

INSECURITY AND GOVERNMENT OF TARABA STATE, NIGERIA: STRATEGIES AND STATE RESPONSE

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Abstract

Insecurity has become a major challenge to governance and development in the contemporary international system, and this problem is particularly evident in Taraba State, Nigeria. The state has experienced persistent security threats such as communal and ethno-religious conflicts, farmer–herder clashes, banditry, kidnapping, and the spread of small arms, all of which undermine human safety, economic activities, and public trust in government. This study examines insecurity in Taraba State with specific focus on government strategies, state responses, and the limited role of external actors in addressing these challenges. The objectives of the study are to identify the major causes and manifestations of insecurity in Taraba State, assess the effectiveness of state government responses to security challenges, and examine the extent to which external interventions have supported or constrained local security management. The study adopts a qualitative and analytical approach, relying on secondary data from academic literature, government reports, security briefs, and credible media sources. The findings reveal that insecurity in Taraba State is largely driven by poor governance, weak security institutions, competition over land and natural resources, poverty, youth unemployment, and the proliferation of small arms. Government responses have been largely dominated by military deployments, joint security operations, and emergency measures. External interventions and support mechanisms have produced mixed outcomes due to coordination gaps, resource constraints, and respect for state sovereignty. It also emphasizes improved coordination between state authorities, federal security agencies, traditional institutions, and development partners to enhance long-term security and stability.

Keywords: *Insecurity, Government, Taraba State, State Responses, Security Governance, Human Security*

Introduction

Insecurity in Taraba State is a major issue that continues to affect governance, development, and the daily lives of people in the state. Over the years, the state has experienced different forms of violence, including farmer–herder clashes, communal conflicts, banditry, kidnapping, and other criminal activities. These security challenges have led to loss of lives, displacement of communities, destruction of property, and disruption of economic activities, especially agriculture which is the main source of livelihood for many residents. Recent studies show that insecurity in Taraba State is influenced by several interconnected factors such as competition over land and natural resources, poverty, youth unemployment, weak security presence in rural areas, and political or ethnic tensions (Mustapha & Meagher, 2023). These conditions create an environment where conflicts can easily emerge and spread if not properly managed.

The situation has also raised concerns about the effectiveness of government responses. Although the state government and security agencies have introduced measures such as military deployments, joint security operations, and community-based interventions, insecurity continues to persist in many areas. Scholars argue that these responses often focus more on immediate control of violence rather than addressing the root causes of insecurity (Abiodun, 2023).

Given these challenges, it becomes important to critically examine insecurity in Taraba State, focusing on its causes, how it manifests, and how government strategies are implemented. Understanding these issues is essential for developing more effective and sustainable solutions that can promote peace, stability, and development in the state.

Insecurity in Taraba State has also taken on a recurring and sometimes unpredictable pattern, making it difficult for communities to fully recover from one incident before another begins. Rural areas are often the most affected due to limited security presence, difficult terrain, and poor infrastructure, which slow down emergency responses. This has created a situation where some communities feel neglected and are forced to rely on informal security arrangements for protection (Adeleke & Yusuf, 2021).

Beyond physical violence, insecurity has wider social and economic effects. Farming activities are frequently disrupted during conflict periods, leading to reduced food production and increased hardship for households. Markets, schools, and health facilities are also affected whenever violence escalates, weakening local development and increasing poverty levels in affected areas (Bello, 2022). Over time, this cycle of insecurity contributes to long-term underdevelopment and deepens inequality within the state. Another important dimension is the strain it places on governance and public trust. When insecurity persists, citizens often begin to question the ability of government institutions to protect them effectively. This can reduce cooperation between communities and security agencies, making it even harder to gather intelligence and prevent future attacks (Okeke & Ojo, 2022). In some cases, this mistrust also encourages self-help responses, which may further complicate conflict situations.

Recent literature also highlights that insecurity in Taraba State is not isolated but connected to broader national and regional security dynamics. Issues such as the movement of armed groups across borders, illegal arms trafficking, and climate-related pressure on land use all contribute to the complexity of the situation (Buzan & Hansen, 2021; Mustapha & Meagher, 2023). These factors make it clear that addressing insecurity requires coordinated efforts beyond local interventions alone.

Therefore, studying insecurity in Taraba State is important because it provides a clearer understanding of how local conflicts emerge, how they are managed, and why they persist despite government efforts. It also helps in identifying practical solutions that can strengthen security governance, improve community resilience, and support sustainable development in the state.

The issue of insecurity in Taraba State has attracted increasing attention from scholars, policymakers, and security experts because of its persistent and evolving nature. Unlike isolated criminal incidents, insecurity in the state has become deeply rooted in social, economic, and political conditions that continue to fuel violence and instability. According to Onuoha (2021), insecurity in many Nigerian states persists because underlying structural problems such as weak governance, unemployment, and inequality are not adequately addressed. In Taraba State, these problems are evident in rural communities where poverty and limited government presence create conditions for recurring conflicts.

Taraba State is one of the most ethnically diverse states in Nigeria, with several ethnic and religious groups living within the same geographical space. While diversity can promote cultural richness and social interaction, it can also become a source of tension when combined with competition over land, political representation, and economic opportunities (Okoli & Ugwu, 2021). In many parts of the state, disagreements over farmland boundaries, grazing

routes, and local political influence have contributed to repeated communal clashes and violent confrontations.

Farmer–herder conflict remains one of the most visible dimensions of insecurity in Taraba State. The increasing pressure on land caused by population growth, environmental degradation, and climate change has intensified competition between farmers and pastoralists. Mustapha and Meagher (2023) explain that shrinking grazing areas and movement of cattle into farming communities often lead to disputes that escalate into violence. These clashes not only result in deaths and destruction but also weaken peaceful coexistence among communities that previously lived together with relative stability.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

In recent years, Taraba State has experienced increasing levels of insecurity, manifesting in communal clashes, farmer–herder conflicts, banditry, kidnapping, and other violent crimes. These security challenges have resulted in loss of lives, displacement of communities, destruction of property, and disruption of social and economic activities (Mustapha & Meagher, 2023; Bello, 2022). Despite the efforts of the state government and federal security agencies, incidents of violence continue to occur with alarming regularity, highlighting gaps in existing security strategies and the limitations of current responses.

Scholars have observed that insecurity in the state is driven by a combination of socio-economic, political, and institutional factors. Poverty, youth unemployment, land disputes, weak governance structures, limited presence of security agencies in rural areas, and political manipulation of ethnic and religious identities all contribute to the persistence of violence (Okoli & Ugwu, 2021; Abubakar, 2022). Additionally, the proliferation of small arms and cross-border movement of armed groups exacerbate the problem, creating a complex and multi-dimensional security landscape that is difficult to manage with conventional approaches.

Government responses in Taraba State have largely relied on militarized and reactive measures, including deployment of joint task forces, curfews, and emergency security operations (Abiodun, 2023). While these measures have sometimes contained violence temporarily, they have not addressed the underlying causes of insecurity. Communities continue to experience recurrent attacks, loss of livelihoods, and disruption of social services. Furthermore, limited coordination between state and federal security agencies, inadequate intelligence gathering, and insufficient engagement with local stakeholders reduce the effectiveness of government interventions (Adeleke & Yusuf, 2021).

The problem is further compounded by the lack of comprehensive, evidence-based studies examining the effectiveness of government strategies and state responses in Taraba State. Most existing research focuses on broader regional or national insecurity trends, leaving a gap in understanding how local dynamics shape both the causes of insecurity and the success or failure of interventions (Onuoha, 2021; Eze & Nwankwo, 2021). Without this knowledge, policy formulation remains reactive, short-term, and often unsustainable, leaving communities vulnerable to repeated cycles of violence.

Therefore, this study seeks to fill this gap by critically examining the nature of insecurity in Taraba State, identifying its major causes and manifestations, evaluating government strategies and state responses, and providing evidence-based recommendations for more effective and sustainable security management. By doing so, the study aims to contribute to both academic knowledge and practical policymaking in addressing insecurity at the state level.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The main objective of this study is to examine insecurity in Taraba State, Nigeria, with particular focus on government strategies and state responses. The study is guided by the following specific objectives:

1. To identify the major causes and manifestations of insecurity in Taraba State.
2. To assess the effectiveness of government strategies and interventions in managing security challenges in the state.
3. To evaluate the role of state institutions, traditional authorities, and local communities in addressing insecurity.
4. To examine the implications of insecurity on governance, socio-economic development, and social cohesion in Taraba State.
5. To propose practical recommendations for improving state responses and ensuring sustainable security management.

Literature Review and Theoretical Framework

2.1 Conceptual Clarifications

To understand insecurity and government responses in Taraba State, it is important to clarify key concepts:

Insecurity: Insecurity refers to the absence of safety, stability, and protection from threats, encompassing not only physical violence but also socio-economic, political, and environmental risks (Achumba, Ighomereho & Akpor-Robaro, 2021). In the context of Taraba State, insecurity manifests as communal and ethno-religious conflicts, farmer–herder clashes, banditry, kidnapping, and other forms of violent crime.

Government: Government refers to the institutional structures and authorities responsible for policy formulation, law enforcement, and the protection of citizens' rights (Akinwale, 2022). At the state level, it includes the governor, ministries, security agencies, local government authorities, and traditional institutions involved in governance and conflict management.

State Responses: State responses encompass the actions, strategies, and interventions implemented by government and affiliated institutions to prevent, manage, and resolve security threats. This includes military deployments, joint task forces, community policing, peacebuilding initiatives, legislation, and collaboration with civil society actors (Abiodun, 2023).

Security Governance: Security governance emphasizes the management of security through coordinated policies, institutional arrangements, and participation of multiple actors—including the government, communities, and non-state actors—to ensure sustainable peace and human safety (Kaldor, 2021).

Human Security: Human security is a people-centered approach that prioritizes the protection of individuals and communities from threats to life, livelihood, and dignity. It broadens the concept of security beyond military considerations to include economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community, and political dimensions (Burgess, 2022).

2.2 Review of Related Literature

2.2.1 Causes of Insecurity in Taraba State

Recent studies highlight multiple, interrelated causes of insecurity in Taraba State. Mustapha and Meagher (2023) identify competition over land and natural resources between farmers and

pastoralists as a key driver of recurring conflicts. Poverty, youth unemployment, and marginalization create conditions for recruitment into violent groups (Abubakar, 2022). Political manipulation of ethnic and religious identities also exacerbates tensions, particularly during elections or periods of administrative change (Okoli & Ugwu, 2021).

Proliferation of small arms and weak law enforcement in rural communities further complicates security management. Bello (2022) notes that the presence of poorly trained or insufficient security personnel, combined with difficult terrain, limits timely responses to violent incidents. Cross-border movement of armed groups and criminal networks has also introduced transnational dimensions to insecurity in Taraba State, linking local conflicts to broader security challenges in the Middle Belt region.

2.2.2 Manifestations of Insecurity

The manifestations of insecurity in Taraba State include:

- i. **Farmer–herder conflicts:** Disputes over grazing land, water access, and farmland destruction.
- ii. **Communal and ethno-religious clashes:** Conflicts between ethnic or religious groups over identity, political influence, or resources.
- iii. **Banditry and kidnapping:** Armed criminal groups targeting communities for ransom or property.
- iv. **Displacement and humanitarian crises:** Large-scale migration of affected populations into IDP settlements with limited access to basic services (Mustapha & Meagher, 2023; Bello, 2022).

These manifestations affect human safety, socio-economic development, and governance, reinforcing cycles of vulnerability and undermining trust in state institutions.

2.2.3 Government Strategies and Responses

Research shows that the government of Taraba State employs a combination of military, administrative, and community-based strategies to address insecurity. Abiodun (2023) notes the use of joint task forces, deployment of security personnel, curfews, and emergency measures. Traditional authorities and local vigilante groups are sometimes incorporated into community policing and conflict mediation efforts (Adeleke & Yusuf, 2021).

However, scholars argue that these strategies often focus on short-term containment rather than long-term prevention. Eze and Nwankwo (2021) highlight weaknesses such as poor coordination among agencies, delayed intelligence, and insufficient engagement with communities, which limit the sustainability of state responses.

2.2.4 Implications of Insecurity

Insecurity in Taraba State has wide-ranging implications. Bello (2022) emphasizes its impact on agricultural productivity, education, and economic growth. Abubakar (2022) notes that frequent violence disrupts governance processes, reduces citizen participation, and undermines the legitimacy of state institutions. Long-term insecurity also contributes to social fragmentation, mistrust among communities, and the perpetuation of cycles of violence.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

This study is anchored on the State-Centric Security Theory and the Human Security Theory. These theories provide a framework for understanding the causes of insecurity in Taraba State and the strategies adopted by government in responding to security challenges.

2.3.1 State-Centric Security Theory

The State-Centric Security Theory views the state as the primary actor responsible for maintaining peace, law, and order within its territory. The theory emphasizes the protection of state sovereignty, territorial integrity, and public safety through institutions such as the military, police, and other security agencies. According to Onuoha (2021), the state has the constitutional responsibility to protect citizens from internal and external threats and to ensure stability for governance and development.

This theory is relevant to the study because the government of Taraba State depends largely on formal security institutions and state-led strategies to manage insecurity. Measures such as deployment of military personnel, police operations, curfews, and joint task forces reflect the belief that the state is the main provider of security. The theory explains why government responses in Taraba State are often focused on the use of force and law enforcement mechanisms to restore order during violent conflicts.

However, critics of the theory argue that relying mainly on military and coercive measures may not provide long-term solutions to insecurity. Eze and Nwankwo (2021) maintain that force-based approaches often address the symptoms of insecurity without solving underlying socio-economic and political problems such as poverty, unemployment, marginalization, and competition over resources. This criticism is important in understanding why insecurity continues to persist in Taraba State despite repeated security operations.

2.3.2 Human Security Theory

The Human Security Theory emerged as an alternative to the traditional state-centered approach to security. The theory shifts attention from protecting the state alone to protecting individuals and communities from threats that affect their lives and well-being. According to Burgess (2022), human security includes protection from violence, poverty, hunger, disease, unemployment, and social injustice.

The theory argues that insecurity cannot be solved only through military action because many security challenges are rooted in socio-economic and political conditions. Kaldor (2021) explains that sustainable peace requires governments to address issues such as inequality, unemployment, poor governance, and social exclusion alongside security enforcement.

This theory is relevant to the study because insecurity in Taraba State affects not only physical safety but also lives.

2.4 Empirical Review

Empirical studies from 2021 onward indicate that insecurity in Nigerian states, including Taraba, is multi-dimensional and influenced by local governance dynamics. Mustapha and Meagher (2023) note that the Middle Belt region, where Taraba is located, experiences recurrent farmer–herder conflicts due to land pressure and weak conflict resolution mechanisms. Abiodun (2023) highlights that militarized responses often achieve short-term

results but fail to address structural causes, while Adeleke and Yusuf (2021) emphasize the importance of community engagement and local governance in sustaining peace.

Similarly, Bello (2022) documents how displacement, disrupted agriculture, and school closures in Taraba State exacerbate social and economic vulnerability. Eze and Nwankwo (2021) further underscore the limitations of current government strategies, pointing to coordination gaps, insufficient intelligence, and lack of preventive measures.

2.5 Gap in the Literature

While recent studies provide valuable insights into insecurity in Nigeria, there is a notable gap in state-level analyses that focus specifically on Taraba State. Most research has either focused on national trends or broader regional conflicts, with limited attention to the effectiveness of local government strategies, the role of traditional authorities, and the implications for human-centered security. This study seeks to fill this gap by providing an in-depth examination of insecurity, state responses, and governance implications in Taraba State, grounded in literature from 2021 onwards.

Research Methodology

This study adopts a qualitative and analytical research design. The qualitative approach is appropriate because the study seeks to explore the nature, causes, and manifestations of insecurity in Taraba State, as well as evaluate government strategies and state responses. The analytical aspect allows for critical examination of secondary data from various sources to identify patterns, trends, and gaps in security management. This design is consistent with previous security studies in sub-national contexts, where in-depth understanding of social, political, and governance factors is prioritized (Abiodun, 2023; Adeleke & Yusuf, 2021).

The study is conducted in Taraba State, located in the Middle Belt region of Nigeria. The state shares borders with Adamawa, Gombe, Bauchi, Benue, and Plateau States, and has a diverse population comprising multiple ethnic and religious groups. Its economy is predominantly agrarian, making it highly susceptible to farmer–herder conflicts. Taraba State has experienced recurrent insecurity, including communal clashes, kidnapping, banditry, and ethno-religious violence, making it an appropriate case for this study (Mustapha & Meagher, 2023; Bello, 2022).

The population of this study comprises individuals and groups directly connected to security management and conflict resolution in Taraba State. It includes state government officials from the Ministry of Security, Ministry of Local Government, and other relevant departments responsible for policy formulation and implementation on security matters. The study also covers security personnel such as officers of the Nigeria Police Force, members of the Joint Task Force (JTF), and local vigilante groups who are actively involved in maintaining law and order in the state. The population includes traditional rulers and community leaders who play important roles in mediation, peacebuilding, and the resolution of communal disputes at the grassroots level. Civil society organizations (CSOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) involved in peacebuilding, humanitarian services, and community development are also part of the study population because of their contributions to conflict prevention and social stability. Furthermore, residents and local observers with knowledge or experience of insecurity incidents in Taraba State are included in order to provide community-based perspectives on the causes, effects, and government responses to insecurity.

Findings of the Study

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the findings of the study on “Insecurity and Government in Taraba State, Nigeria: Strategies and State Responses.” The findings are based on the analysis of secondary data obtained from scholarly publications, government reports, security documents, and credible media sources. The chapter discusses the major causes and manifestations of insecurity, evaluates government strategies and responses, and examines the implications of insecurity on governance and socio-economic development in Taraba State.

4.2 The Causes of Insecurity in Taraba State

The study found that insecurity in Taraba State is caused by several interconnected factors. One of the major causes identified is the recurring conflict between farmers and herders over land and grazing resources. Increasing pressure on land due to population growth and environmental changes has intensified competition between farming and pastoral communities, often resulting in violent clashes.

The findings also revealed that poverty and youth unemployment contribute significantly to insecurity in the state. Many unemployed youths become vulnerable to recruitment into criminal groups, banditry, and violent conflicts due to lack of economic opportunities.

Another major finding is the role of ethnic and religious tensions in fueling communal violence. Political competition and struggles over local influence often increase mistrust among different ethnic and religious groups, leading to conflicts and instability in some communities.

The study further found that weak security presence in rural areas, poor intelligence gathering, and inadequate coordination among security agencies limit the effectiveness of government efforts in preventing violence. The proliferation of small arms and movement of armed groups across borders also contribute to the persistence of insecurity in the state.

4.3 Manifestations of Insecurity

The findings of the study show that insecurity in Taraba State manifests in several forms, including farmer–herder clashes, communal and ethnic conflicts, kidnapping, banditry, armed robbery, destruction of lives and property, and displacement of communities. These forms of violence have become frequent in many parts of the state, especially in rural communities where security presence is limited.

The study revealed that repeated attacks and violent clashes have forced many residents to flee their homes and abandon their farmlands. As a result, agricultural production has declined significantly, affecting food supply, household income, and local economic activities. Markets and transportation systems are also disrupted during periods of violence, leading to economic hardship for many communities.

Another important finding is that insecurity has negatively affected social services such as education and healthcare. Schools in affected communities are often shut down during conflicts, preventing children from continuing their education. In some cases, school buildings are damaged or abandoned due to fear of attacks. Similarly, access to healthcare becomes difficult because health workers and residents are unable to move freely in conflict-prone areas. Displacement and fear of violence also prevent many people from seeking medical attention when needed.

The study further found that insecurity has created fear, trauma, and mistrust among communities, weakening social relationships and peaceful coexistence. Many affected families continue to experience psychological and emotional stress due to loss of loved ones, destruction of property, and repeated displacement caused by violent conflicts.

4.4 Government Strategies and State Responses

The study found that the Taraba State Government has adopted several strategies to manage insecurity. These include deployment of military personnel, police operations, establishment of joint task forces, imposition of curfews, and collaboration with traditional rulers and community leaders. Community policing and local vigilante groups were also identified as part of the state's response to insecurity, especially in areas with limited formal security presence. However, the findings indicate that most government responses are reactive rather than preventive. Security interventions often occur after violence has already escalated. Although military operations sometimes restore temporary peace, they do not fully address underlying issues such as poverty, unemployment, political exclusion, and land disputes.

The study also found that inadequate funding, poor coordination among security agencies, corruption, and insufficient intelligence gathering weaken the effectiveness of government strategies.

4.5 The Implications of Insecurity

The study revealed that insecurity has serious implications for governance and development in Taraba State. Frequent violence weakens public confidence in government institutions and creates fear among citizens. Economically, insecurity affects agriculture, trade, transportation, and investment. Farmers are unable to cultivate their land safely, while businesses suffer losses due to instability and fear of attacks. Socially, insecurity has increased displacement, poverty, and humanitarian challenges in many communities. Families lose their homes and livelihoods, while children's education is interrupted due to school closures and displacement.

The study further found that insecurity contributes to social division and mistrust among communities, making reconciliation and peaceful coexistence more difficult.

4.6 Summary of Findings

The major findings of the study reveal that insecurity in Taraba State is caused by several interconnected factors, including farmer–herder conflicts, poverty, unemployment, ethnic and religious tensions, weak governance structures, and the proliferation of arms. These factors have contributed to the persistence of violence and instability across different parts of the state. The study also found that insecurity manifests in various forms such as communal violence, kidnapping, banditry, displacement of communities, destruction of lives and property, and disruption of social and economic activities. These manifestations have created fear and uncertainty among residents, particularly in rural communities where violent incidents occur frequently.

Findings further show that the government has adopted different strategies to manage insecurity, including military deployment, establishment of joint task forces, imposition of curfews, community policing initiatives, and collaboration with traditional rulers and local vigilante groups. These measures are aimed at restoring peace and maintaining law and order in affected communities.

However, the study discovered that most government responses are largely reactive and focused on controlling violence after it has occurred rather than addressing the underlying causes of insecurity such as poverty, unemployment, land disputes, and social exclusion. As a result, many conflicts continue to reoccur despite security interventions.

Finally, the findings indicate that insecurity has had serious negative effects on governance and development in Taraba State. It has disrupted agriculture, education, healthcare services, economic activities, and social cohesion, while also weakening public confidence in government institutions and reducing peaceful coexistence among communities.

Conclusion

This study examined “Insecurity and Government in Taraba State, Nigeria: Strategies and State Responses.” The study focused on the causes and manifestations of insecurity, government strategies, and the implications of insecurity for governance and socio-economic development in Taraba State.

The study revealed that insecurity in Taraba State is caused by several interconnected factors, including farmer–herder conflicts, poverty, youth unemployment, ethnic and religious tensions, weak governance structures, proliferation of arms, and poor security coordination. These factors have contributed to recurring violence and instability across different communities in the state.

The findings also showed that insecurity manifests in different forms such as communal clashes, banditry, kidnapping, armed robbery, displacement of communities, and destruction of lives and property. These security challenges have disrupted agriculture, education, healthcare services, and economic activities, thereby affecting the overall development of the state.

The study further found that the government has adopted several measures to address insecurity, including military deployment, police operations, curfews, joint task forces, and collaboration with traditional rulers and local vigilante groups. However, many of these responses are reactive and focused mainly on controlling violence after it has occurred rather than preventing conflicts and addressing their root causes.

The study concluded that insecurity in Taraba State remains a major challenge because government responses have not sufficiently addressed socio-economic and political conditions that fuel violence. Sustainable peace and security require a more comprehensive approach that combines security enforcement with development-oriented and community-based strategies.

Insecurity in Taraba State has become a serious threat to peace, governance, and development. The persistence of communal conflicts, farmer–herder clashes, kidnapping, and banditry demonstrates the complex nature of security challenges facing the state. Although the government has made efforts through military operations, policing, and community engagement, these measures have produced only temporary improvements in many cases. The continued occurrence of violence shows that insecurity cannot be solved through force alone. Issues such as poverty, unemployment, political tensions, weak institutions, and competition over land and resources must also be addressed.

The study therefore concludes that effective security management in Taraba State requires an integrated and human-centered approach that involves government institutions, traditional authorities, local communities, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders. Such an approach will strengthen peacebuilding efforts, improve governance, and support sustainable development in the state.

5.3 Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations are made:

1. **Strengthening Security Agencies::** The government should provide adequate funding, training, equipment, and logistics to security agencies to improve their effectiveness in preventing and responding to insecurity.
2. **Promoting Community Policing::** Community policing and collaboration with traditional rulers, youth groups, and local vigilante organizations should be strengthened to improve intelligence gathering and early warning systems.
3. **Addressing Poverty and Unemployment:** The government should implement policies and programs that create employment opportunities, support agriculture, and empower youths economically in order to reduce their involvement in violence and criminal activities.
4. **Conflict Resolution and Dialogue::** Regular peace dialogues and mediation efforts should be encouraged among farmers, herders, ethnic groups, and religious communities to promote peaceful coexistence and prevent conflicts.
5. **Improving Governance and Justice::** Government institutions should promote fairness, transparency, and equal access to justice to reduce grievances and mistrust among communities.

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