



# Rapid Protection Assessment Report

Borno State, Nigeria



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH





# OBJECTIVE

The Borno PSWG Rapid Protection Assessment Report compiles information from both data collection in IDP sites around Maiduguri (Part I) as well as in recently liberated satellite camps of Damboa and Dikwa (Part II).

The assessment of displacement sites around Maiduguri Metropolis (MMC, Jere, Konduga) was conducted in order to obtain a full picture of protection issues and severity in all sites around Maiduguri in order to prioritize the most pressing issues and severe sites, for targeted rapid interventions.

Due to the opening up of limited humanitarian accessibility in areas formerly under Boko Haram control, the need for a rapid protection assessment in Dikwa and Damboa was urgently raised. The assessment objective was to identify pressing protection concerns in the satellite IDP camps to inform immediate interventions to the most vulnerable, a rapid Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) response, as well as to promote access, dignity and accountability to displaced currently experiencing the most severe of circumstances.

**“This is not your place,  
this is our place.”**

*IDPs in Jidumuri recount what host community members tell them*



# PART I: RAPID PROTECTION ASSESSMENT IN IDP SITES AROUND MAIDUGURI

## OVERVIEW

A rapid protection assessment was conducted by PSWG Borno, led by UNHCR, from May 10-14, 2016 in Maiduguri Metropolis (Maiduguri, Jere and Konduga LGAs) with the view to identify protection issues at the community-level in all camps and host communities in Maiduguri. It was noted that not only had there had not been a comprehensive community-level protection assessment in all Maiduguri sites, but also that humanitarian assistance and attention

has only targeted specific IDP camps (such as Bakassi, Dalori and NYSC) and that other camps and host communities in general were being largely overlooked by humanitarians. The objective of the assessment was to therefore provide a fulsome site-level account of protection issues in Maiduguri and be able to highlight the most pressing concerns for rapid response by protection actors



169

Participatory assessments conducted (FGD & KII)



26

Assessed Sites

12

Formal Camps

2

Informal Camps

12

Host Community

### Severity ranking by protection issues

No. of groups assessed

% of 11 physical risks reported across groups<sup>1</sup>

% of 3 SGBV issues reported across groups<sup>2</sup>

|                                |            |     |      |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----|------|
| 1. Farm Center Camp            | 9          | 64% | 100% |
| 2. EYN Camp                    | 12         | 55% | 100% |
| 3. Kushari Host Community (HC) | 8          | 55% | 100% |
| 4. Mogolis Camp                | 7          | 45% | 100% |
| 5. NYSC Camp                   | 7          | 45% | 67%  |
| 6. Bakasi Camp                 | 9          | 45% | 67%  |
| 7. Shehu Sanda Kayrimi Camp    | 10         | 36% | 67%  |
| 8. Muna Informal Site          | 6          | 36% | 67%  |
| 9. Dalori I Camp               | 7          | 36% | 67%  |
| 10. Teachers Village Camp      | 6          | 36% | 67%  |
| 11. Gonikachallari Camp        | 12         | 27% | 67%  |
| 12. Dalori II Camp             | 7          | 36% | 33%  |
| 13. ATC Camp                   | 8          | 36% | 0%   |
| 14. Gubio Camp                 | 2          | 36% | 0%   |
| 15. Maimusari Bus Stop HC      | 7          | 27% | 33%  |
| 16. Damboa Road HC             | 4          | 9%  | 67%  |
| 17. Gomari HC                  | 6          | 18% | 33%  |
| 18. Dalori Village HC          | 5          | 27% | 0%   |
| 19. Custom/Ruwan Zafi HC       | 4          | 18% | 33%  |
| 20. Judumari HC                | 4          | 18% | 0%   |
| 21. Galtimari Fori HC          | 6          | 9%  | 33%  |
| 22. Dalori Quarters HC         | 3          | 9%  | 0%   |
| 23. Goni Kachallari HC         | 6          | 9%  | 0%   |
| 24. Shuwari Tashan Kano HC     | 4          | 9%  | 0%   |
| 25. Babbari Informal Site      | 6          | 0%  | 0%   |
| 26. Madinatu HC                | 4          | 0%  | 0%   |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>169</b> |     |      |

### Participatory assessment groups

No. of groups assessed

% of 11 physical risks reported across groups

% of 3 SGBV issues reported across groups

|                    |            |     |      |
|--------------------|------------|-----|------|
| Boys (8-17)        | 25         | 64% | 100% |
| Girls (8-17)       | 21         | 73% | 100% |
| Men (18-59)        | 25         | 73% | 100% |
| Women (18-59)      | 26         | 64% | 100% |
| Men (60 Above)     | 22         | 64% | 100% |
| Women (60 Above)   | 18         | 55% | 100% |
| Minority           | 13         | 73% | 67%  |
| Security Personnel | 4          | 18% | 33%  |
| Camp Personnel     | 7          | 64% | 100% |
| IDP Leaders        | 8          | 36% | 67%  |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>169</b> |     |      |

<sup>1</sup> Physical risks includes the following incidents: attacks or bombings, killings of civilians by military/armed groups, other physical violence (abuse, torture, mutilation), tensions/hostility with host community, arbitrary arrest/detention, release from abduction (under Boko Haram) and social discrimination/exclusion. Other protection issues, including forced recruitment by CJTF/vigilantes, presence of landmines/IEDs, trafficking and destruction of property were excluded from trend analysis due to de minimis reporting.

<sup>2</sup> SGBV issues include rape/sexual abuse, sexual exploitation and domestic violence/abuse/neglect.



# METHODOLOGY

The assessment was conducted by 17 screeners broken up into three teams, including PSWG members such as NEMA, SEMA and the PSWG Secretariat and was supervised by UNHCR. The methodology used was mainly focus group discussions (FGDs) with internally displaced, broken up into 8-17 years old bracket (girls/boys), 18-59 years old (women/men) and above 60 (women/men). When possible, especially in the more orderly camp setting, screeners further separated age groups (into divisions of 8-12, 13-17, 18-39 and 40-59) to

allow for heightened uniformity within the focus groups to draw out sensitive protection concerns within a comfortable environment. Focus group discussions were also held with ethnic/LGA minorities in each of the sites. Key informant interviews (KIIs) were further conducted in each site with camp management, IDP leadership and where possible, with camp security. All camps and nearly all identifiable informal sites/host communities in and around Maiduguri were assessed.

**“We need equal rights  
with IDPs in camps.”**

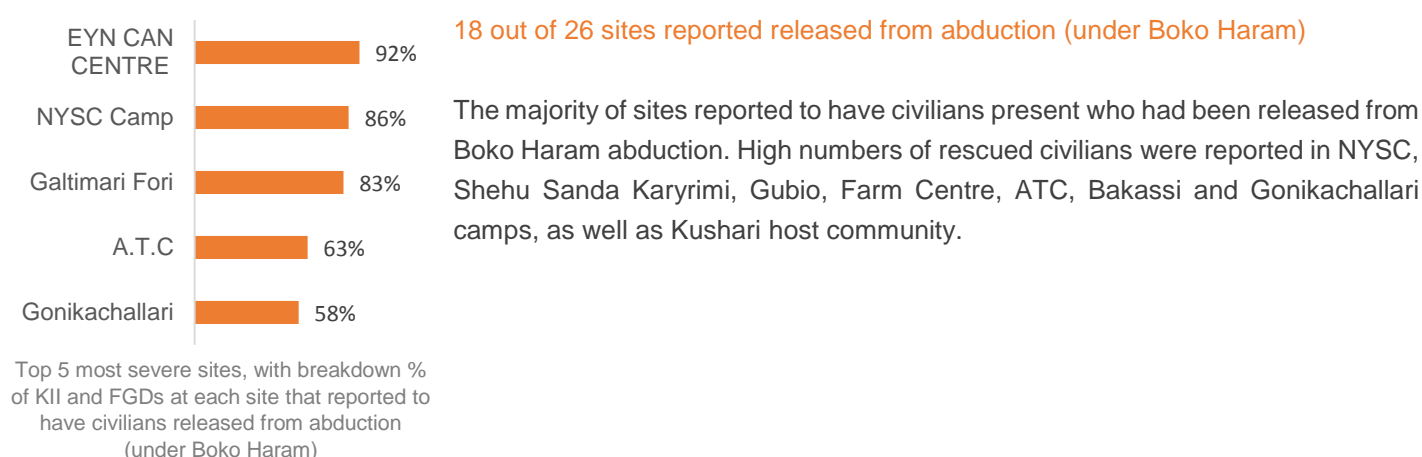
*IDPs in Galtimari Fori host community on their urgent  
needs for assistance*



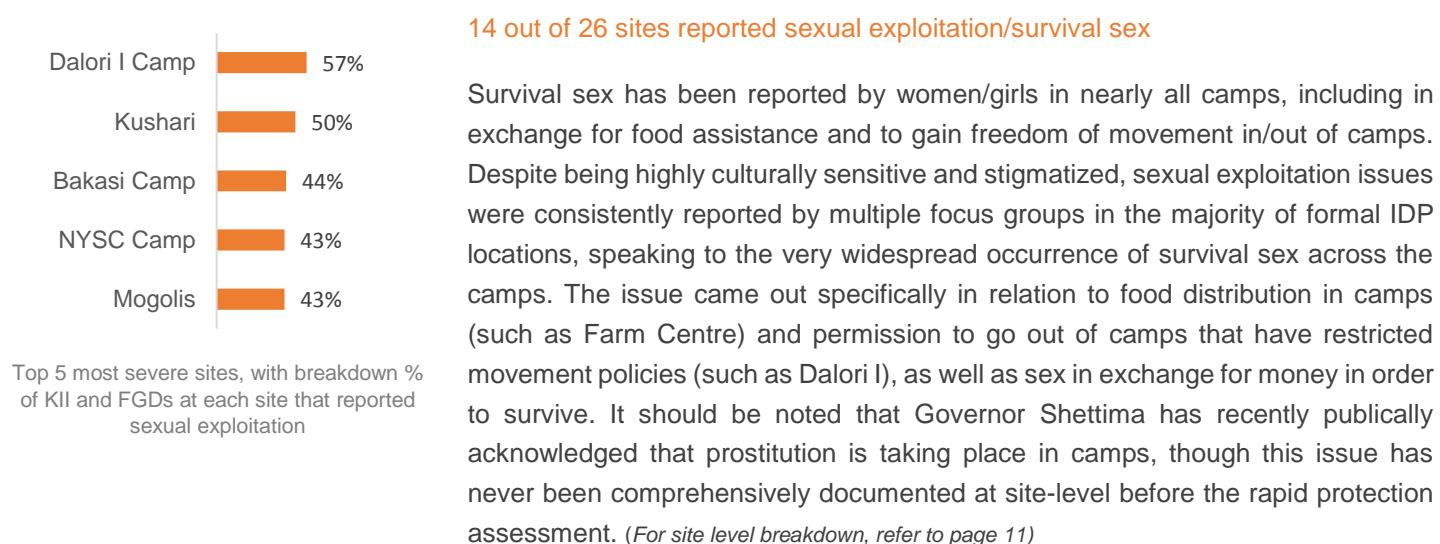
# KEY SUMMARY PROTECTION FINDINGS

ISSUES ARE RANKED ACCORDING TO PREVALANCE OF RESPONSES

## 1. RELEASED FROM ABDUCTION (UNDER BOKO HARAM)



## 2. SEXUAL EXPLOITATION



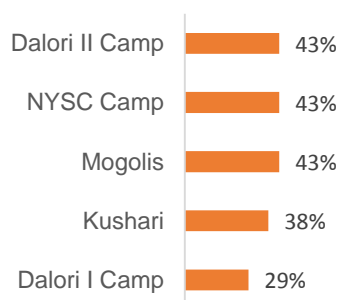


# “They are spoiling most of our girls.”

IDPs describing perpetrators of rapes and sexual exploitation in Farm Centre Camp



## 3. OTHER PHYSICAL VIOLENCE (VIOLENCE, TORTURE, MUTILATION)



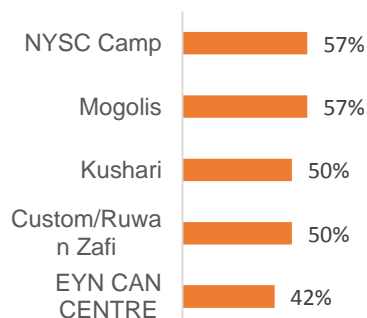
Top 5 most severe sites, with breakdown % of KII and FGDs at each site that reported other physical violence (abuse, torture, mutilation)

13 out of 26 sites reported other physical violence (abuse, torture, mutilation)

Tensions have arisen between displaced from different ethnic groups as well as different areas of origin. For instance, Bakassi has 3 major tribes in the camp and there has been tension between the different groups. Further, in Kushari host community, hostility has developed between ethnic groups (Kanuri and Bura groups), especially in relation to distributions.

During distributions, fighting between IDPs was reported by in Dalori I, Dalori II, Shehu Sanda Kayrimi and NYSC camps and Kushai host community. In Shuwari Tashan Kano host community, physical violence amongst women in the community was noted. IDPs in Farm Centre, Goni Kachallari and Mogolis camps report abuses against them especially at the camp gate and on camp premises.

## 4. RAPE / SEXUAL ABUSE



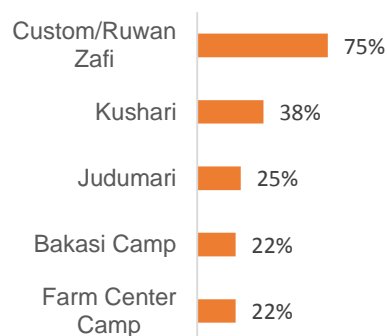
Top 5 most severe sites, with breakdown % of KII and FGDs at each site that reported rape or sexual abuse

12 out of 26 sites reported rape or sexual abuse

Though rape is highly culturally stigmatized with social implications against the survivor, nearly every IDP camp reported incidents of rape while several host communities also reported cases. The majority of incidents are reported to being perpetrated with impunity. Security issues for women/girls were further noted, including lack of light in bathing and latrine areas and harassment of women/girls in conducting their daily activities. Focus groups discussions comprised separately of men, women, elderly, girls and boys each reported cases of women and girls being raped in their camps and communities.

(For site level breakdown, refer to page 13)

## 5. TENSIONS BETWEEN IDPs AND HOST COMMUNITIES

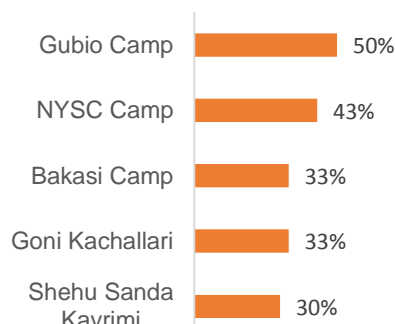


Top 5 most severe sites, with breakdown % of KII and FGDs at each site that reported tensions/hostility with host community

11 out of 26 sites reported tensions/hostility with host community

In the prolonged situation of displacement of on average 1-2 years in many locations around Maiduguri, tensions are being fueled between the displaced population and the communities hosting them. Hostility by members of the host community was noted by IDPs in Custom/Ruwan Zafi, while in Jidumuri, host community members have told IDPs “this is not your place, this is our place.” In Shokari host community, IDPs lack a borehole and have been begging host community members for water, facing subsequent harassment. Such is further the case around certain IDP camps where IDPs are frequenting to try to obtain resources such as water, as reported over the last months in Farm Centre Camp.

## 6. DISCRIMINATION IN ACCESS TO ASSISTANCE



Top 5 most severe sites, with breakdown % of KII and FGDs at each site that reported social discrimination/exclusion

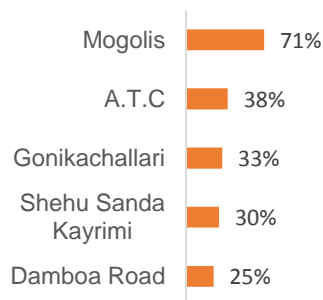
11 out of 26 sites reported discrimination in access to assistance

The diversion of assistance away from minority groups (ethnic minorities or communities from less represented LGAs in their location) was reported in both camps and host communities. Such discrimination in access to assistance was noted in Kushari and Goni Kachallari host communities as well as Shehu Sandi Karimi, Gubio, Dalori II, Bakassi and EYN CAN Centre camps, where it was reported that the majority population (often Kanuri) favor their own tribe during distributions.

In Farm Centre, elderly and disabled individuals noted that some are unable to go to the distribution point to collect assistance. Some disabled reported that when they wait in the queue, IDPs will throw them out of the queue and therefore requested a separate queue for disabled to wait in. It was further reported that in Dalori I and II, disabled children are not being allowed to go to school.

In Mogolis Camp, minority elderly women from Abadan LGA noted that they don't trust the IDP leader because he has diverted food assistance away from those from minority locations. The women have stayed quiet though, worried that if they report such issues, that they will get kicked out of the camp.

## 7. ARBITRARY ARREST / DETENTION

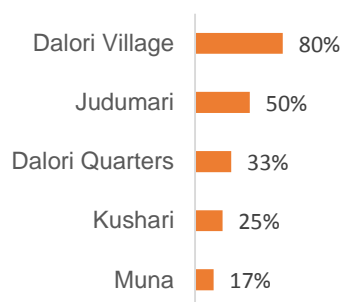


9 out of 26 sites reported arbitrary arrest or detention

IDPs report incidents where suspected members of Boko Haram have been recently arrested from camps and host communities and detained. In such cases, family members largely report to have not heard from the detainee since their arrest. IDPs in Teacher's Village camp note that "no one knows where they were taken."

Top 5 most severe sites, with breakdown % of KII and FGDs at each site that reported arbitrary arrest or detention

## 8. ATTACKS OR BOMBINGS



7 out of 26 sites response attacks or bombings

Of the IDP sites that reported attacks or bombings, the January 2016 attack was reported on Dalori Village, a bombing 6 months ago was cited in Judumari host community and Kushari host community reported just the previous day a bomb blast tore through the mosque in the community.

Top 5 most severe sites, with breakdown % of KII and FGDs at each site that reported attacks or bombings

## 9. KILLINGS OF CIVILIANS (BY THE MILITARY / ARMED GROUPS)

7 out of 26 sites response attacks or bombings

Cases of killings of IDPs include outside Farm Centre camp, where a civilian was killed by Boko Haram, and at Teacher's Village camp, where a boy was mysteriously killed in the camp at night and no one knows whose responsible. Slaying of IDPs was reported during the attack on Dalori village in February and an IDP was reported beaten to death in NYSC camp 8 months ago.

In Bakassi camp, during a distribution of school uniforms in the camp, children from Gwoza felt the items weren't properly distributed, leading to a displaced girl being severely beaten by her peers and dying the following day. The incident led to some of the parents not letting their children go to school.



# OTHER PROTECTION FINDINGS

## DIVERSION OF DISTRIBUTIONS

Across the board, lack of accountability was noted regarding distributions, as well as the lack IDP participation in the process. Diversion of distributions was reported in many camps in a variety of contexts, including diversion of food and medical assistance, painting a picture of a camp system in which the CCCM system is not properly functioning.

IDPs overwhelmingly voice their preference that distributions are provided household to household (and where possible, room by room) to avoid diversion of distributions. Many focus groups requested that IDPs be involved in all aspects of the distribution process through IDP leadership representing all ethnicities/LGAs of IDPs at the site. Further, IDPs cite the need for better information sharing between them and humanitarians, requesting to participate in organizational meetings and decisions that affect them.

In a couple of sites, IDPs stated that they are “tired of staying in the camps” and want the government to make an effort to bring safety back to their hometown so that they can return.

## DRUG ABUSE IN CAMPS

The issue of drug sales and abuse in camps was reported, as IDPs are creating their own mixture of cough syrup and other elements in the camp to make them high and temporarily forget their trauma. In Teacher’s Village camp at least three vendors of such homemade drug were noted inside the camp and NYSC also has vendors. Even children are reported to be using the mixture.

## SAFETY AND SECURITY OF CIVILIANS

**86%** of the Focus Group Discussions said that they feel safe, some citing the presence of military around the site. Of the **9%** of FGDs that affirmatively reported not to feel safe, some sites reported that there is no security around their host community/informal site (such as Babbari, EYN CAN centre and Muna). Hostility among community members and IDPs was reported by a few sites (Kushari, Maimusari and Mogolis), while Farm Centre camp residents stated that nighttime abuses against IDPs is contributing to a sense of insecurity in the camp.

## HARASSMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

Harassment of women and girls was reported in both camps and host communities, often in the course of conducting daily activities such as water collection. Harassment was mainly reported to be by host community members and area boys (Shokari, Custom/Ruwan Zafi, Damboa Road and Dalori host communities), though harassment by IDP males has also been identified (Goni Kachallari host community). In Teacher’s Village camp, women report that they feel unsafe in the camp because many of the males in the camp take drugs and then will harass the women. IDPs in Shokari host community also reported harassment by host community members, of seeking to trade water for sex.

# LACK OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO HOST COMMUNITIES

Many host communities around Maiduguri report to have nearly never received assistance from humanitarian actors and are desperate for intervention, while they feel that camps have been prioritized. Multiple focus groups of IDPs in host communities requested “equal rights with IDPs in camps” to receive assistance. FGDs reported a severe lack of food, shelter, water and medical care, as well as an overall lack of presence of humanitarian actors.

Specially, 5 out of 12 host communities (Babbari, Dalori Quarters, Custom/Ruwan Zafi, Goni Kachallari and Muna) reported not to have been met by humanitarian response. Maimusari Bus Stop host community reported to only be reached by UNHCR, while Shuwari Tashan Kano was reached by ACF and IRC. All other sites reported to have been reached by at least three agencies with some type of assistance.

Alarming, screeners uncovered a measles outbreak in two host communities, Goni Kachallari and Madinatu, where many children, as well as some of the adults, have measles. The IDP leader reported that the outbreak began towards the end of last year, when measles started to spread in the community. Uncovering active cases of measles within these communities with no access medical care, zero current humanitarian intervention, or even knowledge of its occurrence, is quite worrisome.

IDPs in host communities widely report to lack mechanisms to address their issues. When asked what services are in place to help meet their needs, IDPs in Custom/Ruwan Zafi host community stated, “Nothing, we just depend on god.”

## “Nothing. We just depend on God.”

*IDPs in Custom/Ruwan Zafi host community when asked what services are in place to help meet their needs*

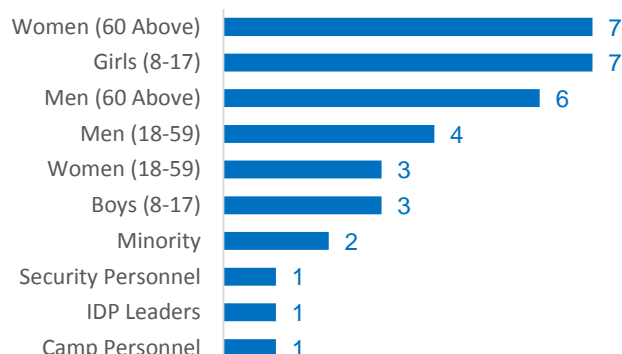




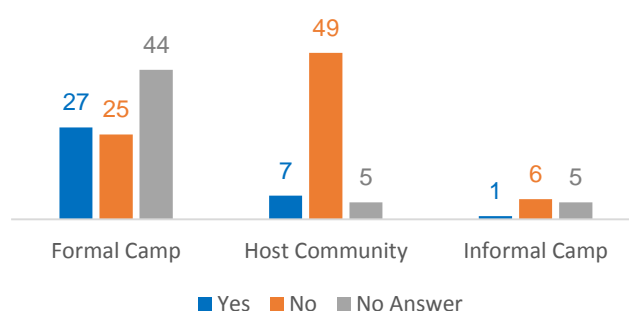
# Site-level details on key SGBV findings

## Sexual Exploitation

Responses: # of focus groups reported Sexual Exploitation by group category (from 35 who responded "Yes")



Responses: # of groups reported Sexual Exploitation by location type (Total of 35 groups responded "Yes" out of 169)



**Sexual Exploitation & Food Assistance:** In Farm Centre Camp, women reported that many women in the camp have had to exchange sex for food, including a few of the women in the focus group. The issue was said to be widespread in the camp, one woman stated that maybe half of the women she knows in the camp have had to sleep with service providers for food assistance, while another woman said around 50 women in the camp have had to engage in such exploitative activities. The women reported the food distribution to be random, often excluding certain LGAs and because of the dire need for food, IDP women have had to resort to trading sex for food assistance. Such information was confirmed in Farm Centre Camp through focus group discussions with both elderly and boys. Elderly reported that some female family members were getting pregnant from sexual exploitation and were under pressure to have sex from those with authority. A demand from female IDPs for sex in exchange for food assistance was further reported by girls in Dalori I camp.

**Sexual Exploitation & Freedom of Movement:** In the camp setting, sexual exploitation has been reported where permission to exit is being refused to IDP women/girls unless they submit to sexual advances. Ensuring the right of IDPs to freedom of movement is directly related to such abuse of power and forcing displaced women/girls to trade sex for freedom of movement.

- In Dalori I camp, IDP women/girls reported widespread sexual exploitation in denying them ability to exit the camp unless they agree to sex.
- In Farm Centre camp, where a 6am/6:30pm curfew is enforced, women/girls are forced to trade sex for permission to leave the camp after/before curfew to fetch water.
- In Dalori II camp, it was reported that females are pressured to have sex in order to get permission each time they want to leave the camp.

### Survival Sex & Early/Forced Marriage:

- Boys in Farm Center Camp reported that their sisters were getting pregnant out of marriage and that parents of the girls would then marry them off to men both inside and out of the camp in order to prevent social stigma from the pregnancy. Boys identified at least 20 cases of such forced early marriage, with the majority of girls being under 15 years old.
- In EYN CAN Centre camp, parents reported to be afraid of sexual abuse/pregnancy of their daughters, so they would rather marry them off. Such forced marriage to prevent sexual exploitation was also reported in Damboa Road host community.
- In Goni Kachalari camp, a focus group of boys reported that many girls are being forced to marry by their parents and caretakers. Elderly women corroborated such report, stating that many girls in the camp are being forced to marry.

### Other Survival Sex Trends:

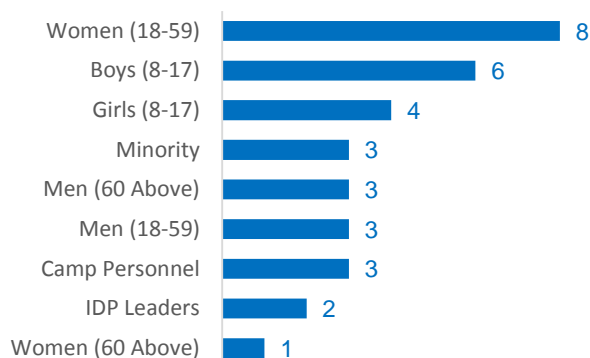
- In Bakassi camp, elderly reported that females face pressure from men to be forced to be their “girlfriends.” Security personnel in the camp reported that “there are women who are into sex for survival willingly.” Girls reported that most of the single-female headed households have to rely on men outside their families to support their livelihoods because they do not have any other way to make a living. Persons with disabilities reported that “many women,” including single females, have had to resort to sex with those with authority for survival. They further reported that many girls are pregnant and they don’t know who is responsible for the pregnancy.
- In Mogolis camp, elderly minority women reported that there are many cases of survival sex of IDP women inside and outside the camp with those with authority in the camp, as well as host community members. Such women reported that 20 cases alone of survival sex was from women from their LGA and that some of the women are getting pregnant from the survival sex. The women described both cases of “IDP prostitutes willingly engaging in sex” and also the many cases of “IDP women, including divorce women with kids, are relying on boyfriends for support.”
- In EYN camp, separate focus groups with elderly women, members of the minority group, girls and men each report that women/girls in the camp are involved in survival sex activities outside of the camp, including sneaking out of the camp at night to have sex with men in town.
- Camp personnel in Dalori I reported that around a sizeable percentage of women and girls in the camp are using sex for survival due to lack of livelihood.

Some of host communities including Kushari, Muna, Maimusari Bus Stop and Gomari also report a number of cases of IDP women having to resort to trading sex in order to survive.

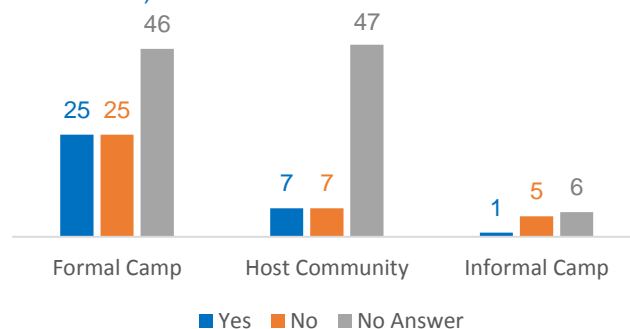


# RAPE OR SEXUAL ABUSE

Responses: # of focus groups reported rape or sexual abuse by group category (from 33 who responded "Yes")



Responses: # of groups reported rape or sexual abuse by location type (total of 33 groups responded "Yes" out of 169)



- A focus group with girls ages 8-12 reported that there are rape cases in Dalori II, especially in areas of the camp where there is no light. Young girls also reported being harassed by males in the camp during their daily activities, such as when they go to fetch water and collect food.
- A focus group discussion with men in Farm Centre Camp brought out that those with authority are raping women and girls in the camp with impunity. They report that attacks happen when women/girls go to bathe, especially in the evening, since the shower area is dark. Men said that lights are need around the bath area to increase the safety of women and girls.
- In Bakassi camp, several rape cases have been reported and there have been cases of sexual abuse and harassment of female IDP teenagers by those with authority.
- In NYSC camp, girls reported that there is a high number of rape cases by those with authority, as well as by males within the camp, resulting in a number of pregnancies. Girls said that they do not to feel safe in the camp because of the rapes.
- In Kululori host community, 10 girls were raped by members of the host community, resulting in the impregnation of 5 of the girls.
- In Shehu Sandi Karimi camp, incidents of rape were reported to be perpetrated, including by those with authority.
- 3 rape cases of girls ages 5-9 were reported in Mogolis camp by a perpetrator who was arrested and handed over to the police. Girls reported that they don't feel safe when they bathe or collect water.
- Recent individual rape cases were further reported in EYN CAN Centre, Teacher's Village and Goni Kachallari camps as well as Kushari host community.

# RANKING OF URGENT NEEDS FOR ASSISTANCE

IDPs consistently report that food is their most urgent priority and that they are desperate for increased food assistance in both camps and host communities. At ATC camp IDPs state “we feel like we are fasting and it is affecting our health.” In Custom/Ruwan Zafi community, “most of the IDPs don’t have food to eat.” In Farm Centre Camp, “sometimes we go a day without eating” and in Dalori II, “IDPs eat one time in a day.” IDP focus groups widely voice the need to be able to cook their own food. In camps where there is a communal kitchen and group cooking, IDPs strongly state their preference to be provided with dry ingredients and be able to cook individually, per household.

IDPs also report widespread need for water, as in camps, boreholes often require generators to run, and diesel has barely been provided to keep boreholes running. In Muna host community, for example, IDPs have to go far distances to retrieve water and feel that they are vulnerable to attacks en route.

Lack of food and water are reported to be perpetuating issues of sexual exploitation as well as harassment. In Farm Centre, IDPs report that they try to leave the camp in the cooler morning or evening hours to retrieve bring back water due to shortages in the camp, but that when they come back after curfew, they are either subject to degrading punishments such as being made to “frog jump” (hop about like a frog) or at times not being allowed to reenter the camp and having to sleep outside.

Vast shelter needs were reported, especially in connection with the start of rainy season. According to IDPs in NYSC camp, “We are not protected from sun and rain. We have nowhere to run when it’s raining or when the sun is too hot.”

After food, water and shelter, IDPs report urgent needs for livelihood support, medical care and education.



**“We feel like we are fasting and it is affecting our health.”**

*IDP focus group in ATC camp*





# KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

## FROM PSWG BORNO THROUGH MOWASD AS SECTOR LEAD

- Advise that SEMA expands the Camp Management structure to ensure each sector in the camp is covered by a focal representative that liaises with the Sector agencies and IDP committees in the camps.
- Freedom of movement for IDPs must be rigorously advocated for, including by Civ-Mil coordination, in order to change policies in camps.
- IDP leaders, including IDP leadership of women and minority groups, should participate in all distributions in camps in order to increase accountability.
- Scale up protection monitoring in both camps and host communities to quickly identify protection issues in the future and work to build camp and community-based structures to respond appropriately to such break down in systems and to increase accountability in CCCM. Should ensure registration and profiling of all vulnerable cases, as well as issuance of documentation of registration for follow up targeting.
- Recommend that trainings for camp management and security are scaled up, including trainings on humanitarian and protection principles, CCCM and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.
- Survivor safe houses are of significance and the SGBV sub-sector and PSWG should take the lead on access to justice for survivors. Targeted advocacy/engagement is recommended to ensure that perpetrators of SGBV are removed from the camp setting and dealt with through proper legal channels. Further, recommend awareness raising campaigns against sexual exploitation in camps.
- Humanitarian agencies are recommended to target host community members for 30% of all interventions to IDPs in host communities, in order to ease tensions between displaced and the communities hosting them.
- Recommended for NEMA/SEMA to put solar lighting in all communal areas of the camp, particularly around latrines/bath areas. Recommended to greatly scale up the provision of solar lanterns to women/girls in camps and host communities to increase their safety from threats including rape/sexual abuse.
- Recommend that agencies with appropriate mandates significantly increase food assistance in camps and provide systematic food interventions in host communities. Boreholes are needed in camps and host communities that do not rely upon power/generators to allow for consistent access to water; WASH assessment is advised to be conducted in the listed communities for needed intervention.
- Recommend that all camps provide IDPs with dry food items to cook individually, per household, to replace the system of communal cooking.

# Part II: RAPID PROTECTION ASSESSMENT IN LIBERATED LGAs

## OVERVIEW

The protection crisis in Borno state remains severe with significant level of protection needs and risks unaddressed. Nigerian security forces have recaptured 22 out of 27 LGAs towns previously occupied by Boko Haram. The LGAs includes Dikwa, Damboa, Bama and Monguno. This situation has led to opening, albeit very slowly, of the humanitarian access to host communities. Some areas in the outskirts of Maiduguri are relatively safe for humanitarian interventions, although security incidents including bombings and infiltration of Boko Haram requires a certain degree of caution in conducting protection activities. Presently, strict military escort is required to access liberated areas.

Protection must be a central preoccupation of the engagement of humanitarians and government. UNHCR took advantage of the thinly opened corridor to liberated areas to coordinate PSWG rapid assessment in Damboa and Dikwa LGAs. Plans to extend the assessment to Bama and Monguno LGAs were halted following a security incident in Dikwa which led to death of two soldiers from IED.

The assessment in liberated areas was conducted by staff from UNHCR, Ministry of Women Affairs, NEMA, SEMA, representative of Coalition of Civil Societies in Borno and IOM. UNHCR HOSO was the team leader and in all locations he presented the purpose of the mission.

## METHODOLOGY

Considering the immediate need for the assessment, a rapid needs assessment approach was adopted. Key informant interviews (KIIs) were conducted based on their insight into the needs of the affected community members. The KIs included soldiers manning the IDPs camps, IDPs leaders, staff working in the camps mainly NRCS and UNICEF consultants, host community leaders and religious leaders. Focus group discussions were conducted with women, men and adolescent children. A structured questionnaire was used that enquired about the immediate needs and identified key vulnerabilities. The interviewers also toured the camps/host communities to record their observations.

Information collected was divided into 8 sections as follows:

- Route information and demographics showing estimated number of population including areas of origin, ethnicity and number of years displaced.
- Camp coordination
- Safety and physical risks
- Specific vulnerabilities, Sexual exploitation and Child protection issues
- Access to service
- Psychosocial distress and support mechanisms
- Access to information
- Urgent needs

# KEY SUMMARY PROTECTION FINDINGS

## DAMBOA LOCAL GOVERNMENT

### Route, Military Briefing and Demographics

Maiduguri-Damboa is approximately 85 kilometers. The assessment team departed from Maiduguri on 11 May 2016 at 08:30 and arrived in Dambo at 10: 20. The road to Damboa is paved with few pockets of potholes and a damaged bridge. The towns and hamlets along the way to Damboa are deserted except for checkpoints manned by military with heavy weapons and supported with members of the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) and vigilantes. The structures are riddled with bullet holes, debris of burnt vehicles and houses both in the communities and along the way.

Travel to Damboa from Maiduguri is restricted to military escort convoy with heavy firing into abandoned structures by the road side to ward off BH or criminals that may use them as hideout to ambush or attack commuters. According to the military movements to Chibok, Biu or other locations after Damboa are undertaken without escorts but with checkpoints for screening purposes.

Upon arrival, the team made a courtesy call at the Military Base and General Araba in command of the LGA gave a security briefing and general update of Damboa and its environs. He presented the security situation as safe with relative calm within the town. The military is carrying out operations in the remaining pockets of BH strongholds and that has resulted in a series of rescued families being accommodated on a daily basis increasing the numbers in the camps. He also informed that Damboa has received over 15,000 returnees (not from neighboring countries) and has three IDP camps with an estimated population of 9,000 individuals. He highlighted the support received from the State Government and humanitarian actors, mainly ICRC. He emphasized the need for food, water, shelter and medical assistance as crucial for the displaced families.

UNHCR HOSO noted the paramount importance of maintaining the civilian character of the camps and solicited the General's agreement to have a camp management/protection training that will highlight IDPs rights, responsibilities and key issues in camp management to the soldiers managing the camp. This was agreed upon provided that the training will be conducted in Damboa.

There are three IDP camps within Damboa Town:

- **General Hospital IDP Camp:** The estimated population according to the IDP leadership is 7,600 and still receiving new arrivals. The Camp is managed by the military through an IDP representative structure supported by CJTF and Vigilantes. The inhabitants of the camp are originating from Gazama, Gongatilo, Diva, Korodae, Gova (Gwoza LGA), Bori and Mushido Communities. Majority of the camp residents are women and children. The camp was reported to have been established about a year ago.
- **Government Central Primary School IDP Camp:** The estimated population according to the CJTF is 800. The Camp is managed by the military through an IDP representative structure supported by CJTF and Vigilantes. The inhabitants of the camp are originating from Konduga LGA- Nyalari, Falanni, Rimonti, Bumsiri, Galayira, Gambori, Sandiya, Kuwa Kawa, Yajuwa and Aulam communities. From Kaga LGA- Benesheikh and Damboa LGA- Kwanguro, Gazama, Balay and Yerwa communities. There is a balanced mixture of the camp population



constituting 370 female and girls and 345 men and boys. The camp was reported to have been established about seven months ago.

- **Hausari Primary School IDP Camp:** The estimated population according to the CJTF is 300. The Camp is managed by the military through an IDP representative structure supported by CJTF and Vigilantes. The inhabitants of the camp are originating from Konduga LGA- Sandiya and Geriwa communities; Kaga LGA- Benesheikh and Fai communities; Damboa LGA- Bulajimba, Alajeri, Berri, Alimari, Koshua, Wawa, Aburiti and Bulakari communities and Gwoza LGA- Mudubay, Kilikisha, Jongoray and Baley communities. The majority of the camp population is women and children. The camp was reported to have been established about nine months ago.

## Camp coordination

The three camps have been operating between seven months to one year ago on State school and hospital facilities that have been abandoned and identified by the military to temporarily host displaced families. The military manage the camps. Humanitarian (mainly ICRC) and independent actors provide food assistance.

Depending on availability, food is distributed to the IDPs who cook for themselves. The assessment team observed that no one was cooking during the assessment day due to lack of food. One could observe high level of malnourished children and adults. Water is trucked to the camps by the military as there is no other source of water supply in the camps. To complement the scarce distribution IDPs purchase water at 15-20 Naira per bucket.

Medical assistance is provided by UNICEF in two camps, Hausari and General hospital. UNICEF volunteer in charge of the medical tents explained that mortality rate is alarming especially for pregnant women and children. Medical assistance in terms of qualified personnel to handle medical cases and drugs is inadequate.

The toilets (two in each camp used by both male and female without segregation) are all filled up and inadequate. Open defecation is the norm. Women reported that lack of hygiene makes it dangerous to use the toilets.

Shelter is grossly inadequate. Most IDPs sleep out in the open under the trees. When it rains both men and women find space to stand in the congested rooms to make space for children and pregnant women. Camp residents are free to move within the town at a radius of 20 kilometers. Most of them go to beg for food and to find some menial labor that will enable their survival. According to the IDPs this is hard to come by as the host communities are facing similar difficulties. When touring the market one could see few mangoes and food items on sale. Some NFIs (mats and jerry cans) have been distributed to the earlier residents and new arrivals are yet to receive.

## Safety and physical risks

IDPs reported that they are safe in the camps, which is patrolled by the military and CJTF. They claimed to have good relationship with the military and CJTF. New arrivals to the camps are searched by CJTF. The curfew is from 18 to 6 hrs. IDP women claimed that they feel relatively safe as men sleeps outside all the time. One woman with a teenager girl told the team that she escort her child everywhere because she doesn't trust anyone as the camp has people from different LGAs.

When narrating what happened to them before they were rescued from BH, adults cited massive killings, abduction, rape, looting of properties, burning of their houses and forced conscription of adolescent boys. Children reported to have been involved in child labor including collecting firewood and fetching water.





**“If you are not  
strong, you will cry”**

*Humanitarian on witnessing conditions in  
Damboa*



## Specific Vulnerabilities, Sexual exploitation and Child protection

There are physically challenged persons including disabled people and people with mental illness. All disabled people we interviewed had relatives to take care of them, who expressed particular difficulties and additional burden in ensuring their welfare given the situation in the camps. There were a considerable number of pregnant and lactating mothers, some of them young girls under 18 years. The military commander in Damboa noted that the rescued population are mainly women and children, with few elderly or sick men amongst them. According to him, most of these women are always pregnant. During focus group discussion women reported 'forced marriage' to Boko Haram especially during captivity. Reproductive health services to pregnant/lactating mothers are inadequate.

There was no reported incidents of sexual exploitation in the camps, but it was noted that some women have had to engage in survival sex to cater for their families. Women in focus group discussion noted that this is a very personal issues that cannot be discussed openly.

There are separated children and unaccompanied children, who are mostly heads of families. In Hausari camp, CJTF members reported that there were lots of orphaned children. These were reported to be extremely vulnerable and in dire need of basic assistance, mainly food and shelter. There is a classroom organized by volunteers under a tree, with no formal structure. It is mainly attended by young boys and girls. The team saw some children selling groundnuts and fetching water. The community leaders, CJTF and vigilantes confirmed that there were no children affiliated with Boko Haram in the camps.

### Access to service

While both women and children acknowledged that each head of family receive assistance whenever distribution occurs, the main problem is that assistance in terms of anything is very rare and grossly inadequate. When the team arrived in the camp a considerable number of people from host communities came to see if there was any distribution. When they observe that nothing was being distributed they left. A member of CJTF and one soldier pointed out that they have to be extremely vigilant after any distribution given the fact that the needs in the host communities are also massive. They also pointed out that most IDPs in Government Central Primary School are marginalized during distribution because according to them, they are not originating from Damboa but from other LGAs.

### Psychosocial distress and support mechanism

The IDPs noted that the conflict situation has exposed them to much distress, especially for the community members recently rescued from Boko Haram. Adults expressed difficulties and lack of dignity associated with the situation in the camp. Women reported that young children are having nightmare and sometimes are screaming at night. They noted that the boys are excessively aggressive and violent with each other. The team observed that most children were looking very sad.

### Access to information

The IDPs noted that there is no phone network in the area and no power. They only access to information they have is through CJTF and host community when they go to town.

### Urgent needs

The IDPs cited the following priority needs:

- Provision of food in adequate quantity
- Shelter
- NFIs- clothes, soap, slippers, mattress, mats, blankets and jerry cans and for women, sanitary kits
- Money to buy essential items
- Medical assistance
- Education for their children and life skills for the adolescents and adults.



# DIKWA LOCAL GOVERNMENT

## Route, Military Briefing and Demographics

Maiduguri-Dikwa is approximately 90 km. The assessment team departed Maiduguri on 12 May 2016 at 09:30 and arrived at 11:05 am. The road to Dikwa is paved with few pockets of potholes and a damaged bridge. The road is littered with empty shells and other ammunition casings. There were fallen communication towers/masts and street lights used as road barriers at check points. The towns and hamlets along the way are deserted except for checkpoints manned by military with heavy weapons and supported with members of the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) and vigilantes. The structures are riddled with bullet holes, debris of burnt vehicles and houses both in the communities and along the way.

Travel to Dikwa from Maiduguri is based on organized convoy movements with the aid of heavily armed military escorts that fired into abandoned structures by the road side to ward off BH or criminals that may use them as hideout to ambush or attack commuters.

Movement beyond Dikwa town is restricted due to the prevalence of mines or IED's planted on the roads by BH. On the mission day a soldiers vehicle stepped into IED resulting into death of two soldiers. The military has sourced two electronically manned mines detectors (B- 5) that will be utilized in the coming days to clear the roads to Gamboru Ngala and other locations.

Upon arrival in Dikwa the team met with the Commander of Brigade, General Bo Sawyerr and his team. He noted the following:

- There is one IDP camp in Dikwa hosting about 56,000 IDPs.
- The IDP have received food from the government and ICRC but the high rate of consumption (about 251 bags of rice per day) depletes the food consignment very fast. At one point the IDPs were without food for 48 hours. The current food stock is expected to be finished within two days and he called for immediate replenishment and urgent humanitarian assistance to the IDPs in the camp especially in terms of shelter and NFIs.
- There is presence and threat of mines and IEDs along the road towards Gomboru Ngala. Two soldiers were killed on the day of the mission, 15 kilometers from the IDPs camp after their car stepped on IED while the mission was still on ground. The team saw two Bozena 5, which are used for clearance of all conventional antipersonnel and antitank landmines and for IED removal and assistance.
- He reported that the security situation has improved tremendously after military deployment in March 2016 and that the Nigerian Civil Defense was present in Dikwa. He however noted that the community was highly radicalized giving an example of a video retrieved by the military, which shows young children aged between 7 and 9 using sophisticated machine guns. According to him, the military is not well-equipped to handle such cases. He **mentioned de- radicalization as a particular challenge facing the military including handling of some sensitive issues related to children.** The Commander mentioned that the military has detained individuals associated with BH but declined to confirm if there are any detainees in or around the Dikwa IDP site.
- The Commander informed the team that the military has been able to provide water to the IDPs using 10 water points, provided medical services through its medical team and worked with NRCS and state representatives to provide food to IDPs.
- The Commander also informed the team about **imminent relocation of IDPs to Dikwa town.** *"We have to face the reality. Dikwa is massively destroyed. The government will reconstruct some institutional houses but IDPs need to go back to the town and rebuild their houses"* he stated. According to him and in line with the instruction from Borno Governor, LGA authorities, the police and some government focal points are expected to relocate to the town. The

team members raised a series of questions regarding the planning of the 'relocation', involvement of the IDPs, the voluntariness of the exercise, safety and dignity benchmarks and lack of available basic services in the town. The commander firmly stated that the IDPs need to be relocated in the coming two weeks. *"They are tried. If you stay for one night in this camp, you will know the situations IDPs find themselves."* He particularly highlighted the raining season and how the area where IDP located is flood-prone, putting the lives of IDPs at a very serious risk. He noted that relocation has been planned with several state government actors including the Ministry of Reconstruction, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (MRRR).

- The Commander pointed out crucial need for education and skills training to the IDPs.

## Camp Coordination

There is one camp in Dikwa. The estimated camp population according to NRCS is 9,520 HH/59,930 individuals and still receiving new arrivals. The camp is managed by the military through NRCS (with staff deployed on rotational basis) and self IDP representative structure. No proper registration or profiling exercise has yet taken place. The team observed 'new arrivals' mainly children and women at the gate. IDPs are generally not allowed to move outside of the camp. There is no clear identifiable IDP leadership management and no women leaders.

Security is provided by the military supported by CJTF and vigilantes. The inhabitants of the camp are originating from Dikwa, Kala Bargay, Bama, Marte and Ngala LGA's. Majority of the camp residents are elderly men, women and children. The camp was reported to have been established about a year ago however, most of the camp residents seems to have camped in the area after the arrival of the military in March 2016.

All IDPs are living in crowded makeshift shelters, mainly shacks made of rusty zinc, torn clothes and plastics, which are extremely vulnerable to damage by flooding. There are few old building structures standing in the camp. Elders stated that thousands of IDPs crowd into these buildings during the rains putting the lives of vulnerable such as children and the elderly at risk. There is one open central kitchen.

The camp is bereft of any proper WASH facilities. There are very few toilets and are all filled up and inadequate. Most IDPs carry out open defecation around the bush in the perimeter of the compound. The teams saw some wash facilities, in adjoining areas to the makeshift shelters. Some IDPs also informed the team that some residents also use holes dug in their own shelter. There are ten water points but the team was informed by IDPs they don't work. The team observed long lines. IDPs complained that they have to queue for an average of 3 days to get water.

The team was told by IDPs about lack of food, water, medicine and shelter. The team was informed about a high level of death rate. IDPs elders informed that 7 individuals, mainly children and the elderly, died by 14:20 on 12 May 2016. When the members raised this with clinic workers, the latter confirmed that they are aware of deaths but could not confirm the number as IDPs do not bring cases to the clinic.

## Safety and physical security

IDPs maintained that the relationship between camp residents and the military has been smooth. An IDP elder who identified himself as a 97 years old stated that members of CJTF sometimes beat IDPs at water points and during distributions. Some IDPs also informed the team that IDPs occasionally work for the military including removing materials from trucks and cooking in exchange for food. When asked whether women are also involved, IDPs stated that only men participate in these activities.

Citing the dire conditions in the camp, IDP and elders informed the team that they wish to leave the camp as soon as they are allowed because it is located in a flood prone area and not sheltered with trees from the scorching heat. When asked where they would like to go, they mentioned Dikwa town. However IDPs were not consulted by the military about the planned relocation. Some mentioned that the military has communicated this information only to some elders. Many of the IDPs are not fully aware of the plan.

## Specific Vulnerabilities, Sexual exploitation and Child protection

The team observed presence of physically challenged people, some in the wheelbarrow as indicated in the picture below.

There were a considerable number of pregnant and lactating mothers, some of them young girls under 18 years. Reproductive health services to pregnant/lactating mothers are inadequate. Individuals working in the clinic also mentioned the presence of thousands of pregnant women, although many of them rarely seek medical attention. Though the team was informed of the presence of a clinic and some of them team members visited the clinic, IDPs stated that often they are told that there are no medicine when they visit the clinic for treatment. RAM team members observed the some makeshift shops selling different forms of drugs in the camps.

The team confirmed from IDPs that there are unaccompanied and separated children.

There was no reported incidents of sexual exploitation in the camp. Women claimed that the camp is safer compared their houses but they are always afraid to go out at night as 'anything' could happen. When asked to clarify what 'anything' means one of them said 'early marriage'. When asked if there were instances of sexual abuse or rape women denied, saying that it was impossible to happen in the presence of so many people in a congested area.

## Access to service

Both women and children acknowledged that each head of family receive assistance whenever distribution occurs. The problem they cited was that the items both food and non- food items were inadequate. The team saw a lot of pots and charcoal brought by the Governor according to his promise during his meeting with humanitarian actors.

UNICEF and WHO have some local volunteers. However there are no resident humanitarian organizations providing humanitarian services.

The team observed distribution of NFI by NRCS. The team visited food distribution. In one distribution site, a 50 kilogram boiled rice was being distributed to 150 individuals. One small bucket of plain rice was given per family, irrespective of the size of the family. The Brigade Commander also highlighted that food is a major need.

## Psychosocial distress and support mechanism

Civilians are traumatized. During focus group discussion with women some of them were crying while narrating their plight. Despite the large number of unaccompanied or separated children, pregnant women, vulnerable elderly persons the particularly challenges and risks of these civilians has not been properly identified or addressed. The IDPs noted that the conflict situation has exposed them to much distress and lack of dignity. The team observed that most people were looking very sad.

## Access to information

There is no phone network in the area and no power. When asked about planned relocation, IDPs noted that they were not consulted. Some mentioned that the military had communicated this information only to some elders. Many of the IDPs are not fully aware of the plan.



## Urgent needs

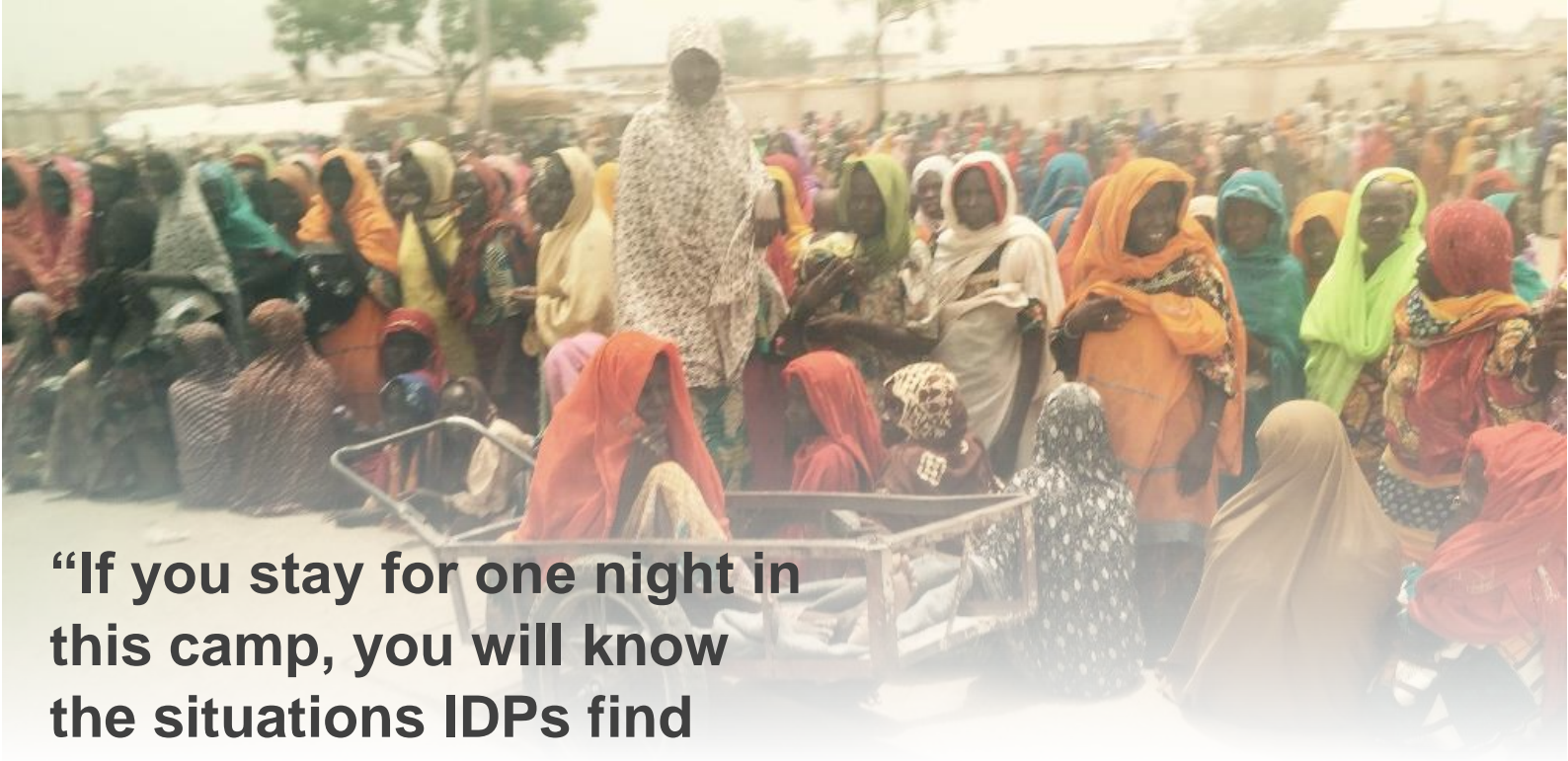
The IDPs cited the following priority needs:

- Food is identified by all IDPs the team discussed with as a priority need.
- Shelter
- NFIs- clothes, soap, slippers, mattress, mats, blankets and jerry cans and for women, sanitary kits
- Money to but essential items
- Medical assistance
- Education for their children and life skills for the adolescents and adults.
- Support in agricultural tools and seedling for those originating in Dikwa. IDPs from other LGAs were not sure as to whether they will be able to access land for farming in Dikwa.



**“7 IDPs in the camp  
died already today.  
They were mainly  
children and elderly.”**

*IDP elders at 2:20pm on May 12, 2016. The death  
rate in Dikwa has reached as high as 20 per day.*



“If you stay for one night in this camp, you will know the situations IDPs find themselves”

*Military commander on Dikwa Camp*

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LIBERATED AREAS

- There is an urgent need for humanitarian assistance in terms of food, shelter, NFIs, medical and WASH services including hygiene kits for women and girls. These needs are lifesaving in the light of the extreme vulnerability civilians are experiencing. Humanitarian actors and authorities need to take urgent measures to save lives. It is not clear how such a large scale response can be implemented in an environment which is extremely volatile and risky.
- While IDPs in Dikwa are supporting relocation from the camp to town, it is important to note that the town infrastructure has been severely damaged, with most of the houses destroyed. If IDPs are to move to town, such a relocation requires major coordinated response including assessment of the capacity of existing infrastructure to sufficiently accommodate the current number of IDPs. The issue of security and safety should be carefully considered. Humanitarian and authorities need consult and develop a relocation plan which take into account necessary elements for voluntary relocation in safety and dignity. If IDPs are eventually relocated, **shelter intervention will have immense life-saving contribution**. This is particularly so in light of the rainy season that possesses significant risks to civilians particularly the most vulnerable. A recent experience in Maiduguri camps could be considered, where half a day rain uprooted more than 100 shelters built by ICRC in Dalori camp and communal tents constructed by humanitarian actors in other camps. There is an immediate need to support IDPs with shelter material.
- There is urgent need to address protection needs of most vulnerable IDPs including separated children, orphans, older persons, survivors of violence and persons with disabilities and implementation of projects to mitigate their risk. It is important to note the inevitable reduction of protection space when IDPs camps are manned by the military, and the consequent effects to most vulnerable populations including women and children and other groups with special needs that needs to be identified and addressed. This also includes freedom of movement.



- There is urgent need for psychosocial response to effects of serious human rights violations giving rise to psychosocial needs which are not addressed currently. IDPs, especially women have reported murder, forced abductions, sexual abuse, forced marriages, forced religious conversions and participation in military activities.
- Profiling of vulnerable cases is crucial to enable targeted humanitarian assistance. There is a need for establishing a protection monitoring and vulnerability screening in liberated areas. Currently UNHCR is working with IRC and FHI360 in protection monitoring and vulnerability screening. In liberated areas, protection monitoring will be conducted using monitors who are based in the localities and establishing links with community leaders and security actors for information gathering. For identified cases, actors should act within the ambit of recently established PSWG referral and tracking system with relevant protection agencies, including child protection agencies, to ensure that vulnerable cases identified through ongoing protection screening receive referrals for necessary services and are tracked accordingly.
- UNHCR/PSWG should advocate strongly to maintaining the civilian character of the camps and for transfer of camp management from the military to civilian humanitarian personnel. While withdrawal of the military from the recent liberated areas might not be effected immediately, there is a need of establishing and agreeing on standard operating procedures which will guide the military to ensure that IDPs rights are protected accordingly and their protection needs responded to.
- Setting up Community-Based Protection Mechanisms could be a first step to maintain civilian character of the camps. It is critical to swiftly work within the displaced communities to identify IDP leaders and enable them to transfer management and leadership within sites from military to community-based mechanisms. This will promote the maintenance of the civilian and humanitarian character of displaced sites and minimizes potentially harmful civilian exposure to potential exploitation and other risks.
- The coordination between humanitarians and the military should also be improved. It is important for the military actors to develop procedures providing guidance on how civilians rescued by the military in newly accessed areas will be handled. These procedures should promote access to services, engagement of independent humanitarian and protection actors and family unity.
- UNHCR/PSWG should liaise with SEMA/NEMA to ensure that camps are manned by civilian camp coordinators with strong involvement of State authorities to fast track deployment of law enforcement officials to liberated areas. For easy management, three camps in Damboa could be collapsed into one camp. This recommendation is also valid for other liberated LGAs where IDPs are scattered in small camps.
- More detailed joint protection needs assessment to the liberated areas are essential with the view to identify protection needs of the populations and support robust response. There is a need of developing a mechanism for remote programing and monitoring.
- There is a need to develop IDPs capacity to monitor protection within existing camps and promote administration of the camps in a manner that advances protection outcomes including safety and security. Concerted action should be taken to promote women participation in leadership structure. In both areas women were not part of leadership structure.
- Need for support in capacity building of military and law enforcement personnel including female police officers in the liberated LGAs.