs are universal and meeting them is essential to human survival and well-being. Manfred Max-Neef, a Chilean economist also proposes nine universal human needs and argued that through the settlement of these needs, human development and a peaceful society is achievable. Max-Neef called this idea, the Human Scale Development. Proponents of this theory argue that the basic cause of intractable conflict is the underlying need of people to meet their needs on individual, group and societal bases.

According to this theory, human beings therefore need certain basic things if they must live in peace and attain well-being in any ramification of life. Such essential things also are known as basic human needs (Coate and Rosati, 1988). The argument of human needs theorists, therefore, is that the unavailability of alternative means to meet the needs of individuals or groups is what triggers violence – or conflict (Eweka and Olusegun, 2016). Therefore, in host communities, the IDPs and their host are often confronted with the same situation: lack of access to basic necessities of life that is healthcare, decent sanitation, inadequate facilities for accommodation or shelter. To properly resettle into the society, the needs of internally displaced persons must be adequately met through meeting the needs of the host communities either by outright provision or up-scaled were they previously exist to cater for the expansionary effect of the IDPs presence in the host communities. These needs according to Abraham Maslow are basic and essential for the survival and well-being of these groups of persons living within a community. In his Pyramid of Human Needs, Abraham Maslow puts emphasis on the hierarchy of needs, stating that some are more urgent than others. On the base of the pyramid, he places food, water, and shelter. On a second level, he places the need for safety and security, followed by belonging or love. The fourth level holds the need for self-esteem, while the fifth and final level holds the need for personal fulfillment. According to Maslow every individual tries to meet the needs at a certain level one at a time individual will only strive to have the needs on the second stage only after they have met the needs on the first state and the third only when they have met the second and

the first. Hence, individuals looking to meet needs for food and water will not be looking to possess a house or a care, love or self-esteem, all they want to meet is the need for survival. (Danielsen, 2005).

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According to Coate and Rosati, (1988), when individuals are deprived of certain needs especially the basic survival needs in the early years of development, they may suffer physically and psychologically. Hence, the government and other development stakeholders should come to the aids of IDPs and the host communities by providing them with essential amenities and infrastructures that will enable them live in peace and harmony, safely and securely under a better living condition.

Methodology

The study design adopted for this study is survey while the instrument used in generating data is questionnaire. The study focus is Ukpabi-Nimbo, Uzo-Uwani local government area of Enugu State, Nigeria, where in April 2016, seven villages - Ekwuru, Nimbo-Ngwoko, Ugwuijoro, Ebor, Enugu-Nimbo, Umuome and Ugwachara were invaded, and score massacred by over 500 armed Fulani herdsmen. The accurate location of this community is 6.8026830, 7.1432770 in goggle map. Most of the people in the community are Igbo by tribe (95%) while 5% comprise of other languages. The people of the area are mainly farmers and they are hospitable. The population of Ukpabi-Nimbo according to centre for international earth science information network is 245 (CIESIN, 2015). The following stakeholders among others were interviewed through questionnaire; traditional rulers, chiefs, community leader, health workers, teachers, security personnel, and other stakeholders in the community of study,

The sample technique is concerned with determining the practical sample method and procedures necessary for selecting sample by which to estimate population values. Thus, Taro Yamane (Yamane, 1973) technique was employed with 95% confidence level.

n = N/1+N (e).

Where: n = sample size required,   N = population size,   e = allowable error (%)

Hence: n = 108/1+108(0.01)

$n = N/1 + N(e)^2$

$245/1 + 245(0.05)^2$

$N = 245/1 + 0.6125$

$n = 245/1.6125$

$\underline{n = 151.9}$

$\underline{n = 152}$

A sample size is a subset of the population usually selected in such a way that it is a representative of the population and on which the research study is carried out (Amara and Amaechi, 2010). Therefore the sample size for this study is one hundred and fifty two (152) participants. Considering the nature of this study, primary sources of data through the use of questionnaire was adopted to elicit information from the respondent. Uni-variate relationship would be discussed with the use of percentages since the study is largely descriptive. This section deals with the presentation and analysis of data collected from the field. A total of 152 responses were received from the questionnaire distributed. This task will however be undertaken in four parts. First, is the socio-demographic characteristic of the respondents. Secondly is the awareness of Internally Displaced Persons in the host community. Thirdly, the challenges encountered by host communities in the rehabilitation of Internally Displaced Persons and lastly, awareness of the nature of challenges encountered by host communities.

Data Presentation and Discussion of Findings

Table 1: Socio-demographic data of respondents.

S/N	Questions	Remarks		
1	Genders	Description	Number	Percentage
		Male	53	35%
		Female	99	65%
2	Religion	Christians	77	51%
		Muslim	24	16%
		African traditional religion	44	28%
		Others	07	05%
3	Age	i. Below 20yrs	23	15%
		ii. Above 20yrs	33	22%
		iii. Above 30yrs	42	27%
		iv. Above 40yrs	18	12%
		v. Above 50yrs	21	14%
		vi. Above 60yrs	15	10%
4	Academic qualification	i. Primary	45	30%
		ii. Secondary	55	36%
		iii. Undergraduate	19	13%
		iv. Post graduate	09	06%
		v. None	24	15%
5	Profession	Public Servant	45	30%
		Private business	49	32%
		Farmers	58	38%
6	Relationship with the community	Traditional ruler	01	01%
		Chief	15	10%
		Health care worker	08	05%

		Community leader	16	11%
		Teacher	10	06%
		Security personnel	07	05%
		Other Stakeholders	96	63%

Source: Field survey 2023

Table 1 describes the nature of the respondents. Data reveal that there are more female respondents 99 (65%) than male as represented by 53 (35%). Height percentage of the respondents is Christians 77 (51%). The larger percentage of respondents are those between the age of 21yrs and 30yrs (27%) and the lowest number of persons are those above 60yrs as reflected in the data. Again the height percentage of the respondents are those who have secondary school qualification as represented by 55 (36%) followed by primary school holders, while 24 (15%) represent those who do not have formal education. Whereas, height percentages of respondent are farmers as indicated by 58 (38%) with the least being public servants 45 (30%). It was also revealed that the questionnaire returned are from other stakeholders as represented by 96 (63%) of the respondents. However, from the respondents 7 (5%) of the respondents are security personnel, 10 (6%) teachers and 8 (5%) health care workers.

Table 2: Awareness of IDPS in Ukpabi-Nimbo community

Description	Number of respondents	Percent (%)
Yes	134	88%
No	18	12%
Total	**152**	**100%**

Source: Field survey 2023

Table 2 shows the information on the awareness of IDPs' presence in Ukpabi-Nimbo community was sought for and data generated on this revealed that 134 (88%) of the respondents said "YES" that they were aware of the presence of Internally Displaced Persons in Ukpabi-Nimbo community while 18 (12%) of the respondents said "No" that they were not aware of IDPs in Ukpabi-Nimbo community Enugu State. This indicates that the community people of

Ukpabi-Nimbo are aware of the existence of Internally Displaced Persons in their area with significant percentage. Concerning being aware of the challenges faced by IDPs, respondents put forward their views. The table below contains this information.

Table 3: Response rate of those who know the challenges encountered by host communities due to the presence of IDPs.

S/N	Responses	No. of respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	106	70%
2	No	36	24%
3	Neutral	10	06%
Total		**152**	**100%**

Source: Field survey 2023

Data in table three (3), indicates that a height percentage of 106 (70%) of the respondents are aware that there are a lot of challenges faced by the Ukpabi-Nimbo community as a result of the presence of IDPs; whereas about 36 (24%) respondents said "No" that they were not aware of any challenges they face, while a total of 10 (6%) respondents remained neutral. Information generated revealed there were a lot of challenges encountered by Ukpabi-Nimbo community as a result of the presence of IDPs. Details of these are presented in table 4 below:

Table 4: Challenges encountered by host communities due to the presence of IDPs.

S/N	Nature of challenges	No. of respondents	Percentage
1	IDPs lack opportunity to attend schools	24	15%
2	Lack of nutrition	16	11%
3	IDPs face health challenges	26	17%
4	Lack of infrastructure like houses, hospitals, electricity, potable water, etc.	25	16%
5	Lack of psychosocial support	14	09%
6	Inadequate security	21	14%
7	No economic support	21	14%

8	Neutral	05	03%
Total		**152**	**100%**

Source: Field survey 2023

Table four (4) specifies the various types of challenges faced by host community due to the presence of IDPs in Ukpabi-Nimbo. Data generated indicates that health challenges ranked top most with 26 (17%), followed by lack of Infrastructure 25 (16%) and lack of opportunity to attend school, 24 (15%) by wards in the community due to the presence of IDPs in the host community. However, inadequate security and lack of economic support are also of serious concern accounting for 21 (14%) responses.

Findings on the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents reveal that greater percentage of those living in Ukpabi-Nimbo is women accounting for 99 (65%). Ukpabi-Nimbo being a rural community like most host communities. Odette (2018) insinuated that rural women are a quarter of the global population but ignored by policy as they fare worse than rural men or urban women because of the lack of infrastructure and services, need for decent work, social protection, exclusion from leadership and decision making; and the harmful and violent effects of restrictive gender norms. It was noted that if women have equal access to land for farming and economic empowerment as men, there could be improvement in nutrition and welfare for the family and fewer hunger in the community because of the nature of care and nurturing of children which is innate in them (Odette, 2018). The presences of IDPs in the host communities have limited their capacity to accessing land for farming, economic empowerment like grant, loan, etc., to engage in meaningful business ventures and to accessing quality health services as all these are competed for due to the presence of IDPs in their community.

However, on challenges encountered by communities in the rehabilitation of internally displaced persons; majority of the respondents are of the opinion that the government is not helping at improving the general standard of living of Ukpabi-Nimbo people as manifested in the lack of government will to providing developmental boosters and enablers in the community, these is reflected in the responses that there are lack of economic support, infrastructure like housing ,

health facilities and school owing to lack of opportunity to attend schools by the children in the community.

From the responses, it was evident also that attention of government and her agencies are far from being real in the provision of basic and essential social services required for better wellbeing of the citizens in the host communities. The following are some of the comments from the respondents:

"Government does not even know the problems confronting the host community of Ukpabi-Nimbo, we were asked to provide space for agricultural purposes and medical centre in Ukpabi-Nimbo and afterwards we were left unattended to and life has become more difficult for us and the IDPs, because of lack of facilities to engage in mechanized farming. Our children and the children of the IDPs often do not go to school because of inadequate facilities like class rooms and teaching materials, often times the teachers also complain and do not come to work".

Another respondent was quick to note that:

"Government has not shown interest in the host community's welfare, education for our children and in the provision of social amenities in Ukpabi-Nimbo community; communities around here had been a peaceful one until the coming of the IDPs, now our way of life is being eroded because some of their cultures and their way of life are different from ours besides we now experience conflicts in this community and the laxity of security personnel at handling matters is frustrating".

From the findings, it was evident that healthcare and psychosocial support are not given the priority it deserved in a place such as the community where the IDPs take refuge. Few qualified medical professioners are available, and many of those who attend to these vulnerable persons are the community health extension workers (CHEW). Social workers or psychologists are also not available in the community to provide psychosocial support for the people both in the host community, this have indeed relegated the healthcare and psychosocial support needs of the people in these communities to the background hence given effect to spread of diseases and non-tolerance of the IDPs which sometimes lead to crises and social vices of different forms.

Social amenities in the communities are also overstretched because of the sudden increase in number of IDPs and the fact that the governments have not paid necessary attention to repair or reconstruction and expansion of these facilities like road network, more schools (both primary and secondary), more teachers, etc. this has led some children to stay at home, the private schools in the environment also charge high fee whereas the parents of these children are peasant farmers and petty traders who cannot afford to pay their children's school fees in the private schools.

Security implies freedom from threats, anxiety or danger. From the findings of this study it is evident that lack or inadequate security will increase the gap of individuals and community vulnerability by the extent of deficiency of security and other basic amenities of life required in host communities like Ukpabi-Nimbo; Alemika (2011) buttressed this, that injuries and losses arising from criminal activities, oppression from or by corporate actors, institutions and officials of state, manifested essentially as systematic exploitation, oppression as well as violation of fundamental human rights, and deprivation of or lack of access to the necessities of life such as food and nutrition, shelter, clothing, healthcare, education and employment are ripple effects of lack and inadequate security around the host communities of IDPs (Alemika, 2011). These among other challenges constitute hindrances to the progress of rehabilitation of IDPs in Ukpabi-Nimbo community which has consequentially impacted negatively on the people as reflected in their wellbeing and socio-economic life and living.

Conclusion

Challenges in host communities remain particularly severe due to situations such as population surge, economic shock, infrastructural deficit, epidemics, tensions of IDPs with host communities deteriorating into violence and exploitation of the internally displaced persons. Absence of consistent benevolent concern through provision of rehabilitation services and functional infrastructural facilities, farming incentives, inadequate care, financial difficulties, family disintegration and lack or inadequate educational facilities and professional psychosocial support to the IDPs and host communities in Nigeria constitute a risk to the mental health, security of life and property, etc., in the host communities and by extension to neighbouring communities.

It was also discovered that culture conflicts usually arises between the host communities and the IDPs who came into the host communities with different way of life, cultural norms, social mindsets and status; these often lead to offending behaviours that triggers crises and heightens insecurity in the host communities.

Lack of adequate protection therefore leads to recurrent displacement. Also the inability of government to physically delineate the host communities and provide physical survey and surveillance has also made host communities vulnerable.

Recommendations

This study recommends that government, policy makers, NGO and other relevant stakeholders should develop institutional and legal frameworks in addressing the challenges associated with hosting IDPs in communities vis-à-vis the security and social integration and provision of social amenities in a way that will incorporate the role of host communities in the rehabilitation plans of IDPs, in other to give respite to host communities through provision and or upscale of facilities, provision of agricultural extension services and mechanized farming implements to host communities to expand the cultivation of food and ensure proactive monitoring and evaluation activities to ensure that what is disposed to host communities are seen to be effectively and efficiently used and cumulative effect of it measured and accounted for through effective monitoring and evaluation procedure.

The government should adequately provide social amenities, provision of basic needs such as reasonable shelter, food, potable water, healthcare and infrastructural facilities that could boost the social and economic life of the host communities and by extension the IDPs. The host communities should from the onset be integrated into the scheme of plans of government for proper integration of the IDPs in the host communities such that the host communities would have visible roles to play in safeguarding the IDPs, since the camp is domiciled in their locality, the heads of communities at all levels should be brought to an understanding of the critical roles to play in bringing about love, forbearance, protection and cohesion and in the teaching of the IDP's about their ways of life, culture, social and spiritual life and be able to also look for way of adapting some of the new entrants way of life for cultural assimilation.

With the professionalization of social work comes the responsibilities for professional conduct and competence, hence there should be the engagement of professional social workers as critical staffs of all IDP camps especially those who are specialist in community development, advocacy and social welfare as programme managers and heads of IDP camps, because rehabilitation and reintegration is a core professional competence of social workers. Lastly, the government should deploy the use of modern surveillance technology in the host communities and its environment; equipments like the use of drones, close circuit television (CCTV), intelligence collaboration and regular training of security personnel and the local neighborhood watch should be enhanced

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