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In association with:



Mobile pastoralists and communication challenges

Multilingual project communication

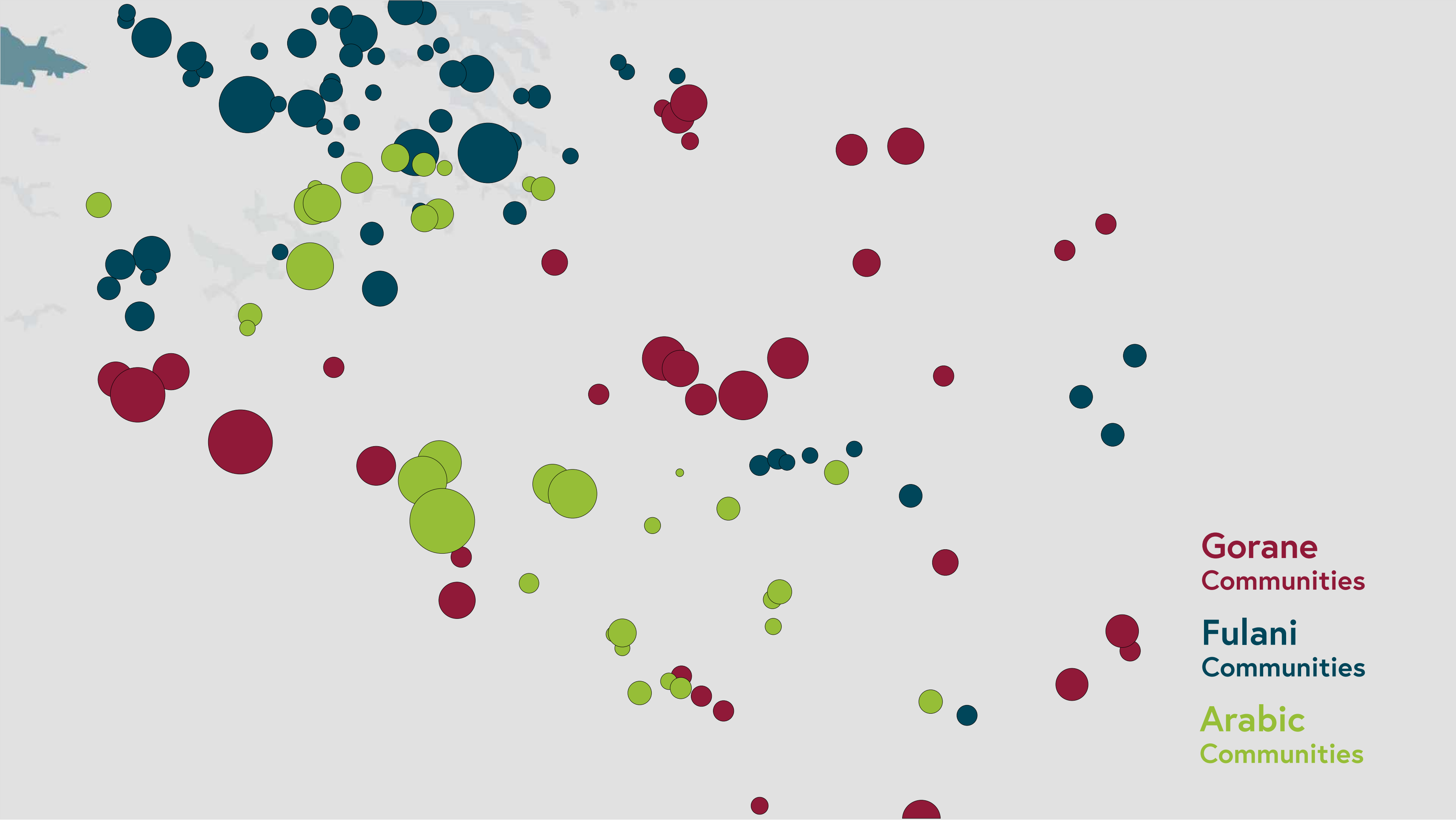
Productive collaboration requires efficient communication.

Different parts of communication at work:

- Internal communication between project partners
 - Essential, but neglected
- External communication with broader public
 - Well elaborated

Lake Chad





**Gorane
Communities**

**Fulani
Communities**

**Arabic
Communities**



Fulani chief and chief veterinarians of Chad in Gredaya (© J. Zinsstag, Swiss TPH)



Anna Münch, fluent in Kel Tamacheck and Arabic (© J. Zinsstag, Swiss TPH)

Two forms of multilingualism

- Interlingual multilingualism
- Intralingual multilingualism

Interlingual multilingualism

- Use of different languages in a given area.
- Shared language in a project = Lingua franca.

Lingua franca might intensify issues of power:

- Hierarchy
- Physical location
- Exclusion (native/non-native speakers)

Decide which language to use for every phase of the project.



Discussions in Chad (© C. Heuss, Swiss TPH)

Intralingual multilingualism

- Use of different terminologies and concepts within a language.

The project team needs to decide, how to explain or paraphrase specific terms (eg medical terminology).

Implement a terminology that is specific for the project.

Objectives & prerequisites

- Shape processes involving multilingual stakeholders.
- Consider all language groups.
- Multilingual management with clear communication concepts.



Health care for mobile pastoralists in Chad (© C. Heuss, Swiss TPH)



Health care for mobile pastoralists in Chad (© C. Heuss, Swiss TPH)



Health care for mobile pastoralists in Chad (© C. Heuss, Swiss TPH)

References

Vreni, J.R., Crump, L., Moto Daugla, D., Hattendorf, J., Schelling, E. & Zinsstag, J. (2014). The use of mobile phones for demographic surveillance of mobile pastoralists and their animals in Chad. Proof of principle. *Global Health Action*, 7(1). DOI: 10.3402/gha.v7.23209

Photos: Swiss TPH