

Language profile of five IDP sites in Maiduguri: findings by site

Muna Garage Camp



TRANSLATORS
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OXFAM

This site report for Muna Garage Camp summarizes key findings from a study of comprehension levels among 951 internally displaced people (IDPs) and host community members at five sites in the Maiduguri area of Borno, north-eastern Nigeria. The full summary of findings is available [here](#). The study was designed by Translators without Borders (TWB) and conducted by Girl Effect using Oxfam communication materials, in July 2017. TWB analyzed the data in consultation with Girl Effect and Oxfam, and Oxfam financed the field research.

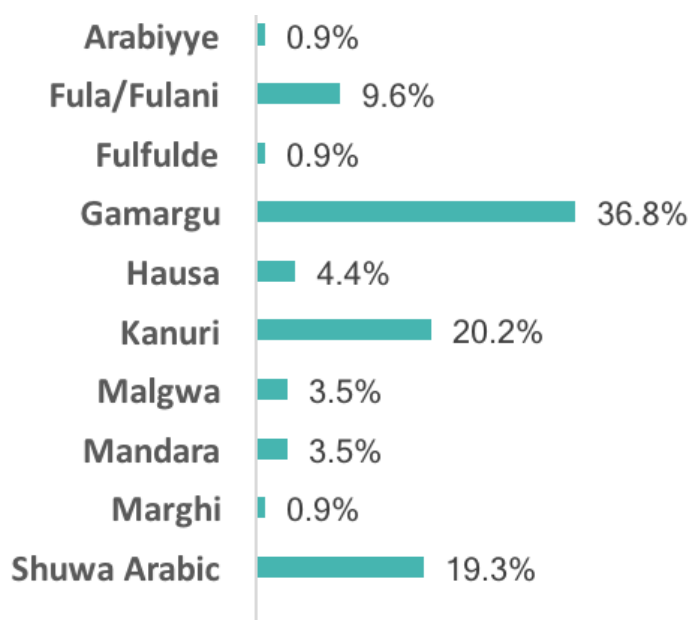
Muna Garage Camp profile

Adult population (DTM Round XVIII data)		
Total: 8,252	Female: 4,904 / 59.4%	Male: 3,348 / 40.6%
Sample population		
Total: 114 (1.4% of all adults)	Female: 92 / 80.7%	Male: 22 / 19.3%
Age		Education
15-30 yrs (36 / 31.6%)		No schooling: 72 / 63.2%
30-44 yrs (52 / 45.6%)		Non formal schooling: 25 / 21.9%
45-59 yrs (19 / 16.7%)		Primary school: 7 / 6.1%
60+ yrs (7 / 6.1%)		Junior secondary: 3 / 2.6%
Main LGAs of origin		Senior secondary: 1 / 0.9%
Mafa (55.3%)		Tertiary: 0 / 0.0%
Dikwa (18.4%), Bama (15.8%)		Other: 6 / 5.3%

A majority of the sample at this site came from Mafa local government area (LGA); all respondents were from Borno State. Education levels were lower than at other sites, with over 85% of the sample having either no or no formal schooling, and only four respondents having progressed beyond primary school.

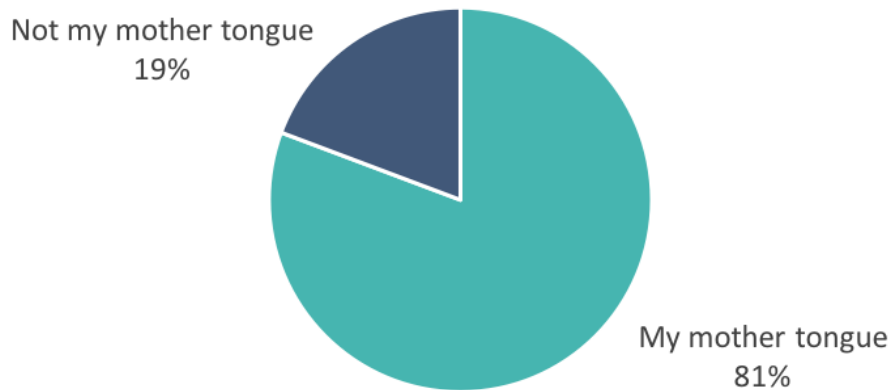
Languages and language preferences

Respondents' mother tongues in Muna Garage Camp



Muna Garage Camp was the only site surveyed where Kanuri speakers were not the dominant language group. Here Gamargu speakers were the largest group, accounting for over 40 percent of respondents when combined with the closely related Malgwa.⁵ Mother tongue speakers of Kanuri and Shuwa Arabic each constituted around 20 percent of the sample. Hausa speakers were half as numerous as Fulani/Fula/Fulfulde native speakers, who made up over ten percent. Half the Gamargu speakers were from Mafa LGA.

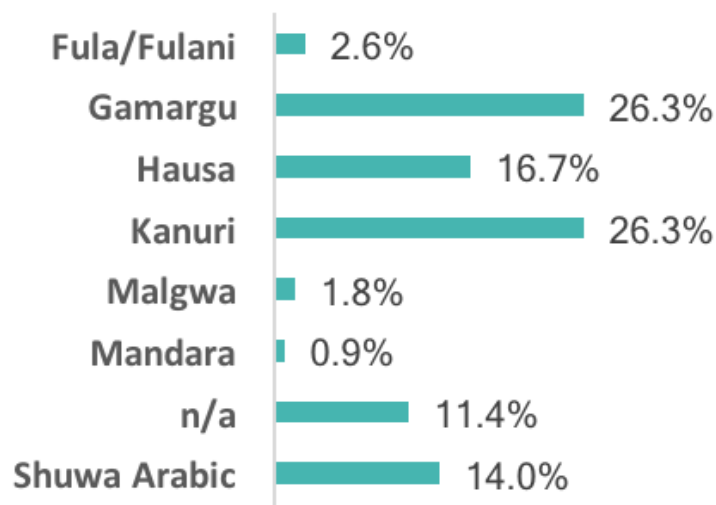
Preferred language to receive information in, Muna Garage Camp



A majority (54 percent) chose to take the comprehension test in Kanuri. This included around two-thirds of the Gamargu and Malgwa speakers. However, among the 40 other non-native speakers of Hausa and Kanuri, more than 77 percent (31) opted to test in Hausa.

Eighty-one percent preferred to receive information in their mother tongue.

Preferred specific language to receive information in, Muna Garage Camp

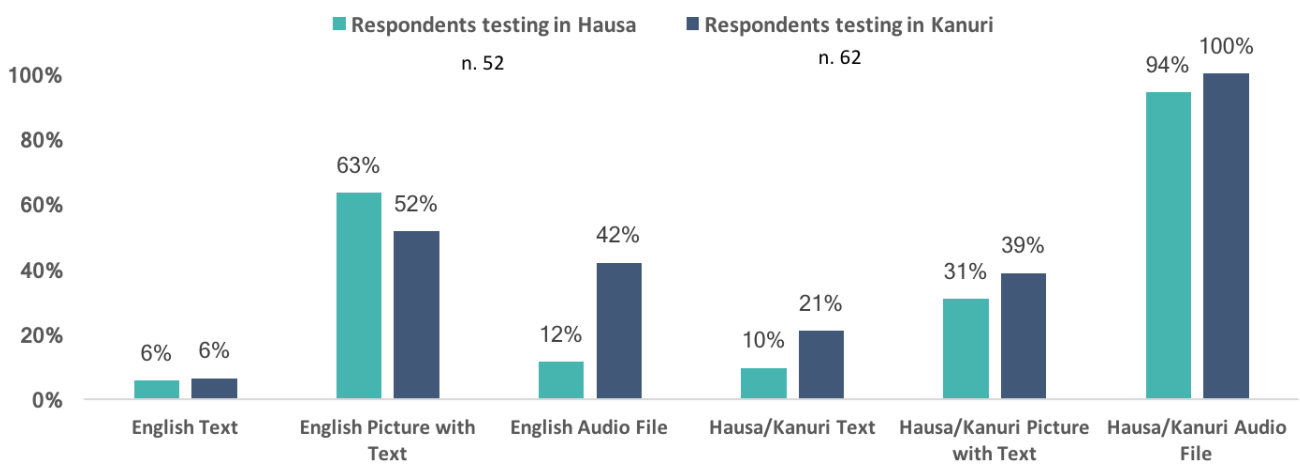


⁵Muna was the Malgwa/Gamergu capital until the beginning of the 19th century.

More specifically, over 28 percent of the sample preferred information in Gamargu or Malgwa, more than 26 percent in Kanuri, and just 16.7 percent in Hausa. Most native Shuwa Arabic speakers (64 percent) preferred communication in that language,⁵ while many Fula/Fulani speakers preferred Hausa (42 percent). This is noteworthy in a context where most IDP sites receive information predominantly in Hausa, according to DTM data. For Muna Garage Camp, the evidence here suggests that Gamargu/Malgwa and Shuwa Arabic, as well as Kanuri and Hausa, are important components of any humanitarian communication strategy. (The focus for these languages would be on verbal communication as at least one key format, as suggested by the findings below.)

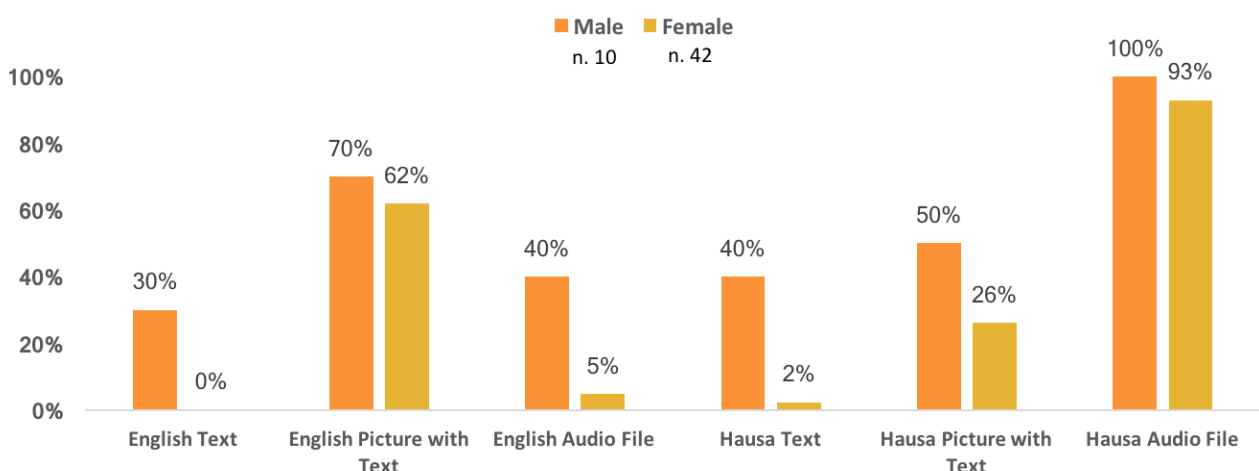
Comprehension levels

Comprehension rates in Muna Garage Camp

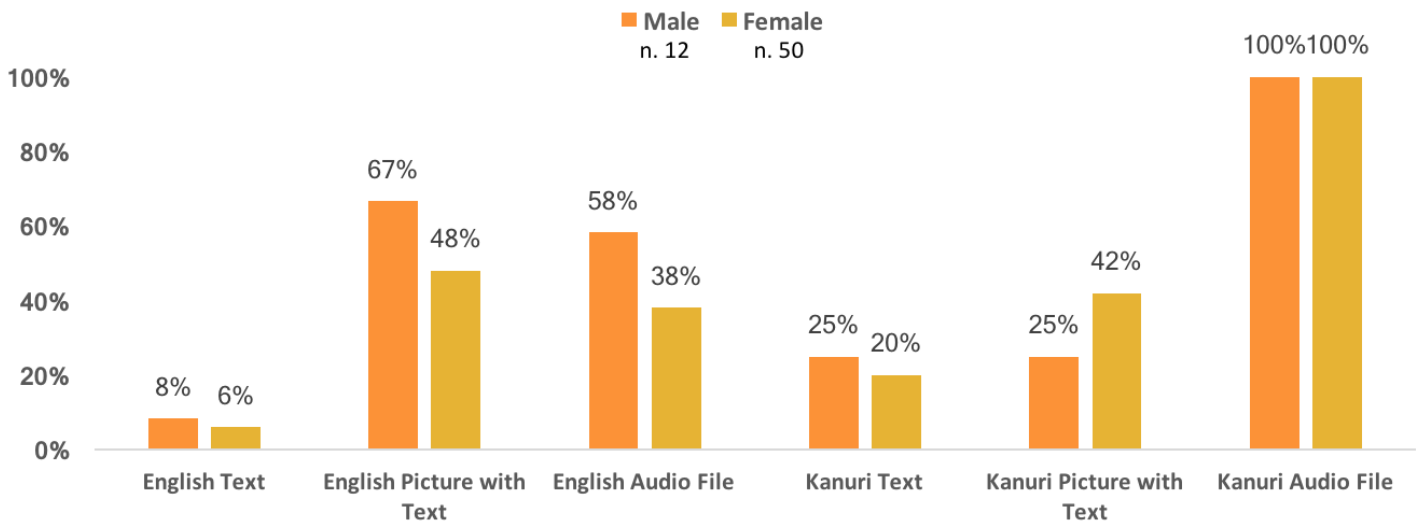


The relatively low effectiveness of Hausa was confirmed in the comprehension testing. Muna Garage Camp was the only site surveyed where comprehension levels were higher almost across the board among respondents tested in Kanuri. (The outlier was again the English picture with text. Further research is needed to determine whether this is an anomaly, as outlined as noted in the summary report.)

Comprehension rates for male and female respondents tested in Hausa, Muna Garage Camp



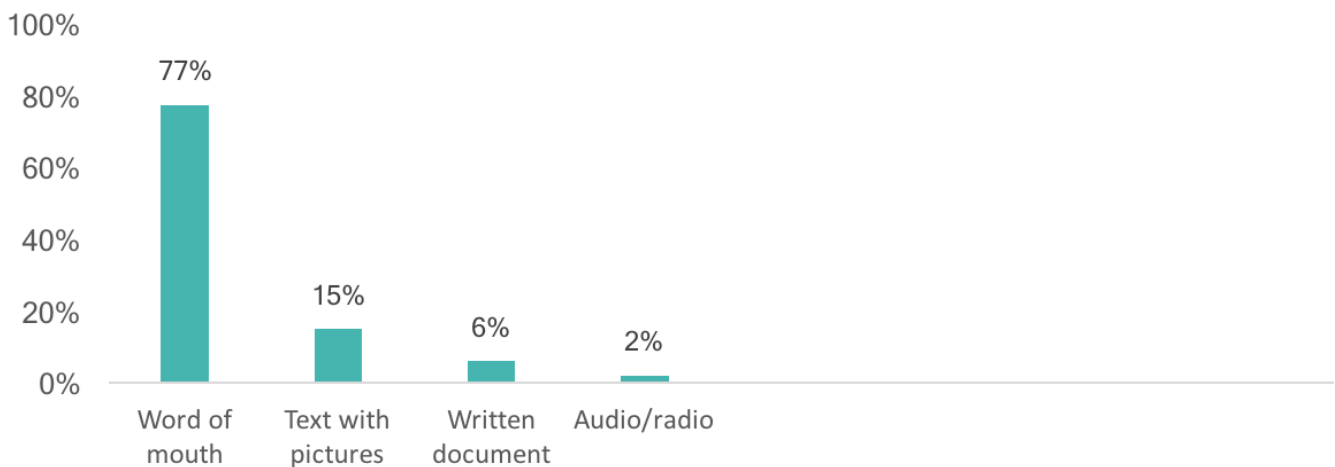
Comprehension rates for male and female respondents tested in Kanuri, Muna Garage Camp



Gender differentials were particularly marked at Muna Garage Camp. With the exception of the picture with Kanuri text, where women scored higher, comprehension rates in every category were much lower for female than for male respondents. For those tested in Hausa, rates of English and Hausa text comprehension were zero and two percent respectively – some of the lowest rates recorded across sites. The clear indication is that communication with women and girls at this site requires particular attention to format (audio or in-person), content (appropriately simplified) and language (in at least the four languages highlighted).

Format preferences

Preferred format to receive information in, Muna Garage Camp



Word-of-mouth was the preferred format to receive information in, here as elsewhere, with a combination of text and pictures second. Eleven percent did not or could not state a preference.

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The views expressed in this paper should not be taken, in any way, to reflect the official opinion of Elrha, the HIF, the Netherlands MFA, or German Humanitarian Assistance.



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