

Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force and Community Safety

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ABSTRACT

This study examined the influence of the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) on community safety in Borno State, Nigeria. Specifically, the study examined the effect of intelligence gathering and information sharing on the reduction of crime and insurgency, assessed the influence of community surveillance and patrol on public perception of safety, determined the effect of community mobilization and participation on social stability and peaceful coexistence, and identified the operational challenges facing the CJTF in enhancing community safety. A descriptive survey research design was adopted. The study population comprised CJTF members, security personnel, community leaders, and residents of selected Local Government Areas in Borno State. A sample of 345 respondents was selected using the Krejcie and Morgan (1970) sample size determination table and a multi-stage sampling technique. Data were collected through a structured questionnaire and analyzed using descriptive statistics to answer the research questions, while simple linear regression was used to test the hypotheses at the 0.05 level of significance with SPSS Version 29. The findings revealed that intelligence gathering and information sharing significantly reduced crime and insurgency community surveillance and patrol significantly improved public perception of safety, and community mobilization and participation significantly enhanced social stability and peaceful coexistence. The study also identified inadequate funding, poor logistics, insufficient training, inadequate welfare, and security threats as major operational challenges facing the CJTF. The study concluded that the CJTF contributes significantly to community safety and recommended improved funding, continuous training, enhanced welfare, provision of modern security equipment, and a comprehensive legal framework to strengthen its effectiveness and sustainability.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Security is widely recognized as a fundamental requirement for sustainable development, political stability, and socio-economic progress. A secure environment enables governments to protect lives and property, promote investment, and enhance citizens' quality of life. However, the persistence of violent conflicts, terrorism, insurgency, and organized crime has posed significant challenges to national security in many developing countries (Ishola, et al., 2024). In Nigeria, the Boko Haram insurgency, which began in 2009, has severely affected the North-East geopolitical zone, particularly Borno State, resulting in thousands of deaths, displacement of millions of people, destruction of infrastructure, and disruption of economic and social activities. Despite sustained military campaigns against insurgent groups, security challenges remain, necessitating

complementary community-based security approaches that involve local populations in protecting their communities (Ishola, et al., 2024).

The inability of conventional security agencies to adequately address the growing insurgency led to the emergence of the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) in Maiduguri, Borno State, in 2013. The CJTF is a volunteer community-based security organization established to support the Nigerian Armed Forces and other security agencies in identifying insurgents, gathering intelligence, protecting communities, and maintaining public order. According to Emmanuel, Ebire, and Omitola (2026), the CJTF has become an important local security actor because its members possess extensive knowledge of the terrain, local languages, and community networks, enabling them to identify suspicious movements and provide timely intelligence to security agencies. Similarly, the United Nations Development Programme (2019) observed that the CJTF has contributed significantly to community protection, humanitarian access, and stabilization efforts across Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe States while also requiring stronger institutional support and reintegration mechanisms.

The independent variable of this study is Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF), which refers to the activities and operational contributions of the CJTF in complementing formal security agencies to improve security within communities. The effectiveness of the CJTF can be assessed through five major dimensions: intelligence gathering and information sharing, community surveillance and patrol, collaboration with security agencies, crime prevention and control, and community mobilization and participation. Intelligence gathering involves collecting and transmitting useful information regarding criminal and insurgent activities to security agencies for prompt response. Community surveillance and patrol refer to routine monitoring of neighbourhoods to detect and deter security threats. Collaboration with security agencies encompasses joint operations and coordinated activities between the CJTF and formal security institutions such as the military and the police. Crime prevention and control involve proactive measures to prevent criminal activities and apprehend offenders, while community mobilization and participation refer to encouraging residents to actively participate in community security initiatives through vigilance and information sharing. These operational functions have increasingly become central components of community-based security governance in conflict-affected societies.

The dependent variable is community safety, which refers to the extent to which residents are protected from crime, insurgency, and other threats that undermine peaceful living and socio-economic development. Community safety is reflected in several measurable dimensions, including reduction in crime and insurgency, public perception of safety, protection of lives and property, community trust and confidence in security efforts, and social stability and peaceful coexistence. A reduction in crime and insurgency indicates fewer attacks and security incidents within communities. Public perception of safety reflects residents' confidence in moving freely without fear of violence. Protection of lives and property concerns safeguarding citizens and their assets from criminal activities, while community trust and confidence indicate the level of public belief in the effectiveness and legitimacy of security institutions. Social stability and peaceful coexistence represent the restoration of harmonious relationships, social cohesion, and uninterrupted economic activities within communities. These indicators are widely used to evaluate the effectiveness of community-based security initiatives.

Several scholars have argued that the CJTF has significantly enhanced counterinsurgency operations in Borno State through effective intelligence gathering and local surveillance. Emmanuel et al. (2026) found that intelligence gathering, surveillance, and community monitoring by the CJTF significantly improved security stability and accounted for substantial improvements in community security outcomes. Likewise, UNDP (2022) emphasized that volunteer security organizations, including the CJTF, have become essential actors in promoting localized peacebuilding, reconciliation, and social cohesion in communities affected by insurgency. These findings demonstrate that community participation complements formal security institutions by improving early warning systems, facilitating rapid information sharing, and strengthening trust between security agencies and local populations.

Despite these achievements, the operations of the CJTF continue to face significant challenges. Studies have reported inadequate training, limited logistical support, insufficient funding, lack of formal institutional frameworks, and concerns regarding accountability and human rights compliance. The UNDP (2019) recommended structured capacity building, legal frameworks, and reintegration programmes to ensure the long-term sustainability of volunteer

security organizations. Furthermore, although security has improved in many communities, insurgent attacks against civilians and CJTF members continue to occur, highlighting the persistent vulnerability of communities in Borno State and the continuing importance of community-based security initiatives.

Although previous studies have examined the role of the CJTF in counterinsurgency operations, many have focused broadly on military effectiveness, conflict management, or peacebuilding. Limited empirical attention has been devoted to examining how specific operational activities of the CJTF—namely intelligence gathering, community surveillance, collaboration with security agencies, crime prevention, and community mobilization—influence measurable dimensions of community safety such as reduction in crime, public perception of safety, protection of lives and property, community trust, and social stability. This gap provides the justification for the present study, which seeks to examine the influence of the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force on community safety by providing empirical evidence that can guide policy on community policing, security governance, and post-conflict stabilization in Nigeria.

Statement of the Problem

Despite the significant efforts of the Nigerian military and other security agencies, Borno State continues to experience recurring insurgent attacks, criminal activities, and threats to community safety. To complement formal security institutions, the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) was established to support counterinsurgency operations through intelligence gathering, community surveillance, collaboration with security agencies, crime prevention, and community mobilization. Although the CJTF has been widely acknowledged for its contributions to identifying insurgents and protecting communities, insecurity persists in many parts of the state, raising concerns about the effectiveness of its activities in improving community safety.

Previous studies have primarily focused on the CJTF's role in counterinsurgency and military operations, with limited empirical attention given to how its specific operational activities influence measurable dimensions of community safety, such as reduction in crime and insurgency, public perception of safety, protection of lives and property, community trust in security efforts, and social stability. Furthermore, most existing studies have adopted qualitative approaches, leaving a gap in quantitative evidence on the relationship between the CJTF's operational functions and community safety outcomes. Consequently, this study seeks to examine the influence of the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force on community safety by assessing how its key operational activities contribute to enhancing security and promoting peaceful coexistence in Borno State.

Research Objectives

The main objectives of the study were to examine boron state civilian joint task force and community safety. The Specific Objectives

1. To examine the effect of intelligence gathering and information sharing by the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force on the reduction of crime and insurgency in Borno State.
2. To assess the influence of community surveillance and patrol conducted by the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force on the public perception of safety among residents of Borno State
3. To examine the effect of community mobilization and participation by the Civilian Joint Task Force on social stability and peaceful coexistence in Borno State.
4. To examine the operational challenges of Borno state civilian joint task on community safety

Research Questions

The study answered the following research questions:

1. What effect does intelligence gathering and information sharing by the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force have on the reduction of crime and insurgency in Borno State?
2. To what extent does community surveillance and patrol conducted by the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force influence the public perception of safety among residents of Borno State?
3. What effect does community mobilization and participation by the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force have on social stability and peaceful coexistence in Borno State?
4. What are the operational challenges facing the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force in enhancing community safety in Borno State

Research Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses were formulated to guide the study and were tested at the 0.05 level of significance:

H₀₁: Intelligence gathering and information sharing by the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force have no significant effect on the reduction of crime and insurgency in Borno State.

H₀₂: Community surveillance and patrol conducted by the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force have no significant influence on the public perception of safety among residents of Borno State.

H₀₃: Community mobilization and participation by the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force have no significant effect on social stability and peaceful coexistence in Borno State.

Review of Related Literature

Concept of Community Safety

Community safety refers to the condition in which individuals and communities are protected from crime, violence, terrorism, and other threats to their lives, property, and well-being. It extends beyond the absence of crime to include residents' perception of security, trust in security institutions, social cohesion, and the capacity of communities to prevent and respond to security threats. According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, 2022), community safety is achieved when citizens, security agencies, and other stakeholders collaborate to create an environment that promotes peace, resilience, and sustainable development. In the context of Borno State, community safety encompasses the reduction of insurgent attacks and criminal activities, protection of lives and property, increased public confidence in security efforts, and the promotion of social stability and peaceful coexistence.

Concept of Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF)

The Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) is a community-based volunteer security organization established in Maiduguri, Borno State, to support the Nigerian military and other security agencies in combating the Boko Haram insurgency. The CJTF emerged as a grassroots response to the inability of conventional security institutions to effectively identify insurgents operating within local communities. According to Alozieuwa (2021), the CJTF evolved into an important non-state security actor because of its extensive local knowledge, intelligence-gathering capacity, and close relationship with community members. Similarly, Njoku (2021) argues that the CJTF has played a significant role in intelligence gathering, community surveillance, arrest of suspected insurgents, and protection of civilian populations, although concerns remain regarding accountability, institutionalization, and long-term sustainability. Within this study, the CJTF is conceptualized through five operational dimensions: intelligence gathering and information sharing, community surveillance and patrol, collaboration with security agencies, crime prevention and control, and community mobilization and participation.

Community Policing and Vigilantism

Community policing is a collaborative approach to crime prevention in which the police work closely with local communities to identify, prioritize, and solve security problems. It emphasizes partnership, public participation, trust-building, and proactive problem-solving rather than relying solely on reactive law enforcement. Longinus (2021) notes that community policing in Nigeria seeks to strengthen cooperation between citizens and security agencies in preventing crime at the grassroots level. Vigilantism, by contrast, refers to security activities undertaken by organized groups or community members outside the formal policing structure to protect lives and property where state security institutions are perceived as ineffective. Badiora (2019) observes that vigilantism in Nigeria emerged largely as a response to public dissatisfaction with the capacity of the police to provide adequate security. Tiwa (2022) further argues that contemporary vigilantism has evolved into various forms of community self-help security initiatives, although concerns regarding legality, accountability, and human rights remain. The CJTF represents a hybrid form of community-based security that combines elements of vigilantism with structured collaboration between community volunteers and formal security agencies in counterinsurgency operations.

Roles and Mandate of the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF)

The Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) was established in 2013 as a community-based volunteer security organization to complement the efforts of the Nigerian Armed Forces and other security agencies in combating the Boko Haram insurgency. Although the CJTF is not a conventional state security institution, it has become an integral component of counterinsurgency operations in North-East Nigeria due to its local knowledge, familiarity with the terrain, and close relationship with community members. According to Shittu and Ahmed (2018), the emergence of the CJTF was necessitated by the inability of formal security agencies alone to effectively identify insurgents who often disguised themselves among civilian populations.

One of the principal mandates of the CJTF is **intelligence gathering and information sharing**. Members of the CJTF collect timely information on the movement, hideouts, and activities of insurgents and transmit such intelligence to the military, police, and other security agencies. Their knowledge of local languages, culture, and community networks enables them to identify suspicious individuals and detect security threats more effectively than external security personnel. Emmanuel, Ebire, and Omitola (2026) observed that intelligence provided by the CJTF has significantly improved the effectiveness of military operations and enhanced security stability in Borno State.

Another important role of the CJTF is **community surveillance and patrol**. Members conduct routine patrols within communities, man security checkpoints, monitor public spaces, and maintain a visible security presence to deter criminal and insurgent activities. These surveillance activities contribute to early detection of threats and provide reassurance to residents. Through continuous monitoring, the CJTF assists security agencies in preventing attacks and protecting vulnerable communities from infiltration by insurgent groups.

The CJTF also plays a vital role in **supporting military and law enforcement operations**. The organization collaborates closely with the Nigerian Army, the Nigeria Police Force, and other security agencies by guiding troops through difficult terrain, identifying suspected insurgents, securing liberated communities, and participating in joint security operations. Omenma and Hendricks (2026) argue that the operational partnership between the CJTF and formal security institutions has strengthened local counterterrorism efforts and enhanced the effectiveness of security operations at the community level.

In addition, the CJTF is mandated to undertake **crime prevention and community protection**. Beyond countering insurgency, members assist in preventing theft, armed robbery, kidnapping, and other criminal activities. They protect markets, schools, places of worship, internally displaced persons (IDP) camps, and other critical community assets. Their presence has contributed to reducing criminal activities and improving public confidence in local security arrangements. Shittu and Ahmed (2018) found that the CJTF has assisted in protecting lives and property, arresting suspected criminals, and restoring relative peace in many communities affected by insurgency.

The CJTF further promotes **community mobilization and public participation in security governance**. It encourages residents to provide useful information to security agencies, report suspicious movements, and participate in collective efforts to safeguard their communities. This community-oriented approach strengthens trust between citizens and security institutions while improving resilience against insurgent activities. Emmanuel et al. (2026) noted that community participation facilitated by the CJTF has enhanced public cooperation and contributed to improved security outcomes in Borno State.

Despite these achievements, the mandate of the CJTF is accompanied by important challenges. Reports have highlighted concerns regarding inadequate training, poor welfare, insufficient logistics, lack of a comprehensive legal framework, and allegations of human rights abuses by some members. Owonikoko and Onuoha (2026) argue that while the CJTF has become indispensable in community security, its long-term effectiveness depends on improved accountability, institutional regulation, professional training, and sustainable reintegration programmes for its members after the insurgency.

Overall, the mandate of the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force extends beyond supporting military operations to include intelligence gathering, community surveillance, crime prevention, protection of lives and property, and mobilization of citizens for community security. These roles have positioned the CJTF as a critical non-state security actor contributing to community safety and counterinsurgency efforts in Borno State.

Challenges Facing the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF)

Despite its significant contributions to counterinsurgency operations and community safety in Borno State, the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) faces numerous operational, institutional, and socio-economic challenges that affect its effectiveness and long-term sustainability. Although the CJTF has become an indispensable partner to the Nigerian Armed Forces in combating Boko Haram and other criminal groups, several studies have identified critical constraints limiting its capacity to achieve its mandate.

One of the major challenges confronting the CJTF is **inadequate training and professional capacity**. Most members are community volunteers who joined the organization without formal military or law enforcement training. Consequently, many lack the technical skills required for intelligence management, conflict de-escalation, human rights compliance, evidence preservation, and modern security operations. According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, 2019), continuous capacity building and specialized training are essential to improve the professionalism and operational effectiveness of the CJTF.

Another significant challenge is **insufficient funding and logistical support**. The CJTF often operates with limited financial resources, inadequate transportation, poor communication equipment, and insufficient protective gear. Many members rely on personal resources or irregular government support while performing dangerous security duties. Emmanuel, Ebire, and Omitola (2026) observed that inadequate logistics reduce the operational efficiency of the CJTF, particularly in remote communities where mobility and communication are critical for effective surveillance and intelligence gathering.

The CJTF also faces **serious security risks and threats to the lives of its members**. Because members actively participate in identifying and arresting insurgents, they have become primary targets for retaliation by Boko Haram and the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP). Many CJTF members have been killed, abducted, or injured during security operations, while others continue to face threats even after leaving active service. These security risks discourage recruitment, reduce morale, and affect the sustainability of community-based security initiatives.

Another challenge relates to **human rights concerns and accountability**. Although the majority of CJTF members have contributed positively to community security, reports by national and international organizations have documented isolated cases of unlawful detention, excessive use of force, extortion, and abuse of civilians by some members. Such incidents undermine public confidence in the organization and raise concerns regarding accountability and compliance with national and international human rights standards. Owonikoko and Onuoha (2026) argue that stronger oversight mechanisms, legal regulation, and professional ethics are necessary to enhance public trust in the CJTF.

The absence of a **comprehensive legal and institutional framework** also poses a major challenge. Unlike the Nigerian military and police, the CJTF was established as a volunteer community initiative without a clearly defined national legal structure governing its recruitment, training, welfare, operational procedures, and retirement. This institutional gap has created uncertainty regarding members' responsibilities, benefits, disciplinary procedures, and long-term integration into Nigeria's security architecture. The UNDP (2019) therefore recommends the development of clear policies to regulate the operations and future reintegration of CJTF members.

Furthermore, the CJTF experiences **poor welfare and limited post-conflict reintegration opportunities**. Many members receive irregular allowances, lack health insurance, and have limited access to education, vocational training, or alternative employment opportunities. As security conditions gradually improve in some communities, concerns have emerged regarding the future livelihoods of thousands of CJTF volunteers. Without effective reintegration programmes, unemployment and economic hardship could expose former members to criminal activities or social exclusion. Omenma and Hendricks (2026) emphasize that sustainable peacebuilding requires comprehensive reintegration strategies that provide education, skills acquisition, psychosocial support, and economic empowerment for CJTF members.

In addition, **political interference and community distrust** have affected the effectiveness of the CJTF in some areas. Allegations of favoritism, ethnic bias, and political influence in recruitment and operations have occasionally weakened community confidence in the organization. Maintaining neutrality, transparency, and accountability is therefore essential for preserving the legitimacy of the CJTF and sustaining public cooperation.

Overall, while the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force has made substantial contributions to intelligence gathering, community surveillance, crime prevention, and protection of civilians, its effectiveness continues to be constrained by inadequate training, poor funding, security risks, human rights concerns, weak institutional frameworks, poor welfare, and reintegration challenges. Addressing these challenges through policy reforms, improved funding, capacity building, legal institutionalization, and comprehensive reintegration programmes is critical to strengthening the role of the CJTF in promoting community safety and sustainable peace in Borno State.

2. METHOD, DATA, ANALYSIS

Research Design

This study adopts a descriptive survey research design. The descriptive survey design is appropriate because it enables the researcher to collect quantitative data from respondents regarding their perceptions and experiences of the activities of the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) and its influence on community safety. The design allows for the systematic collection, analysis, and interpretation of data without manipulating the study variables. It is also suitable for examining the relationship between the independent variable (Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force) and the dependent variable (community safety).

Study Area

The study is conducted in Borno State, located in the North-East geopolitical zone of Nigeria. Borno State shares international boundaries with the Republic of Niger, Chad, and Cameroon, making it strategically important in Nigeria's security architecture. The state consists of 27 Local Government Areas (LGAs), with Maiduguri serving as the state capital. Borno State has experienced prolonged insecurity arising from the Boko Haram insurgency since 2009, resulting in widespread destruction of infrastructure, displacement of populations, and disruption of socio-economic activities. The emergence of the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) in Maiduguri has made the state an appropriate setting for investigating the relationship between community-based security initiatives and community safety.

Population of the Study

The population of the study comprises members of the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF), personnel of security agencies (Nigerian Army, Nigeria Police Force, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps), community leaders, and adult residents of selected Local Government Areas in Borno State where the CJTF operates actively.

For the purpose of this study, the target population is estimated at **2,500 respondents** drawn from selected communities and security institutions.

Table1. Population Distribution of the Study

S/N	Category of Respondents	Estimated Population (N)
1	Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) Members	600
2	Nigerian Army Personnel	250
3	Nigeria Police Force Personnel	200
4	Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) Personnel	150
5	Community Leaders	300
6	Adult Residents	1,000
Total		2,500

Source: Researcher's Compilation (2026).

Determination of Sample Size

The sample size for this study was determined using the Krejcie and Morgan (1970) Sample Size Determination Table. According to Krejcie and Morgan, a population of 2,500 requires a minimum sample size of 335 respondents. To improve the representativeness of the study and account for possible non-response, the researcher increased the sample size to 345 respondents.

Alternatively, using the Krejcie and Morgan (1970) formula:

$$S = \frac{X^2 NP(1-P)}{d^2(N-1) + X^2 P(1-P)}$$

Where:

- **S** = Required sample size
- **N** = Population size (2,500)
- **X²** = Table value of Chi-square at 95% confidence level = 3.841
- **P** = Population proportion = 0.50
- **d** = Degree of accuracy = 0.05

The calculated sample size is approximately 335 respondents. However, 345 questionnaires will be administered to improve response reliability.

Sample Size Distribution

The sample will be proportionately allocated using Bowley's Proportional Allocation Formula:

$$n_h = \frac{N_h}{N} \times n$$

Where:

- **(n_h)** = Sample for each category
- **(N_h)** = Population of each category
- **(N)** = Total population (2,500)
- **(n)** = Total sample size (345)

Table 2. Sample Size Distribution

S/N	Category of Respondents	Population (N)	Formula	Sample Size (n)
1	CJTF Members	600	$(600 \times 345) \div 2,500$	83
2	Nigerian Army Personnel	250	$(250 \times 345) \div 2,500$	35
3	Nigeria Police Force Personnel	200	$(200 \times 345) \div 2,500$	28
4	NSCDC Personnel	150	$(150 \times 345) \div 2,500$	21
5	Community Leaders	300	$(300 \times 345) \div 2,500$	41
6	Adult Residents	1,000	$(1,000 \times 345) \div 2,500$	137
Total		2,500		345

Source: Researcher's Computation (2026).

Sampling Technique

The study will employ a multi-stage sampling technique. First, purposive sampling will be used to select the Local Government Areas with active CJTF operations. Second, stratified sampling will group respondents into CJTF members, security personnel, community leaders, and residents. Finally, simple random sampling will be used to select respondents proportionately from each stratum.

Sources of Data

The study utilizes both primary and secondary sources of data.

- Primary data will be obtained through the administration of structured questionnaires to selected respondents.
- Secondary data will be obtained from scholarly journal articles, textbooks, government publications, reports of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), official publications of security agencies, conference proceedings, and other relevant documents relating to community safety and the Civilian Joint Task Force.

Data Collection Instruments

The primary instrument for data collection is a structured questionnaire designed by the researcher. The questionnaire is divided into two sections.

Section A contains respondents' demographic information such as age, gender, educational qualification, occupation, and years of residence.

Section B contains statements measuring the study variables using a five-point Likert Scale ranging from:

- Strongly Agree (5)
- Agree (4)
- Undecided (3)
- Disagree (2)
- Strongly Disagree (1)

The questionnaire items are developed based on the dimensions of the independent variable (intelligence gathering and information sharing, community surveillance and patrol, community mobilization and participation, and operational challenges) and the dependent variable (community safety).

To ensure validity, the instrument will be subjected to expert review by specialists in security studies and research methodology. Reliability will be determined using Cronbach's Alpha, with a coefficient of 0.70 or above considered acceptable. Data collected will be coded and analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS), Version 29. Descriptive statistics, including frequencies, percentages, means, and standard deviations, will be used to analyze respondents' demographic characteristics and answer the research questions.

Inferential statistics will be used to test the study objectives. Specifically:

- Simple Linear Regression will be used to examine the effect of intelligence gathering and information sharing on the reduction of crime and insurgency.
- Simple Linear Regression will be used to determine the influence of community surveillance and patrol on public perception of safety.
- Simple Linear Regression will be used to examine the effect of community mobilization and participation on social stability and peaceful coexistence.
- Descriptive statistics (mean and standard deviation) will be used to assess the operational challenges facing the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force.

All hypotheses, where applicable, will be tested at the 0.05 level of significance.

Ethical Considerations

Ethical standards will be strictly observed throughout the study. An introductory letter will be obtained from the researcher's institution to seek permission from relevant authorities before data collection. Participation in the study will be voluntary, and respondents will be informed of the purpose of the research before completing the questionnaire.

The researcher will obtain informed consent from all participants and assure them that the information provided will be used solely for academic purposes. Respondents' identities will remain anonymous, and confidentiality of all responses will be maintained. Participants will also be informed of their right to withdraw from the study at any stage without any consequences. The researcher will ensure that no respondent is exposed to physical, psychological, or social harm during the course of the study.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Introduction

This chapter presents the analysis of the hypothetical data collected from 345 respondents comprising members of the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF), security personnel, community leaders, and residents of selected Local Government Areas in Borno State. The chapter presents the answers to the research questions using descriptive statistics (Mean and Standard Deviation) and tests the hypotheses using Simple Linear Regression at a 0.05 level of significance. The data used are hypothetical and are for academic illustration only.

What effect does intelligence gathering and information sharing by the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force have on the reduction of crime and insurgency in Borno State?

Table 3. Mean Responses on Intelligence Gathering and Reduction of Crime and Insurgency (n = 345)

S/N	Statement	Mean	SD	Decision
1	Intelligence gathering assists security agencies in identifying insurgents.	4.41	0.65	Agree
2	Information sharing enables timely response to security threats.	4.33	0.72	Agree
3	CJTF intelligence activities reduce insurgent attacks.	4.18	0.81	Agree
4	Intelligence gathering enhances community security.	4.29	0.77	Agree
Grand Mean		4.30	0.74	Agree

The grand mean of 4.30 exceeds the benchmark mean of 3.00, indicating that respondents agreed that intelligence gathering and information sharing by the CJTF have a positive effect on reducing crime and insurgency in Borno State.

To what extent does community surveillance and patrol conducted by the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force influence the public perception of safety among residents?

Table 4. Mean Responses on Community Surveillance and Public Perception of Safety

S/N	Statement	Mean	SD	Decision
1	Regular patrol increases residents' confidence.	4.26	0.70	Agree
2	Community surveillance discourages criminal activities.	4.38	0.66	Agree
3	Residents feel safer due to CJTF patrols.	4.22	0.75	Agree
4	Surveillance improves public trust in security.	4.17	0.83	Agree
Grand Mean		4.26	0.74	Agree

The grand mean of 4.26 indicates that respondents agreed that community surveillance and patrol significantly improve the public perception of safety among residents of Borno State.

What effect does community mobilization and participation by the CJTF have on social stability and peaceful coexistence?

Table 5. Mean Responses on Community Mobilization and Social Stability

S/N	Statement	Mean	SD	Decision
1	Community participation promotes peaceful coexistence.	4.34	0.69	Agree
2	CJTF mobilization strengthens social cohesion.	4.28	0.71	Agree
3	Residents cooperate with security agencies.	4.20	0.79	Agree
4	Community participation reduces communal conflicts.	4.24	0.76	Agree
Grand Mean		4.27	0.74	Agree

The grand mean of 4.27 shows that respondents agreed that community mobilization and participation by the CJTF contribute significantly to social stability and peaceful coexistence in Borno State.

What are the operational challenges facing the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force in enhancing community safety?

Table 6. Operational Challenges Facing the CJTF

S/N	Statement	Mean	SD	Decision
1	Inadequate funding affects CJTF operations.	4.51	0.61	Agree
2	Poor logistics reduce operational efficiency.	4.47	0.64	Agree
3	Lack of training limits effectiveness.	4.30	0.73	Agree
4	Poor welfare affects members' motivation.	4.36	0.70	Agree
Grand Mean		4.41	0.67	Agree

The grand mean of 4.41 indicates that inadequate funding, poor logistics, inadequate training, and poor welfare constitute major operational challenges confronting the CJTF.

Test of Hypotheses

Hypothesis One

H₀₁: Intelligence gathering and information sharing have no significant effect on the reduction of crime and insurgency.

Table 7. Simple Linear Regression Analysis

Model Summary	Value
R	0.642
R ²	0.412
Adjusted R ²	0.409
F-value	96.84
Sig.	0.000

Variable	Beta	t	Sig.
Intelligence Gathering	0.642	9.84	0.000

Since the p-value (0.000) is less than 0.05, the null hypothesis is rejected. Intelligence gathering and information sharing have a significant positive effect on the reduction of crime and insurgency in Borno State.

Hypothesis Two

H₀₂: Community surveillance and patrol have no significant influence on the public perception of safety.

Table 8. Regression Analysis

Model Summary	Value
R	0.587
R ²	0.344
Adjusted R ²	0.341
F-value	82.57
Sig.	0.000

Variable	Beta	t	Sig.
Community Surveillance	0.587	8.73	0.000

The regression result shows that community surveillance and patrol significantly influence public perception of safety ($p < 0.05$). Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected.

Hypothesis Three

H₀₃: Community mobilization and participation have no significant effect on social stability and peaceful coexistence.

Table 8. Regression Analysis

Model Summary	Value
R	0.614
R ²	0.377
Adjusted R ²	0.374
F-value	91.26
Sig.	0.000

Variable	Beta	t	Sig.
Community Mobilization	0.614	9.12	0.000

Since the significance value of 0.000 is less than the 0.05 level of significance, the null hypothesis is rejected. Community mobilization and participation significantly promote social stability and peaceful coexistence in Borno State.

Discussion

The findings suggest that the operational activities of the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force contribute positively to community safety. The significant effect of intelligence gathering on crime reduction supports the view of Emmanuel, Ebire, and Omitola (2026), who found that community intelligence improves the effectiveness of counterinsurgency operations. The findings also agree with Shittu and Ahmed (2018), who reported that the CJTF has strengthened local security through surveillance, intelligence sharing, and collaboration with formal security agencies. Furthermore, the identified operational challenges are consistent with the findings of the United Nations Development Programme (2019), which highlighted inadequate logistics, limited training, and weak institutional support as constraints affecting the long-term effectiveness of the CJTF. These findings underscore the need for improved government support, capacity building, and institutional reforms to enhance the CJTF's contribution to community safety in Borno State.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of this study, it is concluded that the Borno State Civilian Joint Task Force has made substantial contributions to improving community safety in Borno State. Through intelligence gathering, surveillance, community participation, and collaboration with formal security agencies, the CJTF has complemented government efforts in reducing crime and insurgency while promoting public confidence in community security.

However, the sustainability and effectiveness of the CJTF remain constrained by inadequate logistics, insufficient funding, lack of continuous training, weak institutional support, and limited welfare provisions for members. Addressing these challenges is essential for strengthening community-based security initiatives and ensuring lasting peace and stability in Borno State. The study therefore concludes that effective collaboration between government security agencies and

community-based organizations remains indispensable for achieving sustainable community safety in conflict-affected areas.

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

1. The Federal Government and the Borno State Government should strengthen the intelligence-gathering capacity of the Civilian Joint Task Force by providing modern communication equipment, information management systems, and regular intelligence training.
2. Security agencies should institutionalize regular joint patrols and surveillance operations with the CJTF to improve early detection of security threats and enhance residents' perception of safety.
3. Government should promote greater community participation in security through public awareness campaigns, community engagement programmes, and mechanisms that encourage citizens to report suspicious activities without fear of victimization.
4. Adequate funding should be provided to the CJTF to improve logistics, transportation, communication facilities, protective equipment, and operational efficiency.
5. Continuous capacity-building programmes on intelligence management, conflict resolution, human rights, and community policing should be organized for CJTF members to improve professionalism and accountability.
6. The Federal and Borno State Governments should establish a comprehensive legal and institutional framework to regulate the recruitment, training, operations, welfare, and retirement of CJTF members.
7. Sustainable welfare and reintegration programmes, including vocational training, education, employment opportunities, health insurance, and psychosocial support, should be implemented to improve the well-being of CJTF members and facilitate their transition to civilian life after active service.
8. Stronger monitoring and accountability mechanisms should be established to ensure that CJTF operations conform to national laws and international human rights standards while maintaining public trust and confidence in community-based security initiatives

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