

Library and Information Management in Post Conflict Society; Challenges and the Way Forward in North Eastern Nigeria.

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Abstract

The North-East region of Nigeria has been ravaged by age long insurgency threatening the effective management of scholarly information especially through the use of libraries facility in the region. Security measures adopted and put in place by the Nigerian government vindicated the view that the conflict shall come to an end within the shortest possible time. With this expectation, it is also anticipated that library and information management in the post conflict era in the region witness a number of challenges making the solutions to such challenges a major issue of academic debate in the region. The study examined library and information management in post conflict society with respect to challenges and the way forward in North-East Nigeria. It adopted quantitative technique of data collection supported by secondary materials. The structured questionnaire was administered on one hundred and fifty respondents chosen from five public institutional libraries in North-East Nigeria. Three Polytechnics and Two Universities were studied. And, each of the study area was represented by thirty respondents i.e. Librarians and Information Management Experts. Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) through used of frequency/percentage, mean/average and standard deviation tools of analysis were adopted. The research found that, library and information management in the post conflict era in Nigeria's North-East is saddled with a number of challenges. The study recommended the adoption of sound societal and cyber security network as part of the ways of checkmating the challenges of library and information management in post conflict North-East Nigeria.

Keywords: *Conflict, Information, Library, Management, Society.*

Introduction

Armed conflict in Nigeria's North-East region started in 2009 when Boko Haram a Jihadist rebel group initially led by Late Muhammad Yusuf and later Abubakar Shekau engaged the Nigerian government forces in fierce battle at Maiduguri the Borno state capital as attempt to establish an Islamic state and government in Northern Nigeria. Although, after the alleged dead of Shekau which later turn out to be rumor, Abu Musab al-Barnawi was rumored to have replaced Shekau as the group leader (BBC, 2016). As the conflict continued into 2013 sometimes around May, 2.3 million people have been displaced. At least Cameroun and Chad received 250,000 refugees who have fled conflict areas in Nigeria across the borders into their territories. Niger received half the number of Internally Displaced People (IDP) who were forced out of their homes across the border into its territory (Windsor, 2015). Conflict in Nigeria's North-East have killed over 6,600 as at 2014. Boko Haram carried out mass abduction especially the kidnapped of 276 school girls from a government owned girls' secondary school at Chibok in Borno state in April 2014. And, dramatically, before 2014 ended, the conflict escalated with 10,449 deaths recorded in addition to 1,000 death cases initially reported in 2013. Also, in 2014, the conflict has spread across the boundaries into neighboring countries of Cameroon, Chad and Niger thus, making it a regional conflict against authorities of affected countries. In record at present, Boko Haram has been named the deadliest terrorist group on the planet (Buchanan, 2016). This rating can be attributed to the number of casualties and destructions amounting from the conflict.

In addition to the number killed, managing the conflict was reported to have cost governments in the North-East region the sum of \$9Bn in 2016 especially in the most vulnerable states of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe (Vanguard, 2016).

Though, statement of emergency rule was declared in the North-East as possible state measures of controlling and ending the conflict. But, instead of ending the insurgency, the conflict spread like wild fire across the region (Baba & Sherriff, 2018). State of emergency rule which halted internet usage and led to lack of mobile communication during the period it lasted for coupled with initial destruction of communication and internet facilities put together, resulted in serious setback to the development of Library and Information Management in Nigeria's North-East region (Baba, 2020). Several public Libraries, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) centers as well as other centers of research and documentation across the North-East have already been targeted and destroyed by the Insurgents before the state of emergency rule was declared. The declaration only added in worsening accessibility to Library and other Information Management facilities. Hence, the role of library in strengthening of information and its management is likely to witness some serious challenges in the post conflict period. The mother of all disciplines is Librarianship. As the main custodian of information and knowledge, accessing, retrieving and disseminating of information from various sources and resources in different aspects of human life are basic positions of the library. Helping an individual or groups living in a society to be well informed in matters around the society goes a long way into averting conflicts and promoting peace among communities and groups within the community (Eze, Ibegbulam & Umunnakwe, 2016). Gone are the days when the librarians are confined to the library buildings waiting for users to come and browse through heaps of books on the shelves. Libraries are expected to come into societal issues and change attitude of the civil society, which is a stakeholder in the peace process. Libraries – school libraries, public libraries, university libraries and national libraries can

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effectively bring about the attitudinal changes in the minds of the people of a nation (Maheshwari, 2008). In the Nigerian context, seemingly, the libraries' and librarians' effective contribution to conflict resolution and peace building could be felt when they are giving what it takes especially in areas of library funding, librarians' training, and sensitization. Conflict resolution and peace building is an issue of concern for all in the society these days considering the fact that conflicts used to erupt at different levels in today's society.

In Nigeria's North-East geopolitical zone, insurgency promoted by the Boko Haram group has been lingering for years till date. The conflict which started since 2009 has been drawing the attention of several bodies across the world. The conflict has lasted to an extent that library and information management are required as necessary tools needed to bring the insurgency to an end. This need has also attracted the attention scholars to investigating some of the challenges which library and information management are likely to witness in the post conflict period in the region. Achieving this goal will lie so much on addressing before time, the possible way forward in ameliorating the anticipated challenges library and information management are expected to encountered in the North-East region in the post conflict period. The desire to achieve these goals however, provided the basis for the study.

Statement of problem

Nigeria as a country is married to a number of conflicts ravaging its six geopolitical zones. Insurgency started by Boko Haram group has been on since 2009. Several studies have been conducted in the area of library, information management and conflict with none on the insurgency in Nigeria's North East region. Study by Eze, Ibegbulam & Umunnakwe (2016) concentrated more on the role of library in resolving conflicts in South-East Nigeria.

Attention was not paid to the application of information management and its relativity with library practice. Also, Bhatti (2010) on Pakistan, Ifidon & Ahiazu (2005) in their related work failed in extending their findings to cover post conflict era as their study was only limited to using library in resolving ongoing conflict. Similarly, study by Maheshwari (2008) also suffered the deficiency of investigating the use of library in promoting peace in post conflict Sri-Lanka. Their studies have also failed in identifying possible challenges that library and information management are likely to experience in post conflict society thus creating important gaps in knowledge especially in the areas of scope and connectivity of related concepts such as library and information management.

Empirical studies like those of Ilorah (2009), Echezona (2007), Aboh & Isaac (2019) also focused on the use of library for conflict resolution. The studies have adopted mainly qualitative analysis making views captured in the study mostly secondary in nature. Experts in Information Management as well as Librarians were not contacted to obtained professional and first-hand information on library's role in conflict resolution. This has also created gaps in the areas of methodology and use of concepts. Both theoretical and empirical evidence reviewed in the study have led to a number of identified research gaps. And, it is in order to fill the identified research gaps that the study was necessitated.

Objectives of the Study

The main objective of the study examine library and information management in post conflict society while its other aims include:

- i. To investigate the challenges of library and information management in post conflict North-East Nigeria.
- ii. To identify the different approaches for the management of academics

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- library in post conflict North-East Nigeria.
- iii. To find out the way forward for library and information management in post conflict North-East Nigeria.

Research Questions

In pursuance of the achievement of its aims and purposes, the study raised and answered a number of questions such as:

- i. What are the challenges of library and information management in post conflict North-East Nigeria?
- ii. What are the different approaches used in management of academics library and information in post conflict North-East Nigeria?
- iii. What is the way forward for library and information management in post conflict North-East Nigeria?

Literature review

Conflict is indicated by dispute, destruction of lives and properties, rise in cases of humanitarian crisis caused by disagreement between two or more parties. Conflicting parties have often at different stages of their disagreement engaged in dialogue with a view to resolving the dispute by reconciling their differences. Conflict resolution is the process involved in facilitating the peaceful ending of a conflict. Committed individuals, groups or organizations/associations attempt to resolve conflicts by actively communicating information about their conflicting motives or ideologies to the rest of the group by engaging in collective negotiations (Oyeshola, 2015). This implies that resolving conflict is a process which involve social, economic and political negotiations. Though, the process of resolving conflict as Edoke (2000) rightly observed involve struggle for resources, egocentrism, ethnocentrism, bigotry, assertion, struggle for recognition, ignorance pride and fear. And, this clearly shows that post conflict society is used to

explain a period of time when a society witnessed an end to a conflict. Though, pockets of attacks are still on in North-East Nigeria resulting in what many feels is a resurgence of the age long insurgency. But, development currently coming up in terms security measures adopted by the government proves that in the near future, the region shall become a post conflict society.

Library and Information Management promotes free flow of information which is the right of the people which enables them to participate effectively in the process of economic, social and political activities in the society, and enhances education, knowledge and learning Anasi, (2010). For any nation to make meaningful impact in conflict prevention, peace promotion and conflict resolution, early warning information is needed. Timely alert to potential conflicts is central to an early warning system which, in order to be meaningful, must be complemented by early political action (Echezona, 2007). Library and Information Management service is a key player in making available, uninterrupted access to significant information sustain peace in post conflict society. Therefore, it contributes to development of intellectual freedom, democratic values, universal rights and effective cultural morals needed for entrenchment of durable peace in post conflict society. Library in post conflict society can deliver the role of sustaining peace through the provision and dissemination of information from varieties of relevant materials at their custody. Library and Librarians as Eze, Ibegbulam & Umunnakwe (2016) posited can if properly prepared for post conflict operation, contribute to strengthening peace through providing avenue for creating awareness, using outreach programs to educate especially the illiterates and semi-literate ones on the need for peaceful co-existence using information materials especially in the North-East Nigeria where reasonable number of victims displaced by the conflict are illiterates.

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Library and Librarians play major role in post conflict society especially in the area of creating, accumulating, organizing and disseminating information. They act as the key player in fostering information society which is relevant for the growth and general development of society just coming out of conflict (Aina, 2001). Advancement in the area of computer hardware and software, as well as breakthrough in the field of communication, brought about a great revolution in the way libraries deliver information today. With this revolution of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) systems such as internet, website, email, teleconferencing, and information super high way, etc. And, as expected in post conflict society, libraries are to provide free access to information, as well as uphold the principles of intellectual freedom, and ensure that information resources representing various points of view, at least opposing points of view on any given issue made available, are not necessarily succumbing to political and religious persuasions (Jibo & Bayero, 2014). At least with necessary measures adopted, libraries can play effective role in the delivery of services in post-conflict society. Aboh & Isaac (2019) submitted, can be categorized into, the academic, school and public libraries as

well as information center. These various categories of libraries are not only necessary in post conflict North-East Nigeria but should be established in communities where none exist so as to make library and information management instrumental to post conflict peace and development in the region.

Methodology

The study is survey, quantitative method of inquiry was adopted. Secondary data were sourced through print and electronic materials accessed from archives of public tertiary institutions across the North-East region of Nigeria as well as through the use of internet facilities. Structured questionnaire was administered. The sample is made up 150 respondents from Federal Polytechnics at Damaturu, Mubi, and Ramat polytechnic Maiduguri as well as university of Maiduguri and Yobe state university were chosen for the study and each was represented by 30 respondents Librarians and Information Management Experts form the population from which the sample was drawn. Using the probability sampling method. Stratified technique was adopted in chosen the sample.



Figure 1: Map of Nigeria`s North-East showing the study areas marked with Stars

Source:<http://aoav.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Screen-Shot-2013-12-12-at-02.29.10.png>

Data Collection

The instrument of data collection was administered personally by the Researcher at different time in each of the institutions selected. And, all the questionnaires were retrieved. Frequency/percentage, mean/average and standard deviation were adopted as the statistical tools of analysis used in analyzing data collected for the study where Q=Question, F=Frequency, P=Percentage, SD=Strongly Disagreed, DA=Disagreed, UN=Un-decided, A=Agreed, SA=Strongly Agreed, M=Mean and SD=Standard Deviation.

Data presentation and analysis

Socio demographic data

QUALIFICAT ION	FREQUEN CY	PERCENT AGE
PhD	5	3.3%
MLIS	24	16%
BLIS	69	46%
Diploma	52	34%
TOTAL	150	100%

The sex distribution, academic qualification and years of experience results were outline in the Tables 1, 2, and 3. The workforce composition in these libraries reflects significant regional and structural challenges, beginning with a male-dominated ratio (nearly 2:1) that mirrors broader socio-cultural norms and limited female participation in professional roles in Northeast Nigeria (Abdulkarim et al., 2023; UN Women, 2022). Furthermore, a critical skills gap is evident in the low percentage of staff with PhDs (3.3%) and MLIS degrees (16%), with a predominance of BLIS (46%) and diploma holders (34%) that aligns with findings on the struggle to attract advanced qualifications in polytechnic settings (Musa et al., 2023).

Table 1: Sex distribution

SEX	FREQUEN CY	PERCENTA GE
MALE	97	64.6%
FEMA LE	53	35.4%
TOTA L	150	100%

Table 2: Qualification of the Respondent

Table 3: Year of experience

Range	Frequency	Percentage
25-30 years	17	11.4%
31-35 years	33	22%
36-40 years	39	26%
41-45 years	39	26%
46-50 years and above	22	14.6%
Total	150	100%

The experience distribution reveals a bimodal and aging workforce, with 59.4% in early- to mid-career (25–40 years) and 40.6% in late-career (41–50 years); the concentration of experienced professionals is a dual asset for institutional memory and a risk for knowledge loss upon retirement, which is particularly disruptive in post-conflict recovery settings (World Bank, 2023)

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The true state of the library challenges in post-conflict in Northeastern Nigeria were outline in the Table 4. Based on the findings, the management structure in surveyed academic libraries is predominantly hierarchical (61.3%), a persistent culture of centralized decision-making that provides stability in post-conflict settings but potentially hinders innovation and staff engagement (Adeleke and Nwalo, 2023; World Bank, 2023; IFLA, 2022).

Table 4: The management approaches used in academic library

Variables	Frequency	Percentage
Hierarchical	92	61.3%
Collaborative	35	23.3%
Participatory	23	15.3%
Transformational	0	-
Total	150	100%

The limited adoption of collaborative (23.3%) and participatory (15.3%) models aligns with documented institutional resistance to decentralization as shown in the Table 4, while the complete absence of transformational leadership (0%) is identified as a critical barrier to organizational adaptation and recovery (Musa et al., 2023; Onyeonoru, 2024). These results support calls for management reforms through leadership training and flatter organizational structures to meet the demands of digital transformation (Nigerian Library Association, 2023).

Table 5: The Library Prioritization in academics library

Variables	Frequency	Percentage
Collection development	67	44.66%
Infrastructural rebuilding	24	16%
Staff Training	30	20%
User service	29	19.3%
Total	150	100%

The prioritization of library services indicated in the Table 5, during post-conflict in the Northeastern Nigeria reveals a strong but potentially imbalanced emphasis, with collection development (44.66%) being the dominant focus to replenish lost or damaged resources (Adeleke, 2023). This comes at the relative expense of other critical areas, as the low prioritization of

infrastructural rebuilding (16%) is concerning given that damaged facilities with limited electricity and internet hinder digital transformation (World Bank, 2023). Meanwhile, the moderate attention given to staff training (20%) and user services (19.3%) may be insufficient, as the former is critical for librarians to manage modern technologies and the latter is essential for the library to function as a community hub for education and psychosocial support (UNESCO, 2023). These findings suggest a sustainable recovery requires a more integrated approach that balances resource allocation across all areas collections, infrastructure, professional development, and community-centered services to transform libraries into resilient institutions for long-term societal rebuilding (IFLA, 2023).

Table 6: The major challenge in the Library faces in the post conflict period

Variables	Frequency	Percentage
Infrastructural damage	43	28.66%
Shortage of staff	4	2.66%
Limited funding	41	27.33%
Security threats	62	41.33%
Total	150	100%

In Table 6, Libraries in post-conflict northeastern Nigeria face significant, interconnected challenges that hinder their effectiveness, with security threats (41.33%) being the most pressing issue as they disrupt operations and deter patrons and staff due to lingering violence (Nigerian Library Association, 2023). Infrastructural damage (28.66%) is another major obstacle, with many buildings destroyed and lacking basic facilities like electricity and internet, while limited funding (27.33%) critically restricts the capacity to rebuild, acquire materials, and modernize services (Nigerian Library Association, 2023). Although a relatively smaller

concern, a shortage of staff (2.66%) still affects service delivery due to a lack of skilled or adequately trained personnel (Nigerian Library Association, 2023). Addressing these issues requires a coordinated effort from government, NGOs, and international partners to improve security, rebuild infrastructure, secure sustainable funding, and train personnel; without such intervention, these libraries will struggle to fulfill their vital role in post-conflict community recovery (Nigerian Library Association, 2023).

Table 7: The strategies that Library used to manage resources (Human, finance technological) in a post conflict environment

Variables	Frequency	Percentage
Digital resource management	81	54%
Community engagement and outreach	3	2%
Seeking external funding or grant	29	19.33%
Resource sharing and collaboration	37	24.66%
Total	150	100%

Libraries in post-conflict northeastern Nigeria face significant challenges stemming from damaged infrastructure, limited funding, and disrupted community trust (Usman & Abba, 2023). In response, a multi-faceted approach has been adopted, with digital resource management emerging as the most prominent strategy (54%) as shown in Table 7, provide crucial remote access in insecure regions, despite being hindered by inconsistent electricity and internet (IFLA, 2022; Olanrewaju & Abdullahi, 2024; World Bank, 2022; Adebayo, 2023). Another key strategy is resource sharing and collaboration (24.66%), where partnerships help mitigate budget constraints, though coordination remains difficult (National Library of Nigeria, 2023;

Abbas & Garba, 2024; Bala & Muhammad, 2022). Furthermore, libraries heavily depend on external funding and grants (19.33%) for survival, raising concerns about long-term sustainability (UNESCO, 2023; Murtala & Ibrahim, 2023). Despite its critical importance for rebuilding social cohesion, community engagement and outreach receives the least attention (2%), limiting the impact of vital trauma-informed services and leaving a gap in addressing psychosocial needs (Yusuf, 2023; Aminu, 2022; Okeke & Dauda, 2023). Consequently, a more balanced approach that combines these strategies with stronger community involvement and sustainable partnerships is recommended to ensure libraries can thrive as centers of knowledge and reconciliation (IFLA, 2022; Usman & Abba, 2023; UNESCO, 2023).

The post-conflict environment in northeastern Nigeria has profoundly affected library services, with security challenges (60%) as indicated in Table 8, emerge as the most significant barrier, forcing closures and limiting hours due to safety concerns and mass displacement (Usman & Abba, 2023; Bala & Muhammad, 2022; UNESCO, 2023). Service interruptions (40%) rank as the second most pressing issue, primarily due to damaged infrastructure, unreliable utilities, and internet connectivity problems, which hinder digital services and the viability of alternative solutions like mobile libraries (IFLA, 2022; Adebayo, 2023; Olanrewaju & Abdullahi, 2024; National Library of Nigeria, 2023). Furthermore, user needs have shifted significantly (25%), creating a growing demand for trauma-informed services, digital literacy, and vocational training that most libraries are unequipped to meet due to a lack of updated collections and trained personnel (Murtala & Ibrahim, 2023; World Bank, 2022; Abbas & Garba, 2024). Although less widespread (10%), collection loss or damage from looting, arson, and neglect remains a critical concern, and rebuilding these collections is a costly and slow process due to weakened local networks (Yusuf, 2023; Aminu, 2022; Okeke & Dauda, 2023).

Table 8: The post conflict environment affect library services and operations

Variables	Frequency	Percentage
Services interruption	56	40%
Changes in user need	29	25%
Security challenges	60	25%
Collection loss or damage	5	10%
Total	150	100%

Source; Researcher`s field survey (2025)

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Table 8: Challenges of Library and Information Management in post conflict Nigeria`s North-East

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S/N	Question							
		SDA	DA	UD	A	SA	M	SD
Q1.	Shortage of fund is one of the challenges that Library and Information Management will encounter in post conflict North-East Nigeria.	3	5	16	57	69	30	27.6
		2%	3.3%	10.6%	38%	46%		
Q2.	Reduction in number of Librarians and Information Management Experts will not affect Library and Information Management in post conflict North-East Nigeria.	71	42	17	14	6	30	48.6
		47.3%	28%	11.3%	9.3%	4%		
Q3.	Inadequate facilities and equipment will affect Library and Information Management in post conflict North-East Nigeria.	0	0	12	63	75	30	32.4
		0%	0%	8%	42%	50%		
Q4.	Societal and cyber insecurities will not affect Library and Information Management in post conflict North-East Nigeria.	68	70	10	2	0	30	32.0
		45.3%	46.6%	6.6%	1.3%	0%		
Q5.	There is likely going to be difficulty in the documentation and accessing of information in Library and Information Management in post conflict North-East Nigeria.	45	58	16	20	11	30	20.7
		30%	38.6%	10.6%	13.3%	7.3%		
Q6.	Managing Library and Information Management will not be difficult in post conflict North-East Nigeria.	42	58	26	18	18	30	16.8
		28%	38.6%	17.3%	12%	12%		

F/P=Frequency/Percentage, SDA=Strongly Disagreed Agree, DA=Disagreed, UD=Undecided, A=Agreed, and SA=Strongly Agreed, M=Mean/Average, SD=Standard Deviation

Source; Researcher`s field survey (2025)

Challenges of Library and Information Management in post conflict Nigeria`s North-East based on Shortage of fund is one of the challenges that Library and Information Management encounter in post conflict North-

East Nigeria. In post-conflict North-East Nigeria, library systems face a foundational crisis primarily driven by a severe shortage of funds. This financial deficit, agreed upon by 84% of professionals as indicated in Table 9, acts as a root cause that exacerbates all other challenges. It prevents the reconstruction of damaged

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infrastructure, the replenishment of decimated book collections, and the adoption of necessary technologies (World 2022). Furthermore, the lack of funding cripples the ability to recruit and retain skilled staff, which is identified as a critical need, with 75.3% of respondents believing the loss of experts will severely affect services. Consequently, without significant financial intervention, libraries remain unable to transform into the vital hubs for education and community healing that are essential for the region's recovery (Prince et al., 2024).

overwhelming 92% of respondents cite inadequate facilities as a critical barrier, while 91.9% affirm that societal and cyber insecurities pose a significant threat (Olanrewaju & Salisu, 2023). Although a majority (68.6%) express confidence in overcoming documentation issues, a significant minority remains apprehensive, reflecting disparate realities across the region (IFLA, 2022). Ultimately, 84% of professionals agree that managing these services will be difficult, underscoring that a successful recovery requires a coordinated effort addressing funding, infrastructure, human capital, and security simultaneously (Musa et al., 2023).

The challenges are compounded by pervasive infrastructural and security concerns. An

Table 10: Way forward for Library and Information Management in post conflict Nigeria`s North-East

S/N	STATEMENT	1	2	3	4	5	M	SD
		SDA	DA	UD	A	SA		
Q1	Adequate societal and cyber security in post conflict North-East Nigeria will not improve Library and Information Management in the region.	82	56	9	3	0	30	30.2
		56.6%	37.3%	6%	2%	0%		
Q2	Adequate funding of Library and Information Management is a way forward for development in post conflict North-East Nigeria.	0	2	2	50	96	30	38.0
		0%	1.3%	1.3%	33.3%	64%		
Q3	Recruitment and proper training of qualify Librarians and Information Management Experts will not result in quality Library and Information Management in post conflict North-East Nigeria	75	62	6	4	3	30	31.7
		50%	41.3%	4%	2.6	2%		
Q4	Provision of adequate facilities and equipment in post conflict North-East Nigeria will boast Library and Information Management in the region.	3	7	3	64	73	30	31.5
		2%	4.6%	2%	42.6%	48.6%		

Q5	Expansion of library and information services to societies where such are lacking in post conflict North-East will not improve Library and Information Management in the region.	89	56	5	0	0	30	36.2
		59%	37.3%	3.3%	0%	0%		
Q6	In post conflict North-East, lucrative incentives and proper motivational packages to Librarians and Information Experts will improve the level of Library and Information Management in the region.	0	0	1	71	78	30	36.4
		0	0	0.6	47.3%	52%		

F/P=Frequency/Percentage, SDA=Strongly Disagreed Agree, DA=Disagreed, UD=Undecided, A=Agreed, and SA=Strongly Agreed, M=Mean/Average, SD=Standard Deviation

Source; Researcher`s field survey (2025)

Way forward for Library and Information Management in post conflict Nigeria`s North-East

Library and information management in post-conflict North-East Nigeria is grappling with a foundational crisis driven by a critical shortage of funds, a finding supported by 84% of respondents (Olanrewaju & Salisu, 2023). This severe financial constraint acts as a root cause, hindering the reconstruction of damaged infrastructure, the replenishment of collections, and the adoption of new technologies (Adebola et al. 2023). In Table 10 indicated cripples the recruitment and retention of skilled staff, which 75.3% of professionals agree is vital (Ndive et al., 2025). Consequently, without targeted financial intervention, libraries cannot transform into the vital hubs for education and community healing essential for the region's recovery.

Discussion of results

It is obvious that in the post conflict North-East Nigeria, the activities of Library and Information Management shall witness a number of severe

challenges; basic among which will be pen down to shortage of fund necessary for the management of public libraries and information management services. Age long insurgency which has ravaged the North-East region of the country as expected would have consumed much budgetary allocation from the part of the government that minimal attention in terms of funding will be the lot of library and information management in the post conflict era in the region. Stake holders involved in library and information management in the region after the conflict is over will withhold funding for some little time for fear of resurgence and possible attacks on library and information management facilities. Post conflict economy is often occasioned by huge investment in peace building and rehabilitation of internally displaced persons. Such investment in ameliorating humanitarian crisis recorded during the conflict period is likely to affect and reduced funding in the area of library and information management in the post conflict North-East Nigeria.

Shortly after the conflict is over, it will be observed that several Librarians and Information Management Experts have left the North-East

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region of Nigeria for security reason during the conflict which have taken over a number of towns communities in the region for ages. This occupational mobility will result in shortage of qualify Librarians and Information Management Experts in post conflict North-East Nigeria. Shortage in manpower is a serious challenge which can wage down the development of Library and Information Management in post conflict era in Nigeria`s North-East region. The challenges which shortage in manpower is likely to cause will also lead to epileptic access to information through the use of library based documentation materials. Print as well as electronic materials necessary for gathering information and data shall become relatively scarce. Accessibility to significant information shall be affected as a result of the destruction of library and information management facilities recorded during the conflict period. The post conflict period will be married with insufficient facilities and equipment required for maintaining and sustaining the functionality of modern standard library and information management in Nigeria`s North-East region any time the conflict is over.

Managing libraries and information in the post conflict North-East Nigeria will be a great challenge to stakeholders involved in handling the sector. Society and cybercrimes are likely to grow in the post conflict period in North-East Nigeria. Such crime will result in abuse in the use of library and management of information. Library and information might instead have been used for societal value be diverted for criminal usage-development which is likely to result in internet fraud, plagiarism in the academic arena due to difficult access to information necessary for intellectual development. Documentation of information especially research findings shall also become difficult to some extent as destruction of facilities witnessed during the conflict period may have affected some centers of

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documentation and libraries in particular. Destruction of facilities incurred as result of conflict will also translate in improper library and information management due to damaged facilities for this purpose inherited by the post conflict era. Adequate measures are required to tackle and handle appropriately, challenges that are likely to confront Library and Information Management in the post conflict North-East Nigeria. It is in view to confronting these anticipated challenges that policy suggestions made by the study stand as the way forward for Library and Information Management in post conflict North-East Nigeria.

Major Findings

Due to the data collected and analyzed as well as the results discussed, the study found that;

1. Library and Information Management in post conflict North-East Nigeria will be saddled with shortage of fund.
2. The number of Librarians and Information Management in post conflict North-East Nigeria will reduced.
3. Library and Information Management in post conflict North-East Nigeria will be affected by inadequate facilities and equipment.
4. Societal and cyber-crime will become a growing problem to Library and Information Management in post conflict North-East Nigeria.
5. Access to information and documentation will become a difficult task in post conflict North-East Nigeria.
6. Management of Libraries and Information will become complex in post conflict NorthEast Nigeria.

Conclusion and recommendations

Based on the major findings made, the study concluded that, shortage of fund is one of the major challenges Library and Information Management will witness in the post conflict era in Nigeria's North-East region. It also reached the conclusion that, shortage of personals, inadequate facilities and equipment will emerge as part of the challenges of Library and Information Management in post conflict North-East Nigeria. Rise in society and cyber-crime, difficulty in access to information and documentation as well as complexity in Library and Information management as the study concluded are also part of the challenges Library and Information Management will experience in post conflict North-East region of Nigeria.

As a result of the conclusion drawn by the study, the following recommendations are made;

1. Ministry of Communication and Digital Economy in Nigeria must adopt necessary state policy of dealing with Cyber Criminals. State policy regulating the use of cyber network for accessing and disseminating information should be adopted. Laws regulating cyber network usage should also be backed up with stiffer penalties for defaulters to serve as deterrent to Criminals and those willing to engage in such act. Sectorial and collaborative efforts are also required to make state policy adopted on this matter effective. The Judiciary must be alert and willing to administer justice without delay in the punishment of defaulters. Companies involved in cyber network usage and information marketing should be committed to accept as condition, appropriate usage of information before issued license to operate in the area. The security sector must also be alert in ensuring

that the society is well secured for library and information management services. The role of security and law enforcement agencies in providing a secure society for peaceful Library and Information Management system to thrive in post conflict North-East Nigeria is very important.

2. Library and Information Management sector should properly be funded to have adequate fund for arresting challenges and hardships which are likely to confront the sector in the post conflict period in North-East Nigeria. The Federal Government of Nigeria as well as its state counterparts and relevant stake holders must not only be willing but also be ready to increase financial support to the sector. Statutory allocation to the Ministry of Information and Digital Economy need to be reviewed. It should be increased by double digits percentage to make fund adequately available to the Ministry to fund Library and Information Management sector in post conflict North-East Nigeria. The relevant Ministry should also device other means of generating and increasing revenue needed to adequately fund Library and Information Management in post conflict North-East Nigeria. Companies registered under agencies affiliated to the Information Ministry should be made to pay tax promptly with certain percentage of the taxes collected channeled to the funding of managing Library and Information in post conflict North-East Nigeria. Soliciting fund through donation, contribution and launching of appeal fund are also advisable ways for the Ministry to generate adequate fund needed to finance and fund Library and Information Management in post conflict North-East Nigeria.
3. Librarians and Information Management Experts should be recruited and trained in

the post conflict era in North-East Nigeria. This recruitment is necessary to replace those killed by the conflict and to fill up vacancy created by those who have left the region during the conflict for security reason. Recruited Experts should be trained to measure up with the modern challenges coming up in managing library and information in post conflict society. The salaries, allowances and general working remuneration of recruited Experts should be motivating and lucrative to make them ready and willing to do their jobs very well without nurturing the thought of leaving due to poor condition of service. The recruitment and replacement exercise should be done massively to ameliorate the challenges of shortage of manpower needed to keep public Libraries and Centers of Information and Documentation functional across the North-East region in Nigeria in the post conflict era. Though, conflict would have been over, but still, adequate security to lives and properties should be provided to recruited Librarians and Information Experts to enable them discharged their official responsibility accordingly in the post conflict period in north-East Nigeria.

4. Adequate facilities and equipment needed for functional Library and Information Management should be provided in post conflict North-East Nigeria. It is obvious that some of the outstanding facilities and equipment provided for the functionality of Library and Information Management have been destroyed during the conflict period. Therefore, the provision of new ones is necessary to replace those destroyed and others not initially provided so as to make Library and Information effectively and appropriately managed in the post conflict period in North-East Nigeria. Security should also be provided on standby in

Library and Information Management facilities across the region to ensure that procured facilities and equipment installed are not stolen or destroyed by criminals. Though, some of the facilities and equipment have been destroyed at different occasion by natural causes such as the destruction of internet Mars, Radar, Dish, Power Generator, etc., by wind storm, rainfall among others.

Measures aimed at preventing such destruction should also be taken in Library and Information Management facilities across Nigeria's North-East region especially in the post conflict period.

5. Library and Information Management facilities should be expanded in North-East Nigeria in the post conflict era. Such expansion is necessary as Internally Displaced People (IDP) would have been rehabilitated and relocated to their various communities as soon as the conflict ends. Some of the communities do not have Library and others do not have Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Centers. Such expansion will ameliorate the challenges of reduction in accessibility to information and library-based documentation materials in post conflict North-East Nigeria. It will increase public accessibility to electronic and print materials and also make information available to the people at the community level in the post conflict period. Adequate security should also be provided to life and property to make the expansion secured and sustained in the post conflict North-East Nigeria.
6. The level of Management of Library and Information should be improved in post conflict North-East Nigeria. Librarians and Information Experts are also Professionals

in their field of practice. Therefore, they deserved to be given accurate managerial skills necessary to make them good Managers of information, secondary and print materials. Their practice should be subjected to regulation provided by relevant professional bodies to which they should be registered. Public Librarians and Information Experts should be subjected to periodic managerial and administrative trainings in senior cadre courses in prestigious institutions and centers like the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) at Kuru near Jos on the Plateau of Nigeria and the Administrative Staff College of Nigeria (ASCON) Badagry, Lagos. Short courses training in policy, managerial, administration and leadership studies will have equipped Librarians and Information Management Experts with relevant and adequate skills needed for the enhancement of effective Library and Information Management in post conflict period in Nigeria`s North-East region.

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