

Impact of Fulani-Farmers Conflicts on Livelihood in Nigeria: A Study of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State

Gordins Afoke Israel

Federal University Otuoke Bayelsa State | israelafoke@yahoo.com

Abstract: *The study examined the effect of Fulani-farmers conflicts on livelihood in Nigeria: A study of Burutu local government Area of Delta State. The objectives of this study were basically to To assess the impact of Fulani-herdsmen on livelihood of Burutu Local Government area of Delta State. To determine the impact of Fulani-farmers conflicts on livelihood of Burutu local government Area of Delta State. To examine the impact of government strategies on livelihood of Burutu Local Government area of Delta State. To examine the impact of socio-economic effect on livelihood of Burutu local government area of Delta State. The study was anchored on frustration aggression theory. As a cross-sectional survey research design , a structured instrument developed by the researcher to reflect such options as strongly agree, agree, undecided, disagree and strongly disagree popularly referred to as four (4) points likert scale was used to obtain information from the respondents. The population of the study comprised of employee of the selected Local Governments in Anambra state. A sample size of 189 respondents was drawn from the population. Research hypotheses were tested using simple percentage and ANOVA which was carried out with the aid of Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) version 23. Findings from the study revealed that Fulani-herdsmen has significant effect on livelihood of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State. Fulani-farmers conflicts have significant effect on livelihood of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State. Government strategies have significant effect on livelihood of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State. Social-economic effect has significant effect on livelihood of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State. , Federal government should introduce ranching in collaboration with the state government, ban open grazing and equipped the security personnel with sophisticated equipment. There is overwhelming need for involvement of all stakeholders and the desirability of coexisting together. This can go a long way in mitigating farmer- cattle herder conflict in Nigeria.*

Keywords: *Fulani-herdsmen, socio-economic effect, government strategies livelihood.*

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

Conflict between farmers and nomadic cattle herders have also been in common feature of economic livelihood in West Africa (Tonah, 2016). Over the years, Nigeria has witnessed an array of conflicts threatening its territorial integrity and its overall survival as a state. The recent one is the upsurge in the Fulani herders-farmers conflicts, which has become a blistering issue of concern in Nigeria because of its ubiquitous nature and level of savagery. Despite the occupational affinity between the nomadic herdsmen and sedentary crop farmers, the two groups have taken their disagreement to a terrifying and dramatic status of widespread killings, maiming and plundering with the farmers displaced from their ancestral lands (Kwaja & Ademola-Adelehin, 2018). From an economic perspective, the fractured relationship between the herders

and farmers has posed a serious danger to Nigeria's political and socio-economic development as well as the human development index. The consequences have been alarming.

It is estimated that over 10,000 people have been killed over the past decade with more than 6,000 of them being casualties in the past two years (Ilo, Jonathan-Chaver, & Adamolekun, 2019). To underscore the lethality of the Fulani-herders, it is reported that the death toll resulting from conflicts between herders and farmers in 2016 alone was about 2,500 persons and that between 2011 and 2016, fatalities averaged more than 2,000 deaths (International Crisis Group, 2017). This average exceeded the death toll from the Boko Haram terrorist activities in some years within the period. Updated data from the Nigeria Security Tracker documented that fatalities from herders-farmers conflicts in 2017 and 2018 were 1,041 and 2,037 deaths respectively (Campbell, 2018). The record of fatalities on Boko Haram conflicts in 2018 showed a death toll of 2,016 persons, an indication that herders-farmers conflicts were deadlier than the Boko Haram terrorist carnage. Notwithstanding the deadliness of the Fulani herders, the government's response has been poor and uninspiring (International Crisis Group, 2017).

Over time, many herding and farming communities in the same area have developed interdependent relationships through reciprocity, others by exchange and support (Moritz, 2010). Mwamfupe (2015), opines that farmer herders 'relationships are characterized by both conflict and complementarity and are actually two faces of the same coin. According to Hussein (1998), the relationship has always moved between cooperation, competition and conflicts. Herders graze on farmlands that belong to crop farmers and farmers depend on animal dugs for improving soil fertility. Also pastoralists require the calories produced by crop farmers, much as the crop farmers often require the protein and dairy products produced by pastoralists (Abba and Usman, 2008).

However, with decreasing interdependent livelihood activities, the relationship is increasingly characterized by incessant conflicts. Tonah (2016) reports that farmer-herder clashes have only since the 20th century becomes widespread in the coastal countries of West Africa. It is becoming common in nearly every part of Nigeria. According to Pasquale et al. (2007), pastoralist-crop farmers' conflict is the most predominant type of resource use conflict. In a newspaper study of conflict in Nigeria, Fasona and Omajola (2005) reported that farmer-herdsmen conflict accounted for about 35% of conflicts cases reported in Nigerian newspapers. It is widespread in the country and has been on the increase in recent times. Conflict threatens the livelihood resources of people particularly farming communities due to high dependent on natural resources for survival. Herder-farmer conflicts not only have a direct impact on the lives and livelihoods of those involved, they also disrupt and threaten the sustainability of agricultural and pastoral production in West Africa (Moritz, 2010) and invariably the sustainability of livelihoods of rural communities. Livelihood in this context includes all forms of economic generation and employment that support health and wellbeing such as agriculture, small businesses and manufacturing (United State Agency for International Development (USAID), 2005). According to the report, it comprises means by which households obtain and maintain access to the resources necessary to ensure immediate and long survival. These essential resources can be categorized into physical, natural, human, financial, social and political.

Households used these assets to withstand shocks and manage risk that threatens their well-being.

According to the report, conflict restricts or blocks access to one or more of these assets and at its instance, people try to find other ways of obtaining those resources, or compensate for the loss of one resource by intensifying their efforts to secure another (USAID, 2005). Furthermore, conflict has the capacity to severely undermine and constrain development efforts by destroying infrastructure, interrupting production system and diverting resources from productive uses (Adetula, 2007). More often, crop farmers are highly vulnerable, perhaps due to the subsistence, small scale, and rudimentary system of production and over dependence on natural resources for livelihood. Besides, they have limited resources and are dependent on rainfall, traditional farming implements(hoes and cutlasses), family and hired labour with poor access to institutional and infrastructural facilities (input, advisory services and market information, roads, etc.) (Attah, 2012), which have implications for yield per hectare. An investigation on the livelihood impacts on rural farming communities is crucial for appropriate response and intervention by stakeholders. Besides, it is relevance for informed strategy on effective and sustainable management and resolution of conflict.

Herders and farmers conflict in Nigeria and in Burutu Local Government Area in particular is not a new phenomenon partly because conflicts itself is part of human life and a component of every society, but violent conflicts are what societies try to avoid. One cannot deny the fact that herders and farmers conflicts have not existed. What is new however is that while in the past, conflicts between herders and farmers were less in terms of frequency and intensity and in most cases were settled amicably in communities by using traditional peace building mechanism (traditional rulers), the situation has assumed a more dangerous dimension of recent. Buttressing this view, Adetula (2016) asserted that previously the herdsmen were known to wreak havoc in certain communities in Nigeria, but now the rate at which they are committing these crimes has increased exponentially. In fact, the used of sophisticated weapons such as AK 47 guns during these conflicts further attested to the fact that herders and famers' conflicts have assumed a new and a more dangerous dimension that calls for greater intervention by government and NGOs organizations so as to build sustainable peace among the worrying parties. In delta State herders and farmers conflicts have impacted negatively on the socio-economic of the areas affected and the state at large. Integrated Regional Information Network (2009) reported that the two days of fighting between farmers and nomads in June 2009 left 3 dead and a number of pastoralists' settlements killed in Delta State.

Kwaja and Bukola (2018) also reported that in Nigeria, the consequences have been severe as more than 10,000 people have been killed and over 62,000 people have been displaced in the Middle Belt states of Benue, Kaduna, Nasarawa, and Plateau alone. In recognition of the devastating effects of conflicts on the economy, government, both local, state and federal have made frantic efforts in building peace among farmers and herders in the affected communities at different times. Government interventions have largely been in form of deployment of security personnel to flash points in addition to organizing peace building dialogue session for stakeholders. Similarly, Non-Governmental organizations like, religions bodies, traditional leaders and civil society Organizations, both local and International also have organized

advocacy and dialogue sessions on peace among herders and farmers in the State. Despite these interventions, these conflicts still persist as there are alleged pockets of attacks and killings going on in some local government areas. National Orientation Agency (2019) reported that about 27 natives of Burutu Local Government area in delta state brutally killed by suspected herders under the watchful eyes of security personnel who incidentally instructed them to go there and seek refuge. Based on these revelations from literature, it appears as if not much has been achieved with regard to identifying the drivers of herders and farmers conflicts, and the extent of the impact of such interventions in resolving the conflicts between the worrying parties in the State. To fill these gaps, this study investigated the effect of Fulani-farmers conflicts on livelihood in Burutu Local Government area in delta state.

Objectives of the Study

The general objective of this study is to examine the impact of Fulani-farmers conflicts on livelihood in Nigeria: A study of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State. The specific objectives of the study are:

- i. To assess the impact of Fulani-herdsmen on livelihood of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State
- ii. To determine the impact of Fulani-farmers conflicts on livelihood of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State.
- iii. To examine the impact of government strategies on livelihood of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State.
- iv. To examine the impact of socio-economic effect on livelihood of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2. Theoretical Underpinnings

Frustration Aggression Theory

Frustration–aggression theory also known as the ‘frustration–aggression–displacement theory’, is a theory of aggression proposed by John Dollard, Neal Miller, Leonard Doob, Orval Mowrer and Robert Sears in 1939 and further developed by Neal Miller in 1941 and Leonard Berkowitz in 1961. The theory says that aggression is the result of blocking, or frustrating, a person's efforts to attain a goal (Friedman Schustack, 2014). When first formulated, the hypothesis stated that frustration always precedes aggression, and aggression is the sure consequence of frustration. Two years later, however, Miller and Sears re-formulated the hypothesis to suggest that while frustration creates a need to respond, some form of aggression is one possible outcome. Therefore, the re-formulated hypothesis stated that while frustration prompts a behavior that may or may not be aggressive, any aggressive behavior is the result of frustration, making frustration

not sufficient, but a necessary condition for aggression (Zillmann Dolf, 1979). It attempts to give an explanation as to the cause of violence. Frustration is the “condition which exists when a goal-response suffers interference”, while aggression is defined as “an act whose goal-response is injury to an organism (or an organism surrogate). The theory says that frustration causes aggression, but when the source of the frustration cannot be challenged, the aggression gets displaced onto an innocent target (scapegoat). This theory is also used to explain riots and revolutions, which both are believed to be caused by poorer and more deprived sections of society who may express their bottled up frustration and anger through violence (wordpress.com, 2012).

According to Olu-Adeyemi (2017), a number of other variables influence the use of violence as well, for example the culture, the society, and the political environment. The culture must at least accept, if not approve, violent action as a means to an end. Violence is also more likely if the current leadership and/or the socio-economic/political system is seen as unresponsive. Olu-Adeyemi also asserted that the central theme of the theory is that scarcity is the product of insufficient supply (impact of climate population explosion) or unequal distribution of resource as a result of deprivation which ultimately leads to aggression. On the issue of frustration, it means that one’s access to means of livelihood (farming or grazing as the case may be) is being thwarted by another or possibly by particular circumstances and that one’s reaction to this thwarting is that of annoyance. Olu- Adeyemi also added that, deprivation is not based on wants or needs alone, but on the wants and needs that we feel we ought to have or deserve. More often than not, the Herdsmen are frustrated due to desertification, thus, the reality is that they face forced migration and as they migrate, series of challenges are encountered which in turn brings frustration. Similarly, farmers who have struggled to cultivate farmlands also get frustrated whenever herds of cattle destroy their farmlands.

The Fulani Herdsmen terror is a struggle over values and claims to scarce resources in which their aims are to neutralize, injure or to eliminate the host communities in a bid to fend for their animals. The violent activities of the Fulani Herdsmen occur because of the accumulation of residual instigatory effects of frustration. The terrorist activities of the herdsmen are traceable to the desertification that has caused depletion in grazing opportunities or scarcity of feed for their animals which in the long-run affects their economic wellbeing. If a herdsman loses his flock to drought and water scarcity, he may be frustrated because of the loss of livelihood. From this reality, he may be aggressive and since, he cannot channel it to the natural causes, he may in the long-run channel it to any person or group that obstructs his migration to a safe area. On the side of farmers and host communities in Nigeria frustration also occur whenever animals of the herdsmen trample on their farmlands to eat up their crops. And because they are frustrated too, they become aggressive and channel their aggression to the herdsmen and their cows. Owing to this reality, conflict and confrontation is inevitable.

Empirical Review

Eme Ugwu & Onuigbo, (2017) examine the economic cost of Fulani-Farmers Clashes on the populace in general and the nation’s economy in particular.. This scenario has played out many times in Guma, Makurdi, Gwer West, Agatu, Logo, Kwande, Buruku and parts of Kastina-Ala local government areas of Benue State. The same is common in Enugu, Delta, Taraba and Plateau states. This paper takes a look the economic effects of these conflicts by identifying the

remote causes and possible solutions to the challenge. The theory of Human needs served as our framework of analysis while documentary methods of analysis and content analysis were used to generate and analyze data. The study revealed that this pattern of insecurity challenge is detrimental to general well being of the people with its resultant effects in the area low quality of life, food insecurity, high cost of food, population displacement and even death, the destruction of business, properties and equipments, relocation and closing down of businesses. The study suggests that the Nigerian government and her security agencies should be pro-active in their responses, improve their intelligence gathering techniques and peace building and equip and motivate her security forces better.

Ibrahim (2014) examined conflicts over natural resources between pastoralists and indigenous farming communities in Agogo, in the Ashanti Region of Ghana. In recent years, Agogo has gained much coverage in the media over these conflicts. This study attempts to unravel the underlying causes of these conflicts. It argues that the conflicts are shaped by three different interests: farmers, herders and chiefs. The chiefs are interested in gaining revenues from land and natural resources by releasing them to migrants, including herders. This creates pressures on local resources and affects farmers' management of fallow land. It results in herders encroaching into farming areas and farmers moving into herding areas. The pressure on resources and encroachment of cattle onto farm lands, where they destroy crops, results in increasing tensions between herders and farmers which breaks out into violent confrontations.

Dimelu, Salifu, Chah, Enwelu, and Igbokwe (2017) assessed the causes and effects of herdsmen-farmers' conflicts on livelihood of agrarian communities in Kogi State. A total of 135 randomly selected crop farmers was used. Data were collected by use of structured interview and focus group discussion, and analysed using descriptive statistics and factor analysis. The results showed that crop farmers were predominantly male (85.2%), married (85.9%) and with mean age of 51 years. They were small scale farmers with average farm size of 2.9 ha and were engaged in the production of yam (97.8%), cassava(92.6%), maize (92.6%) and other arable crops, mainly for income and household food supply. The farmers indicated that violation of laws/tradition, livelihood interference and cultural factors were the major causes of conflict between crop farmers and herdsmen. Consequently, the socio-economic life, production outcome and settlement of crop farmers are affected, cumulating to breakdown in livelihood assets of farmers. The study recommends that there should be strategic and regular orientation of resource users on the need for co-existence and adherence to regulations regarding use of resources. Multi-stakeholders' efforts exploring grass root participation should be promoted by government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in policies and strategies for management of conflict. Farmers should be assisted with productive resources and training by extension services to reduce vulnerability and protracted conflict in the farming communities.

Enwelu, Dimelu, and Asadu,. (2015). explored farmer-cattle herder conflict and possible preventable and management strategies to ameliorate the situation. The study was based on desk review of available relevant literature. Information was accessed through web search, journals, newspapers, magazines, books and reports. The causes of the conflict were divided into two – immediate and remote causes. The immediate causes identified included: destruction of crops by cattle, contamination of drinking water sources and sexual harassment of women by herders.

Also, the status of farmer-cattle herder conflict was discussed. The current status is worrisome as herders are now carrying sophisticated weapons and farmers are threatening to follow suit for self defence. The effects of the conflict included: loss of lives and property, reduction in output of farmers and herdsmen and displacement of farmers and herders. The strategies to prevent the conflict were: creation of awareness of climate change, tree planting campaign and use of improved technology. Furthermore, strategies to manage the conflict included: setting up of peace-building committee, establishment of open communication channels and payment of compensation. The paper concludes that there is overwhelming need for involvement of all stakeholders and the desirability of coexisting together. This can go a long way in preventing/managing farmer- cattle herder conflict in Nigeria

Ajibefun, (2018) investigated the social and economic effects of the menace of Fulani herdsmen crises in Nigeria. The study specifically examined the causes of Fulani herdsmen and farmers clashes in Nigeria, and the social and economic effects of the menace of Fulani herdsmen in Nigeria. The sample of the study consisted of 250 farmers and 150 respondents from Fulani tribe selected from affected Local Government areas in Southwest, Nigeria via purposive sampling technique. A questionnaire titled Economic and Social Effects of Herdsmen Clashes Questionnaire (ESEHCQ) was used to collect data. Descriptive statistics and inferential statistics of t-test were used to analyze the data generated from respondents. The findings revealed that the major cause of the conflict was destruction of crops. The social effect of the menace of Fulani herdsmen are loss of human life, sexual harassment of human life, acquiring of weapons/arms, reduction in quality of social relationship, reduction of social support and high cases of rape while the economic effect of the menace of Fulani herdsmen are reduction in output and income of farmers/nomads, loss of produce in storage, displacement of farmers, scarcity of agricultural products, loss of house and properties and infrastructural damages. The findings also revealed that farmers and Fulani perception of the causes of Fulani herdsmen and farmers clashes in Nigeria are not different while farmers and Fulani perception of the social effects and economic effects of Fulani herdsmen and farmers clashes in Nigeria are different. Based on the findings, it was recommended among others that representatives of the host communities and Fulani herdsmen should be conveyed under a public forum and involved in the decision making and permitted to take part actively in the planning procedure of restoring peace to most of the affected communities.

Akerjiir, (2018) focuses on the underlining factors that are responsible for the increasing farmer-herder's conflict in Ukpabi-Nimbo community, Enugu state as a case study. In a bid to investigate the structural and processual variables, in understanding the conflict. It also examines the relationships that has existed over time due to the change in the mode of interaction, and the role of government in response to the conflict. Using a qualitative research approach, the study engaged 20 participants from the farmers community and neighbouring community using interview guides, Participant observation and Focus Group Discussion (FGDs). Data acquired was analysed by describing the situations. The Findings reveal that fingers cannot be pointed to one factor causing the increase in the conflict between the farmers and the herders. The various factors responsible for the escalation of the conflict are soil-erosion caused by change in climate, destruction of farmlands caused by cattle grazing done by the Fulani herdsmen. Moreso, cattle

rustling, and cattle theft done by gangs and groups called “Malaysian Boys” who are also raping and using the situation in the community to terrorize the people. It was also found that the government responses to the conflict is slow, and security forces are deployed to the community after an attack has been carried out by the said Fulani herdsmen even though there was an earlier warning prior to the attack that took place in 2016. The study concludes that the investigation into the increasing farmers-herder’s in Ukpabi-Nimbo community is far beyond what the eyes can see, looking at the various factors involve for the escalations and the unclarity as to who is behind the sequences of events.

Awotokun, Nwozor, & Olanrewaju, (2020) examined conflicts and the retrogression of sustainable development: the political economy of herders-farmers’ conflicts in Nigeria. This study generated both primary and secondary data to evaluate the socio-economic and political implications of the herders-farmers conflicts in Nigeria. While the primary data were generated through the instrumentality of key informant interviews (KIIs), the secondary data were obtained from archival materials and other published works. The study found that herders-farmers conflicts have inflicted serious costs on the Nigerian economy in terms of loss of resources and human lives. It also found that these conflicts have jeopardized the prospects of meeting the global goals of poverty eradication and zero hunger. The study equally found that the government has no specific set of strategies to contain the conflicts and that its equivocation and unwillingness to prosecute the architects and perpetrators of the conflicts has emboldened them. The herders-farmers conflicts have had serious impacts on the people. These impacts include human fatalities, social dislocations, especially displacement and disruption of people’s livelihood patterns and the exacerbation of poverty.

Okoro, (2018) examines the prevalence of herdsmen-farmers conflict and its effects on socioeconomic development in Nigeria. The study is anchored on frustration aggression theory, and the theory dialectical-materialism. The research adopts qualitative approach to data analysis which relies on secondary sources like journals, textbooks, newspapers and online publications. Results show that the conflicts have resulted to loss of lives, displacement, distrust, destruction of properties etc. The study concluded that the Herdsmen-farmers conflict created food insecurity, distrust and unemployment. The study recommended that State governments should designate grazing fields for the nomadic herdsmen and make them pay tax to the state.

Emma Chukwuemeka, & Eneh (2019) examine the implications of open grazing system on sustainable development in Nigeria. It was necessitated by the unprecedented burning of houses, killing and maiming of farmers across different blocs of Nigeria. The last few years witnessed violent clashes between pastoralists and crop farmers in various parts of the country over grazing resources which has led to the loss of numerous lives and properties, food shortages arising from abandonment of farm lands and destruction of crops, environmental degradation and conflicts of ethno-religious coloration among the various sections that make up the Nigerian state. The study adopted ex-post facto research method. And content analysis method was used as analytical tool. An in-depth survey was carried out adopting focus group discussion, face- to- face interview to complement data got from records. The study revealed among others that pastoralists perceive cattle breeding as government business which should take preeminence over other agricultural activities in Nigeria.

3.METHODOLOGY

3.1: Research Design

The research design that was adopted in this study is the survey design, Personal observation, interview and questionnaires were used in this study to seek clarifications and convenience on the part of the respondent given schedules.

3.2: Area of the Study

Delta State is a state in south-south Nigeria. The area called Delta State was once an integral part of the old Western Region of Nigeria. It became an autonomous entity on August 27, 1991 after having been part of the old Midwestern State (1963 1976) and the defunct Bendel State (1976 1991). Delta State was created from the then Bendel State 27th August 1991 by the then regime of General Ibrahim Babangida. Delta State is named after the delta region of the River Niger. It's capital is Asaba. Warri is the biggest commercial city in the state. Other major towns are Agbor, Ughelli, Oleh, Ozoro, Oghara, Sapele, Koko, Burutu, Okpanam and Ogwashi-ukwu. Delta State can be considered a miniature version of Nigeria, with various ethnic groups. Delta State shares common boundaries with Edo and Ondo States to the north west, Imo and Anambra to the north east, Rivers and Bayelsa States to the south east. In the south west and south it has approximately 122 kilometres of coastline bounded by the Bight of Benin on the Atlantic ocean. Delta State started with twelve local government areas. These were split further into nineteen local governments on September 27, 1991, and to twenty five LGAs in 1997. Asaba, located at the northern end of the state, is the capital. A master plan for Asaba Capital Territory, with an estimated area of 762 sq. km and designed to transform Asaba into a modern metropolis is being pursued by the state government.

3.3: Sources of Data

The primary source of data was used in this study because of the variables that were used. Questionnaire and semi-structured interview were used to collect data from the selected members of Burutu is a [Local Government Area](#) in [Delta State, Nigeria](#)

3.4: Population of the Study.

This describes characteristics of Burutu is a [Local Government Area](#) in [Delta State, Nigeria](#), which constitute the universe of this study. The population of interest therefore consists of all inhabitant of Burutu is a [Local Government Area](#) in [Delta State](#). Thus the population of this study is two hundred and eighty-six thousand, four hundred (286,400) people made of male and female. However the study will focused more on the population range of 18-64 years, which is ninety-eight thousand and five hundred (98,500). This population figure was derived from National Population Commission (NPC, 2020) collaborative survey for 2022.

3.5: Determination of Sample Size.

The sample size for this study was determined using the Borg & Gall formular of (1973). Statistically, the Borg & Gall (1973) formular for sample size is given by

$$n = (Zx)^2(e) [N]$$

$$(Zx)^2 = \text{Confidence level at } 0.05$$

$$e = \text{Error of margin (0.05)}$$

$$N = \text{Population of Interest} = 98,500$$

$$X = \text{Significance Level}$$

3.6: Sample Size and Sampling Technique

Given the nature of this study, it was difficult to cover the entire population of (4871), so a fair representative sample of the population therefore was imperative. Accordingly, the sample size for the study was determined by using the Borg & Gall (1973) formular for calculating sample size as follows

$$n = (1.960)^2 (0.05) [98,500]$$

$$n = (1.960)^2 (0.05) [98,500]$$

$$n = (3.8461) (4925)$$

$$= 1894 \implies 189$$

$$n = 189$$

Sampling Technique

The research adopts two sampling techniques namely purposive sampling and stratified sampling. Purposive sampling enables the researcher to choose at respondents that was of interest to the study while the stratified random sampling permits each of the different respondents in the states to be selected without bias.

3.7: Method of Data Collection.

The study makes use of structured questionnaire to elicit information from the respondents

3.8: Method of Data Analysis.

Statistics such as frequency count and percentages were put to use in the analysis of research questions while research hypotheses were tested using correlation analysis and simple regression analysis. The research hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of significance. Analysis was carried out with the aid of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS).

PRESENTATION ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

This chapter presents the data obtained from the respondents through the administered questionnaire. One hundred and eighty-nine (189) were administered among the selected respondents. However, one hundred and seventy-two (172) copies of questionnaire were retrieved. Therefore, the analysis and interpretation of data were only based on the returned questionnaire. The validity and reliability of this study is highly ensured, despite the number of questionnaires not returned. The method used was percentage table technique and t-test for the hypothesis. The method was adopted because it possesses a unique estimating property which includes unbiased, efficiency and consistency when compared with other linear unbiased estimates.

4.1 Demographic Table

		SEX			
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	MALE	104	31.0	60.5	60.5
	FEMALE	68	20.3	39.5	100.0
	Total	172	51.3	100.0	

Sources: SPSS Output 2022

The above table reveals that the one hundred and four of the respondents which represents fifty-seven (60.5) persons were male respondents, while sixty-eight (68) respondents which represent 39.5% were female respondents. By implication, male respondents were more than female respondents by 21.0% in our selected population sample for this study. The implication of this is to enable us to know the number of female and male that successfully returned their questionnaire.

		Statues			
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	MARRIED	82	24.5	47.7	47.7
	SINGLE	58	17.3	33.7	81.4
	DIVORCED	15	4.5	8.7	90.1
	SEPERATED	17	5.1	9.9	100.0
	Total	172	51.3	100.0	

Sources: SPSS Output 2022

In the table above, out of the one hundred and seventy-two (172) respondents, eighty-two (82) of the respondents were married. While fifty-eight (58) respondents which represent 33.7 percent are single. Fifteen (15) respondents which represent 8.7 were divorced, while separated were seventeen (17), which represent 9.9. Thus marital status table help us to know the number of single, married, and divorce respondents that answered the distributed questionnaire.

EDU					
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	
Valid	WAEC/NECO	52	15.5	30.2	30.2
	B.SC/HND	93	27.8	54.1	84.3
	MSC	20	6.0	11.6	95.9
	PHD	7	2.1	4.1	100.0
	Total	172	51.3	100.0	

Sources: SPSS Output 2022

The table above indicates that fifty-two (52) respondents which representing 30.2% maintain to acquired WAEC/NECO, while 54.1% percent of the respondents which represents ninety-three (93) is B.sc/HND. Twenty (20) which represent 11.6 percent have m.sc, while seven (7) have Phd. This as the one of demographic item helps us to identify the education qualification of the respondent

Age					
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	
Valid	18-25	20	6.0	11.6	11.6
	26-33	42	12.5	24.4	36.0
	34-40	47	14.0	27.3	63.4
	41-50	20	6.0	11.6	75.0
	51-BOVE	43	12.8	25.0	100.0
	Total	172	51.3	100.0	

Sources: SPSS Output 2022

The above table reveals that the 11.6% of the respondents which represents twenty (20) persons were within the age bracket 18-25, while forty-two (42) respondents which represent 24.4% were within the age bracket 26-33. Again, 27.3% of the respondents which represents forty-seven (47) persons were within the age bracket 34-40, while twenty (20) respondents which represent 11.6% were within the age bracket 41-50. Lastly, forty-three (43) respondents which represent 25.0% were within the age bracket 51 and above. The implication of this is to enable us to know the age bracket of respondents that successfully returned their questionnaire.

4.2 Descriptive Analysis

This section presents the descriptive statistics on Fulani-farmers conflicts and livelihood.. The analysis of the individual characteristics of these variables is presented in the table below:

Table 1 Descriptive Characteristics of the Variables

Variables	Mean	Standard Deviation
Fulani-herdsmen	20.26	3.332
Fulani-farmers conflicts	17.89	3.751
government strategies	18.74	4.070
social economic effect	18.25	3.951

Source: Author’s Compilation From SPSS Version 20

This table present the summary of statistics used in the analysis. It provides information about the mean and standard deviation of the variables used in the study. The mean value for Fulani-herdsmen is 20.26 while the standard deviation is 3.332. Fulani-farmers conflicts and government strategies recorded a mean value of 17.89 and 18.74 with a standard deviation of 3.751 and 4.070 respectively. Social economic effect has mean value of 18.25 with standard deviation of 3.951.

4.3 Regression Analysis

Multiple regression result was employed to test the effect of independent or explanatory variables on the dependent variables. The result of the multiple regression analysis is presented in the tables below.

Table 2 Summary of the Regression Result

The result of the multiple regressions formulated in chapter three is presented in the tables below.

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson
1	.265 _a	.690	.504	3.241	1.679

a. Predictors: (Constant), Fulani-herdsmen Fulani-farmers conflicts government strategies social economic effect

b. Dependent Variable: livelihood

Table 2 shows that R^2 which measures the strength of the effect of independent variable on the dependent variable have the value of 0.690. This implies that 69% of the variation on Fulani-farmers conflicts is explained by variations in Fulani-herdsmen, Fulani-farmers conflicts, government strategies and social economic effect. This was supported by adjusted R^2 of 0.504.

In order to check for autocorrelation in the model, Durbin-Watson statistics was employed. Durbin-Watson statistics of 1.679 in table 3 shows that the variables in the model are not autocorrelated and that the model is reliable for predications.

4.4 Hypotheses Testing

Hypothesis one

H_{01} : Fulani-herdsmen has no significant effect on livelihood of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State

ANOVA

Table 3

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	139.809	4	34.952	47.346	.000
Within Groups	90.065	183	.738		
Total	229.874	187			

Sources: SPSS Output 2020

In testing this hypothesis, the F-statistics and probability value in table 3 is used. Fulani-herdsmen variables have F-statistics of 47.346 and a probability value of 0.000 which is statistically significant. Therefore, we reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypotheses which state that Fulani-herdsmen has significant effect on livelihood of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State

Hypothesis Two

Ho₂: Fulani-farmers conflicts has no significant effect on livelihood of Burutu Local government Area of Delta State

ANOVA

Table 4.

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	182.143	2	45.536	40.358	.000
Within Groups	137.652	185	1.128		
Total	319.795	187			

Sources: SPSS Output 2020

Second hypothesis has f-statistics of 40.358 and a probability value of 0.000 which is statistically significant. Therefore, we reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis and conclude that Fulani-farmers conflicts has significant effect on livelihood of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State

Hypothesis Three

Ho₃: Government strategies has no significant effect on livelihood of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State

ANOVA

Table 5

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	.746	3	.373	7.286	.002
Within Groups	161.869	184	1.305		
Total	162.614	187			

The test conducted revealed that the large significance value (F.sig<.002) indicate no group differences. Since the F-value of 7.286 with a significance of .002 is less than .05 (i.e .002<.05), there exist no group difference. Therefore, Government strategies has significant effect on livelihood of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State

Hypothesis Four

Ho₄: Social-economic characteristics has no significant effect on livelihood of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State

ANOVA

Table 4.3.3

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	.746	3	.373	5.236	.002
Within Groups	161.869	184	1.305		
Total	162.614	187			

The test conducted revealed that the large significance value (F.sig<.002) indicate no group differences. Since the F-value of 5.236 with a significance of .002 is less than .05 (i.e .002<.05), there exist no group difference. Therefore, social-economic effect has significant effect on livelihood of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State

4.6 Discussion of Findings

This research examined the effect of examine the impact of Fulani-farmers conflicts on livelihood in Nigeria: A study of Burutu Local Government area of Delta State. Data were sourced from the selected habitant of the community. The data generated were subjected to statistical analysis and the following output was ascertained.

Fulani-herdsmen and livelihood: The study found that Fulani-herdsmen has a significant effect on livelihood in Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State. The implication of these findings is that, the presences of Fulani headsmen are being felt in the Burutu community. They carried supplicated weapon and destroy farm produce of the community. This further agreed with the findings of Eme Ugwu & Onuigbo, (2017) examine the economic cost of Fulani-Farmers Clashes on the populace in general and the nation's economy in particular. The findings also corroborate with the findings of Dimelu, Salifu, Chah, Enwelu, and Igbokwe (2017). The farmers indicated that violation of laws/tradition, livelihood interference and cultural factors were the major causes of conflict between crop farmers and herdsmen. Consequently, the socio-economic life, production outcome and settlement of crop farmers are affected, cumulating to breakdown in livelihood assets of farmers..

Fulani-farmers and livelihood: The study found that Fulani-farmers has a significant positive effect on livelihood in Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State. The implication is that the conflicts between Fulani farmers are always felt in the community, the conflicts are blood bath war, Fulani headers men has cause troubles in various communities in Nigeria, Burutu community is not left behind. The finding is in line with the study of Enwelu, Dimelu, and Asadu., (2017). The strategies to prevent the conflict were: creation of awareness of climate change, tree planting campaign and use of improved technology. Furthermore, strategies to manage the conflict included: setting up of peace-building committee, establishment of open communication channels and payment of compensation.. This also agrees with the study of

Ajibefun, (2018) farmers and Fulani perception of the causes of Fulani herdsmen and farmers clashes in Nigeria are not different while farmers and Fulani perception of the social effects and economic effects of Fulani herdsmen and farmers clashes in Nigeria are different..

Government strategy and livelihood: The study found that government strategy has significant positive effect on livelihood in Burutu local government area of delta state. This implies that government has been doing their best to remedy the Fulani-farmers clash in various communities in Nigeria. Various researcher has flown at government slow action to Fulani conflicts in some communities in Nigeria. Akerjiir, (2018) government responses to the conflict is slow, and security forces are deployed to the community after an attack has been carried out by the said Fulani herdsmen even though there was an earlier warning prior to the attack. Awotokun, Nwozor, & Olanrewaju, (2020) corroborates this finding by stating that, government has no specific set of strategies to contain the conflicts and that its equivocation and unwillingness to prosecute the architects and perpetrators of the conflicts has emboldened them. The herders-farmers conflicts have had serious impacts on the people. These impacts include human fatalities, social dislocations, especially displacement and disruption of people's livelihood patterns and the exacerbation of poverty

Socio-economic effect and livelihood: The study found that Socio-economic effect has a significant positive effect on livelihood in Burutu Local Government Area of Delta. This implies that socio-economic activities affect the livelihood of the community. The findings is in line with findings of Okoro, (2018) Herdsmen-farmers conflict created food insecurity, distrust and unemployment. The study recommended that State governments should designate grazing fields for the nomadic herdsmen and make them pay tax to the state. Ayodele Akinyemi Dongkum, Alexandra and Welburn, (2014) found also that Overall productivity has decreased and calving rates were particularly low

CONCLUSION, RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Conclusion

Fulani-farmers Conflict in agrarian communities largely revolves on livelihood issues. The results show that in addition to some structural factors, conflicts are associated with livelihood pressure and competition between crop farmers and herdsmen. Specifically, the dominant composite causes revealed in the study are violation of farm products, interference on livelihood sources, and cultural differences. Consequently, this impacts on the social-economic effect of crop farmers and subsequently, the entire livelihood assets of crop farmers ranging from physical, natural, human, financial, and social to political assets. The livelihood structure, food security and wellbeing of farmers are threatened and compromised which contribute to poverty, food and nutrition insecurity and poor health of farming communities, and further escalation of conflicts. Therefore, sustainably addressing conflict in farming communities is critical to achieving economic, agricultural development and sustainable livelihood.

Unfortunately, the nonchalant attitude of the Federal Government especially seemed to have emboldened the attackers to strike more frequently now than before at the nerve centre of

unprotected communities in many parts of the country. The disturbing rise in Fulani ethnic militancy should be considered as a national tragedy and placed among the priority security challenges facing the country which requires prompt and accelerated military action. It should attract the attention and concern of every well meaning Nigerian who loves this country and every effort should be put in place to assist the Federal Government deal decisively with the situation before it gets completely out of control like the Boko Haram problem which started like a local conflict several years ago before developing into the huge monster it has now become

5.2 Recommendation

- i, Federal government should introduce ranching in collaboration with the state government, ban open grazing and equipped the security personnel with sophisticated equipment
- ii. Finally, there is overwhelming need for involvement of all stakeholders and the desirability of coexisting together. This can go a long way in mitigating farmer- cattle herder conflict in Nigeria.
- iii. Strategies by government, NGOs and communities that target conflict management or resolution should promote support for sustainable livelihood. Farmers should be assisted with productive resources like improved seeds, technologies and other agro inputs by the government to reduce vulnerability and protracted conflict in communities.
- iv. Multi-stakeholders' efforts exploring grass root alliance and commitment should be promoted by government, policy makers and NGOs in policies and strategies for management of conflict and establishment of compliance to laws and regulation of instituted rural authorities.

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