

# The Health of Gashaka Gumti National Park using SWOT Analysis

<sup>1,3</sup> Kanati Madaki, <sup>1</sup>Tonga Ak Noweg, <sup>1</sup>Alexander Kiew Anak Sayok, <sup>1</sup>Wong Swee Kiong, <sup>2</sup>Isaac John Umaru

<sup>1</sup>Institute of Biodiversity and Environmental Conservation, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak

<sup>2</sup>Department of Biochemistry, Federal University Wukari Taraba State.

<sup>2</sup>Department of Hospitality Management and Tourism, Faculty of Agric and Life Sciences. Federal University Wukari, Nigeria

**Abstract:-** Biodiversity conservation has witnessed a tremendous growth as several scholars from different jurisdictions have directed their attention toward this subject matter. The aim of this study is to assess the health of Gashaka Gumti National Park using SWOT Analysis. The study design combines both quantitative and qualitative research, this research was to develop a questionnaire as a means to collect primary data from sampled subjects. The purpose of this data is to achieve the research objectives. This study used both construct validity and content validity and the questionnaire seeks responses on health of the national park. The participant (households) opinion was sought on threats (e.g., poaching, logging, farming etc.) on Gashaka Gumti National Park (GGNP) and require to indicate YES or NO as well as likert scale. This study makes several contributions to knowledge in terms of methodology, empirical evidence and as well as theoretical. This findings open new research page for in-depth discussions on weakness and strengths, threats and opportunity of National parks. The study applied to identify appropriate variables to predict the cases. The contribution is that tourism development and biodiversity literature is enhanced by the findings of this work.

**Keywords:-** Evaluation, Healthy, Gashaka, Gumti, National, Park, SWOT.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Biodiversity conservation has witnessed a tremendous growth as several scholars from different jurisdictions have directed their attention toward this subject matter (Jarvis et al., 2000; Hobb, 2002; Cardinale et al., 2012). This growth shows the importance to academia in addressing the critical issues of biodiversity conservation society is grappling with over the last decade. The term biodiversity was first introduced by Raymond F. Dasmann in 1968 in a book titled “A Different kind of Country advocating Conservation”. Since then, it has gradually evolved, and several definitions have been introduced (see Wilson, 1988; Rosen, 1985; Leveque & Mounolou, 2003).

But, the common cited one is provided by “Convention on Biological Diversity as defined: “the variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species

and of ecosystems” (CDB,1992).In simple terms, it refers to all the variety of life that can be found on Earth (plants, animals, fungi and micro-organisms) as well as to the communities that they form and the habitats in which they live. The increasing attention on biodiversity conservation is due to fact its intended value is being threatened at a faster rate (Wilson 1988;) which has led to a considerable loss of wild life and their habitat relative to biological average rate (Johnson et al., 2017).

The fast decline of endanger species and habitat has been attributed to imprints of humanity, which started many years ago, when people fed on carnivores. A case in point is where almost two –thirds carnivores, in the categories of cats, and hyenas were lost. In addition, twelve (12) varieties of elephants and their kind domicile in Africa about “3 million years ago ‘were reduced to two (2) (Johnson et al., 2017). Similar losses took place in the Americas, where “large-bodied animals (mega fauna) such as saber-toothed cats, mammoths and giant ground sloths” disappeared following the arrival of humans about “11,000–13,000 years ago” (Brooks et al., 2003).

The threat to diversity is not limited only loss of endangered species, but loss of habitat due human growth and expansion of economic activities, such as farming, deforestation, climate change, overexploitation and amongst others (Adetola & Adetoro, 2014, Gashaw ,2015). With the expected human growth of 8.3 billion and average life expectancy exceeding 85 years in 2030 globally, demands of societies and households will be more diverse than anticipated. The consequence thereof will further enlarge the imprints of men leading to rapid transformation of habitat into communities and increasing economic activities thereby destroying the entire biotic resources (Nakamura 2006; Johnson et al., 2017).

In response to the present rate of extinction of species, conserving biodiversity is warranted to stem the tide, safeguard and protect the existing species (Tagowa and Buba, 2012). Several international initiatives have been taken to harness efforts to curtail further loss biodiversity. The most important is the Convention on Biological Diversity, with objectives of conserving biological diversity, sustaining the use of the components of biological diversity, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic Resources (UNEP-WCMC 2014).Through the CBD, an agreement was reached to achieve a significant reduction in the current trend of loss biodiversity was the targeted by