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Research Article

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An assessment of Internally Displaced Persons' [IDPs] Needs in Flood Prone Areas of Kogi State.

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Keywords

Disaster;
IDPs;
Flood;
Needs;
Management.

Abstract

The devastating effect of flooding has led to associated serious problems and socio-economic implications. Displaced people are faced with being over-crowded in camps with the attendant consequences which include displaced children facing many dangers, especially if they have become separated from their families. Poor nutrition, poor sanitary conditions and inability to access health services make displaced persons prey to a host of diseases, most of which could be preventable. The study aim is to identify the socio-economic impacts resulting to devastating flood among internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Nigeria. A cross sectional study involving 4 IDP camps in Kogi State. Information on social, economic and health impacts of the devastation was collected and data analyzed using SPSS version 20.0. A total of 660 respondents (100%) were interviewed in the study. The mean age was 37.1 years and 31.9% of respondents completed secondary school education. Majority were farmers (77.3%). Of the 357 (54.09%) who had children in school before the occurrence of the disaster, only 168 (25.46%) had children in school after the flooding. Over 61.4% lost their job, 51.2% were at risk of infectious diseases and 44.35% felt insecure in the camp. Only 19.72% IDPs had access to insecticide treated net. This study shows that IDPs face diverse challenges including food shortages, threats to health, financial constraints and psychological trauma as well as poor access to educational facilities for the children involved.

Introduction

Internally displaced persons are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border,Ojigi M.L, Abdulkadir, F.I, Aderoju, M.O. (2013). Flood disaster response is one of the most important activities in fulfilling IDP (Internally Displaced Persons) needs. It needs support of correct data on short time that can be accessed by many institutions.

Nigeria as a nation suffers the effect of Climate Change majorly through flood events. Recent flood disasters in Nigeria have been of major concern to people, communities and institutions. Flash floods are the most common in Nigeria during the peak of the rainy season (June-October) and the 2012 flood event

in Nigeria is described as the worst in recent times, Ntui, (2015). Kogi State was the most affected state due to its location at the confluence of the country's major rivers (Niger-Benue Rivers). The flood events have pushed rivers to overflow their banks submerging hundreds of kilometers of the urban and rural land in Kogi State which is beyond description and has attracted humanitarian assistance from both national and international organization. In a bid to mitigate the extent of damage and casualties during a flood disaster, this study is therefore aimed at assessing, mapping and analyzing the 2012 flood disaster in Kogi state, Nigeria for an effective flood disaster risk management and proper planning.

Statement of research problem

Flood disaster is an annual problem in Kogi state. It causes damage and disruption on physical and social aspects. Flood also causes many inhabitants to relocate to safer places and stay there for a long time. While staying on evacuation shelter. IDPs must be equipped with basic logistic supplies. It is important to help them survive and minimize the suffering condition. Current process of fulfilling IDP needs at the emergency phase in Kogi for flood disaster has received little or no attention so far. This research will study the current situation and propose new system of quick response to fulfilling IDP needs during flood disaster.

IDPs have to get sufficient aids for their needs within a short time after they have been evacuated and relocated. Therefore sending information to government as quickly as possible on IDP camps is important. Using this information, government can provide logistic and aids for each shelter based on IDP needs. Currently, the logistics for IDPs are defined by government officers manually; it can be more efficient if the calculation of IDP needs for each evacuation shelter is done automatically.

This study, however, intends to find out the information needs of the IDPs at camps in Kogi State. It is against this backdrop, that these studies evaluate information needs of the IDPs, to what use the IDPs put the information they obtained, how do the relevant authorities respond to these needs band what is the condition of the IDPs camps in Maiduguri as well as what are the challenges that IDPs encounter in information seeking.? These are the questions to which this study intends to answers.

Objectives of the Study

This study sought to examine ways of enhancing the information needs and camp condition of
IDPs.
Specifically the study has the following objectives:

- To ascertain their information needs of the IDPs
- To know the use they put the information obtained.
- To examine the condition of the IDPs camps
- To establish the problems that the IDPs encounter in information seeking

Research Questions

The research has the following hypothetical questions:

- What are the information needs of the IDPs in the camp?
- To what use the IDPs put the information they obtained?
- What is the condition of the IDPs camps in Kogi?
- What are the challenges that IDPs encounter in information seeking?

Conceptual Framework

The research focused on the factors that are associated with the research theme, identified three strata, namely, institutions, interventions and areas of impact. Variables were identified for each of the institutional and level of interventions. In the process the research recognized independent and dependent variables relevant to each level. The research identified independent variables as the interventions of government in the IDPs needs, the role of other humanitarian service providers. The dependent variables are the impact of such interventions on the quality of life and the environment of resettled IDPs.
The concept of development has been viewed in different ways depending on its context. For purpose of this research, it evaluates the influence the resettled IDPs could make towards the enhancement of their own development through information needs. This depends on several factors such as socio-economic conditions which play a very important role. However, the focus here is how the resettled IDPs have had an impact on environment and their Quality Of Live are key areas studied. Essentially the QOL includes four factors: education, health, housing and employment. The other dependent factor which is the environment includes water, sanitation, security and vegetation. To

assess the impact on the QOL and environment, the research, focuses on the effectiveness of interventions made during the camp stage of IDPs by support agencies through camp management. The effectiveness of the interventions will impact the dependent variables. As such, the study investigated the type of agencies and effectiveness of their services in relation to quality of life improvement of resettled IDPs.

Literature Review

Disaster management

Disaster management is continuous activities involving various organizations conducted to prevent the loss of lives, alleviate the suffering of victim, lessen loss and damage of property, provide information of risk, and accelerate recovery process on rehabilitation phase (Sudibyakto 2011).

Disaster Management as a subject essentially deals with management of resources and information as far as a disastrous event is concerned and also how effectively and seamlessly one coordinates these resources. Disaster management, at the individual and organizational level, deals with issues of planning, coordinating, communication and risk management Satish, 2010.

Emergency management is a holistic approach to managing disasters before and after their occurrence. A comprehensive emergency management approach involves four concepts which include mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. This review paper captures the meaning and types of emergency management and disaster risk reduction, institutional and policy framework for disaster management, factors that leads to effective management in order to enhance sustainable development in Nigeria, the challenges of emergency management. It recommends more serious measures at both local and national levels to encourage emergency management and reduction of risks in Nigeria to facilitate sustainable development. Isife, Chima Theresa and Ugwuanyi R.O (2012)

Flood Information System

Flood is excessive amount of water that inundates are which is normally dry land caused by overflow from water sources, mudflow, or collapse of land along water body, flooding is a serious threat because it can cause damage to infrastructure and livelihood and force people to move from their homes Sangodoyin, A.Y. & Essein, O.E (2012). Flooding has become a major hazard in Nigeria in recent years due to a growing population, rapid urbanization and extreme weather events. This study provides a critical review and characterization flood risk management (FRM) practices in Nigeria with a view to highlighting current weaknesses and opportunities, as well as giving recommendations for practice and for further research. Databases of academic literature, covering a wide range of FRM issues, were systematically queried and mined using suitable keywords. A structured review of the resulting literature was carried out and several past flood events and associated responses reviewed as case studies. Absence of integrated FRM systems, lack of inter-agency coordination, substandard and weak infrastructures, inadequate drainage network, high urban poverty, low level literacy, cultural barriers and weak institutions characterize current FRM practices (Oladokun, 2016);

Until recently major flood disasters rarely occur in Nigeria. Recorded cases of flooding in Nigeria date back to 1963 when Ogunpa River flooded Ibadan city causing loss of lives and properties with reoccurrences in 1978, 1980 and 2011 [Adegbola, Agbola2012]. The 1980 flood, which caused huge loss of lives and properties, brought some notoriety and attention to the disaster potential of the river and immediately provoked a flurry of FRM responses such as the initiation of the Ogunpa channelization project, educative radio and television jingles on FRM practices, relocation of structures and properties from flood plains [Sangodoyin, &Essein, (2012), Egunjobi1986]. However the sense of urgency and priority attached to these FRM projects waned after some years of respite. For instance, the channelization project was abandoned for a long period, radio and television jingles ended, and by the late 90s, it was clear that city planning authorities had gone back to old habits of allowing structures on floodplains obstructing flood channels [Ajayi et al 2012]

Study Area

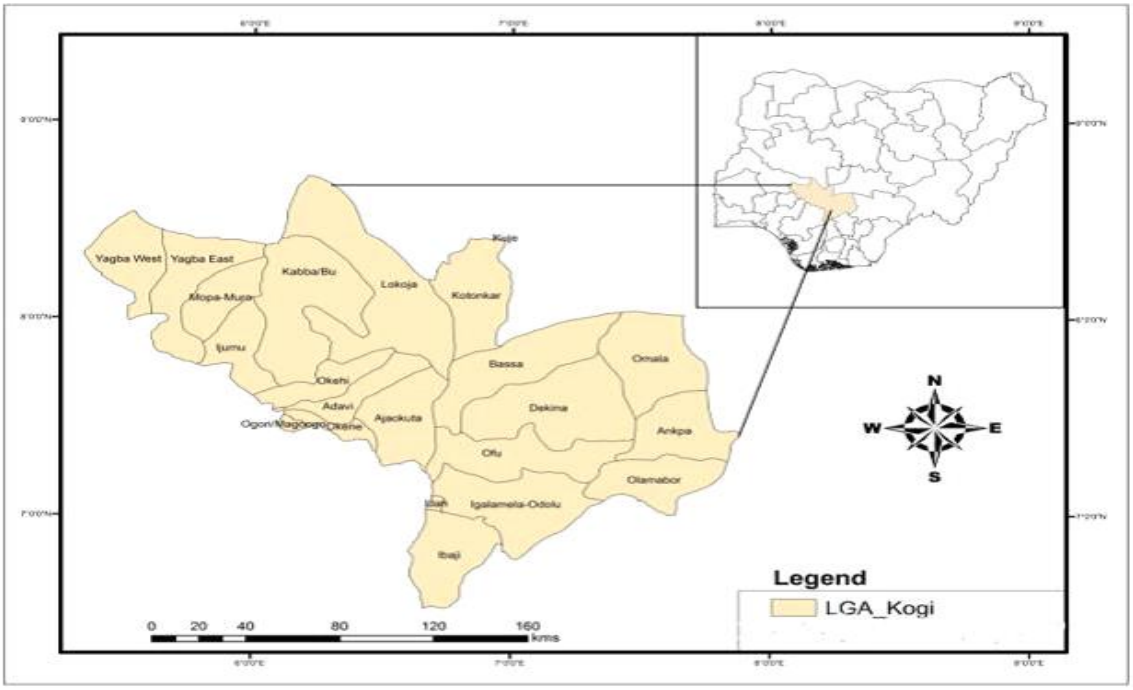


Figure 1: Map of study area

Kogi state is found in the central region of Nigeria, located on the latitude 7° 30´N and longitude 6° 42´E with a total land area of 29,833km and has a population of 3,595,789 in the year 2005 which was the 24th in the ranking of most populous state in Nigeria. It is popularly called the confluence state because of the confluence of River Niger and River Benue is at its capital. Lokoja is the first administrative capital of modern-day Nigeria. The state was formed in 1991 from parts of Kwara state and Benue State. The state was as presently constituted, comprises the people of the defunct kabba province of Northern Nigeria. There are three main ethnic groups and languages in Kogi; igbala, Ebira, and Okun (Part of Yoruba) with other minorities like Bassa, a small fraction of Nupe mainly in Lokoja, Gwari, Kakanda, Owuropeople(similar to Yoruba) Ogori, Mangogo and the Eggan community under Lokoja Local Government. Kogi state is surrounded by many other states which are; Federal Capital territory (Nigeria) to the North, Nassarawa state to the Northeast, Benue state to the South, Enugu state to the Southeast, Anambra state to the south, Edo state to the Southwest, Ondo and Ekiti to the West, Niger state to the North and Kwara to the Northwest. Kogi state has 21 Local Government Areas.

Research Methodology

This study adopted quantitative and qualitative technique. Data for the study were obtained from primary and secondary sources. The instrument used for data collection in this study was a structured interview; documents and questionnaire were relied upon. Five IDP camps were selected for the study: Such as Ganaja Primary school camp, Gadumo IDP camp, St. Luke IDP camp Flood Estate camp are directly affected by flood.

The study population comprised IDPs, males and females of eighteen years and above who have been displaced and have found themselves in the IDP camps. Two sets of questionnaire were administered to the selected IDP camps. Of the 272 were returned out the 300 copies of administered to the IDPs, 51 of which were found invalid while 221 were found valid for analysis, thus, there was 86.2% response rate.

This section outlines the methods and steps employed in carrying out this research work. It presents the model building strategy espoused in chi square model. Statistical tool that will be used in this research work is chi square analysis (non parametric test). This statistical tool is used to investigate the relationships between categorical variables. SPSS will be used to analyze the data collected for the purpose of this research work.

Model Identification

The Chi-Square statistic is most commonly used to evaluate Tests of Independence when using a cross tabulation (also known as a bivariate table). Cross tabulation presents the distributions of two categorical variables simultaneously, with the intersections of the categories of the variables appearing in the cells of the table. The Test of Independence assesses whether an association exists between the two variables by comparing the observed pattern of responses in the cells to the pattern that would be expected if the variables were truly independent of each other. Calculating the Chi-Square statistic and comparing it against a critical value from the Chi-Square distribution allows the researcher to assess whether the observed cell counts are significantly different from the expected cell counts.

The calculation of the Chi-Square statistic is quite straight-forward and intuitive:

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(f_o - f_e)^2}{f_e}$$

or

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(o-e)^2}{e}$$

where f_o = the observed frequency
and f_e = the expected frequency

The value of chi square helps us to answer the question, 'is the difference in expected and observed data statistically significant?' A small chi square value tells us that any differences in actual and expected data are due to chance, so the data is not statistically significant. A large value tells us the data is statistically significant and there is something causing the differences in data. From there, a statistician may explore factors that may be responsible for the differences.

As depicted in the formula, the Chi-Square statistic is based on the difference between what is actually observed in the data and what would be expected if there was truly no relationship between the variables.
Accept Ho if the asymp. Sig. Value calculated is greater than the significant value of α = 0.05, otherwise reject Ho.

Hypothesis testing

Ho: information availability, personal welfare and camp conditions of IDPs in Kogi state are adequate.
H1: information availability, personal welfare and camp conditions of IDPs in Kogi state are inadequate.

Research Findings and Discussion.

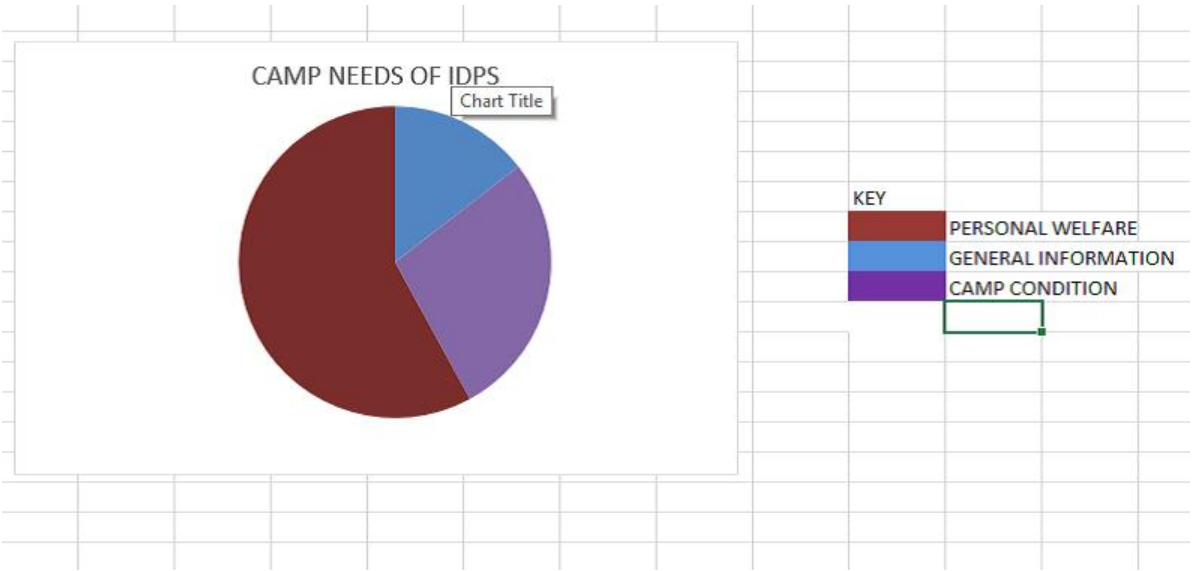


Figure 2: Pie chart of camp needs of IDPs in selected LGAs in Kogi State

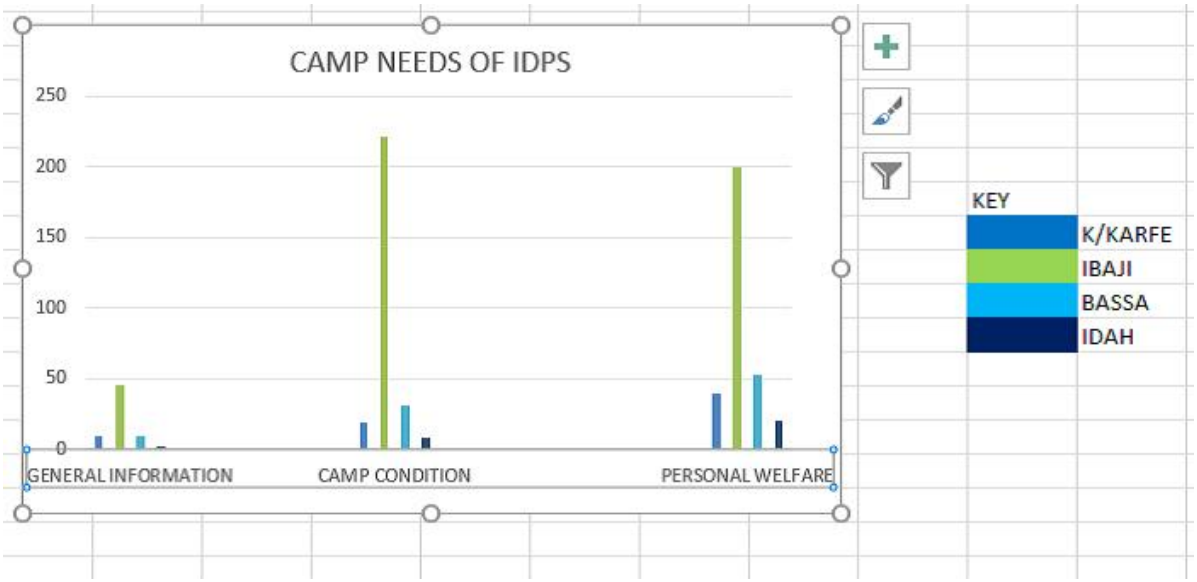


Figure 3: Bar chart of camp needs of IDPs in selected LGAs in Kogi State by LGA

Fig 4 shows that majority 85% of respondents found IDPs camps condition inadequate for meeting their needs, 15% remained indifferent in their opinion and No one found the camps condition adequate. This is in agreement with the findings of Adeoye, Ayanlade, and Babatimehin,(2009), that government inNigeria does not have adequate machinery in place to address IDPs issues and the organizations created by the government possess minimal capacity to handle IDPs related problems.

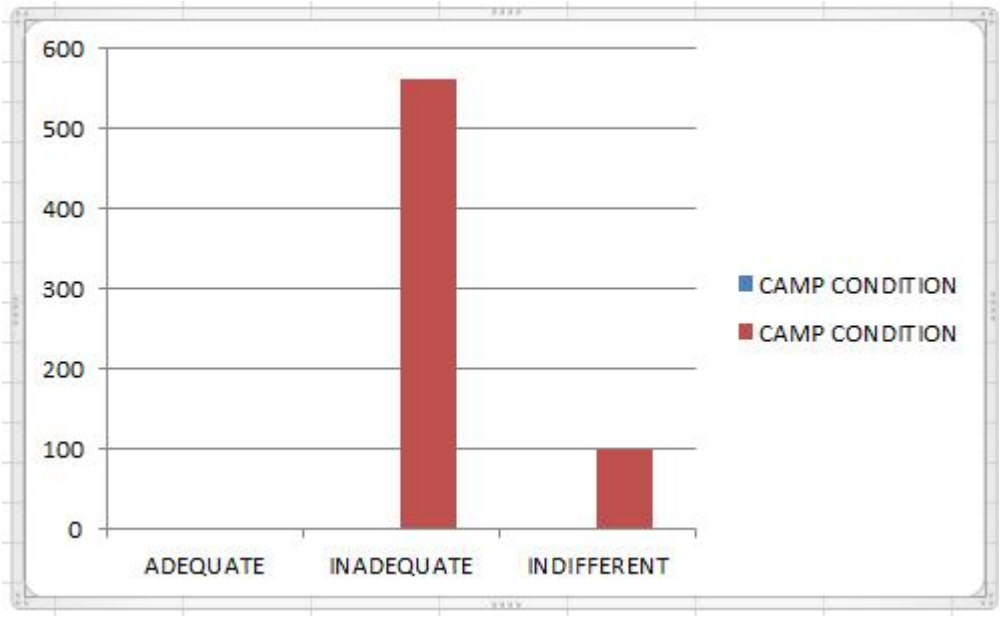


Figure 4: Bar chart representing respondents' opinion on camp conditions

Fig 5 Shows that the factors affecting the IDPs in seeking their information needs is of lack of fund 65.3%, irregular medical care80%, lack of accommodation/ lack of food 47.12% poor living condition 60.15%,exposure to violence/abuse 44.4% corruptions 26.52% government policies 28.2%, sexual abuse 14.24% among others. This fact agrees with the findings of Human Rights Watch, (1998), children suffer the most serious effects of minimal and irregular medical care: 68% of IDP children do not receive social security or vaccination coverage; More so, UNL Digital Commons (2006) has keenly observed the use of untrained workers by IDPs management agencies contributed to some of the

challenges faced by the IDPs. Similarly, Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children, (1999), confirmed that, malnutrition, respiratory illnesses, diarrhea, parasitic diseases and sexually transmitted diseases are indicators of the extreme fragility of IDP living conditions.

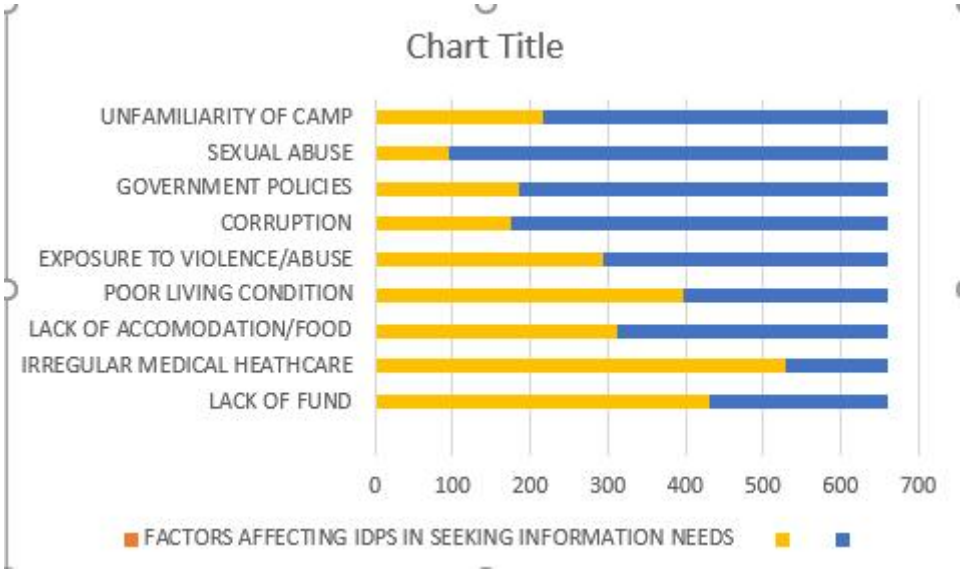


Figure 5: Factors affecting IDPs in seeking information needs

Fig 6 shows that 57% of the respondents were female while 43% were male. This represents the gender distribution of IDPs involved in the survey. There are more female IDPs in most of the camps than their male counterparts. This is in consonance with the finding of daily times, (2016), research shows that 62% of the IDP populations in sites are female while 38% are male.

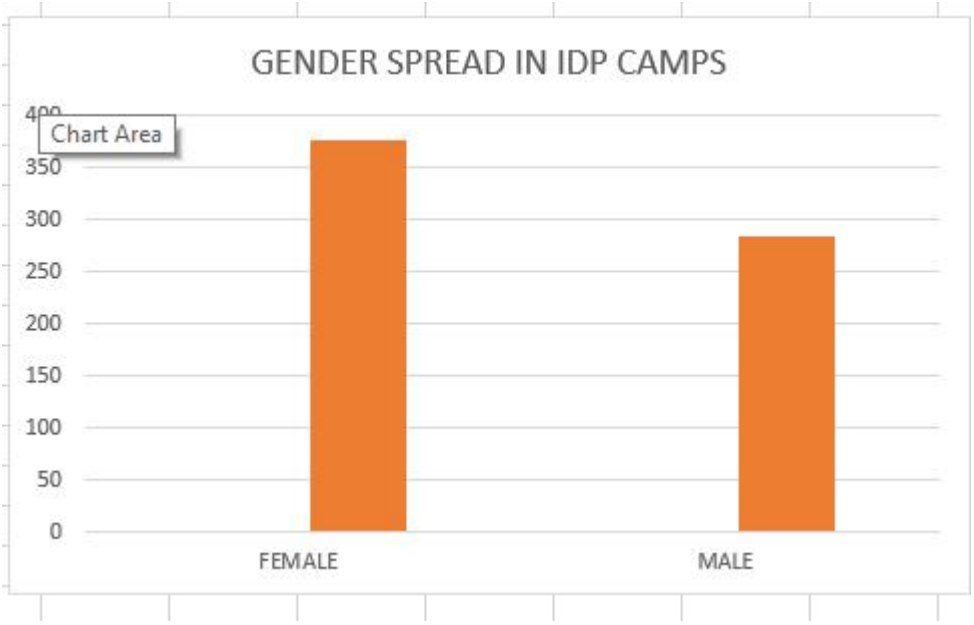


Figure 6: Gender spread in IDP camps

The Data

In this present research, a well-designed and properly examined questionnaire was used to gather the information required. Data used in this research work are considered to be of primary data gotten from the use of questionnaire that was administered to IDPs in Kogi state.

Table 4.1

Case Processing Summary						
	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
Internally displaced persons in Kogi state to which questionnaires were administered	660	100.0%	0	0.0%	660	100.0%

Source: SPSS

Table 4.2:

Internally displaced persons in Kogi state Cross tabulation							
			IDP Camps				Total
			K/KARFE	IBAJI	IDAH	BASSA	
Information needs and camp condition	General information	Count	10	46	10	2	68
		Expected Count	7.1	48.1	9.7	3.1	68.0
		% of Total	1.5%	7.0%	1.5%	.3%	10.3%
	Personal welfare	Count	19	221	31	8	279
		Expected Count	29.2	197.4	39.7	12.7	279.0
		% of Total	2.9%	33.5%	4.7%	1.2%	42.3%
	Camp condition	Count	40	200	53	20	313
		Expected Count	32.7	221.5	44.6	14.2	313.0
		% of Total	6.1%	30.3%	8.0%	3.0%	47.4%
Total		Count	69	467	94	30	660
		Expected Count	69.0	467.0	94.0	30.0	660.0
		% of Total	10.5%	70.8%	14.2%	4.5%	100.0 %

Source: SPSS

Shows the cross tabulation of the observed and expected count.

Table 4.3

Chi-Square Tests			
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	19.309[a]	6	.004
Likelihood Ratio	19.658	6	.003
Linear-by-Linear Association	2.542	1	.111
N of Valid Cases	660		
a. 1 cells (8.3%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 3.09.			

Table 4.3 shows the chi square calculated value, degree of freedom and asymp. Sig. (2 sided) value for the observed count.

From table 4.1, shows the case process summary and it was observed that 660 questionnaires was distributed among IDPs (Internally Displaced Persons) in Kogi state. Table 4.2 also shows the observations of IDP responses recorded at various camps in Kogi state with respect to their information needs and camp conditions.

It was observed that respondents who indicated their most pressing need was information availability in Koton Karfe, Ibaji, Idah and Bassa camps are 10, 46, 10 and 2 respectively

It was observed that respondents who indicated their most pressing need was personal welfare in Koton Karfe, Ibaji, Idah and Bassa camps are 19, 221, 31 and 8 respectively.

It was observed that respondents who indicated their most pressing need was information availability in Koton Karfe, Ibaji, Idah and Bassa camps are 40, 200, 53 and 20 respectively.

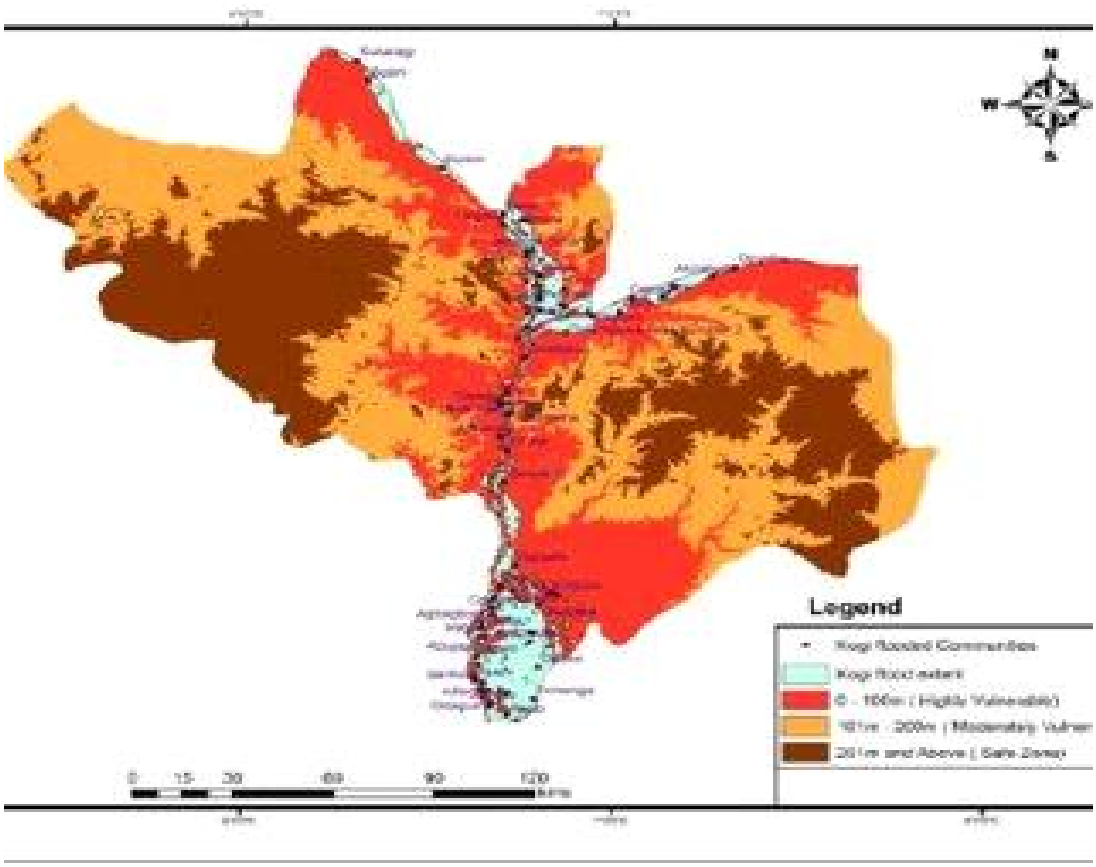
Table 4.3, also shows the the chi-square calculated, the chi-square value is 19.309 degree of freedom is 6 and asymp. Sig value = 0.004.

Since asymp. Sig. value (0.004) is less than alpha @ 0.05 we therefore reject Ho to accept H1 and conclude that information availability, personal welfare and camp conditions of IDPs in Kogi state are inadequate.

Conclusion

The following recommendations are made:

1. Government should ensure that necessary facilities, first aid treatment and urgent medical treatment should never be denied to any internal displacement persons, regardless of the camps.
2. To make funds available for the management of IDPs in Nigeria governments should solicit for donations and financial aids from more international bodies. They should also collaborate with more international humanitarian organizations for assistant.
3. The Nigerian government should fight corruption and ensure a direct link between the management agencies and the IDPs. The role of intermediary played by government agencies such as NEMA and SEMA should be discouraged, and in fact, discontinued
4. The budgetary allocation for IDPs should be separated from allocation for disaster and/or emergency since not all disasters and emergencies result in displacement. If this is done, there is a high likelihood of more financial concentration and commitment to IDPs situation in the country.
5. More counsellors and intellectual health professionals trained to work with (IDPs) in camps. (IDPs) in particular, traumatized internal displaced persons, to help them settle into normal life.
6. The paper recommends that policy maker's attention should be drawn to such areas as the political, economic and technological provision of the (IDPs) so as to safeguard and enhance their stay in their host camps.



Flood risk map of Kogi State (Potential IDP Camps).

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