

**SWOT ANALYSIS OF YOBE STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY  
(A CASE STUDY OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT  
AND WOMEN AFFAIRS)**

**BY**

**BASHIR UMAR MASOKANO**

**PG/NILS/1714030**

**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR  
LEGISLATIVE AND DEMOCRATIC STUDIES/UNIVERSITY OF  
BENIN (NILDS/UNIBEN) POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES IN  
PARTIAL FULFILMENT FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF  
MASTERS IN LEGISLATIVE STUDIES (MLS).**

**JUNE, 2020**

## CERTIFICATION

This dissertation “SWOT Analysis of Yobe State House of Assembly” presented by Bashir Umar MASOKANO with matric number PG/NILS/1714030 has met the partial requirement for the award of the degree of Masters in Legislative and Democratic Studies/University of Benin, Edo State.

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## DECLARATION

I, Bashir Umar Masokano hereby declare that the work in this thesis titled “*SWOT Analysis of Yobe State House of Assembly*” was carried out by me in the National Institute of Legislative and Democratic Studies/University of Benin (NILDS/UNIBEN) under the Supervision of Dr Chukwuemeka Onyimadu. The information derived from the literature has been duly acknowledged in the text and a list of references provided. This project has not been presented for another degree in any institution.

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## APPROVAL PAGE

This is to certify that this dissertation “*SWOT Analysis of Yobe State House of Assembly*” has been read and approved as having met the partial requirements for the award of the degree of Masters in Legislative Studies of the University of Benin/National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies is approved for contribution to knowledge.

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## **DEDICATION**

This dissertation is dedicated first and foremost to the Almighty Allah (SWT). The work is also dedicated to my late father Alhaji Umaru Masokano and my mother Hajiya Hussaina Yaro together with my wife Fatima Attom Bashir along with my brothers and sisters for their encouragement and understanding throughout the study.

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

AFRC - Armed Forces Ruling Council

CFRN - Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

GAMERS - Geospatial Analysis Mapping and Environmental Research Solutions

IPA - Importance-Performance Analysis

ISD - Indices of Social Development

ISS - International Institute of Social Studies

MDAs - Ministries, Departments, and Agencies

SDGs - Sustainable Development Goals

SWOT – Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats

TOWS – Threats, Opportunities, Weaknesses, and Strengths

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## **ABSTRACT**

The study designed to investigate the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of Yobe State House of Assembly Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs, identified the functions of the Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs as well as its Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats to the effective implementation of the functions of this committee.

The study adopted the descriptive survey research design employing the purposive sampling procedure. Thus, the study utilized both primary and secondary sources of data. Data collected were analyzed using the SWOT Analysis and then, the TOWS matrix for strategizing and interpretation.

Findings revealed that the main function of the committee is creating opportunities, tackling inequality and improving the wellbeing of the society targeted at enhancing various indices of social development. Thus, the SWOT analysis suggests several ways to solve the threats and weaknesses in developing policies that will help the society in terms of housing, healthcare, gender issues, infrastructure, etc.

The study, therefore, recommended that given the high rate of insecurity in the Northeast, utilizing the services of available law enforcement agencies in providing support for service delivery in the course of providing basic amenities as well as the active collaboration of the Yobe State House of Assembly Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs with Overseas Development Agencies (ODAs) who already have the expertise and support funding for social development, provides an opportunity for reducing identified weaknesses.

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## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

SWOT analysis can be simply understood as the examination of an organization's internal strengths and weaknesses, and its environments, opportunities, and threats. Hence, it is used as a strategic planning and management tool in organizations, Gurel and Tat (2017). It is a general tool designed to be used in the preliminary stages of decision-making and as a precursor to strategic planning in various kinds of applications, Adepoju and Famade (2010). On this note, Samejima et al, as cited in Phadermrod, Crowder and Wills (2016) alluded that SWOT analysis is often used to analyse and position an organization's resources and environment into the regions of Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. As remarked by Radha and Dugger (1995), to be most effectively used, a SWOT analysis needs to be flexible. Situations change with the passage of time and an updated analysis should be made frequently.

SWOT is neither cumbersome nor time-consuming and is effective because of its simplicity. Historically, Helms and Nixon (2010) observed that the origin of the term “*SWOT*” is unknown, nevertheless, SWOT analysis was described by Learned, Christiansen, Andrews, and Guth (1969). Helms and Nixon allude further that wikis credit the origination of SWOT to the 1960s and 70s research project of Stanford University Professor Albert Humphrey, though no academic references to support this claim. In the same vein, Haberberg (2000) attributed SWOT to Harvard academics in the 1960s, while Turner (2002) credited SWOT to Igor Ansoff. Unarguably, the term SWOT has a half-century of use and importance.

The legislature, or parliament, plays an important role in the life of a nation. It thus performs three main functions: adopts new laws, amends the existing laws, and oversees the activities of the executive to ensure that, the government is accountable to the people. As an

oversight body, the legislature helps to identify problems and policy challenges that require attention and assists in overcoming bureaucratic inertia. Therefore, achieving good governance requires the existence of an active, strong, and efficient legislature.

To underscore the importance of the legislature, Adegunde (2016) explained that a virile legislature will promote political stability and economic development, while a weak legislature might either promote political instability, underdevelopment or corrupt, autocratic and oppressive government. Hence, Adegunde asserted that evidence of weak legislature abounds in third world countries. Given this, Okoosi-Simbine (2010) concluded that the legislature occupies a key position in the democratic process. Relatively, a virile Yobe State House of Assembly will engender social development via, the pursuit of the Indices of Social Development (ISD) by enacting relevant laws. This is more so, as Van Gestel (2013) opined that since the business of governance begins with law-making, the legislature occupies the place of primacy. Accordingly, Section 4 (6) of the 1999 Constitution (as altered) is the effect that “The legislative powers of a State of the Federation shall be vested in the House of Assembly of the State”.

However, Dan-Azumi (2015) averred that almost all legislatures depend on committees to conduct their businesses. On this note, United Nations Development Programme, UNDP (2005) described legislative committees as units of organization within a legislative chamber that allow groups of legislators to review policy matters or proposed bills more closely than would be possible by the entire chamber. Implicitly, Committees help the legislature to establish issues and address problem areas to make the necessary improvements or changes to create an effective process. Consequently, the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, CFRN (1999, as amended, Section 103 (1)) stated inter alia

A House of Assembly may appoint a committee of its members for any special or general purpose as in its opinion would be better regulated and managed by means of

such a committee, and may by resolution, regulation or otherwise as it thinks fit delegate any functions exercisable by it to any such committee.

The above Constitutional provision, further buttresses the stipulation of Section 101 of the CFRN 1999 (as amended) which is to the effect that a House of Assembly shall have the power to regulate its procedure. Thus, reiterating the views expressed by Dan-Azumi (2015) and UNDP (2005), and, necessitating the focus of this study on the Yobe State House of Assembly Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs. Since members of the Yobe State House of Assembly are elected on the premise of fostering good governance, issues of social development – which good governance entails, have continued to eclipse scholarly discourses with the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) (2020) asserting that it is critical for broader development outcomes.

To this end, ISS (2020) alluded that “social development is about putting people at the center of development”. Therefore, it stated the indices of social development to include civic activism, clubs and associations, intergroup cohesion, interpersonal safety and trust, gender equality, and inclusion of minorities. These ISDs are also subsumed into the seventeen SDGs being; No poverty, zero hunger, good health, and well-being, quality education, gender equality, clean water and sanitation, affordable and clean energy, decent work and economic growth, industry, innovation and infrastructure, reduced inequalities, sustainable cities and communities responsible consumption and production, climate action, life below water, life on land, peace, justice and strong institutions, and, partnerships for the goals. Because of the place of legislative committees as vehicles for the attainment of legislative goals, this study sought to assess the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities as well as Threats of the Yobe State House of Assembly Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs viz-a-viz its quest to achieve the indices of social development.

## 1.2 Statement of the Research Problem

According to Adegunde (2014), good governance is achievable through the primary functions of the legislature being law making, representation, and oversight. Through the performance of these roles and given the provisions of extant laws,<sup>1</sup> Yobe State House of Assembly is favourably disposed to discharging its duties as required by the stipulations of the Sustainable Development Goals (henceforth, SDG). SDG (2020a), there are 17 SDGs which represents the world's plan to build a better world for people and the planet by 2030. On this note, SDG (2020b) noted that on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly formally adopted the universal, integrated and transformative 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, along with a set of 17 SDGs and 169 associated targets.

However, since legislatures carry out its functions through subdivisions of its members called committees or commissions, Abiola (2018), the role of the Yobe State House of Assembly Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs in achieving the SDGs cannot be discountenanced. While the attainment of the goals remains elusive in Northern Nigeria for reasons of socio-cultural background, Hodges (2001), the SDGs which encapsulate various indices of social development remain a success factor in enhancing good governance, the constitutional duty of governments.

Therefore, since the Yobe State House of Assembly is charged with the responsibility of making laws for the peace, order and good governance of the State, and, given also that the Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs is charged with the task of ensuring the social wellbeing of the people of Yobe State, it is imperative to examine the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities as well as Threats to the efforts of the Committee in advancing the social development indices in Yobe State. On this note, this study analyses the SWOT of the

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<sup>1</sup> See CFRN (1999, as amended, Section 120)

Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs in performing its duties aimed at enhancing the wellbeing of residents of Yobe State.

### **1.3 Research Questions**

The research is going to provide answers to the following questions:

1. What are the Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, and Threats to the effective implementation of the functions of this committee?
2. What are the possible ways of reducing the observed threats of the committee?

### **1.4 Research Objectives**

The general objective of the research is to assess the SWOT Analysis of Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs of Yobe State legislature. However, the specific objectives are to:

1. To identify the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats to the effective implementation of the functions of this committee.
2. To identify the possible ways of reducing the observed threats of the committee.

### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

The findings of this study will be useful to the Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs to get an overall picture of its present situation concerning its community. Yobe State is characterized by a high poverty rate, high insecurity, Humanitarian issues, gender-based violence, and gender-based issues, and the Committee of Social Development and Women Affairs is responsible to tackle those issues. Thus, having an insight into the strength and weaknesses of the committee will provide a better way of tackling those issues supporting the executive arm and international partners in the process. The significance comes from the fact that this SWOT analysis will help the committee understand its strength, its opportunities, and how it can use those strengths and opportunities to better social wellbeing

in Yobe State. The National Assembly will as well benefit from the research output since they require micro-level information to formulate and revise policies and strategies.

### **1.6 Scope of the Study**

This study is delimited to the SWOT Analysis of the Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs of Yobe State House of Assembly, Damaturu, Yobe State. Accordingly, the study focused on the activities of the Committee in the 9<sup>th</sup> Assembly.

### **1.7 Operational Definition of Terms**

S.W.O.T - Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats.

T.O.W.S - Threats, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Strengths.



## CHAPTER TWO

### LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter reviewed the kinds of literature on the variables being studied. It is divided into three sections, namely; conceptual framework, empirical review, and theoretical framework.

#### 2.1 Conceptual Framework

The concept of the legislature is viewed as a body elected by the people to make laws Olaniyi (2001). This definition is however complicated and problematic these days. The complication arises from the fact that several countries have institutions that are called legislatures but which however could not be rightly considered as law-making bodies. Others too have what would be considered as law-making bodies but could not be referred to as legislature Coleman (1986). For instance, there are situations in countries that are under a military regime, where there are organs like the Armed Forces Ruling Council (AFRC) as was the experience of Nigeria between 1985 and 1998 which though, not elected are highest decisions or law-making bodies of the land. Similarly, in some democratic countries like Ivory Coast and Kenya where there is the well-established legislature undertaking its law-making function, these bodies are to some extent dictated or controlled by the executive arm Akintayo (1999).

Given the above realization, a discussion on the concept of the legislature is done through a functional approach. This approach is well supported by Mezey (1979) who argued that law-making is not the sole or most silent function of the legislature. Buttressing this line of thought, Riggs (1967) pointed out that throughout history, the legislature was a functionally adaptable institution that could do a variety of things in a political system. Taking a similar line of argument, Jibo (2000) maintained that the legislature has both law-making and oversight functions. He argued that legislatures all over the world have acted as agencies of political recruitment that legislators themselves could represent the views of the people to non-

legislative elites in the executive and civil service bureaucracy, educate and inform the public on major political issues. Specifically, Jibo (2002) stated that the executive branch is overseen by the legislature in keeping with the consideration of good governance. Citing instances, he pointed out how the financial behaviour of the executive is checked through vetting and passing of its income and expenditure proposals. The legislatures also oversee the executive in vetting key appointments like those of ministers, ambassadors, and commissioners, etc.

The forgoing suggest a proliferation of functions of the legislatures a situation which however raises the question; are we right to argue that since most of the functions outlined above could be performed by other political institutions. Notably, political parties, the executive, and even the press or interest groups are these institutions qualified to be referred to as legislature? This argument is important in the light of common knowledge that a strong political party could recruit elites, represent citizens educate and inform the public, mobilize regime, support, and serve the function of promoting national integration in Nigeria Polsby (1975).

Common sense indicates that military juntas that made laws through the enactment of degrees did not qualify as legislature by performing that function. In a similar vein, political parties cannot become legislature just because they perform several of the function that a legislature performs Polsby (1975). Polsby (1975) identified the structural characteristics associated with legislative as follows;

- i. The legislatures are formal assemblies
- ii. Are official rather than private bodies
- iii. Members are popularly elected
- iv. Members meet, deliberate and act collectively as formal equals
- v. Their formal enactments are officially binding on a population to which they are accountable and from whom their legitimacy emanates.

Unlike the supreme military councils of the military regime and executive councils of ministers or commissioners, however, Yobe State House of Assembly is a legislature because it is backed by a formal enactment in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 Part II Cap 90. Its members are particularly elected and their formal enactments are officially binding on the people of Yobe State to whom they are accountable and from whom their legitimacy emanates.

### **2.1.1 The Legislature and its Strengths**

Across modern democratic societies, legislatures perform three conventional functions according to Adegunde (2014) these are reflections of the legislative strengths:

1. Representation
2. Law-making
3. Oversight Responsibilities

The 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria has provided the legislature in different sections, the powers (strengths) to perform these functions at both the central and state levels. In the context of representation, the constitution provided for delimitation of constituencies in which different groups of people are represented based on their population size, state of origin, or in the case of state legislatures the number seats a state has in the House of Representatives, Akintayo (1999). Section 91 of the Constitution states *inter alia*

Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, A House of Assembly of a State shall consist of three or four times the number of seats which that state has in the House of Representatives, divided in a to reflect, as far as possible, nearly equal population. Provided that a House of Assembly of a State shall consist of not less than twenty-four and not more than forty members.

Therefore, based on the State Assembly Constituencies created by the constitution, people vote to elect their representatives to the National Assembly. The elected representatives are required to interact with the electorate and as much as possible reflect the interests of their

constituents in their general conduct and activities Riggs (1975). It is against this backdrop that Esebagbon (2005) argues that:

In a modern democracy today, the legislature evokes the idea of representative democracy, more than any other branch of government. Thus, democracy can only be sustained when legislatures have the will, ability and information to make decisions that reflect the interests and needs of the society. Similarly, the governed must have the will, ability and information to transmit their needs and interests to their legislators and to evaluate the performance of the legislators and the various parties and to reward or sanction their actions, see Esebagbon (2005: 3).

This assertion is a true reflection of the function of a legislature as a representative institution of governance in a democracy. The idea of representation and the development of the legislative institution is necessitated by the complexity of human societies, which ruled out the possibility of direct democracy Jibo (2000). It is in this pretext that representative assemblies evolved, whose members are elected within defined constituencies to represent their people in government Lawan (2009). In the case of Nigeria, the central legislature supposedly performs these functions, however not without challenges. Relatively, the State legislatures in Nigeria are deemed to be of very low quality. This is because, in Nigeria, legislators are hardly held accountable for their actions (Sahara Reporters, 2020, May 17<sup>th</sup>). Even when elections are to serve as a mechanism for reward and sanctions on incumbent legislators, representatives are often aided back into offices, Fashagba (2009). This often affects the quality of representation and the level of participation of the electorate in governance Akintayo (1999).

The legislature in Nigeria as the case in other modern democracies is empowered by the Constitution to make laws. Law-making function is perhaps what distinguishes a legislative arm from other arms of government Oyovbaire (2001). The 1999 Constitution empowers the State Assemblies to make laws. This is contained in Section 100 (1) of the Constitution which states thus: “The power of the House of Assembly to make laws shall be exercised through bills passed by the House of Assembly and, except as otherwise provided by this section, assented to by the Governor.” Sub-section (2) on the other hand, states that: “A bill shall not

become law unless it has been passed and, subject to sub-section (1) of this section, assented, to in accordance with the provisions of this section.”

Sub-section (3) on the other hand, stipulates that: Where a bill has been passed by the House of Assembly it shall be presented to the Governor for assent. Mores, sub-section (4) states that: Where a bill is presented to the Governor for assent that shall within thirty days thereof signify that he assents or that he withholds assent. Accordingly, sub-section (5) stipulates that: Where the Governor withholds his assent and the bill is again passed by the House of Assembly by two-thirds majority, the bill shall become law and the assent of the Governor shall not be required.

To this end, the legislature has overriding powers in law-making. It is in this context that the institution is often called the law-making body of government. In making laws, therefore, the internal complexity of the legislature, its interaction with the external environment, and the extent to which it adopts universal procedures of conducting business to a great extent bear on the quality of laws it makes, Lawan (2009).

The law-making function of a legislative institution is of paramount importance. It is in light of this that Esebagbon (2005) argues that:

The principal function of the legislature under the 1999 Constitution is to make laws. It is in the exercise of this function that legislative assemblies acquire this distinctive character and take their rightful place within the structure of government. It is this law-making power that places the legislature as an independent organ of government that is of coordinate status with the Executive and the Judiciary. The legislature exercises its main constitutional functions through legislation, Esebagbon (2005: 5).

The oversight function of the legislature is also another traditional function of a legislative arm. Sections 128 and 129 of the said Constitution stated in categorical terms the powers of the National Assembly to supervise and control the activities of the other branches of government. However, section 128 of the constitution which confers on the House of Assembly the power to conduct an investigation, illustrates the oversight functions of the legislature clearly. It states thus: (1) Subject to the provision of this Constitution, the House of

Assembly shall have power by resolution published in its journal or in the official gazette of the government of the federation to direct or cause to be directed of investigation into:

- i. Any matter or anything with respect to which it has power to make laws; and
- ii. The conduct of affairs of any persons/authority, ministry or government department charged, or intended to be charged, with the duty of or responsibility for:-
- iii. Executing or administering laws enacted by the National Assembly; and
- iv. Disbursing or administering money appropriated or to be appropriated by the National Assembly.

(2) The powers conferred on a House of Assembly under provisions of this Section are exercisable only for the purpose of enabling it to:

- i. Make laws with respect to any matter within its legislative competence and correct any defects in existing laws; and
- ii. Exposes corruption, inefficiency or wastes in the execution or administration of laws within its legislative competence and in the disbursement or administration of funds appropriated by it.

This function is adjudged to be the most routine and engaging activity of a legislative institution. Hence, Iwuanyanwu (1998:7) argues that:

The legislature, therefore, carries out surveillance over the activities of the executive. To achieve this, the legislature has several standing committees. Virtually every Government Agency or Ministry has an overseeing standing committee. It is the responsibility of any particular standing committee to report to the full House the activities of the agency or ministry it supervises. The Committee members apply whatever legitimate means to monitor the activities of the Agency or Ministry. These include visits to the departments, interrogation of their staff, occasional assessment of plan implementation, holding of inquiries, encouragements and suggestions for improvement ... and exploring easy ways of improving and bettering the services of the departments for the general good and well-being of the society, Iwuanyanwu, (998:7).

This broad range of activities encapsulates the legislative function of oversight. The function of oversight given to the legislature by the Constitution is to enhance accountability, transparency and probity in the conduct of public affairs, particularly in the management of

public resources. These functions are performed by various legislative committees who report the findings of their investigations to the committee of a whole (plenary) for further legislative deliberations and necessary actions as may deem appropriate Anyaegbunam (2000). The oversight functions of the legislature reveal its powers with regards to supervision and control of other government agencies, particularly executive agencies Aliu (2013).

### **2.1.2 The Legislature and its Weaknesses**

The practice of *presidentialism* in Nigeria started with the Second Republic in 1979 after a protracted military rule. For almost one year of their resumption, the legislatures concerned itself with issues of accommodation, comfort, and salaries of its members. On the very day the Nigerian legislature resumed duty, the members passed a motion requesting for one thousand (₦1000) Naira salary advance pending the determination of their salary, Adebo (1988: 90). Indeed, when the demand was not only for a fee and posh accommodation, the lawmakers also ganged up to fix their salaries and allowances that were huge. Yet the majority of the population lives in rural areas and in abject poverty and where the provisions of essential services are grossly inadequate, see Adebo (1988:91).

At this time too, the salaries of workers in many of the states of the federation were not being paid for months. For a group of people “Elected or Selected” to represent and protect the interest of the nation to appropriate this huge chunk of the national wealth to themselves through fat salaries and fringe benefits was a sheer insensitivity to the grim socio-economic condition in the country and indeed an abuse of the legislator’s oath of office. This abuse of power was arrogantly displayed when, in reaction to public outcry against the fat salaries and fringe benefits, the lawmakers boasted that “they have the power to make law and we have made it” Adebo (1988:93).

The Senate in the Fourth Republic of Nigeria was embroiled in allegation of corruption immediately after the inauguration and swearing-in ceremony in June 1999. The Senators purportedly received eight-hundred and fifty thousand naira each to vote Evans Enwerem instead of Chuba Okadigbo as Senate President and collected five million naira each as furniture allowance as against the three million, five hundred thousand naira, they declared to the public Aliu (2013). The controversy surrounding the furniture allowance further dampened the enthusiasm of the Nigerian public. Many Nigerians believed that given the depressed state of the Nigerian economy, furniture allowances of five and three million naira to each of the members of the Senate and House of Representatives respectively show the level of the insensitivity of the legislators Abdulsalami (1999:72).

From the foregoing analysis, it could be seen that Nigerian public officers, (the legislatures) that are charged to use public resources (Human and Material) to obtain good for the public have regrettably soiled their hands hence obstructed from pursuing equity and accountability; therefore, placing a higher premium on personal and pecuniary interests at the expense of the public interest hence making the actualization of accountability and good governance a difficult task in Nigeria presidential democracy.

### **2.1.3 Sources and Process of Law Making**

According to Section 58 and 100 respectively of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999, the exercise of Legislative powers is through Bills passed into law by the appropriate legislature (National or State) and assented to by the appropriate executive (President or Governor). Bills can be initiated from three sources.

- i. The executive can propose a bill which is then forwarded to the legislature for processing and eventually passing into law.
- ii. A member or group of members of the legislature too can sponsor a bill that is then processed and passed into law.



- iii. Finally, private individual's pressure groups or organized members of the community Squire (1997). But such bills referred to as private bills must be introduced in the legislature (or House of Assembly) by member or group of members of the House of Assembly, Akintayo (1999) and Tyoden, (ed) 1998).

Bills may be classified as an ordinary or money bill. A money bill is generally a public bill relating to the income and expenditure of public funds Anyaegbunam (2000). Section 59 (1) of the 1999 Constitution defines money Bills as;

- i. An appropriate bill or a supplementary appropriation bills including any other bill for the payment, issue or withdrawal from of the consolidated revenue fund or any other public fund of the federation or any charged thereon or any alteration in the amount of such a payment, issue or withdrawal.
- ii. A bill for the imposition of or increase in any tax, duty or free or nay reduction, withdrawal or cancellation thereof.

Irrespective of the source or types, all bills are forwarded to the speaker (in case of a House of Assembly of a State) whose duty is to make it available to the clerk for publication in the official Gazelle (or House Journal). At the end of the third reading or hearing, mirror amendment or corrections (if any) are affected. The bill is then passed into law through a resolution taken on the floor of the house. After this, a printed copy (incorporating all amendments) is made. "The clean Bill" is then signed by the clerk and endorsed by the speaker. The clerk thereafter sends the bills in duplicate copies to the Governor for his assent and signature. If for any reason the Governor withholds his assent, the law can be passed and become operative if two-third majority of the Assembly approves it. Akpa, and Omenka (2003). The signed copies of the bill are given back to the clerk who will then cause the government printer to publish them in triplicate. The clerk retains one copy of the published

enactment for his records, delivers one copy to the Governor, and the other copy to the Chief Judge of the State where it is enrolled and it becomes Law, Anyaegbunam (2003).

#### **2.1.4 Legislative Committees: Functions and Procedures**

A committee of the legislature is a sub-division of the larger house. The power of the House of Assembly of a State to constitute itself into subdivision or committee is guaranteed under section 103 of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999. A House may appoint a committee of its members for any special or general-purpose as in its opinion would be better regulated and managed using such a committee. The number of members of a committee appointed, the House appropriating it should fix their term of office and quorum. In any case, the job of Lawmaking which is the primary function of the legislature requires a certain level of expertise and professionalism.

Accordingly, Heitshusen (2011) observed that there are three main types of committees: standing, select or special, and joint. While the standing rule provides for the composition and functions of standing and special committees, section 101 (1) of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (CFRN) stated inter alia a House shall appoint a Committee of its members for any purpose suited for it.

#### **Standing Committees**

Standing committees are permanent panels identified as such in the standing orders of the Yobe State House of Assembly. A cursory look at this rule shows the mandate and powers of the House Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs. According to Asimiyu (2018), the standing orders define committees' mandate and functions. They have legislative jurisdiction, hence, standing committees consider bills and issues and recommend measures for consideration by the chamber Heitshusen (2011). On this note, it would be safe to assert

that the Committees on Social Development and Women Affairs as well as the Committee on Finance, are examples of standing committees.

The standing committees are expected to examine in detail the annual budget proposal presented by the executive in respect of the ministries/department under their charge since the constitution forbids any standing committee to kill a bill or any matter committed to it by the full House. The committee's deliberation usually results in recommendations that are then submitted to the full House for a final decision Akintayo (1999).

### **Special Committees**

These types of committees exist primarily to service the chamber. Upon the proclamation and inauguration of an assembly, membership into these committees is appointed. This is so because these committees serve as the livewire of the assembly. The Yobe State House of Assembly Committee on Selection for instance in consultation with principal officers appoints members for standing committees. Some famed special committees are committees on selection, rules and business committees, House services committee, public petition committee, etc.

### **Joint Committees**

Joint committees on its part is a composition of Legislators from each House. A joint committee is a combination of two similar committees from the two Houses of a bicameral legislature or a combination of two or more committees from the same House. In the National Assembly, Section 62 (3) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as amended) holds the view for such committees to be appointed when and if situations deem so, especially the committees on Finance. Instructively, a joint committee is made up of different committees appointed to solve special or joint legislative puzzles. That is from both the House of Representatives and the senate.

Traditionally, they represent a good means of achieving coordination in a bicameral legislative system. Through them, the necessity for dual consideration of bills which is both time-consuming and expensive is avoided. It also helps in reducing likely friction that may arise in a bicameral legislative set up Akpa, and Omenka (2003). Joint committees are of three sub-types; standing, select, and conference committee. A conference committee is an ad-hoc committee created to adjust differences between the chambers when a legislative proposal passes one house in one form and is amended in the other with the second chamber unwilling to recede from its amendment and the original House Unwilling to accept the alteration. Since a bill in a bicameral legislative system cannot be transmitted to the Executive unless it has passed both House in identical form in cases of inter-chamber disagreement, a conference committee may be formed Anyaegbunam (2000).

Unlike the committee types listed above, ad-hoc committees are limited episodic bodies created by resolution of the full House to understand a particular task such as investigation or a study of a matter of great importance. When such a committee so constituted finishes its assignment and makes its reports to the chamber, it is usually disbanded.

## **2.2 Empirical Review**

According to Phadermrod, Crowder, and Wills (2016) in their study of *Importance-Performance Analysis Based SWOT Analysis* designed to diminish both shortcomings by applying Importance-Performance Analysis (IPA) to identify SWOT based on customer satisfaction surveys which produce prioritized SWOT corresponding to the customers' perception, they averred that through the use of IPA based SWOT analysis, it is expected that an organization can efficiently formulate strategic planning as the SWOT factors that should be maintained or improved can be identified based on customers' viewpoints. Phadermrod, Crowder, and Wills in their application of the IPA based SWOT analysis which was illustrated

and evaluated through a case study of Higher Education Institutions in Thailand concluded that SWOT analysis of the case study accurately reflected the organizations' situations thereby demonstrating the validity of this study.

Also, Helms and Nixon (2010) studied *Exploring SWOT Analysis – Where are We Now?* examining the use of the strategic management tool, SWOT analysis, and assessing how the methodology has been used as well as changes to the methodology using the mixed research design, found that SWOT analysis is a tool for planning purposes. Helms and Nixon argued that SWOT analysis has been extended beyond companies to countries and industries and is used in almost every “*published business case positioned for business student analysis*”. However, Helms and Nixon (2010) argued that a major limitation of SWOT analysis is the need to link it to other strategic tools and methodologies for further theory building, especially as past studies continue to lack quantifiable findings on the success of the SWOT analysis.

The above notwithstanding, Helms and Nixon recommend a combination of SWOT analysis as well as other strategic planning tools to guide practitioners and policy makers for efficiency. As noted in the preceding paragraph, Helms and Nixon further recommend theory building in SWOT analysis.

Similarly, Amin, Razmi, and Zhang (2010) studied *Supplier Selection and Order Allocation Based on Fuzzy SWOT Analysis and Fuzzy Linear Programming*, noting that supplier selection is a multi-criteria decision-making problem that comprises tangible and intangible factors. Thus, they applied quantified SWOT in the context of supplier selection for the first time. As has been recorded previously, SWOT analysis is one of the most well-known techniques for conducting a strategic study. Therefore, Amin, Razmi, and Zhang integrated the fuzzy logic and triangular fuzzy numbers with SWOT analysis to deal with the vagueness of human thought. Hence, with a glance at the SWOT matrix, managers can understand the position of suppliers in a competitive environment.

To Wijngaarden, Scholten, and Van Wijk (2010) in their study of *Strategic Analysis for Health Care Organizations: The Sustainability of the SWOT-Analysis*, the introduction of (regulated) market competition and self-regulation, the strategy has become an important management field for health care organizations in most countries, hence, Wijngaarden, Scholten, and Van Wijk observed that the SWOT analysis seems to be popular. Wijngaarden, Scholten, and Van Wijk (2010) alluded that the four case studies presented on the use of the SWOT analysis in different parts of the health care sector in the Netherlands, SWOT in its current form is not suitable as a tool for strategic analysis in health care in many European countries. Therefore, they presented an alternative SWOT model, in which expectations and learning of stakeholders were incorporated.

Finally, Gurel and Tat (2017) who studied *SWOT Analysis: A Theoretical Review*, employing qualitative and descriptive approaches, examined SWOT Analysis from a historical, theoretical, time frame perspective, as an effective situation analysis technique that plays an important role in the fields of marketing, public relations, advertising, and a field requiring strategic planning. Hence, Gurel and Tat opined that SWOT Analysis is an analysis method used to evaluate the ‘strengths’, ‘weaknesses’, ‘opportunities’, and ‘threats’ involved in an organization, a plan, a project, a person, or a business activity. Concluding, Gurel and Tat (2017) focused on an international sportswear brand’s SWOT Analysis. Thus, stating the historical origins of SWOT, its advantages/disadvantages as well as the limitations.

The literature above underpins the importance of SWOT analysis in planning and management, hence, were worthy of mention. However, while the present study alludes to the importance of SWOT analysis, it affirms that not much has been done with it, especially with regards to the institution of the legislature. Nonetheless, this study notes that whereas it can be said that the legislature is not within a competitive market place for which cause it should require the SWOT analysis to help it enjoy a comparative advantage, SWOT analysis is

necessary to enable it effectively appraise its strengths and weaknesses in the discharge of its functions, as well as identify opportunities and threats that would enhance its efficiency. Given this gap in knowledge, this study sought to analyze the SWOT of the Yobe State House of Assembly Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs in performing its mandates.

### **2.3 Theoretical Framework – Structural-Functionalist Theory**

Almond's (1969) structural-functionalist approach is relevant in this context and provides a comprehensive theoretical framework for the analysis of the role of the Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs in enhancing the social wellbeing of the residents of Yobe State. The structural-functional model is most associated with Parsons (1951) whose work was greatly influenced by Durkheim Chilcote (1998). Almond (1969) has, however, restated the scheme so drastically that he has an influence independent of Parsons (Charlesworth, 1968). According to Almond's structural-functional analysis, all political systems must perform certain requisite functions, and, by comparison, one must identify which structure performs the tasks Peter (2005).

The functionalist tradition according to Oni (2013) postulates that social systems meet certain needs and suggest that there are functional imperatives that must be met for a group to survive (Malinowski, 1944). Hence, Malinowski, as cited in Oni (2013) defined function as the satisfaction of a need. Radcliffe-Brown (1951) claimed that the rules of conduct within society lead to a social structure consisting of defined roles that are coordinated by these rules. As these roles are enacted, they contribute to maintaining the social structure.

Almond outlined an approach to understanding political systems that took into account not only their structural components (institutions) but also their functions within the system as a whole. Thus, instead of focusing on such concepts as institution, organization, or group,

Almond turned to “role and structure”. Chilcote (1998) sees the role of the interacting units of a political system while the structure is a pattern of interrelated roles or patterns of interactions.

A system, according to Almond (1969), is characterized by; comprehensives, interdependence, and the existence of boundaries. Hence, Oni (2013) argued that

A system is comprehensive in the sense that it includes all the interactions – inputs as well as outputs - which affect the use of physical coercion in all the structures, including undifferentiated structures like kinship and lineage, and anomic phenomena like riots and street demonstrations, and not merely the interactions which take place within the structures associated with the state, like parliament, executives and bureaucracies, and formally organized units, like parties, interest groups and media of communication (Oni, 2013: 68).

To Almond (1969), a system is characterized by interdependent units. The various structures or parts or units of a system are interdependent through their structural and functional relationships. This brings to clarity the necessary mutually interdependence of a Committee with its parent body - the legislature on one hand, and the Committee and agencies of government on the other hand. While the legislature may be constitutionally charged to make laws, oversee their activities of the executives, and represent their constituents, a lot depends on the interaction of the Yobe State House of Assembly, viz its Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs with its external environment denoted by Opportunities and Threats (OT) of the SWOT analysis.

According to Almond’s structural-functional analysis, all political systems must perform certain requisite functions Peter (2005). These functions in this regard, include the cooperation of Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), policy implementation, and so on, carried out by the executive whose duty it is to implement legislative approvals. Also, the Strengths and Weaknesses of the Yobe State House of Assembly constitute a chain of internal factors that the Committee interacts with very often, which may/may not enhance its



effectiveness. Thus structural-functionalism, as a framework for this study, provides an effective measure for assessing the effectiveness of the Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs especially, given various inter/intra interactions necessary for it to carry out its duties.

With Almond's structural-functional theory, therefore, the SWOT analysis of the Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs can be described largely in terms of relationships within and without the Assembly aimed at elevating the welfare of the people of Yobe State. Radcliffe-Brown (1951) claimed that the rules of conduct within society lead to a social structure consisting of defined roles that are coordinated by these rules. As these roles are enacted, they contribute to maintaining and stabilizing the social structure. In this regard, the alignment of the Yobe State House of Assembly Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs, its mutual interactions, and collaboration with organs of government in the policy process are critical for the stability and survival of the society. Hence, the selection of Almond's Structural – Functionalist Approach as the theoretical framework for this study.

## CHAPTER THREE

### METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Study Area

The Study area is Yobe State. The study was conducted in the Yobe State House of Assembly located in Damaturu, capital of Yobe State. Yobe State is located at 12°00'N 11°30'E. It has a projected population of 2,321,339 based on the 2006 population census (NPC, 2006). The state borders four states, which are Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, and Jigawa State. It borders the Diffa Region and the Zinder Region to the north of the Republic of Niger. Because the state lies mainly in the dry savanna belt, conditions are hot and dry for most of the year, except in the southern part of the state which has more rain. Yobe State consists of 17 local government areas (or LGAs).

Yobe State came into being on 27 August 1991. It was carved out of the old Borno State by the Babangida administration. Yobe State was created because the old Borno State was one of Nigeria's largest states in terms of land area and was therefore considered to be too large for easy administration and meaningful development. Ethnic rivalries within the old Borno State also contributed to the decision (Yobe Online, 2007). While Yobe state is an agricultural state it also has rich fishing grounds and mineral deposits of gypsum in Fune LGA, kaolin, and quartz. The state's agricultural products include gum arabic, groundnuts, beans, and cotton. The state is also said to have one of the largest cattle markets in West Africa, located in Potiskum. The major ethnic groups living in Yobe State are Fulani and the Kanuri while other ethnic communities include Bolewa, Ngizim, Karai-Karai, Bade, Hausa, Ngamo, Shuwa, Bura, Margi, and Manga.

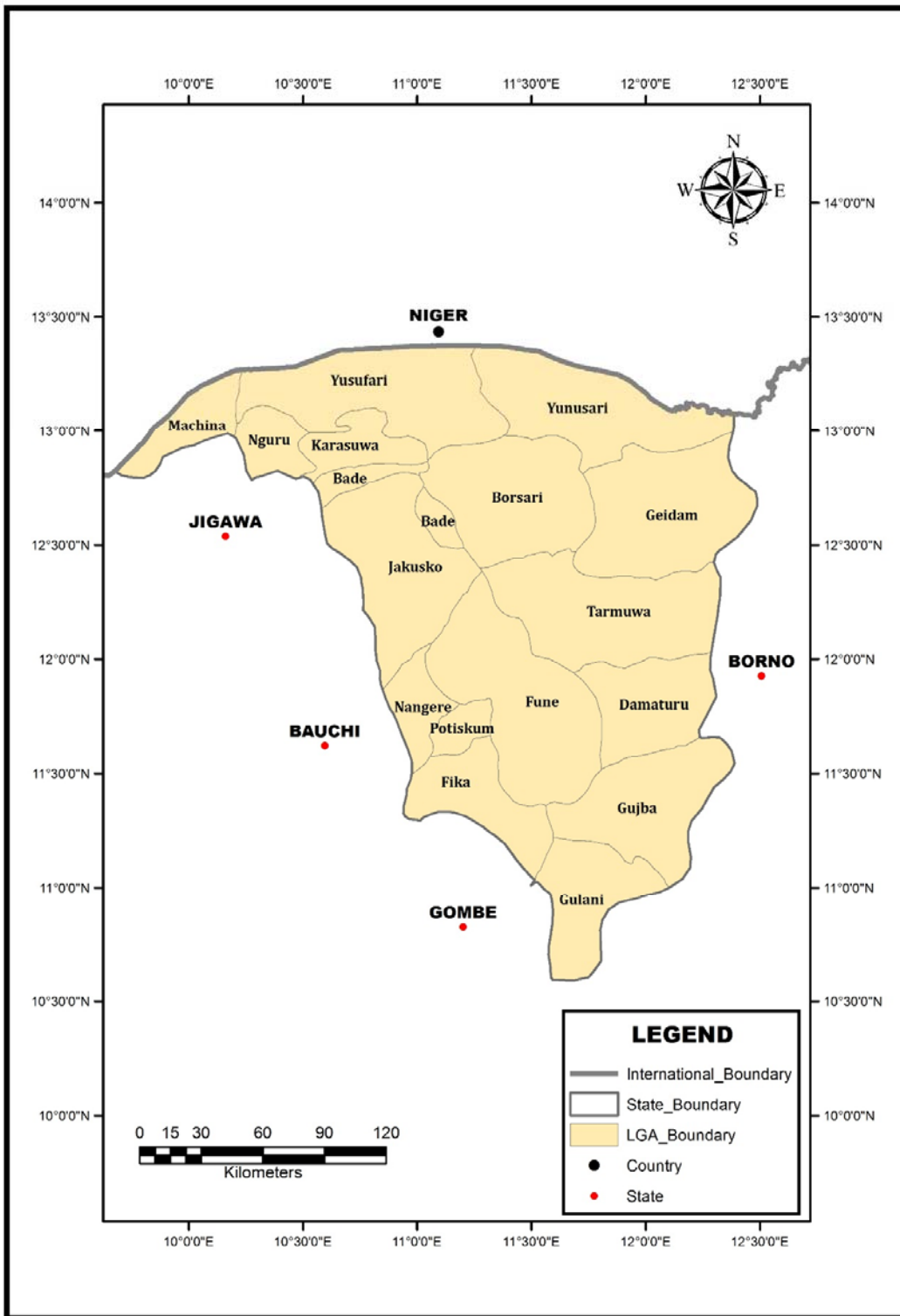


Fig. 3.1: Map of Yobe State showing its Local Government Areas (Geospatial Analysis Mapping and Environmental Research Solutions (GAMERS), 2018)

### 3.2 Research Design

The study adopted the descriptive survey research design in the analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of the Yobe State House of Assembly Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs. Given that this study seeks inquest into the SWOT of the Committee, the study employed the use of open-ended questions for the SWOT analysis of the Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs.

### 3.3 Sampling Procedure

The population of the study is the twenty-four members of the Yobe State House of Assembly, Damaturu, Yobe State, Nigeria. However, the sample size was determined using Taro Yamane's formula.

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

Where: n = corrected sample size

$$N = 24$$

$$e = \text{Margin of Error (MoE)} = 0.05$$

$$n = \frac{24}{1+24(0.05^2)}$$

$$= \frac{24}{1+24(0.0025)}$$

$$= \frac{24}{1+0.06}$$

$$= \frac{24}{1.06}$$

$$= 23$$

In selecting the respondents (sample size of twenty-three (23)), the purposive sampling technique was used. The choice of purposive sampling procedure was deliberate because the

study desired key informants, besides, to accommodate the members of the Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs which are seven in number.

### **3.3 Source of Data**

Data for this study was obtained from both primary and secondary sources. The primary data were collected with the aid of questionnaires, which were administered by the researcher to the respondents. Secondary data/information was obtained from published materials, textbooks, books of proceedings of conferences, and relevant websites.

### **3.4 Method of Data Analysis**

The method of data analysis that was employed was SWOT and TOWS analysis. While the SWOT analysis refers to the identification of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats to the operation and functionality of the committee of interest, the TOWS analysis refers to how identified strengths can be used to take advantage of opportunities and reduce weaknesses, and how opportunities can reduce identified weaknesses and how weaknesses contribute to threats. Also, the data were presented in form of table and interpretation developed to show the trend.

#### **3.4.1 SWOT Analysis**

According to the stated goal of the study, given in this project, it is necessary to consider in more detail the key stage "Conducting SWOT-analysis". The result of the SWOT analysis is the SWOT matrix development, which is compiled based on strengths-weaknesses definition (characteristics of the internal environment of the House of Assembly), opportunities-threats (characteristics of the external environment). It is necessary to choose factors giving a full characteristic to each side (S, W, O, T), according to which the fields SO, ST, WO, WT should be formed.

Thus, the SWOT and TOWS matrixes in the general form are as follows:

**Table 3.1: The SWOT matrix**

		<b>External environment of the Organisation</b>	
		<i>Opportunities (O)</i>	<i>Threats (T)</i>
<b>The internal environment of the organization</b>	<i>Strength (S)</i>	<b>SO field</b>	<b>ST field</b>
	<i>Weakness (W)</i>	<b>WO field</b>	<b>WT field</b>

Source: Latysheva et al, (2017)

**Table 3.2: The TOWS matrix**

<b>INTERNAL FACTORS</b>			
<b>EXTERNAL FACTORS</b>		Strengths (S)	Weaknesses (W)
	Opportunities (O)	Strengths/Opportunities (SO)	Weaknesses/Opportunities (WO)
	Threats (T)	Strengths/Threats (ST)	Weaknesses/Threats (WT)

Selected fields are characterized by the following groups of situations:

1. SO field - "strength - opportunities" - the strengths of the investment potential of the ME, which ensure it the opportunities presented usage, is noted.
2. ST field - "force - threats" - there is an influence of objectively existing external threats that do not give a chance to use the potential of the House and to which the municipal entity cannot influence, but the presence of the House strengths can mitigate their negative impact.
3. The WO field - "weakness - opportunities" - includes those weaknesses of the potential that do not give a chance to use the opportunities presented, therefore it is necessary to determine whether it is expedient to search for House development strategies, this field can

also be interpreted as the appropriateness of using the opportunities (strategy of development) in the presence of these weaknesses of the House to overcome them.

4. The WT field - "weakness - threats" - shows the worst combination for the House. A threat reduction is possible only by developing strategies for developing their potential. Threats require constant monitoring, as in the future their characteristics may change to an undesirable side for the territory.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

#### 4.1 Data Analysis

Data was obtained through the use of open-ended questionnaires on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and which were administered to the respondents. It is important to state that the SWOT analysis of the Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs was done based on the primary role of the legislature being lawmaking, representation, and oversight. Thus, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities as well as threats of the Committee were identified and a TOWS driven action plan preferred. The following are the discussions of the data obtained.

##### 4.1.1 Functions of the Committee

**Table 4.1 Responses on Functions of Committee Of Social Development And Women Affairs**

S/N	Items	Respondents *
1.	Make decisions about Growing the Economy and investing the future	23
2.	improving health and well- being of the people of the State	20
3.	Creating opportunities for the community	16
4.	Protection of the people, environment and creating safer communities	16
5.	Creating Awareness on safety and tackling insecurity	16



6.	Delivering high quality and efficient public service	16
7.	Building Strong and shared community	13

Note: \*Multiple Responses Included

Based on the responses from the respondents, the following were categorized as the main functions of the Committee for social development and women affairs.

1. Growing a sustainable economy and investing in the future;
2. Creating opportunities, tackling disadvantage and improving health and well- being;
3. Protecting our people, the environment and creating safer communities;
4. Building a strong and shared community; and
5. Delivering high quality and efficient public services.

#### **4.1.2 SWOT Analysis**

##### **Identified Strengths**

The identified strengths of the SWOT analysis of Yobe State House of Assembly Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs are Direct access to the State Governor; Access to law enforcement agencies; Housing policy and legislation; and good relationship with staff. The committee has direct access to the head of the government of the state showing that there would be no hindrance in discussing high profile meetings with the Executive if the need arise which is a great advantage to actualize their functions effectively. Access to law enforcement agencies is very vital to effectively carry along activities in a social setting.

##### **Identified Threats**

Despite the positive strengths of the committee, there are established external threats which are vital. There are five threats identified: Shortage of funds, increasing gender inequalities, Insurgency, Media fake news, income inequalities.

**Weakness**

Despite the positive strengths of the committee, it is not foolproof. There are five identified weaknesses of the committee: delay in the assent of a bill, limited tenure of legislators, committee decisions are always subject to review; the longer time before the passage of bills, low morale of staff.

**Opportunities**

With regards to opportunities that exist, the committee need to develop a strategy that will help them exploit it; Availability of International NGOs and donor agencies; Access to basic services are increasing; New airport for easy movement of goods and services; state governor's enthusiasm in social development and availability of different mass media.

**Table 4.2: SWOT ANALYSIS TABLE**

<b>Strengths (internal)</b>	<b>Weaknesses (internal)</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Direct Access to the Governor, other relevant agencies, and stakeholders. where this is the case, ex-ante legislative consultations would be enhanced leading to the effective discharge of the mandate of the Committee.</li> <li>2. Access to all law enforcement agencies. While this may not be considered much of an issue given that laws/policies are not of the legislature to implement, a good working relationship with law enforcement agencies may be necessary in times the Committee issues warrants of arrest to erring MDAs.</li> <li>3. Housing policy and legislation. In the course of discharge of its budgeting functions, the Yobe State House of Assembly through the Yobe State Executive Council (SEC) has approved N15.96 billion for the completion of 3,600 houses across the state. The housing projects, which are in phases, are sited in 17 Local Government Areas of the state (The Guardian, 2020, May 4<sup>th</sup>).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Delay in Assent of Bill and weak implementation by the Executive Arm of Government. This has become a bane of lawmaking in Nigeria as assent to Bills are often characterized by pecuniary interests (All Africa, 2019, April 6<sup>th</sup>).</li> <li>2. Legislative turnover. As rightly argued by Fashagba (2009), members of the legislature are always made to look like willing tools in the hand of godfathers. In which case, legislators seen to go against the dictates of such godfathers, are often not renominated. This results ultimately in the shortage of legislators nuanced in lawmaking.</li> <li>3. Low morale of the House of Assembly staff.</li> <li>4. Slow Passage of Bills, committee decisions are always subject to review. The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association as well as international organizations have noted differently that the gestation period for the making of a</li> </ol>

<p>4. A good relationship with legislative and executive staff. Fashagba (2009) noted that such rapprochement is necessary, given the fact that the executive as well as legislative arms of governments needs each other's collaboration for the actualization of the yearnings of the electorates.</p>	<p>law is 3-4months. While this may not be sacrosanct as it there is no such organic law towards the gestation period of bills in Nigeria, it is important to note that some bills intended to uplift the people of Yobe State are sometimes subjected to needless time lags in its enactment.</p>
<p><b>Opportunities (External)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Availability of United Nations-backed International NGOs. Such Non-governmental organizations are renowned in the pursuit of sector-specific programmes such as gender equality, child/maternal health, etc.</li> <li>2. Access to basic services is increasing. With the housing policy in place, it is succinct to state that access to basic services has continued to witness a facelift.</li> <li>3. New Airport for easy movement of goods and services. Transportation is important</li> </ol>	<p><b>Threats (External)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increasing gender inequality, social media, and bias reportage. The World Bank and other institutions of repute continue to decry crushing gender inequality in Nigeria.<sup>2</sup> This they argue is evident in the participation of women in governance (See National Bureau of Statistics Annual Reports for 2018 and 2019).</li> <li>2. Income inequalities. According to World Bank data, women make up 49% of Nigeria's population. However, only 58% of its total population aged 15+ are low-</li> </ol>

<sup>2</sup> See <http://datatopics.worldbank.org/gender/country/nigeria>

<p>for the enhancement of the social wellbeing of people of any kind. Hence, the importance of a functional air ravel facility funded with a legislatively approved budget cannot be overemphasized.</p> <p>4. Head of Government’s enthusiasm in social development. Given Shuggart’s (2008) position on “interbranch transaction” between the arms of government, it is necessary to restate that good executive-legislative relation will in no small measure enhance the social welfare of the residents of Yobe State.</p> <p>5. Increase in reliable Media outlets. The media being the fourth estate of the realm is needed for the advancement of good governance. Therefore, its support or otherwise of developmental programmes is a success factor.</p>	<p>income earners, 53% high income, while 45% of that population are middle-income earners.</p> <p>3. Poverty, No Social Protection, and insurgency. Poverty caused by unending issues of the Boko Haram insurgency continues to plague the efforts of the Committee on Social Development and Women Affairs. Recently, women have become the greatest casualties of the terror attacks as they are often taken hostage by insurgents (British Broadcasting Corporation, BBC, 2018, March 25<sup>th</sup>).</p> <p>4. Shortage of Funds. Fashagba (2009) opined that a shortage of funds militates against the effectiveness of legislative committees. This he notes is that case as funds available were often not enough to undertake its numerous activities.</p>
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**Source: Field Survey, 2020**

### **4.1.3 STRATEGIES FOR TOWS**

After successfully presenting SWOT analysis, it is now clear to head to TOWS analysis. A TOWS analysis moves a SWOT analysis to an action plan. A plan that links the organization's internal strengths with its external opportunities, and one that accounts for the organization's internal weaknesses, while addressing its external threats. On this basis, we provided a detailed action plan, using the SWOT analysis, to determine how to mitigate threats and weaknesses while harnessing strengths and opportunities.

**Table 4.3: TABLE SHOWING TOWS MATRIX**

<p>TWOS Matrix</p>	<p><b>Strengths (internal)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Direct Access to the executive arm of government and other relevant stakeholders;</li> <li>2. Access to all law enforcement agencies;</li> <li>3. housing policy and legislation</li> </ol>	<p><b>Weaknesses (internal)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Delay in Assent of Bill and weak implementation by the Governor</li> <li>2. Limited Tenure of legislators</li> <li>3. Low morale of the House of Assembly staff</li> <li>4. Slow Passage of Bills, committee decisions are always subject to review</li> </ol>
<p><b>Opportunities (External)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Availability of United Nations-backed International NGOs</li> <li>2. Access to basic services is increasing</li> <li>3. New Airport for easy movement.</li> <li>4. Head of Government's enthusiasm in social development.</li> </ol>	<p>S/O Strategies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. S1, S3 to O1: Consistent collaboration of UN-backed NGOs with the executive arm of Government and other stakeholders in adapting existing policies and programs, as well as providing new proactive strategies aimed at ensuring</li> </ol>	<p>W/O Strategies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. W1 to O4: Although there has been an incidence of the weak passage of the Bill and financial restrictions on implementation, this weakness can be circumvented when working with Overseas Development Agencies</li> </ol>

<p>5. Increase in reliable Media outlets.</p>	<p>improved social development and reduce gender-based disparities.</p> <p>2. S2 to O2: given the high rate of insecurity, utilizing the services of available law enforcement agencies in providing support for service delivery in the provision of basic amenities; Health, Education, agricultural production, etc. There is also the possibility of an increased sense of justice for cases of rape, gender-based violence, and discrimination.</p> <p>3. S3 to O3, O4: The political will to ensure Proper housing is further enhanced by increased mobility of persons, and capital through the new</p>	<p>(ODAs) who already have the expertise and support funding for social development. Closer collaboration with these ODAs provides an opportunity for reducing this weakness.</p> <p>2. W2, W3 to O4: the tenure of legislators most often does not tally with both the time needed make a Bill become and Act. Also, the implementation of the ACT may happen after the legislators have left office. However, with the commitment of the executive arm, continuity of these programs and policies becomes more assured. It</p>
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	<p>airport. This is particularly important as it eases the constraints of doing business in Yobe state, which has direct positive repercussions on reducing poverty and increasing incomes. Coupled with these expected increases in Income, the Executive arm of government is committed to the provision of cheap and accessible housing schemes.</p>	<p>would also be expedient to include longer-term development plans for social development and women affairs in Yobe State. This can be worked on by both the State Assembly and the executive, for which the executive arm will be committed to in the medium to long term period.</p> <p>3. W4 to O5: Engaging the media to follow up steps in passage of bills to enable the legislators to carryout the functions effectively. Increased public oversight functions by the media are core to ensuring service delivery.</p>
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Threats (External)	S/T Strategies	W/T Strategies
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increasing gender inequality, social media, and bias reportage</li> <li>2. Income inequalities</li> <li>3. Poverty, No Social Protection and insurgency</li> <li>4. Shortage of Funds</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. S1 to T1, T2, T3:: The Committee must prioritize pro-poor, growth-enhancing, and gender-inclusive government policies that are under their purview of oversight and Appropriation. Through the budget, the committee can push for increased spending the state-wide sectors that increase social development and reduce gender disparities. Besides, holistic oversight functions must be carried out by the committee to ensure higher performance and efficient use of this expenditure.</li> <li>2. S2 to T3: the committee can advocate for greater commitment to reducing</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. W1 to T1, T2 &amp;T3. Delay in bill assent will increase gender inequality, bias reportage thereby creating poverty and insurgency.</li> <li>2. W2 to T2, T3, T4: The problem of continued political will to drive the importance of reducing poverty gender-based disparities and prioritizing appropriations to deal with these issues is a serious problem when there is a high turnover in representatives in the committee.</li> </ol>

	<p>insecurity in the State. Although security is fundamentally under the purview of the federal government, the Committee could ensure that the State government contributes to assisting the Federal government. The Committee could also advocate for inculcating non – conventional ways of curbing insecurity by investing in social capital. These include the roles of community leaders, religions organizations, peer groups and the smallest unit of the society – the family</p> <p>3. S3 to T2: through legislation, the committee should be committed to passing laws that cause the improvement</p>	
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	<p>of wellbeing across the state as well as redistributive laws (taxes and subsidies) to reduce inequality. Some of these laws may include a State health insurance scheme, state pension scheme, progressive taxes that favour the poor over the rich, food subsidies, and state-owned cash transfers to the most vulnerable in the society. While these policies are constrained by available resources, given insecurity concerns, these ideas should be given priority.</p> <p>4. S1 to T4: Government to engage NGOs and other donor agencies to access funds to cater for the social development projects. Also, social development and</p>	
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	<p>gender issues should be prioritized in the state appropriation Acts. To foster these, the Committee should ensure strict adherence to standardized Public financial management strategies – fiscal responsibility and sustainability of the executive’s expenditure. The Committee may focus on transparency, accountability, and reporting of the expenditures.</p>	
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Source: Field Survey, 2020.

TWOS and SWOT analysis can be excellent, fast tool for exploring the possibilities for initiating new directions for the House of Assembly. It can also be used for decision making within committees or even by individuals. A SWOT analysis looks at future possibilities for the legislature through a systematic approach of self-examination into both positive and negative concerns. It is a relatively simple way of communicating ideas, policies, and concerns to others. It can help the House of Assembly members to quickly expand their vision. Probably the strongest message from a SWOT analysis is that, whatever course of action is decided, decision making should contain each of the following elements: building on Strengths, minimizing Weaknesses, seizing Opportunities, and counteracting Threats.

The implication of the SWOT and TWOS analysis to the Committee of social development and women affairs generally entails that by considering internal factors and external factors in the decision planning process, effective execution is guaranteed which simply explains mitigating threats and weaknesses while harnessing strengths and opportunities.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION, AND RECOMMENDATION

#### 5.1 Summary

The study focused on the SWOT Analysis of Yobe State House of Assembly, Damaturu, Yobe State. The main focus of the study is the Committee of Social Development and Women Affairs. Chapter one gives a brief background of the study, basics on SWOT Analysis, brief on the Yobe State and its legislature, the research gap the study intends to fill, the research questions and the specific objectives which the research intends to achieve, the significance, the scope and limitation of the study.

The concept of SWOT Analysis and how it affects an organization are discussed on chapter two. Empirical findings reviewed were on Nigerian legislature in general and its functions. Also, Chapter three gave a background of the study area, sampling procedure, sources of data and expected outcome of the study. SWOT analysis was used to analyse the data and TOWS matrix was used for discussion.

Results and discussion were presented in chapter four. The result for the functions of Committee of Social Development indicated that the main function of the committee is creating opportunities, tackling disadvantage and improving health and well-being of the society. The result on SWOT analysis indicate the identified strengths which are: Direct Access to the Governor, other relevant agencies and stakeholders; Access to all law enforcement agencies and housing policy and legislation. Weaknesses identified include: Delay in Assent of Bill and weak implementation by the Executive Arm of Government Limited Tenure of legislators and Low morale of house of assembly staff. Opportunities identified Availability of United Nations backed

International NGOs Access to basic services is increasing; New Airport for easy movement of goods and services. Finally, the threats identified include: Increasing gender inequality, social media and bias reportage; Income inequalities, Poverty, No Social Protection and insurgency.

After identifying the SWOT, we then moved ahead to present the TOWS matrix which involves moving a SWOT analysis to action plan. The TOWS analysis makes it easier to mitigate threats and weaknesses while harnessing strengths and opportunities. Some of the strategies include: consistent collaboration of UN backed NGOs with the executive arm of Government and other stakeholders in adapting existing policies and programs, as well as providing new proactive strategies aimed at ensuring improved social development and reduce gender based disparities. It also found out that: through legislation, the committee would be committed to passing laws that causes the improvement of wellbeing across the state as well as redistributive laws (taxes and subsidies) to reduce inequality.

The last chapter (5) gives a summary of the work, conclusions and recommendations. Conclusions were drawn in consonance with the findings of the study. Recommendations were also made based on the major findings of the study.

## **5.2 Conclusion**

The study concluded that main function of the committee is creating opportunities, tackling disadvantage and improving health and well- being of the society. Thus, the SWOT analysis suggest several ways to solve the threats and weaknesses including Government to use the availability of NGOs backed by the UN to assist in developing policies that will help the society in terms of housing, healthcare and infrastructure. And with regards to threat of insurgency bedevilling the entire region thereby stopping legislative duties and total lockdown, the SWOT suggested involving the law enforcement agencies to wake up to the task to end the insurgency.



### **5.3 Recommendation**

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations were offered: Firstly, given the high rate of insecurity, to sign a letter of memorandum with the NGOs and other partners so as to forestall the collaboration in an effort to improve the social development and reduce gender based violence as well as to schedule meetings, trainings, conferences, round table discussions with the executive arm, NGOs and relevant partners to see a way forward with respect to the committee functions..

The committee should engage the security agencies to give high priority to border towns, especially, the international borders, IDP camps, places of worship in other to secure the lives of the vulnerable and the committee should engage the executive to see how they can draft a housing plan which include accessible housing, cheaper housing and flexible mode of payment so as to contain the situation of housing deficits.

The house of assembly should make a legal binding on policies and projects continuity so as irrespective of who is there, the law will compel and make new members to continue from where the previous members stopped as a result of tenure expiry.

The committee should include and make International NGOs participate in their public hearings and functions of the committee as these organizations have experiences in their countries so as to enable them to give advices. Finally, the committee to also allow the media to have access to information as enshrined by the Freedom of Information Act so as to allow for more transparency, accountability, more open and more public hearing. The media personnel should be harassed or arrested in their line of duty.

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