



**HUMAN SECURITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS IN NIGERIA:  
ADDRESSING INTERCONNECTED THREATS TO SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT**

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**ABSTRACT:** *Nigeria faces a combination of environmental degradation, socio-political instability, and public health challenges that severely threaten human security and sustainable development. This research investigates the interrelated nature of these hazards using the frameworks of Human Security and Political Ecology. While desertification and climate change in northern Nigeria worsen food hunger and insurgency, environmental crises especially oil pollution and deforestation in the Niger Delta intensify health concerns and resource disputes. Economic pressures, including fuel subsidy removal, inflation, and inequitable resource distribution, further undermine livelihoods and deepen vulnerabilities. This paper highlights the importance of integrated solutions addressing acute personal fears as well as systemic governance shortcomings and social inequality. Emphasizing cooperative efforts among government, communities, and international stakeholders to build resilience and sustainable development, recommendations include strict environmental policies, fair resource management, healthcare infrastructure improvements, and climate adaptation strategies.*

**KEYWORDS:** Threats, Environmental, Human security, Sustainable development.



## INTRODUCTION

An interaction of environmental, socio-political, and public health issues compromises human existence in Nigeria more and more. Nigeria, which is one of Africa's most populated and resource-rich nations, finds a contradictory situation; although its natural wealth, especially in oil, has increased economic development, it has also caused extreme environmental damage, social inequality, and poor government policies. These problems taken together compromise the security and welfare of its people.

In the Niger Delta, environmental damage has caused serious catastrophes to human lives. Widespread oil spills, gas flaring, and deforestation have caused major ecological harm and added to public health problems. In northern Nigeria, climate change and desertification have uprooted populations, aggravating food scarcity and resource conflict. Using socioeconomic weaknesses to further destabilise the area, this ecological stress fuels the emergence of insurgency organisations such as Boko Haram (Khurram, 2024).

Another important aspect of Nigeria's challenges is public health concerns which include; waterborne diseases and harmful material exposure. Nigeria's healthcare system is not suited to manage the combined problems of pollution, pandemics, and endemic diseases. The COVID-19 epidemic brought to light infrastructure and governance flaws in the nation that further affected public health (Koduah & Onyinah, 2024).

Apart from political and environmental issues, Nigeria's economic policies, especially the removal of fuel subsidies, several tax increases, and the high inflation rate have become serious hazards to human survival. These financial demands intensify poverty, food insecurity, and limited access to basic services, therefore taxing an already vulnerable population.

This paper aims to evaluate these complex threats and their interrelation, offering a thorough analysis through the theoretical framework of human security and political ecology. The study provides actionable recommendations for addressing these threats. The study offers a broad picture of Nigeria's problems and the institutional adjustments required to solve them by using human security and political ecology frameworks.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

The environmental problems Nigeria currently faces are closely entwined with its resource economy. One prominent area of oil exploration, the Niger Delta shows the environmental expenses of resource exploitation. High levels of heavy metal pollution in seafood from the area have been discovered by Diyaolu et al. (2024), thereby putting the population's health at risk. Ekong (2020) similarly emphasizes the ongoing environmental risks connected to gas flaring, oil spills, and deforestation. Further aggravating Nigeria's ecology is climate change, linking irregular rainfall patterns, desertification, and rising temperatures to lower agricultural productivity and higher food insecurity (Pielke et al., 2019). Particularly in northern areas, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC 2021) underlines Nigeria's great vulnerability to climate-induced migration and conflict.

Poverty, socio-political unrest, and environmental stress produce insurgency in Nigeria notably in the north-east; Boko Haram and ISWAP (Islamic State in West Africa Province) take



advantage of people displaced by economic hardship and environmental damage (Khurram, 2024). The state's capacity to solve these problems is hampered by the government's shortcomings which include corruption and inadequate institutional frameworks (Ojo & Adebayo, 2018).

Environmental degradation has a direct effect on public health in Nigeria. Olayide et al. (2021) observe that water contamination in the Niger Delta has caused a rise in waterborne diseases, such as cholera and typhoid fever. Extended exposure to polluted environments is associated with respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, in addition to cancer.

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed fundamental deficiencies in Nigeria's public health infrastructure. Koduah and Onyinah (2024) examine the nation's pandemic response, highlighting deficiencies in healthcare infrastructure, a lack of medical personnel, and ineffective resource allocation (Koduah & Onyinah, 2024).

Environmental degradation in Nigeria, especially in the Niger Delta region, has drawn significant research interest due to its far-reaching socio-economic and health impacts. Agbonifo (2022) proposed a socio-economic model stressing the effects of inadequate regional environmental control. Through gas flaring and oil spills, which have damaged agricultural output and fisheries, the study clarifies the part international oil companies play in sustaining environmental contamination. Poverty has been aggravated by this deterioration, which also fuels general social disorder. The findings underline the importance of government changes to properly control industrial activity (Agbonifo, 2022).

Comparably, Raimi et al. (2021) investigated the junction of climate change with environmental health. They maintained that Nigeria's sensitivity to climate change aggravates already existing environmental problems, especially about increasing temperatures, desertification, and irregular rainfall patterns. Integrated environmental health practices are desperately needed since these elements have escalated food poverty and disease frequency (Raimi et al., 2021).

Furthermore, directly affecting human health is the environmental damage of the Niger Delta. In 2016, Omoleke and Mohammed looked at the growth of waterborne diseases including typhoid and cholera, which are connected to petroleum product contamination of water supplies. Emphasising the need for environmental cleanup, their study links environmental damage with public health emergencies (Omoleke & Mohammed, 2016).

Nigeria's socio-political unrest has been well recorded; insurgency and poor government have become a central junction. Katsina (2012) looked at how socio-political unrest affected development in Nigeria and found that bad government was mostly responsible for the insecurity. According to the report, corruption and weak institutional structures hinder the government's ability to handle northeastern insurgency including Boko Haram (Katsina, 2012).

Ejiogu (2016) connected the colonial legacy which produced systematic inequalities in governance and resource allocation to the causes of political unrest in Nigeria. His study highlighted how these fundamental issues have persisted and caused frequent ethno-religious conflict as well as unproductive government. Competition over environmental resources aggravates these tensions, especially in areas experiencing desertification and climate change (Ejiogu, 2016).



Additionally, the study by Mukhtar and Abdullahi (2020) included food insecurity, economic variables, and socio-political elements. Their results presented that food insecurity, which in turn causes conflict and migration, is mostly caused by socioeconomic inequalities and governance shortcomings.

Public health challenges in Nigeria are closely related to elements of governance and the environment. Leke and Leke (2019) addressed how the government might help to solve these issues, especially in areas impacted by environmental pollution. They claimed that inadequate funding for healthcare infrastructure and non-enforcing environmental rules have degraded Niger Delta's health conditions.

In 2014, Ewetan and Urhie examined how poverty affected Nigeria's public health system. According to their study, constant insecurity disturbs medical services in conflict-torn regions, therefore compromising the provision of healthcare. They highlighted the requirement for combined strategies that solve the underlying cause of insecurity as well as its effects on public health.

Emphasizing the requirement for climate-resilient healthcare infrastructure, Raimi et al. (2021) carried out a thorough study on how climate change is affecting Nigerian health systems. Their work emphasises how closely environmental health and governance interact and advises policy changes giving sustainability a major priority.

### **Theoretical Frameworks**

The two theoretical frameworks employed by this study are the Political Ecology and Human Security Framework. They both offer a very strong analytical lens through which to examine the related threats to public health in Nigeria, socio-political unrest, and environmental damage. Merging these models reveals the complex characteristics of these challenges and provides ways to solve them properly.

### **Human Security Framework**

Human security first appeared in the 1994 Human Development Report by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). Human security lays special emphasis on the protection of people and communities from hazards that threaten their survival, livelihood, and self-esteem, unlike conventional ideas of security that centre on state authority and military defence. Economic, food, health, environmental, personal, communal, and political security which are the seven fundamental dimensions are covered (UNDP, 1994).

In Nigeria, the human security framework moves the focus from state-centric issues to the current reality of people, especially those from disadvantaged areas. Directly undermining these areas are environmental degradation, insurgency, and health challenges in Nigeria, which makes this framework crucial.

### **Relevance to Nigeria**

Human security emphasizes how complex and linked the dangers Nigeria faces are. Environmental damage, for example, directly affects health security by contaminating water supplies and increasing the spread of diseases including typhoid and cholera. Similarly, socio-political unrest and insurgency compromise personal and community security, displacing millions of people and subjecting them to suffering. The methodology examines how these



hazards interact to increase vulnerabilities holistically. The human security framework has been widely used in analyzing Nigeria's challenges. Raimi et al. (2021) looked at how environmental health might help Nigeria's public health issues stemming from climate change. Their study highlighted the flaws in the country's healthcare system by showing how disproportionately affected vulnerable groups pollution and climate change have significant health effects. Emphasising the need for combined environmental and health policy, Olayide et al. (2021) used the framework to investigate the effects of water pollution on community well-being. This study exposes the systematic reasons for insecurity by using the human security lens, thereby emphasizing the need to give human well-being a top priority in policy actions.

### **Political Ecology Framework**

Political ecology studies the interactions of political, economic, and social elements to form environmental problems and their effects. Drawn from the works of scholars like Blaikie and Brookfield (1987), the framework questions the apolitical and technocratic approaches to environmental problems by emphasizing the part power dynamics, historical processes, and economic systems play in generating environmental injustices. This point of view is especially pertinent in nations with plenty of resources like Nigeria, where local government shortcomings and global capitalism have continued environmental damage. Access to and control over natural resources shape players' (e.g., multinational businesses, local communities, governments) unequal distribution of power. As the Niger Delta shows, rivalry over limited resources frequently results in social and environmental problems. Environmental problems fit more general historical trends like colonial exploitation and globalization, which still influence modern government and resource management.

### **Relevance to Nigeria**

Political ecology offers a prism through which one may see how socio-political and economic systems entwine the environmental challenges of Nigeria. Watts (2004) examined the Nigerian political economy with the global demand for petroleum and local elites' complicity to link the environmental damage in the Niger Delta to the research underlined how the interests of strong players are served by resource exploitation, therefore excluding local communities. Peluso and Watts (2001) broadened the study to take into consideration how global capitalism shapes environmental policy since they contend that multinational companies give profit top priority over sustainability and have minimal responsibility to the impacted populace. Examining the socio-political elements of resource-based conflicts and through the prism of political ecology, this study questions the governance shortcomings allowing environmental deterioration to continue.

### **The Intersection of Human Security and Political Ecology**

By linking individual vulnerabilities with systematic power systems, combining the human security and political ecology frameworks helps one to fully grasp Nigeria's problems.

While political ecology places these hazards within the larger framework of governance failures and global economic systems, human security detects the immediate hazards to individuals and communities, such as health concerns from contaminated water. The frameworks merged support integrated policy responses addressing the symptoms (e.g., disease





outbreaks and resource conflicts) as well as the main causes (e.g., governance and economic inequalities).

Combining these two frameworks allows one to examine the hazards to human existence in Nigeria from several angles. While political ecology challenges the systematic power structures that prolong individual and community vulnerabilities, human security stresses their immediate vulnerabilities. These systems taken together offer a strong basis for comprehending Nigeria's problems and creating all-encompassing policy responses covering both immediate effects and underlying causes. Achieving sustainable development and raising human welfare in Nigeria depend on this twin approach.

### **Limitations of the Frameworks**

Both frameworks, while significant, have their limitations; for human security, critics oppose that the extensive reach of human security runs the danger of weakening its analytical accuracy. Furthermore, the framework sometimes underestimates structural elements including global economic systems that political ecology addresses. Political ecology lacks the precision necessary to address urgent human welfare issues, as highlighted by human security, despite its strong critique of power imbalances and the systemic drivers of environmental challenges. Merging these frameworks helps this study reduce constraints and provide a fair assessment of the current challenges Nigeria faces.

## **METHODOLOGY**

This study applies a qualitative research approach to investigate the numerous risks to human existence in Nigeria. Integrating information from public health, political theory, and environmental science, the approach facilitates one to quickly understand the relationships among environmental harm, socio-political instability, and health catastrophes. Important trends and gaps are found by the use of a thematic review technique in the examination of already published material. Secondary data derived from peer-reviewed research articles, books, and policy documents form the basis of the analysis.

## **DISCUSSION**

The results of this study expose the complex interaction of environmental damage, socio-political unrest, public health emergencies and economic challenges in Nigeria. The discussion highlights their qualities and addresses their constraints by placing these results inside the frameworks of Human Security and Political Ecology.

### **Environmental Degradation and Human Vulnerabilities**

Especially in the Niger Delta, the research notes environmental deterioration as a major hazard to human existence in Nigeria. Extensive contamination resulting from decades of oil exploration includes gas flaring, oil spills, and deforestation. This has caused:

- **Health Crises:** Toxic chemical exposure has resulted in cholera, cancer, and respiratory problems.



- **Disruption of Livelihood:** Contaminated soil and water have lowered agricultural output and devastated fisheries, therefore depriving local populations of their main means of income (Agbonifo, 2022).

From a human security standpoint, the immediate effects of environmental deterioration such as health hazards and loss of livelihoods are the main worries. This structure emphasizes the immediate requirement of focused initiatives including health campaigns and environmental cleanup.

Political ecology examines these problems in the larger framework of failing governments and world economic systems. Profits come first for multinational oil companies, who also exploit weak laws and support systematic inequality (Watts, 2004). Sustainability is second.

Political Ecology questions the systematic causes of environmental injustice whereas the Human Security framework stresses the instantaneous vulnerabilities of impacted populations. Taken together, they offer a comprehensive knowledge of the Niger Delta situation and show the need for both quick assistance and long-term government changes.

### **Socio-Political Instability and Insurgency**

According to the study, environmental stress, poor governance, and economic inequality all contribute to the socio-political unrest in Nigeria, especially in the north. Important revelations include:

Desertification and diminishing agricultural yields in northern Nigeria have heightened rivalry for limited resources, hence fueling violent confrontations between farmers and herders.

Groups such as Boko Haram use environmental stress and socioeconomic weaknesses to attract members, hence extending cycles of bloodshed and displacement (Khurram, 2024). Emphasizing the relocation of millions and the destruction of livelihoods, the framework underscores the decline of personal and community security in areas devastated by violence.

Political ecology questions the structural elements allowing such confrontations, including the unfair distribution of resources and the marginalization of northern communities by centralized government institutions (Katsina, 2012). Human Security stresses the human cost of war, but Political Ecology looks at its underlying roots. This combined viewpoint emphasizes the need for inclusive government and fair use of resources to reduce violence.

### **Public Health Crises and Governance Challenges**

Public health in Nigeria is intimately related to government and environmental factors. According to the survey, major causes of disease outbreaks include typhoid and cholera-contaminated water sources and air pollution in the Niger Delta (Olayide et al., 2021). The COVID-19 pandemic revealed all the loopholes in Nigeria's healthcare system which include inadequate infrastructure, limited access to medical supplies, and poor coordination of responses (Koduah & Onyinah, 2024).

Highlighting the need for better healthcare access and strategies to prevent illness, the Human Security framework centres on the immediate effects of major health problems. Political ecology challenges the governance shortcomings that aggravate health exposures, including insufficient funding for healthcare systems and the non-enforcement of environmental rules



(Leke & Leke, 2019). The integrated frameworks show how environmental governance affects public health, therefore stressing the need for integrated policies covering both environmental and health security.

## **Economic Threats: Fuel Subsidy Withdrawal, Tax Increments, and Inflation**

### **Fuel Subsidy Withdrawal and Its Implications**

The fuel subsidy removal in Nigeria has caused a significant rise in fuel prices, which has badly affected transportation, livelihoods, and access to energy. The increase in fuel prices has increased travel costs, impacting the availability of public transit and product distribution, as well as making travelling less affordable for a lot of people.

Mainly in informal sectors, higher production costs for small enterprises, farmers, and dealers have lower profit margins and job opportunities (World Bank, 2023). Low-income homes find it difficult to pay for electricity and petrol for cooking, therefore aggravating poverty (Esekpa et al., 2024).

Eliminating subsidy compromises food security and economic stability, especially for underprivileged groups who depend on reasonably priced gasoline for daily needs and livelihoods.

Political ecology reveals how the policy aligns with global austerity measures while neglecting local welfare issues, thereby challenging its structural foundations. While the policy aims to increase financial stability, it disproportionately impacts the poor (World Bank, 2023).

### **Multiple Tax Increments and Economic Hardship**

The latest fiscal policies of Nigeria, which include higher taxes on income, products, and services, have greatly worsened economic hardship. Multiple taxes have caused small and medium businesses (SMEs), which are essential for employment creation, to pay more running expenses, therefore compromising their profitability and expansion. Tax increases on fundamental products and services have lower discretionary income for homes, which makes it more difficult for families to cover basic requirements. Particularly impacting low-income households (NESG, 2022), the rise in Value Added Tax (VAT) on food, medicines, and services has further increased poverty and food insecurity.

From a Human Security standpoint, these tax laws directly compromise personal and economic security, therefore aggravating poverty and increasing disparity. On the other hand, the Political Ecology approach criticises the unfair tax system, which burdens SMEs and the underprivileged excessively while letting big businesses avoid paying taxes. These financial policies highlight ingrained economic inequality and systematic governance breakdowns.

### **Inflation and Socio-Economic Consequences**

Rising fuel prices, food shortages, and devaluation of money all contribute to Nigeria's explosive inflation, which profoundly affects human life. Particularly in rural areas and conflict-torn regions, food inflation has substantially raised food insecurity and malnutrition (World Food Program, 2023). For many Nigerians, healthcare services, drugs, and medical supplies have become unaffordable, hence deteriorating public health outcomes. Inflation has





also undermined real earnings, therefore lowering workers' purchasing power and causing great poverty and economic misery (National Bureau of Statistics, 2023).

The Human Security framework shows how inflation directly compromises food, health, and economic security, therefore exposing the vulnerabilities people and communities suffer in obtaining basic products and services. On the other hand, the Political Ecology framework criticises the systematic causes of inflation, including monetary mismanagement, import dependency, and ingrained corruption, which disproportionately affect the underprivileged and underprivileged communities (NBS, 2023).

### **Synthesis of Economic Threats**

Fuel subsidy withdrawal, tax increases and inflation taken together have exposed Nigeria's socioeconomic vulnerabilities. This paper uses an integrated strategy to highlight several difficulties by leveraging the Human Security and Political Ecology models. Human security emphasises the immediate effects of economic difficulty such as food insecurity, unemployment, and limited access to healthcare. The Political Ecology perspective emphasises systematic causes that cement poverty and inequality: inadequate government, unfair tax systems, and worldwide economic pressures.

This study highlights the urgent need for policies that balance short-term financial aid with long-term structural changes to ensure resilience and sustainable growth.

### **Addressing the Limitations of Frameworks**

Whereas the Human Security framework focuses on acute and localized shortcomings like health and environmental difficulties in the Niger Delta, Political Ecology underlines more general systemic dynamics like the failings of government and global capitalism. Combining both points of view produces a more thorough knowledge since the structural evaluations of Political Ecology enhance the individual-oriented approach to Human Security. By using frameworks to address real-world problems, especially oil pollution in the Niger Delta and insurgency in Northern Nigeria, this article links theoretical ideas to pragmatic scenarios. The report attempts to reduce the over-generalization risks by employing through case studies addressing local issues and structural criticisms.

Merging ideas from several disciplines including public health, political science, and environmental science guarantees thorough research. This method breaks out from the limited viewpoint resulting from depending just on one framework. The outcomes underline the necessity of including both perspectives in a coherent policy agenda. Dealing with environmental responsibility and lowering pollution requires strict guidelines for oil servicing companies. Laws promoting fair allocation of resources will help to reduce regional differences and ease resource-based disputes. Furthermore, important first measures for increasing general resilience and addressing local exposures include extending healthcare infrastructure and strengthening public health responses' coordination.



## CONCLUSION

This study shows that fuel subsidy removal and a rise in several taxes in Nigeria which occurred simultaneously with unemployment, political woes and inflation have cumulatively undermined human life in the country. To alleviate their immediate effects and address their more foundational structural roots, all these challenges require broad-based and targeted approaches immediately.

The paper has offered a thorough examination of these hazards using the Human Security and Political Ecology frameworks. The Human Security framework has made visible the exposures of men, women and communities to all kinds of health risks resulting from environmental degradation and dislocation as a consequence of wars or violence. Political Ecology further explained the causes of these problems by putting on record inequalities in access to opportunities, government deficits and issues revolving around capitalism. These frameworks combine to give a comprehensive analysis that traverses levels of structural relations and effects at the local levels.

The study outlines some of the limitations of the frameworks and how they can be united in considering how best to combine quick relief measures with structural changes. This integrated strategy reinforces the better tackling of the more fundamental or root causes of the problems Nigeria today faces.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

This paper proposes several recommendations to address the various threats to human survival in Nigeria. These recommendations are based on the findings and combined analysis of the Human Security and Political Ecology frameworks.

- **Strengthen Environmental Regulations**

Effective addressing of environmental challenges in Nigeria requires a multi-stakeholder approach which involves federal and state governments, local communities and corporations. All the groups play an important role in supporting sustainable practices as well as protecting and maintaining the environment.

Therefore, the Federal Government has to form and enforce strict environmental regulations on issues such as gas flaring, deforestation and oil spills. All industrial projects should be subjected to environmental impact assessment and strict compliance with the results of the same should be followed through continuous monitoring and stiff enforcement of specific penalties for noncompliance.

Particularly at the state level in the Niger Delta, governments should also be working in tandem with the Federal Ministry of Environment to make the monitoring and enforcement of environmental policies localized. State-level environmental task forces can assist enable oversight to enforce regulations designed to address local environmental needs.

Local communities exist and they are at the forefront of monitoring and reporting violations. Engagement can close these gaps in enforcement; they are directly affected by environmental



degradation and often know firsthand about violations. Training and resource empowerment to communities will make them effective environmental watchdogs.

Environmental regulations and EIA should be taken seriously by international or local companies. Transparency is essential; companies should make public regular environmental reports describing compliance with standards and steps it takes to reduce or prevent environmental damage. It creates accountability on the one hand and builds trust with both the government and local stakeholders on the other.

When these stakeholders work together to make it, Nigeria will develop a strong base whereby environmental challenges in Nigeria will be addressed and sustainable for long.

- **Corporate Accountability**

The Federal Government should enhance environmental governance by passing and implementing rules imposing severe penalties for transgressions including emissions, oil spills, and deforestation. Degraded sites have to be quickly remedied, and this should be supported by a specialized environmental judicial system guaranteeing quick prosecution. State governments—especially in areas like the Niger Delta—have to work with federal authorities to track business compliance and create state-level environmental task forces to quickly handle problems. By actively monitoring and reporting abuses and engaging in rehabilitation projects to guarantee that restoration efforts fit their needs, local communities help to protect their environment. Local and multinational businesses have to follow environmental rules, use sustainable practices, and support projects of community rehabilitation. With the consistent publication of environmental impact reports to improve openness and responsibility, their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities should concentrate on environmental preservation and community development. Dealing with environmental damage and advancing sustainable development in Nigeria depends on a cooperative strategy involving all the stakeholders.

- **Community-Based Environmental Management**

Local governments should actively participate in capacity-building initiatives aiming at sustainable resource management, therefore arming their members with the tools and knowledge to preserve their surroundings. Establishing community-based organizations committed to local environmental governance will help them monitor and document problems and encourage group accountability. Funding, technical support, and education will help the Federal Government and NGOs empower these communities so they may guarantee they have the means to apply sustainable practices. By including community-based projects in their environmental plans, state governments should strengthen these efforts even more and provide a coherent and inclusive method of environmental protection that fits local and national objectives.

- **Improve Transparency and Reduce Corruption**

The Federal Government should improve the ability of anti-corruption agencies such as the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) to properly monitor resource distribution. Publishing open oil revenue-sharing reports will show fair distribution, especially for areas rich in resources. State administrations have to make sure that the distribution of oil money goes towards significant local development projects, therefore building trust and real



improvement in these areas. Local communities might then be rather important by tracking and disclosing cases of misappropriation of monies meant for their development and embezzlement. Through technical help to enhance openness and responsibility in Nigeria's resource management, international partners should aid these initiatives in thus fostering sustainable and inclusive development.

- **Equitable Resource Management**

For the Federal Government to be effective, there must be policies implemented that will ensure that resources are distributed equitably across Nigeria's regions in fighting inequality and promoting national cohesion. Combatting desertification will not only come through doing away with such policies but also through promoting green agriculture policies in tandem with promoting rural economies which will stimulate the creation of sustainable livelihoods in the rural areas. This approach should be followed by state governments so that inequalities and disagreements between local populations within their jurisdictions are reasonably mitigated by the allocation of resources within local jurisdictions. Local communities can be involved as real community members who can take a position to argue their needs and, in this way, the resources can be allocated fairly. International partners can also support green agriculture initiatives and rural development programs with funding and technical expertise, offering long-term environmental and economic resilience.

- **Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding**

To solve fundamental issues and encourage peaceful resolutions, the Federal Government should start discussion initiatives with government officials, rebel groups, and leaders of communities. Human rights criteria should form the foundation of this process, which should simultaneously increase security forces' capabilities to guard sensitive communities against exploitation and violence. By mediating between local groups and the federal government, state governments can significantly help to enable more successful peacebuilding initiatives that speak to the needs of the local populations. To promote long-term peace, local people should actively engage in reconciliation projects working with both the government and outside partners. To guarantee that initiatives for peacebuilding and conflict resolution are both sustainable and successful, NGOs and international organizations can offer vital knowledge, financing, and a set of tools to help these projects.

- **Invest in Healthcare Infrastructure:**

The Federal Government should give top priority to expanding the national healthcare budget and creating policies meant to extend healthcare infrastructure, especially in rural areas, to help solve differences in access to high-quality treatment. To guarantee that rural populations are not left behind to enhance local healthcare facilities and provide incentives for medical professionals to work in underdeveloped areas, state governments must properly distribute resources. Through funding, training for healthcare professionals, and necessary medical supplies, which would greatly enhance healthcare access in underdeveloped regions, international partners including the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) can play a vital role.



- **Enhance Disease Surveillance and Response**

To properly monitor and react to pandemics, the Federal Government should concentrate on building and enhancing national disease monitoring systems, therefore guaranteeing fast intervention and prevention. To carry out local disease monitoring initiatives, state governments must work with federal agencies to guarantee that communities are sufficiently educated and guarded. By working with worldwide health agencies to supply vaccines, medical supplies, and public health official training, international organizations can assist these initiatives and thereby increase local capacity for disease prevention and response.

- **Promote Climate-Resilient Agriculture**

The Federal Government should give funding for initiatives aiming at environmentally friendly farming methods and drought-resistant crops as a top priority, therefore rewarding farmers to use sustainable practices. By teaching farmers modern, environmentally friendly farming methods, state governments may significantly help to guarantee that local communities have the skills to apply these methods. Local communities should therefore embrace environmentally friendly farming techniques and actively help to reduce climate hazards. By offering financing and technical know-how, international partners can assist these projects in creating agricultural systems resistant to climate change.

- **Foster Public Awareness**

The findings of our research urge the Federal Government to lead the way in organizing national campaigns to disseminate lifesaving information in areas of public health, climate change and environmental conservation using mass media and community outreach. State governments can team up with NGOs to expend money on specific awareness programs at the state level to spread awareness amongst rural and urban populations to promote understanding and motivated action. These initiatives should involve the participation of local communities and globally grassroots level to ensure that their message resonates locally in terms of values and concerns.

- **Leverage Global Partnerships**

The Federal Government needs to beef up its partnerships with organizations like the UNDP, WHO and IPCC in getting funding and technical expertise and ensuring global standards are used in health and environmental initiatives. They will work with the Nigerian government as international partners to implement global health and environmental projects such as climate adaptation, disease prevention and sustainable development. These collaborations advance the delivery of scarce resources and knowledge that will enable Nigeria to accelerate progress toward global health, and environmental goals.

- **Targeted Social Protection Programs**

Cash transfer programs and programs that subsidise food should be introduced by the Federal Government to cushion the effects of inflation and the removal of fuel subsidies, all of which would provide essential support to vulnerable populations. To ensure the social protection benefits reach those who need them most, both State Governments and the federal government should work together to make sure those resources are properly distributed. Monitoring and





reporting of misuse of social protection funds is an important task for Local Communities, as they play a crucial role in transparency and accountability in the redistribution process.

- **Progressive Tax Policies**

The Federal Government should overturn tax policies which favour the wealthy and corporate entities and create tax policies that would make the wealthy and corporate entities contribute a fairer share and increase revenue for the national form. Local economies will be stimulated and financial burdens on people who are vulnerable reduced if tax relief measures are implemented by State Governments for small businesses and low-income workers.

- **Support for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)**

Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) need support from the Federal Government to enable them to thrive in a competitive market by providing them with tax incentives, and access to credit and training programs. Local banks as well as institutions should work with the State Governments to provide tailor-made credit facilities and skill development programs for entrepreneurs to promote innovation and economic growth on the regional front.

- **Currency and Inflation Management**

Through the Central Bank of Nigeria, the Federal Government should enhance monetary measures to stabilize the naira and manage inflation, therefore guaranteeing a more predictable economic climate. Reducing needless expenditure, giving local businesses priority, and promoting local manufacturing can help state governments assist local economies and hence promote sustainable economic development.

Following these recommendations calls for a coordinated and inclusive strategy which involves all the stakeholders: government, local communities, international organizations, and business players. These methods aim to build resilience and promote sustainable development in Nigeria by addressing both the systematic causes of insecurity and immediate vulnerabilities.

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