Chapter 1 Introduction

1.1 Background

The terrorist organization Boko Haram activities in the Northern parts of Nigeria and Cameroon have resulted to refugee and Internally Displaced Persons debacle which has resulted to a dire humanitarian crisis in Cameroon. Since 2001, Boko Haram has been perpetrating deadly terrorist attacks in the Northern parts of Nigeria. In 2013 the Nigeria-based terrorist group successively expanded its terror attacks and bombings into Cameroon. Until then Cameroon had been a safe haven for refugees and displaced persons. The attacks in Cameroon have resulted in the huge movement of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDP) in to Cameroon. This dissertation seeks to Boko Haram insurgency and the dire humanitarian crisis it has created in the north of Cameroon as a result. The second issue this dissertation will address is the response to this humanitarian crisis by the government of Cameroon, benevolent Cameroonians, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), foreign countries and United Nations humanitarian agencies. Third, this research will propose some policy recommendations and sustainable solutions that will seek to address this dire humanitarian crisis in the north of Cameroon.

Cameroon like most African countries, experienced political instability during the fight for independence. The front line pressure group in Cameroon; Union Populaire du Cameroun (UPC) was regarded by the French government as a terrorist group due to their approach and the tactics they implemented to stop the French occupation of Cameroon (Atangana,M 2010). Since Cameroon got its independence from the French and British Colonial rule, it has experienced political stability as compared to other neighboring states such as Nigeria, Central Africa Republic and Chad which have had series of political unrest and terrorist attacks rendering these countries with a constant flow of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and refugees. This political stability enjoyed by Cameroon earned her the name "a safe haven" for refugees, tourists and foreigners. Cameroon hosted thousands of refugees fleeing their countries due to political unrest and terrorist attacks (http://www.unhcr.org/553605ea9.pdf).

Cameroon which has been enjoying relative peace and stability started having signals of cross border terrorist attacks from the Islamic terrorist group Boko Haram in 2013. In May 17th 2014, ten Chinese workers were abducted in a raid on a construction company camp in Waza in the Far North region of Cameroon, near the Nigerian border. Vehicles and explosives were also taken in the raid, and one Cameroon soldier was killed. This was the dawn of terrorist activities and the infiltration of the Islamic sect group Boko Haram in Cameroon (Onuoha, 2014). Gone were old beliefs about the almost unique security the state of Cameroon experienced by virtue of its excellent friendly ties with its neighbors and gone too, were broad confidences in the safety of persons and property in Cameroon (Ganor, 2009). Terrorism which arguably is the biggest threat to world peace and security in modern times was not a common phenomenon; very few countries experienced terrorist attacks before the bombing of the Wall Trade Center in the United States of America on the 9th of September 2001 (Ghadis, 2005). Terrorism and terrorist attacks became a common phenomenon all over the world with especially in Middle East, Europe, United States of America and some parts of Africa. This worldwide manifestation of terrorism include the Syrian Islamic Liberation Front in Syria, AL-Qaeda in Afghanistan, Hezbollah in Lebanon, Taliban in Pakistan, Hamas in Palestine etc.; Africa which has been cited as a breeding ground for terrorism has terrorist groups such as Al Shabaab in Somalia, the Lord's Resistance Army in Central African Republic, the Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) in Mali, the M23 Rebels in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Boko Haram in Nigeria to mention a few (Okoli, A. C., & Iortyer, P. 2014). These terrorist

attacks have resulted to untold casualties and the most devastating consequences have been to persons and property which has led to a very high toll of humanitarian crisis. This humanitarian crisis have been in the form of an increase in internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugee influx, spread of heinous diseases, food insecurity, gender and sexual based violence (Hughes,2012).

Boko Haram terrorist attacks in the north of Cameroon have provoked untold humanitarian consequences. These humanitarian consequences have greatly affected the socio-economic and religious activities of Cameroon especially in the north of the country which shares a vast border with the north of Nigeria. To worsen the humanitarian crisis, are thousands of refugees fleeing Boko Haram assault in northern Nigeria to seek refuge in northern Cameroon. This porous border with Nigeria have been used as a route by Boko Haram terrorists to carry out spontaneous attacks which have rendered life miserable to the inhabitants of this region. The population of this area have been living in constant human right abuses, displacement, total food insecurity, lack of medical facilities and access to some primary social facilities (www.unicef.org). Mindful of the commitment by the Cameroonian government, NGOs and humanitarian agencies to handle the humanitarian disaster, it further deteriorates due to overcrowded refugee camps, indiscriminate violence and the inaccessibility of some rural areas which have made humanitarian intervention a night mare.

It is from this stand point that this thesis seeks to examine the nexus between the Boko Haram insurgency and the humanitarian crisis it has created in the north of Cameroon. It will also try to examine the response to this humanitarian crisis by the state of Cameroon, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UN humanitarian agencies. This research will further propose some policy recommendations and sustainable solutions to this dire humanitarian crisis in the north of Cameroon.

Though this thesis is focused on Boko Haram insurgency in Cameroon and the dire humanitarian impact it has created, it is worthy of note that the other countries in the Lake Chad Basin have also been affected by the insurgency. The insurgency started in northeastern Nigeria and spread to Cameroon, Chad, and Niger. A brief insight is given below why these countries are all suffering from Boko Haram insurgencies.

The Kanuri People of Northern Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria:

The Kanuri indigenes occupy present day Northern Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria. They trace their origins to ruling lineages of the medieval Kanem-Bornu Empire. This group identified themselves a unique group and propagated self-determination. In the 1950s a Kanuri nationalist movement was created. The Pan-Kanuri nationalist claimed a surface area of 532,460 square kilometers including a Northern Cameroon, Northern Chad, Northern Niger and Northern Nigeria. In 1954, the Borno Youth Movement (BYM) was created. It played a very important role as a mass regionalist political party up through the end of colonialism. Prior to the creation of colonial borders which form present day nation-states of Cameroon and Nigeria, indigenes in the northern parts of Nigeria and Cameroon were living in the same villages; villages that during the boundary demarcation exercise by the Germans were split in the middle to be part Nigeria and part Cameroon. The Kanuri people of both the northern Nigeria and Cameroon never recognized the "European map" because despite the boundary they share the same language, culture, tradition, market place and mosque. These indigenes have close blood relationship and view the boundary demarcation as an attempt by Europeans to separate their families. Some Kanuri people if questioned would have difficulties to determine whether they are Nigerians or Cameroonians because by accepting a country, they feel alienated from family.

1.2 Aim and rationale for doing this research

The aim of doing this thesis is to investigate the Islamic sect Boko Haram, its infiltration in the north of Cameroon and the humanitarian consequences of its violence and insurgencies. Probing into the response from the state of Cameroon, NGOs and UN humanitarian agencies to this dire humanitarian crisis in the north of Cameroon will also be of primordial concern. This research will contribute newer insights into the on-going discourse on the Islamic sect Boko Haram which has been rated as the deadliest terrorist group according to the Global Terrorism Index (edition.cnn.com/2015/11/17). Much have been published on terrorism and its consequences but little literature have been written by scholars on the humanitarian repercussions of terrorism, thus it is one of the raison d'etre for this thesis interest in researching on the humanitarian impact of the deadliest terrorist sect activities in the north of Cameroon. Also considering the fact that little have been published on Boko Haram insurgency in Cameroon, it will be of great interest for this research to contribute to the existing literature of terrorism in general and Boko Haram in

particular. It is also expected that this study will come out with some quality policy recommendations on how to face Boko Haram threats in Cameroon and most important, how to manage the humanitarian crisis which is almost paralyzing the northern region of Cameroon in particular and the state in general.

1.3 Definition of the problem

In this thesis, I will analyze my subject matter in cognizance of Boko Haram's on-going insurgency in the north of Cameroon in greater details, its humanitarian repercussion and the response of the state of Cameroon, NGOs and UN humanitarian agencies to the dire humanitarian crisis caused by Boko Haram.

1.4 Research questions

The following research questions can be deduced from what is written above:

- How has the Boko Haram insurgency in the northern region caused a humanitarian crisis?

The following sub questions can still be inspired or derived from the main research question above which will help to be more explicit:

- How the Islamic sect Boko Haram did came into existence?

- Why has Boko Haram insurgency concentrated in the Lake Chad Basin?

- How has the state of Cameroon, NGOs and UN humanitarian agencies responded to the humanitarian crisis caused by Boko Haram insurgency?

1.5 Structure of the research

For a better elaboration and understanding of this research, it has been designed into six chapters. Chapter one gives an overview of the research topic, the rationale for doing the research,

questions that will be answered in the course of elaborating the research, the method that will be use in the thesis. Chapter two is dedicated to examine existing literature that have been published by scholars on some of the main concepts that will be used in the research to help the reader have a clue of the context in which the research has been carried out. Chapter three elaborates on the theoretical framework for the thesis. It attempts to map different theoretical positions and assumptions that can impart knowledge and understanding on the ongoing Boko Haram insurgency in northern Cameroon and the dire humanitarian crisis. The chapter also discusses how these theoretical approaches can act as complementary and synergetic tools in developing the themes and ideas in the thesis. Chapter four and five present the findings of this research and chapter six is consecrated in drawing some conclusions and recommendations to the on-going Boko Haram menace in the north of Cameroon.

1.6 Research Methodology

This thesis addresses primarily the connection between Boko Haram insurgency in the North of Cameroon and the dire humanitarian crisis in the northern region of Cameroon. This portion will describe the methods that will be used to conduct this research and findings.

This thesis uses qualitative research as the methodology, which is one of the two main research approaches to research methodology. Qualitative research method has been chosen as oppose to quantitative research method which focus more on finding answers to the "what", "where" and "when". Rather, I have chosen qualitative research which in simple terms, explains "why" and "how" questions.

The data used in this research have been collected from both primary and secondary sources. It was possible to base the collection of data solely on primary source from my field studies but this option could have restricted this thesis from the rich scholarly publications and rich news articles on terrorism in general and Boko Haram in particular. It could have also limited my scope on exploiting existing literature on humanitarian crisis, thus there will be some limitation in the scope of data collection. On the other hand, it was also possible to complete my findings based on information gathered only on secondary sources but this approach will also fail to bring out new facts on the issue and the realities on the field will not be felt. By carrying out primary research, I will be able to contribute new insights especially as Boko Haram insurgency in the

north of Cameroon is on-going and there is limited literature on it. Also, as a student of Global Refugee Studies and a Cameroon national, I have always been very interested in having a great insight on the present terrorism crisis that has greatly affected livelihood in the northern region of my country; Cameroon. I carried out an ethnographic study in the northern region for three months (January, February, and March, 2016) with a local non-governmental organization (NGO). In the course of my field work, I was privilege to visit most of the villages that have suffered from Boko Haram attacks. I had the opportunity to interview the inhabitants of these villages, Internally Displaced Persons and refugees from northeastern Nigeria. It was a very risky experience I had during my field work; I was in constant fear due to the indiscriminate attacks and suicide bombings from the Islamist sect Boko Haram. In Fotokol, we were trapped by Boko Haram militants, thanks to the prompt intervention of Cameroon military that rescued us. I had to escape leaving behind my bag containing my computer and all the data I succeeded to collect during my field trip.

The primary data collected consisted of semi structured interviews conducted at the Minawao refugee camp hosting refugees fleeing violence in north-east Nigeria, IDPs in Kolofata, Fotokol, Amchide and Ashigashiya which are villages that have suffered continuous terrorist attacks from the Islamist sect Boko Haram, rendering thousand homeless. The secondary sources consist of a broad variety of scholarly literature on terrorism, insurgency and humanitarian crisis that will be exploited to answer the research questions. These include journals, books and articles. Internet exploration is used broadly to conduct research and also for a variety of data collection as most of information on Boko Haram insurgency in northern Cameroon is found online.

1.7 Limitation

Time has always been a limitation in carrying out such a project. I could have wish to have more time to carry out more research and come out with a more perfect piece of work. There is a rich variety of scholarly literature on terrorism but little publications on Boko Haram insurgency in Cameroon. It limited my access to information on Boko Haram insurgency in Cameroon and made my work very stressful. Also the on-going insurgency made movements and accessibility

to information very difficult. Most inhabitants and of the region and government officials were skeptical to give out relevant information for security reasons.

Chapter 2 Literature Review

This thesis examines the principal question as to the nexus between Boko Haram insurgency in northern Cameroon and the dire humanitarian crisis in northern Cameroon. Having discussed in the first chapter the importance of this research and posed the research's primary and secondary questions, chapter two will focus on reviewing existing literature on our subject matter. This thesis will exploit journals, books, articles, interviews and some research work existing on terrorism and humanitarian crisis. To better expatiate, this chapter will be divided under three main themes or concepts; terrorism, insurgency and humanitarian crisis.

2.1 Terrorism

The word "terrorism" never existed before the French Revolution's reign of terror (1793-1794) which was directed at the French government for killing thousands of suspected enemies of the revolution (Mitchell,2012),thus it is an ancient practice that has existed over 2000 years (www.sagepub.com). The word terrorism is one of the most disputed in social science (Spencer, 2006). Omar Malik (2001) in his book "Enough of the definition of terrorism" describes how complex it has become to give a universal acceptable definition of the word. The popular phrase by Yasser Arafat, late Chairman of the PLO (the Palestine Liberation Organization), in his speech before the United Nations in 1974 said "one man's terrorist is another man's freedom

fighter" makes the definition more complex and difficult to classify the term "terrorism". This clearly shows how politicians bias can influence the manner in which the definition of the term "terrorism" is coined (Spencer, 2006). Some scholars like Walter Laqueur have clearly stated that " a comprehensive definition of terrorism...does not exist nor will it be found in the foreseeable future" (Laqueur,1977) and according to Catherine (2013),policy makers, academics and law enforcement officials have failed to provide a unique, concise and unanimous definition of terrorism (Catherine,2013). This lack of a clear and unanimous definition of terrorism have hampered international efforts to counter the terrorist threats; according to Zeidan in his book "Agreeing to Disagree", "states cannot adequately counteract a phenomenon that they absolutely agree must be eliminated as long as they fundamentally disagree on its very definition"(zeidan,2005).

It will be important to look at some definitions of the word "terrorism" as defined by some scholars and institutions. Some definitions are more concerned on the terrorist organization mode of operation, others lay more importance on the motivations and characteristics of terrorism, while others are focuses on the modus operandi of the individual terrorist. The Oxford English Dictionary defines terrorism as the "unofficial or unauthorized use of violence and intimidation in the pursuit of political aims" (Stevenson, 2010). This definition has not gone without criticism, it has been criticized for not taking into consideration the nature of the perpetrators, the mechanism used in attaining their goal and what the objectives could be beyond their political nature (Catherine, 2009).

Bruce Hoffman, a renown theorist within the study of terrorism defines "terrorism" as "violence or equally important, the threat of violence-used and directed in pursuit of or in service of a political aim" (Hoffman, 2006). This definition includes violence and political aims but fails to indicate who the perpetrators of the act are and their targets.

Stephen Sloan: the definition of terrorism has evolved over time, but its political, religious, and ideological goals have practically never changed (Stephen, 2006).

Alex Schmid and Albert Jongman (1988) define terrorism as "an anxiety-inspiring method of repeated violent action, employed by individuals, groups or state actors for idiosyncratic, criminal or political reasons. Whereby the direct targets of violence are not the main targets. The

immediate human victims of violence are generally chosen randomly (targets of opportunity) or selectively (symbolic targets) from a target population, and serve as message generators.

Alexander Yonah (1976) aptly defined terrorism as: "the use of violence against random civilian targets in order to intimidate or to create generalized pervasive fear for the purpose of achieving political goals".

Some governments and institutions have also come up with the definition of terrorism; I will examine some of these definitions.

Arab Convention for the Suppression of Terrorism defines terrorism as "any act or threat of violence, whatever its motives or purposes, that occurs in the advancement of an individual or collective criminal agenda and seeking to sow panic among people, causing fear by harming them, or placing their lives, liberty or security in danger, or seeking to cause damage to the environment or to public or private installations or property or to occupying or seizing them, or seeking to jeopardize a national resources."

League of Nations Convention Definition of Terrorism (1937): terrorist acts are "all criminal acts directed against a State and intended or calculated to create a state of terror in the minds of particular persons or a group of persons or the general public."

U.S. Department of Defense Definition of Terrorism: terrorism refers to "the calculated use of unlawful violence or threat of unlawful violence to inculcate fear; intended to coerce or to intimidate governments or societies in the pursuit of goals that are generally political, religious, or ideological."

U.S. Department of State defines terrorism as the "premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by sub-national groups or clandestine state agents." (Ray, 2007).

The US Department of defense defines terrorism as "the calculated use of violence or threat of violence to inculcate fear, intended to coerce or to intimidate governments or societies in the pursuit of goals that are generally political, religious, or ideological" (Ronczkowski,2011).

League of Nations Convention defines the act of Terrorism (1937) as "all criminal acts directed against a State and intended or calculated to create a state of terror in the minds of particular persons or a group of persons or the general public" (Brown,2005).

The UN General Assembly (Resolution 49/60) describes terrorism as: "criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public"

The Arab Convention for the suppression of terrorism defines it as: "any act or threat of violence that occurs in the advancement of a criminal agenda and seeking to sow panic among people, causing fear by harming them, or placing their lives, liberty and security in danger, or seeking to cause damage to the environment or to public and public institutions and property".

The UN Security Council (Resolution 1566) (2004) defines terrorism as: "criminal acts, including acts against civilians committed with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury, or taking of hostages with the purpose to provoke a state of terror in the general public or in a group of persons or particular persons, intimidate a population or compel a government or an international organization to abstain from taking action against terror".

Types of Terrorism

- Scholars, book makers, institutions and agencies have categorized or classified terrorism differently. It will be important for me to examine the categorization of terrorism to better analyze in which category our case study; Boko Haram falls. H.E Alapiki in his lecture entitled "The state and the culture of terrorism in Nigeria: Unveiling the Real Terrorist" (Alapiki, 2015), gives a classification which shows five different types as follows: nationalists, religious, state sponsored, left wing and right wing terrorism.

- **Nationalist Terrorist:** Nationalist terrorist have as main motive to "form their own national group, often by drawing attention to a fight or struggle for national liberation" (Rothenberger, & Müller (2015). Nationalist terrorism can sometimes be difficult to define since many groups involve in terrorism and brutality insist they are not terrorists but freedom fighters. This goes in line with Yasser Arafat late Chairman of the PLO (the Palestine Liberation Organization), in his speech before the United Nations in 1974 who said, "One man's terrorist, is another man's freedom fighter".

- **Religious Terrorist:** To Harry Kawilarang (2004), religious terrorists seek to use violence to further what they see as divinely commanded purposes, often targeting broad categories of foes in an attempt to bring about sleeping changes. Almost half of the twenty eight most active internationally terrorist groups were religiously motivated (Wilkinson,2011)

- **State-sponsored Terrorist:** Bruce Hoffman in his book entitled "Inside Terrorism" (2006) looks at state-sponsored terrorist groups as "organizations deliberately used or supported by radical states as foreign policy tools. It is cost effective way of waging war covertly, through the use of surrogate warriors". States like Iran, Syria, Lebanon, and Libya have been frequently accused of sponsoring foreign terrorist organizations.

- **Left-wing Terrorist:** Left-wing terrorist groups seek to overthrow capitalist democracies and establish socialist or communist government in their place. Left-wing terrorist always struggle to minimize the use of violence to avoid hurting as they belief they are the "protectors" of the suffering masses.

- **Right-wing Terrorist: Right-wing terrorism** is **terrorism** motivated by a variety of far right ideologies and beliefs, including anti-communism, neo-fascism, neo-Nazism, racism, xenophobia and opposition to immigration. This type of terrorism has been sporadic, with little or no international cooperation.

No matter what definition is adopted, it is generally acclaimed that terrorism is the most deadly threat in the world today and some scholars are of the opinion that it has moved from the traditional terrorism (Spencer, 2006) to a "new terrorism". Walter Laqueur proposes that, "there have been a radical transformation, if not a revolution in the character of terrorism". The period between the late 1960's and the late 1980's have been described by most scholars in the field of terrorism as the period marked by traditional or so-called "old terrorism" which was use more of left and right-wing as well as ethno-national separatist terrorism (Spencer,2006). It will be relevant to look at some factors that have provoked some scholars to think terrorism has changed from traditional or "old terrorism" to "new terrorism" by examining the characteristics of both traditional terrorism or "old terrorism" and "new terrorism".

Characteristics of old terrorism:

Many scholars have argued that the period between the late 1960s and the late 1980sis marked by traditional or so called "old terrorism" which was more of left-wing as well as ethno-national separatist terrorism (Spencer, 2006). The following characteristics has been attributed to "old terrorism":

- Predominantly, "old terrorism" was dominated with secular motivations; that is their acts were not connected with religious and spiritual matters. Their acts of terrorism had rational political reasons, therefore they had specific demands that were negotiable (Guelke, 1998). For example when they wanted the release of certain jailed comrades, or payment in exchange for the release of hostages in a hijacking. Even where demands were difficult to meet, such as the reunification of a divided country, the creation of an ethno-national homeland or the abolishment of the existing the capitalist system, in many circumstances there appeared to be room for dialogue or negotiation.

- According to Steven Simon & Daniel Benjamin (2000), violence by "old terrorist" in general was "targeted and proportionate in scope and intensity to the practical political objectives being pursued". "Old terrorist avoided using extreme violence; this would jeopardize their claim of legitimacy and will render them unpopular among supporters and will also have a negative impact in their fund raising endeavors, the recruitment of new followers and sympathizers.

- "Old terrorism attacks were discriminate; that is targets were carefully selected not out for random destruction. Attacks were more specific and directed at well-defined highly symbolic target of the authority they opposed (Higgins, 2011). Their attacks were specific to target government officials, the aristocracy class, leading politicians, banking sector or symbolic targets like government buildings. More often than not, "old terrorist" attacks were used as a means of propaganda to appeal for more support. As Walter Laqueur points out "it was, more often than not, 'propaganda by deed" (Laqueur, 2003).

Traditional terrorism or "old terrorism" most often, has a well-organized structure with a clear hierarchical organization with specific functions. James Fraser compares the organizational structure of "old terrorism" to the structure of a pyramid, with leadership who decides on the

overall policy and plans at the top. At the next level are active terrorists who carry out attacks and are often specialized in certain activities such as bomb making, surveillance and assassination. At the third level, according to James Fraser, it comprises active supporters who supply intelligence, weapons, supplies, communications, transportation and safe houses. And at the bottom, are passive supporter's concord with the objectives of the terrorist organization and disseminate their ideas and their emotional support.

Characteristics of "New Terrorism"

Some new characteristics of terrorism have instigated book makers from distinguishing "new terrorism" from "old terrorism" (Benjamin and Simon, 2000). Scholars have been divided as to the genesis of "new terrorism", however many scholars point to the mid 1990's,the bombing of the World Trade Center in New York in 1993 and the sarin gas attack in the Tokyo underground by the Aum Shinrikyo cult in 1995 (Spencer,2006).

• The prominence of religion and radical Islamism have dominated the idea of "new terrorism" as opposed to traditional terrorism which was primarily secular in its orientation. Majority of today's terrorist groups are link to religious fanaticism which was not the main motive for the formation of terrorist groups in the past. A clear evidence to support this premise is given by Nadine Gurr and Benjamin Cole in their book; "the new face of terrorism" (2002) that out of sixty-four international terrorist organization in 1980,only two were classified as religious. Fifteen years later; that is statistics in 1995 showed that twenty five out of fifty eight terrorist organizations were religiously oriented. 'New terrorism' is often portrayed as a terrorism, which rejects all other ways and promotes an uncompromising view of the world in accordance with the belief of the religion. Bruce Hoffman believes that this religious motivation is the defining characteristic of 'new terrorism', which produces "radically different value systems, mechanisms of legitimization and justification, concepts of morality and, world view" (Spencer, 2006).

• Another characteristic of "new terrorism" is the indiscriminate use of excessive violence by new terrorist organization. Laqueur argues that "the new terrorism is different in character, aiming not at clearly defined political demands but at the destruction of society and the

elimination of large sections of the population" (Morgan,2004).Violence in "modern or new terrorism" has been regarded as a divine duty... executed in direct response to some theological demand... and justified by scripture." (ibid). To "new terrorists" indiscriminate violence is a legitimate cause to religious achievement and as Audrey Cronin points out; to religious terrorists their struggle is seen as good against evil, therefore dehumanizing their victims and considering non-members of their organization as unfaithful and unclean (Gregg,2014).

- "Old terrorists" strikes were targeted to specific targets meanwhile "new terrorists" attacks are indiscriminate and it is aimed at having the largest casualties as possible. What becomes surprising is that their targets are indiscriminate even on Muslim residence and on mosques leaving behind huge casualties; a glaring example is the Boko Haram attacks on mosques in the north of Cameroon with untold human and material casualties. According to report from the Reuters, a suicide bomber killed 12 people and wounded at least one in an attack on a mosque in northern Cameroon on Wednesday January, 2016, Cameroon officials in the Far North region said, the latest attack in an area beset by violence linked to Nigeria's Boko Haram. (http://www.reuters.com/article/us-cameroon-attacks-idUSKCN0UR0SM20160113).

- Unlike "old Terrorist" who took into consideration their supporters in carrying out suicide bombings and violent destruction. "New terrorists" don't consider to alienate their supporters from their acts of destruction, and holding themselves only accountable to God.

- Another distinction between "old terrorists" and "new terrorists" is that "old terrorists" always claim responsibility for their acts of violence, this is not common with "new terrorists" who do not always claim responsibility and sometimes deny responsibility for their actions. To the "new terrorists", the action is important and not the claim to it (Gottlieb, 2014).

- Another important characteristics that makes "old terrorism" different from "new terrorism" is the unwillingness of the "new terrorist" to seat at the negotiation table to seek for solutions to disputes. "New terrorists" are not interested in any kind of negotiation; Duyan, A. (2012) in his book: "Defense against Terrorism: Different Dimensions and Trends of an Emerging Threat", states that "today's terrorists don't want a seat at the table, they want to destroy the

table and everyone sitting at it". Unlike "new terrorists" who were always on the table for negotiations, "new terrorists" are not ready for any negotiation but to carry out continuous large scale violence.

- Scholars like Walter Enders and Todd Sandler have observed that 'new terrorists' are not scared to engage in risky and more complex acts. Whereas most actions by 'old terrorists' involved an escape plan, 'new terrorists' seem more willing to give their own life while orchestrating a terrorist act. 'New terrorists' believe they are martyrs; they are more prepared to die because martyrdom is seen as a way of reaching heaven (Enders & Sandler, 2000).The threat of mass destruction by terrorists is a fundamental part of the concept of 'new terrorism'.

2.2 Insurgency

Insurgency is one of the concepts that is frequently used in this thesis and it will be important to look at some of the definitions given by scholars and institutions. Its examination will help also be relevant to establish a link to Boko Haram and its violent activities in the north of Cameroon. From the definitions that is examined below, the lie between terrorism and insurgency is very insignificant. This justifies why the two concepts are used as synonyms in the thesis.

Insurgency has been defined by the US Counterinsurgency Guide as 'the organized use of subversion and violence to seize, nullify, or challenge political control of a region.' Insurgents seek to subvert or displace the government and completely or partially control the resources and population of a given territory. They do so through the use of force (including guerrilla warfare, terrorism and coercion/intimidation), propaganda, subversion and political mobilization (Initiative, I. C, 2009).

Insurgency can be defined as a strategy adopted by non-ruling groups within a state to obtain political objectives when they are unable to do so through conventional means. Insurgency is therefore the strategy of the weak and is usually characterized by protracted, asymmetric and psychological warfare, which mobilizes the population. The main objective according to Millen and Metz, of these insurgent groups is to discredit the existing government and gain popularity.

Insurgents may have various objectives; they may want to over throw an existing government and obtain power, which is known as revolutionary insurgency, or their objectives may be limited to secession, autonomy, separation, or a change in policy. (Millen & Metz, 2004).

Gary Bernsten defines insurgency as "a protracted struggle by one or more armed groups that employs violence with the goal of overthrowing an existing political order. More simply, it is a campaign aimed at seizing political power (Bernsten, 2008). Thus insurgent groups are out to weaken the strength and legitimacy of governments, while strengthening their control and popularity in the area of their activities.

Most insurgent groups in the 20th century copied the Maoist "Protracted warfare" system which had some defined characteristics; like a clear defined objectives and an organized approach to attain those objectives, most insurgent groups had rigid structures with a hierarchical control which is centralized. However, contemporary insurgent groups have derailed from the Maoist "Protracted Warfare" model and to borrow the words of IC Initiative (2009), "modern insurgencies are increasingly being recognized as complex matrices of irregular actors with widely differing goals. They often lack a centralized command structure but typically are linked by dynamic, flat networks (often significantly enabled by modern communications systems)".

2.3 Humanitarian Crisis

A humanitarian emergency is an event or series of events that represents a critical threat to the health, safety, security or well-being of a community or other large group of people, usually over a wide area unless immediate and appropriate action is taken and which demands an extraordinary response and exceptional measures. According to Macrae (1998), the principal focus should be on the prevention of threats to life or well-being through timely and appropriate action.

Another definition of humanitarian crisis has been given by Macrae, J., & Harmer, A. (2004). In their book "Beyond the continuum: an overview of the changing role of aid policy in protracted crises." They defined as any situation in which there is an exceptional and widespread threat of life, health or basic subsistence that is beyond the coping capacity of individuals and the community. They continue to emphasize that in such a situation, there must be a need for intervention and response that go beyond the relief of symptoms ad that might extend to support livelihoods and the diversification of coping strategies.

Emmanuelar, I. (2015) in an article titled "Insurgency and humanitarian crises in Northern Nigeria: The case of Boko Haram." defines a humanitarian crisis as a singular event or series of events that are threatening in terms of health, safety or well-being of a community or large group of people. Humanitarian crisis can be either natural disasters, man-made disasters or complex emergencies which occur as a result of several factors that prevent a large group of people from accessing their fundamental needs, such as food, clean water or safe shelter (Alexander, 2002).

A humanitarian crisis is understood to be a situation in which there is an exceptional and generalized threat to human life, health or subsistence. Humanitarian crisis usually appear within the context of an existing situation of a lack of protection where a series of pre-existent factors (poverty, inequality, lack of access to basic services) provoked by a natural disaster or armed conflict, multiply the destructive effects.

United Nations High Commission for Refugee (UNHCR) defines a humanitarian emergency or crisis as "any situation in which … life or well-being … will be threatened unless immediate and appropriate action is taken, and which demands an extraordinary response and exceptional measures' (UNHCR Handbook for Emergencies).

Oxfam Great Britain (GB); an international confederation of 17 organizations working in approximately 94 countries worldwide to find solutions to poverty and what they consider injustice around the world. They define a humanitarian crisis as 'any situation in which there is an exceptional and widespread threat to life, health or basic subsistence, that is beyond the coping capacity of individuals and the community' (Oxfam GB Emergency Response Manual).
The proliferation of humanitarian crisis has led to the coining of a new word known as "complex emergency". Complex emergency also known as political emergencies are man-made crisis where a situation of violence causes human fatalities, forced displacement, epidemics and

famine. These are combined with a weakening or total collapse of economic and political structures and, at times, it is combined with natural disaster (Twigg, 2004)**.** A humanitarian emergency or crisis arises when such an event affects vulnerable populations who are unable to withstand the negative consequences by themselves. "Vulnerability" here can be equate to a reduced capacity of individuals or groups to resist and recover from life-threatening hazards, and is most often connected to poverty. That is, poor populations are more likely to be more vulnerable to man-made disasters like wars and terrorism or natural disasters. The groups which are more prone to vulnerability are children, pregnant and nursing women, migrants, and displaced people (http://humanitariancoalition.ca/media-resources/factsheets).

Types of humanitarian crisis

Humanitarian crisis can be grouped under natural disaster, man-made emergencies or complex emergencies:

- The first category of humanitarian crisis or emergencies can be caused through natural disasters. This can be geophysical (e.g. earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanic eruptions), hydrological (e.g. floods, avalanches), climatological (e.g. droughts), meteorological (e.g. storms, cyclones), or biological (e.g. epidemics, plagues).
- The second category of humanitarian crisis can be caused by man-made disasters such as armed conflicts, plane and train crashes, fires and industrial accidents.
- The last category is complex emergencies, which often have a combination of natural and man-made elements, and different causes of vulnerability and a combination of factors leads to a humanitarian crisis. Examples include food insecurity, armed conflicts, and displaced populations.

Considering the fact that we are more concern with complex humanitarian crisis which is the case of northern Cameroon, it will be of great importance to outline some features or characteristics of a complex humanitarian crisis:

- Extensive violence and loss of life

- Displacements of populations

- Widespread damage to societies and economies

- The need for large-scale, multi-faceted humanitarian assistance

- The hindrance or prevention of humanitarian assistance by political and military constraints

- Significant security risks for humanitarian relief workers in some areas.

Chapter 3 Theoretical Framework

Chapter three elaborates on the theoretical framework for the thesis. It attempts to map different theoretical positions and assumptions that can impart knowledge on the ongoing Boko Haram insurgency in northern Cameroon and the dire humanitarian crisis and discusses how these theoretical approaches can act as complementary and synergetic tools in developing the themes and ideas in the thesis. The following theories; Neo realist theory, Pull and Push theory, Frustration and Aggression theory and Securitization theory will be used in examining the linkage between Boko Haram terrorist activities in Cameroon, the humanitarian crisis it has caused and the response from the state of Cameroon, NGOs and United Nations humanitarian agencies.

3.1 Neo Realist Theory:

States see forced migration through the lens of security. From a neo-realist perspective, forced migration only matters insofar as it has a relationship to national security. This is one of the reasons why the majority of mainstream IR work on forced migration has examined the relationship between refugees and national security. In particular, it has examined the role of refugees as combatants and refugee camps as sanctuaries for combatants during internal or interstate conflicts (Lischer, 2005). In a Southern state context, refugee camps maybe sites for wider trafficking in arms or offer succor or refuge to combatants (Crisp 2003). Alternatively, the mere presence of refugees on the territory of another state may indirectly undermine national security by creating tensions or competition for resources between displaced people and the local host population (Milner 2009). Recent work has explored the relationship between refugees and terrorism and whether protracted refugee or IDP situations might represent potential sources of recruitment (Juma and Kagwanja 2008).

Applicability

Neo-realist theory is of great relevance in this thesis in explaining how the flow of refugees from Nigeria influenced the presence of Boko Haram in Cameroon. Most Boko Haram militants squeezed themselves into the Cameroonian territory as refugees and later carried out deadly suicide bombings in public places and churches.

Cameroon authorities have suspected Boko Haram terrorists in the Minawao refugee camp and some villages in the north who have presented themselves as refugees. Boko Haram have tried to use the Minawao refugee camp for militarization and some deadly suicide bombings attacks were carried out by terrorists who were taken for refugees. Like in most refugee camps, militarization begins with the movement of refugees due to political violence, followed by a flow of rebels, weapons, and materials accompanying the mass of refugees into centers holding the displaced people. These camps become centers of operation for future attacks against the host country. Suicide attacks and insurgencies is then conducted through raids across borders, with camps providing the necessary manpower and supplies. Edward Mogire (2006) explains that "refugee militarization has also become a common phenomenon as rebels increasingly find it easy to expedient to use refugees and refugee camps to pursue their armed insurgencies". Camps are targeted because of the vulnerable circumstances of their refugees. "Camps constitute a captive audience, extremely vulnerable to psychological and physical pressure from anyone in a

position of authority, particularly from fellow refugees, who capitalize on refugees' instinct to "stick together" in the face of adversity and alienation." Considering these threats, the Cameroonian authority has tightened security in and around the overcrowded Minawao refugee camp to puncture any move by Boko Haram terrorist group to use the refugee camp as a source for militarization and recruitment.

3.2 Pull and Push Theory:

Ernest Ravenstein of German origin is one of the first person to theorize on migration. He used census data from Wales and England to come out with his "Laws of Migration" in 1889. Ravenstein concluded that migration is prompted by a "push-pull" process; that is, disparaging situations in one place (oppressive laws, heavy taxation, violence, human rights abuse, wars) push people out, and favorable conditions in an external location "pull" them out (Tobler,1995). Ravenstein's laws stated that the primary cause for migration was better external economic opportunities; the volume of migration decreases as distance increases; migration occurs in stages instead of one long move; population movements are bilateral; and migration differentials (e.g., gender, social class, age) influence a person's mobility.

Applicability:

The Pull and Push Theory is relevant in the understanding of this thesis more especially when dealing with the push factors. Ernest Ravenstein is of the opinion that there are some factors that push or impel migrants out of their comfort zone. These migrants most often cross national borders due to wars and persecution and end up as refugees or asylum seekers while others remain within their territorial border and become internally displaced persons (IDPs). The 1951 Geneva Convention Relating to the status of this category of immigrants compel signatories to this Convention which Cameroon is one, not to return these refugees to places where they could be persecuted.

The push factor for Nigerian refugees and Cameroon internally Displaced Persons is the Boko Haram terrorism in north eastern and northern Cameroon. The Regional Refugee Coordinator and Regional Representative of UNHCR in charge of West Africa; Liz Kpam Ahua in a press conference which I attended declared that just in the lake Chad basin, there are 1,800 (one million eight hundred) refugees who have been pushed out of Nigeria due to Boko Haram violence and a majority of these refugees in the Lake Chad Basin are seeking refuge in Cameroon. A report by Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN) states that as of October 30th 2013, Cameroon was hosting about 8,128 Nigerian refugees in the far north region of Cameroon and a huge number of internally displaced persons.

3.3 Securitization Theory:

States looked at refugees as desperate people in need of protection and assistance but today, refugees are being looked upon as a security problem and potential threats to their countries of host and the world at large. By defining security through the eyes of security theory, one will be able to understand why refugees have suddenly become a security problem to host countries and the world at large. According to securitization theory, a situation becomes a security threat within the scope of international relations not because it unavoidably constitutes an objective threat to the state but because the state has considered it a security problem (Stone, 2009), thus measures a taking by the state to prevent such a threat from being accomplished. From the above observation, one can say that security must not be an actual threat but anything the state deems to be a threat and special measures are taking to avoid such a threat from manifesting. It does not suffice for the state to perceive a threat and take extraordinary measure to avoid such a threat from executing, but the state also has to persuade its citizen to believe that there is an actual threat to the state's integrity. According to Buzan et al (1998), this definition of security is connected to social theory and the idea of manipulation of "truth." Securitization is not an easy task; one must convince a targeted audience of the existence of a threat (Mogire, 2011, Buzan et al, 1998, Kingdom, 1995).

The Copenhagen School of thought looks at security from the same perspective: "Copenhagen School theorists argue that in international relations something becomes a security issue when it is presented as posing an existential threat to some object – a threat that needs to be dealt with

immediately and with extraordinary measures." (Schneider, 2015). According to the Copenhagen school of thought, for there to be a security issue, there must be a "designation of an existential threat requiring emergency action or special measures and the acceptance of that designation by a significant audience." (Barry Buzan, Ole Weaver, Jaap de Wilde, 1998). Securitization theory is not directed only to states as threats to other states, but also individuals and groups of individuals; like the case of refugees. Thus securitization theory perceives refugees as threats to a state's identity and sovereignty. Like the theory of Realism, Securitization theory also link refugees to the idea of threat to a state's sovereignty considering the mass movement of refugees who have been associated to wars and political instability in some host states.

Policy makers, are of the opinion that states hosting refugees should consider refugees as contributing factor to war, and take special measures to protect their territories from "invaders" (Loescher 1992, Zolberg, Suhrke, and Aguayo 1989).

Applicability

Cameroon is hosting 65.000 refugees from Nigeria and 254.000 from the Central African Republic (CAR). Refugee flow from Nigeria into Cameroon have been a great security problem. Apart from being a burden for Cameroon to provide shelter and basic necessities, most terrorist are disguised as refugees and have smuggled into the Minawao refugee camp and villages in the north of Cameroon as refugees. It becomes almost impossible to distinguish who is a refugee and who is a terrorist.

The presence of thousands of Nigerian refugees have been a major economic, social, political and environmental challenge to Cameroon. From my interview with some Cameroonians living in the north of Cameroon where majority of Nigerian refugees are hosted, they complained that the presence of these refugees have increased the competition of scarce resources such as water, food, medical facilities and housing. According to Deikun and Zetter (2010), increasing competition and conflict between communities over limited urban resources such as land and

water can aggravate the potential for urban crises (Deikun and Zetter, 2010). I conducted an interview with Cameroonian residents in Fotokol, Amchide, Kolofata and Tourou villages, Nigerian refugees living in these villages with relatives and also with Nigerian refugees living in the overcrowded Minawao refugee camps. The three groups interviewed had a similar complain of a sharp increase in the demand for health services, infrastructure such as water supply, sanitation and education. The inability of the government of Cameroon to step up the demand has provoked a humanitarian crisis in the northern region of Cameroon.

Chapter 4 Examination of Islamic sect Boko Haram

Chapter four of this thesis will be consecrated for the understanding of Boko Haram; its ideology, goals, structure, main operational base and span of activity. This chapter will also examine the presence and evolution of the Islamist sect Boko Haram in the north of Cameroon and the impact it has created.

4.1 What is Boko Haram?

Boko Haram which means "Western education is forbidden", is a Sunni Islamist sect which was created in 2002 in the north-eastern State of Nigeria, precisely in the city of Borno. Some authors have said the founders of Boko Haram got inspiration from a notorious religious sect that existed in north of Nigeria. This sect, which was known as Maitatsine, was founded in the 1970's by

Mohammed Marwa, a Cameroonian national resident in the north of Nigeria. His teachings on Islamism brought a lot of controversy among Muslim faithful's, it instigated riots in Nigeria and resulted in the death of thousands of people. He was finally deported to his country Cameroon by Nigerian authorities due to his controversial teachings and uprising that it caused (Agbiboa, 2014).

The city of Borno which is the main operational base of Boko Haram, shares borders with the Republic of Niger to the north, Lake Chad (The Republic of Chad) and to the northeast with the Republic of Cameroon (Onuoha, 2014). It is worthy of note that the location of Borno is quite relevant to our understanding of the spread of Boko Haram activities in the Cameroon in particular and the Lake Chad Basin in general. The Islamist sect Boko Haram was created by an Islamic cleric named Mohammed Yusuf as a reaction to the influence of western teachings and democratic transition in Nigeria. The official name of the Islamic sect is not Boko Haram but Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati wal-Jihad which means "People Committed to the Propagation of the Prophet's Teachings and Jihad". The name Boko Haram was given to the group in Maiduguri which can be roughly translates as "Western education is forbidden" in Hausa. The initial objectives of Boko Haram was to wipe western influence out of Nigeria by Islamization of Nigeria, the implementation of Sharia and the purification of the practice of Islam in Nigeria (Nchi, 2013). They later expanded their objectives when they paid allegiance to the Islamic State (IS) to create an Islamic State of West Africa Province (ISWAP). This explain why all the countries in the Lake Chad Basin have been affected especially Cameroon which is this thesis main focus. They operate through hostage taking, mass killing, guerilla warfare, looting and banditry, arson, and media propaganda.

Mohamed Yusuf, was the first leader of Boko Haram, under his leadership, the group established a "state within a state" in Borno with its cabinet, a large farm land, and its religious Police (Walker, 2012). According to Andrew Walker (2012), Boko Haram was attracted by many because they offered shelter, food, and by offering welfare handouts. These philanthropic gesture attracted many especially refugees from war in neighboring Chad and jobless Nigerian youths who had been abandoned by the corrupt Nigerian political system. One thing that was not clear was the source of the group's money to sponsor its activities and humanitarian gestures; some

say it was money received by Yusuf from Salafist contacts in Arabia and others suspected they raised money from wealthy Northern Nigerians. A northern Nigerian business man was arrested by Nigeria's State Security Service (SSS) in 2006 who was linked to the sponsoring of Nigerian's youths in Al-Qaeda training camps in Mauritania. In an article published by Clarion Project, they claim that Osama Bin Laden invested1 $3 million in northern Nigeria, where Muslims are the majority, to promote his brand of Salafist Islamism, topple the Nigerian government and establish a sharia-based state (www.clarionproject/bokoharm).

Seven years after its creation, in July 2009 there was a direct confrontation between the Nigerian Police and the Boko Haram militants who were traveling in a convoy to attend the funeral of one of their member (Perouse, 2014). The group was intercepted by my security officers who were enforcing the control of motorcycle helmets and in the course of the control an argument occurred which led to shootings and destruction of police stations in Bauchi and Yobe.

In response to the Boko Haram vandalism, the Bauchi government carried out a crackdown and serious man haunting of the members; more than seven hundred members of the sect were arrested while those who escaped started killing Muslim and Christians indiscriminately in Maiduguri. The police intensified their haunt for the members of Boko Haram and anyone suspected of being a supporter or sympathizer of Boko Haram was arrested. Mohammed Yusuf and father in law were among those arrested and executed immediately after their arrest (ibid).

According to Andrew Walker (2012), not much is known about where the members of Boko Haram who fled Maiduguri went to though Abubakar Shekau, Mohammed Yusuf's right hand man was suspected to have relocated to a hideout in northern Cameroon. However, the group's uprising in Maiduguri called for the attention of global Jihadist movement. Reports from Nigeria-based security and the UN Security Council, showed that Boko Haram militants were trained in Jihadist camps in Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Tuareg rebel camps in Mali, camps across the Sahel region and others.

Boko Haram was silent within the period of July 2009 to mid-2010, after the serious crack down and man haunt of its members by the Nigerian authorities. As earlier mentioned, some authors hold to the opinion that Mohammed Yusuf's right hand man and next in command; Abubakar Shekau fled to the north of Cameroon (Walker, 2012). In mid-2010, Boko Haram

was back in Maiduguri; they attacked police stations in Borno and Yobe using hit-and-run tactics and executed a campaign of indiscriminate assassinations (Mantzikos, 2014). On the 24th of December 2010, series of bombs were detonated near churches and markets in the Jos, killing scores of people and on the eve of New Year 2010, a bomb detonated in a popular open-air fish restaurant and market in Mogadishu barracks, around Abuja killing ten persons. More terrorists attacks were carried out which was not directly attributed to Boko Haram. It was until August 2011 that a Boko Haram suicide bomber drove a car into the UN building in Abuja and exploded a massive bomb killing twenty three persons, wounding many and a lot of material damage (Innocent, & Onyishi, 2014). Boko Haram released a video of the suicide bomber expressing his martyrdom. This attack made Boko Haram headline news in the world and it was given attention as a terrorist organization having the technical and doctrinal capacity to produce suicide bombs (Bamidele, 2015). The new leader of the group, Abubakar Shekau, Mohammed Yusuf's former right hand man, made himself public through videos he posted on You Tube. Since August 2011 there have hardly been a week without Boko Haram militants planting bombs in public or in churches in the north-east of Nigeria. The terrorist group finally gained total attention around the world when they abducted over 200 girls from a secular school in Chibok in April 2014 which recent report shows that some of the girls have been used as suicide bombers and wives to the terrorists (Brigaglia, A. (2015). The Islamist sect has been designated as a terrorist group by the following countries and organizations; United Kingdom: July 12, 2013 to Present, U.S. State Department Foreign Terrorist Organizations: November 13, 2013 to present, United Nations: May 22, 2014 to present, EU Designated Terrorist Organizations: May 28, 2014 to present.

4.2 The presence and evolution of Boko Haram in Northern Cameroon

The Nigeria-based Boko Haram terrorist group has successively expanded its terror attacks and bombings into Cameroon since 2013. As earlier mentioned in the introduction, Cameroon had been a safe haven due to its peace and political stability it enjoyed before 2013.Cameroon had never recorded any death from terrorist attacks except during the fight for independence that a political party "Union Populaire Du Cameroun" militants where dubbed terrorist by the French

government. Thus up to 2013, Cameroon recorded no deaths from terrorism but just in 2014, Cameroon had 530 deaths from Boko Haram's encroachment into the Cameroonian territory (Global Terrorism Index, 2015). After their incursion of the northern region of Cameroon, there has been an increased toll of material and human loss. Below are the major casualties suffered by Cameroon from 2013 Boko Haram incursions to present:

- On the 19th of February, 2013 a French family of seven, including four children, on holiday, were abducted by armed men on motorcycles. Boko Haram claimed responsibility for the abduction. The family was family was freed in April 2013 after the Cameroon government negotiated with the terrorist group.
- In November 14, 2013 a French Roman Catholic priest Father Georges Vandenbeusch was abducted and Boko Haram claimed responsibility. On December 31, the French President Francois Hollande said he has been freed.
- April 5, 2014: Two Italian priests and a Canadian nun were abducted in their parish 800 kilometers (497 miles) to the north of the capital of Extreme north. This abduction was blamed on Boko Haram and after negotiations, the hostages were freed in June 2014.
- On May 16th 2014, ten Chinese workers were on a camp at a construction site. Boko Haram terrorist claimed responsibility for the abduction. These Chinese regained their liberty after the Cameroon government negotiated with the terrorist group.

- A suspected cross-border raid overnight by Nigeria's radical Islamic group Boko Haram killed two Cameroonian soldiers, a Cameroonian security official said on Friday on condition of anonymity (Agence France-Presse, Friday July 25, 2014).

- Nigerian Boko Haram militants kidnapped the wife of Cameroon's vice prime minister and killed at least three people on Sunday in a cross-border attack involving more than 200 assailants in the northern town of Kolofata, Cameroon officials said (Agence France-Presse, Monday July 28, 2014).

- Friday July 26, 2014 residence of northern region of Cameroon witnessed two cross border from the Nigeria's Islamist militant group Boko Haram, killing at least four soldiers and prompting the Cameroonian army to send reinforcements to the area. This information was given the Reuters by a Cameroonian military officer (Reuters, Saturday July 26, 2014).

- A Boko Haram attack on a border town in northeast Nigeria forced thousands of people to flee on Monday, in a fresh assault indicating the militants' growing ability to strike at will (Agence France-Presse, Monday August 25, 2014).

- Twenty-seven hostages seized by suspected militants from Boko Haram in Cameroon this year, including 10 Chinese workers, have been released, the Cameroon presidency said on Saturday (Reuters, Saturday October 11, 2014).

- Islamists from Nigeria's Boko Haram killed at least three civilians over the weekend as they attacked six communities in the remote north of neighboring Cameroon, a defense ministry source told AFP today (Agence France-Presse, Tuesday November 11, 2014).

- Suspected Boko Haram Islamist fighters from Nigeria kidnapped around 80 people, many of them children, and killed three others on Sunday in a cross-border attack on villages in northern Cameroon, army and government officials said (Reuters, Sunday January 18, 2015).

- On Wednesday 4th of February, 2015 Boko Haram fighters killed more than 100 people in the north Cameroon town of Fotokol, murdering residents inside their homes and a mosque (Reuters, Thursday February 5, 2015).

- On Monday 9th February, 2015 suspected members of Boko Haram kidnapped 20 people from a bus in northern Cameroon, then executed 12 of them (Agence France-Presse, Tuesday February 10, 2015).

- Fighters from Nigerian Islamist group Boko Haram killed at least ten people in overnight attacks on two villages in neighboring northern Cameroon, two senior army sources told Reuters today (Reuters, Friday April 17, 2015).

- According to a report by Agence France-Presse, nineteen people were killed in Thursday

night's attack on a Cameroonian village by Nigeria-based Boko Haram militants, a security source said in an updated toll, adding that most of the victims were beheaded (Agence France-Presse, Saturday April 18, 2015).

- On July 27, two attacks targeted the residence of a deputy prime minister of Cameroon, whose wife was abducted and the palace of Kolofata was also attacked, the Sultan was kidnapped with his wife and their five children. The government of Cameroon went into serious negotiations with the terrorist and a huge ransom was paid to the terrorists in October the same year in exchange of the hostages. (Reuters. N.d. 18 Jan 2015. Web. 19 Jan 2015).

- Cameroon witnessed another attack from the Islamic sect on the 6th of September 2014 in the town of Fotokol leaving behind casualties (Global Terrorism Index, 2015).

- On the 17th of December 2014, 117 Boko Haram assailants attacked soldiers and residents the Cameroon town of Amchide in the north of Cameroon. These terrorists detonated explosives, set houses and shops ablaze. In a clash with the terrorists, a Cameroonian soldier was killed.

- In January 18, 2015 Boko Haram kidnapped 80 hostages from northern Cameroon, many of which were children. Cameron's army was able to free 24 of the kidnapped hostages, while pursuing Boko Haram members back to Nigeria. (Reuters. N.d. 18 Jan 2015. Web. 19 Jan 2015).

- In February 2015, Chadian troops invaded a Boko Haram stronghold in Gamboru killing 200 militants. In response, Boko Haram attacked and murdered 70 civilians in a neighboring Cameroonian town, Fotokol. The Cameroonian military killed 300 terrorists and an unknown number was wounded (Al Jazeera America. Web. 18 Aug. 2015.).

- On Tuesday July 14th, 2015 the UN chief Ban Ki-moon condemned twin suicide bombings in Cameroon. This was the first suicide bombing by Boko Haram in the country. He called for better cooperation to fight the militants (Agence France-Presse, Tuesday July 14, 2015).

- On Monday July 27, 2015 three villagers were beheaded during a weekend raid in Cameroon by Boko Haram jihadist fighters from neighboring Nigeria, security forces said (Agence France-Presse, Monday July 27, 2015).

- Before July 22, Boko Haram contented their attacks in Cameroon border villages. In July 22, 2015 a double suicide attack was carried out in the heart of the capital city of the extreme north region, Maroua. 11 persons were killed in the attack and 32 persons seriously injured. According to the UN children's agency, some 500,000 children have been forced to flee Boko Haram militants in the last five months after an upsurge in attacks in Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad and Niger (Agence France-Presse, Friday September 18, 2015).

- On Wednesday 22nd July, 2015 a double suicide attack killed at least 11 people in the far north of Cameroon which has been attributed to the Nigerian Islamist extremists from Boko Haram (Agence France-Presse, Thursday July 23, 2015).

- The United States today condemned Boko Haram suicide attacks in Cameroon and Nigeria as "horrific and indiscriminate" and deplored the militant group's use of children as bombers (Reuters, Friday July 24, 2015).

- According to a report from Reuters, at least 19 people were killed in a suicide bombing in the northern Cameroonian town of Maroua on Saturday July 25, 2015, a local military commander said, just three days after twin bombings there suspected to have been carried out by Boko Haram (Reuters, Sunday July 26, 2015).

- As part of security measures, Cameroon has deported more than 2,000 Nigerians who were living in the country illegally. This measure is intended to prevent suicide attacks by Boko Haram jihadists, (Agence France-Presse, Saturday August 1, 2015).

- On Wednesday August 5th, 2015 a local government source said at least eight people were killed and about 100 others were kidnapped by suspected Boko Haram militants in an overnight raid on a village near Cameroon's northern border (Reuters, Wednesday August 5, 2015).

- On Sunday September 13, 2015 the Reuters reported that at least seven people were killed in two bomb attacks on Sunday in the northern Cameroon town of Kolofata, according to government officials, in what appeared to be the latest attack by the Boko Haram Islamist militant group from nearby Nigeria (Reuters, Sunday September 13, 2015).

- On Wednesday September 15, 2015 a report from the United Nations states that thousands of Nigerian refugees who fled to southeast Niger and Cameroon to escape the Islamist group Boko Haram are in an "atrocious" situation (Agence France-Presse, Thursday September 17, 2015).

- In a report published on Wednesday September 16, 2015 by Amnesty International stated that the Nigerian Islamist insurgent group Boko Haram has killed some 400 civilians since last year in northern Cameroon, with dozens more dying in a "heavy-handed" response by security forces (Agence France-Presse, Wednesday September 16, 2015).

- Six Cameroonians, including four civilians, were killed on Thursday September 18th, 2014 in the far north of Cameroon following two incursions by Boko Haram militants (Agence France-Presse, Friday September 19, 2014).

- On Tuesday 22nd September, 2015, two women suicide bombers who were foiled in a bid to attack a village market in northern Cameroon blew themselves up, wounding two farm workers (Agence France-Presse, Tuesday September 22, 2015).

- At least 17 fighters from the Nigerian Islamic extremist group Boko Haram have died in clashes with Cameroon troops in the border town of Amchide, informed sources said Tuesday (Agence France-Presse, Wednesday September 23, 2015).

- On Wednesday the 30th of September, Amnesty International said at least 1,600 people have been killed in the Boko Haram conflict since the start of June, taking the civilian death toll to some 3,500 this year (Agency France-Presse, Thursday October 1, 2015).

- On Sunday the 11th of October, 2015 a twin suicide blasts on killed at least nine people in far northern Cameroon, a day after triple explosions in Chad left 41 dead, in a weekend of violence blamed on Boko Haram Islamists (Agence France-Presse, Monday October 12, 2015).

- On Friday October 23,2015, Boko Haram Islamists briefly seized control of a town in the far north of Cameroon which lies on the border with Nigeria, but withdrew when the army arrived, Cameroonian security sources said.(Agence France-Presse , Saturday October 24, 2015)

- The United Nations children's agency in December 2015 said attacks by Islamic extremist group Boko Haram in northeastern Nigeria and neighboring countries have forced more than one million children out of school heightening the risk they will be abused, abducted or recruited by armed groups. (Associated Press,Tuesday December 22, 2015)

- In January, 2016 at least 26 people were killed by three suicide bombers who denoted themselves up at a market in the far north of Cameroon. The Islamic sect, Boko Haram claimed responsibility for the killings (Agence France-Presse, Tuesday January 26, 2016).

- On Thursday January 2016, four people were killed in twin suicide attacks in Cameroon's

far north. The Islamist sect Boko Haram still claimed responsibility for the attacks (Agence France-Presse, Thursday January 28, 2016).

- At least six people were killed and 30 injured in northern Cameroon today by two Islamist suicide bombers at a Muslim funeral gathering, two officials in the region said.(Reuters, Wednesday February 10, 2016)

- Cameroon soldiers killed at least 27 Boko Haram fighters after launching a cross-border operation in the Nigerian locality of Goshi that also resulted in the death of one soldier, a senior military official said. (Associated Press, Friday February 12, 2016).

- On Friday February 2016, two suicide bombers killed at least 19 people and injured 50 in a market in Meme village, northern Cameroon, (Reuters, Friday February 19, 2016).

- In a press conference granted by Cameroon Minister of communication on Friday 15th of January which I attended, he said Boko Haram Islamists sect have killed nearly1,200 in northern Cameroon.(Agence France-Presse, Friday January 15, 2016)

- A suicide bomber belonging to Nigerian terrorist group Boko Haram killed at least 11 people when he blew himself up close to a mosque in Cameroon near the Nigerian border, military sources and local officials said today (Reuters, Thursday June 30, 2016).

4.3 The Humanitarian impact of Boko Haram insurgency in Northern Cameroon

Cameroon has never experienced such a complex emergency as devastating as the Boko Haram insurgency in terms of the humanitarian impacts. In the paragraphs that follow, an attempt is made to highlight the humanitarian consequences caused by the Islamist sect Boko Haram in Cameroon.

- **Public insecurity**: Life in Cameroon has never been the same since the infiltration of the Cameroonian territory by the Nigerian Islamist sect Boko Haram in 2013 especially in the north of the country. Since the outbreak of the sectarian violence, inhabitants of the Far north region of Cameroon have ceased to know peace and inhabitants live in constant fear and agony. Suicide bombings, killings, destruction of life and property have been the order of the day. There have been total insecurity in the far north region of Cameroon and since 2013, the far north of Cameroon has not known civil normality with sporadic suicide and car bombings which have become part and parcel of their daily lives.

- **Livelihood crisis:** The aftermath of the Islamist sect Boko Haram terrorist's activities in the north of Cameroon and the Cameroon's government counter violence to the incursion has left a disastrous effect on livelihood. All works of life in the northern region has been affected negatively; due the insecurity food production has dropped drastically. Farmers no longer go to farms due to insecurity and most of the farms have turned into battle grounds. Commercial activities has also dropped drastically; northeastern Nigeria which is the supply route for the northern region of Cameroon has been blocked due to Boko Haram insurgency. One of the inhabitants and a trader in Fotokol I interviewed, revealed to me that the local economy of Fotokol depend solely on the cross-border trade with Nigeria. They sell commodities like onion, maize, livestock, rice and other agricultural goods to Nigeria and exchange, they import sugar, textile, electronics and cement from Nigeria. He said "tight border security and control is making business difficult and impossible for us. This has deteriorated with the sporadic incursion of the northern region by members Boko Haram". Prices of commodities have sky rocketed and life has become unbearable in the north of Cameroon. Movements and communication has been seriously hampered by the implementation of curfews and state of emergency which has further deteriorated economic activities. The population leave in absolute fear and no one is trusted, thus they have preferred to live in hiding. Additionally, counter-insurgency precautions, such as the ban on the use of motorcycles have resulted in loss of means of livelihood and subsistence for some households. Motorcycles which is the dominant means of transportation and an important income generating activity for the inhabitants have been banned by the Cameroon government for security reasons. This means of transportation have been used by Boko Haram militants to carry out suicide bombings in

Cameroon. In effect, the whole trend points to devastating livelihood cum human security crisis (AC Okoli, 2014). I will be right to say from my field experience in the northern region of Cameroon, the devastating effects of book Haram insurgency and counter offensive measures from the Cameroon government have forced many inhabitants to relocate to other safer parts of the country, bringing down incomes and increasing poverty levels (Salkida, 2012).

- **Human right abuses**: Both the Nigerian Islamic sect Boko Haram and the government of Cameroon have been involved in human right abuses since the advent of Boko Haram incursion in the Cameroon soil. According to the Human Rights Watch (2012), Boko Haram insurgency has led to violation of human rights and commission of war crimes by both the insurgents and the government forces. The military and police, for instance, have committed human rights abuses and extra-judicial killings. According to report by Amnesty International on Cameroon Human Right Abuse (2015/2016) both Boko Haram and the Cameroon security have been committing gross human right abuses. Boko Haram committed crimes under international law and human rights abuses, including suicide bomb attacks in civilian areas, summary executions, torture, hostage taking, abductions, and the recruitment of child soldiers, looting and destruction of public, private and religious property. These crimes appear to be part of a regular attack against the civilian population across both northeastern Nigeria and the Far North in Cameroon. According to the UN, 770 civilians were killed and some 600 women and girls abducted by Boko Haram in Cameroon since 2013. Many schools were also targeted, leaving 35,000 children without access to education since 2014 (Amnesty International report 2015/2016). There have been arbitrary arrest and detention by the Cameroon military. According to a report by Amnesty International, Cameroon security forces arrested at least 1,000 people accused of supporting Boko Haram in the Far North, including in mass cordon and search operations where dozens of men and boys were rounded up and arrested. During such operations, security forces used excessive force and committed human rights violations such as arbitrary arrests, unlawful killings – including of a seven-year-old girl – and destruction of property. Other violations include enforced disappearances, deaths in custody and mistreatment of prisoners. The report also stated

that 84 children were arrested following a raid in a Qur'anic schools in the town of Guirvidig on 20 December 2014. They were detained without charge for six months in a children center in Maroua. Journalists have also been arrested by Cameroon security forces as part of their operation against the Islamist sect Boko Haram. The Joint Task Force (JTF) have also been involved in imperious and arbitrary treatment of citizens. According to a report by Human Rights Watch (Human Rights Watch, 2015) members of the security forces have arbitrary arrested members of the community, executed citizens in front of their families, loot shops, and rape women.

- **Population displacement and refugee debacle**: Boko Haram insurgency has led to the displacement of huge human population and there have been a refugee disaster in the north of Cameroon. Available information suggests that the number of internally displaced persons and refugees associated with the insurgency has been enormous. Based on a recent United Nations Humanitarian Commission on Refugee (UNHCR) report, 65.000 Nigerian refugees in the north of Cameroon and thousands of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) as a result of the rampant insurgency by Boko Haram militants. The Minawao refugee camp has been over crowded with over 56,783 refugees (UNHCR report 2015). Most of the refugees are living between the devil and the deep blue sea; the condition of the Minawao camp is horrible and the though majority I interviewed are willing to return to Nigeria, the insecurity condition will not allow them. As for the majority of the Internally Displaced Persons, they have been left at the mercy of the Lord.

- **Human Casualties/Fatalities**: By far, the worst humanitarian consequences of the Boko Haram insurgency have been its tolls on human life and safety. Thousands of lives have been lost in Cameroon since the advent of incursions of the Islamist sect Boko Haram. According to a report by Amnesty International, from July 2015 to July 2016 about 200 attacks have been carried out by Boko Haram including about 40 cases of suicide bombings in the Cameroon territory. These attacks have killed more than 480 persons (www.amnestyinternational.org).

Chapter 5 Humanitarian crisis in Northern Cameroon

According to P.C Chi (2015), a humanitarian crisis can be defined as a condition in which there is an exceptional and generalized threat to human life, health or subsistence (Chi, P. C., Urdal, H., Umeora, O. U., Sundby, J., Spiegel, P., & Devane, D. (2015). For there to be a humanitarian crisis, there must be some uncontrollable factors like poverty, lack of health, shelter, food, inequality and other basic necessities amplified by natural disaster or human disaster like armed conflicts making the situation worse. This definition is just a clear description of the northern region of Cameroon which according to a World Bank report in 2014, it ranked the poorest region in Cameroon. The northern region of Cameroon is densely populated and principally Muslim. Before the region started receiving threats of Boko Haram which saw the flow of refugees from Nigeria and internally displaced persons, the region already faced development difficulties such as poor health system, lack of infrastructures, access to clean water, discrimination against women, low literacy rate and drought which has hampered food production in the region (Global Advocacy, May 6, 2015). Plague by poverty, social inequality, low food production due to the barrenness of the soil, lack in health facilities, poor road network, low education level and other basic necessities, the insurgency of Boko Haram met an already

fragile region. The presence of Boko Haram which has caused forced displacement, human fatalities, famine and epidemics has exacerbated the already existing humanitarian crisis in the northern region of Cameroon. This chapter will examine some indictors like the coordination and management of the Minawao refugee camp, education, emergency shelter, food security, health, nutrition, protection of the refugees and IDPs, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) to analyze the present humanitarian crisis in the north of Cameroon. The chapter will also look at the response to this humanitarian crisis in the north of Cameroon by the Cameroon government, some NGOs and UN humanitarian agencies. The chapter will end by looking at some challenges to an effective response to the dire humanitarian crisis in the north of Cameroon.

5.1 Analyses of the humanitarian crisis in the North of Cameroon

The following indicators will be used to analyze the ominous humanitarian crisis in the north of Cameroon:

- **Refugee and Internally Displaced Persons flow in northern Cameroon**: Cameroon, surrounded by armed conflict prone states, has been considered a safe haven for refugees fleeing conflicts in their various countries. Cameroon is presently hosting refugees from Chad, Central African Republic (CAR) and Nigeria. According to a report from the European Commission, Cameroon is currently hosting almost 331 000 refugees in total. About 72 000 are Nigerians who have fled violence in northeastern Nigeria and the rest of the refugees are from central Africa Republic who have fled the protracted civil strife in their country. This situation has been a huge challenge to the Cameroon government providing emergency aid to meet up with the refugee's basic necessities (ECHO Factsheet – Cameroon, July 2016). Spontaneous incursions from the Islamist sect Boko Haram which witnessed a dramatic increase since July 2015 have caused around 139 000 Cameroonians living in villages close to the Nigerian border to flee for security reasons.

Following a report from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), conducted in February 2016, an estimated 8 000 refugees who are not yet registered are located outside the Minawao camp with no protection or assistance. The same report indicates that, the number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) is estimated to be 170 000, out of which 139 000 are displaced because of the conflict and the rest due to disasters triggered by natural hazards which have worsen the situation, with the displacement of an additional 30 600 people in the northern region of Cameroon (ECHO Factsheet – Cameroon, July 2016).

• **Food and nutrition insecurity**: The UNDP Human Development Index report of 2012, ranked Cameroon 150 out of 186 countries with a gross domestic product (GDP) of 2,002US Dollar per capita income. The report states that out of approximately 20 million, 40 percent of Cameroonians live below poverty line and about 70 percent depend on agro-pastoral activities. The northern regions of Cameroon is known for having high level of food insecurity, malnutrition, poverty ,limited access to health care, education and clean water. The region suffered from droughts in four straight years; 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 which had a direct repercussion on food production. Food supply could not match up with the demand and consequently, about 400.000 people needed immediate food assistance. As if that was not enough, several months later, heavy rains during the raining season caused flooding and about 60,000 inhabitants of the north were rendered homeless. The northern region of Cameroon which borders Central African Republic, Chad and Niger and Nigeria have been receiving refugees from these countries during the past decades. Due to the political and security condition in Chad and Central African Republic, refugees have been flooding into the northern region of Cameroon and according to the UNDP Development Index Report 2012, Cameroon hosted about 87,000 refugees from these two countries (UNDP Human Development Index Report, 2012). While many households are still trying to recover from the four years successive droughts that handicapped the economy of the northern region and the pressure from refugees from CAR and Chad, there came refugees from Nigeria and IDPs in Cameroon due to Boko Haram insurgency. The number of refugees in Cameroon escalated from 2013, putting additional pressure on food insecurity which has worsen the humanitarian crisis in the

region. As earlier mentioned, the immediate need for food assistance unfortunately met a region which is one of the most food-insecure region of the country, suffering from desertification, floods and an unpredictable distribution of rainfall which has been unfavorable to food production. The country director of United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), Felix B:F Gomez said in an interview that the dropped in food supply sharply deteriorated in 2015 due to the intensified violence by the Islamist sect Boko Haram. He said, "The number of people facing food insecurity has doubled since 2015; some 1.4 million individuals are now estimated to be food insecure which represents one third of the region's population. Some 200.000 people are facing severe food insecurity, which is an increase by 300 percent since June 2015". According to Gomez, "the number of admissions into nutrition programs continues to increase following deterioration of the food security and nutrition situation in districts affected by the Boko Haram crisis. The situation is becoming more serious as insecurity and access restrictions often hamper regular supply to remote areas and several health facilities have been closed down due to insecurity."

- **The coordination and management of Minawao refugee camp**: The Minawao refugee camp is in the northern region of Cameroon located 56 miles from the Nigerian border was constructed to host refugees fleeing Boko Haram insurgency in the northeastern Nigeria. According to data collected from United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the Minawao camp hosted 7000 refugees in July 2013 who fled escalation in the northeastern Nigeria and by October 2015, a report from the United Nations High Commission for Refugees said the camp was hosting over 48.601 refugees (www.un.org). The Minawao refugee camp has been overcrowded due to the continuous escalation of violence from the Islamist sect Boko Haram. Thousands of refugees live outside the camp due to the congested nature of the dusty camp which was not designed to host 48.601 refugees. There have been a shortage in the supply of basic necessities, water and sanitation, shelter as well as latrines and showers (ECHO Factsheet July, 2012).

- **Vulnerability of women and children in the northern region**: The majority of refugees who have fled violence from northeastern Nigeria to seek refuge in in the north of Cameroon and Internally Displaced persons are women and children. A report by Global Advocacy indicates that women and children make up the majority of victims of rape, murder, abduction and early child or forced marriage (ECFM) to members of Boko Haram. Children have been trained as terrorist and little girls have been used by Boko Haram to carry out suicide attacks in both Nigeria and Cameroon. A report from UNICEF indicates that 1.361 refugee children of five years and below and 9,952 Cameroonian children have been admitted to therapeutic care since that start of 2016 (www.reliefweb.int). According to report by Agence France Presse, on the 22nd of February 2016, an estimated 6.500 children were severely malnourished due to Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria and Cameroon.

- **Education**: Boko Haram insurgency in the northern region of Cameroon has caused serious setback in education. Schools have been deserted in northern Cameroon due to Boko Haram attacks and about 130 schools have been closed because of the continuous violence and insecurity in the north of Cameroon (http://www.voanews.com/content/cameroon). According to a report from UNICEF, about one million children are out of school due to Boko Haram violence in northeastern Nigeria, Cameroon and other neighboring countries. Manuel Fontaine, UNICEF Regional Director for West and Central Africa said in a statement that "The conflict has been a huge blow for education in the region, and violence has kept many children out of the classroom for more than a year, putting them at risk of dropping out of school altogether" (www.unicef.org).

- **Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)**: The water crisis in the north of Cameroon has always been a problem prior to the creation of the Minawao and the Gawar refugee camps. The situation got worst with the overcrowded refugee camps. Water has been

supply by water-trucking and sanitation and hygiene have been very poor in the camps leading to outbreak of Cholera in the camps.

5.2 Response by the state of Cameroon

The response by the Cameroon government to the dire humanitarian crisis in the north of Cameroon will be examined under military, legal and humanitarian response.

- **Military Measures**: Very strict military measures have been taken by the Cameroon government to preserve its territorial integrity. The government of Cameroon has taken severe military measures to respond to the Islamist sect Boko Haram intention to carve part of Cameroon's territory to form the Islamic State in West Africa. At each stage of escalation, troops have been deployed to intervene immediately. In the continuous effort to combat Boko Haram, countries in the Lake Chad basin (Benin, Chad, Nigeria, Niger and Cameroon) decided to form a Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) to combat Boko Haram and their intention to create an Islamic State in West Africa. With headquarter in N'djamena Chad, it has as mandate to bring an end to Boko Haram insurgency. (Onuoha, F. C, 2014). According to the Nigerian military, the creation of MNJTF has succeeded in pushing Boko Haram out of many areas occupied they occupied. The United Nations (UN) Security Council has encouraged the regional military coordination to step its offensive against Boko Haram ((Associated Press, Wednesday February 4, 2015).

- **Legal Measures**: In an effort to deter and punish Cameroon citizens who, either as individuals or group, carry out, abet, or sponsor terrorism, the state of Cameroon passed a new anti-terrorism Law in December18, 2014 and revised certain provisions the Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code and the Military Justice Code. The new anti-

terrorism Law confers the death penalty for those found guilty of carrying out, abetting, or sponsoring acts of terrorism, including any activity likely to incite revolt in the population or disturb the normal functioning of state institutions (http://www.refworld.org/).

- **Fund Raising Campaign**: As efforts to raise funds combat the Islamist sect Boko Haram, a fundraising campaign was organized to help raise funds to support Cameroon's army battle Nigeria's feared Boko Haram fighters. More than three million euros (2.1 billion CFA francs) and hundreds of tons of food was donated (CRTV network). Considering the corrupt nature of the country, the Cameroon government set up an inter-ministerial committee to ensure that there is transparency in the supervision of the money raised.

5.3 Response by NGOs and United Nations humanitarian agencies

International NGOs and United Nations humanitarian agencies have reacted promptly to the humanitarian crisis in northern Cameroon. On the 25 of January, 2016 the government of Cameroon with humanitarian experts launched a National Humanitarian response plan to match up with the dire humanitarian crisis in the north of Cameroon. According to Cameroon's minister of interior; Rene Emmanuel Sadi, the plan was designed to raise 282 million US Dollars to be used for the protection and assistance to 325.000 refugees and Internally Displaced Persons. The UN humanitarian coordinator applauded the humanitarian response plan which has been structured to deal with food insecurity and malnutrition.

Many NGOs and United Nations humanitarian agencies have been in collaboration with the Cameroon government to seek for a lasting solution to the humanitarian situation at the north of Cameroon caused by Boko Haram insurgency. Due to time constraint and space, this thesis will examine few of these agencies and NGOs, considering the fact that they carry similar humanitarian activities.

UNICEF

UNICEF have been very present in the Eastern region of Cameroon hosting refugees from Central African Republic and the northern region of Cameroon where refugees from northeastern Nigeria are hosted. UNICEF have been focused since 2014 in implementing an integrated response plan for refugees, Internally Displaced Persons and host communities suffering from chronic vulnerabilities. To make their intervention fast and accurate, UNICEF have established permanently in their areas of intervention and have intervened in areas of WASH, health and HIV, and nutrition (www.unicef.org).

In the domain of nutrition crisis, UNICEF and its partners have been involved in seeking solutions to children and women affected by Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and the overall occurrence of acute malnutrition. UNICEF have also been providing assistance in other domains like water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), HIV and emotional stimulation support (www.reliefweb/unicef)

Plan International

Plan International is an international non-governmental humanitarian organization which focuses mostly of the rights of children and equality of the girl child. They have been present in Cameroon and more present during the advent of the humanitarian crisis in the north of Cameroon caused by Boko Haram insurgency. The violence in the northeast of Nigeria has resulted to an estimated 63.000 Nigerians crossing the border into Cameroon as refugees. Out of the 63.000 refugees from Nigeria, only 47.322 according to PLAN International are registered at the Minawao refugee camp and majority are children. Plan International have been involve in Education, water, sanitation and hygiene in the northern region. 4500 children and 62 teachers have been provided with school materials in the Minawao refugee camps, built three learning structures, development centers for children with age range 0-5 years, constructed child friendly spaces and also put in place committees to ensure child protection. In collaboration with UNICEF, Plan International have built the capacity key workers and service providers on child protection through workshops and seminars. Government social workers have also been trained by Plan International to handle refugees from Nigeria.

Water, sanitation and hygiene have not been left out by Plan International. They have trained 45 hygiene promoters working in the Minawao refugee camp, six committees were also created to manage open air defecation, built bore holes for water supply and also provide hygiene kits to refugees (www.planinternational .org).

5.4 Challenges to humanitarian response in Northern Cameroon

Mindful of all the endeavors put in place by the Cameroon local government, diplomatic bodies, NGOs and UN humanitarian agencies, efforts have been met with some challenges which have hampered a smooth response to the humanitarian situation in the northern region of Cameroon. The most difficult challenge to an effective response to the humanitarian crisis in the north of Cameroon is the security situation of the region. The unstable state of security, with continuous violence on civilian, military and humanitarian workers indiscriminately have affected humanitarian intervention in areas that are very risky; especially villages close to the Nigerian borders. Even the Minawao refugee camp is not very safe; some terrorist try to penetrate the camp as refugees.

Road network in the northern region is very poor, most areas are enclaved and inaccessible for humanitarian intervention. Especially those Cameroonian villages close to the Nigerian border making humanitarian intervention to greatly rely on air service.

The humid climatic condition of the northern region of Cameroon has also hampered humanitarian intervention. The Sahelien regions of Cameroon and Chad suffer from food insecurity due to the harsh environmental conditions. Water supply is very limited in supply which have also been a great challenge to inhabitants of the region especially to the refugees. The Minawao camp is supplied with water through water-trucking and supply has been far below the demand in the overcrowded camp.

Chapter 6 Conclusions and recommendations

This research examines the principal question on the nexus between the Boko Haram insurgency in northern Cameroon and the dire humanitarian crisis in the region. Being able to analyzed the data addressing both the primary and secondary research questions in chapter 4 and 5, this chapter concludes as to whether Boko Haram terrorist attacks is the cause of the humanitarian crisis in the north of Cameroon and also come out with some recommendations to combat Boko Haram and provide solution to the dire humanitarian crisis in the north of Cameroon.

From the perspective of the Islamist sect Boko Haram terrorist activities in the north of Cameroon, this thesis found out that terrorist activities in the northern region of Cameroon has given rise to a humanitarian crisis. This crisis has manifested through refugee flow from Nigeria, Internally Displaced Persons, human rights abuses, casualties to human and property, livelihood debacle and has affected public peace and security. From the above observation, it is glaring that Boko Haram has caused a humanitarian crisis in the north of Cameroon and this thesis is recommending a prompt solution to the insurgency. This thesis will recommend improve

regional and international coordination to effectively combat Boko Haram, countries in the Lake Chad basin most affected by Boko Haram insurgency should be better organize in the coordination of law-enforcement and intelligence. Cameroon, Nigeria, Chad, and Niger who form the Lake Chad basin should step up cooperation to capture terrorists, disrupt terrorist funding, collect intelligence, and an organized military action. Cameroon and especially Nigeria suffered huge casualties from the Islamist sect because there was no coordination between the two countries but from the moment the Multi National Joint Task Forced (MNJTF) was put in place, the terrorists have been pushed out of most of the villages they occupied in northeastern Nigeria and the casualties have not been as rampant as before. The terrorists have also been pushed out of Cameroonian territory reducing the number of insurgencies. It shows that, with better organization of regional and international efforts, Boko Haram can be eliminated completely out of the world's map.

This thesis will strongly recommend that the international humanitarian community gets totally involve in the humanitarian crisis in the northern region of Cameroon to assist refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), especially women and children who are the most affected.

This thesis will also recommend the government of Cameroon and other international development partners to use the humanitarian crisis in the north of Cameroon as an opportunity to look for a sustainable solution to traditional development crisis like poor food production, low literacy rate, under scholarization, poor road network, that the region has been facing.