Nexus between Climate Change, Conflict and Human Security in Nigeria

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Abstract
This paper delves into the intricate relationship between climate change, conflict, human security, and displacement in Nigeria, shedding light on the key drivers, impacts, and policy responses to this nexus. Climate change fuels conflict, weakens human security, and displaces people in Nigeria. This country's diverse environment and large population make it particularly vulnerable. Changing rainfall patterns and land degradation worsen existing social problems and trigger fights over resources. When people are forced to move due to climate change, tensions rise, and those already struggling, like farmers and herders, are hit hardest. Climate change acts as a "threat multiplier" by intensifying existing problems, especially where governance is weak and livelihoods depend on resources. Nigeria has policies like its National Climate Change Policy to address this, but challenges remain. Implementing policies, building capacity, and involving stakeholders are all hurdles. Collaboration and stronger governance are needed. Understanding these connections is crucial for effective policy responses, building resilience, and achieving sustainable development. By integrating environmental sustainability, conflict prevention, and human security into policies and practices, Nigeria can lessen climate change's impact, promote peace, and create a more prosperous future for its citizens. Future research should explore the lived experiences of those affected by these challenges.

Keywords:
Climate Change, Conflict, Human Security, Displacement, Community Resilience

Introduction
Climate change has become an urgent global challenge in the 21st century, attracting significant attention due to its profound effects on human security, conflict dynamics, and patterns of displacement worldwide. Its prominence in international politics reflects the recognition of climate change as a primary environmental and developmental threat. The adverse impacts of climate change, including disruptions to agricultural production, food insecurity, adverse effects on human health, and changes in migration patterns, are increasingly evident across various regions.

In Nigeria, a country with diverse ecosystems and a large population vulnerable to climate impacts, the intersection of climate change, conflict, human security, and displacement presents complex challenges. Climate-related hazards such as droughts and desertification in the North, and floods in the South, exacerbate existing vulnerabilities, leading to resource scarcity, disruption of livelihoods, and social tensions.

The swift emergence of climate change in recent years poses a significant public health challenge, particularly in low-income countries, where poverty, inequity, and both communicable and non-communicable diseases intersect. The poorest nations are expected to bear the brunt of climate change consequences, despite contributing less to emissions.

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Environmental stressors, compounded by socio-economic inequalities, governance deficits, and ethno-religious tensions, can escalate conflicts, insecurity, and displacement within Nigeria. Understanding the interconnections between climate change, conflict, human security, and displacement is essential for devising effective policy responses, enhancing resilience, and promoting sustainable development.

While there is growing recognition of the linkages between climate change, conflict, human security, and displacement, understanding the specific dynamics of this nexus in Nigeria remains a challenge. Existing research often overlooks the complex interplay of environmental, socio-economic, and political factors shaping patterns of conflict and displacement in the country.

Moreover, there is limited empirical evidence and theoretical frameworks systematically analyzing the causal mechanisms, pathways, and feedback loops linking climate change impacts to conflict dynamics and displacement patterns in Nigeria. This knowledge gap impedes the development of contextually relevant strategies to mitigate risks, address vulnerabilities, and build resilience among affected populations. Recent studies underscore the need for Nigeria to address the impacts of changing climate across various sectors, including agriculture, forestry, energy, water resources, and coastal areas.

In light of these challenges, this paper aims to explore the interconnected relationship between climate change, conflict, human security, and displacement in Nigeria, identify key drivers and mechanisms through which climate change contributes to conflict and displacement, assess the impacts of climate-induced conflict and displacement on human security, and evaluate existing policy frameworks and initiatives aimed at addressing this nexus.

Literature review on the nexus between climate change, conflict, and human security

Studies Salihu (2020) have emphasised how environmental pressures, including alterations in rainfall patterns and land deterioration, can worsen existing socio-economic gaps and provoke disputes over natural resources in Nigeria. Additionally, research, Anthonia, Bello, Oliatan, and Macaulay (2021), has shown how climate-induced displacement can heighten social tensions and compromise human security, especially among vulnerable groups like farmers, herders, and marginalised communities.

A number of experts have investigated the effects of Nigeria's changing climate on various sectors of the economy. Okon, Falana, Solaja, Yakubu, Alabi, Okikiola and Edeme (2021) caution that the impacts of global warming and climate change in Nigeria are currently a cause for concern among individuals, institutions, businesses, governments, environmentalists, trade organisations, and policymakers. They observe that climate change effects in the country often manifest as shifts in weather patterns, including unusual heavy rainfall, unexpected temperature rises, leading to significant changes in different parts of the nation, such as rising sea levels in coastal areas and an increase in extreme weather events.

Sweijs, De Haan and Van Manen (2022) disclosed climate change's role as a threat that increase pre-existing vulnerabilities and tensions, especially in regions with weak governance structures and livelihoods dependent on natural resources. Additionally, Regan and Kim (2020) emphasise the links between environmental pressures, resource scarcity, and violent conflict. Competition for water, land, and other natural resources frequently acts as a trigger for communal clashes, conflicts between farmers and herders, and ethno-religious violence in Nigeria.

Regarding the nexus between climate change, conflict and human security in Nigeria, scholars such as Mwanzia (2024) and Felli (2017) stress the negative effects of climate-induced displacement on individuals' well-being, livelihoods, and social cohesion. Vulnerable populations are at increased risk of conflict, poverty, food insecurity, and marginalisation due to displacement caused by climate change.

Interconnection between Climate Change and Conflict in Nigeria

Climate change and conflict represent intertwined global challenges that profoundly affect the socio-economic and environmental fabric of nations worldwide, including Nigeria. Climate factors can influence both individual and group conflicts. At the individual level, climatic conditions like extreme temperatures can heighten aggression and violent behaviour by impacting individuals' thoughts, emotions, and irritability (Ide et al., 2020)**.** There is consensus that climate change could reinforce existing conflict patterns, particularly in already fragile regions or those with ethnic divisions (Burke et al., (2015). In Nigeria, climate change exacerbates environmental stressors such as extreme weather events, droughts, floods, and desertification, disrupting ecosystems and depleting natural resources. These challenges contribute to resource scarcity, livelihood loss, and socio-economic vulnerabilities, particularly in rural areas reliant on agriculture and natural resource extraction for survival. Competition for dwindling resources often escalates into conflicts over land, water, and grazing rights, especially between sedentary farmers and nomadic herders (Ekanem, 2022). Additionally, climate-induced displacement and migration exacerbate social tensions and intercommunal conflicts as displaced populations vie for scarce resources and face discrimination and marginalization in host communities.

A growing body of research Behnassi, Gupta, Kruidbos and Parlow (2022) analyses the interplay between climate extremes and conflict dynamics, focusing on the social, political, and economic consequences that can destabilize and reshape societies. The impacts of climate-induced conflict in Nigeria extend beyond immediate casualties and physical destruction (Fayomi, Adigun, Bako, & Bamidele-Ifedayo, 2021). Conflict undermines human security, disrupts social cohesion, and impedes economic development, perpetuating cycles of poverty, inequality, and instability. Displacement, whether internal or cross-border, exacerbates vulnerability and marginalization among affected populations, hindering access to basic needs such as food, water, shelter, healthcare, and education. Moreover, conflicts over natural resources impede sustainable development efforts, obstruct investments in infrastructure and social services, and hinder peace and reconciliation initiatives.

Addressing the nexus between climate change and conflict in Nigeria requires comprehensive and multidimensional approaches that integrate environmental sustainability, conflict prevention, and human security considerations into policy and practice. This entails investments in climate resilience, disaster risk reduction, conflict resolution mechanisms, peacebuilding initiatives, and sustainable development strategies prioritizing the needs and rights of affected populations. Furthermore, fostering collaboration, dialogue, and cooperation among stakeholders at local, national, and regional levels is vital for enhancing resilience, promoting peace, and advancing sustainable development amid climate-induced challenges. The relationship between climate change and conflict in Nigeria highlights the interconnected nature of environmental, social, economic, and political challenges facing the country. Integrated and context-specific policy responses and adaptation strategies prioritizing environmental sustainability, conflict prevention, and human security considerations are necessary to mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change, promote peace, and foster sustainable development for the well-being and prosperity of Nigerian citizens.

Nexus between Climate Change and Human Security

Climate change is acknowledged globally as a significant menace to human security, amplifying preexisting vulnerabilities and exposing populations to a spectrum of environmental, social, economic, and political hazards. Human security, primarily concerned with safeguarding individuals, faces substantial threats from violent conflicts, especially those occurring within states, due to their extensive and devastating repercussions. Factors such as a nation's historical background, the characteristics of its leaders, and involvement of external actors contribute significantly to conflict emergence (Lautensach & Lautensach, 2020).

The challenges posed by climate change to human security are multifaceted, encompassing various dimensions including food security, water scarcity, health risks, displacement, and conflict (IPCC, 2014). Increasing temperatures, alterations in precipitation patterns, and extreme weather events disrupt agricultural output, resulting in crop failures, food scarcities, and malnutrition, particularly impacting vulnerable communities (Watts et al., 2018). Scarce water resources intensify competition, leading to heightened tensions and conflicts over access to clean water for drinking, sanitation, and irrigation (Homer-Dixon, 2014). Climate-induced disasters such as floods, storms, and heatwaves pose substantial health risks, causing injuries, diseases, and fatalities while straining healthcare infrastructures (WHO, 2018). Additionally, climate-related displacement and migration exacerbate social tensions, augment vulnerability to exploitation and trafficking, and disrupt social networks and community cohesion, further undermining human security (UNHCR, 2018).

Developing nations, particularly those experiencing ongoing conflicts, are among the most susceptible to climate change and seasonal climate variations (Thalheimer & Webersik, 2020). Societies residing in areas afflicted by violence and conflict face heightened vulnerability to the physical impacts of climate change, although the severity of these impacts varies across geographical and climatic regions (Adger et al., 2014).

Figure 1. What factors contribute to Human Security Source: Vaeenma (2020).

Climate change has a disproportionate impact on vulnerable groups, including women, children, the elderly, indigenous communities, and marginalized populations, exacerbating preexisting inequalities and disparities (O'Brien et al., 2006). Socio-economic factors such as poverty, limited access to education, healthcare, and social services, and inadequate infrastructure amplify the effects of climate change on human security, reducing the ability of affected populations to adapt and withstand adverse impacts (Adger et al., 2009). Additionally, governance deficiencies, political instability, and conflicts further heighten vulnerability to climate impacts, impeding effective responses and adaptation efforts.

Efforts to address the intersection of climate change and human security necessitate integrated and tailored policy responses and adaptation strategies that prioritize the needs and rights of affected populations (UNDP, 2019). This includes investments in climate resilience, disaster risk reduction, social protection, and sustainable development initiatives that promote inclusive governance, equitable resource distribution, and community-driven adaptation measures (UNEP, 2020). Furthermore, fostering collaboration, dialogue, and cooperation among stakeholders at local, national, and international levels

is crucial for building resilience, fostering peace, and advancing sustainable development in the face of climate-induced challenges (IPCC, 2018).

The relationship between climate change and human security is intricate and wide-ranging, with significant implications for the well-being, livelihoods, and stability of populations worldwide. Climate change exacerbates existing vulnerabilities and exposes communities to various environmental, social, economic, and political risks, thereby undermining human security. Addressing this nexus requires comprehensive and multidimensional approaches that prioritize environmental sustainability, social equity, and inclusive governance principles. Through a holistic and proactive approach, policymakers can mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change, enhance resilience, and safeguard human security for both current and future generations.

Understanding the Linkages between Climate Change and Displacement in Nigeria

Climate change is increasingly acknowledged as a significant catalyst for displacement, with profound ramifications for the welfare and livelihoods of affected communities. Nigeria, akin to numerous other nations, grapples with the intricate issue of climate-induced displacement, as environmental pressures exacerbate existing vulnerabilities and contribute to compelled migration. The determinants of human mobility concerning climate change are intricate and interconnected. The Foresight Report (Black et al., 2011) depicted human mobility as a multifaceted phenomenon influenced by various political, demographic, and socioeconomic factors shaping migration decisions (Thalheimer & Webersik, 2020). While directly attributing displacement solely to climate change can be complex, there's strong evidence linking it to environmental pressures in Nigeria. According to Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) (2024), internal displacement figures in Nigeria due to various factors, including disasters linked to climate change in 2020, are over 129,000 people, forcing many to move. Similarly, International Organization for Migration IOM (2021), revealed that in the Chad Basin, 7% of displaced Nigerians cited reasons directly linked to climate change, such as droughts.

Climate change amplifies environmental pressures such as severe weather conditions, droughts, floods, and desertification in Nigeria, resulting in livelihood losses, property damage, and disruption of ecosystems (Adeniyi & Fasona, 2020). These environmental adversities disproportionately impact vulnerable communities, particularly those residing in coastal areas, arid regions, and flood-prone zones, where reliance on natural resources is high for sustenance (Adelekan et al., 2015). Furthermore, conflicts over scarce resources like land, water, and grazing rights exacerbate displacement drivers, compelling communities to flee due to violence, insecurity, and social unrest (Ajiboye & Azeez, 2021).

Climate-induced displacement exerts far-reaching effects on affected populations, spanning social, economic, health, and security dimensions (Olaniyan & Akinbode, 2019). Displaced individuals encounter difficulties accessing fundamental necessities such as food, water, shelter, healthcare, and education as they abandon their homes, lands, and livelihoods (Adeniyi & Fasona, 2020). Moreover, displacement disrupts social ties, community cohesion, and cultural identities, heightening vulnerability, marginalization, and psychological stress among affected groups (Omilusi et al., 2017). Additionally, displacement exacerbates poverty, inequality, and gender disparities, with women, children, and marginalized segments bearing disproportionate impacts and facing elevated risks of exploitation, abuse, and trafficking (Adelekan et al., 2015).

Addressing the interplay between climate change and displacement in Nigeria demands integrated and tailored policy responses and adaptation strategies that uphold the needs and rights of affected populations (Federal Ministry of Environment, 2012). This encompasses investments in climate resilience, disaster risk reduction, social protection, and sustainable development initiatives that foster inclusive governance, equitable resource distribution, and community-led adaptation measures (UNDP Nigeria, 2020). Moreover, nurturing collaboration, dialogue, and cooperation among stakeholders at

local, national, and international levels is imperative for bolstering resilience, fostering peace, and advancing sustainable development amid climate-induced displacement (Ajiboye & Azeez, 2021).

The relationship between climate change and displacement in Nigeria underscores the interconnected nature of environmental, social, economic, and political challenges confronting the nation. Climate-induced environmental pressures exacerbate existing vulnerabilities and contribute to forced migration as communities are uprooted from their habitats and lands due to environmental degradation, resource disputes, and natural calamities. Tackling this nexus demands integrated and multidimensional strategies that champion environmental sustainability, social equity, and inclusive governance principles. By embracing a comprehensive and proactive approach, policymakers can alleviate the adverse impacts of climate change, fortify resilience, and foster sustainable development for both present and future generations.

key drivers and mechanisms through which climate change contributes to conflict and displacement in Nigeria

Climate change presents notable hurdles to human security and stability globally, amplifying current vulnerabilities and socio-economic inequalities. In Nigeria, a nation contending with diverse social, political, and environmental strains, the effects of climate change are especially conspicuous, as explored in the following section.

Environmental Pressures and Resource Scarcity: Climate change-induced environmental pressures, such as extreme weather occurrences, droughts, and floods, directly and indirectly affect natural resources and livelihoods in Nigeria (Ajiboye & Azeez, 2021). Irregular rainfall patterns and prolonged droughts disrupt agricultural operations, resulting in crop failures, food insecurity, and diminished income for farming communities (Oyebamiji & Ajibade, 2020). With intensified competition for limited resources, disputes over land, water, and grazing territories escalate, particularly among settled farmers and nomadic herders (Olaniyan & Akinbode, 2019). These resource-driven conflicts frequently escalate into violent confrontations, heightening societal tensions and displacing vulnerable populations from their residences and lands (Adeniyi & Fasona, 2020).

Social and Economic Inequalities: Climate change exacerbates pre-existing social and economic disparities in Nigeria, further increasing susceptibility to conflict and displacement (Ajiboye & Azeez, 2021). Marginalised groups, such as small-scale farmers, herders, and indigenous communities, bear a disproportionate brunt of climate impacts due to limited resource access, deficient infrastructure, and adaptive capability (Oyebamiji & Ajibade, 2020). As climate-induced shocks disrupt livelihoods and deplete coping mechanisms, these communities become more vulnerable to social unrest and violence, resulting in internal displacement and forced migration (Olaniyan & Akinbode, 2019).

Political Unrest and Governance Difficulties: The correlation between climate change, conflict, and displacement in Nigeria is further compounded by underlying political instability and governance obstacles (Adeniyi & Fasona, 2020). Weak institutional capacity, corruption, and ineffective governance worsen the impacts of climate change and impede the adoption of adaptive measures and conflict resolution strategies (Ajiboye & Azeez, 2021). In areas where state authority is feeble or contested, environmental pressures can exacerbate existing grievances and power struggles, fuelling armed conflicts and displacing civilian populations (Olaniyan & Akinbode, 2019).

Impacts of climate-induced conflict and displacement on human security

Climate-induced conflict and displacement significantly affect human security, spanning various economic, social, political, and environmental aspects.

Food Insecurity and Nutrition: Climate-induced conflict and displacement disrupt agricultural activities, resulting in crop failures, livelihood losses, and food insecurity among affected populations

(Davenport et al., 2017). Addressing the intersection of changing climate and global food security requires a comprehensive approach involving evidence-based strategies, policy formulation, and collaborative efforts (Raimi, Vivien, & Oluwatoyin, 2021). Overcoming food insecurity amidst climate change entails not only enhancing food provision but also implementing multi-stakeholder policies to promote sustainable food ecosystems and improve the livelihoods of vulnerable populations.

Livelihood Disruption and Economic Instability: Displacement and conflict disrupt local economies and livelihoods, leading to income loss, asset depletion, and diminished productive resources (Black et al., 2011). Displaced individuals encounter obstacles in accessing employment, education, and social integration, exacerbating poverty and economic instability (Foresight, 2017). Economic insecurity undermines human security by limiting access to essentials, increasing vulnerability to exploitation, and fostering social tensions within host communities (Balbo et al., 2019).

Social Cohesion and Community Resilience: Climate-induced conflict and displacement strain social cohesion and community resilience, resulting in trust breakdowns, cooperation challenges, and weakened support networks (Nordås & Gleditsch, 2007). Displaced populations often face discrimination, marginalization, and social exclusion, intensifying divisions and identity-based tensions within host communities (Koser, 2010). Social insecurity erodes human security by undermining social capital, exacerbating inequalities, and impeding collective efforts towards peacebuilding and reconciliation (De Bruijn & Van Dijk, 2012).

Climate Change and Social Dislocation: The effects of climate change are causing social disruption, economic decline, and population displacement in some areas (Raimi, Vivien, & Oluwatoyin, 2021). Large-scale migration is anticipated in response to droughts, floods, and other natural disasters. Coastal regions are particularly vulnerable to rising sea levels and flooding, with estimates suggesting significant land loss and population displacement in places like Bangladesh.

Health Risks and Vulnerability: Climate-induced conflict and displacement heighten vulnerability to health risks and diseases, including infectious diseases, mental health disorders, and maternal and child health issues (Fussell et al., 2014). Displaced populations often lack adequate access to healthcare services, clean water, and sanitation facilities, exacerbating health disparities and mortality rates (Schwerdtle et al., 2016). Health insecurity compromises human security by undermining physical and mental well-being, limiting healthcare access, and perpetuating poverty and vulnerability cycles within affected populations.

Climate-induced conflict and displacement have extensive ramifications for human security, encompassing a range of economic, social, political, and environmental dimensions. Food insecurity, livelihood disruption, social cohesion challenges, and health risks pose significant obstacles to meeting basic needs, safeguarding fundamental rights, and fostering resilient livelihoods. Addressing these impacts necessitates holistic approaches that prioritise the needs and rights of affected populations, promote inclusive governance, and foster sustainable development pathways.

Policy frameworks and initiatives aimed at addressing the nexus between climate change, conflict, human security, and displacement in Nigeria

Policy frameworks and initiatives are pivotal in tackling the intersection of climate change, conflict, human security, and displacement in Nigeria. According to Michel (2021), effectively managing the intricate security risks associated with climate pressures and environmental degradation demands the integration of multiple policy tools and institutions. This discussion examines key policy approaches and initiatives aimed at alleviating the adverse impacts of this nexus, drawing upon empirical evidence and scholarly literature to illuminate the challenges, opportunities, and best practices in policy responses.

National Climate Change Policy: Nigeria boasts several crucial sector-specific policies in areas such as environment, agriculture, forestry, health, water resources, transport, ICT, and communication, all of

which significantly influence response policies and strategies amidst changing climate conditions (Raimi, Vivien, & Oluwatoyin, 2021). Nigeria's National Climate Change Policy furnishes a comprehensive framework for addressing climate change impacts across various sectors, including conflict prevention, human security, and displacement (Federal Ministry of Environment, 2012). The policy underscores the necessity for integrated and cross-sectoral approaches to climate adaptation and mitigation, advocating for resilience-building measures, sustainable development strategies, and community-based adaptation initiatives (Adelekan et al., 2015). Nonetheless, effective policy implementation encounters hurdles due to institutional capacity limitations, resource constraints, and competing policy priorities.

Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies: Disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies are pivotal in bolstering resilience to climate-induced disasters and reducing vulnerability to displacement and conflict in Nigeria (NEMA, 2010). The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) spearheads efforts to develop and implement DRR policies and programmes, encompassing early warning systems, disaster preparedness measures, and community-based resilience-building initiatives. However, deficiencies in coordination, funding, and stakeholder engagement impede the efficacy of DRR endeavours, underscoring the necessity for enhanced collaboration and capacity-building across all levels of governance.

Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding: Conflict prevention and peacebuilding initiatives are indispensable for tackling the underlying drivers of conflict and displacement exacerbated by climate change in Nigeria (Omilusi et al., 2017). The National Peacebuilding Commission (NPBC) coordinates efforts to foster dialogue, reconciliation, and conflict resolution in conflict-affected regions, concentrating on addressing root causes, fostering social cohesion, and promoting inclusive governance (Adeleye & Fajobi, 2019). However, challenges in implementing peace agreements, addressing grievances, and ensuring community participation present obstacles to sustainable peacebuilding efforts (Udeh, 2020).

Sustainable Development Strategies: Sustainable development strategies are integral to confronting the interconnected challenges of climate change, conflict, human security, and displacement in Nigeria (UNDP Nigeria, 2020). The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) furnish a holistic framework for advancing social, economic, and environmental progress whilst promoting peace, justice, and inclusive governance (UNDP Nigeria, 2020). Endeavours to mainstream climate resilience, conflict sensitivity, and human security considerations into development planning and programming are crucial for achieving sustainable development outcomes and mitigating vulnerability to climate-induced displacement and conflict (Olaniyan & Kassim, 2018).

Policy frameworks and initiatives directed at addressing the nexus between climate change, conflict, human security, and displacement in Nigeria are instrumental in bolstering resilience, fostering peace, and promoting sustainable development. National climate change policies, disaster risk reduction strategies, conflict prevention and peacebuilding initiatives, and sustainable development strategies offer vital avenues for integrated and coordinated action. Nevertheless, effective policy implementation, stakeholder engagement, and capacity-building are imperative for translating policy commitments into tangible outcomes and fortifying resilience against the intricate challenges posed by climate change and conflict in Nigeria.

Conclusion

The intricate relationship between climate change, conflict, human security, and displacement in Nigeria is complex and specific to the context, as elucidated in this study. Climate change impacts, such as severe weather events and environmental degradation, exacerbate existing vulnerabilities and tensions in Nigeria, resulting in competition over limited resources, disputes over land and water, and localized conflicts between various communities, ethnic groups, and herders and farmers across Nigeria, particularly prevalent in the North and South West regions.

These conflicts have profound implications for human security, disrupting livelihoods, fracturing social cohesion, and intensifying poverty and food insecurity among affected populations. Furthermore, climate-induced displacement introduces an additional layer of complexity, stretching resources, intensifying social tensions, and adding pressure on already fragile governance systems and humanitarian responses.

Addressing the interconnectedness of climate change, conflict, human security, and displacement in Nigeria demands a comprehensive and integrated approach that tackles underlying causes, promotes adaptation strategies sensitive to conflict, enhances governance and institutional capacity, and encourages community resilience and peacebuilding initiatives. By addressing the root causes of vulnerability and conflict, Nigeria can better mitigate risks, safeguard human security, and foster sustainable development amidst climate change. Therefore, further studies should explore the perspectives of the population experiencing these challenges.

Climate change plays a role in sparking conflict and displacement in Nigeria through a multifaceted interaction of environmental, social, economic, and political factors. The strain on resources and environmental pressures intensifies existing disputes over land, water, and grazing areas, sparking violent confrontations between farmers and herders and resulting in the displacement of vulnerable communities. Additionally, socio-economic inequalities and political instability magnify the effects of climate change, heightening vulnerability and impeding effective responses and adaptation measures.

Addressing the underlying causes of climate-induced conflict and displacement in Nigeria requires comprehensive and diverse approaches. These should incorporate principles of environmental sustainability, social equity, and inclusive governance into policies and practical interventions.

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