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# **A review of the gender barriers confronting women and girls in pastoral communities in Nigeria's Sahel region: The case of Bauchi and Gombe states**

This study aims to identify the socio-cultural, economic and institutional factors contributing to gender inequalities among the pastoralists of Bauchi and Gombe States in Nigeria's Sahel region

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By { "@context": "https://schema.org", "author": { "@context": "https://schema.org", "@type": "Person", "name": "Boris Happy Odalonu", "url":

"https://www.sparc-knowledge.org/about-us/contributors/authors/boris-happy-odalonu" } }

[Boris Happy Odalonu](#) { "@context": "https://schema.org", "author": { "@context":

"https://schema.org", "@type": "Person", "name": "Job Eronmhonsele", "url":

"https://www.sparc-knowledge.org/about-us/contributors/authors/job-eronmhonsele" } } [Job](#)

[Eronmhonsele](#) { "@context": "https://schema.org", "author": { "@context":

"https://schema.org", "@type": "Person", "name": "Mercy Edejeghwro", "url":

"https://www.sparc-knowledge.org/about-us/contributors/authors/mercy-edejeghwro" } }

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A nomadic Fulani child in Bauchi State, Nigeria, being vaccinated  
Credit Image by NSTOP Team / CDC Global - CC BY 2.0

This journal article, produced under the International Development Research Centre research grant to advance gender equality in fragile food systems, examined the gender barrier driving inequalities among the pastoralists of Nigeria's Sahel Region in particular Bauchi and Gombe States.

The study, published in the International Journal of Research in Social Science and Humanities, aims at identifying the socio-cultural, economic and institutional factors contributing to gender inequalities among the pastoralists. Using a cross-sectional survey design, qualitative data were collected through in-depth interviews and focus group discussions.

Findings reveal that cultural practices and social norms limit women's participation as they are presumed unfit for various duties; power relations, gendered policies and laws also deny women decision-making power. Furthermore, lack of credit and economic opportunities put women in another vulnerable position of being financially trapped. Additionally, patriarchal norms and institutions contribute to gender inequality through exclusion of women from decision-making processes and education.

Based on the findings, the study recommends inclusive policy intercessions emphasizing on gender-sensitive education, better economic opportunities, institutional support, and community involvement. Addressing these problems can help to advance gender equity and development in Sahel Region of Nigeria.

Read the journal article [here](#).

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