COMMUNAL CONFLICT AND LIVELIHOOD DIVERSIFICATION IN BOKKOS LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF PLATEAU STATE, NIGERIA.

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ABSTRACT

Communal conflict has manifested itself as the most pandemic issue next to ethno-religious conflict in Nigeria with ownership, access to and use of land as the driver of the conflict. This study provides an analysis of rural livelihood activities using the 'household' as the core unit of inquiry. this research evaluate the activities which rural people in the study area undertake to generate diverse income as a result of the problems they encounter, such as communal conflicts and what influences their decision making as they attempt to construct a living out of poverty, and to find the relationship between communal conflict and livelihood diversification in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State, Nigeria, the targeted population are the 8 districts in Bokkos LGA and the sample size was calculated to be 400 households, we use simple random sampling to select our target respondents. The methodology adopted is survey research using multinomial probit model (MNPM) to analyze our data. The result shows that occurrences of communal conflict (OCC) with parameter estimates of 0.003, Highest level of education of household head (HLEH) with parameter estimate of 0.01. Land size farm by households (SL) has 0.007 coefficient, Access to farm extension services(AFES) had estimated parameter of 0.03 and gender (GEN) with parameter estimated of 0.006 they all has positive marginal effect on choice of livelihood diversification in Bokkos LGA. while, Access to market during or after communal conflict (AMDCC with estimated coefficient of -0.020, Household access to credit facilities during or after communal conflict (ACDCC) has a – 0.007 estimated parameter and household head age (AG) with estimated coefficient of -0.023 they had a negative marginal effect on livelihood diversification. Major recommendations are as follows: i. Establishing a local peace committee that includes representatives from different community groups to facilitate dialogue and mediate disputes before they escalate. ii. Creating a community-based monitoring system to identify early warning signs of conflict and initiate preventive measures. iii. Implementing economic support programs that provide microcredits and grants to affected households, enabling them to diversify their

livelihoods without relying on high-interest loans. iv. Developing infrastructure rehabilitation projects that focus on restoring and improving market access and transportation links disrupted by conflict. v. Offering vocational training and skill development workshops to increase employment opportunities, particularly for youth and displaced individuals.vi. Reinforcing the agricultural sector by providing access to farm extension services, quality seeds, and fertilizers to enhance productivity and ensure food security. vii. Investing in the reconstruction and protection of educational facilities, as well as implementing catch-up education programs for children and adults who have missed schooling. viii. Promoting land reform policies that ensure fair distribution and secure land tenure, reducing the risk of land-related conflicts. Encouraging investment in alternative dispute resolution mechanisms that are culturally sensitive and accessible to all community members.

Keywords: Communal conflict, Livelihood, Livelihood Diversification and Bokkos LGA

INTRODUCTION

Conflict arises due to a complex set of variables coming together and reinforcing each other at multiple levels and at critical junctures of a community, state, country or region's development. It leaves in its aftermath significant development and humanitarian challenges. While conflict has an enormously destructive impact on both life and livelihoods, more people survive than perish. Survival is rooted in action: people under threat cannot afford to wait for help. They must actively seek ways to survive in the face of constantly changing risks(Habib ,Ariyawardana & Abdul 2023), Communal conflict is a form of social violence that involves groups of people who share a common identity, such as ethnicity, religion, or tribe. Obafemi , Eludoyin, & Harcourt . (2021). Conflicts are products of contradictions arising from differences in interests, ideas, ideologies, orientations, perceptions and tendencies (Nnoli 1998). These contradictions exist at all levels of society, individual, group, institution and nation, as well as in interpersonal, inter-group, inter-institutional and international relations. Defining conflict, Weber (1971) argues that conflict is any action that is oriented intentionally to carryout actor's own wish against the resistance of the other ,party or parties. For Coser (1956) social conflict is a struggle over status, power, and scarce resources in which the sole aims of the parties involved are not only to gain the desired value but also to neutralize, injure or eliminate rivals. Generally, conflict entails struggle and rivalry for objects to which individuals and groups attach importance. These objects can either be material or non-material. The material objects may include scarce resources like money, employment, and position including political ones, promotion in both the private and public organizations. The non-material objects include culture, tradition, religion and language (Eghosa. Osaghae & Rotimi , Suberu, 2005). According to conflict theorists, conflicts, whether political,

communal, ethnic or religious are often influenced or motivated by disparity rather than similarity among the people especially unequal ones. Karl Marx wrote in 1937 in the "Communist Manifesto" that "the history of all existing society is the history of class struggle". In other words, be it agrarian, feudal or capitalist society, conflict is constant because of class differences. Arguing from this perspective, one could say that conflict is inherent in human relationships. Although this perspective has gained momentum especially among its adherents, it never suggests that every underlying relationship must be expressed with the same magnitude of hatred and jealousy neither does it suggest that such conflict cannot be minimized (Duverger, 1980). In Nigeria, insecurity remains a pressing issue, affecting the agricultural, industrial, and services sectors simultaneously. The persistently high levels of insecurity have resulted in decreased national output and productivity, as many farmers have been unable to access their farmlands, disrupting supply chains and major economic activities. This has led to food shortages and inflation in various parts of the country. (CBN 2023)

Some possible effects of communal conflict on livelihood are: conflict can disrupt livelihood activities and reduce access to resources, markets, and services, forcing people to seek alternative or additional sources of income and assets (livelihood diversification). The United Nations (UN) 2030 agenda, which includes the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), was intended to protect the planet, increase prosperity, and improve the standard of living and lives of people (UN 2016). Given many goals, the dynamic interactions between the SDGs are inevitable; however, our understanding of these interactions remains limited (Allen, Metternicht, Wiedmann, 2018) The contribution of livelihood diversification in poverty reduction (SDG-1) was realized through improved food security and nutrition, increased income level, sustainability of crop production, and mitigating climatic vulnerabilities.(Habib et al., 2023) Herdsmen's migration from one section of the country to another is frequently spurred by an increase in demand for fresh grazing grounds, especially during droughts when herdsmen move southwards to find pasture. Herdsmen frequently clash with villagers because their livestock destroys crops (Olaleye, Odutola, Ojo, Umar, and Ndanitsa, 2010). Herders are becoming a bigger threat in many locations where they migrate to feed their sheep's and cows. They pose a serious threat to the communities where they live. Their actions have disastrous consequences for national security, food availability, and sustainable livelihood as so the need for livelihood diversification. According to Ojelade (2019). The tendency to engage land and farm owners of the areas where they graze their cattle is growing by the day as they update their armament with incredibly powerful weapons (Ojelade, 2019). Therefore, the importance of or absence of communal conflict on livelihood diversification is not a simple or straightforward question. It depends on various factors, such as the causes, dynamics, and consequences of the conflict; the

characteristics, capacities, and vulnerabilities of the people involved; and the availability, accessibility, and suitability of the livelihood options. A comprehensive and context-specific analysis is needed to understand the complex and nuanced relationship between communal conflict and livelihood diversification. The diversity of Jos notwithstanding, Plateau state does not have a long history of conflict. While the rest of Nigeria was affected by violent conflict in the 1980s and early 1990s, Plateau state remained peaceful, calm and reassuring to other Nigerians looking for a safe haven from the insecurity that was associated with many of the far Northern States. By then, however, the cosmopolitan nature of Jos, coupled with its large concentration of different ethnic and religious groups meant that Jos became increasingly central to the struggle by various ethnic and religious groups for access and control over scarce economic resources. It is very likely that Government interference in the local political economy increased the propensity towards violence. The conflict in Plateau state is economic and ethnic with a religious dimension as residents accuse local and state government personalities of fanning identity-based divisions to advance their own political agendas (Campbell & Harwood, 2013)

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

The motivation on this research is to find out what determined the livelihood diversification strategies people in Bokkos local government adopted with the incidence of communal conflict in and around Bokkos LGA between farmers and pastoralists. And how does this livelihood diversification strategies help them to survived before, during and after the communal conflict in terms of food security, migration issues, wealth generation and accumulation and other environmental shocks.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

The question of this research is what are the activities which rural people in the study area undertake to generate diverse income as a result of the problems they encounter, such as communal conflicts (shorks), socio-economic problems and environmental problems in which they operate, the resources available to them, and what influences their decision making as they attempt to construct a living out of poverty (livelihood diversification). This research in other to answer this broad question try to explore the following specific questions:

1.   What is the relationship between communal conflict and livelihood diversification in Bokkos LGA?

2.   What is the effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household access to credit in Bokkos LGA?

3.   What is the effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household access to market in Bokkos LGA.?

4.   What is the effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household access to farm extension services in Bokkos LGA?

5.   What is the effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household land size in Bokkos LGA?

6.   What is the effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household source of income in Bokkos LGA?

7.   What is the effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and employment status of household head in Bokkos LGA?

8.   What is the impact of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household size in Bokkos LGA?

9.   What is the impact of of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household level of education in Bokkos LGA?

10.   What is the pattern of communal conflict in Bokkos LGA?

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

This study provides an analysis of rural livelihood activities using the 'household' as the core unit of inquiry. The research is based on the assumption that rural livelihoods have been inadequately studied and that there is lack of sufficient knowledge regarding the non-farm sector at household-level in Bokkos local government area of plateau state, Nigeria. In summary, the specific research objectives are:

1)To established the relationship between communal conflict and livelihood diversification in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

2) To evaluate the effects of of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and access to credit in Bokkos LGA of Plteau State

3) To evaluate the effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and access to market and in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

 4) To evaluate the effects of commuanal conflict on livelihood diversification and access to farm extention services and in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

5) To evaluate the effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and households land size in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

6) To evaluate the effects of commuanal conflict on household sources of income and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

7) To evaluate the effects of commuanal conflict on livelihood diversification and employment opportunities of households in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

8) To evaluate the impact of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household size in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

9) To evaluate the impact of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and housedholds level of education in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

10) To analysed the pattern of communal conflict in Bokkos LGA of plateau state.

Research Hypotheses:

The following research hypotheses will be tested:

Ho_1: Communal conflict has no significant relationship with livelihood diversification in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Ho_2: Communal conflict has no effects on househlds access to credit and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State

Ho_3: Communal conflict has no effects on households access to market and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State

Ho_4: Commounal conflict has no effects on access to farm extention services and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Ho_5: Communal conflict has no effects on households land size and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Ho_6: Commuanal conflict has no effects on household sources of income and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Ho_7: Commuanal conflict on employment opportunities of households and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Ho_8: Communal conflict has no effects on household size and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Ho_9: Communal conflict has no effects on housedholds level of education and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Ho_{10}: : communal conflict in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State has no pattern

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The significance of studying communal conflict and livelihood diversification in Bokkos Local Government area (LGA) of Plateau State, Nigeria, from 2010 to 2023, are as follows: Communal conflicts, often arising from disputes over land ownership and use, have a profound impact on the social and economic fabric of communities. In regions like Bokkos, these conflicts have disrupted the traditional means of livelihood, which are primarily agricultural-based, forcing communities to seek alternative sources of income. Livelihood diversification becomes a critical strategy for resilience and survival in the face of such disruptions. Understanding the dynamics of these conflicts and the subsequent shifts in livelihood strategies can provide valuable insights into the measures needed to promote sustainable peace and development. Studies have shown that communal violence not only leads to loss of lives and property but also causes psychological trauma, food and health insecurity, and displacement of rural farmers. This, in turn, exacerbates poverty and hinders socio-economic development. By examining the causes and impacts of communal conflicts in Bokkos, researchers can identify effective strategies for conflict resolution and prevention. Furthermore, analyzing how communities adapt their livelihoods in response to conflict can inform government policies and non-governmental interventions aimed at supporting economic diversification and resilience. This is particularly important in areas where

dependence on land for economic survival is high, and where conflicts can significantly limit access to natural resources. In essence, such studies are crucial for designing targeted actions that address the root causes of conflict, promote peaceful coexistence, and foster socio-economic development in conflict-prone areas. They contribute to a broader understanding of the interplay between conflict and livelihood, which is essential for creating stable and prosperous communities in Plateau State and beyond. The study will also be beneficial to the academics such as: Liberal–pluralists who have been influenced by the classical, neoclassical and monetarist approaches in economies, the functionalist and post-industrialist approaches in sociology and the democratic pluralist approaches in political science adopt a relatively compliant approach to the continuation of widespread and severe poverty. (Townsend, 1993). This study will provide and show the dynamic of economically driven globalization as a resulting of the global reproduction of Third World problems. Growing inequality, risk and vulnerability characterize not simply the state system, but an emerging global social order therefore the relevance of the study of livelihood diversification and communal conflict will always be of global importance as it relate to sustainable development goal one (SDG-1) The results of this study will provide useful data for the people living in the Bokkos LGA as well as the people in plateau and the general public in Nigeria and world over with regards to:

i) Educating the people on how to manage their means of livelihood during and after communal conflicts.

ii) Identifying opportunities for socio-economic development.

iii) Creating awareness of the potential threats such as the 'environmental, social and economic for the people of Bokkos LGA and plateau state and Nigeria as a whole.

iv) Serving as reference for future use by academicians, foreign as well as local investors and the general public in their decision-making process to invest in Bokkos LGA.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY
The scope of this study will be expressed in different context: first, it will be geographical coverage which covers some villages that will be selected during the topographic gridding of the areas which include among others: the 8 districts in Bokkos LGA– Bokkos, Daffo, Manguna, Mushere, Sha, Richa, kamwai and Toff district due to the level of damages and occurrences of conflicts in those areas Vis-à-vis there composition of different ethnic groups, and secondly temporal coverage which is restricted to the recent conflicts from 2010-2023 as the period witnessed a lot of communal conflicts between suspected Fulani herds men and the natives of the 8 Districts in Bokkos LGA despite efforts by the government, NGO'S and individuals to resolve the conflicts it keep occurring for example the recent attacks in Maikatako village in Bokkos district on the 16th November, 2023 in which three

people were killed by suspected Fulani herds men which make the residence to be vulnerable and so affecting their livelihood. Thirdly, scope of a study will focus on communal conflict and livelihood diversification in Bokkos Local Government Area (LGA) of Plateau State, Nigeria, from 2010 to 2023 would encompass a comprehensive analysis of the socio-economic impacts of recurring conflicts on the livelihood strategies of local communities. Such a study would likely examine the pattern and causes of communal violence, which has been identified as a significant barrier to rural development and a source of multidimensional poverty. It would also explore the consequences of these conflicts on education, health, and social infrastructure, as well as the broader implications for rural development. The study will include an assessment of the strategies employed by communities to adapt and diversify their livelihoods in the face of such challenges. This might involve investigating alternative income-generating activities, shifts in agricultural practices, or migration patterns as means of coping with the instability caused by conflicts. Additionally, the study would benefit from an analysis of policy responses and interventions aimed at mitigating conflict and supporting livelihood diversification. Given the recent surge in violence, as evidenced by the 2023 Plateau State massacres, which resulted in significant loss of life and displacement, the study's scope could further extend to evaluating the effectiveness of peacebuilding and reconciliation efforts, as well as the role of governmental and non-governmental organizations in facilitating community resilience. Ultimately, the study would aim to provide insights into the dynamic interplay between conflict and livelihood strategies, offering recommendations for fostering sustainable development and social cohesion in Bokkos LGA and similar contexts affected by communal conflicts.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Conflicts are universal phenomenon and thus pose some difficulties to define due to its centrality and effects on man and his activities. Their occurrence differs in gravity as the factors‟ motivating them also differs in complexity. Conflicts do not occur in vacuum; there must be some forms of mistrust and misunderstanding before it can occur. Furthermore, as an enduring feature of multi-ethnic societies, communal conflict becomes exacerbated when it goes under the carpet of ethnicity and religion. Robbins and George (2009) see conflict as "a process that begins where one party perceives that another party has negatively affected something that the first party cares about". This is an apt definition as it only relates conflict to perception and not real facts. The definition also only looked at the negative aspect of conflicts without considering the positive aspects. Therefore, conflicts are normal process of interaction particularly in complex societies and cannot continue to exist without some adjustment in the positions held by the parties in the conflict (Jordan, 1990). Whichever angle and perspective one attempt to look at conflict, the central point is that, it involves a serious disagreement over opinions,

wishes, needs, values and interests between individuals or groups, social organizations, political parties and even states especially in situations where those goals cannot be achieved simultaneously. However, the explanation raised above highlighted several important factors for communal conflicts. It is true that, some of the central factors causing many communal conflicts are crisis of government, fear of marginalization and domination, disregards for cultural symbolic, availability of resources and control among others, but how can peaceful relations prevail among communities

Concept of Communal Conflicts:

Communal conflict is a social conflict that relates to a group or groups in a society. When it occurs within a group, it is known as intra-communal conflict and inter-communal conflict when it occurs between groups. It is worth noting that these groups have common social ties, which may make the competition that may ensue to be fierce. The point is that the misuse or unequal distribution of the available resources that should be jointly enjoyed by a group will produce conflict. The conflict will usually be complex to tackle because of the level of hatred that would probably have been cultivated among the parties in the process. Communal conflict was considered by Azuonwu (2002) as a conflict that occurs between two or more communities. Oboh and Hyande (2006) described communal conflict as involving two or more communities engaging themselves in disagreement or act of violence over issues such as claims for land ownership, religious and political difference leading to loss of lives and destruction of properties. Communal violence (sometimes inter-communal violence) is a situation where violence is perpetuated across ethnic lines, and victims are chosen based upon ethnic group membership (Horowitz, 2000). Dzurgba (2006) was of the opinion that communistic violence is that which occurs between two or more communities over territorial land, farmland and territorial water for fishing. These definitions revealed that communal conflict is more or less community conflict or ethnic conflict. This is not surprising because "communal" by its interpretation as a phenomenon that is common to a particular group characterizes a community or ethnicity. Onwudiwe (2004) attested to this fact when he said that communal friction is what is usually described as ethnic conflict. More so, for communal contenders to have been described as culturally distinct people, tribes, or clans in heterogeneous societies, who hold or seek a share in state power. (Gurr and Haxton, 1996) help to buttress the point that communal conflict is often interpreted as community conflict or ethnic conflict. While it is not the focus of this thesis to divulge the differences inherent in these variables, if there is any, it is pertinent to stress that the peculiar identity of "communal" in terms of reference to a group, concerning common issues or elements could as well be attributed to other social groups in a society. This implied that several communal groups make up a community and therefore, in terms of involvement or participation, communal

conflict is narrower than community conflict. Therefore, communal conflict is a state of incompatibility that emanates from a commonly shared or used property or resource by a group or groups in a society. It occurs within or between groups that are defined by some forms of social ties over resources that are jointly owned or shared in a community.

Concept of Livelihood: The concept of livelihood and sustainable livelihood framework has become an integral part of rural development and poverty reduction in recent times. Rural livelihoods are composed of the activities that provide the means of household survival and long-term wellbeing (Stephen and Lenihan 2010). Chambers and Conway (1992) defined livelihood as that which constitutes people, their capabilities and their means of survival including food, income and asset formation. Stephen and Lenihan (2010) state that livelihood strategies may be classified into natural resources-based activities (e.g., collection and gathering, cultivation, livestock keeping, etc) and non-natural resources-based activities (e.g. trade, services, remittances). The literature shows that in the past, rural development focused on promotion of modern agriculture for poor households to guarantee food security (FAO 1998, Sen 1981, Ellis & Biggs 2001, Ashley & Maxwell 2001, Carney 2002). Most recently the emphasis has been on diversification to promote non-farm activities (Ellis 1998a), sustainable livelihoods (Carney 1998 & 1999, Drinkwater and Rusinow 1999, Ellis and Biggs 2001, Scoones and Wolmer 2003, DFID 1999 & 2007, IFAD 2009d), access to natural-based resources and opportunities (Freeman et al. 2004) and the provision of social support services to aid vulnerable and landless households (Devereux 2002, Kabeer 2002, Morduch and Shamar 2002). Literature on livelihoods focuses on issues concerning the coping, survival and different approaches that rural people adopt in response to socio-economic and environmental factors they encounter in their pursuit of household income and food.

Concept of Livelihood Diversification: The central focus in the debate on livelihood diversification centers on understanding the reasons why people diversify their assets or engage in diverse income activities and the concept of coping and survival-driven strategies which rural households adopt in poverty situations (Ellis1999, Devereux 1993a and 1993b). Diversification has become a livelihood pathway and strategy for rural household to sustain and increase their income. Livelihood diversification is a term used to describe the composition of income activities available to rural populations and their contribution to the overall household well-being. According to Reardon et al. (2007). Current understanding of poverty places considerable emphasis on ownership or access to assets and resources that can be put to productive use as a base by which the poor can construct their own pathway out of poverty (Ellis et al. 2003, Ellis and Freeman 2004). There are two types of income diversification – the period of capital

accumulation and activity-driven diversification which occurs after capital accumulation has taken place (Davis and Bezemer 2003).

Concept of Farm/Non-farm linkages: Is a concept used to explain the relationship between farm and non-farm sectors in the rural economy. When agriculture productivity grows, rural household income increases and the additional household demand caused by agricultural expansion has a very high multiplier effect across the rest of the economy, particularly in closed economies, which is in practice the case of many developing rural economies due to high transaction costs (Anriquez and Daidone 2008). The notion of farm/non-farm linkages seeks to find out whether expansion of one sector is hindering the existence or performance of the other sector by competing for scarce inputs and capital. Links between farm and non-farm sectors differ according to place and time, are dynamic and interactive and may extend in any direction (Kusters 2010). The literature identifies forward and backward relationships in production, expenditure and investment linkages between rural farm and non-farm activities (FAO 1998, Haggblade et al. 2002, Barrett et al. 2001, IFAD 2009b). Backward linkages refer to movement from the farm sector to the non-farm sector that provides inputs for agricultural production. Forward linkages refer to the activities which involve non-farm sector that uses agricultural output as input. They may also be substituting each other, which suggest that growth in one sector would lead to a (relative) decline in the other (Kusters 2010).

THEORITICAL REVIEW

scholars have written extensively on the nature, causes and the impact of conflicts. Depending on the school of thought to which they represent, such explanations have tended to place a lot of emphasis on one particular or a set of related theories, while diminishing the importance or explanatory relevance of other competing theories (Best, 2001). It is instructive to note that some of these theories are attempts by scholars to establish frameworks for the understanding of conflict, especially the causes of conflict and the conditions under which conflicts occur. These theories include: Structural conflict theory; Realist Theories; Biological Theories; Physiological Theories; Economic Theories; Psycho-Cultural Conflict Theory; Human Needs Theory; Systemic Theories and Relational Theory.

The Structural Conflict theory: The Structural Conflict theory has two main sub-orientations: the radical structural theory espoused by Marxist Scholars like Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels, VI. Lenin, Mao Tse Tung; who argue that the way and manner in which society is structured and organized creates conflict. Radical Structuralists observe that conflicts occur due to the exploitative and unjust tendencies of the human society, domination of one class by another. It argues that

social problems like political and economic exclusion, injustice, poverty, disease, exploitation, inequity, etc.; breeds conflicts. On the other hand, Liberal Structuralism like Ross (1993), Scarborough (1998) and Galtung (1990) argue that competing interests of groups tie conflict directly into social, economic, and political organization of societies as well as the nature and strength of social networks within and between community groups. Ross (1993) observed that in situations where economic and political discrimination and weak kinship ties are the defining characteristics of a society, the chances that negative forms of conflict will result are higher than in situations where the conditions are the exact opposite.

Realist Conflict Theorists: Realistic conflict theory (RCT), also known as realistic group conflict theory (RGCT), was officially named by Donald Campbell(1960). However, it has been articulated by others since the middle of the 20th century. In the 1960s, this theory developed from Campbell's recognition of social psychologists' tendency to reduce all human behavior to hedonistic goals. RCT explains how intergroup hostility can arise due to conflicting goals and competition over limited resources, such as money, power, military protection, or social status.On the other hand, Realist Theorists like Hans Morgenthau, Morton Deutsch, etc argue that the imperfection in the world, namely conflict, has its roots in forces that are inherent in human nature; that human nature is selfish, individualistic and naturally conflictive; that states will always pursue their national interests defined as power, and that such interest will come into conflict with those of others leading to inevitability of conflict (Best, 2001).

Biological Theories as the Innate Theory and the Frustration-Aggression Theory: Innate Theory: The concept of innate aggression traces back to Sigmund Freud, the renowned psychoanalyst. He believed that aggression, akin to our basic drives (such as hunger), is an inherent part of human nature. According to Freud, we all harbor aggressive impulses that need expression. However, he also recognized the role of societal norms and mechanisms in regulating this aggression.While Freud didn't specifically formulate the "Innate Theory," his ideas laid the groundwork for understanding aggression as an intrinsic force within us.

Psycho-Cultural Conflict Theory:
The Psycho-Cultural theory,was propounded by Karl Marx (1848) who is the father of conflict theory espoused by scholars like Ross, Crighton, Spinoza, Maclean, Northrup etc, emphasize the role of culturally induced conflict and how enemy images are created from deep-seated attitudes about human actions that are learned from early stages of growth in the explanation of conflict. It contends therefore that even though there are different forms of identities, the one that is based on people"s ethnic origin and the culture that is learned on the basis of that ethnic origin is one of the most important ways of explaining violent conflict.

(Crighton & Iver, 1991) contend that social conflicts that are intractable are identity- driven and grow out of the feelings of powerlessness and memories of past persecution. A history of humiliation, oppression, victimization, feelings of inferiority and other forms of experiences which wear away a person"s dignity and selfesteem and lead people to vengeance constitute part of what has been referred to as the pathological dimensions of ethnicity (Rothschild and Groth, 1995). Spinoza (1951) notes that violent conflict result in situations where passion overwhelms reason, while Maclean (1975) argue that under anxiety of threatened attack or actual denial of basic needs, the probability that people will react violently is increased. Thus, identity is an unshakeable sense of self-worth, which makes life meaningful and includes the feeling that one is physically, socially, psychologically, and spiritually safe. Identity operates in this way not only in relation to conflict between people, but also in situations of conflict between groups (Best, 2005).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
Research Design:
The strategy that is adopted in this research is survey research design, one influenced by a 'positivist' approach. The aim is to employed both qualitative and quantitative methods (mixed method). As such, research questions were developed to gather both qualitative and quantitative data. Qualitative methods collect data, which expresses information about feelings, values and attitudes (David and Sutton 2004). Qualitative research usually emphasizes words rather than quantification in the collection and analysis of data. As a strategy it is inductive, constructive, and interpretive, but qualitative researchers do not always subscribe to all these features (David and Sutton 2004). Renner and Taylor-Powell (2003) maintain that qualitative approach seeks to provide understanding from the respondent's perspective (for example, it tries to answer the questions: "What is unique about this individual, group, situation or issue and why?").

Theoretical Framework:
A theoretical framework on communal conflict and livelihood diversification in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State, Nigeria, adopted economic theory of conflict by Karl Marx (1848) who is the father of conflict theory, centered on the cause and effects of class struggle. The theory focuses on the distribution of natural resources which are unequally allocated. Marx sees society as a collection of people with varying wants and interests who have scarce funds to satisfy those wants. This leads to inequality in this society, which also results in conflict and social change. Each group seeks to get or acquire more resources, and due to scarcity, competition in the form of a clash between them is unavoidable. As the competition intensifies, one group becomes greedy, impeding the progress of the other in acquiring the

resources. Land resources like agricultural lands, crops, grass, water sources, are in high demand in the Middle-belt and are required by both farmers and herders for the sustaining of their varied forms of source of income or food. Conflict would arise not just between herders and farmers competing for these resources, but also when one of the groups seeks to infringe on or abuse another's previously acquired and previously gained resources. Conflict is likely to erupt if farmers in need of agricultural lands trespass into grazing areas, or if robbers in host communities try to steal livestock from the herders for economic gain. Vice versa with the herders. They could also allow their cattle to graze on farm crops, Stream pollution and intimidation of female farmers which could lead to confrontation (Ofem and Bassey, 2014). This study will be based on random utility model (RUM). RUM states that given a choice, a household will always go for the alternative that yields the highest utility (Kennedy, 2003). In this context, the household is assumed to derive a definite level of utility from each livelihood activity. Because utility is not observed, what is observed is characteristics of the household and attributes of the alternatives as faced by the decision-maker. Representing the utility derived from each livelihood activity, j, by the ith household as Uij, one can decompose this utility into a deterministic component, Vij and a random component, εij, as follows:

$$U_{ij} = V_{ij} + \varepsilon_{ij} \dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots(3.1)$$

The deterministic component Vij shows the observable components of the utility which include the characteristics of households and attributes of the alternatives. The random component εij captures unobservable components of the utility including measurement errors. Suppose a household i has a choice set C of m alternative activities to choose from. Based on RUM, the household will choose the activity from the choice set which maximizes his utility. For each activity choice j, the utility Uij is the sum of a systematic component Vij and a random component εij. The probability that the household i chooses alternative j from choice set Cm is therefore:

$$P(V_{ij} + \varepsilon_{ij} > (V_{ik} + \varepsilon_{ij})) \forall j \neq k \dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots(3.2)$$

where j= 1..,k...m & i= 1...n Equation (3.2) shows how the household chooses between alternatives j and k. It shows that if utility of alternative j is greater than that of alternative k, the household will choose the j alternative.

When Cm is large, Multinomial probit (MNP) model is more popular. MNP assumes errors in the different equations are uncorrelated with one another and it is easier to estimate. We combine the characteristics of the chooser & the choice. The probability of individual i with characteristics vector yi choosing activity j with an attribute vector xij is given by;

$$P\left(j\ C_m\right) = \frac{-\exp\left(\beta_{j1}x_{ij} + \alpha_{j}y_i\right)}{\Sigma \exp \beta X_{ik} + \alpha_{k}y_i} \dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots (3.3)$$

where x_{ij} is the vector of the characteristics of activity j e.g. as perceived by the household i while m is the number of activities in the choice set, Cm. β_{j1} is the coefficient on first explanatory variable in this regression. In multinomial logit an assumption is made that the log-odds of the each household response follow a linear model (Greene, 2003). That is,

$$Pij = \log\frac{\pi ij}{\pi ik} \; \pi ik = \alpha j + Xj\beta j + \varepsilon ij \;\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots(3.4)$$

where Pij is the probability of choice, αj is a constant and βj is a vector of regression coefficients, Xj is a vector of covariates and εij is the random error term for j = 1, 2,…, J-1 alternatives. As in other models, the regressors in the probit model do not vary with the choice made; thus, for a unit change in xij, the coefficient, βj, will display the variation in the log-odds of choosing alternative j against k, the benchmark (Greene, 2003). Subsequently, the marginal effects (MFX) of the regressors have been computed to gauge changes in probability with a unit change in the regressors. The MFX were computed at the mean of the regressors (Greene, 2003). One of the shortcomings of MNP is the problem of independence from irrelevant alternatives (IIA). IIA implies that, when all else being equal, a household's choice between two alternative is unaffected by what other choices are available (McFadden, 1974). The IIA Property requires that the relative probabilities of two alternatives being selected are unaffected by the introduction or removal of other alternatives.

Sustainable Livelihood Framework (SLF):The SLF places people, particularly rural poor people, at the center of a web of inter-related influences that affect how these people create a livelihood for themselves and their households in their communities (DFID 2007). The main components of the framework are the resources and livelihood assets that people have access to and use (IFAD 2009d). These include natural resources, technologies, skills, knowledge and capacity, good health, access to quality education, sources of credit and network of social welfare support system. The extent of people's access to these assets is strongly determined by their vulnerability context, which takes account of trends (for example, economic, political and technological), shocks (for example, epidemics, natural disasters, civil strife) and seasonality (for example, prices, production, and employment opportunities) (IFAD 2009d). Access is also influenced by the type of social network support, policies and political institutions, which affects people's ability to combine and use their assets to achieve their goals. DFID (1999 & 2007), Carney (1998), Drinkwater and Rusinow (1999) and Ellis (2000) have all shown frameworks for analysing rural sustainable livelihoods. It identifies the complexity of livelihoods and helps to understand the myriad influences on rural poverty (de Haan 2006). The system identifies the many diverse chains of interactions that take place in the rural sector, including the asset base and environment upon which households pursue their livelihoods. According to some authors, it recognizes that

people must have access to resources known as capital assets (natural, financial, physical, human and social) if they are to engage in livelihood that are sustainable (Carney 1998, DFID 1999 & 2007). The kind of political institutions (government policies, community actions and private sector participation) can influence access to capital assets, the type of activities people engage in and also make such activities unattractive or attractive (Chambers and Conway 1992). These institutions can provide the enabling environment in which people become less vulnerable and therefore are able to participate in coping livelihood strategies within the short term or adapt to the environment in the long term (Chambers and Conway 1992, Scoones 1998, Carney 1998 & 1999, Drinkwater & Rusinow 1999, Freeman et al. 2004 and de Haan 2006). There is also the 'Household Livelihood Security' (HLS) framework which describes a system that caters for adequate and sustainable access to income and other resources to enable households to meet their basic needs and build up assets to withstand and recover from shocks and stresses according to Drinkwater and Rusinow (1999). SLA has seven guiding principles which are flexible and adaptable to diverse local conditions and according to IFAD (2009d) are:

Be **people-centered**. SLA begins by analyzing people's livelihoods and how they change over time. The people actively participate throughout the project cycle.

Be **holistic**. SLA acknowledges that people adopt many strategies to secure their livelihoods, and that many actors are involved; for example the private sector, ministries, community-based organizations and international organizations.

Be **dynamic**. SLA seeks to understand the dynamic nature of livelihoods and what influences them.
Build on **strengths**. SLA builds on people's perceived strengths and opportunities rather than focusing on their problems and needs.

Promote **micro-macro** links. SLA examines the influence of policies and institutions on livelihood options and highlights the need for policies to be informed by insights from the local level and by the priorities of the poor.

Encourage **broad partnerships**. SLA counts on broad partnerships drawing on both the public and private sectors.
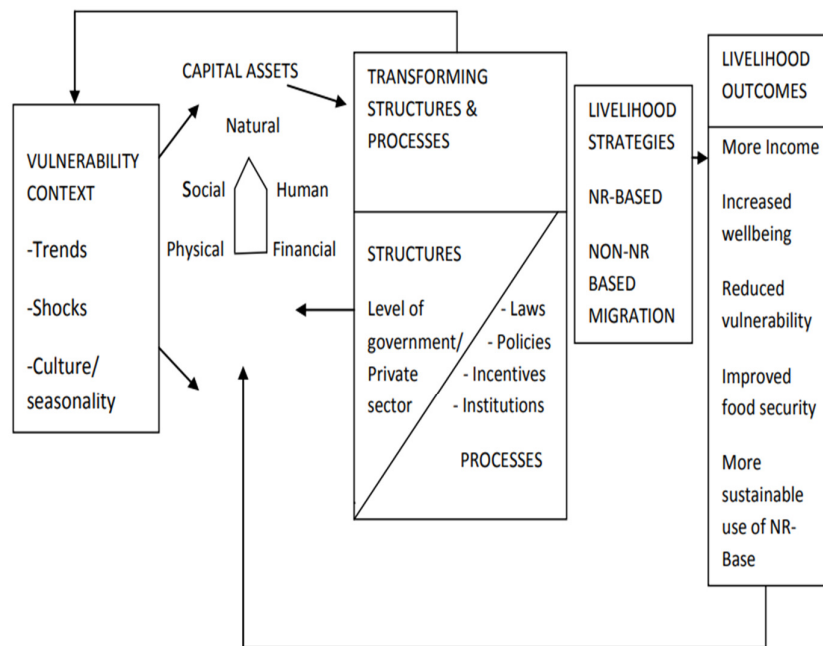
Source: Carney (1998: 5)   Key: NR= Natural Resources

Figure 3.1a: sustainable livelihood framework.

Human Capital – refers to the knowledge, skills, quality of labour, good health and ability to pursue different livelihood strategies (Carney 1998, Scoones 1998, DFID 1999 & 2007). Human capital also includes nutritional components which determine physical, vulnerability context -Trends -Shocks -Culture/ seasonality transforming structures & processes structures Level of Laws, government Policies, Private incentives sector, Institutions processes livelihood strategies natural resource based non-natural resource-based migration livelihood outcomes more income increased wellbeing reduced vulnerability. Improved food security more sustainable use of natural resource base psychological, mental and social capabilities of people to pursue different livelihood strategies (World Bank 1997 and IFAD 2009d).

Physical Capital – describes the basic infrastructure facilities such as road, transport system, housing, water, energy and communications, production equipment and the means that enable people to pursue employment and income activities (Carney 1998, DFID 1999 & 2007).

Social Capital – represents network of social organizations such as family associations, social clubs, co-operative unions, relationships of trust and access to wider institutions of welfare support that enable people to interact with others and pursue their respective livelihood targets (Carney 1998, DFID 1999 & 2007). It also involves wider interactions outside the communities which people use as a medium to pursue different livelihoods.

Financial Capital – refers to the financial resources which are available to people in form of savings, credits, remittance, grants or pensions and which enables people to increase investment or pursue different income activities (Carney 1998, DFID 1999, IFAD 2009d).

Natural Capital – refers to natural resources available within the communities that support various livelihood options. They include land, water, wildlife, biodiversity, forest and wider environmental resources (World Bank 1997, Carney 1998, DFID 1999 & 2007).

'Vulnerability Context'- describes the structures and processes that lead to people's vulnerability to livelihood insecurity (DFID 1999). It includes livelihood forces such as trends, seasonality, shocks and cultures upon which livelihood decisions are based. Shocks could be in the form of floods, droughts, civil wars, famine, pests and disease outbreaks.

Trends- are demographic and ecological changes that take place over time such as prices, inflation, markets, etc. Finally, seasonality and cultural differences are the other aspect of vulnerability contexts of livelihoods approaches described in the SLF (Figure 3.1a & b). DFID (2007) maintain that SL approaches must be underpinned by a commitment to rural poverty eradication. Although SL can, in theory, be applied to the work with any stakeholder project, an implicit principle for DFID is that activities should be designed to maximize livelihood benefits for the poor local people, according to the DEFID (2007). Some important dimensions appear to be under-emphasized in the SLF described in Figure 2.1(a) or are not made elaborate enough cover all aspects of Sustainable Rural Livelihood. In this regard, DFID have extended the 'vulnerability context' described in Figure 3.1(a) to include the 'context of opportunities' (markets, credits and seasonal labor) as in Figure 3.1(b) below. The DFID framework does not provide an explicit mechanism for dealing with crucial elements of decision-making, such as people's individual orientations and collective worldviews or their experience and emotional attachments (DFID 2007). It is important to remember these 'missing' aspects in the SLF and to use different mechanisms to ensure that the framework feeds into the overall poverty reduction and rural development planning. Power and gender

concepts are the other current livelihood issues of interest to DFID. Figure 3.1(b) below DFID

DFID-Approach to Livelihood
(adapted for this module)
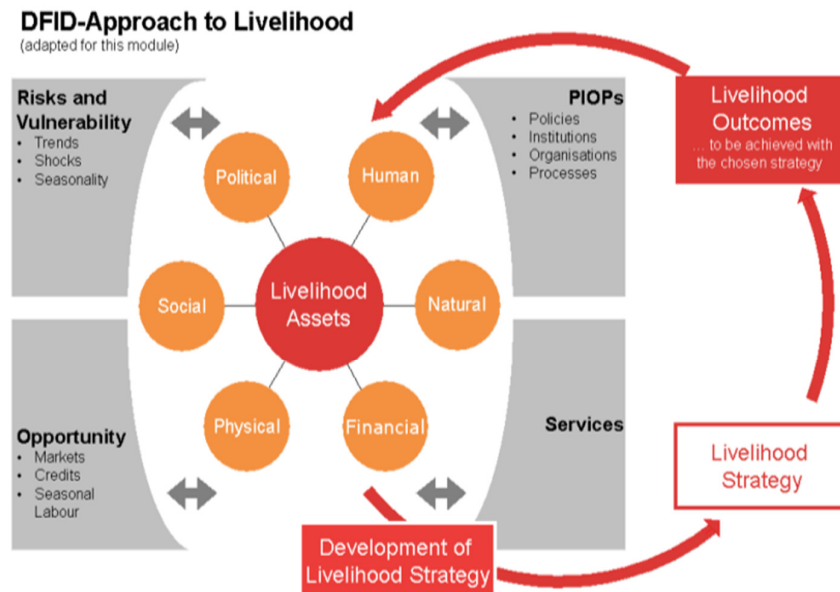
Source: DFID (2007: 4)

Figure 3.1b: DFID – Sustainable Livelihood Approach.

Model for the Study:

The model for binary outcomes is used for the purpose of studying individual behavior, we have constructed models that link the decision or outcome to a set of factors, at least in the spirit of regression. Our approach is that we analyzed each of them in the general framework of probability model known as **Probit Model**: **Probit** and **logit** are techniques for estimating the effects of a set of independent variables on a binary (or dichotomous) dependent variable. When ordinary least squares are used to estimate a binary dependent variable model, the model is often called a linear probability model (LPM). Probit and logit avoid several statistical problems with LPMs and generally yield results that make more sense.(Berry, 2005) The model we employed in this research is **Probit model**. Probit Model is the type of regression that the dependent variables can take only two values either one or zero. The purposed of the model is to estimate the probability that an observation with particular characteristics will fall into specific one of the categories.

Prob(event j occurs) = Prob(Y = j) = F(relevant effects, parameters......... (3.5)

When the dependent variable only takes the value of one or zero

$$Y_j = [0 \text{ if } Y_j \leq 0] \text{ or } Y_j = [1 \text{ if } Y_j > 0] \dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots(3.6)$$

Using Probit model assumption above researchers hope to gain a better understanding of the complex dynamics between Communal conflict and livelihood diversification in Bokkos local government of plateau state Nigerian 2010-2023 By identifying key drivers and barriers to progress and poverty alleviation the study can provide insights and recommendations for policymakers, industry leaders, and civil society organizations working to promote inclusive and sustainable livelihood diversification in Bokkos LGA in particular and Nigeria at large.

Model Specification:

We have adapted the work of Mackenzie (2017) in order to test the hypothesis that household socio-economic characteristics as well as institutional factors taken singly have no effect on household choice of livelihood diversification activities in Chobe District of Botswana. the following multinomial logit (MNL) was fitted into the data:

$CHOICE = \beta_0 + \beta_1 HHZ + \beta_2 GND + \beta_3 AG + \beta_4 EDU + \beta_5 INC + \beta_6 ASSTCAT + \beta_7 DISMRKT + \beta_8 LNDOWN + \beta_9 FMSZ + \beta_{10} CMP + \beta_{11} EXTNs + \varepsilon_i \dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots(3.7)(Mackenzie, 2017)$

As indicated above, the dependent variable, CHOICE, had four possible values: crop farming= 1, livestock farming=2, crop and livestock farming= 3, Non- farm activities =4 Table 3.1 shows the expected signs for all the explanatory variables. This is guided by existing literature on livelihood diversification activities

(Mackenzie,   2017)

Table 3. 1 Definition of variables in the empirical model to be adapted and their hypothesized

signs. , (Mackenzie, 2017)

Variables	Definition	measurement	Expected sign
HHS	Size of household	No of members	+
GND	Gender of household head	Dummy variable If male=1,if female=0	+
AG	Age of household head	Years of head	_
EDU	Highest level of schooling in years	Number of years school	+
ICN	Total income earned	naira	+
ASSCAT	Asset category	Ownership of asset	+
DISMKT	Distance to market	kilometers	-
OWNLND	Doyou own land?	Yes =1,no=0	
FMSZ	Family land size owned	Size in hectares	+
CMP	Compensation in the last 12 months	Yes=1, no =0	+
EXTNS	Access to extension services	Yes =1, no =0	+

Source: Researchers tabulation

The Income Diversification (ID)multinomial probit Model:

$Log(p/1-p) = ID = b_o +$ Choice to diversify $= Y = 1/1-p = bo + b_1 OCC + b_2 HLEH + b_3 HSI + b_4 SL + b_5 AFES + b_6 AMDCC + b_7 ACDCC + b_8 GEN + AG + ui$………………………………………………………..(3.8)

Where:

OCC=Occurance of Communal Conflict in Bokkos LGA.

HLEH=highest level of education of household head.

HSI=household source of income.

SL =size of land farm by household

AFES=access to farm extension services or during or after conflict in Bokkos LGA.

AMDCC=access to market during or after communal in Bokkos LGA

GEN=gender.

AG=age

$(b_{1..8})$ are coefficients, and Log $(p/1-p)$ log ratio of income diversification(ID) $(Y=1)$ Do no diversify$(Y=0)$ and note that in probit model the error term =U is assumed to be normally distributed

Definition and Measurement of variables:
Income Diversification:

Livelihood strategies involve decisions; actions, management and organization people undertake in order to effectively utilize the resources available to construct a living. Income diversification is a process in which household try to look for more other source of income for the betterment of each member of the family. In our model income diversification is a dependent variable that take the value of 1 if household have diversified income and 0 if otherwise.

Age: Age is a term used to describe the length of time that a person has lived or a thing has existed. It is usually measured in years. It is expected to have positive impact on income generation of household. This variable will be measured continuous according to the years of the household head. This variable will be hypothesized to have a negative influence on household choice of livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LG. This is because the older the household heads get, the more reluctant they become to diversify. This is in line with what Khatun and Roy (2012) found that household with a younger head will have more desire and access to non-farm activities therefore have diversified livelihoods. According to Mariotti et al., (2014) as age increases and the household heads cross the turning point 21 of approximately 60 years, it is less likely that the households would choose to have diversified livelihoods.

Gender: Gender refers to the social and cultural differences between men and women, rather than biological differences . it is a team used to describe the characteristics of people that are socially constructed and how the influence people's health and well-being. This variable will be coded as a dummy variable with one if male and zero if female. Various studies have shown that gender is an important factor in influencing the choice of physically challenging work and therefore the household livelihood diversification activities (Dirribsa & Tassew, 2015). In this study, male headed households were expected to be positively related to diversification compared to their counterparts, this is because females are often restricted by time given their greater envelopment in household chores (Akaakohol & Aye, 2014).

Education: Level of education of household head refers to the highest level of education attained by the head of a household. The level of education of the household head is an important factor in determining the socio-economic status of a household. It can affect the household's income, health, and overall well-being . This will be measured as a continuous variable representing the number of formal education years of the household head. This variable was expected to be positively associated with household choice of livelihood diversification activities. This is expected because the more educated household heads are, the more diversified activities they would have (Yizengaw et al., 2015). Formal education increases the

knowledge that one needs to become competent to choose activities that generates more income and up to date with all the modern technologies that make entrepreneurship much easier (Asfaw et al., 2016). Therefore, enhancement in the educational level will escalate the probability engagement in livelihood diversification (Khatun & Roy, 2012).

Source of Income of Household: Sources of income of rural households can vary depending on the region and the household's economic activities. for example, farming is the major source of livelihood in rural areas, but there are other sources of income available, such as agricultural labor, money lending, beekeeping, dairy and poultry business, silk production, wool production, teaching opportunities, small general or grocery shops, woodcutting, selling wood, handicrafts, jute bags making, and handmade clothes In general, sources of income in rural areas can be classified into three categories: on-farm income, off-farm income, and transfers.

Land Size: Land size can have an impact on the livelihood of rural households. In general, larger land holdings are associated with higher levels of agricultural productivity and income . However, it is expected that as land holding size increases, the probability of engaging in various livelihood strategies decreases . This is because farmers with larger land holdings are encouraged to involve themselves more in farming activities .in addition one of the determinants of livelihood diversification is land size according to literature.

Access to Credit: Access to credit is an important factor in determining the economic well-being of households. It refers to the ability of households to obtain loans or other forms of credit from financial institutions or other sources . Access to credit can have a significant impact on livelihoods, particularly in rural areas where households may rely on agriculture or other forms of self-employment for income in this research it is expected that access to credit will lead to increase productivity and efficiency among farmers leading to higher levels of agricultural output and income thereby improve well-being.

Access to Extension Services: Access to extension services refers to the ability of rural households to participate in markets for goods and services, including agricultural and non-agricultural products, as well as labor markets . Extension services can provide farmers with information on new technologies, market opportunities, and best practices for sustainable agriculture .it is expected that farmers with access to extension services will have better sustainable livelihood and self- reliance than farmers without. This will be coded as categorical dummy variable one if the household had access to extension services and zero if not. Access to extension services was expected have a positive impact on choice of livelihood diversification of activities, this is because extension services provide

information and acts as a pull factor enabling households to take advantage of diversification opportunities (Asfaw et al., 2015).

Occurrence of Communal Conflict: Communal conflicts, characterized by clashes between non-state groups that share a common identity, often arise from issues related to shared resources or property. These conflicts can lead to significant social and economic disruptions, affecting everything from individual livelihoods to national development. Understanding the underlying factors and the scale of impact requires a methodical approach to data collection and analysis. These surveys are designed to capture a wide range of data, including economic, social, and health indicators, which can be crucial for analyzing the repercussions of communal conflicts.Methodological challenges, such as operationalizing definitions of conflict, selecting appropriate units of analysis, and timing the surveys, must be addressed to ensure the reliability and validity of the data.

Table 3.2: Apriori Expectations of Independent Variables.

Variable	Definition	Expected sign
AG	Age	-
GEN	Gender	+
OCC	Occurrence of communal conflict	+
HLEH	Education level	+
AMDCC	Access to Market	-
HSI	Source of income	+
LS	Land size	+
ACDCC	Access to Credit	+
AFES	Access to Extension Services	+

Source: researchers' tabulation 2024

Nature and Source of Data:

The socioeconomic and environment data that is used for this study is drawn mainly from Primary sources, which are data obtained directly from the source or target population. When it comes to primary data collection, researchers usually devise a set of questions and invite people with knowledge of the subject to respond. The main sources of data for this survey research is primary data which was collected through the use of questionnaire methods only. Although, primary data is gathered from first-hand sources and is more reliable. However, the process of primary data collection is both costly and time-consuming.

Population and Sampling:

Population of the Study: The study population in survey research on communal conflict and livelihood diversification in Bokkos local government area of plateau state Nigeria 2010-2023 refers to the group of people who are being surveyed to gather data on the effects of communal conflict and livelihood diversification on their lives. This group may include individuals who live in area in and around Bokkos LGA. The study population may also be segmented by factors such as age, gender, and socioeconomic status to provide a more comprehensive understanding of how different groups have been affected by communal conflict and livelihood diversification. When selecting a study population for a survey research project, it is important to consider factors such as sample size, representativeness, and potential biases. Researchers must ensure that the study population is large enough to provide statistically significant results, while also being representative of the broader population being studied. Additionally, researchers must take steps to minimize any potential biases that may occur that are likely to impact the accuracy of the data collected. However, this research will be narrow down to the districts around Bokkos LGA, which are: Bokkos district, Daffo district, Sha district, Manguna district, Mushere district Richa district Toff district and Kamwai district of Bokkos LGA of Plateau State Nigeria.

Sample Size: When conducting survey research to determining the appropriate sample size is crucial. The sample size determines the accuracy and reliability of the results. A small sample size may not represent the entire population, while a large sample size may be unnecessary and time-consuming. Therefore, it is important to calculate the sample size based on the level of precision required and the variability of the population. In order to determine the sample size for the survey research on Communal conflict and livelihood diversification in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State, several factors must be considered. These include the level of precision required, the variability of the population, the confidence level, and the expected response rate. By taking these factors into account, researchers can ensure that their sample size is sufficient to provide accurate and reliable results. Therefore, because our target population is only people in the villages within the 8 district that make up Bokkos LGA,we will employ **Taro Yamane method to estimate the sample size** with formular thus,

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)2}$$

where; n = the sample size, N= the total target population under study, e^2 = the error term   (Yamane & Taro,1967)

3.8.3 Sample Size Calculation:

$$n = \frac{179550}{1+179550(0.05)2} = \frac{179550}{179551(0.0025)} = \frac{179550}{449.875} = 399.11 = 400 \text{ so, } n = 400$$

Using the above target population **the sample size is found to be 400 households in Bokkos LGA,** because it permits inferences and conclusions drawn from survey

to be applied to the complete population which the sample was drawn and use simple random sampling techniques to select our samples out of those residence in the 8 districts mentionee above.

Table 3.4: Calculated sample size based on 2006 census figure of Bokkos LGA.

Name of district	Population	Sample size
Bokkos	90,426	201
Daffo	15,671	35
Kamwai	7,849	18
Manguna	16,203	36
Mushere	25,154	56
Richa	9,437	21
Sha	4,830	11
Toff	9,980	22
Total	179,550	400

Source: Researchers computation 2024

Sampling Technique:
This study will employ simple random sampling technique in this research work because Simple random sampling is a fundamental method used in survey research to select a representative subset of a larger population.

Instruments for Data Collection:
In this research which is a survey research design data was collected using **structured questionnaires** majorly. A questionnaire is a set of questions that are designed to elicit information from respondents on a specific topic. A structured questionnaire has fixed and predetermined questions and answer options, which makes it easier to administer and analyze. A questionnaire can be administered in different ways, such as face-to-face, telephone, mail, or online. And this study questionnaire was administered face-to- face using research assistance.(see appendix1)

Method of Data Collection: One possible method of data collection in survey research on Communal Conflict and Livelihood Diversification in Bokkos local government of plateau State Nigeria 2010-2023 used a **structured questionnaire**. The advantages of using a questionnaire are that it can reach a large and diverse sample of respondents, it can reduce bias and errors due to interviewer effects, and it can allow for standardized and comparable data. The disadvantages of using a questionnaire are that it may have low response rates, it may not capture the complexity and richness of the respondents' views and experiences, and it may suffer from social desirability bias or acquiescence bias.

Methods of Data Presentation: This research employed the textual, tabular and diagrammatical means of data presentation by using some common types of graphs as pie charts, bar charts, histogram, frequency polygons and ogive curve.

Methods of Data Analysis: Statistical analysis is a method of data analysis that involves the use of statistical techniques to analyze and interpret data. It is used to analyze data collected in a statistically valid manner (e.g. from experiments, surveys, and observations). Statistical analysis can be used to identify patterns and relationships in the data, as well as to test hypotheses and make predictions. So, this survey research has adopted descriptive method and some regression analysis using Probit Model.

Model Estimation Techniques: This research work employed SPSS software to conduct the descriptive techniques as well as regression analysis in its Probit Model estimations.

Reliability Test: Reliable test was conducted using the Cronbach Alpha value test. Conducting a reliability test in survey research is crucial to ensure that the measurement method is consistent and stable over time.

Validity Test:

Validity test was conducted using the Cronbach Alpha value test. In survey research, particularly on sensitive topics such as communal conflict and livelihood diversification, ensuring the validity of the instruments used is crucial.

Methods of Hypotheses Testing: In this research work because our research design is a descriptive survey research as well as regression analysis using PROBIT Model, we employed Chi-square test to compare the frequencies of two or more groups to test our hypothesis.

Justifications of the Methods Used: This research work employed some descriptive techniques and regression analysis by employing PROBIT Model because our dependent variable is binary in which its value take the dummy zero or one in its model estimations, because regression is a statistical technique used to find a relationship between a dependent variable and an independent variable(s). The chi-square test is suitable for descriptive statistics when the sample size is large. chi-square test is a statistical hypothesis test that is used to determine whether there is a significant difference between the expected frequencies and the observed frequencies in one or more categories of a contingency table. It is used to test the independence of two categorical variables. The chi-square test is non-parametric, meaning that it does not require any assumptions about the distribution of the data. It is also robust to violations of normality and homogeneity of variance assumptions.

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS
Data Presentation:
 In survey research, presenting data effectively is crucial for communicating the findings to stakeholders. It involves selecting the most relevant data and structuring it in a way that tells a compelling story. Best practices suggest starting with a clear objective and choosing data that aligns with the research goals. Visual aids like charts and graphs can illustrate significant trends and patterns, making the information more accessible. It's also recommended to adhere to design principles, ensuring presentations are not only informative but also engaging. For comprehensive insights, additional detailed reports may be prepared for stakeholders who wish to delve deeper into the data. Ultimately, the goal is to transform raw survey data into actionable insights that can inform decision-making processes.

Questionaire Return Rate:
We adiministered 400 structured questionnaire (see appendix1) using research assistance which we destibuted them to the various districts in Bokkos LGA and only 392 completed questionaires where return and 8 where missing implying that our structured questionnaire had 95.5 percent return rate we used it for this analysis.

Demographic Information:
Table 4.1 Democrapgic Information of Our Respondents

		Frequency	Percent
Age	1 _ 10	1	0.3
	21-30	51	13
	31-40	195	49.7
	41-60	121	30.9
	61 and above	24	6.1
	Total	392	100
Gender	Male	255	65.1
	Female	137	34.9
	Total	392	100
Marital Status	Married	213	54.3
	Never Married	160	40.8
	Divorced	6	1.5
	Widowed	13	3.4
		392	100
Female Household Head	Yes	99	25.3
	No	293	74.7
	Total	392	100
Occupation	Farmer	219	55.9
	Herder	64	16.3
	Government employee	36	9.2
	Business man	56	14.3
	Artisans	17	4.3
	Total	392	100
Religion	Christianity	295	75.3
	Islam	95	24.2
	Traditional Religion	1	0.3
	others	1	0.3
	Total	392	100
Indigene Status	Indigene	288	73.5
	Non-indigene	104	26.5
	Total	392	100

Source: Field Survey 2024

From the table 4.1 above, 1 (0.3%) of the respondents indicated that they are 1-10 years old, 51 (13%) of indicated being 21 – 30 years old, 195 (49.7%) indicated they are 31 – 40 years old, 121 (30.9%) are 41 – 60 years old while 24 (6.1%) of the respondents said they are 61 and above years old.

For Gender, 255 (65.1%) of the respondents were male, while 137 (34.9%) of the respondents were female. For marital status, 54.3 percent of our respondent indicated married while 40.8 percent indicated never married, 1.5 percent indicated divorced and 3.4 percent indicated widowed. For female household head 25.3 percent agree that they are female and are the head of the family, which may be as

a result of the conflict or may be their husband negligence and could not carried out hes responsibility as head.

For accupation 55,9 percent of our respondent are farmers and 16.3 percent of our sample are herders while 14,3 percent are business men and women, 4.3 percent are artisans and 9.3 percent are government employees. For religion 75,3 percent indicated Christianity, while 24.2 indicated islam, 0.3 percent indicated traditional religion and 0.3 percent indicated others. For indigene status, 73.5 percent of our sample respondent are indigene and 26.5 percent are non-indigene.

Data Analysis

Data analysis in survey research is a critical step that transforms raw data into meaningful insights. It involves various methods, such as cross-tabulation, which organizes data to make it more understandable, and statistical analysis, which assesses the significance of the results. For instance, quantitative data analysis might include examining response frequencies or using cross-tabulation to explore relationships between demographic variables and survey responses. Qualitative data, on the other hand, often requires tools like Natural Language Processing to interpret open-ended responses. Reporting the results effectively is just as important, and best practices suggest starting with key questions that align with your objectives, analyzing top-level responses, and considering subgroup analyses to uncover deeper insights. For a comprehensive understanding. We adiministered 400 structured questionnaire (see appendix1) using research assistance which we destibuted them to the various districts in Bokkos LGA and only 392 completed questionaires where return and we used it for this analysis.

Research Question One:

What is the relationship between communal conflict and livelihood diversification in Bokkos LGA?

Figure 4.2:Primary Cause of commmunal conflict in Bokkos LGA
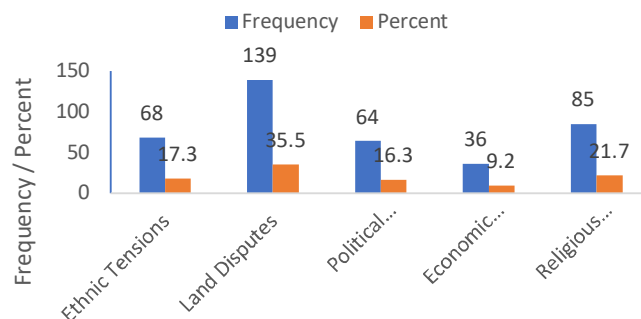
source : field survey 2024

Table 4.2 : Relationship between communal conflict and livelihood diversification in Bokkos LGA

		Frequency	Percent
What type of livelihood diversification strategies have you adopted following communal conflict in Bokkos LGA?	Agricultural activities	197	50.3
	Trade and commerce	99	25.3
	Skill acquisition programs	54	13.8
	Relocation	21	5.4
	None of above	21	5.4
	Total	392	100
To what extent do you believe communal conflicts affected the economic development of Bokkos LGA?	Not at all	52	13.3
	Slightly	60	15.3
	Moderately	62	15.8
	Significantly	63	16.1
	Extremely	155	39.5
	Total	392	100
In your opinion, which group is most affected by communal conflicts in Bokkos LGA?	Farmers	148	37.8
	Herders	75	19.1
	Local business owners	46	11.7
	Women and children	110	28.1
	Government officials	13	3.3
	Total	392	100

Figure 4.3: Type of livelihood diversification
strategies adoped following communal conflict in
Bokkos LGA
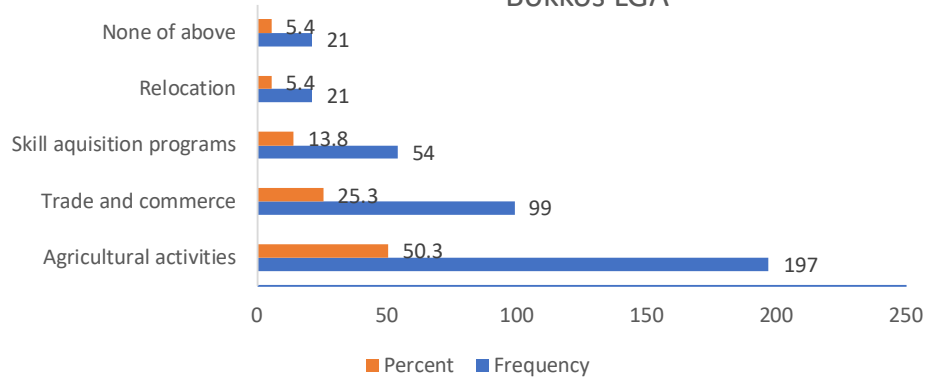
Source:field survey 2024

Research Question Two:

What is the Effects of Communal Conflict on Livelihood Diversification and Household Access to Credit in Bokkos LGA.

Table 4.3 :How would you rate your access to credit facilities in Bokkos LGA during or after communal conflicts

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very poor	146	37.2	37.2	37.2
	Poor	127	32.4	32.4	69.6
	Fair	89	22.7	22.7	92.3
	Good	17	4.3	4.3	96.7
	Excellent	13	3.3	3.3	100.0
	Total	392	100.0	100.0	

Source: field survey 2024

Table 4.3 above shows how often respondents access creditfor during or after conflicts. According to the table, 146 (37.2 %) indicated very poor access , 127 (32.4%) access to credit during or after conflicts poor, 8(22.7%) access to credit as fair, 17(4.3%) access to credit as good, while 13 (3.3%) do not access credit excellently during or after conflicts. Therefore we can say that communal conflict affected access to credit significantly negative.

Figure 4.4: What are the main challenges your household faces in sustaining alternative livelihood activities?
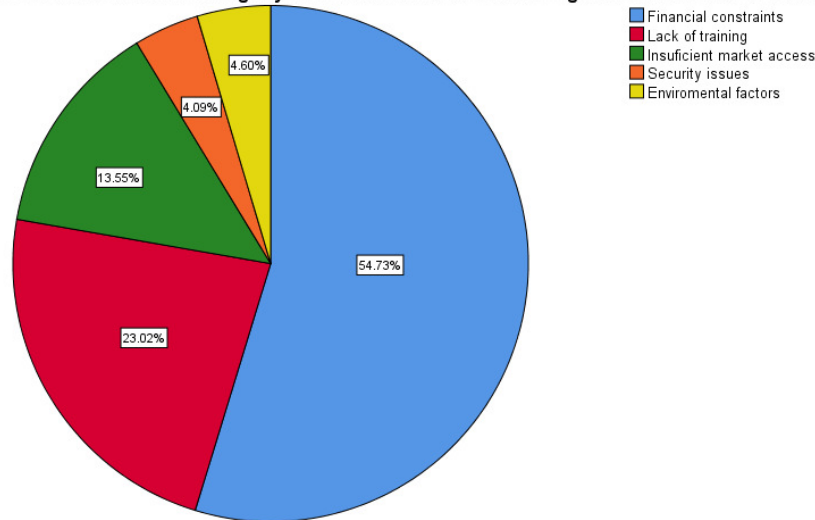
source: field survey 2024.

From the pie-chart above can be clear seen that the major challenges households in Bokkos LGA face in sustaining alternative livelihood activities during or after communal conflict is financial costraints as indicated 54.7% of our respondents.followed by security issues (22.02%), then insufficient market access(13.55%), environmental factors (4.60%) and lack of training(4.09%).

Research Question Three:

What is the effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household access to market in Bokkos LGA?

Table 4 .4: Effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household access to market in Bokkos LGA

		Frequency	Percent
How often do you access market for agricultural products during or after communal conflicts	Never	27	6.9
	Rarely	122	31.1
	Occasionally	176	44.9
	Frequently	49	12.5
	Always	18	4.6

Total	392	100

Source: field survey 2024

Table 4.3 above shows how often respondents access market for agricultural products during or after conflicts. According to the table, 122 (31.1 %) access market for agricultural products during or after conflicts rarely, 176 (44.9%) access market for agricultural products during or after conflicts occasionally, 49 (12.5%) access market frequently, 18(4.6%) access market always, while 27 (6.9%) do not access market for agricultural products during or after conflicts. Therefore we can say that communal conflict affected access to market significantly negative.

Research Question Four:

What are the effect of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household access to farm extension services in Bokkos LGA?

Table 4.5:How would you descibe the availability of farm extension services in your area?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Non-existent	67	17.1	17.1	17.1
	Inadequate	156	39.8	39.8	56.9
	Moderate	120	30.6	30.6	87.5
	Adequate	29	7.4	7.4	94.9
	Exceptional	20	5.1	5.1	100.0
	Total	392	100.0	100.0	

Source: field survey

From table 4.5 above when ask how would you describe the availability of farm extension services in your area? 67(17.1%) indicated that it is non- existent, 156(39.8%) indicated that it is inadequate, 120(30.6%) indicated that it is moderate, 29(7.4%) indicated that it is adequate and 20(5.1%) indicated that it is execeptional

Research Question Five:

What is the effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household land size in Bokkos LGA?

Table 4.6: Effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household land size in Bokkos LGA

		Frequency	Percent
What is the size of the land you use for farming?	1-2 hectares	237	60.5
	3-4 hectares	54	13.8
	5-6 hectares	96	24.5

9-10 hectares	5		1.3
Total	392		100

Source: field survey.

In table 4.5 above, 237 (60.5%) of the respondents indicated that they use 1-2 hectares of land for farming, 54 (13.8%) said they use 3.4 hectares of land for farming, 96 (24.5%) indicated that they use 5-6 hectares of land for farming, while 5 (1.3%) of the respondents indicated that they 9-10 hectares of land for farming. This shows that must of the farmers in Bokkos LGA are small farm holders farming for family survival and consumption only

Research Question Six:
What is the effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household source of income Bokkos LGA?
Table 4.7: Effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household source of income Bokkos LGA

		Frequency	Percent
What are your household source of income	Farming	188	48
	Livestock	60	15.3
	Trading	87	22.2
	Employment	46	11.7
	Others	11	2.8
	Total	392	100
What is the approximate monthly income of your household?	Less than 10,000	1	0.3
	10,001 to 50,000	239	61
	50,001 to 100,000	98	25
	100,001 to 500,000	54	13.8
	Total	392	100
Post-conflict, what income activities have you combined to sustain your livelihood?	Farming and trading	228	58.2
	Livestock rearing and artisan work	48	12.2
	Trading and causal labor	94	24
	Work and reliance on aid	17	4.3
	Other combination please specify	5	1.3
	Total	392	100
How has the communal conflict affected your ability to generate income?	Significantly reduced income	191	48.7
	Somewhat reduced income	98	25

No change in income	79	20.2
Somewhat increased income	22	5.6
higher increased in income	2	0.5
Total	392	100

Source: field survey 2024

From table 4.6 above 188(48 %) indicated that there main source of income is farming 87(22.2%) indicated that its trading, 60(15.3 %) indicated its livestock rearing while 48(11.7% indicated its employment and 11(2.8%) indicated others. For approximate monthly income of household 1(0.3 %) indicated less than 10,000 naira only 2399(61%) indicated 10,000-50,000 while 98 (25%) and 54(13.8%) indicated 100,000-500,000 these result shows that mustof our respondent are low income earners with little or no saving so any conflict will affect these group significantly For economic activities household combined to sustained their livelihood 228(58.1%) indicated farming and trading 48(12.2%) indicated livestock rearing and artisan work while 94(24 %) indicated trading and casual labor and 17 (4.3%) indicated work and reliance on aids and 5(1.3%) indicated others. These result shows that farming and trading are the must economic activities that must household do in other to sustain their livelihood during and after communal conflict in Bokkos LGA._For how has communal conflict affected households ability to generate additional income from above table 4. 191 (48.7%) indicated significantly reduced income, 78(98(25%) indicated no change in income income , 22(5.6%) indicated somewhat increased income and 2(0.5%) indicated higher increased income these result shows that communal conflict affected household ability to generate additional income significantly negative.

Research Question Seven:

What is the effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and employment status of household head in Bokkos LGA?

Table 4.8: Effects of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and employment status of household head in Bokkos LGA

		Frequency	Percent
What is the employment status of your household head?	Unemployed	140	35.7
	Part-time employed	30	7.7
	Self-employed	148	37.8
	Full-time employed	51	13

Retired	23	5.9
Total	392	100

Source: field survey 2024

Table 4.7 shows that 140 (35.7%) of the respondents indicated that their household head are unemployed, 30 (7.7%) said that their household head are part-time employee, 148 (37.8%) indicated that their household head are self-employed, 51 (13%) indicated that their household head are full-time employed, while 23 (5.9%) of the respondents indicated that they are retired. So we can say that must of our respondent self-employed followed by unemployed so the need to diversified their source of income during communal conflict in Bokkos LGA.

Research Question Eight:

What is the impact of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household size in Bokkos LGA?

Table 4.9: impact of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household size in Bokkos LGA

		Frequency	Percent
How many people currently live in your house?	1 _ 2	51	13
	3 _ 4	208	53.1
	5 _ 6	58	14.8
	7 _ 8	70	17.9
	More than 8	3	0.8
	others specify	2	0.5
	Total	392	100

Source: field survey 2024

Table 4.8 shows that 51 (13.0%) of the respondents indicated that their household size is 1-2 persons, 208 (53.1%) said that their household size is 3-4 persons, 58 (14.8%) indicated that their household size are 5 – 6 person, 70 (17.9 %) indicated that their household size are 7-8 persons, 3 (0.8%) indicated that their household size are more than 8 persons, while 2 (0.5%) of the respondents indicated that their household size are in others sizes rather than the ones suggested. We can say that majority of household size is1-2 persons per family followed by 3-4 persons then 5-

6 persons so the need for livelihood diversification during or after communal conflict in Bokkos LGA.

Research Question Nine::

What is the impact of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household level of education in Bokkos LGA?

Table 4.10: Impact of communal conflict on livelihood diversification and household level of education in Bokkos LGA

		Frequency	Percent
What is the highest level of education attained by the head of your household?	No Formal Education	71	18.1
	Primary Education	67	17.1
	Secondary Education	122	31.1
	Tertiary Education	101	25.8
	Postgraduate Education	31	7.9
	Total	392	100

Table 4.9: shows that 67 (17.1%) of the respondents indicated that the highest level of education attained by the head of their household are Primary Education, 122 (31.1%) agree that the education level of their is Secondary Education, 101 (25.8%) indicated that the level of education of their household Tertiary education holder, 31 (7.9 %) indicated that they postgraduate, while 71 (18.1%) of the respondents did not attend formal education. Because must of our respondent are educated 31.1% had secondary education and 25.8% indicated they had tertiary education we can say that must of our respondent are educated so they can take correct decision to diversify their source of income in the event of communal conflict in Bokkos LGA.

Research Question Ten:

What is the pattern of communal conflict in Bokkos LGA?

Table 4.11: Pattern of communal conflict in Bokkos LGA

		Frequency	Percent
How often do communal conflicts occur in Bokkos LGA?	Very frequently	76	19.4
	Frequently	67	17.1
	Occasionally	177	45.2
	Rarely	67	17.1
	Never	5	1.3
	Total	392	100

Source: field survey 2024

In table 4.10 above, 76 (19.4%) of the respondents indicated that communal conflicts occur very frequently, 67 (17.1%) said that communal conflicts occur frequently,177 (45.2%) indicated that communal conflicts occurred occasionally , 67 (17.1%) agree that communal conflicts occur rarely, while 5 (1.3%) of the respondents indicated that communal conflicts has never occurred . these result shows that the pattern of communal conflict in Bokkos LGA occurred frequently and sporadically.

Pre-estimation Test Results:

Table 4.12:Reliability Test

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.553	49

Source: field survey 2024

From the result table 4.11above, it shows the reliability test of the questionnaire, the cronbach alpha value is 0.553 which implies 55 percent; this implies that the questionnaire was 55 percent reliable just for the pilot study.

In the context of a pilot study, a Cronbach's alpha value of 0.563 indicates moderate internal consistency among the items within a test or questionnaire. This value is below the commonly accepted threshold of 0.6 -0.9 for good internal consistency, suggesting that the items may not be reliably measuring the same underlying construct. It's important to consider that in the early stages of research, such as a pilot study, it may be acceptable to proceed with a lower Cronbach's

alpha to refine the instrument further. The pilot phase is often used to identify and correct issues with the measurement tool, which can include revising, adding, or removing items to improve the scale's reliability before it is used in the main study

Model Estimation Results:

Table 4.13: Multinomial Probit Regression of Estimates of Factors influencing the choice of Household Livelihood Diversification During or After Communal Conflict in Bokkos LGA.

===

Dependent variables Dummy variables (1 if household livelihood activities are diversified; 0 if non-diversified)

Parameter Estimates

	Parameter	Estimate	Std. Error	Z	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
						Lower Bound	Upper Bound
PROBIT[a]	Age of household	-.023	.023	-1.003	.316	-.069	.022
	Gender of housedhold	.006		.161	.872	-.068	.080
			.038				
	How would you rate your access to credit facilities in Bokkos LGA during or after communal conflicts	-.007	.018	-.414	.679	-.042	.027
	How often do you access market for your agricultural products during ar after conflicts	-.020	.020	-.958	.338	-.060	.021
	How would you descibe the availability of farm extension services in your area?	.013	.017	.737	.461	-.021	.046
	What is the size of the land you use for farming?	.007	.021	.326	.744	-.034	.047
	What are your household source of income	.015	.016	.906	.365	-.017	.047
	What is the highest level of education attained by the head of your household?	.011	.015	.737	.461	-.018	.040
	How often do communal conflicts occur in BokkosLGA?	.003	.017	.203	.839	-.030	.036
	Intercept	-2.524	.157	-16.106	.000	-2.681	-2.367

a. PROBIT model: PROBIT(p) = Intercept + BX

source: Field survey 2024

Table 4.14: Chi-square Test Rsult of the Multinimial Probit Rgression.

Chi-Square Tests				
		Chi-Square	df	Sig.
PROBIT	Pearson Goodness-of-Fit Test	632.833	385	.000

a. Statistics based on aggregated cases. b. Statistics based on individual cases differ from statistics based on aggregated cases.

Source: field survey 2024

From the table 4.13 above, the Probit model is given as
Diversification
=f(OCC,HLEH,HIS,SL,AFES,MDCC,ACDCC,GEN,AG)………(4.1)
$Y = c + a_0x_1 + a_1x_2 + a_2x_3 + a_3x_4 + a_4x_5 + a_5x_6 + a_6x_7 + a_7x_8 + a_8x_9 + ui$…………………(4.2)
From the result we have : Choice = diversification=Y =$1/1-p$ = - 2.524 + 0.003OCC + 0.011HLEH + 0.015HSI+ 0.007SL + 0.013AFES – 0.020AMDCC– 0.007ACDCC + 0.006GEN– 0.023AG + ui
…………………………………………………….(4.3)
Where:
 OCC=occurence of communal conflict.
HLEH=highest level of education of household head.
HSI=household source of income.
SL =size of land farm by household
AFES=access to farm extension services or during or after conflict in Bokkos LGA.
 AMDCC=access to market during or after communal in Bokkos LGA
ACDCC = access to credit during or after communal conflict in Bokkos LGA
GEN=gender.
AG=age
Ui= error term

Model Results Interpretations:
From the above equation (4.3) multinomial probit regression estimated factors influencincing the choice of household livelihood diversification during or after communal conflict in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State Nigeria, it could be clearly seen that occurance of communal conflict (OCC) with parameter estimates of 0.003 has a positive effect on choice of livelihood diversification in Bokkos LGA, which is in comfomity with our apriori expectation, because Livelihood strategies involve decisions; actions, management and organisation people undertake in order to effectively utilize the resources available to construct a living when ask, how

has communal conflict affected households ability to generate additional income from above table 4.6, 191 (48.7%) indicated significantly reduced income, (98(25%) indicated no change in income , 22(5.6%) indicated somewhat increased income and 2(0.5%) indicated higher increased income these result shows that communal conflict affected household ability to generate additional income is significantly negative, which implies that households maintained that life was a struggle and that they were living in poverty therefore the "need to thinkout of the box" and diversify their source of income for family survival. Highest level of education of household head(HLEH) with parameter estimate of 0.011 also has positive impact on choice of livelihood diversification because Education is an aspect of human capital that is mentioned in the literature that determines livelihood capabilities. There is low level of education among rural people in the study area. The majority of men and women are not educated and those who are, only achieved primary education. This is not enough to be able to gain high paying jobs which the non-farm sector offers. These people are left with no choice other than farming and off-farm paid labour in order to make a living. For those who engage in small-scale production, services and trading in the non-farm sector, they lack sufficient knowledge and the skill required to manage and operate non-farm businesses successfully. especially during or after communal conflict when everybody is thinking of how his family will survive. Household source of income(HIS) in our model above with estimated parameter of 0.015 has a positive significant relationship with our dependent variable which is choice of livelihood diversification because if the sources of income of a person is higher its relatively easier for the person to diversify to other sources of income during or after communal conflict than person with low income also because the person with high income mayed have savings while the low income earner mayed likely have zero savings.

Post -estimation Test Results:
Table 4.15: Post-estimation test.

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.653	49

Source : Field survey 2024
Cronbach's alpha is a measure of internal consistency, which indicates how well a set of items measures a single unidimensional latent construct. From table 4.15

above, the result shows the reliability test of the questionnaire, the cronbach alpha value is 0.653 which implies 65 percent, which is within the acceptable range, this implies that the questionnaire was 65 percent reliable and valid during the main study. It's important to note that the acceptability of a Cronbach's alpha value can also depend on the context and purpose of the research, as well as the complexity of the constructs being measured. For more nuanced instruments, a slightly lower alpha might still be acceptable.

Tests of Hypotheses:
Hypothesis One
H_o: Communal conflict has no significant relationship with livelihood diversification in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Table 4.16: Probit Analysis for hypothesis one

	Parameter Estimates						
						95% Confidence Interval	
	Parameter	Estimate	Std. Error	Z	Sig.	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
PROBIT[a]	What type of livelihood diversification strategies have you adopted following communal conflict in Bokkos LGA?	.014	.015	.938	.348	-.015	.044
	Intercept	-2.591	.033	-77.735	.000	-2.624	-2.558

a. PROBIT model: PROBIT(p) = Intercept + BX

	Chi-Square Tests			
		Chi-Square	df[b]	Sig.
PROBIT	Pearson Goodness-of-Fit Test	1054.618	390	.000[a]

a. Since the significance level is less than .150, a heterogeneity factor is used in the calculation of confidence limits.
b. Statistics based on individual cases differ from statistics based on aggregated cases.

Source : field survey 2024

From the table 4.16 above, the Probit model is given as $Y = c + bx_1$, from the result we have the model to be $Y = -2.591 + 0.014x_1$ with a Chi Square Value of 1054.618 with a degree of freedom of 390 and a P value of 0.000. Snice the P value (0.000) is less than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that Communal conflict has a positive significant relationship with livelihood diversification in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Hypothesis Two

Ho:_ Communal conflict has no effects on households access to credit and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Table 4.17: Probit Analysis for hypothesis two

Parameter Estimates

	Parameter	Estimate	Std. Error	Z	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
						Lower Bound	Upper Bound
PROBIT[a]	How would you rate your access to credit facilities in Bokkos LGA during or after communal conflicts	-.015	.017	-.884	.377	-.047	.018
	Intercept	-2.535	.038	-66.281	.000	-2.573	-2.497

a. PROBIT model: PROBIT(p) = Intercept + BX

Chi-Square Tests

		Chi-Square	df[b]	Sig.
PROBIT	Pearson Goodness-of-Fit Test	1379.863	390	.000[a]

a. Since the significance level is less than .150, a heterogeneity factor is used in the calculation of confidence limits.

b. Statistics based on individual cases differ from statistics based on aggregated cases.

Source : field survey 2024

From the table 4.17 above, the Probit model is given as Y = c + bx1, from the result we have the model to be Y = - 2.535 – 0.015x1 with a Chi Square Value of 1379.863 with a degree of freedom of 390 and a P value of 0.000. Snice the P value (0.000) is less than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that Communal conflict has a significant negative effects on households access to credit and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State

Hypothesis Three:

H_0: Communal conflict has no effects on households access to market and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State

Table 4.18:Probit Analysis for hypothesis three.

Parameter Estimates							
						95% Confidence Interval	
	Parameter	Estimate	Std. Error	Z	Sig.	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
PROBIT[a]	How often do you access market for your agricultural products during and after conflicts	-.255	.110	-2.316	.021	-.471	-.039
	Intercept	-2.459	.049	-49.818	.000	-2.508	-2.409

a. PROBIT model: PROBIT(p) = Intercept + BX (Covariates X are transformed using the base 10.000 logarithm.)

Chi-Square Tests				
		Chi-Square	df[b]	Sig.
PROBIT	Pearson Goodness-of-Fit Test	965.510	390	.000[a]

a. Since the significance level is less than .150, a heterogeneity factor is used in the calculation of confidence limits.
b. Statistics based on individual cases differ from statistics based on aggregated cases.

Source: field survey 2024

From the table 4.18 above, the Probit model is given as $Y = c + bx_1$, from the result we have the model to be $Y = -0.255 – 2.459x_1$ with a Chi Square Value of 965.510 with a degree of freedom of 390 and a P value of 0.000. Snice the P value (0.000) is less than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that Communal conflict has a significant nagetive effects on households access to market and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Hypothesis Four

Ho: Communal conflict has no effects on access to farm extension services and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State

Table 4.19: Probit Analysis for Hypothesis fo

Parameter Estimates

	Parameter	Estimate	Std. Error	Z	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
						Lower Bound	Upper Bound
PROBIT[a]	How would you describe the availability of farm extension services in your area?	.015	.016	.905	.366	-.017	.046
	Intercept	-2.600	.043	-60.752	.000	-2.643	-2.558

a. PROBIT model: PROBIT(p) = Intercept + BX

Chi-Square Tests

		Chi-Square	df[b]	Sig.
PROBIT	Pearson Goodness-of-Fit Test	1356.517	390	.000[a]

a. Since the significance level is less than .150, a heterogeneity factor is used in the calculation of confidence limits.

Source: field survey 2024

From the table 4.19 above, the Probit model is given as $Y = c + bx_1$, from the result we have the model to be $Y = -0.2600 + 0.015x_1$ with a Chi Square Value of 1356.517 with a degree of freedom of 390 and a P value of 0.000. Snice the P value (0.000) is less than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that Communal conflict has significant effects on access to farm extention services and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Hypothesis Five:

H_o: Communal conflict has no effects on households land size and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Table 4.20: Probit Analysis for hypothesis five.

Parameter Estimates

	Parameter	Estimate	Std. Error	Z	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
						Lower Bound	Upper Bound
PROBIT[a]	What is the size of the land you use for farming?	.016	.019	.872	.383	-.020	.053
	Intercept	-2.586	.053	-48.866	.000	-2.639	-2.533

a. PROBIT model: PROBIT(p) = Intercept + BX

Chi-Square Tests

		Chi-Square	df[b]	Sig.
PROBIT	Pearson Goodness-of-Fit Test	1152.311	390	.000[a]

a. Since the significance level is less than .150, a heterogeneity factor is used in the calculation of confidence limits.
b. Statistics based on individual cases differ from statistics based on aggregated cases.

Source:field survey 2024

From the table 4.20 above, the Probit model is given as $Y = c + bx_1$, from the result we have the model to be $Y = 0.016 – 2.586x_1$ with a Chi Square Value of 1152.311 with a degree of freedom of 390 and a P value of 0.000. Snice the P value (0.000) is less than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that Communal conflict has a significant effects on households' land size and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Hypothesis Six:

Ho: Communal conflict has no effects on household sources of income and livelihood

Table 4.20: Probit Analysis for hypothesis six.

| | Parameter Estimates | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | 95% Confidence Interval | |
	Parameter	Estimate	Std. Error	Z	Sig.	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
PROBIT[a]	What are your household source of income	.024	.015	1.561	.118	-.006	.054
	Intercept	-2.613	.036	-72.950	.000	-2.648	-2.577

a. PROBIT model: PROBIT(p) = Intercept + BX

| Chi-Square Tests | | | | |
		Chi-Square	df[b]	Sig.
PROBIT	Pearson Goodness-of-Fit Test	1088.440	390	.000[a]

a. Since the significance level is less than .150, a heterogeneity factor is used in the calculation of confidence limits.
b. Statistics based on individual cases differ from statistics based on aggregated cases.

Source: field survey 2024

From the table 4.20 above, the Probit model is given as $Y = c + bx_1$, from the result we have the model to be $Y = -2.613 – 0.024x_1$ with a Chi Square Value of 1088.440 with a degree of freedom of 390 and a P value of 0.000. Snice the P value (0.000) is less than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that Communal conflict has a negative significant effects on household sources of income and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Hypothesis Seven:

Ho: Communal conflict has no effects on household employment opportunities and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State

Table 4.21: Probit Analysis for hypothesis seven:

Parameter Estimates

	Parameter	Estimate	Std. Error	Z	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
						Lower Bound	Upper Bound
PROBIT[a]	What is the employment status of your household head?	.045	.014	3.310	.001	.018	.072
	Intercept	-2.672	.037	-71.564	.000	-2.710	-2.635

a. PROBIT model: PROBIT(p) = Intercept + BX

Chi-Square Tests

		Chi-Square	df[b]	Sig.
PROBIT	Pearson Goodness-of-Fit Test	961.760	390	.000[a]

a. Since the significance level is less than .150, a heterogeneity factor is used in the calculation of confidence limits.
b. Statistics based on individual cases differ from statistics based on aggregated cases.

Source: field survey 2024

From the table4.21 above, the Probit model is given as $Y = c + bx_1$, from the result we have the model to be $Y = -2.672 – 0.045x_1$ with a Chi Square Value of 961.760 with a degree of freedom of 390 and a P value of 0.000. Snice the P value (0.000) is less than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that Communal conflict has a nagetive significant effects on household employment opportunities and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Hypothesis Eight:
Ho: Communal conflict has no effects on household size and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State

Table 4.22: Probit Analysis for hypothesis eight:

Parameter Estimates

	Parameter	Estimate	Std. Error	Z	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
						Lower Bound	Upper Bound
PROBIT[a]	What is the size of the land you use for farming?	.016	.019	.872	.383	-.020	.053
	Intercept	-2.586	.053	-48.866	.000	-2.639	-2.533

a. PROBIT model: PROBIT(p) = Intercept + BX

Chi-Square Tests

		Chi-Square	df[b]	Sig.
PROBIT	Pearson Goodness-of-Fit Test	1152.311	390	.000[a]

a. Since the significance level is less than .150, a heterogeneity factor is used in the calculation of confidence limits.
b. Statistics based on individual cases differ from statistics based on aggregated cases.

Source: field survey 2024

From the table 4.22 above, the Probit model is given as $Y = c + bx_1$, from the result we have the model to be $Y = -2.586 + 0.016x_1$ with a Chi Square Value of 1152.311 with a degree of freedom of 390 and a P value of 0.000. Snice the P value (0.000) is less than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that Communal conflict has a significant effects on household size and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Hypothesis Nine:

Ho: Communal conflict has no effects on housed holds level of education and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Table 4.23: Probit Analysis for hypothsis nine:

Parameter Estimates

	Parameter	Estimate	Std. Error	Z	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
						Lower Bound	Upper Bound
PROBIT[a]	What is the highest level of education attained by the head of your household?	.028	.014	1.938	.053	.000	.056
	Intercept	-2.645	.045	-59.018	.000	-2.690	-2.600

a. PROBIT model: PROBIT(p) = Intercept + BX

Chi-Square Tests

		Chi-Square	df[b]	Sig.
PROBIT	Pearson Goodness-of-Fit Test	983.309	390	.000[a]

a. Since the significance level is less than .150, a heterogeneity factor is used in the calculation of confidence limits.
b. Statistics based on individual cases differ from statistics based on aggregated cases.

Source: field survey 2024

From the table 4.23 above, the Probit model is given as $Y = c + bx_1$, from the result we have the model to be $Y = -2.645 + 0.028x_1$ with a Chi Square Value of 983.309 with a degree of freedom of 390 and a P value of 0.000. Snice the P value (0.000) is less than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that Communal conflict

has an effects on housedholds level of education and livelihood diversification activities in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State.

Hypothesis Ten:

Ho: Communal conflict in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State has no pattern.

Table 4.24: Probit Analysis for hypothesis ten:

Parameter Estimates

	Parameter	Estimate	Std. Error	Z	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval	
						Lower Bound	Upper Bound
PROBIT[a]	How often do communal conflicts occur in BokkosLGA?	.005	.017	.300	.764	-.028	.038
	Intercept	-2.578	.047	-54.443	.000	-2.625	-2.530

a. PROBIT model: PROBIT(p) = Intercept + BX

Chi-Square Tests

		Chi-Square	df[b]	Sig.
PROBIT	Pearson Goodness-of-Fit Test	1101.049	390	.000[a]

a. Since the significance level is less than .150, a heterogeneity factor is used in the calculation of confidence limits.

b. Statistics based on individual cases differ from statistics based on aggregated cases.

Source: field survey 2024

From the table 4.22 above, the Probit model is given as $Y = c + bx_1$, from the result we have the model to be $Y = -2.578 + 0.005x_1$ with a Chi Square Value of 1101.049 with a degree of freedom of 390 and a P value of 0.000. Snice the P value (0.000) is less than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that communal conflict in Bokkos LGA of Plateau State has pattern which is that it occurred occasionally and sparodically.

Discussion of findings:

Ocurrence of Communal Conflict in Bokkos LGA:

occurance of communal conflict (OCC) with parameter estimates of 0.003 has a positive effect on choice of livelihood diversification in Bokkos LGA, which is in comfomity with our apriori expectation, because Livelihood strategies involve decisions; actions, management and organisation people undertake in order to effectively utilize the resources available to construct a living when ask, how has communal conflict affected households ability to generate additional income from above table 4.6, 191 (48.7%) indicated significantly reduced income, 98(25%) indicated no change in income , 22(5.6%) indicated somewhat increased income and 2(0.5%) indicated higher increased income these result shows that communal conflict affected household ability to generate additional income is significantly negative, which implies that households maintained that life was a struggle and that they were living in poverty therefore the "need to thinkout of the box" and

diversify their source of income. This result is in comformity with the submissions of (Terpase 2022, Obafemi et al. 2021) from the literature researchers results agree that comflict sucks and destroyed the traditional livelihood of people living in conflict region.

Policy Implications of Findings: Policy implications of these findings should focus on conflict prevention and resolution, ensuring access to credit and markets, and providing support for agricultural activities in our rural areas. It is essential to establish peacebuilding initiatives and community dialogues to mitigate communal conflict and promote peaceful coexistence. Vocational training and empowerment programs can offer alternative employment opportunities, while efforts to rebuild and protect educational institutions will help safeguard the community's future. Addressing these issues holistically can lead to sustainable peace and improved livelihoods in Bokkos LGA. we have provided an analysis based on the research findings and suggested policy implications to address the issues identified. Karl Marx (1848) who is the father of conflict theory, centered on the cause and effects of class struggle. The theory focuses on the distribution of natural resources which are unequally allocated. Marx sees society as a collection of people with varying wants and interests who have scarce funds to satisfy those wants.

CONCLUTION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The conclusion drawn from the research findings on communal conflict and livelihood diversification in Bokkos LGA, Plateau State, is that communal conflict has a pervasive and complex impact on the socio-economic fabric of the community. While it inadvertently leads to livelihood diversification as households seek alternative means of survival, this diversification is often under duress and not sustainable. The negative effects on access to credit, markets, farm extension services, land size, household income, employment opportunities, and education levels are significant and far-reaching. These findings underscore the urgent need for comprehensive policies that address the root causes of communal conflict, support economic resilience, and rebuild social infrastructure. The ultimate goal is to foster a peaceful, prosperous, and stable community where livelihood diversification is a choice of opportunity, not a forced response to conflict.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

To address the challenges posed by communal conflict in Bokkos LGA, Plateau State, specific policy recommendations should include:

i. Establishing a local peace committee that includes representatives from different community groups to facilitate dialogue and mediate disputes before they escalate.

ii. Creating a community-based monitoring system to identify early warning signs of conflict and initiate preventive measures.

iii. Implementing economic support programs that provide microcredits and grants to affected households, enabling them to diversify their livelihoods without relying on high-interest loans.

iv. Developing infrastructure rehabilitation projects that focus on restoring and improving market access and transportation links disrupted by conflict.

v. Offering vocational training and skill development workshops to increase employment opportunities, particularly for youth and displaced individuals.

vi. Reinforcing the agricultural sector by providing access to farm extension services, quality seeds, and fertilizers to enhance productivity and ensure food security.

vii. Investing in the reconstruction and protection of educational facilities, as well as implementing catch-up education programs for children and adults who have missed schooling.

vii. Promoting land reform policies that ensure fair distribution and secure land tenure, reducing the risk of land-related conflicts.

ix. Encouraging investment in alternative dispute resolution mechanisms that are culturally sensitive and accessible to all community members.

These recommendations aim to create a stable environment where economic growth and social development can flourish, ultimately leading to a reduction in the incidence and impact of communal conflicts. It is crucial that these policies are implemented in a participatory manner, with the full engagement of local communities to ensure their effectiveness and sustainability.

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