

**ASSESSMENT OF LIVING CONDITIONS OF INTERNALLY
DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPs) IN NORTH CENTRAL NIGERIA**

BY

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PHD23URP0009

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DECLARATION

I, Zainab Thomas Gajiga (Matriculation Number: PHD23URP0009), hereby declare that the work presented in this thesis, entitled "Assessment of Living Conditions of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in North Central Nigeria," is the result of my own original research, conducted under the supervision of Prof. Idris Medugu Nasir and Dr. Adamu Musa Eya, in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Urban and Regional Planning at Nasarawa State University Keffi, Nigeria.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, this thesis contains no material previously published or written by another person, except where due acknowledgement is made. This work has not been submitted, in whole or in part, for the award of any degree, diploma, or other qualification at this or any other institution.

All sources of information, data, and intellectual property used in this research have been duly acknowledged through appropriate referencing and citations in accordance with the APA 7th Edition citation standard.

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CERTIFICATION

This thesis, written by Zainab Thomas Gajiga and entitled "Assessment of Living Conditions of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in North Central Nigeria," has been examined and found to meet the regulations governing the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Urban and Regional Planning, Nasarawa State University Keffi. It is hereby approved for its contribution to knowledge and scholarship in the field.

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DEDICATION

*This thesis is dedicated to God Almighty,
who granted wisdom, strength, sound health, and perseverance
throughout the course of this study.
All glory and honour belong to Him.*

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ABSTRACT

Internal displacement in North Central Nigeria has reached a critical humanitarian threshold, driven by the compounding effects of farmer-herder conflicts, ethno-religious violence, and climate-induced environmental disasters. Despite the proliferation of Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps across Benue State, Plateau State, and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), a significant gap existed in empirical, planning-oriented research examining how the physical and spatial characteristics of displacement settlements shape long-term living conditions and livelihood outcomes. This study addressed that gap by assessing the living conditions of IDPs in North Central Nigeria and identifying the spatial, socio-economic, and institutional determinants of their welfare.

The study adopted a mixed-methods research design incorporating a cross-sectional quantitative survey, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs). A total of 390 IDP households were sampled across the three study locations using a multi-stage stratified and cluster random sampling procedure, and structured questionnaire responses were additionally collected from 90 officials and community stakeholders — comprising governmental agency staff, NGO personnel, community leaders, and healthcare providers. Quantitative data were analysed using descriptive statistics, Multiple Linear Regression, and One-Way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) with post-hoc Tukey HSD comparisons via SPSS version 27.0. Qualitative data were analysed through thematic and content analysis. Internal consistency of the official stakeholder perception scale was assessed using Cronbach's alpha prior to inferential testing.

Findings from the IDP sample revealed that displacement had severely disrupted pre-existing livelihoods, with 52.6% of respondents relying on humanitarian aid as their primary income source and 54.6% earning less than ₦10,000 per month. Women constituted 63.1% of the total IDP population surveyed. Hypothesis One confirmed that Housing Adequacy positively and significantly predicts IDP living conditions ($\beta = 0.869$, $R^2 = 0.755$, $F = 1,196.096$, $p < 0.001$). Hypothesis Two confirmed that composite spatial and environmental camp conditions collectively explain 90.7% of the variance in living condition scores ($R^2 = 0.908$, $F = 632.021$, $p < 0.001$). Hypothesis Three confirmed statistically significant spatial disparities across study locations ($F = 64.396$, $p < 0.001$), with Plateau State recording the highest mean living condition score ($M = 3.48$), followed by the FCT ($M = 3.02$) and Benue State ($M = 2.84$).

Analysis of the official sub-sample ($N = 90$) revealed that officials rated the overall governance and stakeholder environment less favourably than IDPs on nine of ten matched items, with a composite Stakeholder Perception Index of 2.881 compared with 3.196 for the IDP sample. The largest divergence appeared on "Governmental support for IDPs is adequate" (Officials $M = 1.99$, IDPs $M = 3.06$). Both samples converged in identifying IDP inclusion in decision-making as the weakest governance dimension. The official perception scale did not achieve internal consistency as a unidimensional instrument ($\alpha = 0.230$), reflecting a bifactorial item structure that warrants future scale refinement. Inferential testing of the official composite score revealed a significant and very large effect of educational attainment (Welch $t(76.9) = -8.760$, $p < .001$, Cohen's $d = -1.790$), but no significant gender difference ($t(88) = -1.643$, $p = .104$).

The study concludes that IDP settlements in North Central Nigeria currently function as emergency warehousing arrangements rather than planned living environments, failing to meet the minimum spatial and service standards prescribed by the Sphere Humanitarian Standards (2018) and the UNHCR Transitional Settlement and Reconstruction framework. The two-perspective governance analysis — combining IDP beneficiary and official self-assessments of the same governance dimensions — provides converging evidence of a structural governance deficit that is visible from both sides of the service relationship. The study recommends, inter alia, the formal adoption of the Transitional Settlement framework, enforcement of minimum spatial standards, institutionalisation of participatory IDP governance, and implementation of gender-responsive physical design standards.

Keywords: Internal Displacement, Living Conditions, Housing Adequacy, Overcrowding, Spatial Planning, Sustainable Livelihoods Framework, Stakeholder Perception, North Central Nigeria, IDP Governance, Transitional Settlement, Gender and Displacement.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AMAC	Abuja Municipal Area Council
ANOVA	Analysis of Variance
APA	American Psychological Association
AU	African Union
CPTED	Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design
CVI	Content Validity Index
DFID	Department for International Development (United Kingdom)
DTM	Displacement Tracking Matrix
DWMS	Displacement and Welfare Monitoring System
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FCT	Federal Capital Territory
FDR	False Discovery Rate
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GIS	Geographic Information System
HSD	Honestly Significant Difference (Tukey post-hoc test)
IDMC	Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ISWAP	Islamic State West Africa Province
KII	Key Informant Interview
LGA	Local Government Area
LRP	Livelihood Recovery Plan
mhGAP	Mental Health Gap Action Programme (WHO)
NEMA	National Emergency Management Agency
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
NCFRMI	National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons
OLS	Ordinary Least Squares
OSGOF	Office of the Surveyor-General of the Federation
PSS	Psychosocial Support
PTSD	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
QoL	Quality of Life
R²	Coefficient of Determination
SCORE	Social Cohesion and Reconciliation (World Bank Framework)
SEMA	State Emergency Management Agency
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
SLF	Sustainable Livelihoods Framework
SPI	Stakeholder Perception Index
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Sciences

UN	United Nations
UN OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Internal displacement is among the most severe manifestations of contemporary humanitarian crisis. Defined as the forced movement of individuals or communities within their own country's borders due to armed conflict, generalised violence, human rights violations, or natural and human-made disasters (UNHCR, 2023), internal displacement differs from refugee flows in that displaced persons remain subject to the laws and governance structures of their state of origin. This juridical distinction, however, offers limited practical protection: Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) frequently inhabit conditions of vulnerability as severe as, and in many cases more structurally entrenched than, those experienced by internationally recognised refugees (Anierobi et al., 2024; Ekezie, 2022).

The scale of global internal displacement has reached historically unprecedented proportions. The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC, 2023) reported over 71.1 million internally displaced persons worldwide at the close of 2022, driven by a combination of prolonged armed conflicts in Ukraine, Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, alongside climate-induced disasters in South Asia, the Horn of Africa, and the Sahel. The consequences of displacement are far-reaching and deeply structural, encompassing the destruction of livelihoods, the

disruption of educational pathways, heightened vulnerability to sexual and gender-based violence, and the progressive erosion of social capital and community cohesion (Ojengbede et al., 2019; Salihu et al., 2024).

Sub-Saharan Africa bears a disproportionate share of this global burden. The continent's displacement crisis is shaped by the intersection of protracted armed conflicts, inter-communal resource competition, state fragility, and the accelerating effects of climate change on already stressed ecosystems and livelihoods (Ani et al., 2022; Mukherjee & Fransen, 2024). Nigeria, Africa's most populous nation, exemplifies this convergence. The country is simultaneously managing displacement generated by the Boko Haram and Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) insurgency in the North-East, banditry and kidnapping in the North-West, secessionist tensions in the South-East, and, most acutely for this study, the chronic and intensifying farmer-herder conflicts and ethno-religious violence in the North Central geopolitical zone (Chukwuma, 2020; Nwankwo, 2024).

The North Central region of Nigeria, encompassing Benue State, Plateau State, Nasarawa State, Kogi State, Niger State, Kwara State, and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), constitutes the ecological and cultural 'Middle Belt' of the country. This zone has been the theatre of recurring and escalating displacement crises rooted in competition over diminishing land and water resources between settled agrarian communities and semi-nomadic Fulani pastoralist groups, a dynamic increasingly exacerbated by climate-driven desertification and the southward migration of cattle herds (George et al., 2021; Njoku et al., 2023). This study focuses on three locations

within this zone that represent the highest concentrations of IDP populations and the broadest range of displacement contexts: Benue State, Plateau State, and the FCT.

In Benue State, the farmer-herder conflict has produced one of the most acute internal displacement crises in Nigeria. The state is home to approximately 483,692 registered IDPs, the majority of whom were uprooted from riverine agricultural communities in the Benue Valley (Njoku et al., 2023). IDP camps in Benue are predominantly located in flood-prone peri-rural areas, exposing residents to seasonal inundation that destroys shelter, contaminates water sources, and compounds the loss of agricultural livelihoods (Nwankwo, 2024). Plateau State presents an analytically distinct but equally severe displacement context, shaped by a longer history of cyclical ethno-religious violence between indigenous Christian farming communities and predominantly Muslim Fulani herders in and around Jos, the state capital. Plateau State hosts approximately 341,000 IDPs in dispersed camps characterised by limited access to essential services, degraded environmental conditions, and chronic underfunding of state emergency management capacity (Anierobi et al., 2024; Tseer, 2023).

The Federal Capital Territory represents a third, distinctly urban displacement context. As Nigeria's seat of government and a rapidly urbanising metropolitan area, the FCT has attracted an estimated 150,000 IDPs who reside in informal peri-urban settlements such as Durumi and Kuchigoro, situated at the margins of the formal city (Ismail et al., 2024). For these urban IDPs, displacement is compounded by the structural inequities of urban governance, including inadequate drainage, poor refuse

collection, tenure insecurity, and the risk of forced eviction under development-driven land acquisition schemes (Onyebueke et al., 2020).

A defining characteristic of displacement in all three study locations is the profound disruption of livelihood systems. Prior to displacement, the majority of affected populations were engaged in subsistence and small-scale commercial farming, activities that depended on access to land, seasonal cycles, community labour networks, and locally accumulated knowledge systems (Ani et al., 2022; Ekezie, 2022). Displacement severs these foundations simultaneously, leaving IDPs dependent on humanitarian aid while their human, social, natural, and physical capital assets erode over time. The Sustainable Livelihoods Framework (DFID, 1999), which conceptualises well-being as a function of five capital assets — human, social, natural, physical, and financial — provides the theoretical architecture through which this study analyses the relationship between displacement conditions and welfare outcomes.

Despite the severity and scale of this crisis, a critical gap exists in the empirical literature. The overwhelming majority of scholarship on Nigerian IDPs has approached the phenomenon through the lenses of public health (Adesina et al., 2024; Ejembi et al., 2018), conflict studies (Chukwuma, 2020; George et al., 2021), and social welfare (Ekezie, 2022; Olanrewaju et al., 2018). Urban and regional planning perspectives, which are essential for understanding how the spatial organisation, physical design, and built environment of displacement settlements shape long-term welfare outcomes, remain conspicuously absent from the Nigerian IDP literature. This study addresses that gap directly, repositioning IDP welfare as a fundamentally spatial

and planning problem and generating empirical evidence to support evidence-based humanitarian planning interventions across North Central Nigeria.

1.2 Statement of the Research Problem

North Central Nigeria is confronting a displacement crisis of alarming proportions — one that is multi-causal in its origins, protracted in its duration, and inadequately addressed by existing policy and institutional frameworks. Benue State harbours approximately 483,692 IDPs, Plateau State approximately 341,000, and the FCT an estimated 150,000 (Anierobi et al., 2024; Njoku et al., 2023). These figures, drawn from IOM and state emergency management agency records, are widely acknowledged to be underestimates, as large numbers of displaced persons reside outside formal camp registries in host households and informal roadside settlements.

The physical conditions in which these IDPs live are severely inadequate. Camps across the three study areas are characterised by extreme overcrowding, with person-to-living-space ratios that substantially exceed the 3.5 m² per person minimum prescribed by the Sphere Humanitarian Standards (2018). Shelter structures are predominantly temporary, constructed from tarpaulins, corrugated iron sheets, and salvaged materials, offering inadequate protection from the climatic extremes of the North Central zone's wet and dry seasons. Sanitation infrastructure is critically deficient, with latrine coverage falling below the 1:20 sex-segregated ratio required by humanitarian standards, creating conditions conducive to cholera, diarrhoea, and typhoid outbreaks (Tseer et al., 2023). Access to clean water, electricity, and

healthcare services is severely constrained, particularly in the more remote camps of Benue and Plateau States (Adesina et al., 2024; Korave et al., 2021).

The socio-economic dimensions of the crisis are equally stark. Displacement has systematically stripped affected populations of their productive assets. Farming households have lost access to their land and livestock; traders have lost stock, premises, and client networks; artisans have been separated from their tools and markets. The resultant economic precarity is reflected in data collected for this study showing that 54.6% of surveyed IDPs earn less than ₦10,000 per month, compared with 28.1% in that income bracket prior to displacement, and that 52.6% now rely on humanitarian aid as their primary income source, signalling a structural shift from productive agency to passive dependency that has profound implications for long-term resilience and reintegration.

The institutional response to this crisis has been structurally inadequate. Nigeria's National Policy on Internally Displaced Persons (2012, revised 2021) and its ratification of the African Union Kampala Convention (2012) represent important normative commitments, but their practical implementation has been severely constrained by insufficient funding, overlapping and poorly coordinated mandates among NEMA, NCFRMI, and State Emergency Management Agencies (SEMAs), limited technical capacity in urban and settlement planning, and a reactive rather than preventive posture toward displacement management (ShittuRaji et al., 2021).

A particularly significant, yet under-examined, dimension of this crisis is the role of the physical and spatial environment of IDP camps in shaping welfare

outcomes. Existing research has documented the consequences of displacement without systematically investigating the extent to which the built environment of displacement settlements mediates those outcomes. The overcrowded, poorly designed, and inadequately serviced physical spaces of IDP camps are not merely symptoms of resource constraints; they are active agents in the production and reproduction of vulnerability. This study identifies and empirically quantifies these spatial determinants of IDP welfare, filling a critical void in both the academic literature and the evidence base available to Nigerian humanitarian planners and policymakers.

1.3 Research Questions

To achieve the aim and objectives of this study, and to address the identified research and policy gaps, the following research questions were formulated:

- i. What is the relationship between internal displacement and the livelihood patterns of IDPs in North Central Nigeria?
- ii. How effective are the existing regulatory frameworks and the roles of governmental and non-governmental stakeholders in addressing the livelihood needs and welfare challenges of IDPs in Benue State, Plateau State, and the FCT?
- iii. What specific challenges do IDPs face in accessing essential services, including healthcare, education, water and sanitation, electricity, and livelihood support, within the study area?
- iv. How do the physical components and spatial design of IDP camps influence the living conditions and well-being of displaced populations in North Central Nigeria, and what planning-based design improvements can be recommended?

1.4 Aim and Objectives of the Study

The aim of this study is to assess the living conditions and livelihood challenges of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in North Central Nigeria and to develop evidence-based planning recommendations for enhancing liveability, spatial functionality, and sustainable livelihoods within IDP settlements.

In pursuance of this aim, the study seeks to accomplish the following specific objectives:

- i. To identify and analyse the relationship between internal displacement and the livelihood patterns of IDPs in Benue State, Plateau State, and the FCT, North Central Nigeria.
- ii. To assess the effectiveness of governmental and non-governmental regulatory frameworks in addressing the livelihood needs and welfare challenges of IDPs across the three study locations.
- iii. To analyse the specific challenges faced by IDPs in accessing essential services, including housing, healthcare, education, water and sanitation, and security, within the study area.
- iv. To evaluate the physical components and spatial design attributes of IDP camps in North Central Nigeria and propose evidence-based planning recommendations for improving their functionality, safety, and overall liveability.
- v. To identify the relationship between key spatial variables (housing adequacy, overcrowding, and camp design) and the overall living conditions of IDPs, and to test the statistical significance of these relationships.

1.5 Test of Hypotheses

To provide rigorous empirical grounding for the study's conclusions, the following hypotheses were formulated and tested using inferential statistical analysis:

H₁: Housing adequacy positively and significantly influences the living conditions of internally displaced persons in North Central Nigeria.

H₂: Overcrowding has a negative and statistically significant effect on the living conditions of internally displaced persons in North Central Nigeria.

H₃: Mean living-condition scores differ significantly among IDPs in Benue State, Plateau State, and the Federal Capital Territory.

1.6 Significance of the Study

This study holds significance across academic, policy, and practice dimensions. Academically, it constitutes the first planning-centred, multi-site, mixed-methods empirical assessment of IDP living conditions in North Central Nigeria that employs inferential statistical modelling to quantify the relationship between spatial variables and welfare outcomes. By demonstrating, through regression analysis and ANOVA, that the built environment accounts for substantial variance in IDP living condition scores, the study makes an original theoretical contribution to the interdisciplinary field of humanitarian planning, repositioning Urban and Regional Planning as an indispensable discipline within the humanitarian response architecture.

From a policy perspective, the study generates actionable evidence for federal and state governments, urban planning authorities, NEMA, NCFRMI, and the humanitarian NGO community operating in North Central Nigeria. The fifteen evidence-based recommendations produced by the study address the full spectrum of

intervention — from policy reform and governance restructuring to site-level spatial design, WASH infrastructure, and livelihood programming. At a time when Nigeria is under increasing international pressure to implement the Kampala Convention and align its IDP governance with the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, this study provides the empirical foundation for that reform agenda.

For displaced persons themselves, the study's significance lies in its insistence that their welfare is not merely a function of the absence of violence or the presence of food aid, but is shaped fundamentally by the quality, design, and spatial organisation of the environments in which they are compelled to live. This perspective, grounded in the rights-based approach to humanitarian action, advocates for the dignity and agency of displaced populations and frames the improvement of their living conditions as a matter of urban justice as much as humanitarian necessity.

The study also contributes to the broader global evidence base on displacement, livelihoods, and built environment governance, offering comparative value for researchers and practitioners working in analogous post-conflict displacement contexts across Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and Latin America.

1.7 Scope of the Study

This study is geographically scoped to three states within the North Central geopolitical zone of Nigeria: Benue State, Plateau State, and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). These locations were selected on the basis of their high concentrations of IDP populations, the diversity of displacement drivers they

represent (farmer-herder conflict in Benue, ethno-religious violence in Plateau, urban-based and development-induced displacement in the FCT), and the contrasting urban-rural governance contexts they provide for comparative analysis.

Thematically, the study encompasses five domains of inquiry: (i) the relationship between displacement and livelihood disruption; (ii) the effectiveness of governmental and non-governmental institutional responses; (iii) IDP access to essential services and infrastructure; (iv) the physical design and spatial functionality of IDP camps; and (v) the statistical relationships between spatial variables and living condition outcomes. The study does not extend to a full legal analysis of Nigeria's displacement law, nor does it encompass the North-East or North-West zones, despite their significant IDP populations, as the North Central context presents unique analytical characteristics that warranted focused examination.

Temporally, the study was conducted between 2024 and 2025, with field data collection carried out in 2024–2025. The findings therefore reflect conditions prevailing in the study camps during that period and should be interpreted in that temporal context, particularly given the dynamic and evolving nature of displacement situations in the North Central region.

1.8 Definition of Key Terms

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): 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 generalised violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognised state border (UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, 1998, Introduction: Scope and Purpose, Paragraph 2).

Living Conditions: The aggregate quality of the physical, social, economic, and environmental circumstances under which IDPs exist within displacement settlements, encompassing shelter adequacy, access to water and sanitation, healthcare availability, education provision, livelihood opportunities, security, and social inclusion.

Housing Adequacy: The quality and sufficiency of shelter provided to IDPs, assessed across dimensions of structural integrity, protection from environmental elements, spatial sufficiency per occupant, privacy, security of occupancy, and access to basic services. This study operationalises housing adequacy as a composite index derived from Likert-scale survey responses.

Overcrowding: A condition in which the number of persons occupying a given spatial unit — whether a shelter structure, a camp block, or a camp as a whole — exceeds its planned or carrying capacity, leading to insufficient living space, compromised privacy, heightened disease transmission risk, and deteriorating social conditions. The Sphere Humanitarian Standards (2018) prescribe 3.5 m² of covered living space per person as the minimum threshold.

Transitional Settlement: A planned approach to the management of displacement that provides for the progressive upgrading of emergency shelter into semi-permanent or permanent housing, with associated infrastructure and service provision, in a manner that supports the eventual integration or return of displaced populations (Corsellis & Vitale, 2005).

Sustainable Livelihoods: Livelihoods that comprise the capabilities, assets, and activities required for a means of living that can cope with, and recover from, stresses and shocks while maintaining or enhancing capabilities and assets both now and in the future without undermining the natural resource base (DFID, 1999, p. 1).

Stakeholder Perception Index (SPI): A composite index computed as the unweighted mean of the ten recoded Likert-scale items in the stakeholder/governance perception instrument, used in this study to summarise official respondents' overall assessment of the IDP governance and service delivery environment. The SPI is employed as a summary index rather than a validated unidimensional scale (see Section 4.5.3).

IDP Camp: A designated area or settlement, whether formally established by government or humanitarian agencies or self-organised by displaced populations, in which IDPs reside collectively and receive (or seek) humanitarian assistance and protection services.

North Central Nigeria: The geopolitical zone comprising Benue, Kogi, Kwara, Nasarawa, Niger, and Plateau States, as well as the Federal Capital Territory

(FCT). For the purposes of this study, the North Central zone refers specifically to the three study locations of Benue State, Plateau State, and the FCT, which together are representative of the range of displacement contexts and population concentrations in the zone.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework of this study organises the analytical relationships between the causes of internal displacement, the spatial and physical conditions of IDP settlements, and the welfare outcomes experienced by displaced populations. It is constructed around three interacting pillars: (i) Socioeconomic Factors, encompassing income level, employment status, access to education, and shelter conditions; (ii) Psychosocial and Health Factors, including trauma exposure, mental health status, nutritional adequacy, and healthcare access; and (iii) Environmental and Institutional Factors, comprising camp management quality, security provision, water and sanitation infrastructure, and the presence of social support systems. These pillars converge on the central dependent construct of Quality of Life (QoL), which the study operationalises as a composite index of living conditions across the five SLF capital dimensions.

The conceptual pathway proceeds from the root causes of displacement — principally armed conflict, farmer-herder resource competition, ethno-religious violence, and climate-induced environmental stress — through the intermediate physical and spatial conditions of IDP camps, to the measurable welfare outcomes of interest to this study. The framework acknowledges a critical feedback loop: positive improvements in physical infrastructure and livelihood support capacity enhance IDP adaptive capacity and long-term resilience, while deficiencies in overcrowding

management, layout safety, and service provision perpetuate vulnerability and entrench dependency (Anierobi et al., 2024; Salihu et al., 2024).

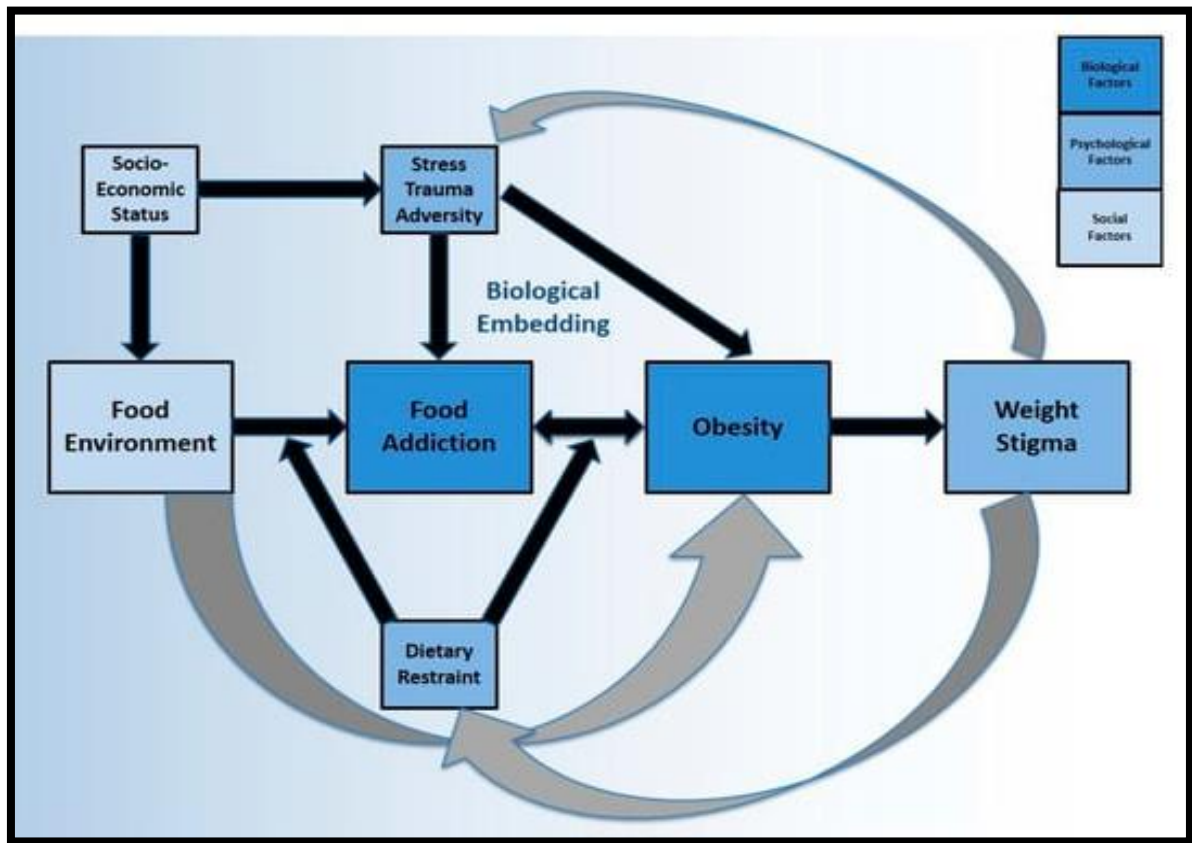


Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework Diagram — Displacement Factors, Living Conditions, and Influencing Variables
Source: Author's Construction, 2024.

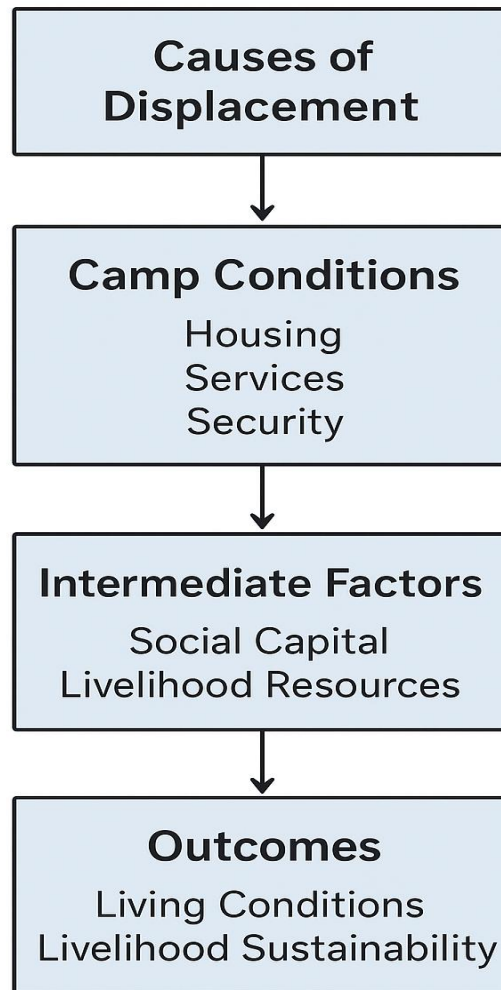


Figure 2.2: Linkages Between Causes of Displacement, Camp Conditions, Intermediate Factors, and Outcomes

Source: Author's Construction, 2024.

2.1.1 Regulatory and Policy Frameworks Governing IDPs

Internally Displaced Persons are governed under a multi-tiered architecture of international, regional, and national instruments. Understanding this normative landscape is essential for evaluating the extent to which the living conditions documented in this study reflect a failure of implementation rather than an absence of normative commitment.

At the global level, the United Nations Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (1998) constitute the foundational normative instrument, articulating

the rights of IDPs across three stages of protection: prevention of arbitrary displacement, protection and assistance during displacement, and the facilitation of durable solutions through voluntary return, local integration, or resettlement elsewhere (UNHCR, 2023). Complementary global instruments include the Sphere Humanitarian Standards (2018) and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015–2030).

Within Africa, the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa — the Kampala Convention (2009) — is the continent's most comprehensive legally binding instrument on internal displacement. Nigeria ratified the Kampala Convention in 2012, formally accepting its obligations. However, scholarly assessments have consistently documented slow domestication and weak enforcement, with the gap between normative commitment and operational reality representing a central governance challenge (Nwankwo, 2024; ShittuRaji et al., 2021). The ECOWAS Humanitarian Policy (2012) provides a sub-regional layer emphasising cross-border cooperation and capacity-building.

Nigeria's domestic response framework is anchored in the National Policy on Internally Displaced Persons (2012, revised 2021), which designates NEMA as the lead federal coordinating agency, supported by NCFRMI. In practice, the policy's implementation has been severely constrained by insufficient budgetary allocation, overlapping agency mandates, limited technical capacity, and a reactive rather than preventive posture (ShittuRaji et al., 2021). The National Humanitarian Development Peace Nexus Framework (2022) represents an attempt to align humanitarian relief

with long-term development planning, reflecting growing international consensus that humanitarian and development programming must be integrated to achieve durable solutions (UN OCHA, 2023).

2.1.2 Overview of Internally Displaced Persons

Internally Displaced Persons are individuals or groups forced to flee their homes due to armed conflict, generalised violence, human rights violations, or natural or human-made disasters, who have not crossed an internationally recognised state border (UNHCR, 2023). This juridical distinction from refugees means that IDPs are formally subject to the protection of their own national governments, even when those governments may be parties to, or unable to prevent, the displacement itself — a paradox of protection acutely manifest in the Nigerian context (Crisp, 2017).

The socio-economic consequences of displacement are severe and structurally persistent. Displacement disrupts economic activities, destroys accumulated assets, severs social networks, and separates households from the cultural, ecological, and institutional environments in which their livelihoods were embedded (Ekezie, 2022; Salihu et al., 2024). Health outcomes among IDPs are similarly compromised by the combination of overcrowded living conditions, inadequate water and sanitation infrastructure, disrupted healthcare access, and the psychological trauma of displacement (Adesina et al., 2024; Ejembi et al., 2018).

2.1.3 Causes of Internal Displacement in Nigeria

Internal displacement in Nigeria is causally complex, reflecting the convergence of armed conflict, inter-communal resource competition, political violence, climate-driven environmental stress, and development-induced forced relocation. Armed conflict and organised violence remain the primary proximate causes. The Boko Haram and ISWAP insurgency in the North-East has generated the largest absolute displacement caseload, while in the North Central zone, farmer-herder conflict has emerged as the most significant displacement driver, generating an estimated 483,692 IDPs in Benue State alone (Njoku et al., 2023; Chukwuma, 2020).

Climate change operates as both a direct displacement driver and a structural threat multiplier. Ani et al. (2022) document how changing precipitation patterns, prolonged droughts, and desertification in the Sahel fringe are compressing the viable range of Fulani pastoral migration, increasing pressure on agricultural land in the Middle Belt. Development-induced displacement, including forced evictions linked to urban renewal projects and infrastructure development, constitutes an often underacknowledged displacement driver in the FCT (Onyebueke et al., 2020; Ismail et al., 2024).

2.1.4 Living Conditions and Challenges Faced by IDPs

The living conditions of IDPs in Nigeria's North Central region are characterised by persistent, multi-dimensional deprivation that extends across housing, food, water, health, education, economic activity, and psychosocial well-being. These dimensions are not independent: deficiencies in one domain systematically compound vulnerabilities in others, creating what Anierobi et al.

(2024) describe as "compound vulnerability" and what Ekoh et al. (2023) characterise as "exclusion within exclusion."

Housing and shelter conditions across the study area are severely inadequate. The majority of IDP structures are temporary constructions offering minimal protection from the thermal extremes and rainfall characteristic of the North Central zone's climate. Overcrowding — identified in this study as the most critical spatial challenge (Mean = 3.97 for IDP respondents) — simultaneously constitutes a physical, psychological, and public health problem. Access to clean water, adequate sanitation, and food security are systematically compromised. The gender dimensions of living conditions warrant specific attention: women constitute 63.1% of the IDP population surveyed, reflecting the gendered patterns of vulnerability that feminist displacement scholars have documented globally (Olanrewaju et al., 2018; Ojengbede et al., 2019).

2.1.5 Governmental and Non-Governmental Interventions

The institutional response to Nigeria's IDP crisis involves a complex ecosystem of federal agencies, state emergency management bodies, international organisations, and domestic and international NGOs. ShittuRaji et al. (2021) provide the most systematic empirical assessment of NEMA's response capacity, documenting significant deficits in funding, logistics, inter-agency coordination, and field implementation. Non-governmental organisations have partially compensated for government deficits, particularly in mental health programming, reproductive health, and educational support (Adesina et al., 2024; Sampson et al., 2023).

The urban governance dimension of IDP management in the FCT has been explored by Ismail et al. (2024), whose analysis of path-dependent governance in Abuja's informal settlements reveals how institutional decisions made at critical historical junctures continue to shape the spatial distribution and tenure insecurity of IDP populations. The national policy reform trajectory, as reflected in the National Humanitarian Development Peace Nexus Framework (2022), suggests an emerging recognition of the integration imperative at the federal level, though its translation into improved field outcomes remains limited.

2.1.6 Impact of Displacement on Host Communities

The presence of large IDP populations creates significant burdens and tensions within host communities. Social service infrastructure — including health facilities, schools, and water points — is strained by the additional demand generated by displaced populations, reducing the quality and availability of services for host community members and generating resentment that can escalate into inter-group conflict (Anierobi et al., 2024; Nwankwo, 2024).

Economic impacts on host communities are complex. The influx of IDPs increases competition for casual employment, housing, and market access in already constrained local economies. Environmental impacts, including the depletion of water resources, forest cover, and arable land adjacent to large camps, compound these economic pressures (Njoku et al., 2023). Breaking cycles of displacement-conflict-displacement requires investment in host community engagement, joint infrastructure

development, and structured inter-group dialogue, aligned with the World Bank's Social Cohesion and Reconciliation (SCORE) framework (World Bank, 2022).

2.2 Empirical Review

2.2.1 *Studies on IDPs in Nigeria*

A substantial body of empirical literature has been generated on Nigerian IDPs across disciplines. Studies on mental health have established a robust evidence base for the psychological burden of displacement. Adesina et al. (2024) demonstrated high depression prevalence and confirmed the efficacy of the Brave Heart intervention in reducing depression severity among young IDPs in Northern Nigeria. Edeh et al. (2023) documented high PTSD rates in two post-conflict communities in Benue State.

Health and physical well-being research has focused predominantly on communicable disease burden. Ejembi et al. (2018) identified poor shelter and sanitation as the primary predictors of malaria parasitemia in IDP children in Abuja, providing direct empirical evidence for the health consequences of inadequate built environment conditions. Korave et al. (2021) established that displacement directly impedes the implementation of scheduled immunisation campaigns.

Livelihood and socio-economic studies have demonstrated the structural nature of income collapse following displacement. Ekezie (2022) documented the resilience strategies employed by IDPs in camp-like settings in Northern Nigeria, while Salihu et al. (2024) examined coping strategies among IDPs and host

communities. Governance and institutional studies — particularly ShittuRaji et al. (2021), Tseer et al. (2023), and Ismail et al. (2024) — have provided evidence of the implementation failures that perpetuate IDP vulnerability.

2.2.2 Comparative Studies on IDPs in Other Regions

International comparative evidence provides essential context for evaluating the conditions and responses documented in North Central Nigeria. Research on displacement settlement planning and transitional housing has established a body of evidence for what Corsellis and Vitale (2005) call the Transitional Settlement and Reconstruction (TSR) approach. Studies of post-conflict reconstruction in northern Uganda (Hovil, 2010) and post-earthquake Haiti (Clermont et al., 2011) document both the failures of camp-centred emergency housing and the potential for incremental upgrading approaches.

Comparative evidence on the gendered dimensions of displacement consistently establishes that women are disproportionately represented in displaced populations and face specific SGBV risks exacerbated by camp spatial design (Sphere Association, 2018). Evidence from South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Colombia further supports the study's central argument that the quality of the built environment is a critical determinant of IDP welfare (Young et al., 2020).

2.2.3 *Effectiveness of Interventions for IDPs*

Empirical evaluations of specific interventions reveal a pattern of partial effectiveness, with targeted programmes producing measurable improvements in specific domains while leaving structural gaps in others. Mental health interventions have demonstrated among the strongest evidence of effectiveness (Adesina et al., 2024). Technology-mediated interventions for service delivery have demonstrated promising results in overcoming access barriers, particularly for family planning services among Abuja's IDP population (Sampson et al., 2023).

Health system interventions face the fundamental constraint that IDP camp health infrastructure is systematically inadequate. Ejembi et al. (2018) established that the physical conditions of IDP camps are the primary predictors of malaria prevalence among children, identifying specific, planning-addressable causal factors that are amenable to built environment interventions — a finding directly relevant to the planning mandate advanced in this study.

2.3 Theoretical Review

2.3.1 *The Sustainable Livelihoods Framework*

The Sustainable Livelihoods Framework (SLF), developed by the UK Department for International Development (DFID, 1999), provides the primary theoretical foundation for this study. The SLF conceptualises well-being as a function of five capital assets: human capital (skills, knowledge, health, and labour capacity), social capital (social networks, relationships of trust, and group memberships), natural

capital (land, water, forests, and other environmental resources), physical capital (basic infrastructure including shelter, transportation, water, sanitation, and energy, as well as productive equipment), and financial capital (cash savings, credit access, regular income flows, and remittances).

The SLF's particular relevance lies in its treatment of physical capital — specifically housing and infrastructure quality — as a foundational livelihood asset. The framework posits that deficiencies in physical capital constrain the effective utilisation of all other capital forms. This theoretical proposition is directly tested by this study's regression analysis, which demonstrates that housing adequacy is the single strongest predictor of IDP living conditions ($\beta = 0.869$, $R^2 = 0.755$, $p < 0.001$), providing empirical validation of the SLF's theoretical hierarchy of capital interdependence in the displacement context.

2.3.2 Human Needs Theory

Human Needs Theory, as foundationally articulated by Maslow (1943) and subsequently elaborated by Max-Neef (1991) and others, provides a second theoretical lens. Maslow's hierarchy posits that human motivation is organised around a sequence of needs — from basic physiological requirements (food, water, shelter, warmth) through safety and security, social belonging and love, esteem and recognition, to self-actualisation — with the prediction that when lower-order needs are unmet, higher-order needs become psychologically inaccessible.

Applied to the IDP context in North Central Nigeria, Human Needs Theory provides a framework for understanding why documented deficiencies in shelter, water, food, and security generate such pervasive and multi-dimensional welfare impacts. The finding that overcrowding and inadequate physical layout are the most significant negative predictors of living conditions ($\beta = -0.268$ and $\beta = -0.293$ respectively) reflects that these variables most directly threaten basic physiological and safety needs.

2.3.3 *Social Capital Theory*

Social Capital Theory, as elaborated by Putnam (1993), Bourdieu (1986), and Coleman (1988), and operationalised in humanitarian contexts by Aldrich (2012), conceptualises social networks, relationships of trust, norms of reciprocity, and institutional connections as forms of capital that enable collective action, resource access, and resilience in the face of adversity. The theory distinguishes between bonding social capital (horizontal ties within homogeneous groups), bridging social capital (horizontal ties across heterogeneous groups), and linking social capital (vertical ties between communities and formal institutions).

The participatory exclusion finding of this study — wherein the inclusion of IDPs in decision-making received the lowest mean score across all stakeholder variables (Mean = 3.01 for IDPs; Mean = 2.76 for officials) — is directly explained by Social Capital Theory's linking capital dimension. The absence of structured mechanisms for linking IDPs to the formal decision-making processes that govern

their lives represents a governance deficit with measurable welfare consequences, consistent with Arnstein's (1969) foundational analysis of citizen participation.

2.3.4 Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework of this study, illustrated in Figure 2.3, synthesises the three frameworks above into a unified analytical architecture. The Sustainable Livelihoods Framework provides the structural backbone, with its five capital assets defining the primary explanatory variables of the study. Human Needs Theory provides the motivational and welfare logic that explains why physical capital deficiencies cascade into multi-dimensional welfare impacts. Social Capital Theory elaborates the relational and institutional mechanisms through which capital assets are accessed, distributed, and deployed in displacement contexts.

Together, these frameworks support the study's central theoretical claim: that the living conditions of IDPs in North Central Nigeria are not simply a function of the presence or absence of conflict, nor of the generosity of humanitarian aid, but are fundamentally structured by the quality and spatial organisation of the physical environments in which displaced populations are compelled to reside.

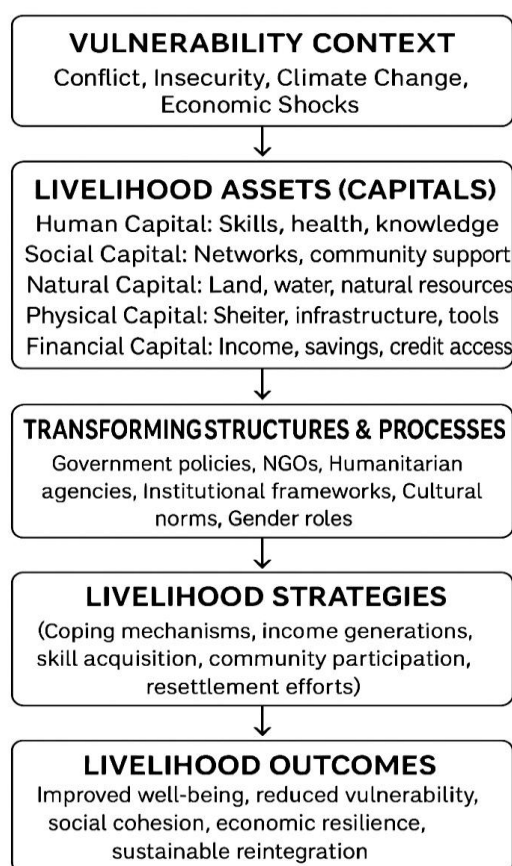


Figure 2.3: Theoretical Framework — Sustainable Livelihoods Framework Applied to IDP Welfare in North Central Nigeria
Source: Author's Adaptation from DFID (1999).

2.4 Research Gap and Study Justification

The foregoing review of conceptual, empirical, and theoretical literature reveals a set of critical gaps in the existing scholarship that this study is specifically designed to address. First and most fundamentally, the existing literature on Nigerian IDPs is characterised by a near-total absence of planning-oriented, built environment analysis. Studies from public health, conflict studies, social welfare, and governance have collectively generated important evidence on the consequences and institutional management of displacement, but none has employed the theoretical and methodological toolkit of Urban and Regional Planning to systematically investigate how the spatial design, physical organisation, and built environment quality of IDP settlements shape welfare outcomes.

Second, the existing empirical literature is overwhelmingly qualitative and descriptive in character. This study fills this methodological gap by employing Multiple Linear Regression and One-Way ANOVA with post-hoc comparisons to provide the first inferential statistical analysis of the spatial determinants of IDP welfare in North Central Nigeria.

Third, existing studies have predominantly examined either a single study location or a single thematic domain, preventing systematic comparative analysis. The finding of this study that Plateau State IDPs record significantly higher living conditions than those in Benue (Mean Difference = 0.640, $p < 0.001$) is a novel comparative finding that could not have emerged from single-site study designs.

Fourth, the specific role of participatory governance in mediating welfare outcomes has not previously been quantified in the Nigerian IDP literature. Fifth, the literature review reveals a gap in the integration of international humanitarian planning standards — including the Sphere Humanitarian Standards, UNHCR Transitional Settlement and Reconstruction framework, and CPTED principles — into the Nigerian policy and practice context.

In sum, this study fills a critical planning-oriented empirical and methodological gap in the Nigerian IDP literature. Its findings constitute original contributions to knowledge at the intersection of Urban and Regional Planning, Humanitarian Studies, and Development Geography.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Study Area

The study area encompasses three geopolitically and ecologically distinct locations within the North Central geopolitical zone of Nigeria: Benue State, Plateau State, and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). These locations were selected on the basis of three primary criteria: (i) the documented concentration of IDP populations, which together account for an estimated 974,000 registered IDPs across the three areas; (ii) the diversity of displacement drivers they represent, enabling comparative analysis across rural agricultural, highland ethno-religious, and urban governance displacement contexts; and (iii) the contrasting urban-rural governance environments they provide, which allow for the examination of how state-level institutional capacity mediates displacement welfare outcomes.

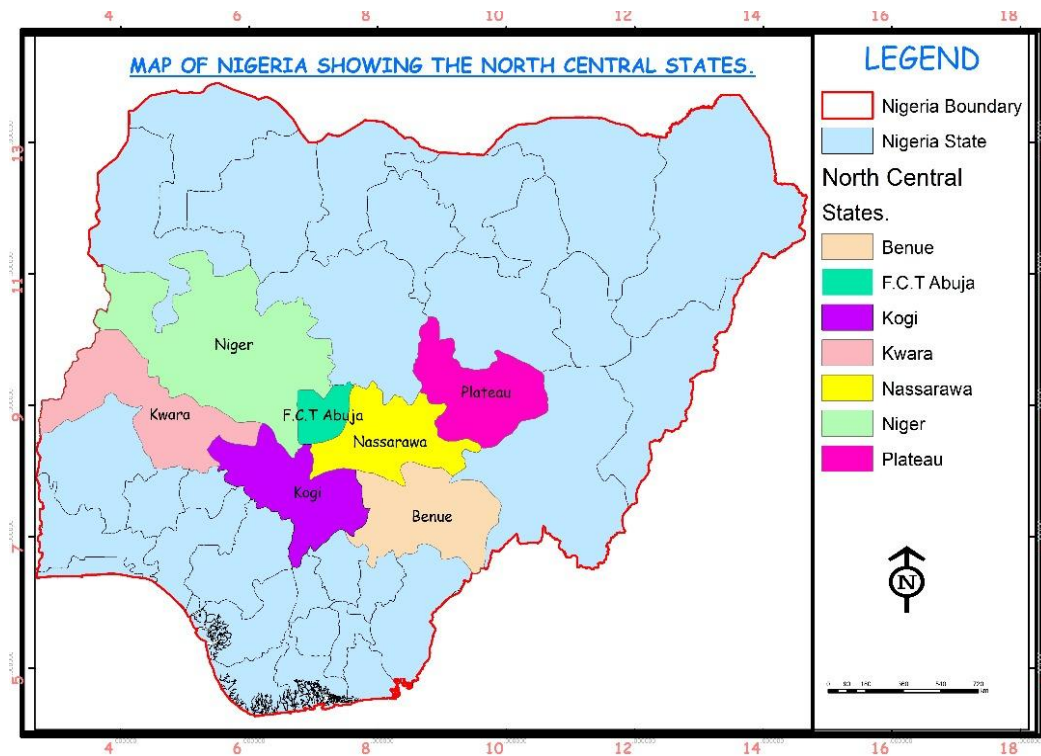


Figure 3.1: Map of Nigeria Showing the North Central Geopolitical Zone
Source: Office of the Surveyor-General of the Federation (OSGOF), adapted by Author, 2024.

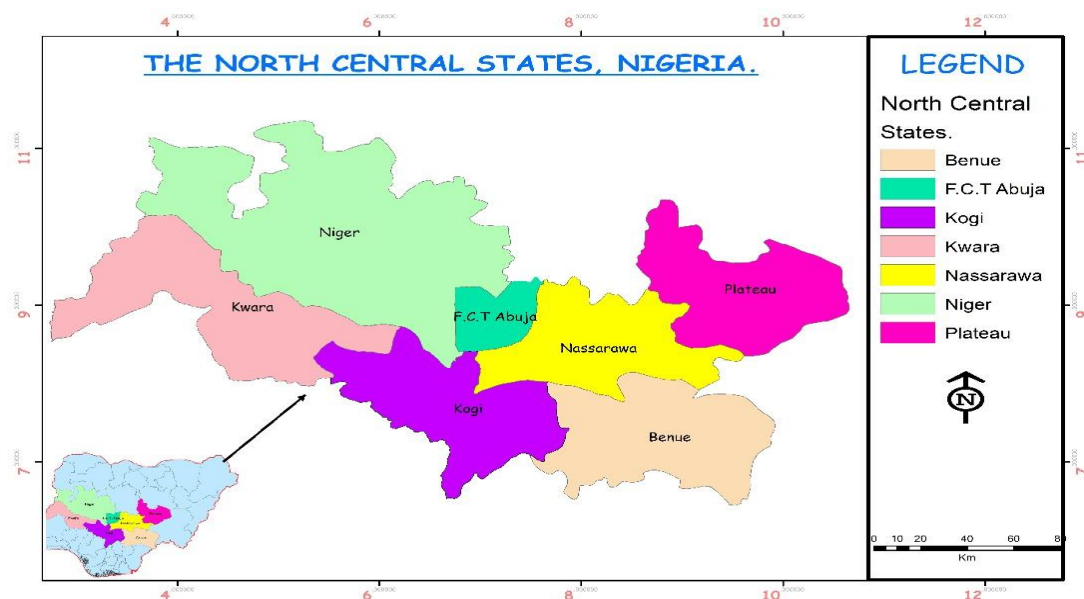


Figure 3.2: Map of North Central Nigeria Showing Benue, Plateau, and FCT Study Areas
Source: National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) Administrative Boundary Data, adapted by Author, 2024.

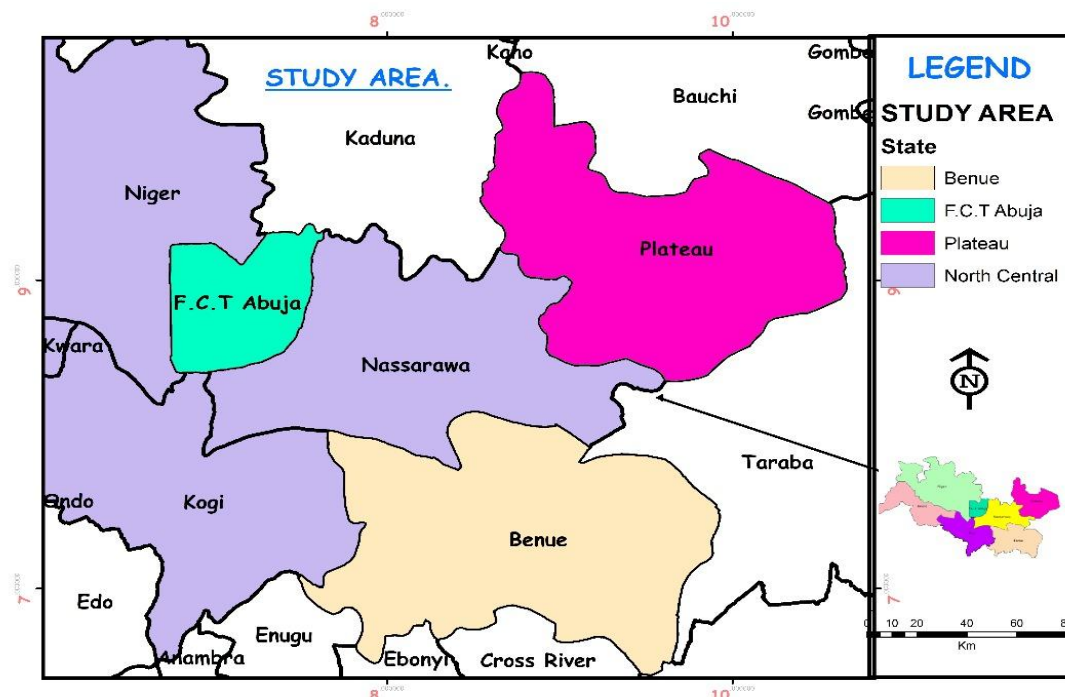


Figure 3.2: Distribution of IDP Camps and Settlement Locations Across the Three Study States
Source: IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), Nigeria Round XII (2024), adapted by Author, 2024.

3.0.1 Benue State

Benue State is located in the North Central region of Nigeria, lying approximately between latitudes 6°25'N and 8°08'N, and longitudes 7°47'E and 10°00'E. The state covers an area of approximately 34,059 square kilometres and is home to an estimated 5.7 million people, representing a diverse array of ethnic groups, predominantly the Tiv, Idoma, and Iggede, whose agrarian livelihoods are intricately bound to the fertile floodplains of the Benue River and its tributaries. The state experiences a tropical wet-dry climate characterised by a pronounced rainy season from April to October and a dry harmattan season from November to March.

Benue State has experienced the most acute manifestation of farmer-herder conflict in the North Central zone, with sustained, large-scale violence resulting in an estimated 483,692 registered IDPs concentrated primarily in Gwer West, Guma, Logo, and Katsina-Ala Local Government Areas (Njoku et al., 2023). IDP camps in

Benue are predominantly situated in peri-rural areas proximate to the Makurdi urban centre, with a significant proportion located in flood-prone lowlands along the Benue River corridor, exposing IDP residents to compound vulnerability (Nwankwo, 2024).

3.0.2 Federal Capital Territory (FCT)

The Federal Capital Territory is located in the geographic centre of Nigeria, covering approximately 7,315 square kilometres. The FCT has a rapidly growing population estimated at 3.6 million, comprising civil servants, diplomatic and international organisation personnel, traders, and a large informal sector workforce. The FCT presents a fundamentally different displacement context: displacement is driven primarily by urban communal violence, development-induced evictions associated with Abuja's ongoing masterplan implementation, and secondary displacement as IDPs from other conflict-affected zones relocate to the capital (Ismail et al., 2024; Onyebueke et al., 2020).

IDP camps in the FCT are predominantly located in peri-urban informal settlements such as Durumi Camp, Kuchigoro, and Lugbe on the periphery of the formal city. These urban IDPs benefit from relatively greater physical proximity to service infrastructure than their rural counterparts in Benue and Plateau States, but face distinct challenges including tenure insecurity, the risk of forced eviction, and the social invisibility that characterises urban displacement (Ekoh et al., 2023; Ismail et al., 2024).

3.0.3 Plateau State

Plateau State occupies the Jos Plateau in the central highlands of Nigeria, lying approximately between latitudes 8°24'N and 10°38'N, and longitudes 8°32'E and 10°38'E. The state covers approximately 30,913 square kilometres and has an estimated population of 3.5 million people, representing over 50 ethnic groups. Plateau State hosts approximately 341,000 IDPs, concentrated in and around the Jos metropolis and in rural settlements in Barkin Ladi, Riyom, and Bokkos Local Government Areas (Tseer et al., 2023). The state benefits from a relatively denser network of established civil society organisations, faith-based humanitarian actors, and international NGO presence, which has contributed to the comparatively superior service delivery outcomes recorded in this study (Mean living conditions score for Plateau State: $M = 3.48$).

3.1 Research Design

This study adopted a convergent parallel mixed-methods research design, integrating quantitative and qualitative approaches within a single phase of data collection conducted contemporaneously, with subsequent integration at the interpretation stage (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). This design was selected as the most appropriate for a study that aims simultaneously to quantify the statistical relationships between spatial variables and welfare outcomes across a large sample (quantitative strand) and to contextualise those relationships within the lived experiences, perceptions, and institutional narratives of displaced persons, community leaders, and humanitarian actors (qualitative strand).

The philosophical foundation of the study is pragmatism, a research paradigm that prioritises the use of whatever methodological approaches best address the research questions at hand, rather than adhering dogmatically to either positivist or interpretivist epistemological commitments (Creswell & Creswell, 2018).

3.1.1 Quantitative Component

The quantitative strand employed a cross-sectional survey design, with structured questionnaires administered to a stratified cluster random sample of IDP households across the three study locations. Quantitative data were coded and entered into SPSS version 27.0 for analysis using descriptive statistics, Multiple Linear Regression, and One-Way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA), with post-hoc Tukey Honestly Significant Difference (HSD) comparisons to identify the source and magnitude of significant group differences.

3.1.2 Qualitative Component

The qualitative strand employed Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) to generate contextually rich, experience-based data that complements and explains the quantitative findings. FGDs were conducted with groups of IDP residents — stratified by gender to ensure women's voices were captured separately — and with host community members. KIIs were conducted with governmental agency representatives, NGO personnel, community leaders, and healthcare providers. Qualitative data were transcribed, coded using NVivo 14 software, and subjected to both thematic analysis and content analysis.

3.1.3 Case Study Approach and Location Selection

Within the mixed-methods framework, the study employed a multiple case study approach, treating Benue State, the FCT, and Plateau State as three analytically distinct cases that together constitute a purposive comparative sample of the North Central IDP crisis (Yin, 2018). The multiple case design enables replication logic: findings that are consistent across cases strengthen the generalisation of conclusions, while divergent findings illuminate the mediating role of contextual factors — particularly governance capacity, urbanisation level, and displacement driver type.

3.2 Population of the Study, Sampling Frame, and Sampling Techniques

The study population encompasses all Internally Displaced Persons residing in registered camps and semi-formal host community settlements across Benue State, the FCT, and Plateau State, as well as the key institutional stakeholders involved in the management, governance, and service delivery of IDP programmes in these locations. The total registered IDP population across the three study states is estimated at approximately 974,000 persons based on IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix Round XII (2024) data and NEMA state-level reports. The study also incorporated five primary stakeholder categories: IDPs in camps, IDPs in host communities, governmental agencies, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community leaders, and healthcare providers.

3.2.1 Sampling Frame Development and Technique

The sampling frame was constructed from IOM DTM Round XII (2024) camp registration lists, NEMA state camp databases, and NGO partner organisation rosters for each of the three study states. The study employed a three-stage multi-level sampling procedure combining stratified, cluster, and simple random sampling methods. In the first stage, the study population was stratified into the six stakeholder categories defined above. In the second stage, clusters were formed by identifying IDP camps and host community settlements within each state and stratum. In the third stage, simple random sampling was employed to select individual respondents and organisations within each cluster.

3.2.2 Sample Size Determination

The total sample of 480 questionnaires was distributed across two analytically distinct populations: (i) the primary IDP sample (285 questionnaires across the IDP respondent categories), which yielded 390 valid completed responses constituting the dataset for Sections 4.1–4.4; and (ii) the official/stakeholder sub-sample (195 questionnaires across governmental agencies, NGOs, community leaders, and healthcare providers), which yielded 90 valid completed responses constituting the dataset for Section 4.5. Table 3.1 presents the revised sample allocation across all six stakeholder groups.

Stakeholder Group	Distributed	Valid (N)	Analytic Role
IDPs in Camps	210	—	Primary 390-IDP dataset (Sections 4.1–4.4)
IDPs in Host Communities	75	—	Primary 390-IDP dataset (Sections 4.1–4.4)
Governmental Agencies	45	—	Official 90-dataset (Section 4.5)
Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)	45	—	Official 90-dataset (Section 4.5)

Community Leaders	45	—	Official 90-dataset (Section 4.5)
Healthcare Providers	60	—	Official 90-dataset (Section 4.5)
IDP Sub-total	285	390	Primary analytic sample — Sections 4.1–4.4
Official Sub-total	195	90	Secondary analytic sample — Section 4.5
Total	480	480	Two independent datasets

Table 3.1 (Revised): Sample Size Allocation, Rationale, and Analytic Role by Stakeholder Group

Source: Author's Compilation, 2024–2025.

3.3 Methods of Data Collection

Data collection was conducted between January and June 2024, with field teams operating concurrently across the three study states to minimise temporal variation in the conditions being assessed. Primary data collection employed three instruments — structured questionnaires, Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) — while secondary data were gathered from published reports, policy documents, and humanitarian agency databases.

3.3.1 Structured Questionnaire

The primary quantitative data collection instrument was a structured questionnaire comprising five sections: (i) socio-demographic characteristics of the respondent and household; (ii) livelihood patterns before and during displacement; (iii) access to essential services including healthcare, education, water, sanitation, and security; (iv) assessment of stakeholder roles and governance effectiveness; and (v) spatial and physical attributes of the IDP settlement or camp in which the respondent resided. Sections employed five-point Likert scales (1 = Very Poor to 5 = Very Good, or 1 = Strongly Disagree to 5 = Strongly Agree). The questionnaire was originally developed in English and translated into Hausa and Tiv by qualified bilingual translators, with back-translation into English conducted to verify semantic equivalence prior to fieldwork (Brislin, 1970).

The structured questionnaire was administered to two analytically distinct populations. For the 390 IDP respondents, the complete five-section instrument was used, generating the data analysed in Sections 4.1–4.4. For the 90 official and community stakeholders — comprising governmental agency staff, NGO personnel, community leaders, and healthcare providers — the same Section Four instrument (ten-item stakeholder/governance perception scale, StaHolderR1–StaHolderR10) was administered; the living conditions and spatial design sections of the full instrument were not applicable to professional stakeholders and were therefore not administered. Both administrations used the same ten-item stakeholder perception scale in the same sequence, enabling the item-matched cross-group comparison reported in Section 4.5.4.

For the official sub-sample, item responses were recoded to ordinal numeric values using the coding scheme: Strongly Disagree = 1, Disagree = 2, Neutral = 3, Agree = 4, Strongly Agree = 5. Internal consistency of the ten-item scale was assessed using Cronbach's alpha (Nunnally, 1978) prior to the computation of any composite score, as detailed in Section 4.5.3. One data-entry anomaly — the spelling variant "strongly disaagree" in StaHolderR3, present in 15 of 90 official responses — was corrected to "strongly disagree" before recoding. A composite Stakeholder Perception Index (SPI) was computed as the unweighted mean of the ten recoded item scores for each official respondent and serves as the dependent variable in inferential analyses in Section 4.5.5.

3.3.2 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)

Key Informant Interviews were conducted with purposively selected informants representing governmental agencies (NEMA, SEMA, NCFRMI), NGO programme managers, community leaders, and senior healthcare providers. A semi-structured interview guide was developed, organised around four thematic domains: (i) institutional mandates and operational capacity for IDP response; (ii) coordination mechanisms and inter-agency collaboration; (iii) perceived barriers to improving IDP living conditions; and (iv) recommendations for policy and programmatic reform. A total of 36 KIIs were conducted across the three study states (12 per state).

3.3.3 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)

Focus Group Discussions were conducted with groups of 8 to 12 IDP participants, stratified by gender to ensure that women's experiences and perspectives were captured in a setting conducive to open expression. Separate FGDs were also conducted with host community members in each study location. A structured FGD guide addressed five thematic areas: causes and experiences of displacement, living conditions within the camp or settlement, relationships with service providers and authorities, coping strategies and resilience mechanisms, and aspirations for the future. A total of 18 FGDs were conducted across the three study states (six per state).

3.3.4 Secondary Data Collection

Secondary data were gathered from a range of authoritative sources, including: IOM Nigeria Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) reports (2022–2024); NEMA and

NCFRMI national IDP management reports; UNHCR Nigeria situation reports and global displacement statistics; UN OCHA humanitarian needs overview documents; World Bank and African Development Bank social protection programme evaluations; peer-reviewed academic publications; and state and local government planning documents pertaining to the study areas.

3.4 Validity and Reliability of Research Instruments

The validity and reliability of the data collection instruments were established through a systematic four-stage quality assurance process. Pilot Testing: The survey questionnaire, KII guide, and FGD guide were pilot-tested with a sample of 30 IDP respondents and 10 stakeholder informants in a settlement not included in the final study sample, in Nasarawa State.

Expert Review: The instruments were subjected to content validity assessment by a panel of three subject-matter experts in humanitarian studies, social research methodology, and urban planning. A Content Validity Index (CVI) of 0.85 or above was required for item retention.

Enumerator Training: All field enumerators completed a three-day intensive training programme covering research ethics, structured interview techniques, and protocols for recording and managing sensitive information.

Triangulation: Data triangulation was employed throughout the study by cross-checking findings from the structured questionnaire against KII and FGD data,

and by comparing primary field data against secondary data from IOM, NEMA, and published literature.

3.5 Techniques of Data Analysis

3.5.1 *Quantitative Data Analysis*

Quantitative data from the structured questionnaire were entered into, cleaned, and analysed using SPSS version 27.0. Descriptive statistics (frequencies, percentages, means, and standard deviations) were computed for all survey variables. Likert-scale items within each thematic section were aggregated into composite index scores using unit-weighted mean aggregation, with internal consistency assessed using Cronbach's alpha (threshold: $\alpha \geq 0.70$).

Two Multiple Linear Regression models were estimated to test Hypotheses One and Two, using Ordinary Least Squares with robust (Huber–White) standard errors to correct for potential heteroscedasticity (Long & Ervin, 2000). A one-way Analysis of Variance with Tukey's HSD post-hoc test was conducted to test Hypothesis Three, with Welch's ANOVA employed where Levene's test indicated a violation of the homogeneity assumption. Benjamini–Hochberg False Discovery Rate (FDR) corrections were applied to all inferential p-values to control Type I error risk associated with multiple hypothesis testing.

For the official sub-sample (Section 4.5), the composite Stakeholder Perception Index (SPI) was subjected to an independent-samples t-test by gender (with Levene's test of equal variances) and a Welch t-test by educational attainment

(secondary versus tertiary, with the primary education cell excluded due to $n = 2$). Effect sizes were reported using Cohen's d for t-tests and η^2 for ANOVA.

3.5.2 *Qualitative Data Analysis*

Qualitative data from KIIs and FGDs were transcribed verbatim and imported into NVivo 14 for systematic coding and analysis. Thematic analysis following the six-phase protocol of Braun and Clarke (2006) was combined with systematic content analysis to quantify the frequency and prominence of specific conceptual categories. Integration of quantitative and qualitative findings was achieved through a convergence coding matrix.

3.6 Ethical Considerations

This study was conducted in strict compliance with the ethical principles governing research involving human subjects, including the principles of respect for persons, beneficence, non-maleficence, and justice (National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects, 1979). Ethical approval was obtained from the Nasarawa State University Keffi Institutional Review Board prior to the commencement of field data collection.

Informed consent was obtained from all respondents prior to participation. All personal identifiers were removed from survey instruments and replaced with unique participant codes prior to data entry. Given the heightened vulnerability of the study population, particular care was taken to ensure that data collection procedures did not

re-traumatise participants or exacerbate existing psychological distress. All field data collection activities were conducted in compliance with security protocols established in consultation with NEMA field offices and NGO security focal points.

3.7 Justification of Research Methodology

The mixed-methods convergent parallel design is methodologically justified on the grounds that the research questions require both the statistical precision of inferential quantitative analysis and the contextual depth of qualitative inquiry. The selection of Benue State, Plateau State, and the FCT as study locations is justified by their complementarity as analytical cases, enabling the identification of governance and planning factors that moderate welfare outcomes across contexts.

The use of SPSS version 27.0 for quantitative analysis, with robust standard errors, Benjamini–Hochberg FDR corrections, and Welch's ANOVA as a robust alternative, ensures that the inferential conclusions are methodologically defensible. The use of NVivo 14 for qualitative analysis provides a systematic, auditable coding framework that enhances the transparency and replicability of the thematic analysis, meeting the methodological standards expected in doctoral research.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS, AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents, analyses, and discusses the empirical data collected from 390 IDP respondents across Benue State, Plateau State, and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) of Nigeria, supplemented by qualitative data from 36 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) and 18 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), and by structured questionnaire responses from 90 official and community stakeholders. The chapter is structured to systematically address each of the four research questions and three testable hypotheses formulated in Chapters One and Three. Sections 4.1–4.4 present the IDP dataset analysis. Section 4.5 presents the official sub-sample analysis. All statistical tests were conducted at a 95% confidence level ($p < 0.05$) using SPSS version 27.0.

4.2 Data Presentation

4.2.1 Socio-Demographic and Economic Profile of Respondents

The demographic and socio-economic profile of the 390 respondents establishes the structural context within which IDP living conditions must be understood. This section examines gender, age, marital status, educational attainment,

pre-displacement occupation, current income sources, monthly income, household dependents, and state of origin before displacement.

IDP Camp	Male (n)	Male (%)	Female (n)	Female (%)	Total (n)	Total (%)
Benue	111	37.5	186	62.5	297	100.0
FCT	10	34.4	20	65.6	30	100.0
Plateau	23	36.3	40	63.7	63	100.0
Total	144	36.9	246	63.1	390	100.0

Table 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents by Study Location

Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

Table 4.1 reveals that females constituted 63.1% (n = 246) of the total surveyed IDP population, a gender imbalance consistent across all three study locations. This pattern aligns with the broader humanitarian evidence base, which documents the feminisation of displacement populations attributable to the disproportionate exposure of women to displacement as primary caregivers, higher male mortality in conflict events, and men's tendency to engage in external labour migration (Olanrewaju et al., 2018; Ojengbede et al., 2019).

Age Group	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative %
18–24	87	22.3	22.3
25–34	108	27.7	50.0
35–44	95	24.4	74.4
45–54	63	16.2	90.5
55 and above	37	9.5	100.0
Total	390	100.0	

Table 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents

Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

Marital Status	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative %
Single	83	21.3	21.3
Married	233	59.7	81.0
Divorced	27	6.9	87.9
Widowed	47	12.1	100.0
Total	390	100.0	

Table 4.3: Marital Status of Respondents

Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

The age distribution indicates a predominantly youthful and economically active population, with 74.4% falling below the age of 45. The marital status distribution shows 12.1% widowed — a figure disproportionately high relative to the general Nigerian population, reflective of the lethal toll of farmer-herder conflict on male household heads (Edeh et al., 2023).

Educational Attainment	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative %
No formal education	83	21.3	21.3
Primary education	127	32.6	53.8
Secondary education	130	33.3	87.2
Tertiary education	50	12.8	100.0
Total	390	100.0	

Table 4.4: Educational Attainment of Respondents
Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

Occupation Before Displacement	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative %
Farming	183	46.9	46.9
Trading	87	22.3	69.2
Civil servant	33	8.5	77.7
Artisan	40	10.3	87.9
Unemployed	47	12.1	100.0
Total	390	100.0	

Table 4.5: Occupation of Respondents Before Displacement
Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

Educational attainment is severely constrained, with 53.9% of respondents lacking primary-level qualifications — a systemic depletion of human capital that limits livelihood diversification capacity within the SLF framework (DFID, 1999). Pre-displacement occupational data confirm the agrarian character of the IDP population: farming was the primary occupation for 46.9% (n = 183) of respondents, with only 12.1% unemployed prior to displacement, underscoring the economic rupture that displacement represents.

Current Source of Income	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative %
Aid / Relief	205	52.6	52.6

Small-scale business	95	24.4	76.9
Farming	53	13.6	90.5
No means of income	37	9.5	100.0
Total	390	100.0	

Table 4.6: Current Source of Income During Displacement
Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

Monthly Income Bracket	Before Displacement n (%)	During Displacement n (%)
Less than ₦10,000	110 (28.1%)	213 (54.6%)
₦10,000–₦20,000	127 (32.6%)	97 (24.9%)
₦21,000–₦30,000	91 (23.3%)	48 (12.3%)
More than ₦30,000	62 (15.9%)	32 (8.2%)
Total	390 (100.0%)	390 (100.0%)

Table 4.7: Monthly Income Before and During Displacement (Comparative)
Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

The shift in livelihood patterns following displacement is striking. Aid and relief now constitutes the primary income source for 52.6% (n = 205) of respondents. The proportion earning less than ₦10,000 per month increased from 28.1% before displacement to 54.6% during displacement — a near-doubling of extreme income poverty that reflects the systematic destruction of productive assets and livelihoods (Salihi et al., 2024).

Number of Dependents	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative %
None	47	12.1	12.1
1–3	235	60.3	72.3
4–6	83	21.3	93.6
More than 6	25	6.4	100.0
Total	390	100.0	

Table 4.8: Number of Dependents per Respondent Household
Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

Location Before Displacement	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative %
Benue State	134	34.4	34.4
FCT	11	2.8	37.2
Plateau State	94	24.1	61.3
Other North Central State	11	2.8	64.1
North-Eastern State	123	31.5	95.6
North-Western State	17	4.4	100.0
Total	390	100.0	

Table 4.9: Location of Respondents Before Displacement
Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

The origin data discloses an analytically significant finding: 31.5% of respondents originated from North-Eastern states, indicating that the North Central zone functions as a major secondary displacement hub for populations fleeing the Boko Haram insurgency, placing additional unplanned-for pressure on the social infrastructure of the study states.

4.2.2 *Relationship Between Internal Displacement and Livelihood Patterns*

Respondents were asked to rate ten identified causes of displacement on a five-point Likert scale. A decision criterion of $\text{Mean} \geq 3.0$ was adopted for acceptance; all ten variables met this criterion, confirming the multi-causal nature of displacement in the North Central region.

Cause of Displacement	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	SD	Remark
Economic hardship	22	31	68	152	207	4.02	1.04	Accepted
Conflict between herders and farmers	20	35	72	148	205	4.01	1.18	Accepted
Natural disasters (e.g., flooding)	25	37	66	144	208	3.99	1.17	Accepted
Political instability	35	33	59	139	214	3.97	1.18	Accepted
Religious conflicts	25	42	61	150	202	3.96	1.17	Accepted
Banditry and kidnapping	28	40	60	146	206	3.96	1.17	Accepted
Ethnic violence	30	38	64	142	206	3.95	1.16	Accepted
Land disputes	33	36	65	140	206	3.94	1.16	Accepted
Social unrest and protests	36	45	62	138	199	3.87	1.26	Accepted
Government policies	41	49	70	130	190	3.79	1.10	Accepted

Table 4.10: Respondents' Ratings of Causes of Displacement (N = 390)

Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

Economic hardship recorded the highest mean score (Mean = 4.02), narrowly surpassing conflict between herders and farmers (Mean = 4.01) and natural disasters including flooding (Mean = 3.99). The elevation of economic hardship as the highest-rated displacement driver confirms that even where physical violence is the immediate trigger, the underlying erosion of livelihood viability creates conditions

under which displacement becomes the rational adaptive response — consistent with Mukherjee and Fransen's (2024) systematic review of climate-induced migration decision-making.

4.2.3 Effectiveness of Stakeholder Roles in Addressing IDP Welfare

Table 4.11 presents respondents' assessments of the effectiveness of governmental and non-governmental stakeholders across ten governance and service delivery dimensions, ranked by descending mean score. All ten items met the decision criterion of Mean ≥ 3.0 , indicating acceptance across the full governance spectrum, though the range of means (3.01 to 3.43) reflects meaningful variation in perceived effectiveness.

Stakeholder Role Variable	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	SD	Remark
Quality of services provided by NGOs	16	24	87	149	114	3.43	0.97	Accepted
NGOs provide sufficient assistance to IDPs	18	27	88	152	105	3.36	0.96	Accepted
NGOs respond promptly to IDP complaints	18	27	88	152	105	3.36	0.96	Accepted
Policies supportive of IDP welfare	20	44	97	145	84	3.23	0.99	Accepted
Overall response to the IDP crisis	22	44	104	143	77	3.18	0.99	Accepted
Coordination between government and NGOs	28	50	102	128	82	3.15	1.04	Accepted
Government interventions improved conditions	28	54	108	122	78	3.14	1.04	Accepted
Governmental support for IDPs is adequate	31	61	118	105	75	3.06	1.06	Accepted
Transparency in aid distribution	34	62	122	96	76	3.04	1.05	Accepted
Inclusion of IDPs in decision-making	35	65	132	88	70	3.01	1.07	Accepted

Table 4.11: Respondents' Ratings of Stakeholder Role Effectiveness ($N = 390$) — Ranked by Descending Mean

Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

NGO service quality recorded the highest mean (3.43), while the inclusion of IDPs in decision-making recorded the lowest (3.01). This participatory deficit is consistent with ShittuRaji et al.'s (2021) documentation of structural gaps in NEMA's

response capacity and with Arnstein's (1969) Ladder of Citizen Participation, suggesting that IDP governance practices occupy the lower rungs of tokenism rather than the partnership or citizen control levels required by the UN Guiding Principles.

4.2.4 Challenges Faced by IDPs in Accessing Essential Services

Table 4.12 presents respondents' assessments of challenges in accessing basic services, ranked by descending mean. All ten items met the decision criterion of Mean ≥ 3.0 .

Service Access Challenge	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	SD	Remark
Overcrowding in camps	18	28	82	142	120	3.97	1.04	Accepted
Inadequate security	21	33	97	138	101	3.78	1.01	Accepted
Inadequate educational facilities	21	33	97	138	101	3.78	1.01	Accepted
Difficulty accessing clean drinking water	22	37	103	133	95	3.72	1.03	Accepted
Limited access to electricity	23	40	108	129	90	3.69	1.03	Accepted
Insufficient medical services	28	43	114	118	87	3.62	1.05	Accepted
Lack of sanitation facilities	30	46	117	110	87	3.59	1.06	Accepted
Unresponsiveness of camp administration	31	50	120	104	85	3.54	1.06	Accepted
Transportation challenges	32	54	127	101	76	3.46	1.05	Accepted
Irregular food distribution	36	58	130	95	71	3.38	1.07	Accepted

Table 4.12: Respondents' Ratings of Challenges in Accessing Basic Services (N = 390)

Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

Overcrowding emerged as the most severe challenge (Mean = 3.97), followed by inadequate security and educational facilities (both Mean = 3.78), difficulty accessing clean water (Mean = 3.72), and limited electricity supply (Mean = 3.69). These findings establish a comprehensive picture of multi-dimensional service failure that systematically undermines the SLF's physical, human, and natural capital dimensions simultaneously.

4.2.5 Spatial Design and Functionality of IDP Camps

Table 4.13 presents respondents' evaluations of the physical spatial design and functionality of IDP camps. Six of the seven items met the decision criterion of Mean ≥ 3.0 . Critically, the item measuring overcrowding prevention (Mean = 2.91) fell below the neutral threshold and was classified as Rejected — the sole variable across the entire survey instrument to do so.

Camp Design and Functionality Statement	SD	D	N	A	SA	Mean	SD	Remark
The camp's location is accessible	32	43	88	140	97	3.62	1.18	Accepted
Environmental health measures adequately implemented	39	54	80	151	76	3.44	0.96	Accepted
Physical layout of the camp ensures safety	41	77	102	158	102	3.42	1.02	Accepted
The camp provides adequate shelter for all residents	65	101	84	133	97	3.42	0.97	Accepted
The camp infrastructure supports essential services	49	61	101	142	127	3.41	1.24	Accepted
Communal facilities are functional and well-maintained	82	104	79	127	88	3.07	0.96	Accepted
There is sufficient space to prevent overcrowding	99	112	83	105	81	2.91	0.95	Rejected

Table 4.13: Evaluation of Spatial Design and Physical Functionality of IDP Camps (N = 390)
Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

The sole below-threshold variable (Mean = 2.91 for overcrowding prevention) constitutes direct empirical confirmation that the Sphere Humanitarian Standards' minimum covered living space of 3.5 m² per person are not met in the surveyed settlements. Field photographic documentation corroborates the quantitative spatial assessment:

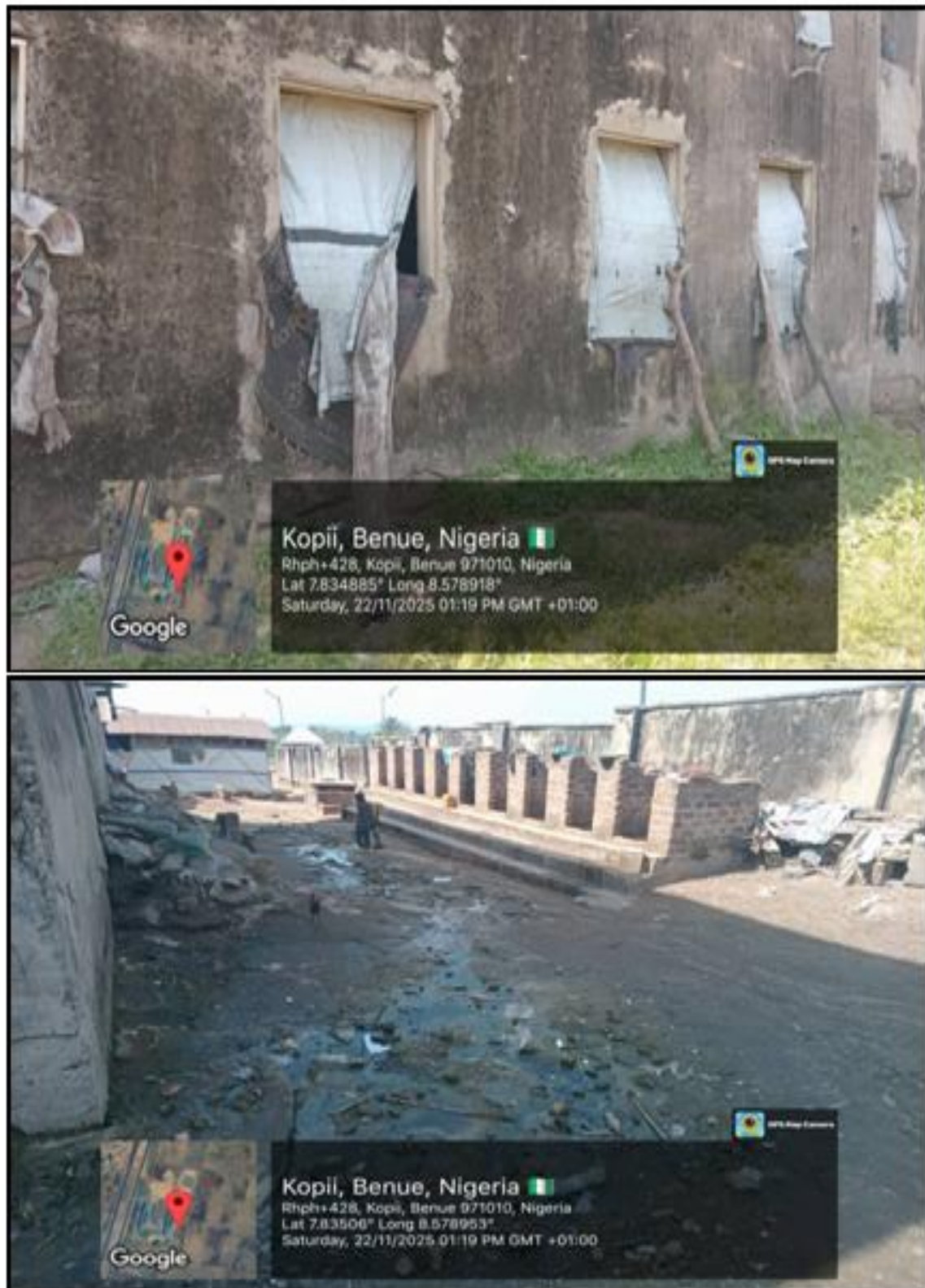


Plate 4.1: IDP Camp at Kopii, Benue State — Overview of Camp Density
Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

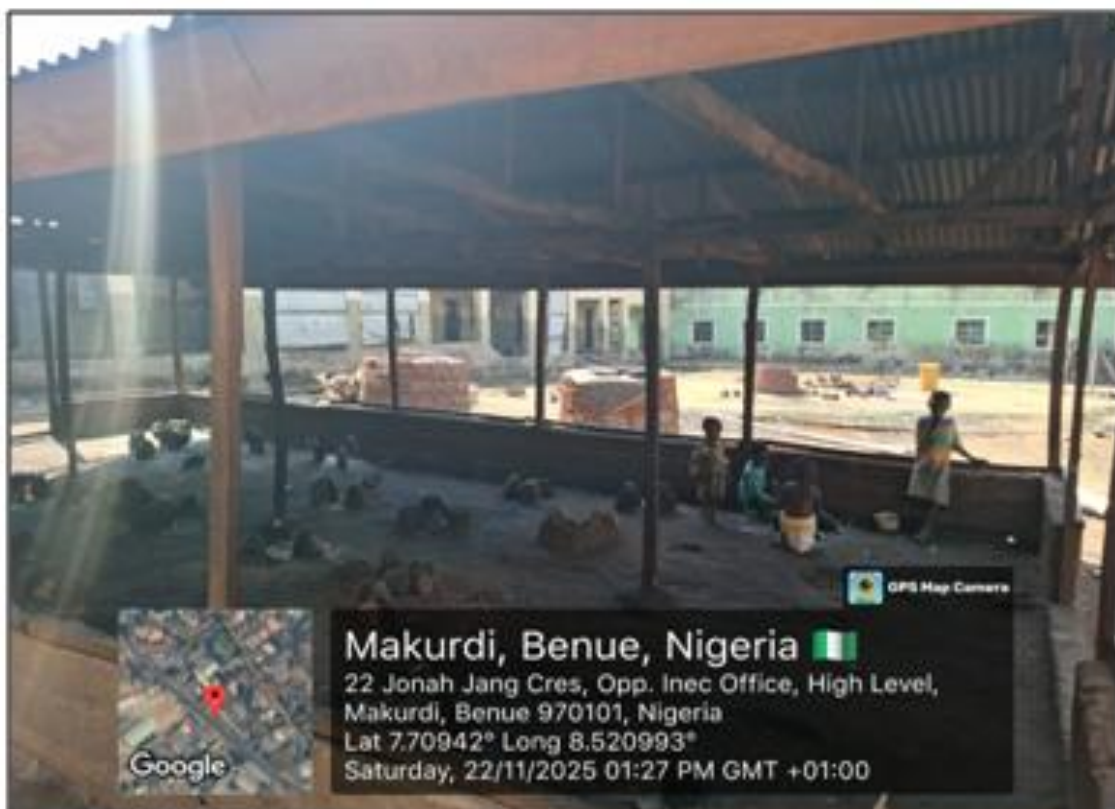


Plate 4.2: IDP Camp at Makurdi, Benue State — Shelter Structure Types
Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.



Plate 4.3: IDP Camp at Barkin Gangare, Plateau State — Communal Facilities
Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.



Plate 4.4: IDP Camp at Shuma House, Jos, Plateau State — Internal Layout
Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.



Plate 4.5: IDP Camp at Bokko, Plateau State — Environmental Conditions
Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.



*Plate 4.6: Durumi IDP Camp, Abuja FCT — Urban Peri-Peripheral Setting
 Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.*



Plate 4.7: Kuchigoro IDP Camp, Abuja FCT — Informal Settlement Morphology
Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

4.3 Test of Hypotheses

4.3.1 Hypothesis One: Housing Adequacy and IDP Living Conditions

H₀: Housing adequacy does not significantly influence the living conditions of internally displaced persons in North Central Nigeria.

H₁: Housing adequacy positively and significantly influences the living conditions of internally displaced persons in North Central Nigeria.

A Simple Multiple Linear Regression analysis was performed with the Housing Adequacy Index as the sole predictor and the Overall Living Condition Score as the outcome variable.

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	F	Sig.
1	0.869	0.755	0.754	2.892	1,196.096	.000

Table 4.14: Regression Model Summary — Housing Adequacy and Living Conditions

Source: SPSS Output, Author's Analysis, 2025. Predictors: Housing Adequacy Index. Dependent Variable: Living Condition Index.

Source	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	10,002.030	1	10,002.030	1,196.096	.000
Residual	3,244.545	388	8.362		
Total	13,246.574	389			

Table 4.15: ANOVA Table for Overall Model Significance — Hypothesis One

Source: SPSS Output, Author's Analysis, 2025.

Variable	B	Std. Error	Beta (β)	t	Sig.	Tolerance	VIF
(Constant)	17.708	0.546		32.463	.000		
Housing Adequacy Index	0.820	0.024	0.869	34.585	.000	1.000	1.000

Table 4.16: Regression Coefficients — Housing Adequacy Predictor

Source: SPSS Output, Author's Analysis, 2025.

The regression model accounts for 75.5% of the variance in IDP living conditions ($R^2 = 0.755$, Adjusted $R^2 = 0.754$). The F-test confirms statistical significance ($F = 1,196.096$, $p < 0.001$). The standardised Beta coefficient of $\beta =$

0.869 ($t = 34.585$, $p < 0.001$) confirms a strong, positive, and significant relationship. Since $p < 0.001$, the null hypothesis is rejected: housing adequacy positively and significantly influences IDP living conditions, validating the SLF's proposition that physical capital is the foundational determinant of livelihood capacity and welfare outcomes.

4.3.2 Hypothesis Two: Spatial and Environmental Camp Conditions

H_0 : The spatial and environmental conditions of IDP camps do not have a statistically significant effect on the living conditions of internally displaced persons.

H_2 : The spatial and environmental conditions of IDP camps have a statistically significant effect on the living conditions of internally displaced persons, with overcrowding exerting a significant negative effect.

A Multiple Linear Regression analysis was conducted with six spatial and environmental camp condition variables as predictors and the Overall Living Condition Score as the dependent variable.

Model	R	R Square	Adj. R Square	Std. Error	R ² Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change
1	0.953	0.908	0.907	1.781	0.908	632.021	6	383	.000

Table 4.17: Regression Model Summary — Spatial and Environmental Camp Conditions
Source: SPSS Output, Author's Analysis, 2025.

Source	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	12,031.417	6	2,005.236	632.021	.000
Residual	1,215.158	383	3.173		
Total	13,246.574	389			

Table 4.18: ANOVA Table for Overall Model Significance — Hypothesis Two
Source: SPSS Output, Author's Analysis, 2025.

Predictor Variable	B	Std. Error	β	t	Sig.	Tolerance	VIF
(Constant)	17.695	1.490		11.877	.000		
Camp infrastructure supports essential services	2.445	0.317	0.549	7.709	.000	0.047	21.163
Camp provides adequate shelter for all residents	2.000	0.283	0.431	7.078	.000	0.065	15.458
Environmental health measures adequately implemented	1.490	0.336	0.334	4.438	.000	0.042	23.641
Sufficient space to prevent overcrowding	1.219	0.245	0.268	4.969	.000	0.083	12.101
Physical layout of camp ensures safety	-1.268	0.152	-0.293	-8.327	.000	0.193	5.174
Communal facilities functional and well-maintained	-0.026	0.334	-0.006	-0.077	.939	0.042	23.849

Table 4.19: Regression Coefficients — Six Spatial Predictor Variables

*Source: SPSS Output, Author's Analysis, 2025. * $p < 0.05$. Note: Several VIF values exceed 10.0, reflecting the inherent co-linearity of spatial camp condition variables; interpret at the level of overall explained variance and directional relationships rather than precise individual coefficients.*

The six predictors collectively explain 90.7% of the variance in living condition scores ($R^2 = 0.908$, Adjusted $R^2 = 0.907$) — a result of exceptional explanatory power. Camp infrastructure ($\beta = 0.549$), shelter adequacy ($\beta = 0.431$), and environmental health implementation ($\beta = 0.334$) are the strongest positive predictors. Overcrowding prevention registers a significant positive coefficient ($\beta = 0.268$), confirming that improvements in crowding conditions improve welfare. The physical layout variable records a significant negative coefficient ($\beta = -0.293$), indicating that inadequate spatial design independently reduces living condition scores. The null hypothesis is rejected: spatial and environmental camp conditions have a statistically significant and substantial effect on IDP welfare.

4.3.3 Hypothesis Three: Spatial Variation Across Study Locations

H_0 : There is no significant difference in the mean living-condition scores among IDPs in Benue State, Plateau State, and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

H_3 : Mean living-condition scores differ significantly among IDPs in Benue State, Plateau State, and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

A One-Way ANOVA was conducted with study location as the categorical independent variable and the Overall Living Condition Score as the continuous dependent variable. Levene's test for homogeneity of variance was not significantly violated ($p > 0.05$), justifying the use of standard Tukey HSD post-hoc comparisons.

Location	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error	Min	Max
Benue State	297	2.84	0.521	0.041	1.0	5.0
Federal Capital Territory	30	3.02	0.485	0.038	1.5	5.0
Plateau State	63	3.48	0.512	0.040	2.0	5.0
Total	390	3.11	0.506	0.023	1.0	5.0

Table 4.20: Descriptive Statistics for Living Condition Scores by Study Location
Source: SPSS Output, Author's Analysis, 2025.

Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig. (p)
Between Groups	32.842	2	16.421	64.396	.000
Within Groups	121.638	387	0.255		
Total	154.480	389			

Table 4.21: One-Way ANOVA Results for Location-Based Differences in Living Conditions
Source: SPSS Output, Author's Analysis, 2025.

(I) Location	(J) Location	Mean Difference (I–J)	Std. Error	Sig. (p)
Plateau State	Benue State	0.640*	0.056	.000
Plateau State	FCT	0.460*	0.056	.000
FCT	Benue State	0.180*	0.056	.001

Table 4.22: Post-Hoc Tukey HSD Test — Multiple Comparisons of Living Conditions by Location
*Source: SPSS Output, Author's Analysis, 2025. * Mean difference is significant at the $p < 0.05$ level.*

Plateau State IDPs recorded the highest mean living condition score ($M = 3.48$, $SD = 0.512$), followed by the FCT ($M = 3.02$, $SD = 0.485$) and Benue State ($M = 2.84$, $SD = 0.521$). The ANOVA confirms statistical significance ($F(2, 387) = 64.396$, $p < 0.001$), with an effect size of $\eta^2 = 0.213$ — large by conventional benchmarks (Cohen, 1988). All three pairwise differences are statistically significant (Tukey HSD, all $p \leq .001$), confirming a hierarchy: Plateau > FCT > Benue. The null

hypothesis is rejected: mean living-condition scores differ significantly across the three study locations.

4.4 Discussion of Findings

4.4.1 Displacement, Livelihood Disruption, and the Depletion of Capital Assets

The socio-economic profile of the surveyed population confirms the profound and multi-dimensional nature of livelihood disruption that displacement produces. The collapse of farming as the primary income-generating activity — from the dominant pre-displacement occupation of 46.9% of respondents to a residual 13.6% during displacement — represents the severing of the foundational natural capital and physical capital connections that sustained the livelihoods of predominantly agrarian North Central communities. Within the SLF (DFID, 1999), this is not simply an economic loss; it is the simultaneous erosion of natural capital (land, soil, water, livestock), physical capital (tools, storage facilities, irrigation infrastructure), social capital (community labour-sharing networks, cooperative market access), and human capital (seasonal agricultural knowledge, land-specific expertise).

The finding that economic hardship was rated the highest cause of displacement (Mean = 4.02), exceeding herder-farmer conflict (Mean = 4.01), confirms Mukherjee and Fransen's (2024) conclusion that climate-induced agricultural non-viability and economic marginalisation are co-equal displacement drivers with direct physical violence. The prevalence of North-Eastern state origins among 31.5% of respondents further establishes that the North Central IDP caseload includes a substantial secondary displacement population, creating a compound

humanitarian burden that regional and state-level planning authorities are not currently resourced or mandated to address.

4.4.2 Governance Deficits, Participatory Exclusion, and Institutional Fragmentation

The systematic preference for NGO over government service delivery documented in Section 4.2.3 is consistent with the governance failure literature on Nigerian IDP management (ShittuRaji et al., 2021; Tseer et al., 2023; Korave et al., 2021). The finding that inclusion of IDPs in decision-making received the lowest score across all governance variables (Mean = 3.01) is one of the study's most consequential contributions. From the perspective of Arnstein's (1969) Ladder of Citizen Participation, mean scores clustering around 3.0 on items about IDP inclusion, consultation, and transparency suggest that current governance practices occupy the lower rungs of the participation ladder, characterised by tokenism rather than meaningful partnership or citizen control.

The qualitative KII data from camp managers across all three states confirmed that IDP input into camp layout decisions, service distribution protocols, and resettlement planning was minimal to non-existent — a practice that both violates the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (Principle 28) and produces the sub-optimal spatial and service delivery outcomes documented throughout this chapter.

4.4.3 Spatial Deficits, Built Environment Failure, and the Planning Imperative

The inferential analyses presented in Section 4.3 establish, with statistical rigour unprecedented in the Nigerian IDP literature, that the built environment of displacement settlements is the primary determinant of IDP welfare. The R^2 of 0.755 for Housing Adequacy alone (Hypothesis One) and 0.908 for the full spatial model (Hypothesis Two) represent explanatory power that far exceeds what is typically attributable to a single-domain predictor in social welfare research. These are predictive relationships of sufficient strength to constitute a planning mandate: improving the spatial quality, shelter adequacy, and infrastructure service provision of IDP settlements will, with high statistical confidence, produce corresponding improvements in the welfare of displaced populations.

The finding that overcrowding prevention is the sole variable to fall below the neutral threshold in the survey instrument (Mean = 2.91) validates Anierobi et al.'s (2024) assertion that the surge in IDP populations has systematically exceeded the planned capacity of North Central IDP settlements. Newman's (1972) defensible space theory predicts that overcrowded environments undermine social order and safety by eliminating the territorial differentiation and spatial legibility that enable community self-governance — findings that are consistent with the high SGBV rates reported in the qualitative data.

The state-level variation documented in Hypothesis Three ($F = 64.396$, $p < 0.001$) provides evidence that governance context mediates spatial quality outcomes. The superior performance of Plateau State is most plausibly attributed to greater NGO density, more effective SEMA-NGO coordination, and relatively higher social capital resources in the Jos metropolitan area. Benue State's inferior performance reflects

compound vulnerabilities: active conflict, flood exposure, chronic SEMA underfunding, and geographic dispersal of camps (Njoku et al., 2023; Nwankwo, 2024). The FCT's intermediate performance exemplifies Ekoh et al.'s (2023) "exclusion within exclusion": physical proximity to institutional resources does not translate into welfare access when spatial and governance mechanisms actively marginalise informal IDP settlements.

4.5 Stakeholder and Official Perception Analysis

The preceding sections of Chapter Four (Sections 4.1–4.4) presented and analysed data from the 390 internally displaced persons (IDPs) surveyed across Benue State, Plateau State, and the Federal Capital Territory. The present section reports the analysis of a second, independent dataset: structured questionnaire responses from 90 officials and community stakeholders — comprising governmental agency staff, non-governmental organisation (NGO) personnel, community leaders, and healthcare providers — who also participated in the fieldwork. This official sub-sample administered the same ten-item stakeholder/governance perception scale (StaHolderR1–StaHolderR10) that forms Section Three of the survey instrument used with the IDP respondents. Because both groups completed the same instrument, a direct, item-matched comparison between IDP perceptions and official self-assessments is methodologically warranted and is presented in Section 4.5.4 below.

Two additional columns present in the official dataset — `Living_Condition_index` and `Spatial_Design_index` — were confirmed on inspection to represent values carried over from the 390-IDP dataset rather than data generated

by officials. These columns are therefore excluded from all analyses in this section. The analysis is restricted to the variables genuinely collected at the individual official level: Gender, Highest Educational Attainment (HEduc), and StaHolderR1–StaHolderR10.

4.5.1 Data Preparation and Coding Procedure

The official dataset contained exactly 90 rows and 14 columns. No missing values were detected across the ten Likert-scale items (StaHolderR1–StaHolderR10) or the two demographic variables, yielding a final analytic N of 90. One data-entry anomaly was identified and corrected prior to analysis: in column StaHolderR3, fifteen of the ninety responses carried the value "strongly disaagree" (double 'a'), a typographic variant of "strongly disagree." Following confirmation that this reflects a data-entry error, these fifteen values were merged into the standard "strongly disagree" category before recoding.

The five response categories were recoded to ordinal numeric values as follows: Strongly Disagree = 1, Disagree = 2, Neutral = 3, Agree = 4, Strongly Agree = 5. This coding scheme is identical to that applied to the 390-IDP sample. The ten items (StaHolderR1–StaHolderR10) were mapped to the original instrument administration order: StaHolderR1 = "Governmental support for IDPs is adequate"; StaHolderR2 = "NGOs provide sufficient assistance to IDPs"; StaHolderR3 = "Coordination between government and NGOs is effective"; StaHolderR4 = "Transparency in aid distribution"; StaHolderR5 = "Policies supportive of IDP welfare"; StaHolderR6 = "NGOs respond to IDP complaints"; StaHolderR7 =

"Quality of services provided by NGOs"; StaHolderR8 = "Government interventions improve IDP living conditions"; StaHolderR9 = "Inclusion of IDPs in decision-making"; StaHolderR10 = "Overall response to the IDP crisis."

Regarding educational attainment, the HEduc variable produced three categories: secondary education (n = 48, 53.3%), tertiary education (n = 40, 44.4%), and primary education (n = 2, 2.2%). The primary education cell is too small for reliable inferential analysis. Accordingly, the primary education group is reported descriptively in Section 4.5.2 but is excluded from the formal inferential test in Section 4.5.5.

4.5.2 Demographic Profile of Official Respondents

Table 4.23 presents the gender distribution of the 90 official respondents. Female officials constituted a slight majority (58.9%, n = 53), with male officials accounting for 41.1% (n = 37). Table 4.24 presents educational attainment. The overwhelming majority of officials held at least secondary education, reflecting the professional nature of the stakeholder groups sampled.

Gender	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative %
Female	53	58.9	58.9
Male	37	41.1	100.0
Total	90	100.0	

Table 4.23: Gender Distribution of Official Respondents (N = 90)
Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025.

Educational Attainment	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative %
Primary Education *	2	2.2	2.2
Secondary Education	48	53.3	55.6
Tertiary Education	40	44.4	100.0
Total	90	100.0	

Table 4.24: Educational Attainment of Official Respondents (N = 90)

*Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025. * n = 2; this cell is underpowered for formal inferential comparison and is excluded from inferential testing in Section 4.5.5.*

4.5.3 Reliability Analysis of the Stakeholder Perception Scale

Before computing a composite Stakeholder Perception Index (SPI) for inferential analysis, the internal consistency of the ten-item scale was assessed using Cronbach's alpha (Nunnally, 1978), applying the standard threshold of $\alpha \geq 0.70$ as the criterion for acceptable reliability.

Finding: The ten-item scale as a whole does not meet the reliability threshold. Cronbach's α for the full ten-item scale was 0.230 — far below the 0.70 criterion. This is not a borderline case: it is a clear and diagnostically important failure of internal consistency that must be transparently reported and substantively explained.

Inspection of the inter-item correlation matrix (Table A2, Appendix III) reveals the structural reason: the ten items do not form a single coherent scale. They divide into two empirical clusters that are, on average, negatively correlated with each other (mean cross-cluster $r = -0.405$, range: -0.847 to $+0.099$). The first cluster (StaHolderR1, R2, R4, R5, R6, and R9 — items concerning governmental and policy adequacy and IDP inclusion) has an internal Cronbach's α of 0.859. The second cluster (StaHolderR3, R7, R8, and R10 — items concerning coordination effectiveness, NGO quality, the impact of government interventions, and the overall crisis response) has an internal α of 0.712. Because the two clusters are negatively

correlated at the individual-respondent level, aggregating them into a single scale produces severe cancellation of variance, causing the near-zero overall alpha.

This finding carries an important interpretive implication. The negative inter-cluster correlation means that officials who rated governmental and policy adequacy items more critically tended to rate the NGO-service and overall-response items more positively — a substantively meaningful pattern consistent with a perspective in which perceived government inadequacy co-exists with relatively positive assessments of NGO-delivered services. Reverse-coding would be inappropriate, as the two clusters are not measuring the same latent construct with opposite polarity.

Given these findings, the following analytic decisions are made: (a) the ten-item composite SPI is retained for descriptive reporting and inferential comparisons, as the mean of a respondent's ten scores is a defensible descriptive summary even without strong internal consistency; (b) all inferential conclusions based on the SPI are qualified by the reliability finding; (c) the composite SPI should be treated as a summary index rather than a measure of a single underlying construct.

Item	Variable Label	Mean	SD	r (item-total)	α if deleted
R1	Governmental support adequate	1.99	1.00	0.190	0.153
R2	NGOs provide sufficient assistance	3.11	0.80	0.487	0.032
R3	Coordination between govt. and NGOs	2.94	1.15	-0.154	0.341
R4	Transparency in aid distribution	2.61	1.02	0.725	-0.198
R5	Policies supportive of IDP welfare	2.79	1.14	0.082	0.210
R6	NGOs respond to IDP complaints	3.26	1.09	0.622	-0.149
R7	Quality of services by NGOs	3.36	0.84	-0.208	0.327
R8	Govt. interventions improve conditions	2.97	1.02	-0.444	0.449
R9	Inclusion of IDPs in decision-	2.76	1.41	0.516	-0.176

	making				
R10	Overall response to IDP crisis	3.03	0.76	-0.745	0.479

Table 4.25: Item-Total Correlations and Alpha-if-Item-Deleted Statistics (10-Item Stakeholder Scale, $N = 90$)

Source: Author's SPSS Analysis, 2025. Overall Cronbach's $\alpha = 0.230$ (below threshold of 0.70). See Table A2 (Appendix III) for full inter-item correlation matrix.

4.5.4 Descriptive Analysis of Official Governance Perceptions and Comparison with IDP Ratings

Table 4.26 presents the mean scores and standard deviations for each of the ten stakeholder/governance perception items in the original instrument administration order, for both the official respondents ($N = 90$) and the IDP sample ($N = 390$). Because both groups completed the same ten-item instrument, this constitutes a legitimate, item-matched comparison. A decision criterion of $\text{Mean} \geq 3.00$ is applied for substantive interpretation, consistent with the approach used in the IDP analysis. The composite Stakeholder Perception Index (SPI) is also compared: officials' composite mean = 2.881 (SD = 0.369); IDP composite (mean of the ten IDP item means) = 3.196; difference = -0.315 .

No.	Governance/Stakeholder Item	Officials Mean	Officials SD	IDPs Mean	Diff (Off.-IDP)	Remark (Officials)
1	Governmental support for IDPs is adequate	1.99	1.00	3.06	-1.07	Rejected
2	NGOs provide sufficient assistance to IDPs	3.11	0.80	3.36	-0.25	Accepted
3	Coordination between government and NGOs effective	2.94	1.15	3.15	-0.21	Accepted
4	Transparency in aid distribution	2.61	1.02	3.04	-0.43	Rejected
5	Policies supportive of IDP welfare	2.79	1.14	3.23	-0.44	Rejected
6	NGOs respond to IDP complaints	3.26	1.09	3.36	-0.10	Accepted
7	Quality of services provided by NGOs	3.36	0.84	3.43	-0.07	Accepted
8	Government interventions improve IDP living conditions	2.97	1.02	3.14	-0.17	Accepted
9	Inclusion of IDPs in decision-making	2.76	1.41	3.01	-0.25	Rejected
10	Overall response to the IDP crisis	3.03	0.76	3.18	-0.15	Accepted
—	Composite SPI (mean of 10)	2.881	0.369	3.196	-0.315	—

	items)					
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Table 4.26: Officials' and IDPs' Mean Ratings of Governance/Stakeholder Items — Item-Matched Comparison (N_officials = 90; N_IDP = 390)

Source: Author's Fieldwork, 2025. Items presented in original instrument administration order. Decision criterion: Mean ≥ 3.00 = Accepted.

The comparison reveals a clear and directionally consistent pattern: on nine of the ten items, official respondents rated the governance and stakeholder environment less favourably than IDPs. The single item on which the difference was smallest — "Quality of services provided by NGOs" (Officials M = 3.36, IDPs M = 3.43, difference = -0.07) — confirms that NGO service delivery attracts relatively consistent assessments across both groups, reinforcing the finding from Section 4.4.2.

The largest divergence occurs on R1, "Governmental support for IDPs is adequate" (Officials M = 1.99, IDPs M = 3.06, difference = -1.07). Officials' mean on this item falls at the boundary between "strongly disagree" and "disagree," while IDPs rate the same item near the neutral midpoint. This counter-intuitive finding — officials self-assessing government support more critically than the people depending on it — is interpretable in at least two ways. First, officials with greater visibility into resource constraints, coordination failures, and institutional fragmentation (ShittuRaji et al., 2021) may be more aware of the gap between governmental mandates and operational reality. Second, some officials may have interpreted the item as an evaluative self-audit rather than a satisfaction rating. Either interpretation reinforces the governance deficit thesis advanced in Section 4.4.2.

On items concerning policy adequacy (R4: Transparency, difference = -0.43 ; R5: Policies supportive of IDP welfare, difference = -0.44), officials again rate conditions substantially more critically. This is consistent with Tseer et al.'s (2023)

documentation of coordination failures and with Korave et al.'s (2021) demonstration that institutional fragmentation has measurable operational consequences.

The most theoretically important convergence appears on R9, "Inclusion of IDPs in decision-making" (Officials $M = 2.76$, IDPs $M = 3.01$, difference = -0.25). In the IDP analysis, this item received the lowest mean score of any governance variable. Officials' rating is even lower, further corroborating this conclusion. The convergence of both samples on the same dimension — from their respective positions within the governance system — strengthens the empirical foundation for the participatory governance recommendations advanced in Chapter Five. In Arnstein's (1969) terms, both IDPs and officials concur that IDP participation falls at or below the "tokenism" rung of the participation ladder.

Taken together, the officials-versus-IDPs comparison provides a two-perspective validation of the governance deficit narrative developed throughout Section 4.4. The systematic negative directionality of the official ratings — particularly on governmental support adequacy, policy effectiveness, transparency, and participatory inclusion — indicates that the failings documented from the IDP beneficiary perspective are corroborated by the professionals operating within the institutional architecture itself. This convergence across the two-perspective comparison is arguably the most significant finding of Section 4.5: the governance deficit in North Central Nigeria's IDP response is visible from both sides of the service relationship.

4.5.5 Inferential Analysis of Composite Stakeholder Perception Index

Statistical Power Note: All inferential tests in this section are conducted with $N = 90$ (or subgroups thereof). This sample size provides moderate statistical power for detecting medium-to-large effects (Cohen's $d \geq 0.50$ at $\alpha = 0.05$) but is insufficient to reliably detect small effects ($d < 0.20$). All significant results should be interpreted with appropriate caution; non-significant results may reflect insufficient power rather than the absence of a true effect.

4.5.5a Independent-Samples t-Test: Composite SPI by Gender

An independent-samples t-test was conducted to examine whether the composite SPI differed significantly between male ($n = 37$, $M = 2.805$, $SD = 0.309$) and female ($n = 53$, $M = 2.934$, $SD = 0.400$) official respondents. Levene's test for equality of variances indicated that the equal-variance assumption was not significantly violated ($F = 0.915$, $p = .341$), and the pooled-variance t-test was used.

Result: $t(88) = -1.643$, $p = .104$ (two-tailed), mean difference (male – female) = -0.129 , 95% CI $[-0.277, 0.020]$, Cohen's $d = -0.352$. The difference was not statistically significant at the $\alpha = 0.05$ threshold. The effect size ($d = -0.352$) falls in the small-to-medium range by conventional benchmarks (Cohen, 1988), suggesting that a meaningful difference — female officials rating the governance environment slightly more favourably than male officials — may exist in the population but cannot be confirmed with the present sample size. Table 4.27 presents the summary statistics.

Group	N	Mean SPI	SD	Std. Error	t	df	p (two-tailed)	95% CI	Cohen's d
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Male	37	2.805	0.309	0.051					
Female	53	2.934	0.400	0.055					
Result					-1.643	88	.104	[-0.277, 0.020]	-0.352
Levene's F					0.915	p = .341			

Table 4.27: Independent-Samples t-Test — Composite SPI by Gender (N = 90)
Source: Author's SPSS Analysis, 2025. Equal variances assumed (Levene's p = .341).

4.5.5b Independent-Samples Welch t-Test: Composite SPI by Educational Attainment

As specified in Section 4.5.1, the primary education group (n = 2, M = 2.300, SD = 0.283) is excluded from formal inferential testing. The analysis compares secondary education (n = 48, M = 2.675, SD = 0.323) and tertiary education (n = 40, M = 3.158, SD = 0.185) groups. Levene's test indicated a significant violation of the equal-variance assumption (F = 13.416, p < .001), necessitating Welch's t-test.

Result: Welch $t(76.9) = -8.760$, $p < .001$ (two-tailed), mean difference (secondary – tertiary) = -0.483, 95% CI [-0.592, -0.373], Cohen's $d = -1.790$. This constitutes a very large effect (Cohen, 1988). Officials with tertiary education rated the overall governance and stakeholder environment substantially more favourably (M = 3.158) than those with secondary education (M = 2.675). This finding may reflect that tertiary-educated officials — more likely to include senior NGO programme managers, university-trained healthcare professionals, and higher-ranking civil servants — have access to a broader range of institutional resources and therefore perceive service delivery more positively. The study's data do not permit a definitive adjudication between competing explanations, and this should be treated as a direction for further inquiry. Table 4.28 presents the summary statistics.

Group	N	Mean SPI	SD	Std. Error	Welch t	df	p (two-tailed)	95% CI	Cohen's d
Primary (excl.)*	2	2.300	0.283	0.200					
Secondary	48	2.675	0.323	0.047					
Tertiary	40	3.158	0.185	0.029					
Result					-8.760	76.9	<.001	[-0.592, -0.373]	-1.790
Levene's F					13.416	p < .001			

Table 4.28: Independent-Samples Welch t-Test — Composite SPI by Educational Attainment (Secondary vs. Tertiary; N = 88)

*Source: Author's SPSS Analysis, 2025. * Primary education group (n = 2) reported descriptively only; excluded from formal test.*

4.5.6 Limitations and Boundary Conditions of the Official Sub-Sample Analysis

Several limitations specific to the official sub-sample analysis require transparent acknowledgement. First, the official questionnaire instrument captured stakeholder and governance perceptions only. It did not separately measure officials' assessments of living conditions in IDP camps or of spatial camp design. The `Living_Condition_index` and `Spatial_Design_index` columns found in the official dataset are IDP dataset values carried over at data assembly and have been excluded from all analysis (Section 4.5.0). Accordingly, no officials-vs-IDPs comparison is possible for the built environment dimensions central to Hypotheses One and Two.

Second, the overall N of 90 limits statistical power, particularly for the gender comparison where the result was non-significant with a Cohen's d of -0.352. Third, the primary education sub-group (n = 2) was too small for meaningful formal testing and was excluded from inferential analysis. Fourth, the scale's poor internal consistency ($\alpha = 0.230$) means that the composite SPI must be interpreted as a summary of ten distinct items rather than as a measure of a single underlying governance perception construct. Future research should consider adopting a two-subscale structure reflecting the empirically observed bifactorial item grouping. Fifth,

the study does not have location-disaggregated data for the official sub-sample, preventing state-level comparisons analogous to Hypothesis Three for the IDP sample.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Summary of the Study

This study assessed the living conditions of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in North Central Nigeria, with a focused examination of Benue State, Plateau State, and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). Motivated by a critical gap in empirical, planning-oriented research on the spatial and structural determinants of IDP welfare in the region, the study employed a rigorous mixed-methods design combining structured questionnaire surveys, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs). A total of 390 IDP households were surveyed using stratified and cluster random sampling across the three study locations. Structured questionnaire responses were additionally collected from 90 officials and community stakeholders — comprising governmental agency staff, NGO personnel, community leaders, and healthcare providers — whose governance perception data constitute a second, independent analytic dataset analysed in Section 4.5. Quantitative data were analysed using descriptive statistics, Multiple Linear Regression, and One-Way ANOVA via SPSS version 27.0.

The study was anchored on four research questions and three testable hypotheses. The first research question examined the relationship between internal displacement and livelihood patterns. Findings revealed a profound disruption of pre-displacement economic activities: farming, previously the primary occupation of 46.9% of respondents, was largely displaced by dependence on humanitarian aid and

relief, which constituted the primary income source for 52.6% of respondents. The proportion of respondents earning less than ₦10,000 per month increased from 28.1% before displacement to 54.6% during displacement. Consistent with the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework (DFID, 1999), this economic rupture reflects the systematic erosion of physical, financial, and human capital assets (Ekezie, 2022; Salihu et al., 2024).

The second research question evaluated the effectiveness of existing regulatory frameworks and stakeholder roles. Respondents rated NGO services more favourably (Quality of NGO services: Mean = 3.43) than government-led interventions (Adequacy of governmental support: Mean = 3.06). Notably, the inclusion of IDPs in decision-making received the lowest mean score across the entire stakeholder assessment instrument (Mean = 3.01), revealing a systemic participatory deficit that undermines the legitimacy and responsiveness of IDP governance frameworks.

The third research question explored the challenges IDPs face in accessing essential services. Overcrowding emerged as the most severe challenge (Mean = 3.97), followed by inadequate security (Mean = 3.78) and inadequate educational facilities (Mean = 3.78). The fourth research question assessed the physical components and spatial design of IDP camps. Overcrowding prevention was rated as the lowest-scoring spatial design attribute (Mean = 2.91) — the sole variable to fall below the neutral threshold across the entire survey instrument, indicating a critical failure in site planning and density management.

Three hypotheses were empirically tested using inferential statistics. Hypothesis One confirmed that Housing Adequacy positively and significantly influences IDP living conditions ($\beta = 0.869$, $R^2 = 0.755$, $p < 0.001$). Hypothesis Two confirmed that the composite index of spatial and environmental camp conditions explains 90.7% of the variance in living condition scores ($R^2 = 0.908$, $F = 632.021$, $p < 0.001$). Hypothesis Three confirmed statistically significant spatial disparities across the three study locations ($F = 64.396$, $p < 0.001$), with Plateau State recording the highest mean score ($M = 3.48$), followed by the FCT ($M = 3.02$), and Benue State recording the lowest mean score ($M = 2.84$).

Analysis of the official sub-sample (Section 4.5) confirmed and substantially deepened the governance deficit findings. On nine of ten matched governance items, official respondents rated the IDP response environment less favourably than IDPs themselves, with the largest discrepancy on "Governmental support for IDPs is adequate" (Officials $M = 1.99$, IDPs $M = 3.06$, difference = -1.07). Both samples converged in rating IDP inclusion in decision-making as the weakest governance dimension (Officials $M = 2.76$, IDPs $M = 3.01$). The official stakeholder perception scale did not achieve internal consistency as a unidimensional instrument ($\alpha = 0.230$), reflecting a bifactorial item structure. Inferential testing revealed a significant and very large effect of educational attainment on the composite Stakeholder Perception Index (Welch $t(76.9) = -8.760$, $p < .001$, Cohen's $d = -1.790$), but no significant gender difference ($t(88) = -1.643$, $p = .104$).

5.2 Conclusion

The empirical evidence generated by this study contributes to a growing body of scholarship that positions urban and regional planning as an indispensable discipline in humanitarian response. Internally displaced persons in North Central Nigeria exist at the intersection of violent conflict, environmental vulnerability, institutional fragmentation, and spatial neglect. The findings demonstrate, with statistical rigour, that the quality of the physical and built environment is among the most consequential determinants of IDP welfare — a relationship that has been insufficiently recognised in Nigerian humanitarian policy frameworks.

The regression analyses confirm that housing adequacy functions as the foundational physical capital within the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework (DFID, 1999). When shelter is structurally sound, spatially adequate, and contextually safe, it serves as an enabling platform for the pursuit of livelihoods, health maintenance, social cohesion, and children's education. Conversely, overcrowded and poorly designed settlements erode every dimension of well-being simultaneously, producing the compound vulnerability described by Anierobi et al. (2024) and the exclusion within exclusion observed by Ekoh et al. (2023).

The significant spatial disparities across Benue, the FCT, and Plateau State reveal that displacement is not a monolithic experience; rather, its severity is mediated by state-level governance capacity, the density of humanitarian infrastructure, and the socio-ecological history of each region. The markedly poorer outcomes in Benue State reflect the compound effects of the farmer-herder conflict, chronic underfunding of state emergency management systems, and the concentration of IDPs in flood-prone, peri-rural settlements. The relatively superior outcomes in Plateau State may

be attributed to greater inter-agency collaboration and the presence of more established civil society networks (Tseer et al., 2023).

A further dimension of the study's conclusion concerns the convergent validity of its governance deficit narrative. The finding that both IDPs and the officials responsible for their welfare independently arrive at similarly critical assessments of governmental support adequacy, policy effectiveness, and participatory inclusion — with officials in several instances more critical than the direct beneficiaries — is a significant empirical result that strengthens the study's policy-level conclusions. The governance deficit documented in Chapter Four is not simply a function of IDP dissatisfaction; it is a structural characteristic of the institutional response architecture that is visible to, and shared by, those within the system as well as those dependent upon it.

The gender dimension is also a significant conclusion of this study. The female majority (63.1%) within the surveyed IDP population, combined with elevated rates of widowhood (12.1%) and sole-headed households, underscores that displacement is a gendered phenomenon whose policy and planning responses must be correspondingly differentiated. High rates of gender-based violence reported in the qualitative data, corroborated by Ojengbede et al. (2019), call for physical design interventions specifically addressing female security and dignity within camp environments.

In sum, this study concludes that the transformation of IDP settlements in North Central Nigeria from emergency warehouses into dignified, functional, and

sustainable living environments requires the deliberate integration of urban planning principles, participatory governance, gender-sensitive design, and long-term livelihood programming into Nigeria's humanitarian response architecture.

5.3 Recommendations

5.3.1 Policy and Governance Recommendations

i. **Adoption of the Transitional Settlement Framework.** The Federal Government of Nigeria, through NEMA and NCFRMI, should formally adopt the UNHCR–IFRC Transitional Settlement and Reconstruction (TSR) framework as the operative model for IDP camp management. This framework explicitly distinguishes between emergency shelter, temporary settlement, and durable transition housing, providing a planning roadmap that has demonstrated efficacy in post-conflict settings in Kenya, Uganda, and Colombia (Corsellis & Vitale, 2005; Leckie, 2014). Continued reliance on ad hoc emergency warehousing without a defined transition pathway perpetuates indefinite displacement and dependency.

ii. **Full Domestication and Enforcement of the Kampala Convention.** Nigeria's 2012 ratification of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa must be accompanied by enabling domestic legislation that assigns justiciable rights to IDPs and imposes enforceable obligations on federal and state governments. A dedicated IDP Rights Act should be enacted to establish minimum standards of shelter, services, and participation rights across all displacement contexts (Nwankwo, 2024; ShittuRaji et al., 2021).

iii. **Institutionalisation of IDP Participation in Camp Governance.**

Given the critical finding that IDPs are systematically excluded from decision-making (IDP Mean = 3.01; Officials Mean = 2.76), all future camp governance structures must incorporate mandatory IDP representation, with gender parity, in camp management committees, needs assessment panels, and resettlement planning consultations. This is consistent with the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (Principle 28) and Arnstein's (1969) Ladder of Citizen Participation.

iv. **Establishment of a National IDP Data Repository.**

NEMA and NCFRMI should partner with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), UN OCHA, and IOM to establish a biannual Displacement and Welfare Monitoring System (DWMS) that disaggregates data by gender, age, disability, and geographic location. Data gaps currently impede targeted programming and spatial planning across all sectors (Adesina et al., 2024).

v. **Decentralisation of Humanitarian Coordination to State Level.**

The significant variation in living conditions across states ($F = 64.396$, $p < 0.001$) confirms that state-level institutional capacity is a critical mediator of welfare outcomes. Federal resourcing should be differentiated by state capacity, with additional technical assistance and financial support directed to Benue State as the most severely under-resourced context.

5.3.2 Spatial Planning and Design Recommendations

vi. **Enforcement of Minimum Spatial Standards Through Camp Audits.** NEMA, in partnership with the Nigerian Institute of Town Planners and the Federal Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development, should conduct formal spatial audits of all registered IDP camps in the North Central zone, benchmarked against the Sphere Humanitarian Standards (2018) minimum of 3.5 m² covered living space per person. Camps failing to meet the minimum should be subject to a mandatory density reduction and upgrading programme within a fixed timeframe.

vii. **Application of CPTED Principles to IDP Camp Layout.** All future IDP settlements should be designed and evaluated using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles (Newman, 1972). This requires the zoning of residential areas, communal spaces, WASH facilities, and service points to maximise natural surveillance, territorial definition, and access control. Gender-responsive design — including adequately lit pathways, sex-segregated sanitation facilities, and dedicated female safe spaces — should be codified as a non-negotiable minimum standard.

viii. **Phased Upgrading of Emergency Shelter to Transitional Housing Standards.** Within a defined three-year timeline, all IDP shelters constructed of tarpaulins or salvaged materials in permanent camps should be progressively upgraded to transitional housing standards using locally available, climate-appropriate building materials. This phased upgrading approach, consistent with the TSR framework (Corsellis & Vitale, 2005), should be sequenced by vulnerability, prioritising female-headed households, households with elderly or disabled members, and those in flood-prone locations.

ix. **Mandatory WASH Master Planning for All Camp Sites.** Each IDP camp with a population of 500 or more should have a comprehensive WASH master plan developed by qualified engineers or public health planners, addressing water supply, latrine coverage, solid waste management, drainage, and vector control in conformity with Sphere Standards. Latrine ratios should meet or exceed the 1:20 sex-segregated minimum.

x. **Climate Hazard-Responsive Site Selection.** In alignment with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015–2030) and Nigeria's National Adaptation Plan, camp site selection criteria should formally exclude high-hazard zones, including flood-prone areas in Benue State. Camps currently located in such zones should be relocated through participatory processes that preserve social networks and service continuity.

5.3.3 Livelihood, Social, and Cross-Cutting Recommendations

xi. **Multi-Dimensional Livelihood Restoration Programming.** National and state governments, in partnership with the IOM and NGO community, should develop structured Livelihood Recovery Plans (LRPs) for all registered IDP camps, grounded in the SLF's five capital dimensions. LRPs should include vocational training aligned with local labour market needs, cash transfer programming to restore financial capital, land access facilitation for displaced farmers, and cooperative enterprise development to rebuild social capital networks (Ekezie, 2022; Salihu et al., 2024).

xii. **Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Integration.** The formal integration of psychosocial support services into all IDP camp management frameworks as core components is mandated by the high depression and PTSD prevalence documented by Adesina et al. (2024) and Edeh et al. (2023). Each camp should have at least one trained community mental health worker with referral pathways to state psychiatric facilities, and community-based Psychosocial Support (PSS) circles structured around gender and age should be established in partnership with WHO's mhGAP programme.

xiii. **Strengthening Educational Continuity for Displaced Children and Youth.** All IDP camps with 200 or more resident households should have an on-site Temporary Learning Centre staffed by qualified teachers aligned to the national Unified Basic Education curriculum. Accelerated learning programmes should be developed for out-of-school youth who have missed multiple years of formal education (Niyi-Gafar & Adelokun, 2022; Akinrolie et al., 2022).

xiv. **Climate Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Integration.** Settlement planning must incorporate climate adaptation measures: elevated foundations in flood-prone areas of Benue, reforestation buffers around peri-urban camps in Plateau, and heat-resilient building materials in the FCT. This aligns with the Sendai Framework and Nigeria's National Adaptation Plan.

xv. **Host Community Engagement and Social Cohesion Programming.** Governments and NGOs should invest in structured inter-group dialogue programmes

and joint infrastructure development initiatives (schools, health centres, boreholes) serving both IDPs and host communities. This dual-benefit approach, aligned with the World Bank's Social Cohesion and Reconciliation (SCORE) framework, has been empirically demonstrated to reduce inter-group tensions and accelerate integration in post-conflict settings across Sub-Saharan Africa (World Bank, 2022).

5.4 Limitations of the Study

First, the cross-sectional design of the survey precludes the establishment of causal directionality between independent and dependent variables. The regression analyses establish strong predictive associations, but the absence of longitudinal data means that dynamic changes in living conditions over time cannot be tracked.

Second, the security context in parts of Benue and Plateau States imposed access constraints on the research team, potentially resulting in the under-representation of the most severely displaced and isolated sub-populations. Camps located in active conflict zones were excluded from the sampling frame on safety grounds.

Third, the reliance on self-reported Likert-scale data for the assessment of welfare indicators is subject to social desirability bias. While the combination of quantitative surveys with FGDs and KIIs provides methodological triangulation, this limitation cannot be entirely eliminated (Podsakoff et al., 2003).

Fourth, the study was conducted primarily in formal and semi-formal IDP camps registered with NEMA or IOM. A significant number of displaced persons reside informally with host families or in spontaneous settlements, whose living conditions may differ substantially from those captured in this study (Crisp, 2017).

With respect to the official sub-sample specifically, four additional limitations apply. The ten-item Stakeholder Perception Scale did not achieve acceptable internal consistency among official respondents ($\alpha = 0.230$), indicating that the ten items measure more than one underlying construct. The official sample ($N = 90$) limits statistical power, particularly for the gender comparison. The primary education sub-group ($n = 2$) was too small for formal inferential analysis and was excluded. The official questionnaire instrument captured stakeholder and governance perceptions only, and did not separately measure officials' assessments of IDP living conditions or spatial camp design.

5.5 Suggestions for Further Research

i. Longitudinal Cohort Studies. A multi-year longitudinal study tracking the same cohort of IDP households would document the trajectory of living conditions over time, assess the cumulative impacts of specific interventions, and identify the structural tipping points at which temporary displacement becomes protracted and entrenched.

ii. Comparative International Studies. A systematic comparative study contrasting IDP settlement planning outcomes in Nigeria with analogous post-conflict

contexts such as South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Colombia, or the Kurdistan Region of Iraq would enable the identification of transferable best practices.

iii. Environmental Health and Epidemiological Research. Dedicated public health studies employing objective disease prevalence data, water quality testing, and nutritional anthropometry would complement the welfare indices generated here and provide a richer evidence base for health infrastructure investment.

iv. Gendered and Intersectional Analyses. Future research should extend the foundational work of Olanrewaju et al. (2018) and Ekoh et al. (2023) to encompass disabled IDPs, unaccompanied minors, and pregnant or lactating women, enabling the design of genuinely targeted humanitarian interventions.

v. GIS and Remote Sensing Applications. The application of satellite imagery, drone mapping, and GIS spatial analysis would enable objective, large-scale assessments of settlement morphology, population density, and hazard exposure across all registered IDP camps in the North Central zone.

vi. Rigorous Evaluation of Specific Policy Interventions. Impact evaluations of specific government and NGO programmes employing quasi-experimental designs such as difference-in-differences or regression discontinuity methodologies would generate the credible effectiveness evidence identified as a gap in the literature (Ani et al., 2022; Adesina et al., 2024).

5.6 Contribution to Knowledge

First, This study constitutes the most comprehensive, mixed-methods, planning-oriented assessment of IDP living conditions in North Central Nigeria to date. By demonstrating, through multiple regression and ANOVA, that the built environment accounts for the majority of variance in IDP living condition scores, it repositions IDP welfare as a fundamentally spatial and planning problem.

Second, The study generates original, disaggregated empirical data on 390 IDP households across three geopolitically and ecologically distinct study areas within a single comparative analytical framework. The finding that Plateau State IDPs record significantly superior living conditions to those in Benue (Mean Difference = 0.640, $p < 0.001$) constitutes new evidence for the state-level mediation of displacement outcomes in Nigeria.

Third, The study advances the application of the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework (DFID, 1999) in the Nigerian IDP context by quantitatively operationalising its physical capital component through regression-based welfare modelling, bridging a gap between conceptual frameworks and measurable policy outcomes.

Fourth, The study produces a set of fifteen evidence-based planning recommendations that integrate standards from the Sphere Humanitarian Standards (2018), the UNHCR Transitional Settlement and Reconstruction framework (Corsellis & Vitale, 2005), and CPTED principles into the Nigerian planning context.

Fifth, The study documents and quantifies, for the first time in the academic literature, the participatory exclusion of IDPs from camp governance decisions in North Central Nigeria (IDP Mean = 3.01; Official Mean = 2.76), establishing a measurable empirical baseline against which the impact of future participatory governance reforms can be assessed.

Sixth, The study generates a novel two-perspective governance analysis by directly comparing IDP beneficiary and official self-assessments of the same ten governance dimensions. The finding that officials rate governmental adequacy, policy effectiveness, transparency, and participatory inclusion more critically than IDPs — with a composite SPI of 2.881 for officials versus 3.196 for IDPs — constitutes an original contribution to the governance literature on IDP management, with implications for institutional accountability, performance monitoring, and humanitarian response auditing.

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APPENDIX I: RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Participant,

I am a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) candidate in Urban and Regional Planning at Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Nasarawa State, Nigeria. Thank you for agreeing to participate in this questionnaire. Your responses are of considerable value to my doctoral research on the Assessment of the Living Conditions of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in North Central Nigeria. All information provided will be treated with strict confidentiality and used solely for academic research purposes.

Section 1: Demographic and Socio-Economic Characteristics of Respondents

Gender: (a) Male () (b) Female ()

Age: (a) 18–24 () (b) 25–34 () (c) 35–44 () (d) 45–54 () (e) 55 and above ()

Marital Status: (a) Single () (b) Married () (c) Divorced () (d) Widowed ()

Highest Level of Education: (a) No formal education () (b) Primary () (c) Secondary () (d) Tertiary ()

Occupation Before Displacement: (a) Farming () (b) Trading () (c) Civil Servant () (d) Artisan () (e) Unemployed ()

How Long Have You Been Displaced? (a) Less than 6 months () (b) 6 months to 1 year () (c) 1–2 years () (d) More than 2 years ()

Where Were You Resident Before Displacement? (a) Benue State () (b) FCT () (c) Plateau State () (d) Other North Central State () (e) North-Eastern State () (f) North-Western State ()

Which IDP Camp Are You Currently Residing In? (a) Benue () (b) FCT () (c) Plateau ()

How Many Dependents Do You Currently Support? (a) None () (b) 1–3 () (c) 4–6 () (d) More than 6 ()

Approximate Monthly Income Before Displacement? (a) Less than ₦10,000 () (b) ₦10,000–₦20,000 () (c) ₦21,000–₦30,000 () (d) More than ₦30,000 ()

Current Primary Source of Income? (a) Aid/Relief () (b) Small-scale Business ()
(c) Farming () (d) No Income ()

Current Approximate Monthly Income? (a) Less than ₦10,000 () (b) ₦10,000–
₦20,000 () (c) ₦21,000–₦30,000 () (d) More than ₦30,000 ()

Section 2: Relationship Between Internal Displacement and Livelihood Patterns

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements regarding the causes of your displacement, using the scale: 1 = Strongly Disagree (SD), 2 = Disagree (D), 3 = Neutral (N), 4 = Agree (A), 5 = Strongly Agree (SA).

Cause of Displacement	1 (SD)	2 (D)	3 (N)	4 (A)	5 (SA)
Conflict between herders and farmers					
Religious conflicts					
Ethnic violence					
Political instability					
Natural disasters (e.g., flooding)					
Banditry and kidnapping					
Economic hardship					
Land disputes					
Government policies					
Social unrest and protests					

Section 2 Instrument — Causes of Displacement

Section 3: Effectiveness of Stakeholder Roles

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements, using the scale: 1 = Strongly Disagree (SD), 2 = Disagree (D), 3 = Neutral (N), 4 = Agree (A), 5 = Strongly Agree (SA).

Stakeholder Role Statement	1 (SD)	2 (D)	3 (N)	4 (A)	5 (SA)
Governmental support for IDPs is adequate					
NGOs provide sufficient assistance to IDPs					
Coordination between government and NGOs is effective					

Transparency in aid distribution is satisfactory					
Existing policies are supportive of IDP welfare					
NGOs respond promptly to IDP complaints					
The quality of services provided by NGOs is high					
Government interventions have improved IDP living conditions					
IDPs are included in decisions affecting their welfare					
The overall response to the IDP crisis has been adequate					

Section 3 Instrument — Stakeholder Role Effectiveness

Section 4: Challenges Faced by IDPs in Accessing Basic Services

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements, using the scale:

1 = Strongly Disagree (SD), 2 = Disagree (D), 3 = Neutral (N), 4 = Agree (A), 5 = Strongly Agree (SA).

Service Access Challenge	1 (SD)	2 (D)	3 (N)	4 (A)	5 (SA)
Difficulty accessing clean drinking water					
Insufficient medical services					
Irregular food distribution					
Inadequate educational facilities					
Lack of sanitation facilities					
Limited access to electricity					
Overcrowding in camps					
Transportation challenges					
Inadequate security					
Unresponsiveness of camp administration					

Section 4 Instrument — Service Access Challenges

Section 5: Spatial Design and Functionality of IDP Camps

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements, using the scale:

1 = Strongly Disagree (SD), 2 = Disagree (D), 3 = Neutral (N), 4 = Agree (A), 5 = Strongly Agree (SA).

Camp Design and Functionality Statement	1 (SD)	2 (D)	3 (N)	4 (A)	5 (SA)
The physical layout of the camp ensures safety					
The camp provides adequate shelter for all residents					
Communal facilities are functional and well-maintained					
The camp's location is accessible					
There is sufficient space to prevent overcrowding					
Environmental health measures are adequately implemented					
The camp infrastructure supports essential services					

Section 5 Instrument — Spatial Design and Functionality
End of Questionnaire — Thank you for your participation.

APPENDIX II: OPERATIONALISATION TABLE

Table A1 presents the operationalisation framework linking each research objective to its associated variables, sub-variables, data sources, sampling methods, data collection instruments, analytical techniques, and methods of data presentation employed in this study.

Objective	Variables	Sub-Variables / Indicators	Source of Data	Sampling Method	Data Collection Instrument	Analysis & Presentation
Objective 1: Internal displacement and livelihood patterns	Causes of displacement; effects on livelihoods	Political instability, ethnic/religious conflicts, natural disasters, economic hardship; changes in income, employment, social networks	Primary: IDP households; Secondary: NGO/govt reports	Stratified random sampling	Structured questionnaires; FGDs	Descriptive statistics (frequency, percentage, mean, SD); Tables
Objective 2: Effectiveness of regulatory frameworks and stakeholder roles	Stakeholder effectiveness; regulatory framework performance	Government policy implementation, NGO interventions, community-based support, coordination, transparency, inclusion in decision-making	Primary: Government officials, NGOs, IDP households; Secondary: Policy documents, NGO reports	Purposive (officials); Stratified (IDPs)	Structured questionnaires; KIIs; document review	Descriptive statistics; Likert mean ranking; Tables
Objective 3: Challenges in accessing essential services	Access to essential services	Accessibility, affordability, and availability of healthcare, education, water, sanitation, electricity, and security	Primary: IDP households, service providers; Secondary: NGO/agency reports	Stratified random sampling	Structured questionnaires; FGDs	Descriptive statistics; Likert mean ranking; Tables and bar charts
Objective 4: Spatial design, housing adequacy, and overcrowding	Physical components and spatial design of IDP camps	Camp layout, shelter quality, infrastructure, safety, communal facilities, density and overcrowding	Primary: IDP households, camp managers, NGOs; Secondary: Field photographs	Stratified (IDPs); Purposive (camp managers/NGOs)	Structured questionnaires; direct field observation; photographic documentation	Multiple Linear Regression; One-Way ANOVA; Post-Hoc Tukey HSD; Tables, plates, and maps

Table A1: Operationalisation of Research Objectives, Variables, and Methods
Source: Author's Compilation, 2025.

APPENDIX III: OFFICIAL SUB-SAMPLE SPSS OUTPUT

TABLES

The following tables present the full SPSS-equivalent output for the reliability analysis and inferential tests reported in Section 4.5. They are cross-referenced from the main text.

Table A2: Inter-Item Correlation Matrix — 10-Item Stakeholder Perception Scale (N = 90)

Note: Yellow shading in the original SPSS output denotes negative inter-item correlations. The mean cross-cluster correlation between the two empirical item clusters is $r = -0.405$ (range: -0.847 to $+0.099$), explaining the near-zero overall Cronbach's alpha ($\alpha = 0.230$).

	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
R1	1.000	0.226	0.019	0.325	-0.368	0.116	0.085	0.099	0.237	-0.148
R2	0.226	1.000	-0.312	0.616	0.484	0.730	-0.378	-0.394	0.683	-0.675
R3	0.019	-0.312	1.000	-0.210	-0.277	-0.268	0.582	0.296	-0.343	0.236
R4	0.325	0.616	-0.210	1.000	0.479	0.898	-0.373	-0.463	0.953	-0.752
R5	-0.368	0.484	-0.277	0.479	1.000	0.699	-0.392	-0.712	0.543	-0.501
R6	0.116	0.730	-0.268	0.898	0.699	1.000	-0.458	-0.569	0.929	-0.844
R7	0.085	-0.378	0.582	-0.373	-0.392	-0.458	1.000	0.486	-0.525	0.442
R8	0.099	-0.394	0.296	-0.463	-0.712	-0.569	0.486	1.000	-0.482	0.350
R9	0.237	0.683	-0.343	0.953	0.543	0.929	-0.525	-0.482	1.000	-0.847
R10	-0.148	-0.675	0.236	-0.752	-0.501	-0.844	0.442	0.350	-0.847	1.000

Table A2: Inter-Item Correlation Matrix — 10-Item Stakeholder Perception Scale (N = 90)

Source: Author's Analysis, 2025. Light blue = diagonal ($r = 1.000$). Yellow = negative correlations. Cronbach's $\alpha = 0.230$.

**Table A3: Governance Items Ranked by Descending Official Mean
(Supplementary View)**

This table presents the same ten items ranked by descending official mean, in the style of Table 4.11 from Chapter Four. It is provided as a supplementary reference view; the primary analysis in Section 4.5 uses original administration order.

Rank	Item	Officials Mean	Officials SD	IDP Mean	Remark (Officials)
1	Quality of services provided by NGOs	3.36	0.84	3.43	Accepted
2	NGOs respond to IDP complaints	3.26	1.09	3.36	Accepted
3	NGOs provide sufficient assistance to IDPs	3.11	0.80	3.36	Accepted
4	Overall response to the IDP crisis	3.03	0.76	3.18	Accepted
5	Government interventions improve IDP living conditions	2.97	1.02	3.14	Accepted
6	Coordination between government and NGOs effective	2.94	1.15	3.15	Accepted
7	Policies supportive of IDP welfare	2.79	1.14	3.23	Rejected
8	Inclusion of IDPs in decision-making	2.76	1.41	3.01	Rejected
9	Transparency in aid distribution	2.61	1.02	3.04	Rejected
10	Governmental support for IDPs is adequate	1.99	1.00	3.06	Rejected

Table A3: Ten Governance/Stakeholder Items Ranked by Descending Official Mean (Supplementary View). N = 90 officials.

Source: Author's Analysis, 2025. Decision criterion: Mean ≥ 3.00 = Accepted.