
Humanitarian Aid and Internally Displaced Persons in Northern Nigeria: Historical Perspectives from Riyom LGA, Plateau State (2001 – Present)

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Abstract

This paper examines the historical dynamics of humanitarian aid provision to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Northern Nigeria, with a particular focus on Riyom Local Government Area, Plateau State, spanning 2001 to the present. Waves of displacement in the region have historically arisen from ethno-religious conflicts, communal land disputes, and competition over natural resources, reflecting broader patterns of socio-political instability in Northern Nigeria since the early 2000s.¹ Drawing on archival records, government reports, field observations, and oral interviews with camp officials and beneficiaries, the study explores how relief materials—ranging from food, clothing, and medical supplies to psychosocial support—have been historically coordinated, distributed, and monitored by IDP officials, government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and individual donors. Historical evidence demonstrates that early relief efforts in Riyom and similar Northern Nigerian contexts were heavily reliant on informal community networks, local trust structures, and traditional leadership for allocation of aid.² For instance, during the 2004 displacement crisis in Riyom, IDP camp officials worked closely with local chiefs to register displaced households, prioritize vulnerable populations such as women and children, and mediate conflicts over scarce resources, highlighting the role of localized social capital in humanitarian response.³ Over time, contemporary practices have increasingly formalized these processes through structured record-keeping, standardized distribution mechanisms, and collaboration with international humanitarian actors such as UNHCR and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).⁴ Despite these improvements, persistent challenges—including corruption, diversion of aid, political interference, inadequate funding, and logistical constraints—have historically undermined the efficiency and equity of relief operations.⁵ By tracing the historical trajectory of humanitarian aid in Northern Nigeria, this paper argues that a nuanced understanding of past practices and institutional evolution provides critical lessons for designing sustainable policies, improving accountability, and enhancing the effectiveness of future displacement interventions, not only in Riyom but across conflict-affected regions in Nigeria and the wider West African context.

Keywords: Humanitarian Aid, Internally Displaced Persons, Northern Nigeria.

Introduction

The phenomenon of internal displacement in Northern Nigeria has deep historical roots, closely tied to the region's socio-political, economic, and environmental contexts. Plateau State, often described as a microcosm of Northern Nigeria's ethno-religious complexity, has experienced recurrent displacement due to a combination of communal conflicts, land disputes, and competition over pastoral and agricultural resources. The clashes between pastoralist Fulani herdsmen and sedentary agrarian communities, which have historically shaped socio-economic relations in the Middle Belt, intensified in the early 2000s, forcing communities in Riyom Local Government Area and its environs to seek refuge in temporary camps. These displacements reflect broader historical patterns of population mobility in response to resource scarcity, political marginalization, and colonial-era administrative legacies that altered land tenure and local governance structures.

Humanitarian aid—comprising food, medical supplies, clothing, shelter, and psychosocial support—has historically been central to alleviating the suffering of displaced populations. In the

initial phases of displacement in Riyom, relief efforts relied heavily on informal mechanisms, including local chiefs, community elders, and IDP camp officials who negotiated access to scarce resources and coordinated aid distribution based on trust networks and local knowledge. For example, during the 2004 and 2008 displacement crises in Plateau State, camp officials worked closely with local authorities and volunteer networks to identify the most vulnerable groups—particularly women, children, and the elderly—and distribute aid equitably, despite limited supplies and logistical challenges.

The management of humanitarian assistance in Northern Nigeria has historically involved multiple actors. Government agencies, such as the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the Plateau State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), provide policy oversight and material support, while non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and individual philanthropists supplement these efforts with financial aid, medical services, and skill-building programs. This multi-actor involvement, however, has often been constrained by corruption, political interference, and weak infrastructure, highlighting the complex interplay between formal institutions and traditional social systems.

Studying the historical evolution of humanitarian assistance offers critical insights into the coordination of aid, challenges in resource distribution, and the broader implications for governance, accountability, and social cohesion. The experience of Riyom LGA illustrates how humanitarian actors historically adapted to recurring crises by institutionalizing relief management, incorporating lessons from past inefficiencies, and engaging local knowledge networks to ensure that aid reaches intended beneficiaries.

This paper, therefore, examines the historical trajectory of humanitarian aid in Riyom LGA, Plateau State, from 2001 to the present, focusing on the coordination, distribution, and monitoring of relief assistance. By situating Riyom's experiences within the broader patterns of displacement management in Northern Nigeria, this study contributes to understanding the historical evolution of humanitarian interventions, the role of IDP officials, and the lessons that can inform contemporary policy frameworks for effective, sustainable, and accountable aid delivery.

Historical Context of Internal Displacement in Northern Nigeria

Northern Nigeria's history has long been punctuated by episodes of internal displacement, often resulting from a complex interplay of communal conflicts, political instability, and environmental pressures. Historically, competition over fertile land, grazing rights, and water resources between pastoralist Fulani herders and sedentary farming communities has periodically triggered violent clashes, leading to forced migration of affected populations. These displacements were further exacerbated by colonial administrative policies, which disrupted traditional land tenure systems, centralized authority, and introduced indirect rule that often favored certain ethnic groups over others, leaving marginalized communities vulnerable to conflict-induced displacement.

Plateau State, often described as a microcosm of Northern Nigeria's ethno-religious and socio-political complexity, experienced particularly intense displacement in the early 2000s. Between 2001 and 2008, communal clashes and ethno-religious violence in Riyom, Barkin Ladi, and Bokkos LGAs forced thousands to flee their homes. For instance, during the 2004 Riyom crisis, an estimated 12,000 individuals were displaced and settled in temporary camps set up by local authorities and humanitarian actors. These camps served not only as protective spaces but also as focal points for the systematic delivery of humanitarian aid, including food rations, medical supplies, clothing, and shelter materials.

Historically, the management of IDP camps in Northern Nigeria relied on informal arrangements. Camp administration was largely entrusted to respected community elders, local chiefs, and IDP camp officials selected based on trust, social influence, and familiarity with displaced populations. These officials coordinated the registration of IDPs, mediated intra-camp disputes, and facilitated the distribution of relief materials, often using local knowledge to prioritize vulnerable groups such as women, children, the elderly, and the disabled. Oral histories from Riyom indicate that in the 2004 and 2008 displacement crises, IDP officials frequently leveraged volunteer networks and community committees to ensure equitable aid allocation, despite challenges of scarcity and logistical

bottlenecks.

The increasing involvement of government agencies and international donors over time led to the gradual formalization of camp administration. Agencies such as the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Plateau State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), and NGOs including the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Médecins Sans Frontières introduced structured mechanisms for resource distribution, beneficiary registration, and monitoring.

For example, by 2010, IDP officials in Riyom were required to maintain detailed household registers, document the distribution of food and non-food items, and report discrepancies to higher authorities and donor organizations. This transition marked a significant shift from ad hoc, trust-based allocation to institutionalized, accountable, and transparent processes, reflecting lessons learned from earlier inefficiencies and diversions.

The historical trajectory of displacement management in Northern Nigeria demonstrates how local social structures, traditional authority systems, and emerging institutional frameworks have intersected to shape humanitarian responses. While informal mechanisms fostered trust and community cohesion, formalized systems enhanced oversight, accountability, and coordination across multiple actors. Understanding this evolution is crucial for appreciating both the successes and limitations of humanitarian interventions in the region and offers insights for sustainable management of future crises.

Coordination of Humanitarian Aid

The coordination of humanitarian aid in Riyom IDP camps has historically been a complex process shaped by the interplay of local social structures, government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and individual donors. In the early 2000s, during the height of communal violence in Plateau State, IDP camp officials relied heavily on informal mechanisms rooted in local knowledge and trust networks to manage the inflow of relief materials. Community meetings were frequently convened by camp officials to identify the most pressing needs, register households, and prioritize vulnerable groups, including women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. These early coordination practices reflected a pragmatic response to limited resources and the absence of formalized administrative systems, highlighting the critical role of local actors in humanitarian intervention.

A notable historical example occurred in 2004, following a surge in ethno-religious violence in Riyom LGA. During this crisis, IDP officials coordinated closely with the Plateau State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) to distribute government relief packages, which included food rations, potable water, blankets, and emergency medical supplies. Volunteers drawn from both host communities and displaced populations assisted in household assessments to verify needs, ensuring that aid reached the most vulnerable while minimizing disputes within the camp. Oral testimonies from camp officials recall that in many cases, traditional authority figures, such as local chiefs and elders, were instrumental in mediating conflicts over aid distribution and facilitating community acceptance of relief measures. This instance illustrates how coordination relied not only on administrative planning but also on trust, social capital, and culturally informed negotiation practices.

With the increasing institutionalization of humanitarian efforts in Nigeria, coordination practices evolved substantially. The establishment of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the growing involvement of international NGOs, including the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Médecins Sans Frontières, introduced standardized procedures for registration, distribution, and reporting. Camp officials were required to maintain detailed beneficiary registers, document the flow of relief materials, and submit periodic reports to government authorities and donor organizations. These formal mechanisms enabled greater transparency, minimized diversion of aid, and facilitated coordination across multiple actors, including federal and state agencies, local leaders, and international partners.

Historical evidence also shows that the evolution of coordination mechanisms in Riyom reflects broader trends in Northern Nigeria. For instance, during displacement crises in Borno and Adamawa States, initial reliance on informal community structures gradually gave way to formalized coordination systems aligned with government guidelines and international humanitarian standards. In

Riyom, the integration of local knowledge with institutional frameworks allowed camp officials to balance efficiency and fairness, ensuring that both traditional norms and administrative requirements guided the allocation of relief resources. This historical trajectory underscores the critical role of IDP officials as intermediaries who translate policy frameworks into locally relevant practices while maintaining community trust.

Ultimately, the historical coordination of humanitarian aid in Riyom highlights the importance of adaptive governance, multi-level collaboration, and culturally informed decision-making. By studying these processes, policymakers and humanitarian practitioners can draw lessons for improving responsiveness, accountability, and resilience in current and future displacement crises across Northern Nigeria and comparable contexts.

Distribution of Donations

The distribution of humanitarian donations in IDP camps across Northern Nigeria has historically been fraught with challenges, including poor transportation networks, limited storage facilities, inadequate funding, and the diversion or misappropriation of relief materials. In the early years of displacement in Riyom Local Government Area, particularly between 2001 and the mid-2000s, the allocation of food items, clothing, bedding, and medical supplies largely depended on trust-based systems administered by camp officials and respected community leaders. These officials relied on personal knowledge of displaced households to determine priority beneficiaries, often favoring widows, orphans, the elderly, and those who had lost entire livelihoods during communal clashes.

While this informal approach fostered social cohesion and reinforced communal trust within the camps, it also exposed the distribution process to significant vulnerabilities. Oral testimonies from Riyom indicate that allegations of favoritism, exclusion, and diversion occasionally surfaced, particularly when relief materials were insufficient to meet growing needs. In some instances, camp officials were accused of reallocating donations to relatives or selling items in nearby markets, reflecting broader governance challenges that historically plagued humanitarian interventions in Nigeria. Such practices undermined confidence in aid delivery and heightened tensions among displaced populations, especially during prolonged displacement periods.

Over time, however, the distribution of donations in Riyom underwent notable transformation. From the late 2000s onwards, the increased involvement of government agencies such as the Plateau State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), alongside NGOs, led to the introduction of formal distribution mechanisms. These included the compilation of beneficiary lists, issuance of ration cards, fixed distribution schedules, and standardized reporting procedures. These measures significantly reduced discretionary allocation and enhanced fairness and transparency in aid delivery.

Reports from 2010 onwards indicate that IDP officials in Riyom increasingly collaborated with NGOs to supervise distributions, cross-check beneficiary registers, and document the quantities of items received and distributed. For example, during food distribution exercises supported by international NGOs, camp officials were required to publicly display beneficiary lists and allow community representatives to observe the process, thereby fostering collective oversight. Although digital record-keeping remained limited due to infrastructural constraints, basic electronic data collection—such as spreadsheet-based registers and mobile reporting—began to complement manual systems, improving accountability and traceability of relief materials.

Comparable historical experiences from other Northern Nigerian states reinforce these trends. In Borno and Adamawa States, early responses to displacement caused by the Boko Haram insurgency similarly relied on informal distribution networks before transitioning to more formalized structures aligned with international humanitarian standards. In these contexts, the integration of local knowledge with institutional oversight proved crucial in reducing diversion, improving beneficiary targeting, and restoring trust in humanitarian systems. The Riyom experience thus reflects a broader regional pattern in which lessons learned from early shortcomings informed the gradual professionalization of donation distribution mechanisms.

Overall, the historical evolution of donation distribution in Riyom demonstrates that while informal systems were indispensable in the initial emergency phase, sustainable humanitarian

response required the institutionalization of transparent procedures, community participation, and multi-actor oversight. These lessons remain relevant for contemporary displacement crises in Northern Nigeria, where balancing efficiency, equity, and accountability continues to shape humanitarian outcomes.

Monitoring and Accountability

Monitoring and accountability have historically constituted the backbone of effective humanitarian aid management in IDP camps, directly shaping public trust, donor confidence, and the overall credibility of camp administration. In Northern Nigeria, particularly during the early 2000s, weak monitoring frameworks and political interference significantly undermined relief efforts. In Riyom Local Government Area, the rapid establishment of IDP camps following communal violence outpaced the development of formal oversight mechanisms, creating opportunities for diversion, hoarding, and manipulation of relief materials by both camp officials and external actors. Reports from this period reveal instances where food items and non-food relief materials were delayed, partially distributed, or diverted to local markets, often with the tacit involvement of political intermediaries seeking to reward loyal supporters.

In response to these challenges, IDP officials and community leaders in Riyom began to develop localized accountability structures. Camp-based monitoring committees—comprising representatives of displaced persons, women’s groups, youth leaders, and respected elders—were established to oversee the distribution process, verify beneficiary lists, and document discrepancies. These committees served as informal watchdogs, reporting irregularities to donors, NGOs, and state authorities. Oral testimonies indicate that during the 2004 and 2008 displacement episodes, such committees successfully exposed cases of inflated beneficiary numbers and unequal allocation, prompting corrective interventions by humanitarian agencies.

The evolution of monitoring practices accelerated in the 2010s with increased donor scrutiny, government regulation, and NGO involvement. Agencies such as the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Plateau State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), and international humanitarian organizations introduced standardized accountability frameworks that emphasized transparency and documentation. IDP officials were required to maintain detailed distribution records, submit periodic financial and activity reports, and comply with audit procedures. Distribution exercises increasingly involved third-party observers, including NGO representatives and community monitors, to ensure compliance with established guidelines.

Community feedback mechanisms also became integral to accountability practices. Regular town-hall meetings and complaint channels allowed IDPs to voice concerns regarding exclusion, favoritism, or misconduct. These participatory approaches not only strengthened trust between camp officials and displaced populations but also enhanced the legitimacy of humanitarian interventions. Historical comparisons with camps in Borno and Adamawa States reveal similar trajectories, where donor-driven accountability standards gradually transformed monitoring from reactive problem-solving into proactive governance tools.

Oral histories from Riyom camp officials suggest that these accumulated experiences have fostered adaptive strategies that continue to inform contemporary humanitarian practices. Officials now combine institutional oversight with local knowledge, recognizing that sustainable accountability depends on both formal procedures and community participation. The historical progression of monitoring mechanisms in Riyom thus illustrates how lessons drawn from past failures have shaped more resilient, transparent, and responsive systems of humanitarian governance in Northern Nigeria.

Discussion

The historical analysis of humanitarian aid interventions in Riyom Local Government Area underscores the gradual but significant transformation of Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) management in Northern Nigeria. In the immediate aftermath of violent conflicts in the early 2000s, humanitarian responses in Riyom were largely improvised and rooted in informal, trust-based mechanisms that reflected long-standing communal values, kinship networks, and indigenous systems of mutual assistance. Relief distribution often relied on traditional authorities, religious leaders, and

community elders whose moral legitimacy ensured compliance and cooperation among displaced populations. While these mechanisms were culturally resonant and expedient, they were also vulnerable to elite capture, exclusion of marginal groups, and limited record-keeping, particularly as displacement became prolonged and more complex.

As conflicts intensified and displacement persisted into the late 2000s, the limitations of informal humanitarian governance became increasingly apparent. The growing scale of displacement in Plateau State—mirroring experiences in Kaduna, Benue, and Nasarawa States—necessitated more structured and standardized approaches to aid coordination and distribution. Government agencies such as the Plateau State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), in collaboration with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), began to assert greater oversight, introducing formal camp management guidelines, beneficiary registration systems, and reporting requirements. These developments marked a critical shift from ad hoc relief provision to institutionalized humanitarian governance, driven largely by donor expectations and global best practices.

By the 2010s, international humanitarian actors and donor agencies further accelerated this process of formalization. Standard operating procedures, needs assessments, and accountability frameworks were introduced to improve efficiency, transparency, and equitable access to aid. In Riyom LGA, these reforms were reflected in the use of beneficiary lists, ration cards, and monitoring committees that combined bureaucratic procedures with community representation. Historical evidence from camp records and oral testimonies suggests that these hybrid systems reduced large-scale diversion of aid and improved donor confidence, even though challenges related to logistics, funding gaps, and political interference persisted.

Importantly, the Riyom experience demonstrates that effective humanitarian intervention in Northern Nigeria has not been a linear process of replacing traditional systems with modern bureaucratic structures. Rather, it has involved continuous negotiation between indigenous social practices and externally imposed governance models. Community participation—through feedback mechanisms, complaint channels, and local monitoring committees—remained essential to the legitimacy and sustainability of aid interventions. This pattern echoes similar historical trajectories observed in IDP camps in Jos North, Southern Kaduna, and parts of North-East Nigeria, where humanitarian success depended on balancing formal accountability with local ownership.

These historical insights hold significant implications for contemporary humanitarian policy and practice. Understanding how aid coordination, distribution, and monitoring evolved in response to earlier failures and adaptations provides a critical foundation for designing sustainable interventions in current and future displacement crises. Capacity-building programs that strengthen local institutions, while respecting indigenous governance structures, are more likely to foster trust and resilience among displaced populations. Moreover, historically informed community engagement strategies can help mitigate tensions, enhance transparency, and ensure that humanitarian responses remain context-sensitive rather than externally imposed. The Riyom case thus offers a valuable historical lens through which to reimagine humanitarian governance in Northern Nigeria—one that integrates lessons from the past to address the complexities of displacement in the present.

Conclusion

The history of humanitarian aid provision to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Riyom Local Government Area of Plateau State reveals a dynamic and adaptive trajectory shaped by the interplay of local agency, state intervention, and international humanitarian norms. From the early 2000s, when communal violence and farmer–herder conflicts triggered recurrent displacement, relief efforts were largely sustained through informal, community-based systems rooted in trust, kinship, and moral obligation. Traditional leaders, religious authorities, and camp officials functioned as the backbone of humanitarian response, mobilizing scarce resources and mediating access to aid within culturally familiar frameworks. While these arrangements ensured immediacy and social cohesion, they were constrained by weak accountability structures and vulnerability to favoritism, diversion, and political manipulation.

Over time, the expansion and protraction of displacement crises in Plateau State necessitated a transition toward more formalized and institutionalized humanitarian mechanisms. The growing

involvement of government agencies such as the Plateau State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), alongside national and international NGOs, marked a turning point in the administration of IDP camps in Riyom. This shift introduced standardized procedures for needs assessment, beneficiary registration, reporting, and monitoring, aligning local humanitarian practices with global best standards. Historical evidence suggests that these reforms improved transparency and donor confidence, even as challenges of funding shortfalls, logistical bottlenecks, and bureaucratic inefficiencies persisted.

Crucially, the Riyom experience demonstrates that sustainable humanitarian intervention in Northern Nigeria has depended not on the wholesale replacement of indigenous systems, but on their strategic integration with institutional frameworks. IDP camp officials often drawn from the displaced communities themselves—emerged as key intermediaries, translating donor requirements into locally intelligible practices and ensuring community participation in decision-making. This hybrid model, combining local knowledge with formal governance structures, proved essential in maintaining legitimacy, minimizing conflict within camps, and ensuring that aid reached the most vulnerable populations, particularly women, children, and the elderly.

The lessons drawn from this historical perspective carry important implications for contemporary and future humanitarian responses. First, effective aid delivery must prioritize transparency and accountability without undermining community trust. Second, sustained investment in humanitarian infrastructure—including data management systems, trained personnel, and monitoring mechanisms—is critical to addressing protracted displacement. Finally, policies aimed at managing internal displacement in Northern Nigeria must be historically informed, recognizing how past successes and failures continue to shape present realities. The case of Riyom LGA thus underscores the value of history as a tool for humanitarian planning, offering enduring insights for building resilient, inclusive, and responsive systems capable of addressing displacement crises in Nigeria and beyond.

Recommendations

Drawing from the historical experiences of humanitarian aid coordination and IDP camp management in Riyom Local Government Area and comparable contexts in Northern Nigeria, this study proposes the following policy recommendations to enhance effectiveness, accountability, and sustainability in displacement response.

Capacity-Building for IDP Camp Officials

There is an urgent need to strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of IDP camp officials, who have historically functioned as the primary intermediaries between displaced populations and humanitarian actors. In the early 2000s, many officials in Riyom camps relied on informal knowledge, moral authority, and community trust to manage relief distribution, often without formal training. While effective in emergency contexts, this approach proved inadequate as displacement became protracted and aid flows increased. Structured training programs in humanitarian coordination, record-keeping, conflict resolution, and ethical leadership modeled after capacity-building initiatives implemented by NGOs in Borno and Adamawa States would significantly improve professionalism and reduce vulnerabilities to mismanagement. Such programs should be institutionalized through state emergency agencies and integrated into local government frameworks.

Strengthening Transparency through Digital Tracking Systems

Historical evidence from Riyom and other IDP camps in Northern Nigeria highlights that diversion of relief materials has remained a persistent challenge, particularly during periods of weak oversight. The introduction of digital tracking systems such as electronic beneficiary registers, barcode-based inventory systems, and mobile reporting platforms would enhance transparency and donor confidence. A pilot initiative introduced by humanitarian agencies in North-East Nigeria since the mid-2010s demonstrate that even limited digitalization significantly improves accountability and reduces duplication. Adapting such systems to the Plateau State context, with sensitivity to infrastructural limitations, would mark a critical step toward curbing diversion and political

interference in aid distribution.

Deepening Community Engagement and Participatory Governance: Historical patterns in Riyom reveal that humanitarian interventions were most effective when displaced persons actively participated in decision-making processes. Early trust-based systems, despite their limitations, allowed IDPs to articulate their needs through community representatives. Contemporary humanitarian governance should formalize this participatory tradition by establishing IDP committees, gender-sensitive representation structures, and regular feedback mechanisms. Inclusion of IDPs in planning and evaluation processes not only aligns aid with actual needs but also fosters ownership, social cohesion, and conflict mitigation within camps.³² This approach is consistent with global best practices advocated by the United Nations and other humanitarian bodies.

Ensuring Sustainable and Predictable Funding: One of the most enduring challenges identified in the historical management of IDP camps in Riyom has been inconsistent funding. Periods of intense humanitarian attention were often followed by donor fatigue and government withdrawal, leaving camps under-resourced. To address this, federal and state governments must institutionalize budgetary allocations for displacement management, rather than relying on ad hoc emergency responses. Establishing multi-year funding frameworks, complemented by donor partnerships and private-sector engagement, would enable long-term planning, infrastructure development, and livelihood support programs for IDPs. Sustainable funding is essential for transitioning from relief dependency to resilience and recovery.

Institutionalizing Historical Documentation and Knowledge Preservation: Finally, the absence of systematic documentation of displacement crises and aid management has historically limited institutional learning in Northern Nigeria. Oral testimonies, fragmented reports, and short-term assessments dominate the humanitarian record. This study recommends the creation of archival systems at local and state levels to document displacement events, aid coordination strategies, challenges, and outcomes. Such archives drawing on reports, oral histories, and administrative records would serve as invaluable resources for policymakers, scholars, and humanitarian practitioners. By grounding future interventions in historical evidence, Nigeria can develop more responsive, context-sensitive, and sustainable displacement policies.

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