

Forced Internal Migration, Proliferation of Urban Slums and Disquiet in Kano Metropolis, Nigeria

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Abstract

Forced migration is at an all-time high in northern Nigeria due to rising conflicts and crimes. This study, therefore, investigated forced internal migration, slums proliferation and disquiet in Kano Metropolis. This was carried out using descriptive survey design, along with questionnaire and interviews as instruments of data collection from randomly selected 1000 respondents in six purposively selected slums in Kano City. Findings indicate that 92% of the sampled migrants into Kano were forced out of their homes due to rampaging conflict and insecurity, mainly from Borno, Zamfara, Katsina, Niger, Sokoto, and Taraba States. Also, 87% of the respondents migrated due to armed conflicts such as terrorism, banditry, cattle rustling, farmer-herder conflict, and communal clashes over land ownership. The overall mean scores of 2.76 showed that respondents agreed that forced migration led to proliferation of slums in Kano. Discrimination, lack of jobs, hosts-migrants' contestation over job, human rights abuse and intimidation of migrants by the law enforcement agents caused disquiet. In sum, forced migration into Kano has the tendency to aggravate conflict and insecurity. It is recommended that government at all levels should intensify efforts on countering terrorism, insurgency, banditry and other forms of insecurity to reduce forced migration into Kano Metropolis.

Keywords: banditry, conflict, migration, slums, terrorism,

La migration interne forcée, la prolifération des bidonvilles urbaines et l'inquiétude dans la métropole de Kano, Nigéria

Résumé

La migration forcée atteint un niveau record dans le nord du Nigéria en raison de la montée des conflits et de la criminalité. Cette étude a donc examiné la migration interne forcée, la prolifération des bidonvilles et l'inquiétude dans la métropole de Kano. Cette étude a été réalisée à l'aide d'une conception d'enquête descriptive, ainsi que d'un questionnaire et d'entretiens comme instruments de recueil de données auprès de 1 000 répondants sélectionnés au hasard dans six bidonvilles sélectionnés à dessein dans la ville de Kano. Les résultats indiquent que 92 % des migrants échantillonnés à Kano ont été contraints de quitter leur domicile en raison du conflit et de l'insécurité, principalement dans les États de Borno, Zamfara, Katsina, Niger, Sokoto et Taraba. En outre, 87 % des répondants ont migré en raison de conflits armés tels que le terrorisme, le banditisme, le vol de bétail, les conflits entre agriculteurs et éleveurs et les affrontements communautaires concernant la propriété foncière. Les scores moyens de 2,76 ont montré que les répondants convenaient que la migration forcée a conduit à la prolifération des bidonvilles à Kano. La discrimination, le manque d'emplois, la contestation des migrants hôtes pour l'emploi, les violations des droits de l'homme et l'intimidation des migrants par les forces de l'ordre ont provoqué des inquiétudes. En résumé, la migration forcée vers Kano a la tendance d'aggraver les conflits et l'insécurité. Il est recommandé que le gouvernement à tous les niveaux intensifie ses efforts pour lutter contre le terrorisme, l'insurrection, le banditisme et d'autres formes d'insécurité afin de réduire la migration forcée vers la métropole de Kano.

Mots-clés : le banditisme, le conflit, la migration, les bidonvilles, le terrorisme,

Introduction

In recent times, involuntary migration has led to upsurge of urban population globally. There were 71.1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) across the world at the end of 2022, 62.5 million as a result of conflict and violence, and 8.7 million as a result of disasters.¹ Nigeria contributes largely to these figures. For instance, International Organisation on Migration (IOM) in 2023 tracked 1,222,977 displaced persons out of which 1,110,369 were internally displaced persons (IDPs) (91% of the displaced population) as well as 1,190,293 IDPs in 191,688 households across the eight states in north-central and north-west Nigeria.² Urban centres in the northern part of Nigeria have become hosts to great numbers of IDPs in the last one decade due to unprecedented conflict and insecurity.³ Forced movements are rampant in troubled areas. For instance, Zamfara, Katsina, Kaduna, Sokoto and Niger States have become homes to bandits causing serious security debacle.⁴ Terrorism thinly disguised as grievance has turned north-west into a safe sanctuary for active terrorist groups.⁵ Women, children and the aged are the most vulnerable to the onslaught of rampaging marauders in the region. In a nutshell, pervasive banditry and veiled terrorism in the north-west constitute threat to security causing disruption of socio-economic activities in general, atmosphere of uncertainty and policing challenges to the citizenry and the government.⁶ In addition, climate change and unemployment have been identified as major push factors of rural-urban drifts in Africa.⁷

As one of the big cities, the security and economic situations in northern region of Nigeria have particularly accentuated the rate of forced migration into Kano City. Kano State is said to host 27,058 persons out of 1,075,893 IDPs tracked in eight states

¹ Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, “*All-Time High of 71 Million People Internally Displaced Worldwide*” (2023), accessed January 4, 2023, doi:<https://www.internal-displacement.org/media-centres/all-time-high-of-71-million-people-internally-displaced-worldwide>

² International Organisation for Migration, “*Nigeria-North-Central and Northwest Zones Displacement Report/Round 11 Needs Monitoring*” (2023), accessed, November 7, 2023, doi:[https://www.google.com/search?q=International+Organisation+for+Migration+\(2023\).Nigeria-North-Central+and+Northwest+Zones+Displacement+Report+March+2023%](https://www.google.com/search?q=International+Organisation+for+Migration+(2023).Nigeria-North-Central+and+Northwest+Zones+Displacement+Report+March+2023%20)

³ Jimam Lar, “*Violence and Insecurity in Northwest Nigeria: Exploring the Role and Resilience of Local Actors*” *African Conflict and Peacebuilding Review*, vol. 9no. 2 (2019): 123-154.

⁴ Olaniyan Azeez and Yahaya Aliyu, “*Cows, Bandits, and Violent Conflicts: Understanding Cattle Rustling in Northern Nigeria*.” *Africa Spectrum*, 51(3), (2016): 93-105.

⁵ Ojewale, Oluwale. “*Rising Insecurity In Northwest Nigeria: Terrorism Thinly Disguised as Banditry*.” *Brookings: Africa in Focus*, (2021), accessed March 10, 2024, doi:<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/africa-in-focus/2021/02/18/rising-insecurity-in-northwest-nigeria-terrorism-thinly-disguised-as-banditry/>

⁶ Rosenje Musharafa O. and Adeniyi Oluwatobi P. “*The impact of banditry on Nigeria’s security in the Fourth Republic: An evaluation of Nigeria’s Northwest*.” *Zamfara Journal of Politics and Development* vol. 2 no. 1(2021), 1-26, accessed February 8, 2024, doi:<https://zjpd.com.ng/index.php/zjpd/article/view/30>

⁷ Paul O. Adekola, “*Migration, urbanization and environmental problems in Nigeria*.” In *Migration and Urbanisation in Contemporary Nigeria: Policy Issues and Challenges*, Oyefara, J. L. (ed.), Lagos: University of Lagos Press (2016), 19- 32.

in north-central and north-west Nigeria as at March, 2023.⁸ Obviously, Kano has attracted migrants of different shades because it is the largest metropolitan city and hub of North-west Nigeria as well as home to international commerce and large markets. Kano's openness and hospitality to migrants of all kind also account for its ever-growing population. Apart from Nigerians, voluntary and involuntary migrants from Niger, Chad and Cameroon see Kano as a safe haven.

Migrations arising from armed conflicts, insurgency, banditry and general insecurity have led to unhealthy outcomes in many climes. However, there is paucity of literature on the effect of influx of forced internal migrants on the proliferation of slums in Kano and consequences on peace and security. Thus, this research examined the socio-economic contradictions which have occurred in Kano slums since the influx of forced migrants in the last one decade. The main aim of this study was to unearth probable indicators of threats to peace and human security. The specific objectives of the study are:

1. To examine the significant cases of forced internal migration into Kano City and their causes
2. To investigate the patterns of settlement among the migrants into Kano city
3. To find out how people perceive forced internal migration into Kano as a cause of proliferation of slums
4. To examine negative indices associated with forced migration and slum proliferation and how they affect peace and security in Kano slums

In order to carry out this task, the under-listed research questions were raised:

1. How significant are cases of forced internal migration into Kano City and what are their causes?
2. What are the patterns of settlement among the migrants into Kano city?
3. How do people perceive forced internal migration into Kano as a cause of proliferation of slums?
4. Which negative indices associated with forced migration and slum proliferation affect peace and security in Kano slums?

⁸ International Organisation for Migration, "Nigeria-North-Central and Northwest Zones Displacement Report/Round 11 Needs Monitoring" (2023), accessed, November 7, 2023, doi:[https://www.google.com/search?q=International+Organisation+for+Migration+\(2023\).Nigeria-North-Central+and+Northwest+Zones+Displacement+Report+March+2023%.](https://www.google.com/search?q=International+Organisation+for+Migration+(2023).Nigeria-North-Central+and+Northwest+Zones+Displacement+Report+March+2023%.)

Conceptual Clarification

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) defined Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) as:

persons or group of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalised violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border.⁹

Thus, internal displacement connotes involuntary movement of people from their homes to areas within their national borders. They are different from refugees who have crossed to another country.¹⁰ Such displacement falls within the ambits of domestic jurisdiction and therefore does not relate to cross-international borders' activities.¹¹ In this study, IDPs are described as people who have fled their homes as a result of fear of harm or death and have run to safe places whether in IDP camps or elsewhere within their country.

Forced Migration: Forced migration denotes a migratory movement which, although the drivers can be diverse, involves force, compulsion, or coercion that threatens life or livelihood.¹² In her own perspective, the UN-HRC (2023) posited that insecurity of all forms, ethnic genocide, civil war, hunger, extreme poverty, drought, and/or flooding have been responsible in different climes for involuntary flight of droves of people.¹³ In the light of the foregoing definition, the term forced migration is the same as internal displacement as the migratory movement is due to some elements of coercion, which may be uncertainties often arising from natural or man-made causes.

⁹ UN-HRC. *Conflict and Violence are the Primary Causes of Hunger and Famine, Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food Tells the Human Rights Council*, (2023), accessed February 2, 2024, doi:<https://reliefweb.int/report/world/conflict-and-violence-are-primary-causes-hunger-and-famine-special-rapporteur-right-food-tells-human-rights-council>

¹⁰ Shaibu, Moses. E., Ogwuche, Matthew. E., Ibebunjo, Basil. O., Orie, Gloria. E. and Ebobo, Christiana E. "Social Exclusion and National Integration: A Study of Internal Displaced Persons in North-Central, Abuja." *Khazar Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*, vol. 5no. 3, (2022): 1-8.

¹¹ Ramsbotham Oliver & Woodhouse Tom, *Humanitarian Intervention in Contemporary Conflict: A Reconceptualization*. Cambridge: Polity Press (1996).

¹² Migration Data Portal "Forced migration or displacement." (2023), accessed April 2, 2024, doi:<https://www.migrationdataportal.org/themes/forced-migration-or-displacement>

¹³ UN-HRC. *Conflict and Violence are the Primary Causes of Hunger and Famine, Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food Tells the Human Rights Council*, (2023), accessed December 15, 2023, doi:<https://reliefweb.int/report/world/conflict-and-violence-are-primary-causes-hunger-and-famine-special-rapporteur-right-food-tells-human-rights-council>

The term forced is preferred because it emphasises the causal factors of such migration, its sudden nature and its consequential disruption of livelihood pattern.

Slum: Slum is usually seen as informal settlement that grows organically in and around cities.¹⁴ Slum is conceptualised as blighted urban area which is inhabited majorly by urban people of low income and low educational attainments.¹⁵ There is a similar definition of slum as “a wide range of low-income settlement and/or poor human living conditions”.¹⁶ Slums may develop as a result of increased migration to urban centre by people who are relatively poor or displaced and are in dire need of housing. Slums are described as human settlements that lack certain basic necessities of life, including access to quality education, drinkable water, and access to quality medical facilities.¹⁷ Slums are, therefore, areas known as unplanned settlements of low quality living conditions.

Security: Security, viewed from the perspective of the state, is prevention of threats to the existence of the state with the use of force to suppress violence. It is for this reason that states assemble and maintain armed forces and other organs of internal security (at the domestic level) for the protection of its territorial integrity.¹⁸ This idea of security is on a neo-realist theoretical framework, as the primacy of the state is placed over and above any other factor. From the early 1990s, focus of security changed and developed to cover the safety of individuals within the state. This concept is termed Human Security. Beyond absence of violence, human security encompasses elements such as human rights, good governance, and access to opportunities, education and health-care as well as environment. Thus, human security is seen as freedom from want, freedom from fear and the freedom of the future generations to inherit a healthy natural clean environment.¹⁹ This implies that while we secure today, we must avoid acts that will jeopardise existence of future generations.

¹⁴ UN-HABITAT. “*Dialogue on the Urban Poor: Improving the Lives of Slum-Dwellers.*” Barcelona: World Urban Forum (2007): 63-74.

¹⁵ Fourchard, Laurent. *Urban Slums Report: The case of Ibadan, Nigeria*. In Ibadan, Nigeria edited by Fourchard, Laurent. Ibadan: IFRA-University of Ibadan (2003).

¹⁶ UN-HABITAT. “*Report of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme: Note by the Secretary-General.*” (2003), accessed February 7, 2024, doi: <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/512140?ln=en>

¹⁷ George, Kehinde C. “*Basic Principles and Methods of Urban and Regional Planning*” Lagos: Libro-Gem Books, (2002).

¹⁸ Rourke, John. T. “*International politics on the world stage (10th ed.)*.” New York: MacGraw Hill (2005).

¹⁹ Commission on Human Security. “*Human Security Now: Final Report.*” New York: CHS (2003).

Literature review

A study on North-east Nigeria security situation found that Boko Haram insurgency caused forced migration in the last one decade, and that forced migrants have littered the city of Maiduguri, causing increasing housing demand.²⁰ Forced migration in northern region of Nigeria has been attributed to insurgency and banditry leading worsening economy.²¹ The deepening social exclusion between internally displaced persons (IDPs) and hosts in north-central region of Nigeria, particularly in Nasarawa and Benue States has also been established.²² According to them, government policies and efforts to ensure integration of IDPs into the host communities have generally been superficial and ineffective.

Migratory patterns in Lagos State show economic, social, safety, environmental to political factors propel movement of people and resources from one place to another.²³ Most other studies have focused on internal migrants who stay in IDP camps. For instance, a look at camp management reveals a lot of neglect and makes internal migrants flee IDP camps and eventually constitute nuisance to city dwellers.²⁴

Inflow of migrants has metamorphosed Kano to a highly urbanised modern mega-city of the beautiful and the ugly. It has increased commerce, physical infrastructure and government revenue. Conversely, phenomenal increase in Kano's population density in the last few years has brought challenges in infrastructural management and governance in general.²⁵ Like elsewhere, existential needs, values, and identity warrant contestation for inelastic socio-economic space among migrants and indigenes.²⁶ The scenario is further compounded by the fact that while some migrants

²⁰ Nkwocha, Kelechi, F. Shettima, Mohamed. K, Iheukwumere, Samuel O, Nwabudike, Chukwuma. P., and Agulue, Emmanuel. *Forced Migration in Northeast Nigeria: Drivers and Effects on Urban Living*, International Journal of Scientific Research in Multidisciplinary Studies vol. 6no. 9, (2020): 86-92.

²¹ Omenma, Tochukwu; Abada, Ifeanyi-chukwu. M. & Omenma, Oyinyechi Z. "Boko Haram Insurgency: A Decade of Dynamic Evolution and Struggle for a Caliphate." *Security Journal* vol. 33 (2020): 376-400, accessed February 7, 2024, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1057/s41284-020-00233-7>

²² Shaibu, Moses. E., Ogwuche, Matthew. E., Ibebunjo, Basil. O., Orie, Gloria. E. and Ebobo, Christiana E. "Social Exclusion and National Integration: A Study of Internal Displaced Persons in North-Central, Abuja." *Khazar Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*, vol. 5no. 3, (2022): 1-8.

²³ Omoniyi, Tiilehin. O. Ajitoni, Sunday. O. and Amosun, Peter A. "Migratory Pattern and City Slums in Lagos State, Nigeria", *Ibadan Journal of Educational Research (IJER)* vol. 2, no. 18(2021): 1-12.

²⁴ Ekezie, Winifred, "Resilience Actions of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Living in Camp-Like Settings: A Northern Nigeria Case Study." *Journal of Migration and Health*, vol. 6 (2022): 1-9.

²⁵ Jimam Lar, "Violence and Insecurity in Northwest Nigeria: Exploring the Role and Resilience of Local Actors" *African Conflict and Peacebuilding Review*, vol. 9, no. 2 (2019): 123-154.

²⁶ Ojewale, Oluwale. *Rising Insecurity In Northwest Nigeria: Terrorism Thinly Disguised as Banditry*, Brookings: Africa in Focus, (2021), accessed March 15, 2024, doi:<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/africa-in-focus/2021/02/18/rising-insecurity-in-northwest-nigeria-terrorism-thinly-disguised-as-banditry/>

are useful as skilled and unskilled labourers, others who are jobless become nuisance to security. An earlier study showed inability of government to manage the unfolding socio-economic challenges resulting from displacement of persons.²⁷ No doubt, inability of government to manage consequences of migration to urban centre will lead to present and future escalation of conflict and insecurity. For instance, it is documented that ripple effects of unhindered migration to urban centres have accentuated management crisis in Lagos and Abuja.²⁸

However, few empirical researches have been carried out on forced migration into Kano Metropolis and its propensity to cause disquiet in Kano slums. Thus, this study focuses on problems that arise from addition of forced migrants to slums in Kano with the objective of exposing early warning signs in order to provide proactive early responses to insecurity and latent conflicts.

Theoretical Framework

Push-Pull Factor Theory of migration is used to explain causes of forced migration. Relative Deprivation Theory, Theory of Anomie and theory of Social Disorganisation are intricately apposite in explaining migrants' experiences and strategies for coping with the challenges associated with unplanned relocation and their expectations in contrast with the realities they face in slums.

Push-Pull Theory of international migration gained rapid traction in the 1960s but its origin is traceable to Adam Smith's (1776) book, "An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations" and the "Laws of Migration".²⁹ The Push-Pull Factors Theory of Migration is now generally attributed to Lee (1966) and according to him, "push" factors operate in the economically backward regions or countries of the world, where insufficient demand of labour and low wages force people to go out and search for more viable alternative locations for better livelihoods. The "pull" factors on the other hand, operate in the economically advanced regions or countries of the world, where higher demand for labour and higher wages, encourage people to come in and stay there.³⁰

²⁷ Ekezie, Winifred, "Resilience Actions of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Living in Camp-Like Settings: A Northern Nigeria Case Study." *Journal of Migration and Health*, vol. 6 (2022): 1-9.

²⁸ Musibau O. Oyebode, *Paradox of Migration in the Context of a Plural Society: Focus on Peace in Nigeria*. *International Journal of Migration and Global Studies* vol. 1, no.1 (2021): 81- 105.

²⁹ E. G. Ravenstein, E. G. "The Laws of Migration." *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society* vol. 52, no. 2 (1889): 241-305, accessed March 15, 2024, doi.org/10.2307/2979333

³⁰ Lee, Everett. S. "A Theory of Migration." *Demography*, vol. 3, no. 1(1966): 47-57.

In elaborating Lee's perspective, this study includes lack of natural disasters, political fear of persecution, famine or drought, loss of wealth, bullying, threats to life, and war/armed conflict which are sudden push factors. Push-Pull Factor Theory is apposite in explaining internal displacement that is unplanned or forced in Nigeria and indeed why the destination is Kano City.

Relative Deprivation (RD) Theory, relates to outcome of migration and relationship that ensues among hosts, migrants and government. RD theory was earlier propounded in the works of Marx (1933) and Tocqueville (1935).

Walker & Pettigrew (1984) extended discussions on RD and situated it within the theoretical framework of Tajfel's (1979) Categorization-identity-comparison (CIC) to explain intergroup relations.³¹

They posit that social conflict arises due to people's perceptions of inequality. This happens when there is disparity between expectation and what people get in comparison with what others get. People naturally desire to enjoy or deserve to enjoy certain benefits as a member of any socio-political arrangement and if what they are currently enjoying is less than expectation, they become discontented with their situation. Thus, it is espoused that when the gap among groups within a particular population is too wide, the possibility of rebellion becomes more likely.

Persons' feelings of deprivation are relative to their own past, another person, persons, group, their ideals or other social category. For instance, as Nigerians, every citizen believes he is entitled to certain benefits wherever he may be within the country and compares what he gets with others who may be hosts. Thus, any discrimination or deprivation anchored on parochial factor of in-group and out-group dichotomy, neglect or structural violence is a potential cause of conflict described as state of anomie.³² According to Durkheim (1893), anomie is a state in which expectations are unclear and the social system that keeps people functioning has broken down.³³ Thus, when a society has a relatively high rate of economic inequality, the more likely it is that people will rebel and when expectations of poor individuals become transformed

³¹ Iain Walker, W. and Thomas Frazer Pettigrew, "Relative Deprivation Theory: An Overview and Conceptual Critique", *British Journal of Social Psychology*, vol. 23, no. 4 (2011):301 – 310, accessed March 15, 2024, doi:https://www.researchgate.net/publication/229622127_Relative_Deprivation_Theory_An_Overview_and_Conceptual_Critique.x

³² Joshua Olusegun Bolarinwa, Musibau. Olabamiji Oyebode and Omotola Charlse Olusanya, *Introduction to Peace Studies*, 24-25. Abuja: National Open University of Nigeria.

³³ Durkheim, Émile. 1893. *The Division of Labour in Society*, Translated by George Simpson. Illinois: The Free Press of Glencoe, Illinois

as a group identity, they become a political force that will not hesitate to use violence in order to combat perceived discrimination.

Also relevant to this study is the Social Disorganization Theory postulated by Chicago School (1990s) that posits communities with loose social ties and endemic poverty are prone to high levels of crime and decadent behaviours. Unemployment, deteriorating infrastructures and single-parent homes are factors that lead to high rates of crimes (Gaines and Miller, 2000).³⁴ All of these factors easily arise as a result of forced migration.

The theories above are relevant in detecting early warning signs and signals of latent conflict especially in situations where new migrants are not properly integrated or taken care of and suffer neglect. However, relative deprivation theory is emphasized in this study at helps to explain forced migrants' experiences and possible reactions to sufferings and neglect.

Materials and Methods

The research design for this study was descriptive survey as it aimed to investigate demographic and behavioural traits arising from forced migration. Primary data was garnered using a structured questionnaire and in-depth interviews. Articles, Journals, books, internet materials were also used for secondary data.

The current metro area population of Kano in 2024 is 4,491,000, a 3.29% increase from 2023³⁵. The study population comprised migrants outside IDP camps, government officials and community heads. However, approximated value was used because the total number of migrants was difficult to determine. A total of 1000 copies of a structured questionnaire were administered on migrants, residents, community leaders and government officials. However, 863 were validly filled and returned. A total of 30 in-depth interviews were conducted across the five selected slums.

Purposive sampling technique was used to allow representation of the six slums and categories of different respondents needed for the study. The slums used for this study are situated in Kwakwaci, Fagge Local Government, Darmanawa, Kumbotso Local Government, Farawa, Kumbotso Local Government Area, Dan Bare, Kumbotso Local

³⁴ Larry K. Gaines, Michael Kaune and Roger Leroy Miller. *Criminal Justice in action*, 11th edition (2000), accessed March 16, 2024, doi:<https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts/criminal-justice-action>

³⁵ Macrotrends. Kano, Nigeria Metro Area Population 1950-2024 (2024), accessed, June 10, 2024, doi:<https://www.macrotrends.net/global-metrics/cities/22005/kano/population>

Government, Gama, Nasarawa Local Government and Tarauni Kasuwa, Tarauni Local Government. However, samples (questionnaire respondents and interviewees) from each of the slums were randomly selected

Quantitative and qualitative analyses were adopted for data analysis using SPSS. Tables were used to display data in figures, percentages and mean scores. Qualitative data obtained through interviews were categorized and embedded in the discussion of findings using illustrative quotes to aggregate responses. The number of interviewees who made similar and aggregated statements were included.

Findings

RQ1: How significant are cases of forced internal migration into Kano City and what are their causes?

Table 1. Nature of Migration to Kano City

	Frequency	Valid Percent
Yes	796	92
No	67	8
Total	863	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2023.

Table 1 shows that majority (92%) of the migrants were forced out of their homes into Kano City. A mere 8% of the respondents were not forced to migrate from their homes to Kano City.

Table 2. Causes of forced migration to Kano

S/No	Causes	Frequency	Valid Percent
1	General economic conditions	63	12
2	Natural Disaster especially drought and famine	40	87
3	Conflict situations	748	1
4	Others	12	100
5	Total	863	

Source: Field Survey, 2023

Table 2 shows that migrants were forced out of their homes by a number of reasons ranging from general economic hardship (7%), natural disaster (5%), conflict situations (87%) and others (1%).

RQ2: What are the patterns of settlement among the migrants into Kano city?

Table 3: Patterns of settlement among the migrants in the slums of Kano city

S/No	Patterns of Settlement by Migrants	Frequency	Valid percent
1	Clustered settlement in new areas	381	44.0
2	Isolated or dispersed settlement in new areas	212	25.0
3	Harboured by relatives	97	11.0
4	Rented accommodation	119	14.0
5	Open community accommodation	54	6.0
	Total	863	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2023.

Table 3 shows that clustered pattern of settlement amongst forced migrants in Kano Metropolis accounts for the largest form of settlement which is (44%), isolated or dispersed settlement which accounts for 25% and 14% of forced migrants in rented accommodation. Just 11% of the respondents are harboured and 6% live in open community accommodations.

RQ3: How do people perceive forced internal migration into Kano as a cause of proliferation of slums?

Table 4: Respondents' Views on Forced Migration and Proliferation of Slums in Kano

	Views	SA	A	UD	SD	D	Mean	Decision
1	Unchecked settlement in new areas leads to new slums	353	307	52	71	80	2.80	Agree
2	Make-shift homes disrupt urban planning	416	319	22	61	45	2.85	Agree
3	Inadequate social amenities in the settlements results in slums	312	321	43	89	98	2.60	Agree

4	Forced migration overcrowds residences in slums	318	294	32	123	96	2.76	Agree
5	Shanties and uncompleted houses produce slums	311	262	43	142	105	2.55	Agree
6	Open community integration leads to clumsiness	312	265	52	138	96	2.56	Agree
7	Pressure on government interventions projects in urban slums	315	306	77	69	96	2.76	Agree
	Cluster Standard Deviation and Mean					0.741	2.76	Agree

Source: Field Survey, 2023.

With the overall mean scores of 2.76 in table 4 above, it is indicative that the level of agreements of the forced migrants on the link between forced migration and proliferation of slums in Kano is positive.

RQ4: Which negative indices associated with forced migration and slum proliferation affect peace and security in Kano slums?

Table 5: Negative Indices Associated with Forced Migration and Slum Proliferation in Kano state that affect peace and security

S/No	Indices	SA	A	UD	SD		Mean	Decision
1	Rivalry among migrants over limited physical space	342	229	54	173	65	2.95	Agree
2	High disease and morbidity from sanitary system increase	327	266	17	169	84	2.93	Agree
3	Children are exposed to danger and poor upbringing.	312	329	19	109	194	2.90	Agree
4	Contestation for few jobs leads to violence	297	259	15	173	119	2.85	Agree
5	Migrants and hosts in slum areas are prone to frequent conflicts over limited infrastructure	344	245	19	167	88	2.93	Agree

6	Human rights abuse and intimidation by the law enforcement agents abound.	323	298	62	212	58	2.75	Agree
7	Migrants in slum areas worsens high-rate of drug abuse	314	269	89	152	139	2.70	Agree
8	Migrants in slum areas worsens high-rate of crimes	376	238	44	98	107	2.73	Agree
9	Rampant sexual harassments and gender-based violence in slums.	285	348	86	77	67	2.80	Agree
10	Migrants in slum areas worsens theft	239	356	38	146	184	2.68	Agree

Source: Field Survey, 2023.

Table 5 shows that respondents’ mean scores show agreement with the indices associated with problems of slums proliferation.

Discussion

The study reveals significant cases of forced migration (92%) of the respondents into Kano City. Majority of the interviewees (23) also said “our movement to Kano was involuntary, unplanned and spontaneous in reaction to debilitating security upheavals.” Generally, conflict situations earn 87% of the reasons why the respondents fled their homes. This finding corroborates earlier finding by scholars for the Northeast.³⁶

Conflicts such as terrorism, banditry, cattle rustling, farmers-herders’ conflict and communal clashes caused displacement into Kano. “Interviewed migrants in Gama Ward in Nasarawa Local Government of Kano State claimed that “we are from Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States and were displaced due to the Boko Haram insurgency.” Similar result in earlier study found that the Boko Haram insurgency was the major cause of forced migration in Maiduguri, North-east Nigeria.³⁷ Fifteen of the

³⁶ Omenma, Tochukwu; Abada, Ifeanyichukwu. M. & Omenma, Oyinyechi Z. “*Boko Haram Insurgency: A Decade of Dynamic Evolution and Struggle for a Caliphate.*” *Security Journal* vol. 33 (2020): 376–400, accessed March 20, 2024, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1057/s41284-020-00233-7>

³⁷ Emmanuel Baba Mamman. “*Public Policy Response to violence: A case Study of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria.*” Walden University, Scholar Work (2020). Accessed March 20, 2024, doi:<https://scholarworks.waldenu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=10671&context=dissertations>

interviewees said “we were forced out of Zamfara, Katsina, Niger and Sokoto because bandits ravaged our ancestral homes.”

Majority of the migrants settle in clusters (44%). This type of settlement arises from sense of belongingness and identity that assure them of safety. According to 19 interviewees “clustered pattern of settlement in new area is possible because the slums are open to new entrants and government policies allow such settlement for displaced person.” Isolated settlements accommodate people who are mostly from north-central states who are afraid to blend with Hausa/Fulani migrants. This category of migrants said “experiences from herders-farmers’ conflict that pushed us out of our communities made us suspicious of these people.”

Findings revealed a number of factors that lead to creation of new slums or worsening of the living conditions of the existing ones. These include converting uncompleted buildings in existing slums to temporary residences using rafter palms as roofing and building on drainages and roads thus complicating environmental disorder in these slums. Other acts are erecting shanties in open, playing-ground and recreational spaces thus disrupting urban plan roadmap and creating new slums and over-crowding in these slums. Thus, attraction of forced migrants to urban periphery of Kano creates new slums and worsens the condition of existing slums.

A number of indices point to disquiet in Kano slums due to forced internal migration and resulting slum proliferation. They are: rivalry among migrants over physical space, high disease and morbidity from sanitary system and children exposure to danger and poor upbringing. Migrants and hosts in slum areas are prone to frequent conflicts like quarrel, clash and fight over inadequate infrastructures and resources. These findings have also been documented in earlier studies on rural-urban migration outcomes in Nigeria.³⁸

Twenty-one interviewees noted that “although government rarely comes to our aid, individuals, community leadership, civil society organisations and non-governmental organisations are assisting us to settle and integrate into our new environment.” This

³⁸ Paul O. Adekola, *Migration, urbanization and environmental problems in Nigeria*, In *Migration and Urbanisation in Contemporary Nigeria: Policy Issues and Challenges* edited by Oyefara, John, 40-53. Lagos: University of Lagos Press. See also Musibau O. Oyebode. *Paradox of Migration in the Context of a Plural Society: Focus on Peace in Nigeria*. International Journal of Migration and Global Studies vol.1no. 1(2021): 81- 105.

finding aligns with previous findings on how IDPs in Northern Nigeria generally get integrated into the host communities.³⁹

Conclusion

From the foregoing, it can be seen that there is indeed forced migration into Kano State from northern states, most notably from Borno, Zamfara, Katsina, Niger, Sokoto, and Taraba States. These states have been hotspots of conflict and insecurity in the last few years.

Forced displacements to Kano are due to general economic hardship, natural disaster, and armed conflict situations such as terrorism, banditry, cattle rustling, farmers-herders' conflict, communal clashes and so on.

Forced migration leads to slums proliferation as new arrivals distort city plan by erecting make-shift homes and shanties, occupy uncompleted buildings and open public facilities. Pressure on existing infrastructure leads to poor living conditions of migrants and hosts.

Respondents believed that a number of indicators in the slums point to disquiet in Kano State. Potential causes of conflict include joblessness, growing theft, harassment, poor healthcare, improper education of migrants' children and exposure to hard drugs.

This study calls attention to early warning signs and signals of conflict emanating from forced migration and consequential phenomenal proliferation of slums in Kano City and the need for early response to avert conflicts which are at the latent stage. This disquiet is widespread in most urban centres in the northern part of Nigeria as a result of involuntary migration. If the disquiet is not nib in the bud on time, it could worsen the conflict situations and insecurity in that region of Nigeria.

Recommendations

Based on the findings from this study, the following recommendations are put forward for consideration:

³⁹ Ekezie, Winifred. "Resilience Actions of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Living in Camp--Like Settings: A Northern Nigeria Case Study." *Journal of Migration and Health* vol. 6 (2022): 1-9.

1. Since the causes of forced migration in the study area are basically insurgency, banditry, and conflicts, government at all levels should ensure that the war, insecurity and armed conflict is won in Nigeria.
2. While the infrastructures in slums are improved, policies on IDPs and indigene-settler dichotomy should be reviewed in Nigeria to better accommodate Nigerians no matter their nationalities and causes of flight to a new area. Integration of forced migrants is a key to peace in Kano City.
3. Government should assist IDPs to acquire new skills that will make them employable in their new location.
4. Efforts should be made to return forced migrants back to their ancestral homes when the war against armed conflict is won.

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