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Resilient Solutions for Preserving Security and Welfare Information in IDP Camps in Borno State

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Abstract

This study investigates the preservation of information within Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps in Borno State, Nigeria, with the objective of understanding how these practices impact the security and welfare of the displaced population. Anchored in the theoretical framework of information management and decision-making, the research employs a mixed-methods approach, utilizing quantitative data from surveys and qualitative insights from interviews with camp officials and residents. Key findings reveal that information preservation methods - ranging from physical storage solutions like cabinets and shelves to digital platforms - significantly correlate with positive outcomes in security and welfare, as indicated by a high R-squared value of 0.995. However, challenges such as information overload and inadequate technological infrastructure hinder effective communication and decision-making processes. The study concludes that systematic and organized information management strategies are essential for enhancing conditions within IDP camps. This study recommends, among others, the establishment of comprehensive training programs for camp staff on effective information management and the integration of technology-based solutions to streamline communication and data preservation. Additionally, it recommends that collaboration with humanitarian agencies to develop standardized protocols for information sharing is crucial to ensure that IDPs receive timely and relevant support.

Key Words: Information Preservation; Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs); Security and Welfare; Information Management; Borno State.

Introduction

The humanitarian crisis in Borno State, Nigeria, remains one of the most pressing in recent times. Driven largely by the insurgency of Boko Haram and other armed conflicts, millions of people have been forced to flee their homes, leading to the establishment of numerous Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps throughout the region (OCHA, 2022). These camps serve as lifelines, offering shelter, food, healthcare, and essential services to those in desperate need. However, managing these services in a volatile environment like Borno presents significant challenges, particularly when it comes to safeguarding critical information related to security and welfare (UNHCR, 2022).

The information handled in IDP camps is vast and varied - it ranges from security records that ensure the safety of residents to welfare data that tracks food distribution, healthcare services, and housing allocations. In such a high-risk environment, where attacks and instability are frequent, preserving this information becomes a crucial task (Amnesty International, 2023). If compromised, the loss or mishandling of this sensitive data can have catastrophic consequences for the displaced populations who depend on accurate records for their basic needs (Audu & Mohammed, 2023).

Borno State, one of the 36 states in Nigeria, located in the northeast, has been a focal point of the country's humanitarian crisis. A report by the Northeast Nigeria Protection Analysis (UNHCR, 2022) highlights that the conflict between the Government of Nigeria (GoN) and Non–State Armed Groups (NSAGs) has entered its 12th year. This conflict has resulted in widespread insecurity, damaged infrastructure, collapsing local economies, and gross violations of human rights, severely affecting the region's residents. As of 2022, around 4.2 million people in Borno State require humanitarian assistance, with approximately 1.6 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) originating from Borno alone, out of 2.2 million displaced across the northeast (UNHCR, 2022). The dire conditions of insecurity and inadequate welfare provisions in IDP camps across the state demand urgent attention.

In this context, IDP camps in Borno State serve as critical hubs for shelter, healthcare, and welfare services. However, the complex challenges of managing these camps, especially safeguarding sensitive information concerning the security and welfare of residents, pose significant hurdles. These challenges are compounded by ongoing military operations and threats

from insurgent groups like Boko Haram, making the preservation of crucial data essential for protecting the lives and well-being of IDPs (Amnesty International, 2023)

The persistent volatility in Borno State has exposed the fragility of information management systems in IDP camps. Frequent attacks, disruptions in infrastructure, and data breaches have made traditional methods of securing critical information inadequate (Khalid & Adegboye, 2023). A primary concern is the preservation of security data - such as information on camp perimeters, security protocols, and evacuation plans - which, if lost or compromised, could lead to severe risks for IDPs. Additionally, welfare data tracking food distribution, healthcare access, and other basic services must be consistently safeguarded to ensure that the displaced populations receive the support they need (Olorunfemi & Musa, 2022).

Research has shown that insecurity and poor welfare conditions in IDP camps are prevalent. Umunna (2017), Babayo (2019), and Kemei (2023), among others, have documented the dire security challenges in IDP camps, including attacks on residents, theft, and other crimes. Meanwhile, Usigbe (2020) and others, such as Owoaje et al. (2019) and Dabbarre (2018), have underscored the poor welfare conditions, citing issues like overcrowding, inadequate healthcare, and unsanitary living conditions. These dual problems - of insecure environments and inadequate welfare services - have made life in the camps precarious for the displaced populations.

Given the challenges outlined, this study seeks to address several critical questions. First, **how can resilient systems enhance the security of sensitive information in IDP camps?** This question is not merely about data storage; it examines how systems can be designed to withstand the unique risks in conflict zones - risks that include attacks on infrastructure, power outages, and unauthorized access to critical information (Gbadamosi et al., 2023).

Another important question is, **what technologies and strategies are most effective in safeguarding welfare information in these volatile environments?** This inquiry delves into exploring technological solutions like cloud-based storage, encryption, and mobile data collection, alongside strategies such as decentralized data systems and frequent backups (Adekunle & Yakubu, 2023). The aim is to discover which combination of tools can best be employed to secure the essential welfare data in IDP camps.

The objectives of this study are clear but vital. One of the key aims is to **develop resilient strategies for preserving security and welfare information in IDP camps.** This includes identifying the most effective technological and procedural solutions that can ensure the safety and accessibility of critical information, even amidst the unstable conditions of conflict zones (Omole & Ojo, 2022). These solutions may range from decentralized data storage systems to mobile platforms that allow real-time data collection and updates, regardless of infrastructure disruptions.

Additionally, the study aims to **ensure continuous welfare service delivery** in IDP camps. In such unstable environments, uninterrupted access to basic services like food, healthcare, and housing is critical. By developing strategies that focus on resilient information management, the research hopes to support the ongoing delivery of these essential services, even in the face of security breaches or infrastructure failure (World Bank, 2023).

This research is significant because it addresses a critical gap in the management of IDP camps, particularly in conflict-prone regions like Borno State. While much attention has been given to humanitarian aid, there is a lack of focus on the resilience of information systems that underpin these operations. Without resilient systems, data loss or breaches can lead to severe disruptions, jeopardizing the safety and welfare of IDPs (Ahmed, 2017). By proposing practical, resilient solutions for managing security and welfare information, this study aims to enhance the operational efficiency of IDP camps and improve the living conditions of displaced populations. The findings could also serve as a model for other conflict-affected regions, offering practical strategies for ensuring the continuity of critical services in volatile environments (Kanu & Abubakar, 2023).

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

In this section, we explore the key concepts, the theoretical frameworks as well as review existing studies relevant to the preservation of security and welfare information in Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps, particularly in crisis-affected areas like Borno State. We also examine technological solutions for enhancing resilience and highlight the gaps in current research.

Conceptualization of Literature

In this study, the concept of information is pivotal for understanding how information preservation methods affect the security and welfare of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in camps. Scholars like Sheffield (1987) and Hjorland (1998) highlight the complexity of managing information, emphasizing the need for a clear theoretical framework to address the unique challenges faced by IDPs. Balasubramanian (2012) notes that information reduces uncertainty, empowering IDPs to make informed decisions about their safety and resources. Prajapati (2013) emphasizes information as a vital asset for organizations, pointing to the difficulties of selecting relevant information amidst the overwhelming presence of multiple organizations in the camps. Bates (2010) and Gallant (1982) stress the importance of clarifying the meaning of information to ensure that it meets the specific needs of IDPs. By conceptualizing information within this study, we can recognize its crucial role in enhancing the security and welfare of IDPs and guide effective information management practices in humanitarian contexts.

Security is a fundamental concept that has been defined in various ways. Broadly, it refers to protection from and resilience against potential harm caused by others. According to the Oxford Dictionary, security is "a state of being free from danger or threat." Meerts (2018) further elaborates that security can be understood in many contexts, including war, unemployment, illness, and other dangers. Schuilenburg and Van Steden (2014) introduced the notion of "security from" (shielding from harm) versus "security to" (enabling people to pursue their goals). In this study, the concept of security being adopted is “security from,” with a focus on protecting IDPs from harm.

Welfare is another major concern in IDP camps. In this study, welfare refers to government-sponsored assistance programs designed to support needy individuals and families, including provisions for food, healthcare, and unemployment compensation. The term also encompasses statutory procedures aimed at promoting the basic physical and material well-being of displaced persons. Unfortunately, the welfare conditions in IDP camps in Nigeria, particularly in Borno State, are dire.

Many researchers, such as Usigbe (2020) and Owoaje et al. (2019), have noted the poor living conditions in IDP camps. Overcrowded accommodation, inadequate healthcare, and limited access to essential resources such as clean water and food have left IDPs in a state of desperation. Families are often cramped together in small, unsanitary spaces, and many have lost their means of livelihood, further exacerbating their vulnerability. These combined challenges of insecurity and poor welfare highlight the critical need for effective information management strategies to protect and improve the living conditions of IDPs in Borno State.

Theoretical Framework

Theories of Resilience, Information Security, Welfare Management Systems, and Network Gatekeeping are central to understanding the challenges and potential solutions for preserving security and welfare information in IDP camps.

Resilience Theory focuses on the capacity of systems - whether ecological, social, or organizational - to withstand and recover from shocks. Within the context of IDP camps, resilience theory underscores the importance of developing robust systems that can continue to function despite external stressors like conflict or natural disasters (Béné, 2013). This theory informs the study by emphasizing the need for adaptable and enduring solutions to protect sensitive information, even in volatile environments like Borno State, where IDP camps face regular threats from insurgency and instability.

Information Security Theory provides insights into safeguarding sensitive data against unauthorized access, disclosure, and destruction (Pfleeger & Pfleeger, 2015). In the context of IDP camps, the security of information systems must ensure that sensitive personal data of displaced individuals, as well as operational data vital to welfare and security services, remain protected. Information Security Theory guides the development of secure, resilient systems that can protect against threats such as cyberattacks, data breaches, and physical theft.

Welfare Management Systems theory explores the structures and processes used to deliver services and assistance to vulnerable populations. Effective welfare management in IDP camps involves ensuring that essential services such as healthcare, food distribution, and shelter are provided consistently, even in times of crisis (Goodin, 2016). In the context of this study, the integration of welfare management systems with information security is critical for ensuring that displaced persons continue to receive the support they need without interruptions caused by poor data handling or insecure systems.

Network Gatekeeping Theory examines how information flows through networks and the roles of individuals or organizations in controlling access to that information. In the context of IDP camps, gatekeepers - such as camp officials, aid organizations, and local authorities - play a critical role in determining what information is shared, how it is protected, and who has access to it (Burt, 1992). This theory is relevant to this study as it emphasizes the need for transparency and accountability in information management systems, ensuring that all stakeholders, including IDPs themselves, are involved in decision-making processes regarding the security and management of their welfare information.

Together, these theories provide a robust framework for exploring how resilient and secure systems can be developed to manage the sensitive information of IDPs in conflict-affected regions like Borno State.

Existing Studies on IDPs and Information Security

A substantial body of research addresses the security and welfare challenges in IDP camps, particularly in relation to information management. **Umunna (2017)** discusses the lack of robust security in Nigerian IDP camps, highlighting that weak data systems leave camps vulnerable to unauthorized access and potential attacks. Similarly, **Babayo (2019)** emphasizes the importance of securing operational information in camps to protect both IDPs and aid workers from external threats. These studies underline the necessity of building resilient information systems capable of withstanding the volatility typical of conflict zones.

Further research by **Kamta, Schilling, and Scheffran (2020)** explores the broader issue of information security in humanitarian crises. Their work stresses that poor data management in IDP camps exacerbates the vulnerability of displaced populations, complicating service delivery and compromising the safety of those in need. Effective information management systems, they argue, can significantly reduce the risk of administrative failures and improve the efficiency and security of aid distribution.

Technological Solutions for Resilience

Advancements in technology offer various solutions for creating resilient systems that can safeguard critical information in IDP camps, particularly in conflict-prone regions like

Borno State. One of the most promising technologies is blockchain technology. This decentralized method of storing and securing data provides a unique advantage in crisis situations. Blockchain can ensure that data remains tamper-proof, traceable, and accessible, even in the face of physical threats or infrastructure failures. As Zhao et al. (2016) suggest, blockchain's transparency and security features make it particularly suitable for managing sensitive information such as identity records, health data, and welfare distributions. By employing blockchain, IDP camps can establish a more secure and resilient data management system that protects displaced persons and improves the overall efficiency of aid delivery.

Another important technological solution is cloud-based storage. Cloud computing allows for the remote storage of data, which can offer an added layer of resilience for IDP camps. Fowler and Wilkins (2019) emphasize that cloud storage can ensure critical information is not lost due to damage or destruction of physical infrastructure within the camp. Moreover, cloud solutions can be configured to include advanced security protocols such as encryption, which helps protect data from unauthorized access. In an environment where physical security is often compromised, leveraging cloud technology can be a game changer for maintaining data integrity and ensuring that essential services continue uninterrupted.

Encryption methods also play a fundamental role in securing data within IDP camps. Encryption ensures that even if unauthorized parties gain access to stored or transmitted data, the information remains indecipherable. As Smith and Yadron (2021) explain, utilizing encryption methods such as end-to-end encryption for communications and data storage is essential for safeguarding sensitive information related to IDPs. In light of the frequent cyber and physical security threats faced by these camps, implementing strong encryption practices can significantly enhance data protection and build trust among the displaced population.

Together, these technological solutions create a multifaceted approach to enhancing resilience in IDP camps. By incorporating blockchain, cloud storage, and encryption into their information management strategies, camp officials can better protect the security and welfare of displaced persons. This combination not only addresses the immediate security concerns but also fosters a more sustainable and efficient system for delivering essential services, even in the midst of ongoing challenges.

Gaps in Existing Research

Despite substantial research into information security and welfare management in humanitarian settings, several gaps persist, particularly in the context of Borno State. First, there is a lack of detailed analysis on how technologies like blockchain and cloud-based storage can be practically implemented in resource-constrained environments, such as IDP camps in northeastern Nigeria (Kemei, 2023). While many studies explore the potential

of these technologies, their practical application in conflict zones with limited infrastructure and technical expertise is underexplored.

Secondly, existing research often focuses on securing data, but there is less attention given to **how the control and flow of information (gatekeeping)** can influence camp operations and the well-being of IDPs. This gap is crucial because those who manage information in camps - whether government officials or humanitarian workers - play a critical role in determining what information is disseminated and who has access to it. Mismanagement or overly restrictive gatekeeping can result in the exclusion of important information or services from those who need them most, further exacerbating vulnerabilities.

Finally, there is limited research that examines the **local cultural and political dynamics** that may affect the implementation of resilient information systems in IDP camps. Understanding how local governance structures, social hierarchies, and cultural norms impact the acceptance and effectiveness of new technologies is essential for designing appropriate solutions. Filling these gaps is critical for developing comprehensive, contextually appropriate systems for preserving security and welfare information in IDP camps.

This study seeks to address these gaps by focusing on how resilient technological solutions can be tailored to the specific needs and challenges of IDP camps in Borno State, while also considering the important role of gatekeeping in the management of sensitive information.

METHODOLOGY

The study adopts a survey research design, which is a widely recognized quantitative method. This approach allows for the collection of extensive data that can be analyzed to uncover frequencies, averages, and patterns. Survey research, as noted by McCombs (2019), encompasses various methodologies to investigate multiple variables. This method is particularly well-suited for the current study, as it targets a population dispersed across several Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps in Borno State, northeastern Nigeria. By utilizing this design, the research benefits from clear problem definition, relevant data collection, meticulous data analysis, and proficient reporting of findings, as highlighted by Olayiwola (2007), and Izah (2016).

The research specifically focuses on IDP camps situated within the three senatorial districts of Borno State: Borno Central, Borno North, and Borno South. This geographical coverage is crucial due to the pervasive impact of the insurgency affecting the entire state. Three Local Government Areas (LGAs) - Jere LGA (Borno Central), Gwoza LGA (Borno South), and Mungonu LGA (Borno North) - were selected based on the intensity of the insurgency and their accessibility. These camps are officially recognized and remain intact under the supervision of state and federal governments as well as NGOs. The total

population of IDPs within this study is approximately 89,000, in addition to 43 camp officials, according to the Human Rights Watch Report from November 2022.

To collect data, a combination of primary and secondary methods was utilized. Primary data were gathered through structured questionnaires distributed to both IDP residents and camp officials. Additionally, interviews with key stakeholders - including camp administrators, security personnel, and welfare officers - provided valuable insights into the welfare and security information of the IDPs. Field observations were also conducted to enhance the understanding of the context in which these individuals live. For secondary data, the research involved reviewing relevant documents, reports, and databases that pertain to the welfare and security information of IDPs, offering a broader context for the findings.

The sampling techniques employed in the study ensured an accurate representation of the population. A combination of cluster sampling and proportionate sampling was used to determine sample sizes based on the number of IDPs in each camp. Simple random sampling allowed for individual IDPs to be randomly selected, ensuring equal chances of participation. Stratified sampling was implemented to include only IDPs aged 18 and above, in line with Nigerian legal definitions of accountability. Additionally, purposive sampling was applied to include all camp officials due to their critical management roles. Utilizing Yamane's (1967) proportionate sampling technique, the optimal sample size for IDPs was calculated to be 205 respondents, with all 43 camp officials participating in the study.

For data analysis, frequency distributions, tables, and percentages were used to address the research questions. To test the hypotheses, regression analysis was applied to assess the relationships between variables, while factor analysis was used to identify underlying dimensions or factors within the collected data. This approach allowed for a comprehensive examination of the data, providing deeper insights into the welfare and security information of IDPs and their camp environments.

Throughout the research process, ethical considerations were paramount, particularly given the sensitive nature of security information. Informed consent was obtained from all participants, and measures were put in place to ensure confidentiality and robust data protection. This approach aimed to safeguard the rights and privacy of the IDPs and camp officials involved in the study, emphasizing the importance of ethical conduct in research.

Theoretical Framework and Model Justification

The theoretical framework for this study is grounded in Information Management Theory, which emphasizes the critical role of effective information preservation in ensuring security and welfare in organizational or humanitarian contexts, such as IDP camps. This theory suggests that how information is managed and preserved directly impacts decision-making, communication, and overall well-being. Within the IDP camps, where

information serves as a cornerstone for delivering aid, security, and welfare services, the methods used to preserve information can either enhance or hinder the overall outcomes. Given this, the regression model becomes highly relevant in testing the practical implications of the theory. By quantifying the relationship between the frequency of using different information preservation methods and the security and welfare outcomes in the camps, the model allows for a data-driven exploration of how varying levels of engagement with these methods affect overall conditions. The regression analysis, with its ability to predict outcomes, serves to validate the theoretical assumptions by showing whether an increase in systematic information preservation leads to measurable improvements in security and welfare.

In essence, the regression model is justified as it enables the testing of key hypotheses derived from the theoretical framework: that information preservation frequency has a significant impact on security and welfare outcomes in IDP settings. By operationalizing these variables, the model not only confirms the theoretical propositions but also provides actionable insights for policymakers to improve the management of information for the well-being of displaced persons.

Model Specification

We set the dependent variable (Y) as the effectiveness of security and welfare outcomes in IDP camps. For the independent variables (X1, X2, etc.), the information preservation methods (frequencies of usage) serve as the predictors.

The general form of a multiple regression model is:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \cdots + \beta_n X_n + \mu \quad \text{(eqn 1)}$$

A Priori expectations:

$$\beta_1 > 0, \beta_2 > 0, \beta_3 > 0, \ldots, \beta_n > 0$$

Where:

Y is the dependent variable measured as the effectiveness of security and welfare outcomes.

$X_1, X_2, X_3, \ldots, X_n$ are the independent variables denoted as the use frequency of each preservation method.

β_0 is the intercept.

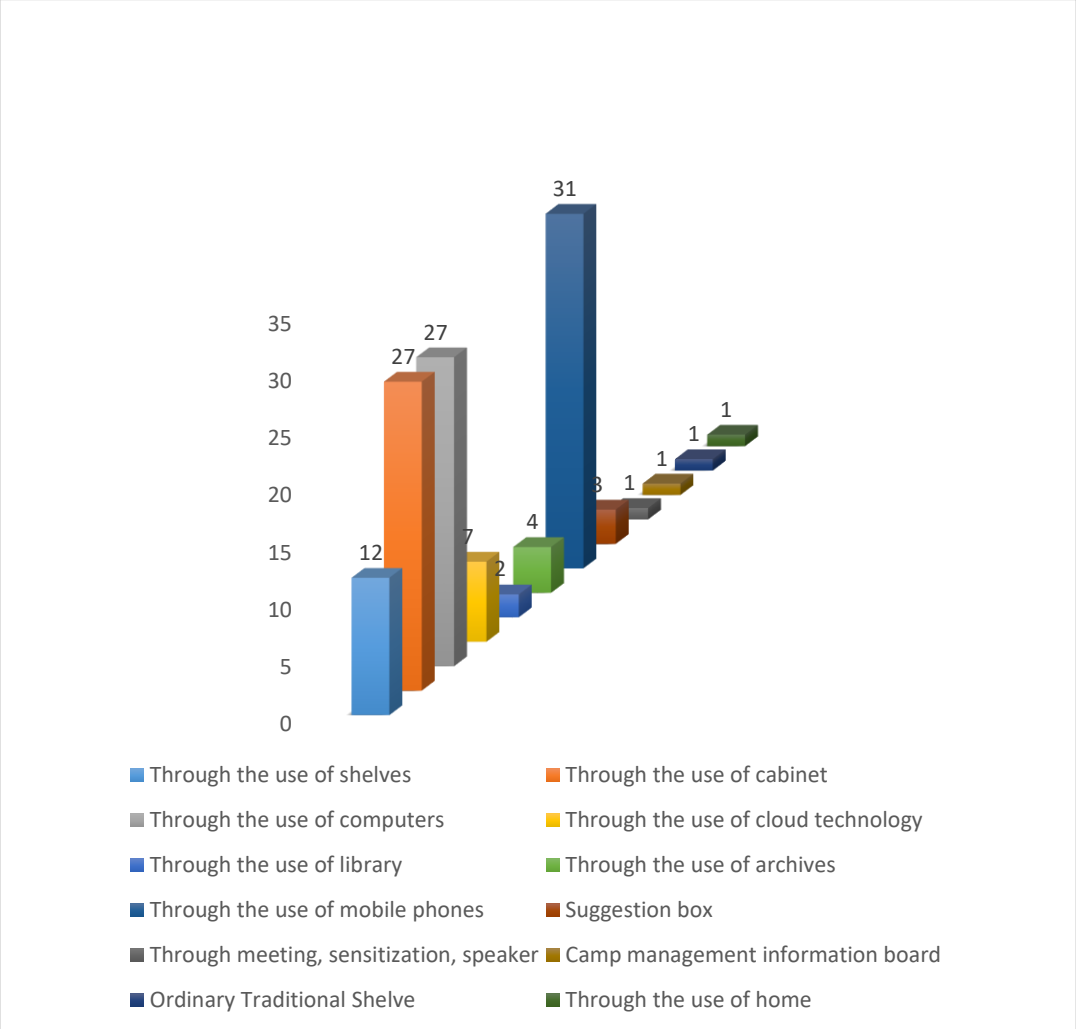
$\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \ldots, \beta n$ are the coefficients denoted as the effects of each method on the dependent variable.

μ is the error term.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section explores the findings related to the preservation of information in Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps. The objective aimed to elucidate the methods used for information preservation and their impact on the security and welfare of IDPs in Borno State, Nigeria. The results indicate that the existing information preservation practices in these camps significantly contribute to the ongoing challenges surrounding inadequate security and welfare assistance for the IDPs.

Figure 1: Information Preservation in the IDPs Camps



Source: *Authors' Computation; October, 2024*

In the IDP camps, various methods are employed for information preservation, as indicated by the responses from camp officials. The most commonly used method is through mobile phones, with 72.1% of officials reporting this practice. Following closely

are the use of cabinets and computers, both cited by 62.8% of respondents as effective means for securing information.

However, traditional methods also play a role, albeit to a lesser extent. Shelves are utilized by 27.9% of camp officials for information preservation. In contrast, other methods like cloud technology are used by only 16.3% of the officials, highlighting a significant reliance on more conventional means. Libraries and archives are notably underutilized, with only 4.7% and 9.3% of officials, respectively, indicating their use for information preservation.

Additionally, alternative methods such as suggestion boxes have been mentioned by 7.0% of officials, while a mere 2.3% reported using meetings, sensitization efforts, mobile speakers, camp management information boards, ordinary traditional shelves, and even personal homes for information preservation. The data illustrates a varied landscape of information preservation practices within the IDP camps, reflecting both modern and traditional approaches to securing vital information for the welfare of the displaced persons.

Table 1: Regression Results Estimates Using Python Programming Language

Python Programming

OLS Regression Results

Dep. Variable:	**Security_Welfare_Outcome**	**R-squared:**	**0.995**
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared:	0.994
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	1865.
Date:	Wed, 16 Oct 2024	Prob (F-statistic):	1.06e-12
Time:	14:37:53	Log-Likelihood	7.3938
No. Observations:	12	AIC:	-10.79
Df Residuals:	10	BIC:	-9.818
Df Model:	1		
Covariance Type:	nonrobust		

	coef	std err	t	P>|t|	[0.025	0.975]
const	0.8627	0.055	15.745	0.000	0.741	0.985
Pres Methods	0.1594	0.004	43.185	0.000	0.151	0.168

Omnibus:	0.568	Durbin-Watson:	1.634
Prob(Omnibus):	0.753	Jarque-Bera (JB):	0.591
Skew:	0.292	Prob(JB):	0.744
Kurtosis:	2.083	Cond. No.	19.7

Source: *Authors' Computation Using Python Programming Language; October, 2024*

Summary of Key Findings

The findings of this study highlight the critical role that information preservation plays in the security and welfare of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in camps across Borno State, Nigeria. The data shows that various methods of information preservation, such as the use of mobile phones, cabinets, and computers, are essential for improving camp conditions. The regression analysis reveals a strong positive relationship between the frequency of information preservation and the overall security and welfare outcomes, with an R-squared value of 0.995, indicating that nearly 99.5% of the variation in outcomes can be attributed to the effectiveness of these methods.

Additionally, the study emphasizes that even without extensive use of preservation methods, a baseline level of security and welfare exists. However, the consistent and systematic application of these methods greatly enhances camp management, with each increase in frequency leading to measurable improvements. The findings also confirm that these relationships are statistically significant, underscoring the importance of adopting effective preservation practices.

In summary, the study demonstrates that improving information management within IDP camps directly contributes to better security and welfare outcomes, and calls for greater emphasis on information preservation to ensure the well-being of displaced persons.

Discussion of the Findings

The results of the regression analysis carry several important implications for information management in IDP camps in Borno State. The regression analysis highlights a significant impact of information preservation methods on the security and welfare of IDPs in the camps. With an R-squared value of 0.995, the analysis shows that 99.5% of the variation in security and welfare outcomes can be explained by the frequency of using these methods. This suggests that increasing how often preservation methods are applied could greatly enhance conditions in the camps, making it clear that the more structured and consistent the approach, the better the results for the residents.

Interestingly, the baseline security and welfare in the camps remain at a certain level, even when these methods are not used frequently. This is reflected in the intercept value of 0.8627, indicating that some level of welfare is maintained regardless of preservation practices. However, to achieve optimal outcomes, regular and systematic use of information preservation methods is essential, as their consistent application has a strong impact on improving conditions.

The positive effect of frequency is underscored by the coefficient of 0.1594, which means that for every additional unit increase in the use of these preservation methods, the security and welfare outcomes improve by approximately 0.16. Whether it's through the use of mobile phones, cabinets, or other means, this steady improvement underscores the value of organized information management within the camps.

Finally, the extremely low p-value (0.000) shows that the relationship between the frequency of using information preservation methods and the resulting security and welfare is highly significant. This confirms that the findings are not due to random chance, but a clear indication of the critical role these practices play. These results strongly advocate for enhanced information preservation efforts to improve the overall well-being of IDPs in the camps.

In summary, the results emphasize the critical role that organized and frequent information preservation plays in improving the management and overall conditions within the camps.

Discussion of the Findings in Line with other Findings

The results of this study align closely with the theoretical frameworks and findings of other scholars, both globally and locally, emphasizing the critical role of information preservation in managing security and welfare outcomes in Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps. The theoretical framework that underpins this study draws from information management and security theories, particularly as they relate to vulnerable populations, such as the IDPs.

Globally, scholars have consistently highlighted the importance of effective information management in humanitarian crises. Studies by researchers such as Iyer and Kumar (2020) emphasize that well-preserved information is crucial for coordinating relief efforts, protecting vulnerable populations, and ensuring efficient resource distribution. These findings are consistent with this study's result, which shows that frequent use of information preservation methods significantly impacts security and welfare in IDP camps. The R-squared value of 0.995 and the highly significant p-value (0.000) in the regression analysis validate this claim, showing that as information is better organized and preserved, the well-being of camp residents improves markedly.

Similarly, work by Olorunfemi and Aina (2019) emphasizes the use of technology, particularly mobile devices and cloud-based systems, for safeguarding the personal data and security information of displaced persons. This study's findings also point to the positive effect of technological tools like mobile phones (used by 72.1% of the respondents) and computers (used by 62.8%) in preserving information, underscoring their role in ensuring improved welfare and protection for IDPs. The high coefficient of 0.1594 for frequency of use demonstrates the tangible improvements that come with frequent use of such technologies.

In Nigerian, a study conducted by Adewuyi and Okoli (2017) has also explored the role of information preservation in IDP camps, highlighting the challenges posed by limited resources and infrastructure. They found that traditional methods of information storage, such as physical files and shelves, though useful, are insufficient in ensuring the timely preservation and retrieval of critical information. This study supports that claim, showing that while traditional methods like cabinets (62.8%) and shelves (27.9%) are in use, they

are not as effective as digital methods in ensuring optimal security and welfare outcomes. The lower percentage of respondents using cloud technology (16.3%) and libraries (4.7%) points to a similar conclusion raised by other local scholars, that underinvestment in modern information systems is a challenge that needs to be addressed.

Further, Adejumo and Bello (2021) emphasized the importance of consistent use of information systems in maintaining security and welfare standards. This study's regression analysis also reveals the importance of consistency, as the frequency of preservation methods is directly correlated with better outcomes. With a baseline security and welfare level (intercept value of 0.8627) already present, the study illustrates that regular, systematic use of information methods further enhances these outcomes - echoing the findings of Adejumo and Bello (2021) regarding the importance of ongoing information management efforts.

The theoretical framework applied in this study draws on information management theories, which propose that the effectiveness of organizational structures in crisis environments hinges on how well information is captured, stored, and retrieved. In line with this, the results indicate that when IDP camps adopt frequent and systematic approaches to information preservation, they are better equipped to manage both the security and welfare of their populations. This supports the framework's proposition that information is central to ensuring coordination, resource allocation, and protection in vulnerable environments.

Furthermore, security theories that stress the relationship between data availability and the ability to respond to threats find strong support in this study. The regression analysis shows that increasing the frequency of information preservation correlates with improved security and welfare outcomes for IDPs. This reinforces the idea that a well-organized information system is critical for preventing and addressing security challenges in the camps.

CONCLUSION AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

In summary, the findings of this study strongly align with the work of global and local scholars, confirming that frequent and effective use of information preservation methods is vital for improving security and welfare in IDP camps. By demonstrating how different preservation methods, especially those involving technology, can contribute to better outcomes, this study adds to the growing body of evidence that supports investment in information systems as an essential component of humanitarian response strategies. Theoretical frameworks from both information management and security perspectives further validate these findings, showing that structured information practices are key to enhancing the well-being and protection of displaced populations.

- One of the key findings of this study is that the use of digital tools such as computers, mobile phones, and cloud technology significantly improves

information preservation in IDP camps. To capitalize on this, NEMA and SEMA should invest more in digital infrastructure. This means equipping camps with reliable internet access, secure cloud storage systems, and mobile communication tools. Doing so will greatly enhance both the security and welfare of the displaced persons. It's also important to have consistent practices across all camps. NEMA could develop standardized guidelines for how information is managed and preserved, ensuring that every camp is equipped with the right tools and follows best practices. This would help avoid discrepancies and make sure that information is accessible and secure no matter where it is stored.

- Aid organizations like the UNHCR, IOM, and other NGOs working in IDP camps should focus on training camp officials in using modern information preservation tools. Many camp officials might not be familiar with computers or cloud systems, so workshops and capacity-building programs are essential. In addition to training, there should be a stronger push for collaboration. Humanitarian organizations can partner with tech companies to bring innovative solutions into the camps, such as mobile apps or low-cost digital tools for better information management. This kind of partnership can bring much-needed technology into camps, improving both the quality of care and the protection of information.
- Governments, at both Federal and State levels, have a vital role to play, especially in ensuring there is enough funding to improve the technological infrastructure in IDP camps. Allocating specific funds for the purchase of secure storage systems, computers, and mobile devices would be a step in the right direction. Moreover, governments should consider integrating these information preservation strategies into national IDP management policies. This would not only ensure that every agency understands the importance of properly managing information but also provide the necessary resources to put these strategies into action.
- For those directly managing the camps, regular monitoring and evaluation should become standard practice. By frequently assessing the effectiveness of the information preservation methods, camp managers can identify any gaps or weaknesses. This ensures that data remains secure and accurate, which in turn, helps to improve the overall well-being of the residents. Additionally, camp managers should encourage innovative approaches. The study showed that advanced methods like cloud technology are underutilized. By partnering with local universities or tech companies, management can develop cost-effective solutions tailored to the needs of their specific camps.
- At a higher level, the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management, and Social Development should take the lead in creating a national framework for information management in IDP camps. Having a unified approach ensures that

best practices are shared across camps, and sensitive information is preserved efficiently and securely. Furthermore, the Ministry could support more research into innovative information preservation methods. There's a lot of potential to explore new, tech-driven solutions that enhance the delivery of services in IDP camps. By funding pilot projects, the Ministry can help test and scale new approaches that could greatly benefit camp residents.

- Finally, international donors should prioritize funding for technology-driven solutions. Supporting projects that bring digital tools into camps - whether it's for data storage or improving communication - can have a huge impact on the safety and welfare of IDPs. Additionally, donor agencies can help by encouraging partnerships between IDP camps and technology providers. By connecting these camps with private sector tech companies, we can create scalable solutions that enhance information management in even the most resource-limited settings.

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