

INTRODUCTION

The North-west region of Nigeria has grappled with a multifaceted crisis marked by heightened violence, notably conflicts between farmers and herders. These conflicts stem from escalating competition over land tenure, grazing land and the management of natural resources. To tackle these challenges and support peaceful pastoral mobility, TTT was introduced, incorporating four significant components: the Early Warning and Early Response system (EWER), Transhumance Flow Monitoring (TFM), presence and profile and detailed individual surveys. The EWER system detects significant or unexpected livestock movements and transhumance-related events that could affect transhumance, including events that could lead to conflicts between herders and farmers. The TFM tool collects data on migration flows and trends, offering a comprehensive overview of livestock movements and points of departure, arrival, and strategic passage.

Since the introduction of the EWER system and TFM activities in August and October 2023, the communities across Kachia, Kaura, Kaita, and Faskari Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Kaduna and Katsina states, facilitated by Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), and in Batsari, Jibia, Kankara, and Dan Musa LGAs of Katsina state, supported by European Union (EU) Fund, have experienced a notable impact in terms of conflict mitigation and peacebuilding. This impact has been achieved through the establishment of Community Response Networks (CRNs), comprised of members from farmers associations, herders associations, hunters, trade unions, traditional rulers, religious leaders, youth leaders, women leaders, internally displaced persons (IDPs), security personnel stationed at transhumance corridors, and other relevant groups. These networks were formed to prevent, mitigate, and resolve disputes, and foster mutual understanding and peaceful coexistence among community members.

This report provides an overview of the findings from the Transhumance Tracking Tool (TTT) feedback survey, focusing on the impact of TTT activities in Kaduna and Katsina states, particularly in conflict mitigation and peacebuilding among farmers and herders communities. It highlights the key areas where the TTT has been most effective and identifies opportunities for further improvement. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is implementing the TTT activity through the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), in line with its global methodology and framework under mobility tracking. The TTT component comprises the Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) system and Transhumance Flow Monitoring (TFM).

The survey was conducted between 05 - 15 April 2024, through Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and direct interviews at the Local Government Area (LGA) and state levels, investigating the relevance and impact of TTT activities in communities where TTT is active. The key findings indicate a high level of awareness, with 100 per cent of respondents acknowledging TTT activities and their contribution to conflict mitigation and peacebuilding. Improved peace in the community was cited by 42 per cent of respondents, while 24 per cent noted that TTT activity supported conflict prevention, mitigation, and resolution.

The survey further evaluated the effectiveness of Key Informants (KIs) and Community Response Networks (CRNs), emphasising the EWER system's role in preventing and mitigating farmer-herder conflicts over natural resources. More so, 99 per cent of respondents recognise its impact. Additionally, 92 per cent of respondents observed positive changes in grazing activities and farming practices which were attributed to TTT activities.

The report further underscored challenges hindering TTT implementation, notwithstanding insecurity, inadequate training, and environmental factors. Recommendations for improvement include increasing awareness, increasing the involvement of local representatives in the programme, and extending the training and communication efforts. These submissions aimed to enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of TTT activities in conflict-affected areas in Kaduna, Katsina, and beyond.

It aims to comprehensively understand how TTT activities have enabled CRNs to respond promptly to potential conflicts, make informed decisions, and take proactive measures in conflicts resolution before they escalate. Furthermore, it seeks to evaluate these activities' acceptance, integration, and sustainability within the communities.

OBJECTIVES

Below are the key objectives of the feedback survey of TTT activities:

- I. To evaluate how EWER system and TFM support the CRNs in managing transhumance-related activities.
- II. To assess the impact of TTT activities on CRNs in mitigating transhumance-related conflicts and fostering peaceful coexistence between communities.
- III. To explore how EWER system and TFM impact conflict resolution processes by CRNs, examining the correlation between the alerts identified and transmitted and successful conflict resolution outcomes.

METHODOLOGY

This feedback survey adopted a participatory approach to gather insights and feedback through FGDs and direct interviews. The FGDs were held in communities within the seven LGAs where TTT is present. In total, 31 FGDs were conducted with community members and members of the CRNs, some of whom are part of the network of key informants deployed during TTT activities. Participants were selected based on criteria that ensured diverse representation, including men, women, youths, and vulnerable groups. Vulnerable groups included internally displaced persons (IDPs), elderly individuals, and people with disabilities living within the communities. The selection criteria aimed to capture various perspectives and experiences to ensure the findings are inclusive.

This inclusive approach ensured that the voices of those often underrepresented were heard and considered in the analysis. Each FGD comprised an average of 8-10 participants, ensuring a manageable group size that facilitated in-depth discussions. This group size allowed for meaningful engagement and active participation from all members. All FGDs occurred in comfortable and conducive locations to encourage participants to share their views freely.

Furthermore, 43 direct interviews were conducted with LGA and state-level stakeholders, including community leaders, security personnel, LGA Chairmen, the Director of the Department of Agriculture, and heads of farmers and herders associations. The selection criteria for the direct interviews aimed to ensure a diverse representation of stakeholders at both the LGA and state levels. A purposive sampling method ensured that the findings represented the larger community. This method involves selecting the most knowledgeable participants who can provide valuable insights into the issues. In this case, stakeholders were selected based on their roles, expertise, and involvement in issues related to transhumance, conflict resolution and community development, ensuring a broad spectrum of perspectives and experiences.

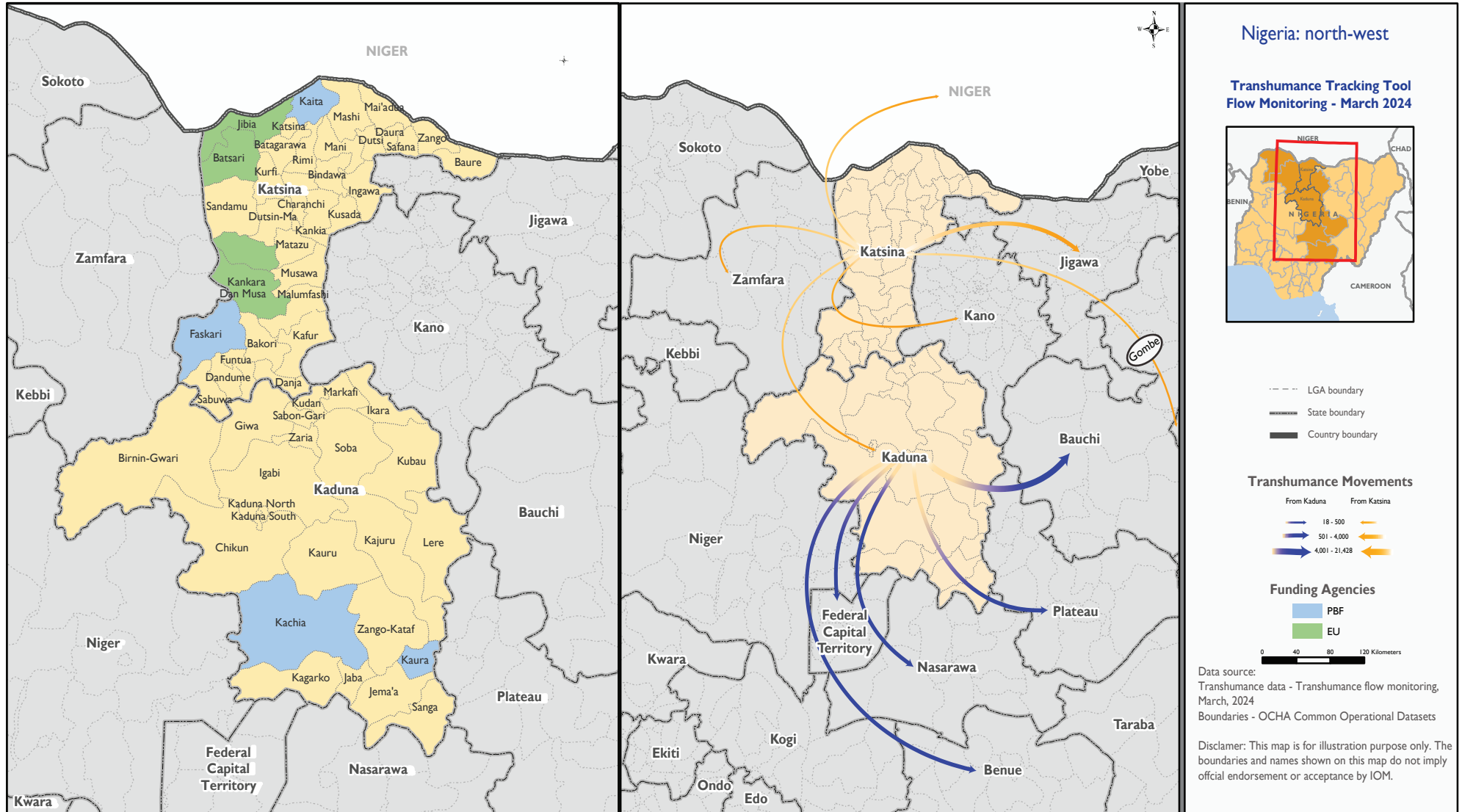
Moreover, efforts were made to include stakeholders from various sectors such as governance, security, agriculture and community leadership, to understand TTT activities' impact comprehensively. The survey aimed to gather a holistic view of the TTT's effectiveness and its implications for different community segments by interviewing individuals with diverse backgrounds and responsibilities. Discussions were structured around key themes, including the use of TTT, its impact on conflict mitigation, and the relationship between CRNs, TFM, and EWER reporting. Moderators facilitated open dialogues to encourage participants to share their experiences, perspectives, and suggestions for improving TTT integration and effectiveness within their communities.

LIMITATIONS

As a result of focusing on communities within the seven LGAs where TTT is present, the survey may have excluded perspectives from regions not covered, limiting the applicability of the findings beyond these areas. This focus may overlook unique conflict dynamics and socio-economic conditions in other regions. Thus, while the survey offers valuable insights into TTT's effectiveness within the selected LGAs, its conclusions may not be generalizable to regions with different circumstances. A more holistic assessment would require including a broader range of geographical areas to capture diverse experiences and perspectives.

Geographical areas covered by TTT activities in Kaduna and Katsina States

Transhumance flows through Kaduna and Katsina States to intended regions of destination



INSIGHT SINCE THE LAUNCH OF TTT ACTIVITIES IN KADUNA AND KATSINA STATES FROM AUGUST 2023 TO APRIL 2024

Through the TFM tool, transhumants and their herds have been systematically counted and monitored along designated transhumance corridors. These movements sometimes trigger "movement alerts" signalling early, late, or mass movements and "event alerts" related to transhumance including disasters and conflict incidents. The EWER system collects and analyses this data to proactively address emerging conflict situations indicated by "event alerts" and to prevent potential inter-community tensions highlighted by "movement alerts."

This multifaceted approach, supported by the EWER system and TFM, underscores the proactive efforts of CRNs to avert potential conflicts and foster sustainable peace within the region. Between August 2023 and March 2024, TTT's activities have assisted the CRNs in monitoring herders and livestock movements, thereby identifying alerts that have enabled decisive actions aimed at conflict prevention. In response to alerts concerning conflict incidents, the CRNs have successfully implemented measures to mitigate transhumance-related conflicts, including victim compensation, social mediation and raising awareness of conflict risks. Some events remain unresolved, primarily due to high compensation demands or disagreements over natural resource utilisation points. However, strategies have been implemented to ensure effective mediation and resolution of future conflicts.

Below is a summary of findings since the inception of the Transhumance Tracking Tool activities in Kaduna and Katsina states, under the Peacebuilding Fund and the European Union Fund:

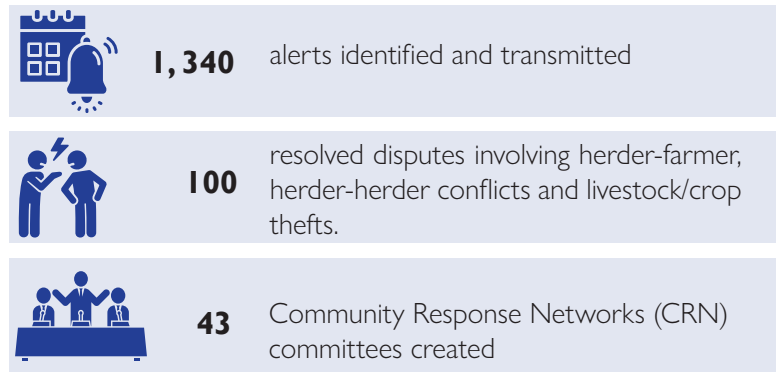
Metrics	Katsina & Kaduna States (PBF)
Movement alerts	478
Event/Incidence alerts	228
Conflicts reported	116
Conflicts resolved	65
Conflicts unresolved	51

Table 1: Insights from the EWER system since August 2023 under the Peacebuilding Fund

Metrics	Katsina State (EU)
Movement alerts	66
Event/Incidence alerts	568
Conflicts reported	173
Conflicts resolved	35
Conflicts unresolved	138

Table 2: Insights from the EWER system since August 2023 under the European Union Fund

Early Warning Early Response system (EWER)



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Peacebuilding Fund

European Union Fund

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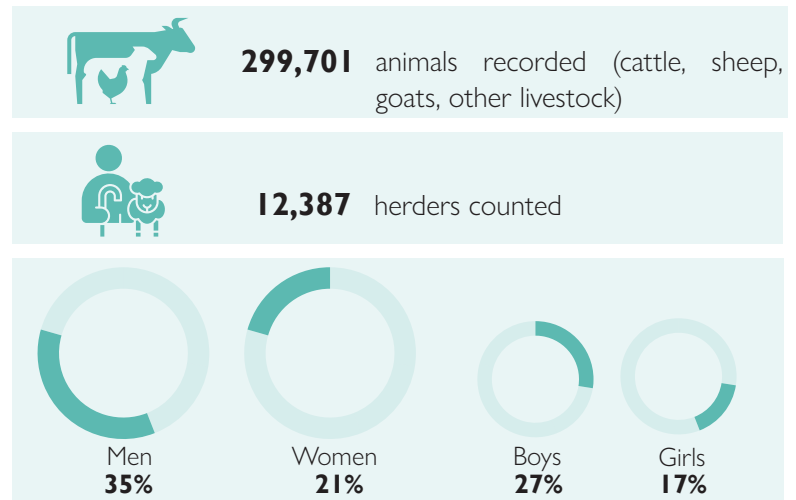
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Transhumance Flow Monitoring



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KEY FINDINGS

TTT ACTIVITIES RELEVANCE AND CONTRIBUTION TO CONFLICT MITIGATION AND PEACE BUILDING

Awareness and acceptance of the EWER system and TFM are crucial for communities to benefit from. The finding suggests that all of the respondents (100%) indicated they were aware of the TTT activities and highlighted that they were appropriate/ relevant in their communities.

Such widespread acceptance underscores the effectiveness of these activities in significantly contributing to conflict mitigation and peacebuilding. The CRNs have successfully mitigated the impact of transhumance-related conflicts in their communities by responding to alerts concerning conflict incidents.

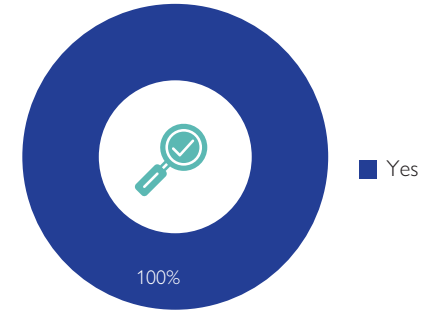


Fig 1. Contribution of TTT activities to conflict mitigation and peacebuilding

IMPACT OF TTT ACTIVITIES

- Findings showed that 42 per cent of respondents noted the EWER system's significant impact on peace in their communities. Early identification of movements and events alerts and rapid intervention have prevented conflicts from escalating, ensuring continued peace. Additionally, 24 per cent highlighted how TTT activities have empowered CRNs, enhancing conflict prevention and resolution. These networks swiftly initiate peace dialogues, raise awareness, and transmit vital information to competent authorities.
- Findings have shown that 23 per cent of the respondents highlighted how TTT activities strengthened the farmer-herder relationship, fostering collaboration and preventing conflicts over natural resources. This mutual understanding has been pivotal in preventing conflicts over natural resources, such as grazing lands and water points, often the sources of tension between farmers and herders.
- Moreover, eight per cent noted impacts such as the safe reopening of transhumance corridors and better management of underage grazing. Controlling underage grazing has ensured that young livestock are properly managed, preventing them from wandering into cultivated fields and causing damage.
- Only 3 per cent noted that TTT activities raised awareness of peacebuilding and conflict resolution, promoting proactive engagement in mediation efforts within the community. This has led to a more proactive stance on conflict resolution, with community members being more willing to participate in mediation efforts and seek peaceful solutions to disputes.

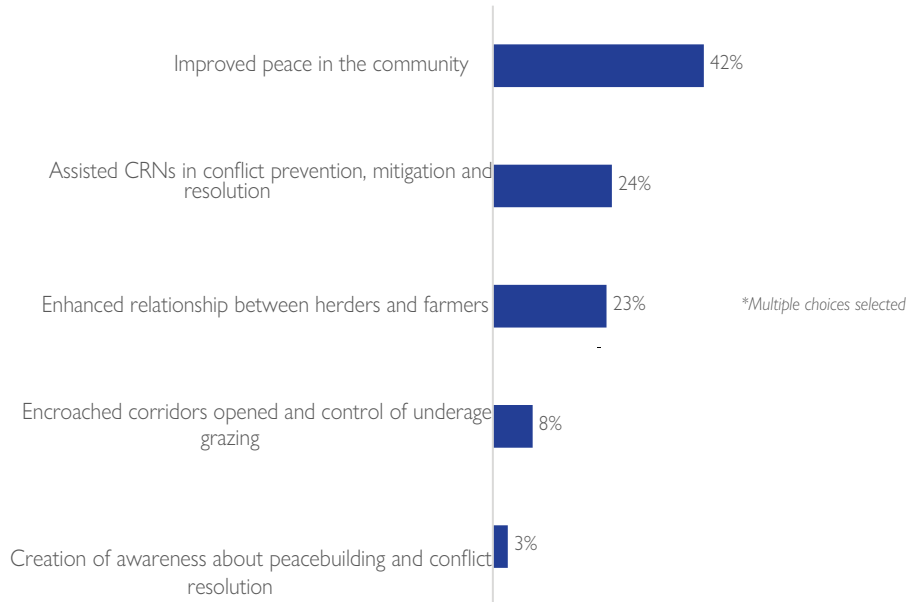


Fig 2. Impact of TTT activities

KEY FINDINGS

EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SELECTED KIs AND CRNs

- The CRNs supported by TTT activities, have played a pivotal role in conflict mitigation and peacebuilding. According to the survey data, 55 per cent of respondents rated the network of KIs and CRNs as effective in representing the target population groups and contributing to conflict mitigation and peacebuilding within their community. This majority underscores the positive impact these networks have had on fostering harmony and addressing conflicts.
- Furthermore, 36 per cent of respondents rated their representation and contributions as very effective, indicating a solid endorsement of the networks' efforts. The CRNs have been particularly effective in responding to alerts identified through the EWER system and the Transhumance Flow Monitoring.
- Depending on the type of alert, appropriate actions such as awareness-raising and peace dialogue mechanisms are taken to resolve or prevent conflicts related to transhumant movements. Not all alerts are directly related to transhumance; some involve issues such as kidnappings, armed robberies, and gender-based violence. In these cases, the CRNs have taken steps to register these alerts with the police authorities, leading to active police investigations.

INTRODUCTION OF TTT'S EWER SYSTEM IN REDUCING OR MITIGATING FARMER-HERDER CONFLICTS OVER NATURAL RESOURCES

- Implementing the EWER system has proven to be transformative in the communities with TTT's presence. Ninety-nine per cent of respondents reported that TTT's EWER system and Transhumance Flow Monitoring have significantly enhanced the capabilities of CRNs in addressing and resolving farmer-herder conflicts. For example, during heightened tensions, a movement alert indicated a considerable group of herders entering a grazing area earlier than expected. The CRNs quickly mobilised, informing community leaders and key stakeholders and initiated peace dialogue mechanisms.

They raised awareness within the community about the potential for conflict and facilitated discussions between farmers and herders to negotiate resource-sharing agreements. This proactive approach raised awareness, facilitated negotiations and prevented potential clashes, ensuring resource-sharing without escalating tensions.

- One per cent reported that they have yet to see a reduction in farmer-herder conflicts.

- Interestingly, 8 per cent of respondents chose to stay neutral. This neutrality may indicate that while these individuals recognise the CRNs' contributions, they also see the potential for further improvement or feel that additional engagement is necessary to fully meet their expectations. This segment represents an opportunity for the CRNs to enhance their strategies and increase their outreach and effectiveness.
- Only a small fraction, 1 per cent of respondents, rated the network as non-effective. This minimal percentage suggests that there is overwhelming support for the CRNs. However, it also highlights that gaps still need to be addressed to ensure comprehensive coverage and efficacy. Overall, the feedback highlights a strong appreciation for the efforts of KIs and CRNs, underscoring their pivotal role in fostering peace and cooperation among diverse groups.

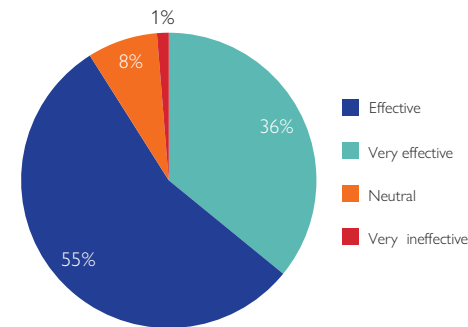


Fig 3. Effectiveness of the selected KIs and CRNs

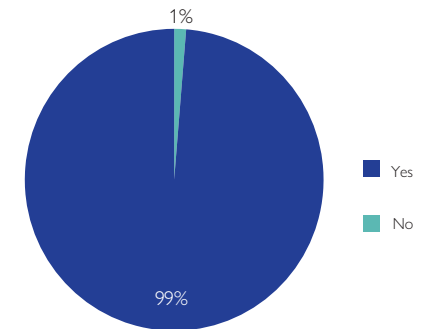


Fig 4. Contribution of TTT activities in the reduction/mitigation of farmer-herder conflicts over natural resources

KEY FINDINGS

CHANGES IN GRAZING AND FARMING PRACTICES SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF TTT ACTIVITIES

- Ninety-two per cent of respondents reported significant transformations in grazing and farming practices since the introduction of TTT activities. The systematic tracking and counting of transhumant herds using the TFM tool have facilitated a better understanding and management of these movements. This has led to farmers and herders adopting more sustainable practices, contributing to a noticeable reduction in conflicts.
- Eight per cent of respondents have indicated that they have yet to observe significant changes, particularly concerning the provision of water points and the proper demarcation of grazing areas. These respondents have highlighted ongoing encroachment issues on farmlands and resources, suggesting that while progress has been made, some challenges persist. The CRNs recognise these ongoing challenges, which are frequently exacerbated by substantial compensation demands and disputes over resource usage. In light of these complexities, they are actively developing strategies to facilitate effective mediation and resolve conflicts in the future.

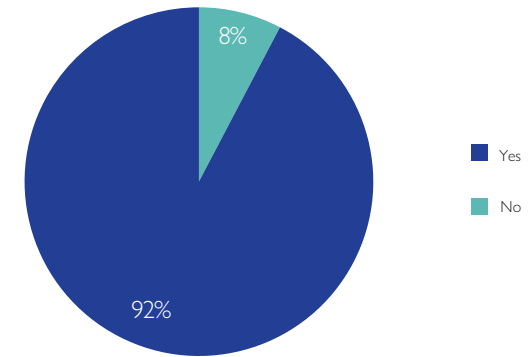


Fig 5. Changes in grazing and farming practices since the introduction of TTT activities

Success Stories

During the FGDs conducted, when respondents were asked about instances where the EWER and TFM led to conflict resolution and facilitated the management of resources, below were the responses received:

- “ We now have a designated area for grazing, an adequate number of water points for community use and farmland barricades have been constructed. As a result, there are limited cases of conflict in the community.” - Said a community member of Kaura LGA, Kaduna State.
- “ Conflicts over water resources were resolved between farmers and herders in Abadau, Katsalle, and Tadeta communities. However, after drilling the borehole, the people of Katsalle stopped the other communities from using the water. We were called to the scene and promptly addressed the situation through collaboration with the district head and the police.” - Said a CRN member in Batsari LGA, Katsina State.
- “ In my community, there was a situation where a cow was stolen, sparking tension. However, the proactive response of the CRN played a crucial role in resolving the issue.” - Said a community member of Kaura LGA, Kaduna State.
- “ Since the introduction of TTT's EWER system, we have been happy, as many things have improved. The CRN has resolved conflicts between farmers and herders in Riko Ward.” - Said a woman leader in Jibia LGA, Katsina State.
- “ Recently, we resolved a conflict between a farmer and a herder due to this project. The herder encroached on a cassava irrigation farm and the cattle ate part of the farm. The CRN members stepped in and resolved the case by making the herder pay a compensation fee to the farmer.” - Said the head of herders association (MACBAN), Kachia LGA, Kaduna State.
- “ Before now, many corridors had been blocked and converted to farmlands, but due to this project, we have reached a mutual understanding and are now creating space for cattle routes.” - Said a farmer in Kankara LGA, Katsina State.

KEY CHALLENGES IN EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENTING THE TRANSHUMANCE TRACKING TOOL (TTT) ACTIVITIES

Despite the positive impact of the EWER system, as well as the TFM in conflict mitigation and peacebuilding project in Kaduna and Katsina states, some challenges were noted that might have affected the implementation of TTT activities as below:

- I. Accessing remote areas was difficult because of security risks, fear of attacks, and bandit threats in some areas.
- II. Shortage of representatives across communities.
- III. Existing mistrust among herder and farmer communities and a need for more cooperation between the conflicting parties.
- IV. Inadequate training for Community Response (CRNs), Key Informants (KIs) and community leaders.
- V. Environmental and Seasonal Factors such as difficulties during the rainy season (e.g., need for rain gear).

RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to enhance the effectiveness and reach of TTT, the feedback from the FGDs and interviews has been invaluable. The following comments reflect the voices and insights of community members, local leaders and stakeholders who have been engaged with the TTT activities, which highlight key areas for improvement and are essential for refining IOM activities to serve the needs of the communities better:

- I. A need to include more representatives from district heads and local leaders to enhance decision-making on victim compensation and social mediation.
- II. For broader community engagement, women's active participation in TTT activities is needed.
- III. The awareness and outreach programmes need to be increased in more communities to ensure widespread coverage and participation.
- IV. Facilitate step-down training sessions to educate community members on the impacts of underage grazing and conflict resolution strategies.
- V. There is need for improved communication channels between CRNs, KIs, community members, and relevant stakeholders to ensure timely and accurate information flow.
- VI. An extended project duration is needed to ensure long-term sustainability and a more profound impact.