

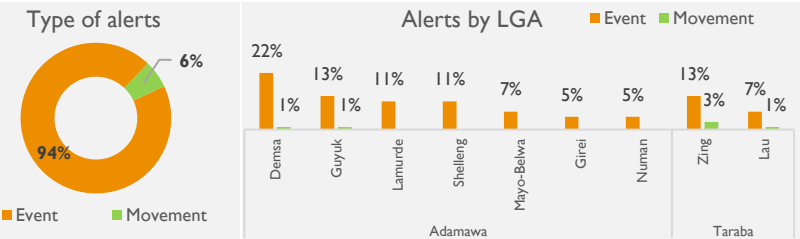
In the northern Nigeria as well as in other Sahel regions, among the key contributors to the increasing hostility and violent conflicts between transhumance and sedentary farmers is the competition for natural resources. Other contributing factors are climate change, desertification, flooding, insecurity, insurgency, growing population, and the attendant shrinking of available resources for both farming and transhumance activities. Also, the conventional practice of year-round farming and community-based resources use for farming and herding activities also sometimes escalates tensions. Instances occur when farmers encroach upon designated grazing areas and routes or transhumance resort to destructive practices such as trespassing on farmlands that sometimes lead to crop damage or water sources contamination for sedentary farmers. Oftentimes, the escalation of conflicts between farmers and transhumance communities can be attributed to either a single factor or a combination of these factors.

To understand, evaluate and mitigate conflicts between transhumant herders and sedentary farmers, the Transhumance Tracking Tools (TTT) as a component of IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), and supported by a network of community key informants, implemented the Early Warning System in nine selected Local Government Areas (LGAs) located in the neighboring states of Adamawa and Taraba (7 and 2 LGAs of Adamawa and Taraba state respectively).

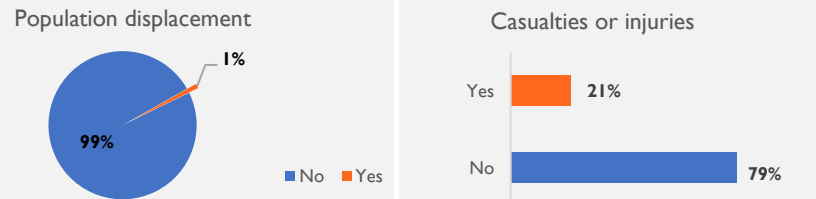
The triangulated 342 alerts linked to farmer-transhumance events for August 2023 comprises of 322 (94%) events and 20 (6%) movement alerts. Of the reported alerts, the largest number, representing 23 per cent of all alerts are reported in Demsa LGA in Adamawa state and followed by Zing LGA of Taraba at 16 per cent. The disaggregated event alerts in the two states show the highest reported events of 21 per cent for Monkin ward within Zing LGA in Taraba state, followed by Kola ward in Guyuk LGA of Adamawa at 20 per cent, while Nassarawo Demsa and Gwamba wards of Demsa LGA reported 15 per cent each.

The reported alerts suggested the instance of 1 per cent population displacement and 21 per cent of instances that resulted in casualties or injuries.

TYPE OF ALERTS



CONSEQUENCES OF EVENTS



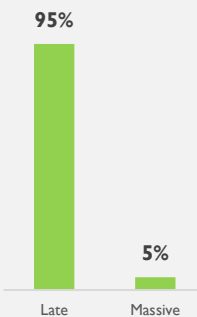
The movement alerts reported for the reviewed month suggest that 95 per cent are characterized as late movements, and 5 per cent are categorized as massive movements involving more than 500 livestock. Of the total reported movements, 90 per cent are within Nigeria boundary, and 5 per cent involve cross-border movements from Nigeria to Chad. Also, suggested from the reported movements alerts is 5 per cent of inflow movements from Niger to Nigeria. The probability of the reported movement alerts resulting to late and/or massive movements of pastoral groups is 95 per cent, and 80 per cent likelihood of causing damage to surrounding fields. Additionally, there is a 65 per cent concern that these movements may lead to the non-use of official transhumance corridors, a 60 per cent chance of increased competition over animal resources, and a 5 per cent possibility of changes in market prices. Local farmers and breeders are projected to be involved in 90 per cent of all instances of future movement alerts, while transhumant pastoral groups are likely to engage in 85 per cent. Also, the national and/or local authorities and foresters' participation is expected at 55 and 40 per cent respectively, while non-state armed groups may be involved at 30 per cent of all instances.

Of the reported instances of TTT event alerts for the month of August, agro-pastoral conflict emerges as the predominant cause at 51 per cent, followed by intra-community tensions at 38 per cent, while inter-community tensions and disaster account for 8 and 3 per cent respectively. The data also suggests that transhumance-related event alerts are attributed to farm encroachment and destruction (77%), banditry, kidnapping, robberies and attacks (13%), cattle rustling/animal theft (10%), night and underage grazing (7%), late or massive passage of pastoral groups (7%), drugs abuse (7%), cattle route blockage or lack of access to infrastructures (5%), and competition around animal resources (1%)

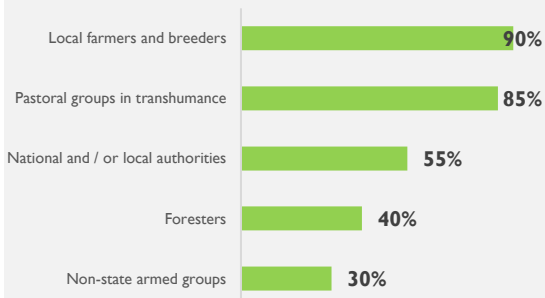
Among the key actors involved in the event alerts are the local farmers and breeders (66%), national and/or local authorities (32%), non-state armed groups (17%), pastoral groups in transhumance (8%) and foresters (1%). The remaining 24 per cent of the event alerts involve other actors such as community youth, kidnappers, and unknown persons. Of the reported event alerts, 54 per cent of the reported event alerts were resolved with the participation of community leaders (80%), local and/or national authorities (48%), pastoral organizations (17%), customary chiefs (17%), humanitarian organizations (8%), religious leaders (2%), and other figures such as market leaders and community youth leaders (11%).

MOVEMENT ALERTS (* data consisting of multi-choice options)

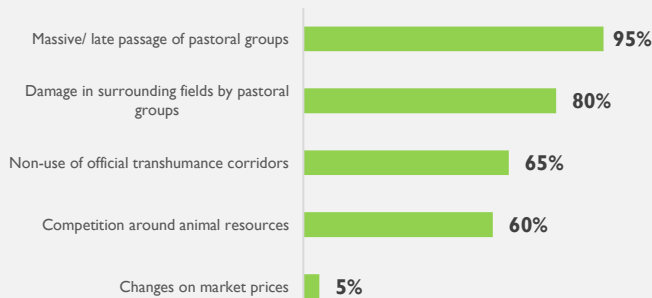
Types of movements



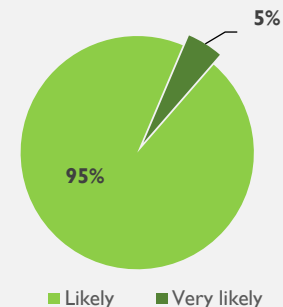
Actors who may be involved in a potential future events *



Likely consequences *

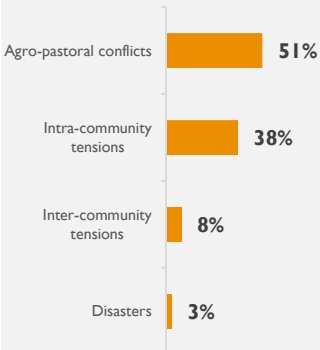


Probability of risks materialization

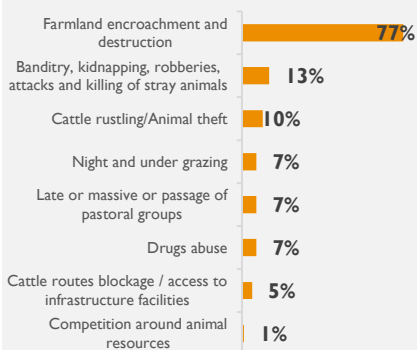


EVENT ALERTS (* data consisting of multi-choice options)

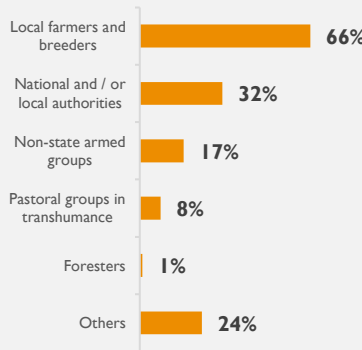
Types of events



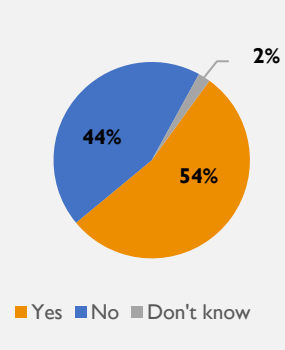
Causes of agro-pastoral conflicts *



Actors involved in the events*



Are the events resolved?

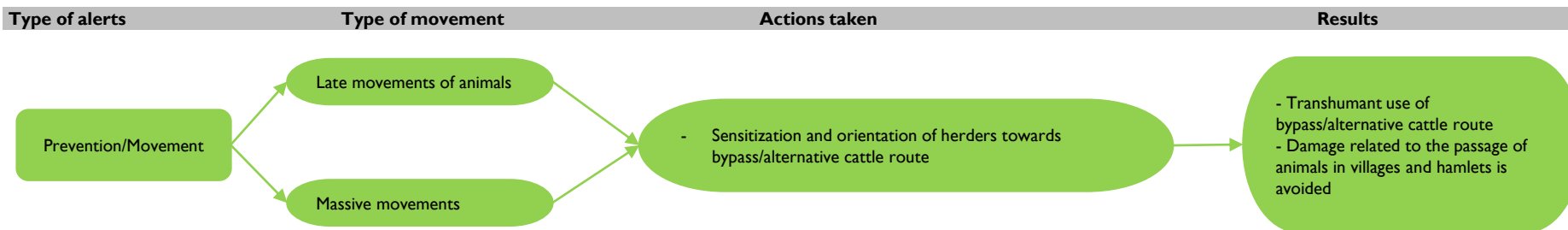


Actors involved in conflict management *

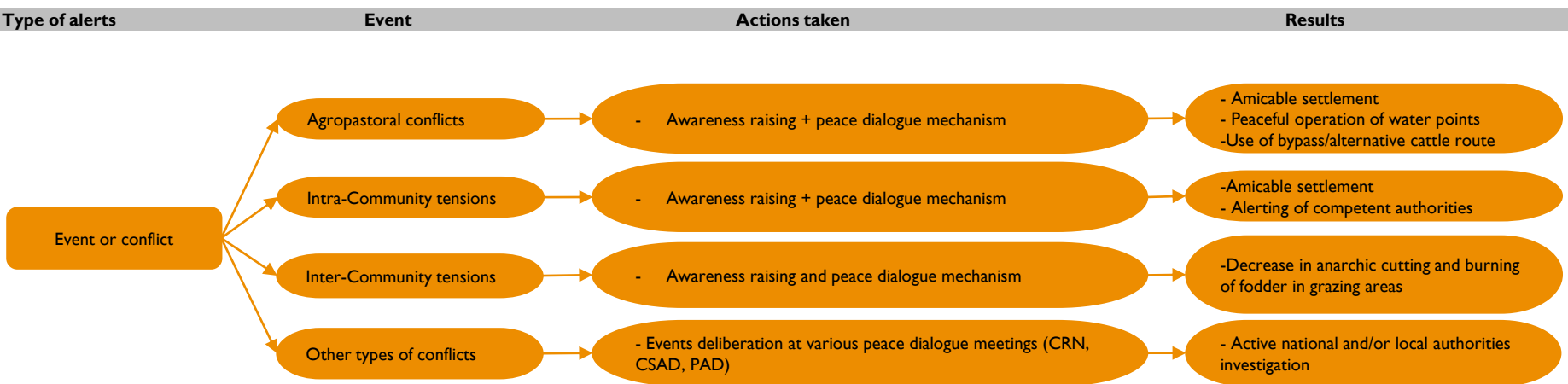


In response to the transmitted alerts by key informants and triangulated by focal persons in the operational LGAs in Adamawa and Taraba states during the reviewed month, appropriate measures were implemented to address or prevent conflicts associated with transhumance movements. Multiple local stakeholders participated in addressing and offering responses to alleviate the situation based on the alerts received from key informants. The table below highlights certain actions taken to record and resolve different alert types. Additionally, there have been reported instances of farm destruction and other issues concerning the relationship between farmers and pastoralists, particularly during the peak of the annual rainy season.

RESPONSES TO MOVEMENT ALERTS



RESPONSES TO EVENT ALERTS



The information gathered through IOM's TTT alerts and shared with Search for Common Ground (SFCG) has been instrumental in facilitating discussions among consortium partners and other key stakeholders within the project wards and LGAs. The data informed the structure and approach to how the COMITAS consortium organizations implement their activities. Also, the primary purpose of establishing peace platforms in these communities (such as NRMCS, CRN, CSAD, PAD) is to efficiently relay timely information to local authorities, village leaders, and community influencers in the project's operational area. These platforms play a vital role in proactively preventing conflicts and the resulting displacement of populations, particularly in response to transhumance-related alerts. These proactive measures encompass a range of strategies, including compensating victims, engaging social intermediaries, facilitating dialogues and negotiations, and implementing adaptable approaches to address and prevent such conflicts.

The active involvement of local conflict management entities in Adamawa and Taraba state has been crucial in resolving and mitigating these situations. The periodic data sharing and response to alerts from the COMITAS consortium, highlighting the collaborative efforts to effectively manage and mitigate conflicts in Adamawa and Taraba state.