



AN ASSESSMENT OF THE SAFETY AND CHALLENGES OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS) IN KUSHARI HOST COMMUNITY OF MAIDUGURI METROPOLIS, BORNO STATE

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Abstract

This study examined the living conditions of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the Kushari host community within Maiduguri Metropolis, Borno State, with particular emphasis on their safety. The activities of Boko Haram in North-Eastern Nigeria have led to massive displacement of people, particularly in Borno State. Many Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) have relocated to safer communities within Maiduguri metropolis, including Kushari host community. The study is anchored on Human Security Theory. A mixed-methods research design was adopted, drawing on both primary and secondary data sources. The population of IDPs in the study area was 539, from which a sample size of 226 was determined using Krejcie and Morgan's (1970) sample size determination table. Purposive sampling was used to select interview participants. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, including frequency distributions, percentages, and graphical presentations. Findings revealed that IDPs in the Kushari host community face multiple and interrelated safety challenges, including insecurity, inadequate shelter, limited access to food, clean water, healthcare, education, and livelihood opportunities. Additional challenges include psychosocial trauma, discrimination, protection risks, family separation, and heavy reliance on humanitarian assistance. The study concludes that these interconnected conditions significantly undermine the wellbeing and human security of displaced persons in the area. It therefore recommends the need for comprehensive and coordinated interventions by relevant stakeholders to improve the living conditions and ensure sustainable protection of IDPs in the Kushari community, Maiduguri Metropolitan Council.

Keywords: Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Security, Safety and Challenges

1.0 Introduction

Internal displacement has become one of the most pressing humanitarian and development challenges of the twenty-first century. Although the issue gained significant international recognition only in the last two decades, the scale and complexity of the crisis have expanded rapidly. Globally, the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) has risen to unprecedented levels, exceeding 73.5

million in 2023. This increase has been driven by a combination of armed conflict, generalized violence, human rights violations, natural disasters, and the growing impacts of climate change. Despite various international and national interventions, efforts to prevent displacement, protect affected populations, and provide lasting solutions have often fallen short.

Africa remains the region most heavily affected by forced displacement, accounting



for nearly half of the global displaced population. The continent hosts approximately 36 million forcibly displaced persons, with countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Mozambique, the Central African Republic, and Nigeria experiencing particularly severe crises. The adoption of the Kampala Convention marked a significant milestone as the first legally binding regional treaty specifically addressing internal displacement. Nevertheless, implementation challenges persist across many African states.

Nigeria represents one of Africa's most severe internal displacement situations. Multiple factors including violent conflict, environmental stress, resource scarcity, weak governance, and political instability have contributed to widespread displacement. However, the *boko haram* insurgency remains the most significant driver, particularly in the North-East. Since the onset of the insurgency in 2009, millions of Nigerians have been uprooted from their homes, while hundreds of thousands have sought refuge in neighboring countries. The crisis has been especially devastating in Borno State, which continues to record the highest number of IDPs in the country Ajibola *et al*, (2022).

The insurgency has had far-reaching consequences for affected populations. It has destroyed homes, disrupted agricultural production, undermined local economies, and severely weakened access to essential services. Many displaced persons now reside in camps or, more commonly, within host communities, where limited resources are often overstretched. Their needs are extensive and include shelter, food, clean water, sanitation, healthcare, education, protection, and livelihood opportunities. In

many cases, displacement has transformed from a temporary emergency into a prolonged condition of vulnerability and dependency.

Particularly affected are women, children, and older persons, who face heightened risks during displacement. These include exposure to violence, exploitation, family separation, health challenges, and loss of educational opportunities. The psychosocial effects are equally profound, as displacement often results in trauma, loss of social networks, and erosion of community structures. For many households, the disruption of traditional livelihoods has led to chronic poverty, food insecurity, and reduced resilience.

Internally displaced persons are defined by the United Nations Guiding Principles as individuals or groups who are forced to flee their homes due to armed conflict, generalized violence, human rights violations, or natural and human-made disasters, but who remain within their national borders United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2025). Two key elements distinguish IDPs: involuntary movement and the fact that they do not cross an internationally recognized border. Unlike refugees, IDPs remain under the jurisdiction of their own governments, even when those governments may be unable or unwilling to provide adequate protection (Adewale, 2016).

In Nigeria, and particularly in the North-East, internal displacement represents not only a humanitarian emergency but also a major development and security challenge. Its consequences extend beyond immediate survival needs to include long-term impacts on livelihoods, social cohesion, community stability, and overall wellbeing. Addressing this crisis therefore requires more than emergency relief; it demands comprehensive



strategies focused on protection, livelihood restoration, social reintegration, and durable solutions that enable displaced persons to rebuild their lives with dignity and security. The activities of Boko Haram in North-Eastern Nigeria have led to massive displacement of people, particularly in Borno State. Many Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) have relocated to safer communities within Maiduguri metropolis, including *kushari* host community. Although the relocation of IDPs is aimed at ensuring safety and humanitarian support, the increasing influx of displaced persons has created several social and security challenges in host communities.

Kushari host community has witnessed increased pressure on available resources such as housing, water supply, healthcare, education, and employment opportunities. This situation has contributed to overcrowding, poverty, unemployment, and competition over scarce resources. There are also growing concerns about theft, drug abuse, youth delinquency, and other forms of insecurity, which affect peaceful coexistence and community safety.

Several studies have examined internal displacement and insecurity in Nigeria. For example, Okoli (2021) noted that the influx of displaced persons into urban communities increases social tension and security concerns, while Nwagboso (2022) observed that poor management of displacement often contributes to community insecurity. Similarly, reports by the International Organization for Migration (2023), highlighted the economic and social burdens of displacement on host communities in Borno State. Despite these studies, limited attention has been given to the specific safety challenges associated with IDPs in *Kushari* host community. Most previous studies focused on humanitarian assistance

and conditions of IDPs, with little empirical focus on the effects of displacement on safety and security in host communities. Therefore, this study seeks to assess the challenges of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) on safety in *Kushari* host community of *Maiduguri* metropolis, Borno State.

The objective of the study is to examine the safety of IDPs in *Kushari* host community, Maiduguri Metropolis Borno state.

Concept of Insurgency

According to Bamidele (2021). Defines insurgency as a political movement that aims to achieve a particular political objective, which is typically the toppling of a regime. It is debatable if terrorism in the context of a civil war is a distinct phenomena or if it is a component of a larger insurgency strategy. highlighted the distinctions between the circumstances surrounding the use of terrorism and civil war, for example, and made the case that there can be several terrorisms as strategies (only outside the setting of civil war), each with a distinct goal and rationale. However, it has been proposed that drawing analytical distinctions between civil war and terrorism may not be accurate, and that terrorism is actually a supplemental activity that results from political claims made, primarily during and after battle. Using a typological approach, she distinguished between international and domestic terrorism, as well as between motivational (nationalist, religious, etc.) and functional (classic, conflict-related, and super/mega terrorism). She also classified conflict-related terrorism based on the functional typology, indicating that it occurs primarily in insurgencies and civil war contexts

Concept of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

Internally displaced persons (IDPs) are individuals who have been forced to leave



their homes or habitual residences due to armed conflict, violence, human rights abuses, or natural and man-made disasters. Unlike refugees, who cross international borders and receive protection under international law, IDPs remain within their country of origin and do not have the same legal protections. This situation presents significant challenges for IDPs, including displacement, human rights violations, and limited access to essential services such as food, water, and healthcare. The issue of internal displacement is a pressing concern globally, with millions of people being forced to flee their homes due to conflict, violence, and natural disasters (Nwankwo 2017).

Challenges Faced by IDPs on Safety in Host Communities

The *Boko Haram* insurgency has created a very serious threat to the country. In the past, during the cold era, security issues were given serious consideration in addition to safeguarding people and property. These included defending the country's territorial boundaries and integrity from any threat or danger that might result from an outsider intending to cause trouble or harm. A government's primary duty is to provide security and protection against all threats, including hunger, unemployment, diseases, forced migration, human rights violations, political unrest, and environmental degradation. These threats all relate to human security. Since the beginning of the *Boko Haram* insurgency, all of these characteristics have been noted; over 12,000 people have died and 8,000 have been injured. The insurgency has caused a significant distortion in farming activity as a result of farmers being forced to flee their homes. The country depends on the northern region for its key farming activity, but the situation there has gotten worse. Nigeria is

among the major producers of grain products in Africa, thus the violent scenario would have a multiplicative effect there as well. The health sector also saw significant losses; hospitals and other buildings were damaged, the number of injuries rose, and medical staff fled for fear of being attacked or killed. Terrorist activity has been getting worse every day. It has resulted in the kidnapping of college and school students, which has forced many schools to close and prevented students from attending; some parents have also pulled their children out of school out of fear; and the number of displaced persons is constantly growing. "Although the insurgency's epicenter is in the northeast, its effects are felt throughout the entire nation" (Amalu, 2015).

The violence in other parts of the country such as IPOB in the southeast, herder/farmer clashes and ethno-religious crisis in North central and the *Boko Haram* insurgency in the Northeast have identified Nigeria as one of the most unstable countries in the world. Its armed conflict death toll is the fifth highest in the world, mostly from the activities of the *Boko Haram* insurgency, with more casualties than from previous major African incidents (namely, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo). The impacted regions of Nigeria have seen the displacement of over 2.4 million people, (IOM, 2024). The war has resulted in food insecurity, illness epidemics, forced displacement, infrastructure loss, and economic and business loss. In particular, the ongoing conflict with *Boko Haram* in northeastern Nigeria necessitates the development of a human security policy in order to protect civilians and foster well-being while the conflict is still active and needs to be resolved. While state-led initiatives prioritize combatant-targeted measures to



address security problems, humanitarian efforts typically concentrate on internally displaced persons, disregarding the human rights of the wider civilian population. More rights-based, all-encompassing tactics are required to address connected risks to the security of impacted children in particular (Rosie, *et al.*, 2021).

Abdu & Shehu, (2019) claim that some women and children were coerced into joining *Boko Haram* either willingly or against their will. These women and girls have assisted the gang in both recruiting new members and carrying out attacks on the targets of the group. When enlisting women and girls, the *Boko Haram* militants employ a combination of coercion, deception, and persuasion. Deceptive components can be present in persuasive and forceful techniques. There is a chance that insurgents are purposefully reticent about their objectives, strength, and degree of support. They pretend to be representatives of the government while hiding their horrible actions and fabricating some abuses. They mostly target women and young people who are unaware of the wider implications of joining. Thus, rebels can easily trick people into joining them in an illiterate populace. The spread of the insurgents' ideology was further aided by their voluntary or forced devotion to their interpretation of Islam.

Empirical evidence shows that women's involvement in the *Boko Haram* insurgency extends beyond the traditional perception of women as victims. Studies indicate that some women were coerced, abducted, or voluntarily recruited to serve as spies, domestic workers, fighters, recruiters, and suicide bombers (Bloom & Matfess, 2016; UNICEF, 2016). Research further reveals that some women were recruited through intimate relationships, with boyfriends or

husbands exploiting patriarchal norms to influence or coerce them into joining the group (International Crisis Group, 2016). *Boko Haram* has also relied on financial incentives, religious indoctrination, peer pressure, and threats to recruit vulnerable individuals, particularly in impoverished communities with limited educational and economic opportunities (UNDP, 2017; Mercy Corps, 2016). These findings may be corroborated by evidence from oral interviews conducted in this study.

The widespread onslaught carried out by *Boko Haram* causes physical and psychological harm to female internally displaced persons. In 2014 research conducted by Human Rights Watch, 30 abducted persons, 16 witnesses, and 12 escaped students from the Chibok School were interviewed (Human Rights Watch, 2014). The study found that the abducted women and girls were threatened with death if the Christians among them refused to confess their religious beliefs. Forced marriages were imposed upon abducted females, while some were made to carry stolen goods from nearby villages; still others were coerced into joining the foot soldier, forced to execute captured victims, brainwashed into becoming suicide bombers, and subjected to sexual abuse and rape.

Theoretical Framework

The Human Security theory was formally introduced by the United Nations Development Programme in its landmark human development report of 1994. Although the concept evolved through the contributions of several scholars and international organizations, the UNDP is widely recognized as the principal proponent of the theory. The theory emerged as a response to the limitations of the traditional state-centric approach to security,



which focused primarily on territorial defence and military threats while often overlooking threats to individual wellbeing and survival (UNDP, 2018).

Human Security Theory shifts the focus of security from the protection of states to the protection of people. It emphasizes that genuine security entails safeguarding individuals from both chronic threats such as hunger, disease, and poverty and sudden disruptions to daily life, including violence, conflict, and displacement. The theory is built around three interrelated pillars: freedom from fear, freedom from want, and freedom to live in dignity (Alkire, 2003, pp. 2–3).

The UNDP identified seven interconnected dimensions of human security: economic security, food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security, and political security (UNDP, 1994). Together, these dimensions provide a holistic framework for understanding human wellbeing and vulnerability. They recognize that insecurity can arise from a wide range of sources and that threats in one dimension often affect others.

The relevance of Human Security Theory to this study lies in its comprehensive and people-centred orientation. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) are among the most vulnerable populations, as displacement often exposes them to multiple forms of insecurity, including physical violence, inadequate shelter, food shortages, poor healthcare, loss of livelihood, and social marginalization. In host communities such as *Kushari* in Maiduguri Metropolis, the safety of IDPs extends beyond mere physical protection to include access to basic services, economic opportunities, social integration, and the preservation of dignity and rights.

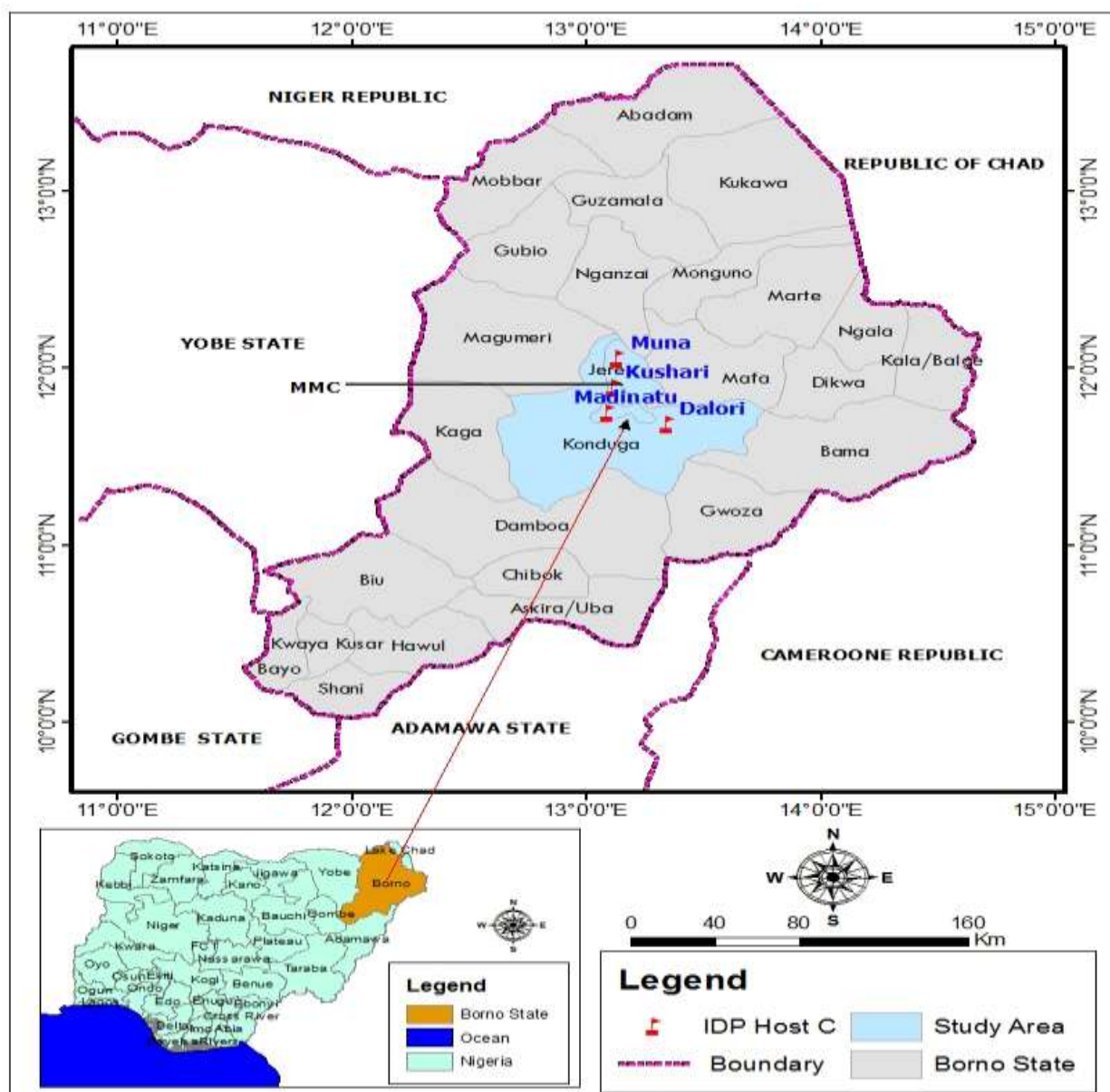
Methodology

The Study Area

Kushari Community is a densely populated peri-urban settlement situated within Maiduguri Metropolis, specifically in the *Maisandari* ward axis of Maiduguri, Borno State. Geographically, the community lies within the approximate coordinates of latitude 11.8469° North and longitude 13.1571° East, placing it within the northeastern Sudan–Sahel ecological zone of Nigeria. These coordinates situate *Kushari* within the broader urban landscape of Maiduguri, the administrative and commercial capital of Borno State, (Nwankwo 2017).

Over the years, *Kushari* has experienced rapid expansion, driven largely by urban growth and the influx of internally displaced persons (IDPs) fleeing insurgency-affected communities across northeastern Nigeria. This demographic transformation has positioned the community as a significant host settlement, providing shelter, social support, and livelihood opportunities for displaced populations. Its strategic location within Maiduguri has made it an important focal point for humanitarian interventions and post-conflict recovery initiatives (Iyanda, 2024, p. 45).

Kushari hosts critical healthcare infrastructure, including the *Kushari* Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care Centre and the *Kushari* CBN Primary Health Centre. These facilities provide essential maternal, neonatal, and primary healthcare services to residents, returnees, and internally displaced persons. The establishment of the Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (CEONC) Centre has significantly improved access to specialized maternal healthcare services in the area (Médecins Sans Frontières, 2024).



Map of Borno State Showing the Location of IDPs Host Communities.

Source: GIS Lab Department of Geography University of Maiduguri, Using Arc GIS 10.3 Software.

Sources of Data

This study employed both primary and secondary sources of data. Primary data were collected through Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), and a structured questionnaire administered to internally displaced persons

(IDPs) and members of the *Kushari* host community in Maiduguri Metropolis, Borno State. The KIIs and FGDs were conducted using semi-structured interview guides, and participants' responses were analyzed thematically, with relevant interview excerpts used to support the findings. Secondary data were obtained from textbooks, journal articles, government publications, policy documents, and reports



from reputable organizations. The combination of primary and secondary data enhanced the credibility of the study.

Population of the Study

The population of this study consists of 539 internally displaced persons (IDPs) residing in the *Kushari* host community in Maiduguri Metropolis, Borno State. Following the closure of formal IDP camps in 2021, many displaced persons were relocated to host communities, with *Kushari* emerging as a major settlement area. According to the International Organization for Migration Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM, 2022), these 539 IDPs constitute the target population for this study.

Sample Size and Sampling Technique

A sample size of 226 respondents was determined using the sample size determination table developed by Krejcie and Morgan (1970). For the selection of questionnaire respondents within the community, a simple random sampling technique was employed to ensure that every member of the study population had an equal chance of being selected. Purposive sampling technique was used to select interview participants based on their knowledge, experience, and relevance to the objectives of the study.

Method of Data Collection

Qualitative data was collected through Key Informant Interviews (KII) and Focus Group Discussion (FGD) was conducted with eight (8) persons at the host community (*Kushari*) of Internally Displaced Persons, while quantitative data was obtained using a self-developed open-ended questionnaire administered to IDPs in host community.

Data Analysis

This study employed descriptive statistics, including frequency, percentage, and charts,

to identify and present patterns in the collected data. In addition, thematic analysis was used to examine qualitative data from interviews and questionnaires through content analysis. The NVivo qualitative analysis software was also utilized to support efficient coding, organization, and interpretation of the data.

Results and Discussion

This section presents and discusses the findings of the study in relation to the research objectives and questions. The results are analyzed systematically and interpreted in light of relevant empirical studies and theoretical perspectives. This approach facilitates a deeper understanding of the safety and security conditions of internally displaced persons in the *Kushari* host community, Maiduguri Metropolis, Borno State, while also highlighting the broader implications of the findings.

Challenges on the Safety of IDPs in *Kushari* Host Community, Maiduguri Metropolis

The challenges identified in Figure 4.1 regarding the safety of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in *Kushari*, Maiduguri Metropolis, underscore crucial issues impacting their well-being and security. A significant portion, about 16%, of IDPs face inadequate security measures, making them vulnerable to threats such as theft, assault, and exploitation. This lack of security fosters an environment of fear, inhibiting their ability to achieve stability. Gender-based violence (GBV) poses a serious risk for approximately 13% of the IDPs, especially for women and girls. The collapse of traditional social structures, compounded by overcrowded living spaces, heightens the likelihood of GBV, perpetuating trauma and vulnerability among female IDPs.

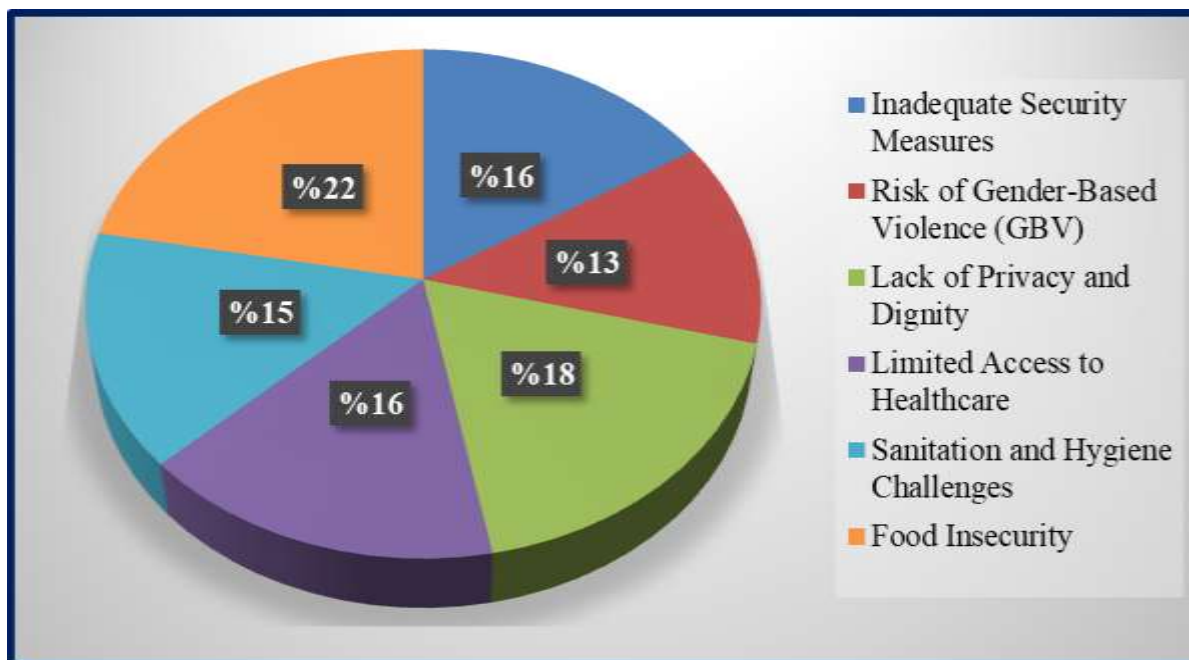


Figure 1: Challenges on the safety of IDPs in Maiduguri Metropolis–Kushari

Privacy and dignity are also compromised for around 18% of the IDPs due to overcrowding and limited infrastructure. The lack of private space and proper facilities not only infringes on basic human rights but also induces feelings of shame and vulnerability. Access to healthcare is another significant challenge, with roughly 16% of IDPs unable to secure necessary medical services due to shortages of medical personnel, supplies, and facilities. This healthcare gap exacerbates health disparities, leaving many without timely treatment and contributing to preventable health issues and increased mortality.

Sanitation and hygiene challenges affect about 15% of the displaced population, as inadequate clean water, waste management systems, and hygiene practices increase the risk of infectious diseases. These conditions severely impact health, particularly within crowded IDP communities. Food insecurity, affecting roughly 22% of IDPs, emerges as one of the most pressing concerns due to disrupted livelihoods and heavy reliance on

humanitarian aid. Limited access to nutritious food heightens the risk of malnutrition and hunger, especially for children, pregnant women, and the elderly within the displaced community.

Collaborating with the quantitative findings above, insights from a Key Informant Interview (KII) conducted with a Bulama (village head) and IDPs leader in *Kushari* community affirmed that:

Safety is a top priority for us in Kushari, especially for our IDPs residents. While we have security measures in place, including collaboration with local authorities and community watch groups, there are still concerns due to the proximity to conflict zones and occasional security incidents. The security challenges create a sense of insecurity among IDPs, affecting their ability to move freely and access essential services. It also impacts the broader community



by necessitating heightened vigilance and community solidarity to ensure everyone's safety (KII, Kushari with Bulama & IDPs Leader, 2025). Supporting the KII findings above, FGDs conducted with Kushari community members revealed diverse perspectives on safety within the host community. While Participant 1 noted an improvement in safety compared to previous conditions, incidents of theft and harassment at night remain a concern. Participant 2 expressed a general sense of safety but highlighted fears of potential clashes between IDPs and the host community. Participants 3 and 4 emphasized the vulnerability of women and girls, particularly when fetching water or firewood, with Participant 4 advocating for increased security patrols. Participant 5 acknowledged existing safety challenges but found the situation manageable in comparison to prior experiences. However, Participant 6 pointed out that inadequate street lighting makes nighttime movement risky. Participant 7 observed the presence of some security personnel but deemed them insufficient to cover the entire area. Finally, Participant 8 remarked that while safety during the day is acceptable, nighttime remains unpredictable, with occasional reports of fights or robberies

(FGD, with 8 IDPs Participant, 2025).

These findings highlight the mixed experiences of IDPs, emphasizing the need for targeted interventions to enhance security, particularly for women and during nighttime hours.

Safety of Internally Displaced Persons living conditions in the study area

Kushari host community, the predominant challenges include inadequate security measures, where approximately 16% of IDPs are vulnerable to theft, assault, and exploitation. This insecurity fosters a pervasive fear among displaced individuals, inhibiting their ability to reclaim their lives in a safe environment. The risk of gender-based violence (GBV) is another critical concern, affecting 13% of IDPs, particularly women and girls. The breakdown of social structures and overcrowded living conditions exacerbate this risk, perpetuating trauma and vulnerability. Furthermore, the lack of privacy and dignity affects 18% of IDPs, compromising their basic human rights and contributing to feelings of shame. Additionally, 16% of IDPs encounter limited access to healthcare due to shortages and financial constraints, further exacerbating health disparities. Sanitation and hygiene challenges impact 15% of the population, increasing the risk of infectious diseases. Food insecurity is particularly alarming in Kushari, affecting 22% of IDPs who face disruptions in livelihoods and dependence on humanitarian aid, leading to malnutrition, especially among vulnerable groups.

Summary of Findings

Inadequate security measures, risk of gender-based violence (GBV), lack of privacy and dignity, limited access to healthcare, sanitation and hygiene challenges, food insecurity, lack of clean water, psychosocial trauma, child protection



issues, barriers to education, limited livelihood opportunities, stigmatization and discrimination, inadequate shelter and housing, risk of landmines and unexploded ordnance, limited access to legal protection, dependency on humanitarian aid, mental health challenges, vulnerability to human trafficking, lack of access to reproductive health services, separation from family members, and limited access to information and communication were identified as the major challenges affecting the safety of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Maiduguri Metropolis.

Discussion of Findings

The finding revealed inadequate security measures, risk of gender-based violence (GBV), lack of privacy and dignity, limited access to healthcare, sanitation and hygiene challenges, food insecurity, lack of clean water, psychosocial trauma, child protection issues, barriers to education, limited livelihood opportunities, stigmatization and discrimination, inadequate shelter and housing, risk of landmines and unexploded ordnance, limited access to legal protection, dependency on humanitarian aid, mental health challenges, vulnerability to human trafficking, lack of access to reproductive health services, separation from family members, and limited access to information and communication as the challenges affecting the safety of IDPs in Maiduguri Metropolis.

This finding supports a study conducted by Amalu, (2015), that *Boko Haram* Insurgency has created a very serious threat to the nation, security situation in the past during the cold era has been given a serious attention more than protecting live and properties, but protecting the territorial boundaries and integrity of the nation from any threat or danger that might cause harm from external or foreign intruder with

intention of causing trouble or harm. Security and protection is a sole responsibility of a government against all threat such as hunger, unemployment, diseases, displacement, violation of human rights, political conflict and degradation of environment all this encompasses human security. All this attribute has been notice as a result of *Boko Haram* insurgency since it began, there are about 12000 deaths and 8000 person injured. Due to the insurgency farming activities have greatly distorted due to the fact that farmers have been displaced and left their home. Situation in the northern region have been deteriorated and is the region where major farming activities take place the country depend on it. The violent situation would also create multiply effect in the African continent, because Nigeria serves as one of the largest producer of cereal crops. Health sector also suffered loss of building such as hospital were destroyed and number of injured people is being increasing, while the health personnel have run away for fear of being attacked or killed.

Conclusion

The study sheds light on the complex and interconnected challenges faced by Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Maiduguri Metropolis. The findings underscore the harsh realities across various facets of the lives of displaced individuals. The safety of IDPs is compromised by ongoing threats such as suicide attacks, indigenous hostility, sexual harassment by government/NGO officials, forced marriages, and the abduction of women and children.

The insecurity further exacerbate harsh living conditions to the IDPs in host communities as inadequate security measures, risk of gender-based violence (GBV), lack of privacy and dignity, limited access to healthcare, sanitation and hygiene



challenges, food insecurity, lack of clean water, psycho-social trauma, child protection issues, barriers to education, limited livelihood opportunities, stigmatization and discrimination, inadequate shelter and housing, risk of landmines and unexploded ordnance, limited access to legal protection, dependency on humanitarian aid, mental health challenges, vulnerability to human trafficking, lack of access to reproductive health services, separation from family members, limited access to information and communication, were the challenges experienced by IDPs in host communities. These create an environment of constant peril for those displaced.

Recommendations

The study made the following recommendations.

Comprehensive security measures should be implemented in Maiduguri Metropolis by Borno state Government to safeguard the lives of IDPs. This should involve increased surveillance, community policing, and collaboration with security agencies to mitigate the threats of suicide attacks, indigenous hostility, sexual harassment, forced marriages, and abductions. In addition to that adequate surveillance cameras such as Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV), involving community leaders such as Lawan's and Bulama's (ward heads and village heads) and their deputies in determining the security architecture as well as collaborating with the security agencies with a view to achieving synergistic advantages, as security issues is a collective one.

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