

CLIMATE CHANGE AND CONFLICT IN AFRICA

BY

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ABSTRACT

The ecosystem in recent times had tremendously witnessed a dramatic change in its natural formations. These alterations according to contemporary scholars in this twenty first century regards it as Green House affects (GHC). Otherwise called climate change. It is interesting to understand that this magnitude of conflicts that were witnessed in Africa in recent times were as a result of the alterations in the ecosystem called the green-house effects or climate change. Many research and conferences had been conducted and held on the phenomena under study, which x-ray the causes of climate change and the process of mitigating its globally. Africa is the epicenter of climate change. The devastating effects of climate change in Africa is conflicts and untold hardships according to reported findings. The findings also revealed that the causations to these Greenhouse effects includes gas flaring, smoking, burning of fossil fuels automotive emissions, over grassing among others. In other to stop the exacerbation of this phenomenon, many proactive measures had been suggested to cushion the menacing effects of this enigma called climate change like good governance, new methods of farm/grazing to boost food producing among others. The study is optimistic that if these measures are adhered to, it will go a long way in mitigating climate change and conflicts in Africa.

Keywords: Climate Change, Conflict, Greenhouse Effects, Ecosystem.

INTRODUCTION

The phenomenon climate change and conflict had been at the front burner of the international and local discourse in recent times. There is an increasing linkage between climate change and conflict which cannot be over-emphasized. These myriads of cancer-worms had however created a lacuna between security and development within the African sub-region. This hiccup had since the beginning of the 20th century created discussions from divers' scholars on how to mitigate these brouhahas which is increasing by causing nightmares in Africa.

However, the Africa continent is extremely vulnerable to climate change and environmental degradation vis-a-vis the ravaging conflicts between the pastoralist and farmers. These conflicts have claimed many lives and rendered many persons homeless. The devastating effects of climate change has brought about constant spread of violent conflicts and extremism, growing demands for international aids, proliferation of small and light weapons, weak and authoritarian government, among others. To bring the picture clearer; countries at the fringes of North Africa which are otherwise called the "Sahel" region are the worst hit by conflict occasioned by climate change. These Sahel regions for decades are bed rocks for violent conflicts as a result of environmental degradations. The Sahel region in Africa is separating the Sahara Desert in the North and the forest region of the south. The Sahel region are predominantly known to be an arid zone with little rainfall. The countries within the Sahel region are Francophonie countries in west Africa for example Burkina Faso, Mali, Chad Mauritania, Niger and Senegal.

According to UN report (2022), this region had experience environmental hazards, degradations, counter terrorism, war, among others. In spite of concerted efforts by international bodies to mitigate the violent conflict within the Sahel region it had defy security interventions the upsurge of these conflicts is as a result of the following:

- **Jihadi Insurgencies**

Jihadi insurgencies had contributed immensely to conflicts and extremism in the Sahel regions which had constantly contributed challenges to government on how to mitigate it.

- **Normad Cattle Herders/Farmer Conflict**

The resultant effects of climate change in the Sahel region that rooted the Normad cattle herders from their habitat made them migrate downward south for greener pastures. These downward migrations brought them into conflicts with the indigenous farmers. The effects of this altercations were wanton destructions of properties and loss of lives with lots of thousands of people been displaced within the sub region in need of humanitarian help. This myriad of upheavals had created challenges to security within that sub region which Nigeria is net in isolation of the menace of the ravaging force of climate change. Nigeria, been a neighbouring state with the countries of the Sahel region had been witnessing these myriads of conflicts as a results of cross border conflicts by the normads. This normads, had been dislodged from their homes in the Sahel region as a result of climate change and the

shrinking of the Lake Chad Basin took to many vices like hostage taking, cattle rustling, farmers and herders clashes among others, which were strange to Nigerians. However, majority of conflicts in Nigeria in recent times that is currently causing violent extremism, hostage taking, cattle rustling, farmers and herders' conflict is as a result of climate change. Based on the recent shrinking of the Lake Chad Basin which was home for the herders and their cattle they moved downwards to where there are greener pastures, this migration brings conflicts between the farmers and the herders.

According to UN news report of 26th June (2011) on Nigeria/Nomad – farmers clash conflict between farmers and Fulani herdsman the report postulated that these conflicts between the farmers and herder has become so rampant that it resulted in the expelling of 700 pastoralists from Plateau State in May 2009. At times armed conflicts between herdsman and their roof communities had been taken place in over 20 villages in Nigeria. The Nigeria Situation, is a tip of the iceberg of what climate change and conflict is doing in other African countries like Ethiopia and Darfur. The crisis in Somali region involving the pastoralist and farmers has resulted in famine to the edge of starvation causing civil unrest and conflict. However, the UN reports have shown that climate change is as a result of increased temperature and more frequent weather extremes which will continue to hit the continent of Africa, especially those countries at the fringes of the Lake Chad Basin and the Sahara Desert.

According to Nathan (2021) the over reliance on climate sensitive agriculture-based livelihoods is also a risk factor in Sahel region where the climate is harsh. The overuse of water and land reduces resources available overtime and affecting agricultural productions. These upheavals could lead to increase levels of scarcity and insecurity, the ability of African countries at the fringes of Sahara Desert and Lake Chad Basin largely depends on local, national, regional and international responses. Conflict in Africa is deeply rooted in Weak governance and bad political leadership. However, climate change and conflict in Africa can be mitigated by effective political leadership and will power to combat these phenomena. This paper is set to investigate climate change and conflict in Africa and proffer suggestions on how to mitigate it, the paper envisaged that if these suggestions were adhered to will help checkmate the ravaging effects of climate change in Africa.

CONCEPTUALIZATION OF CONCEPTS CLIMATE CHANGE

According to UN Report (2022), Climate change is a significant and persistent change in an area's average climate conditions or their extremes. It could be looked at as variations and multi-year cycles that produces warm, cool, wet or dry periods across different regions. This is a natural part of climate variability and change. Climate change is also seen as a change in global or regional climate patterns in particular, a change apparent from the mid to late 20th century onwards and attributed largely to the increased levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide produced by the use of fossil fuels.

According to UN report (2000), climate change refers to long-term shifts in temperature and weather patterns. These shift according to the reports may be natural, such as through variations in the solar cycle. The report went further to state

that human activities contribute immensely to climatic change, primarily due to constant burning of fossil fuels like coals, oil and gas among others. However, according to Intergovernmental panel on climate change IPCC (2003), refers to climate change as some statistically significant variations in either the mean state of the climate or in its variability persisting for an extended period it could be decades or longer. Climate change may be due to natural internal processes or external forcines or persistent anthropogenic changes in the composition of the atmosphere or in land use. Corroborating this view Ezirm and Onuoha (2008) opine that climate change is caused by increasing concentration of Green House Gases (GHG) in the atmosphere. Green House Gases include any gas in the atmosphere that is capable, as a result of its particular molecular structure of absorbing infrared radiation or heat. The authors strongly argued that these greenhouse gases because they display effects similar to that in a Green House the glass in a Green House allows the sunlight to pass through but trapping the heat formed and preventing it from escaping thereby causing a rise in temperature.

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) the leading form for climate analysis, in its fourth Assessment Report of IPCC, presented in climate change report (2007) observe as follows:

- Warming of the climate system is now unequivocal.
- The rate of warming in the last century is historically high
- The net effect of human activities since 1950 has been one of warning due primarily to fossil fuel use, land use change and agriculture.
- Most of the observed increase in globally average temperatures since the mid-20th century is very likely (greater than 90 per cent) due to observed increase in anthropogenic (i.e., caused by human activity) Green House Gas concentrations. Long term changes in climate have already been observed, including changes in Artic temperature and Ice, ocean salinity, wind patterns and aspects of extreme weather including droughts, heat waves and intensity of tropical cyclones.
- From 1900 – 2005, drying has been observed in the Sahel region and other parts of the world.
- More intense and longer droughts have been observed over wider areas since the 1970s particularly in the tropics and sub tropics.
- Continue Green House Gas emissions at or above current rates would cause further warming and induce many changes in the global climate system during the 21st century that would very likely be larger than the 20th century.
- Projections for the 21st century include a greater chance that more areas will be affected by drought, that intense tropical cyclone activity will increase, that the incidence of extreme high sea levels will increase and that heat waves and heavy precipitation events will be more frequent.

CONFLICTS

It is significant to note that conflict is difficult to conceptualize as a result of its complex nature of conflict. Olaobas (2005) observes that conflicts are in the magnitude of rage, rift, misunderstanding, Skirmishes and public insurrection. Francis (2006) defines conflict as the pursuit of incompatible interest and goals by different groups. The two scholars, Francis and Olaoba argued in their separate contributions that conflicts situation emerges when two or more parties could not agree on an issue. Olaoba further stresses that conflict could also be seen as an incompatible stage among nation states. This view was collaborated by Omotosho (2004) that nation states are always trying to achieve certain objectives, such as additional or more secured territory, access to markets, prestige and the overthrow of an unfriendly government thereby engaging in conflict with another nation state. These arguments by Omotosho are quite insightful in the sense that nation states go to war with each other because of interest. The author concluded that conflict could be violent uncontrollable under various sets of circumstances. Abia (2007) conceptualizes conflict as inevitable phenomenon where natural resources are unequally distributed among competitors and inequality reflected in cultural and political relationship between groups. For Ken (2007) conflict is an attitude, a behaviour, an action or a process that introduces strains and stresses in the relationship between two or more parties in the attainment of a set goals or interest. People are exposed to series of difficulties in a quest to attain a set of goals or objectives, thereby throwing them into conflict with each other. Conflict could be seen as been intrinsic and inevitable part of human existence following the intrinsic nature of men to acquire, to marginalize, cheat, selfish, among others. Conflict is believed to be destructive and functional in nature that is why Galtung (1994) argues that conflict could be negative or positive. Conflict could become negative when it is not detected early enough from the latent stage until it becomes manifest which will eventually lead to loss of lives and property to which makes conflict negative. Galtung concluded that conflict also performs social function.

Dahrentdorf (2000), explains that society have two faces, consensus and conflict. The author submits that one of the causes of conflict resides in contradictions or conflict of interest in society. Weber, (2011) the father of Modern sociology insisted that conflict cannot be excluded from social life. Simmel's (1996), classical analysis of various forms of conflict insisted that conflict is a form of association and that a certain amount of discord, inner divergence and outer controversy, is organically tied up with the very elements that ultimately holds a group together. Conflict is an inherent and ineradicable component of social structures (Cosser, 2000). Rose (1993) agrees with Robert (2005) that only where there are Conflict brings about conscious and unconscious behaviours (Rose, 1993). Conflict exists wherever incompatible activities occur. An action that is incompatible with another action prevents, obstructs, interferes, injures or in some other ways makes the later less likely to be effective. Conflict arises when there are incompatible or mutually exclusive goals, aims, values exposed by human beings. Conflict occurs when parties disagree about the distribution of material or symbolic resolves and act because of the incompatibility of goals or a perceived divergence of intense. (Rose, 1993; Deutch, 2000).

CAUSES OF CLIMATE CHANGE

The causes of climatic change cannot be attributed to one factor. So many factors contribute to climate change. However, the root cause of climate change is the phenomenon known as the Green House Effect which otherwise mean the trapping of atmospheric gases that would otherwise radiate upward from the planet surface into outer space. (UN Report, 2007) on climate change.

The Green House effect had in the beginning of 19th century changed the atmospheric conductions of the universe which had resulted to what could be termed global warming, which had drastically altered natural cycles and weather pattern especially in Africa thereby contributing to conflict. Climate change is evident in extreme heat, protracted drought, increased flooding, more intense storms, and rising sea levels.

- **Natural Cause of Climate Change**

This could be attributed to natural phenomena like volcanic eruptions, which is as a result of the fluctuation in solar radiation, tectonic shift and small changes in orbit. Geological records show that there have been a number of larger variations in the Earth's climate. These have been caused by many natural factors including changes in the sun emission from volcanoes, variations in Earth orbits and levels of carbon dioxide (CO₂).

- **Volcanoes and Climate Change**

Volcanic gases react with the atmosphere by conversion of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) to sulfuric acid (H₂SO₄) has the most significant impact on climate.

However, (UN report 2020) opined that volcanoes can impact on climate change. During major explosive eruptions huge amounts of volcanic gas, aerosol droplets and ash are injected into the stratosphere. Infected ash falls rapidly from the stratosphere. Most of it is removed within several days to weeks and has little impact on climate. However, volcanoes can impact on climate change. But volcanic gases like sulfur dioxide can cause global cooling, while volcanic carbon dioxide a green-house gas, has the potential to promote global warming.

According to UCVR Report (2022), volcanic eruptions are responsible for releasing molten rock or Lava, from deep eruptions within the Earth, forming new rock on the Earth's surface. But eruptions also impact the atmosphere. The gases and dust particles thrown into the atmosphere during volcanic eruptions have influence on climate. Most of the particles spewed from volcanoes cool the planet by shading incoming solar radiation. The cooling effects can last for months to years depending on the characteristic of the emptions. Volcanoes have also caused global warming over millions of years during times in earth history when extreme amounts of volcanism occurred, releasing greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Though volcanoes are in specific places on earth, their effects can be more widely distributed as gases, dust and ash get into the atmospheric circulation patterns. Eruptions in the tropics can have effects in the climate in both hemispheres, while eruptions at mid or high latitudes only have impacts in the hemisphere within variation in Earth orbit and climate change. Change in the earth's orbit around the sun and changes in the tilt

and wobble of the earth's axis can lead to cooling or warming of the Earth's climate because they change the amount of energy our planet receives from the sun. According to the Earth Home Report, the frequent rotations of the earth into hot and cool temperature had a significant effect on climate change variations in the atmosphere.

- **Human Driven Causes of Climate Change**

The human activity are the main drivers of climatic change and conflict especially in Africa. unmitigated burning of fossil fuels has drastically increased the presence of atmospheric Green House Gases (i.e.) carbon dioxide. Also, excessive logging and development had led to wide spread destruction of forests, wetlands and other natural resources that store carbon dioxide and prevent it from being released into the atmosphere. That is why our ways of generating power for electricity, heat and transportation, our built environment and industries, our ways of interacting with the land, and our consumption habits together serve as the primary diverse of climate change which in turn contribute to conflict, especially in prone areas of Africa.

- **Transportation and Climate Change**

UN report (2022) observed that the cars, trucks, ships and planes that we use to transport ourselves and our goods are major sources of global warming and gas emissions in Africa. Burning fossil fuels like gasoline and diesel releases carbon dioxide, a Green House Gas, unto the atmosphere. The buildup of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other Green House gases like methane (CH₄) nitrous oxide (N₂O) and hydrofluorocarbon (HFCs), is causing the Earth's atmosphere to warm, resulting in changes to the climate being witnessed today. Green House Gas (GHG) emissions from transportation machines/facilitates/means account for about 27 percent of total U.S. Green House Gas emission. UN Reports of (2022) indicates that it the largest contributor of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions between 1990 and 2020, Green House Gas (GHG) emissions in the transport sector increased more in absolute terms than any other sector.

- **Industry, Manufacturing and Climate Change**

Our manufacturing industries that produce our utility goods are sources of global warming. Most industries in Africa here not yet developed modern aspects of discharging waste to avoid Green House effect and curb the emission of carbon-dioxide. Most industrial emissions come from iron and steel companies, cement companies, aluminum, glass and proper, among others. Producing these consumer's goods come with resultant air pollutions due to gasses released into the atmosphere.

- **Agriculture and Climate Change**

Agriculture is a major component of the climate problem. Its currently generating 19-29% total Green House Gas (GHG) emissions. UCAR Report (2022) shows that that percentage could rise substantially as other sectors reduce their emissions. However, according to Mckinsey (2000), reports that Africa is vulnerable to climate change and conflict because many of its crops are at the stage of physical thresholds beyond when yield decline. Moreover, a substantial portion of some

continuous economies, for example, one third of GDP for Ethiopia and one fifth of Sub-Saharan Africa's economic output, depend on agriculture. But it's challenging generally, that African farmers are more vulnerable to higher temperatures, fluctuations in rainfall and variable yields than farmers in developed countries who can usually more easily secured crop insurance, adjust what they plant, irrigate their field as well as apply crop protection chemical and fertilizer.

- **Deforestation and Climate Change**

Forest and trees store carbon. When they are degraded or completely cleansed e.g., by fire, a process referred to as deforestation. This stored carbon has the potential to be released back into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide and contribute to climate change and conflict.

Deforestation is a primary contributor to climate change. According to Wikipedia view on climate change, deforestation is the second largest anthropogenic source of atmospheric carbon dioxide emissions, after fossils fuel combustion. Green House Gasses are emitted during combustion of forest biomass and decomposition of remaining plant material and soil carbon. Wikipedia reports on climate change postulates that in (2019), deforestation was responsible for about 11% of global Green House Gas emissions. Carbon emissions from tropical deforestations are rapidly accelerating. Deforestating are increasing tremendously in Africa because of wildlife, agricultural clear-cutting livestock, ranching and logging for timber among others. The vast majority of agricultural activity resulting in deforestation in Africa is over grazing and substance agriculture. As a result of this anomaly, mass deforestation continues to threaten tropical forest, their biodiversity and the ecosystem services they provide. The main area of concern of deforestation is in tropical rain forest since they are home to the majority of the planet biodiversity. Cleaver and Schreber (1993) describe deforestation as a complex phenomenon in Africa. The authors observed that tropical forest was rapidly reduced by an average of 15.4 million hectare per year (0.8 percent annual rate of deforestation). The area of land cleared during the decade is equivalent to nearly three times the size of France. Collaborating this view, Anderson (1998) notes that, at the end of 1990 Africa had an estimated 528 million hectares or 30 percent of the world tropical forest in several Sub- Saharan Africa countries, but the rate of deforestation, exceeded the global annual average of 0.8 percent, whereas deforestation in other parts of the world is mainly caused by commercial logging or cattle ranching. The author concluded that the cause of deforestation in Africa is human activities.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND CONFLICTS IN AFRICA

Most conflicts in Africa are caused by climate change. These are evident in farmers/pastoralist conflict, kidnapping and abductions, Jihadist uprising, among others. This shows significantly that there is a growing linkage between climate change and conflict in Africa. Climate change could be widely described or seen as a threat multiplier due to its role of increasing the traditional cause of conflict experienced in some African countries. For example:

- **Nigeria**

According to Chatwin (1989), there has been significant farmers/herders' conflict in Nigeria. For a long time, the Fulanis were confined at the fringes of the desert. At the beginning of the 20th century when they started experiencing dryness of the Lake Chad Basin and desert encroachment occasioned by climate. As a result, the Fulanis started migrating southward in search of pastures for their cattle. The migration and settlements in the forest region of the south bring them in into contact with previously unknown people, with diverse cultures and production systems. This sudden contact brought the two incompatibles into conflicts.

These sudden incursions by the Fulani herders, unfortunately increase competitions of pastoralist for a dwindling stock of grazing lands has pitched them in conflicts between farmer/Fulani herders which has become a rampant scene for instance. According to UN report (2023) on farmers Normads clashes. The report observed that violence erupted in December 14, 2009 between two groups when pastoralist attacked the farmers village of Udei Guda two weeks after the clashes with farmers in December the same year when herdsmen led their cattle into rice fields resulting in a death of a farmer. Clashes between these two made the Borno/Plateau State to expel 700 pastoralists from Borno State in May 2009 and some 2000 from Plateau in April 2009 respectively. Armed conflict between herdsmen and their immediate communities had been reported to have taken place in over 20 villages in Nigeria, which have resulted to loss of lives and properties. This conflict is usually caused by natural resource scarcity. A pastoralist Saidu from Plateau said: our herds is our life. To every nomad life is worthless without his cattle. What do you expect from us when our source of existence is threatened by the encroachment of grazing fields and routes by farmers, it is a call to war. Wherever we turn, we find the land reserved for our cattle to feed taken over by farmers. It becomes difficult for our herd to move and graze without veering into crop fields. Once that happens, the farmers confront us and we had no option but to fight back. From the statement, it could be concluded that the reason for this conflict is resource scarcity as a result of climate change that affects the environmental resources through drought and desertification. This view was collaborated by Roger (2003) when he states that Nigeria is experiencing adverse climate conditions with negative impacts on the welfare of millions of people. Persistent droughts and flooding, off season rain and dry spells have sent growing seasons out of orbit. The lakes are drying up and there is a reduction in river flow in the arid and semi-arid region the result is fewer water supplies for use in agriculture.

- **The Sahel Region**

Thurstern Clark (1997) stating the Sahel which means “border” in Arabic is a geographical region in Africa separating the Sahara Desert in the north from the tropics in the south. This region is widely known to be an arid and semi-arid zone with less rainfall as a result of high temperature and low rainfall. The western Sahel states are the six francophone countries in West Africa namely – Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritana, Niger, and Senegal. Three million people according to UN news report (2022) on decades of Sahel conflict had been displaced as a result of climate change/conflict and in dare need of humanitarian needs. However, since the year 2000s the Sahel region had beed obviously hit by drastic climate conditions and conflict involving Jihadist insurgencies and intercommunal violence. The violence has claimed tens of thousands of lives, displacing more than 2.5 million people within the region and placing many in need of humanitarian assistance.

According to IPPCC report of (2003), climate change and increasing temperatures and more frequent weather extremes will continue to hit the Sahel region harder than other parts of the world. Although the communities within the areas have created modalities to contend with this phenomenon. The reports further show that over use of natural resources like water, land and are responsible for climate change and conflict.

Eoin (2021) observes that the Sahel countries are the most hit by climate change and these countries randomly exhibits lack lustre attitudes to checkmate it before it gets out of hand. UN report on Human Development index reveals that the Sahelion states lives in abject poverty index, 80percent of the populace lives on \$2 per day. That is why the region have had a high increase of political instability, weak governance and conflict. Countries like Mali, Niger and Chad are victims of political instability and conflicts. Climate change in the Sahel region as a result of its arid and semi-arid nature affected the environment by causing series of drought on (UN Report 2022). The report indicates that the region experiences drought from 1960s and lasting till mid-1990s which has invariably pushed the region into adverse climate conditions. This drought according to the report have caused the region drastic serious ecological changes such as shrinking of Lake Chad and intense desertification. This drastically have caused immense mobility from the north fringes of the Sahel to the southern region, especially in the coastal countries of West Africa. With its attendance hazards and conflicts especially like when is happening right now in Nigeria (e.g.) farmers and herder’s clashes, in curtailing these myraids of problems needs strong political governance and formidable political institutions. But the Sahalian states in general are experiencing weak government and insurgencies among others. The UN Demographic report on Sahel (2022) states that between 1982 – 84 famines alone killed nearly 100,000 of those living in the Darfur region. The report has it that desperation triggered mass ecological migration mainly towards the southern Darfur disrupting the harmony between the inhabitants, especially the pastorlist. This was caused by the nomards in search of survival moving into more fertile lands inhabited by the settled farmers. The resultant effect of this incursion is conflict between the farmers and the pastorlist. The Lake Chad Basin which is home to millions of people is drastically affected by climate change. The resultant effect of climate change in the Lake Chad Basin are malnutrition,

abductions and killing. Terrorist organizations have become the order of the day. Their activities have caused 10 million people to need humanitarian assistance having become refugees in camps and other places. The horn of Africa, especially Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya, are experiencing drought and conflict leading to induced migrations, ethnic tension and terrorism. According to UN report (2022) on the conflict in the Horn of Africa, the region of Tigrey which is predominantly arid had faced drought which had contributed to different patterns of settlements and social formation and economic production to the rest of Ethiopia. By 1973 drought caused chaos upsetting the environmental system and setting up uprising which was triggered by the Tigrayan Peoples Liberation Front (TPFL) for better life for the Tigre people. The war began in 2020 in Tigrey which was home for 100,000 Eritrean refugees who were utterly suffering from drought. The area has become so volatile to conflict thereby disrupting Eritrea, Sudan and Somalia. The report further stressed that more than 2.5million people in Somalia have been forced out from their homes by drought and insecurity, in recent years, many are now at the risk of starvation. The camps have become hotspots for all sorts of criminal activities such as human trafficking and child exploitation and a recruitment ground for AlShabaab. In Africa climate change had tremendously created a lot of hazards and conflicts which need urgent political intervention before it gets out of hand.

THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

The drastic effects of climate change cannot be overemphasized because of its negative effects on the ecosystem and human being. Climate change had a consequence of environmental degradations, raising temperatures, drying soil and increasing wild fire risk, causing wild life to migrate pole ward to cooler areas. Some species had become extinct due to climate change. It has also created a rise in sea level as a result of constant warming of the ozone layer due to high temperature. The end result of this is, environment degradation and erosion disrupting farm lands and uprooting people from the internally displaced people's Camp (IDP). The most effect of climate change is food scarcity. Flood and ecological damage have brought about food scarcity and starvation. Climate change also, have direct effect on human health especially heat, stress, heart and respiratory diseases caused by gas flarin, fossil burning and gas emissions.

The effects of climate change could be summarized as follows:

- ❖ Force migrations and displacements of people leaving at the affected areas especially at the fringes of the Sahara Desert in the North to migrate down ward South for greener Pastures. The consequences of this herders/nomads migrations may to some extends results to conflicts with the farmers in the South.
- ❖ Food shortage, starvation and droughts within the areas affected. This has resulted to thousands of deaths, malnutrition and even starvation, for example, Somalia, North Sudan, among others.
- ❖ Excess flood and environmental degradations as a result of environmental changes in climate which invariably resulted to increase in sea level and erosion which causes massive flood and the displacement of the people.

- ❖ It could bring about health hazards like cardiovascular disease and skin cancer as a result of excess gasses emissions.
- ❖ So many wild lives are vulnerable to danger and near extinctions
- ❖ The lands lose its texture and fertility.

The way forward:

According to world economic forum report of (2022), Africa is fueled with greater risk of starvation and food shortage if urgent intervention to cushion the effects of food shortage or else food insecurity will set in which the resultant effect is a Pontaneus conflicts. African leaders should devise on mechanized farming by irrigations, by adopting sustainable agricultural practices for boosting productivity and increasing farmers income. This will go a long way to stop migration from North to South thereby abating conflict between the farmers and the pastoralist.

The government should curtail or adapt to conventional methods of curbing gases emission by converting waste to wealth for example electricity and wind energy like what is obtainable in advance climes.

The government should build dams to mitigate floods. This damn could also be converted to renewable energy. There is high cases of rise in Cardivascular diseases, like, cardiac arrest lung cancer and asthmatic attacks this is as a result of inhaling of poisonous gases especially from cigarettes smoking, emission form automotive vehicle among others. Government should urgently device a modern strategy to curtail this by banning Cigarette smoking in public places and also set targets for the importation of solar vehicles and stop the usage of gasoline powered cars.

The government should end the farmers/herders clashes by enacting laws to stop open grassing in Africa. This needs urgent government intervention by devising mechanize procedures of cattle rearing of constructing ranches across boards with adequate facilities.

Finally, climate change brought about insurgencies – Boko Haram, kidnapping insurrection, hostage taking across Africa. African leader should wake up to curb this menace an increase security through effective leadership and sincerity of purpose through driving home the dividends of democracy to the ethnic populace to the betterment of all.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Climate change in Africa is a rising phenomenon that is rapidly getting out of hand that requires urgent attention. Several reports had been brought to the fore as to the causes and effects of climate change. The study had suggested remedies and the way forward to checkmate these anomalies from destroying Africa and causing undue hardship to its habitants. The study observed that if these suggestions are effectively adhered to Africa will be a better place to live.

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