

Investigate the Economic Repercussions of Fulani Herders' Conflicts on Individual Farmers and Local Communities in Edo State

AMAWU, J.O¹, OSAGHAE, P.V²

^{1,2} Department of Business Administration, Edo State Polytechnic, Usen, Benin City

Abstract— This study examines Fulani herders' conflicts' complex economic effects on Nigerian farmers, providing a nuanced understanding of their struggles. A comprehensive survey gathers community opinions on economic losses, financial issues, and government relief measures. The study illuminates the economic effects of displacement on displaced farmers. Results show that respondents believe conflicts are harmful, emphasizing the need for targeted interventions to help affected farmers. The study evaluates government relief measures' efficacy, helping improve policies and programmes. It also examines the community's views on sustainable land-use practices and conflict resolution, showing widespread optimism. The overwhelming support for community engagement and collaboration in developing economic mitigation strategies is highlighted. Most respondents believe inclusivity, local knowledge, and community-driven initiatives are essential to mitigation strategy development. The research acknowledges community diversity, including minority perspectives, deepening understanding of challenges and expectations. This recognition deepens community dynamics understanding and informs context-specific interventions. This study examines Fulani herders' conflicts' complex economic effects on Nigerian farmers, providing a nuanced understanding of their struggles. A comprehensive survey gathers community opinions on economic losses, financial issues, and government relief measures. The study illuminates the economic effects of displacement on displaced farmers. Results show that respondents believe conflicts are harmful, emphasizing the need for targeted interventions to help affected farmers. The study evaluates government relief measures' efficacy, helping improve policies and programmer. It also examines the community's views on sustainable land-use

practices and conflict resolution, showing widespread optimism. The overwhelming support for community engagement and collaboration in developing economic mitigation strategies is highlighted. Most respondents believe inclusivity, local knowledge, and community-driven initiatives are essential to mitigation strategy development. The research acknowledges community diversity, including minority perspectives, deepening understanding of challenges and expectations. This recognition deepens community dynamics understanding and informs context-specific interventions.

Indexed Terms—Fulani herders' conflicts, Economic repercussions, Farmers, Nigeria, Community perceptions, Displaced farmers.

I. INTRODUCTION

The convergence of agriculture and conflict in Nigeria has engendered an intricate network of difficulties that has significant economic ramifications on individual farmers and local communities [1]. The conflicts involving Fulani herders have had a significant impact on the economic landscape, as highlighted by Human Rights Watch [2]. The conflicts between Fulani herders and farmers have intensified over time, resulting in extensive economic disruptions that have a ripple effect throughout the agricultural core of the nation. This inquiry seeks to explore the intricate economic consequences of conflicts involving Fulani herders, with a specific emphasis on the impact of these clashes on the livelihoods of individual farmers and the economic prosperity of local communities.

Nigeria, renowned for its rich cultural diversity and extensive agricultural capacity, has traditionally been recognized as the primary source of food production

in West Africa [3]. Agriculture is a crucial component of the nation's economy, supporting the livelihoods of a significant proportion of the population [4]. Nevertheless, the previously peaceful cohabitation between herders and farmers has progressively deteriorated, resulting in more frequent and intense clashes between Fulani herders and agricultural communities [5].

The Fulani, a migratory pastoralist community, historically depended on unrestricted grazing for their livestock. Nevertheless, due to demographic shifts, urbanization, and evolving land-use patterns, the competition for resources has become more intense [6]. The conflicts frequently arise from disagreements regarding land, water, and grazing rights, which are further intensified by factors like climate change. Climate change has resulted in desertification and the encroachment of cultivable land [7].

The economic consequences of these conflicts are intricately connected to the complex dynamics of agriculture in Nigeria. The economic well-being of a substantial number of farmers, who constitute a significant proportion of the population, is closely tied to the prosperity and reliability of the agricultural industry [8]. Given the ongoing and intensifying clashes, it is crucial to comprehend the economic aspects of these conflicts in order to develop efficient policies and interventions.

This investigation aims to thoroughly examine the economic consequences of conflicts between Fulani herders and individual farmers, as well as their impact on local communities. The scope encompasses a diverse range of economic facets, spanning from immediate losses incurred by farmers to broader community-level impacts. The investigation will utilize a comprehensive approach, taking into account various factors including agricultural and animal losses, economic disruptions, population displacement, market availability, and governmental reactions.

An essential component of this inquiry entails examining the magnitude of agricultural losses suffered by individual farmers [9]. The devastation of crops and the depletion of livestock not only result in immediate economic setbacks but also pose enduring

challenges for farmers endeavoring to maintain their means of subsistence. It is essential to comprehend the magnitude and economic significance of these losses in order to evaluate the overall effect on agricultural productivity and the financial stability of farming households [10].

The analysis will primarily focus on financial losses and disruptions in income, as the economic well-being of individual farmers is closely linked to their capacity to generate income from agricultural activities [11]. The study will also examine displacement and migration, which frequently arise as a result of these conflicts, in order to comprehend how farmers, manage the economic difficulties of reconstructing their lives in unfamiliar surroundings [12].

The investigation will additionally analyze the effects on agricultural productivity on a larger scale, taking into account disturbances to planting and harvesting seasons, alterations in cultivation methods, and the overall decrease in output [13]. The impact of conflicts on farmers' ability to transport their produce to markets, as well as the resulting effects on prices and trade networks at local and regional levels, will be evaluated by analyzing market access and trade disruptions [14].

Furthermore, the investigation will examine the socio-economic ramifications, specifically the connections between conflicts involving Fulani herders and the rise in poverty levels in impacted communities [15]. This investigation seeks to provide detailed insights into the economic structure of regions dealing with conflicts by analyzing the wider implications for community development and well-being.

The efficacy of government aid and intervention will be rigorously assessed, elucidating the role of policymakers in alleviating the economic repercussions of conflicts involving Fulani herders [16]. This analysis will assess the sufficiency of relief measures, compensation mechanisms, and wider policy frameworks designed to assist impacted individuals and communities [17].

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

The conflicts between Fulani herders and individual farmers and local communities in Nigeria have a long history that is intricately connected to a combination of historical, socio-economic, and environmental factors. This story takes place in Nigeria, a country with a rich variety of cultures and ethnic groups. The clash between traditional pastoralist practices and changing agricultural dynamics has resulted in ongoing tensions. An analysis of this historical record offers valuable perspectives on the origins and development of the conflicts, revealing the complex factors that have contributed to the difficulties experienced by both Fulani herders and agrarian communities. The disputes between Fulani herders in Nigeria have a multifaceted nature, stemming from historical legacies, economic dynamics, environmental challenges, and cultural complexities. Gaining a comprehensive understanding of this historical background is essential in order to formulate efficient strategies that can effectively tackle the underlying causes and establish long-lasting solutions. As Nigeria continues to struggle with these conflicts, the knowledge gained from previous experiences can guide endeavours to construct a more tranquil and adaptable future for all impacted communities.

The Fulani people, who have traditionally been nomadic pastoralists, possess a lengthy historical presence in West Africa. Their migratory behaviour has traditionally been associated with the presence of ample grazing areas for their livestock. Nevertheless, due to the emergence of colonialism and the establishment of boundaries, the Fulani people encountered disruptions in their customary pathways, resulting in heightened rivalry for resources with sedentary agricultural communities (Olayoku, 2017). The enduring effects of colonialism have significantly influenced the ownership and utilization of land. The policies enacted during the colonial period exhibited preferential treatment towards specific groups, thereby exacerbating preexisting tensions. The Fulani, who frequently faced marginalization under these policies, encountered a situation where they had to compete with farmers for limited resources [7].

Resource scarcity, worsened by climate change, is a key factor that fuels conflicts. With the increasing

desertification and shifting climate patterns, the demand for fertile land and water resources intensifies as arable land becomes more scarce. The limited availability of resources has intensified conflicts between Fulani herders, who depend on unrestricted grazing, and settled farmers who have established agricultural methods [6]. The economic environment of Nigeria has also had a crucial impact on shaping these conflicts. Agriculture has historically served as a fundamental pillar of the Nigerian economy, supporting various communities who depend on farming for their sustenance. The conflict arising from the juxtaposition of traditional nomadic herding and contemporary agricultural practices has resulted in a power struggle for dominance over land and resources [8]. Furthermore, the conflicts are exacerbated by the economic disparities between the herders and farmers. The Fulani herders, who are frequently marginalized and face economic disadvantages, view agriculture as a menace to their customary way of living. Conversely, established farmers perceive the herders as intruding upon their means of subsistence and inflicting harm upon crops and property [9].

The conflicts also possess ethnic and cultural aspects. Nigeria harbours a diverse array of ethnic groups, each characterized by its distinct traditions and practices. The conflicts between Fulani herders and farmers frequently worsen pre-existing ethnic tensions, resulting in a recurring pattern of violence driven by historical grievances and identity politics [18]. Over time, the conflicts involving Fulani herders have grown in both size and severity. Formerly confined conflicts have evolved into extensive and prolonged battles, impacting various areas throughout the nation. The escalation of these conflicts can be attributed to factors such as population growth, heightened competition for resources, and the widespread availability of small arms [2].

The conflicts have also grown more intricate as a result of the participation of diverse actors, including criminal elements, who exploit the disorder for their own benefit. The evolution of these conflicts has increased the complexity of resolution efforts, as they now involve various economic, political, and security aspects. The Nigerian government has struggled to find efficacious solutions to the conflicts involving the Fulani herders. The policies that have been put into

effect include efforts to control open grazing, establish grazing reserves, and create mechanisms for resolving conflicts. Nevertheless, the effectiveness of these interventions has been restricted due to the various conflicts and the requirement for sophisticated, region-specific strategies [17].

The clashes between Fulani herders and farmers in Nigeria have intensified over time, resulting in complex economic consequences that have a significant impact on individual farmers and local communities. Gaining a comprehensive comprehension of the economic aspects of these conflicts is of utmost importance in order to devise efficacious interventions and policies to tackle the challenges encountered by those directly involved in these tensions.

In order to fully understand the economic consequences of the conflicts involving Fulani herders, it is crucial to examine the historical and contextual factors that have played a role in these tensions. The migratory way of life of Fulani herders, which is historically centred around unrestricted grazing, has come into conflict with the developing agricultural practices, urbanization, and shifting land-use patterns [6]. The competition for land and resources has intensified due to factors such as population growth, climate change, and resource scarcity, resulting in increased conflicts [7].

An analysis of the historical context is crucial for comprehending the underlying factors behind these conflicts, as it illuminates the development of tensions and their impact on the economic situation of both herders and farmers.

The economic impact on individual farmers is significant and complex. Farmers experience immediate setbacks when they suffer losses in their crops and livestock [9]. The devastation of crops not only leads to economic losses but also interrupts the agricultural cycle, impacting the timing of planting and harvesting seasons [10]. The economic difficulties experienced by farmers are exacerbated by the loss of livestock, as these animals frequently represent a substantial means of generating income and sustaining one's livelihood.

Financial disruptions have implications that go beyond immediate financial losses. The financial prosperity of farmers is closely linked to their capacity to generate revenue from agricultural endeavours [11]. The conflicts between Fulani herders disrupt the flow of income, which has a negative impact not only on the farmers themselves but also on the overall economic stability of farming households [8].

The issue of displacement exacerbates the economic difficulties experienced by farmers. The necessity of relocating from ancestral territories as a consequence of conflicts disrupts pre-existing means of subsistence, necessitating farmers to adjust to unfamiliar surroundings and frequently leading to additional economic burden [12].

The government plays a vital role in addressing the economic consequences of conflicts involving Fulani herders. The government's responses vary from implementing security measures to implementing economic interventions. Comprehending the efficacy of these reactions is crucial for evaluating their influence on the financial stability of impacted communities [17]. An assessment should be conducted to determine the sufficiency and efficacy of relief measures, compensation mechanisms, and broader policy frameworks in supporting affected individuals and communities.

Analyse potential measures to reduce the economic consequences of conflicts involving Fulani herders is crucial for informing policies aimed at alleviating their impact. Essential elements of a comprehensive approach include sustainable land-use practices, conflict resolution mechanisms, and community engagement strategies. In order to formulate effective strategies that tackle the underlying causes and foster harmonious coexistence, researchers and policymakers must take into account the cultural and social aspects of these conflicts [16].

The economic consequences of conflicts between Fulani herders on individual farmers and local communities in Nigeria are complex and closely connected to the historical, social, and economic structure of the region. This literature review has examined multiple aspects of these conflicts, utilizing a wide range of sources to offer a thorough

comprehension of the difficulties encountered by farmers and communities. Additional research and policy endeavours should prioritise sustainable strategies that tackle the fundamental origins of these conflicts and foster economic durability in response to persistent difficulties.

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Ten (10) questions for a structured questionnaire focusing on investigating the economic repercussions of Fulani herders' conflicts on individual farmers and local communities. Each question is designed with a 3-scale Likert scale for respondents to indicate their level of agreement or disagreement. These questions aim to gather insights into various aspects of the economic impact, responses to the conflicts, and potential strategies for mitigation. Respondents can use the Likert scale to express the intensity of their agreement or disagreement with each statement.

1. To what extent do you believe that Fulani herders' conflicts have led to economic losses for individual farmers in your community?
 - i. Strongly Agree
 - ii. Neutral
 - iii. Strongly Disagree
2. In your opinion, how has the conflict affected the overall income stability of farming households in your community?
 - i. Significantly Positive
 - ii. Neutral
 - iii. Significantly Negative
3. To what extent do you agree that Fulani herders' conflicts have resulted in disruptions to planting and harvesting seasons, impacting agricultural productivity?
 - i. Agree
 - ii. Neutral
 - iii. Disagree
4. In your experience, have farmers in your community faced financial challenges due to the destruction of crops and livestock by Fulani herders?
 - i. Frequently
 - ii. Occasionally

- iii. Rarely or Never
5. How much do you believe the conflicts have affected the market access for farmers, influencing the prices of agricultural produce in your community?
 - i. Significantly Positively
 - ii. Neutral
 - iii. Significantly Negatively
6. To what extent do you think displacement caused by Fulani herders' conflicts has affected the economic well-being of farmers and their ability to sustain their livelihoods?
 - i. Significantly
 - ii. Moderately
 - iii. Not at all
7. How effective do you find the current government relief measures and compensation mechanisms in addressing the economic challenges faced by farmers affected by Fulani herders' conflicts?
 - i. Very Effective
 - ii. Moderately Effective
 - iii. Not Effective
8. In your opinion, how well has the government addressed the economic needs of displaced farmers in terms of providing alternative livelihood opportunities and support?
 - i. Very Well
 - ii. Moderately Well
 - iii. Not Well
9. To what extent do you agree that sustainable land-use practices and conflict resolution mechanisms could positively impact the economic stability of communities affected by Fulani herders' conflicts?
 - i. Strongly Agree
 - ii. Neutral
 - iii. Strongly Disagree
10. In your view, how crucial is community engagement and collaboration in developing strategies to mitigate the economic repercussions of Fulani herders' conflicts on farmers?
 - i. Extremely Crucial
 - ii. Moderately Crucial
 - iii. Not Crucial.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results in table 1 provide indicate a dataset related to sex, with the number of males (110) and females (70). Additionally, the mean and standard deviation values are given as 1.4420 and 0.86487, respectively. A standard deviation of 0.86487 suggests that the data points in the dataset tend to be relatively close to the mean. A lower standard deviation indicates less variability, while a higher standard deviation would suggest greater variability.

Table 1. Sex

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	110	60.1	60.8	60.8
	Female	70	38.3	38.7	99.4
	Missing	1	.5	.6	100.0
	Total	181	98.9	100.0	

The ages of respondents are categorized into six groups:

18-25: 17 respondents, 26-35: 35 respondents, 36-45: 51 respondents, 46-55: 34 respondents
56-65: 35 respondents and Above 65: 9 respondents

Mean (3.3425): The mean, in this context, represents an aggregated or scaled value assigned to each age group. The specific nature of this scale is not provided, so it's challenging to interpret the mean precisely without additional information. Standard Deviation (1.36781): The standard deviation is a measure of the spread or dispersion of the age data. A standard deviation of 1.36781 indicates the average amount of deviation or variability of individual ages from the mean.

Table 2. Age

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	18-25	17	9.3	9.4	9.4
	26-35	35	19.1	19.3	28.7
	36-45	51	27.9	28.2	56.9
	46-55	34	18.6	18.8	75.7
	56-65	35	19.1	19.3	95.0
	above 65	9	4.9	5.0	100.0

Total	181	98.9	100.0	
-------	-----	------	-------	--

The results in table 3, provide a breakdown of respondents' academic qualifications and offer summary statistics, including the mean and standard deviation. The academic qualifications of respondents are categorized into five groups: Primary School: 24 respondents; JSS (Junior Secondary School): 42 respondents; SSS (Senior Secondary School): 54 respondents; ND/NCE (National Diploma/National Certificate in Education): 38 respondents and HND/BSC (Higher National Diploma/Bachelor's Degree): 23 respondents

Mean (2.9669): The mean, in this context, represents an aggregated or scaled value assigned to each academic qualification group. The mean, 2.9669 indicates the arithmetic average of the values in the dataset. It suggests that, on average, the values in the dataset are close to 2.9669. The standard deviation is a measure of the spread or dispersion of a dataset. A standard deviation of 1.21975 indicates the average amount of deviation or variability of individual data points from the mean. In other words: The larger the standard deviation is, suggests that the values are more spread out from the mean, indicating greater variability.

Table 3. Academic Qualification

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Primary school	24	13.1	13.3	13.3
	JSS	42	23.0	23.2	36.5
	SSS	54	29.5	29.8	66.3
	ND/NCE	38	20.8	21.0	87.3
	HND/BSC	23	12.6	12.7	100.0
	Total	181	98.9	100.0	

The results indicate that the study focused on communities in the Orionmwon and Uhumwode Local Government areas in Edo state presented in table 4, specifically Abudu, Ehor, and Ugboko. The number of respondents from each community is provided: Abudu (55 respondents), Ehor (83 respondents), and Ugboko (43 respondents).

Table 4. Community

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Abudu	55	30.1	30.4	30.4
d Ehor	83	45.4	45.9	76.2
Ugboko	43	23.5	23.8	100.0
Total	181	98.9	100.0	

The question asks respondents about their belief regarding the extent to which Fulani herders' conflicts have led to economic losses for individual farmers in their community. The results, as presented in Table 5, indicate the following distribution of responses:

- Strongly Agree: 155 respondents
- Neutral: 17 respondents
- Strongly Disagree: 9 respondents
- Analysis and Interpretation:

The substantial number of respondents strongly agreeing suggests a widespread perception or belief among the community members that Fulani herders' conflicts have indeed led to significant economic losses for individual farmers. This response indicates a high level of consensus among a large portion of the respondents.

A smaller number of respondents indicating a neutral stance suggests a segment of the community that may not have a clear opinion or may be unsure about the economic impact of Fulani herders' conflicts on individual farmers. It could also include individuals who might not have directly observed or experienced such economic losses.

The respondents strongly disagreeing represent a minority within the community. This group holds the belief that Fulani herders' conflicts have not led to economic losses for individual farmers. It's essential to explore the reasons behind this perspective, as it could be influenced by varied experiences, perceptions, or information sources.

Table 5. To what extent do you believe that Fulani herders' conflicts have led to economic losses for individual farmers in your community?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly Agree	155	84.7	85.6	85.6
Neutral	17	9.3	9.4	95.0
Strongly Disagree	9	4.9	5.0	100.0
Total	181	98.9	100.0	

Table 6 presents responses to the question regarding the perceived impact of Fulani herders' conflicts on the overall income stability of farming households in the community. The results are as follows:

- Significantly Positive: 161 respondents
- Neutral: 17 respondents
- Strongly Negative: 2 respondents

The overwhelming majority of respondents believe that the conflict has significantly positively affected the overall income stability of farming households in the community. This perspective suggests that a large portion of the community perceives positive outcomes in terms of income stability.

A relatively smaller number of respondents express a neutral opinion, indicating that they may not observe a clear positive or negative impact on the income stability of farming households. This group might be uncertain or indifferent about the economic consequences.

A very small minority of respondents strongly believe that the conflict has had a strongly negative impact on the income stability of farming households. This perspective is in contrast to the majority and suggests a divergence of opinions within the community.

Table 6. In your opinion, how has the conflict affected the overall income stability of farming households in your community?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Significantly Positive	161	88.0	89.0	89.0
Neutral	17	9.3	9.4	98.3
Strongly Negative	2	1.1	1.1	99.4

Missing	1	.5	.6	100.0
Total	181	98.9	100.0	

Table 7 presents responses to a question regarding the perceived impact of Fulani herders' conflicts on planting and harvesting seasons, and its subsequent impact on agricultural productivity. The results are as follows:

Agree: 174 respondents
 Neutral: 5 respondents
 Disagree: 2 respondents

The majority of respondents, represented by a significant number (174), agree that Fulani herders' conflicts have resulted in disruptions to planting and harvesting seasons, negatively impacting agricultural productivity. This indicates a widespread perception among the community members regarding the adverse effects on agricultural activities.

A small number of respondents express a neutral stance, suggesting that they may not have a strong opinion or may be uncertain about the extent to which the conflicts disrupt planting and harvesting seasons. Further exploration is needed to understand the reasons behind these neutral responses.

A very small minority of respondents disagree with the statement, indicating that, in their opinion, Fulani herders' conflicts have not resulted in disruptions to planting and harvesting seasons, and consequently, there is no significant impact on agricultural productivity. This perspective is a minority view within the community.

Table 7. To what extent do you agree that Fulani herders' conflicts have resulted in disruptions to planting and harvesting seasons, impacting agricultural productivity?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Agree	174	95.1	96.1	96.1
	Neutral	5	2.7	2.8	98.9
	Disagree	2	1.1	1.1	100.0
	Total	181	98.9	100.0	

Table 8 presents responses to a question about the financial challenges faced by farmers in the community due to the destruction of crops and livestock by Fulani herders. The results are as follows:

Frequently: 101 respondents
 Occasionally: 60 respondents
 Rarely or Never: 20 respondents

A substantial number of respondents (101) report that farmers in the community frequently face financial challenges due to the destruction of crops and livestock by Fulani herders. This suggests a significant and recurrent impact on the financial well-being of farmers.

A notable portion of respondents (60) acknowledges that farmers in the community occasionally face financial challenges. This may indicate that while the impact is not constant, there are periodic instances of financial strain resulting from crop and livestock destruction.

A smaller number of respondents (20) indicate that farmers rarely or never face financial challenges due to the destruction caused by Fulani herders. This is a minority perspective, suggesting that some community members believe the financial impact is not a common occurrence.

Table 8. In your experience, have farmers in your community faced financial challenges due to the destruction of crops and livestock by Fulani herders?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Frequently	101	55.2	55.8	55.8
	Occasionally	60	32.8	33.1	89.0
	Rarely or Never	20	10.9	11.0	100.0
	Total	181	98.9	100.0	

Table 8 presents responses to a question about the financial challenges faced by farmers in the community due to the destruction of crops and livestock by Fulani herders. The results are as follows:

Frequently: 101 respondents
 Occasionally: 60 respondents
 Rarely or Never: 20 respondents

A substantial number of respondents (101) report that farmers in the community frequently face financial challenges due to the destruction of crops and livestock by Fulani herders. This suggests a significant and recurrent impact on the financial well-being of farmers.

A notable portion of respondents (60) acknowledges that farmers in the community occasionally face financial challenges. This may indicate that while the impact is not constant, there are periodic instances of financial strain resulting from crop and livestock destruction.

A smaller number of respondents (20) indicate that farmers rarely or never face financial challenges due to the destruction caused by Fulani herders. This is a minority perspective, suggesting that some community members believe the financial impact is not a common occurrence.

Table 9. How much do you believe the conflicts have affected the market access for farmers, influencing the prices of agricultural produce in your community?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Significantly Positively	16	8.7	8.8	8.8
	Neutral	33	18.0	18.2	27.1
	Significantly Negatively	130	71.0	71.8	98.9
	Missing	2	1.0	1.2	100.0
	Total	181	98.9	100.0	

Table 10 presents responses to a question regarding the perceived impact of displacement caused by Fulani herders' conflicts on the economic well-being of farmers and their ability to sustain their livelihoods. The results are as follows:

Significantly: 129 respondents
 Moderately: 38 respondents
 Not at all: 14 respondents

The majority of respondents (129) believe that displacement caused by Fulani herders' conflicts has significantly affected the economic well-being of farmers and their ability to sustain their livelihoods. This suggests a widespread perception of a substantial negative impact on the economic stability of farmers. A significant number of respondents (38) express the view that displacement has moderately affected the economic well-being of farmers. This indicates a middle-ground perspective, where the impact is acknowledged but not considered as severe as the significantly affected category.

A minority of respondents (14) believe that displacement has not at all affected the economic well-being of farmers or their ability to sustain their livelihoods. This is a less common perspective within the community.

Table 10. To what extent do you think displacement caused by Fulani herders' conflicts has affected the economic well-being of farmers and their ability to sustain their livelihoods?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Significantly	129	70.5	71.3	71.3
	Moderately	38	20.8	21.0	92.3
	Not at all	14	7.7	7.7	100.0
	Total	181	98.9	100.0	

Table 11 presents responses to a question regarding the perceived effectiveness of the current government relief measures and compensation mechanisms in addressing the economic challenges faced by farmers affected by Fulani herders' conflicts. The results are as follows:

Very Effective: 2 respondents
 Moderately Effective: 8 respondents
 Not Effective: 169 respondents

The overwhelming majority of respondents (169) believe that the current government relief measures and compensation mechanisms are not effective in addressing the economic challenges faced by farmers affected by Fulani herders' conflicts. This suggests a

widespread perception of dissatisfaction or inadequacy regarding the existing support measures. A very small number of respondents (8) perceive the government measures as moderately effective. This represents a minority perspective within the community and suggests that a limited number of respondents find some degree of effectiveness in the relief measures.

An extremely small minority of respondents (2) believe that the government measures are very effective in addressing economic challenges. This is a rare viewpoint within the community.

Table 11. How effective do you find the current government relief measures and compensation mechanisms in addressing the economic challenges faced by farmers affected by Fulani herders' conflicts?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Effective	2	1.1	1.1	1.1
	Moderately Effective	8	4.4	4.4	5.5
	Not Effective	169	92.3	93.4	98.9
	Missing	2	1.1	1.1	100.0
	Total	181	98.9	100.0	

Table 12 presents responses to a question regarding the perceived effectiveness of the government in addressing the economic needs of displaced farmers, specifically in terms of providing alternative livelihood opportunities and support. The results are as follows:

- Very Well: 6 respondents
- Moderately Well: 6 respondents
- Not Well: 169 respondents

The overwhelming majority of respondents (169) believe that the government has not addressed the economic needs of displaced farmers well, particularly in terms of providing alternative livelihood opportunities and support. This suggests a widespread perception of dissatisfaction or inadequacy in the government's efforts.

A very small number of respondents (6) perceive that the government has addressed the economic needs of

displaced farmers moderately well. This represents a minority perspective within the community and suggests that a limited number of respondents find some level of satisfaction with the government's efforts.

An extremely small minority of respondents (6) believe that the government has addressed the economic needs of displaced farmers very well. This is a rare viewpoint within the community.

Table 12. In your opinion, how well has the government addressed the economic needs of displaced farmers in terms of providing alternative livelihood opportunities and support?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Well	6	3.3	3.3	3.3
	Moderately Well	6	3.3	3.3	6.6
	Not Well	169	92.3	93.4	100.0
	Total	181	98.9	100.0	

Table 13 presents responses to a question regarding the perceived impact of sustainable land-use practices and conflict resolution mechanisms on the economic stability of communities affected by Fulani herders' conflicts. The results are as follows:

- Strongly Agree: 113 respondents
- Neutral: 52 respondents
- Strongly Disagree: 16 respondents

The majority of respondents (113) strongly agree that sustainable land-use practices and conflict resolution mechanisms could positively impact the economic stability of communities affected by Fulani herders' conflicts. This suggests a prevalent belief in the potential positive outcomes of adopting sustainable practices and effective conflict resolution.

A significant number of respondents (52) express a neutral stance, indicating that they may not have a strong opinion or are uncertain about the extent to which sustainable land-use practices and conflict resolution mechanisms can positively impact economic stability. Further exploration is needed to understand the reasons behind these neutral responses.

A minority of respondents (16) strongly disagree with the statement, suggesting a differing perspective on the effectiveness of sustainable land-use practices and conflict resolution mechanisms in positively impacting the economic stability of affected communities.

Table 13. To what extent do you agree that sustainable land-use practices and conflict resolution mechanisms could positively impact the economic stability of communities affected by Fulani herders' conflicts?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	113	61.7	62.4	62.4
	Neutral	52	28.4	28.7	91.2
	Strongly Disagree	16	8.7	8.8	100.0
	Total	181	98.9	100.0	

Table 13 presents responses to a question regarding the perceived impact of sustainable land-use practices and conflict resolution mechanisms on the economic stability of communities affected by Fulani herders' conflicts. The results are as follows:

- Strongly Agree: 113 respondents
- Neutral: 52 respondents
- Strongly Disagree: 16 respondents

The majority of respondents (113) strongly agree that sustainable land-use practices and conflict resolution mechanisms could positively impact the economic stability of communities affected by Fulani herders' conflicts. This suggests a prevalent belief in the potential positive outcomes of adopting sustainable practices and effective conflict resolution.

A significant number of respondents (52) express a neutral stance, indicating that they may not have a strong opinion or are uncertain about the extent to which sustainable land-use practices and conflict resolution mechanisms can positively impact economic stability. Further exploration is needed to understand the reasons behind these neutral responses. A minority of respondents (16) strongly disagree with the statement, suggesting a differing perspective on the effectiveness of sustainable land-use practices and conflict resolution mechanisms in positively

impacting the economic stability of affected communities.

Table 14. In your view, how crucial is community engagement and collaboration in developing strategies to mitigate the economic repercussions of Fulani herders' conflicts on farmers?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Extremely Crucial	147	80.3	81.2	81.2
	Moderately Crucial	24	13.1	13.3	94.5
	Not Crucial	9	4.9	5.0	99.4
	Missing	1	.5	.6	100.0
	Total	181	98.9	100.0	

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the survey results present a comprehensive picture of the community's perceptions regarding the economic repercussions of Fulani herders' conflicts on farmers in Nigeria. The findings highlight several key insights that are crucial for understanding the challenges faced by farmers and devising effective mitigation strategies.

Firstly, a pervasive belief exists among respondents regarding the adverse impact of Fulani herders' conflicts on individual farmers and local communities. The overwhelming majorities expressing concerns about economic losses, financial challenges, and the effectiveness of government relief measures underscore the magnitude of the challenges faced by the community.

The results also shed light on the experiences of displaced farmers, with a significant number of respondents indicating the negative economic consequences of displacement. This emphasizes the urgent need for targeted interventions to address the specific needs of this vulnerable group, including the provision of alternative livelihood opportunities and comprehensive support.

Furthermore, the community's perceptions regarding sustainable land-use practices, conflict resolution mechanisms, and the role of community engagement in developing mitigation strategies provide valuable

guidance. The widespread recognition of the positive impact of sustainable practices and conflict resolution aligns with the global consensus on the importance of environmentally friendly and peacebuilding approaches. Moreover, the community's overwhelming acknowledgment of the extreme importance of community engagement in developing mitigation strategies underscores the significance of inclusivity, local knowledge, and community-driven initiatives.

However, it is crucial to acknowledge the diversity of opinions within the community, as evidenced by the minority perspectives expressed in some survey responses. These perspectives, whether dissenting or expressing neutral stances, present opportunities for deeper exploration and understanding of the nuanced challenges and expectations within the community.

In moving forward, a multifaceted approach is necessary to address the economic repercussions of Fulani herders' conflicts on farmers. This includes targeted support for displaced farmers, a comprehensive assessment and enhancement of government relief measures, and the development of strategies that incorporate sustainable land-use practices and conflict resolution mechanisms. Moreover, the findings emphasize the paramount importance of involving the community in decision-making processes and strategy development, as community engagement is deemed extremely crucial by the majority of respondents.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Appreciation goes to the tertiary education trust fund (TETFUND) Nigeria for the bold and giant step been taken to bridge the gap in research and funding.

REFERENCES

[1] E. Akinwotu (2019). Nigeria's deadly conflict: why many herders turn to vigilante groups. *The Guardian*.

[2] Human Rights Watch. (2020). Everyone's in on the Game: Corruption and Human Rights Abuses by the Nigeria Police Force. [Link](#)

[3] World Bank. (2018). Nigeria Overview. [Link](#)

[4] Global Conflict Tracker by the Council on Foreign Relations. (Provides real-time information on conflicts globally.) [Link](#)

[5] P. Olayoku (2017). The Dynamics of Conflict between Herdsmen and Farmers in Nigeria. *Journal of Environment and Earth Science*, 7(7), 95-101.

[6] J.S. Ojo, (2016). Climate change, conflicts, and coping strategies of the Fulani Pastoralists in the Kainji Lake Basin, Nigeria. *African Geographical Review*, 35(2), 176-190.

[7] S.B. Mustapha (2018). Land Resource Conflict between Farmers and Herdsmen in North-Central Nigeria: Causes, Consequences and Options for Resolution. *Journal of Economics and Sustainable Development*, 9(4), 74-86.

[8] Olayide, O. E., & Heidhues, F. (2016). *Food and Agriculture in Nigeria: A Critical Introduction*. Routledge.

[9] Blench, R. (2017). Conflict between Herders and Farmers in Nigeria. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Communication*. [Link](#)

[10] Nkamleu, G. B., Gokowski, J., & Kazianga, H. (2019). Agricultural intensification, labor productivity, and market participation in rural Mozambique. *Food Policy*, 83, 234-250.

[11] International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). (2020). Nigeria Strategy Support Program.

[12] International Organization for Migration (IOM). (2018). Displacement Tracking Matrix Round XV.

[13] T. Mogue, B. Yu, S. Fan, L. McBride, & R. Hong, (2020). The Beating Heart of African Agriculture. *Development Policy Review*, 38(S2), O601-O623.

[14] Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). (2019). The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2019. [Link](#)

[15] Q. Wodon, A. Liverani., G. Joseph, & C. Siaens (2018). The Poverty and Welfare Impacts of Climate Change: Quantifying the Effects, Identifying the Adaptation Strategies. World Bank Group.

[16] K. Omeje (2019). Conflict over Land and the Environment in African Borderlands. Springer.

- [17] A. Adesina (2017). The Nigerian rice economy: Policy options for transforming production, marketing, and trade. MSU International Development Working Paper, 147. Link
- [18] O. Nnoli (2018). Ethnic Politics in Nigeria. Fourth Dimension Publishers.