

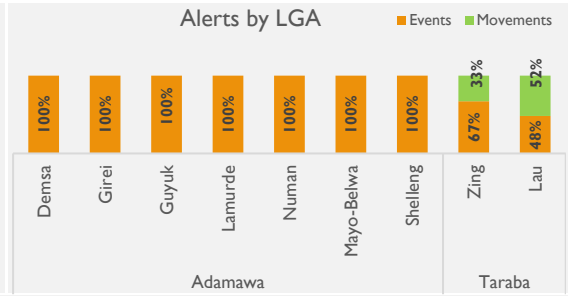
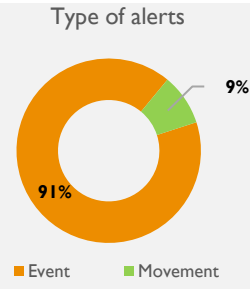
The conflicts between farmers and herders in North-East Nigeria, as well as other parts of the Sahel region, are driven by a complex interplay of environmental and socio-economic factors. Desertification, climate change, and irregular rainfall patterns have led to a marked reduction in available arable land and grazing pastures, straining both agricultural and livestock-based livelihoods. Additionally, rapid population growth intensifies these pressures, creating competition for crucial resources like land and water. Consequently, tensions arise over issues such as farmland encroachment on traditional grazing routes, crop damage by livestock, and disputes over water rights. These conflicts can escalate into violent clashes between farming and herding communities, further contributing to the region's instability.

The Transhumance Tracking Tool (TTT), a component of IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), operationalized the Early Warning System in 9 selected Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Adamawa and Taraba states. Supported by community key informants, this system gathers alerts that disrupt or with potential to disrupt the peaceful coexistence between herding and farming communities.

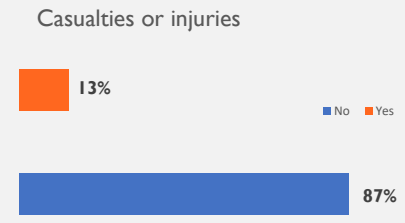
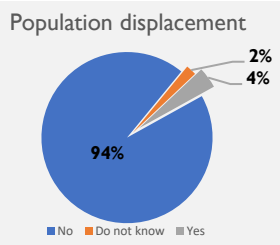
In September, a total of 220 alerts were recorded, with 201 (91%) being event-related and 19 (9%) related to movements. In Adamawa State, all alerts from Demsa, Girei, Guyuk, Lamurde, Numan, Mayo-Belwa, and Shelleng LGAs were event-related. In Taraba State, Zing and Lau LGAs reported 67 per cent and 48 per cent event-related alerts, and 33 per cent and 52 per cent movement-related alerts, respectively. Disaggregated ward-level data shows that Gundo and Talum wards in Shelleng LGA of Adamawa State recorded the highest proportion of event-related alerts at 11 and 6 per cent, respectively. This was followed by Dwan and Gwamba wards in Demsa LGA of Adamawa State, each accounting for 5 per cent of the total alerts.

Four per cent of the alerts led to population displacement, while the status of 2 per cent remains unknown. Additionally, 13 per cent of the event-related alerts resulted in casualties or injuries.

TYPE OF ALERTS



CONSEQUENCES OF EVENTS



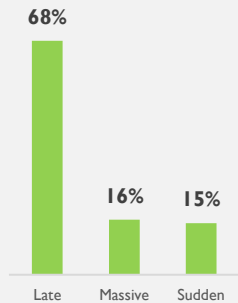
The northward transhumance movement continues with the resumption of seasonal rains after a brief pause. Late movements toward the north accounted for 68 per cent of movement alerts, 16 per cent involved large-scale movements of 500 cattle or more, and 15 per cent were other types of spontaneous movements triggered by factors such as insecurity and fear of attacks. These movements are expected to heighten competition for animal resources and cause damage to surrounding fields, 90 per cent of movement alerts may result in early or late passage of pastoral groups. Additionally, 84 per cent of movements may result in the non-use of official transhumance corridors and a 42 per cent likelihood of fluctuations in market prices. The future event alerts are expected to involve pastoral groups in transhumance, with 95 per cent likely to involve local farmers and breeders, and national or local authorities engaged in 79 per cent of cases. Furthermore, 42 per cent of alerts will likely involve foresters. Overall, there is a 95 per cent chance that these movement alerts will materialize, if alerts are not managed.

Conflicts between farmers and herders accounted for 56 per cent of all event alerts, followed by intra-community tensions at 23 per cent, while disasters such as rainstorms and flooding made up 18 per cent. Inter-community tensions were reported in 1 per cent of the alerts. The data suggested that the main catalyst of farmer-herder conflicts stemmed from farmland encroachment, crop destruction, and damage to fields by pastoral groups, which accounted for 81 per cent of all conflict instances. This was followed by instances of night and underage grazing at 19 per cent, while cattle rustling, animal theft, and the killing of stray animals constituted 13 per cent of incidents. Cattle route blockage and the non-use of designated transhumance routes accounted for 12 per cent, and alongside drug abuse that represented 4 per cent and early or late passage of pastoral group constituted 1 per cent while other causes, such as grazing too close to farmland and theft of farm produce, accounted for 4 per cent of all underlying causes of farmer-herder conflicts. Transhumance-related events implicated various actors. Pastoral groups were involved in all incidents, while local farmers and breeders were involved in 87 per cent of cases, national or local authorities in 35 per cent, and others such as community members in 3 per cent of all event alerts. Actors engaged in conflict management included local and/or national authorities and community leaders, each accounting for 52 per cent, pastoral organizations at 23 per cent, humanitarian organizations at 15 per cent, and customary and religious leaders each at 6 per cent. Consequently, 33 per cent of alerts were resolved, while 65 per cent remained unresolved, and the status of 2 per cent could not be determined as of the reporting date.

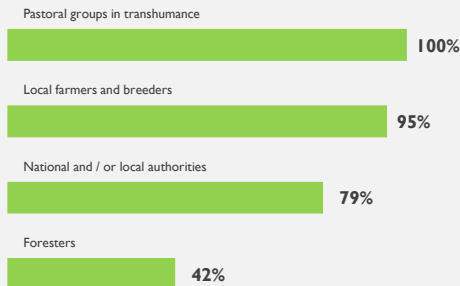
MOVEMENT ALERTS

(* data consisting of multi-choice options)

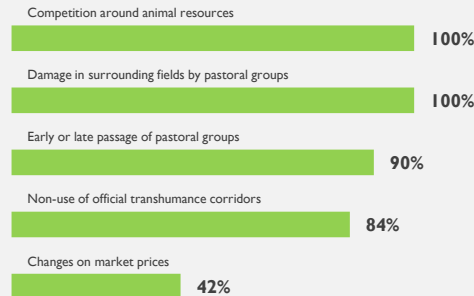
Type of movements



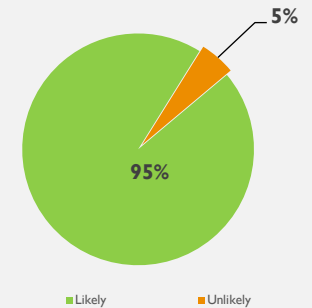
Actors who may be involved in potential future events *



Likely consequences *



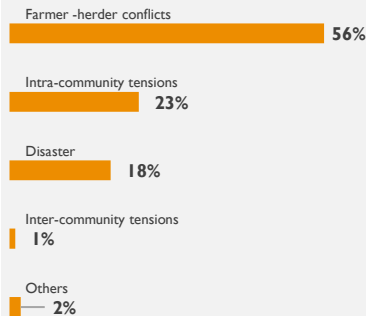
Probability of risks materialization



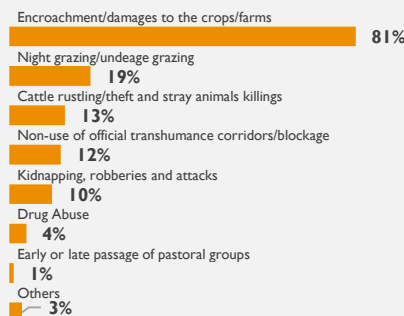
EVENT ALERTS

(* data consisting of multi-choice options)

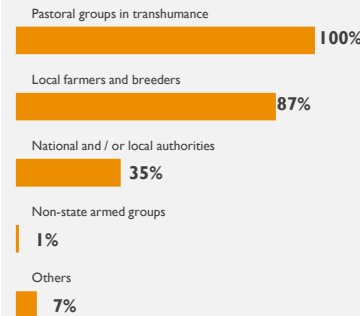
Types of events



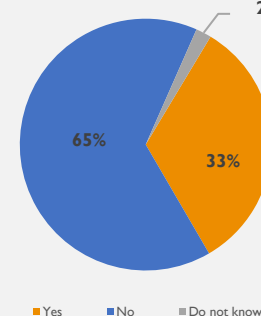
Causes of farmer-herder conflicts *



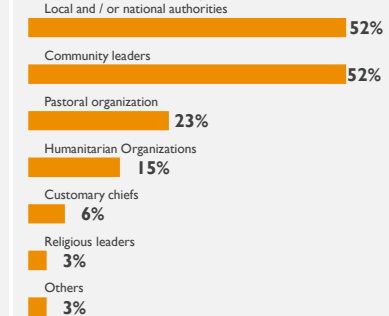
Actors involved in the events*



Are the events resolved?

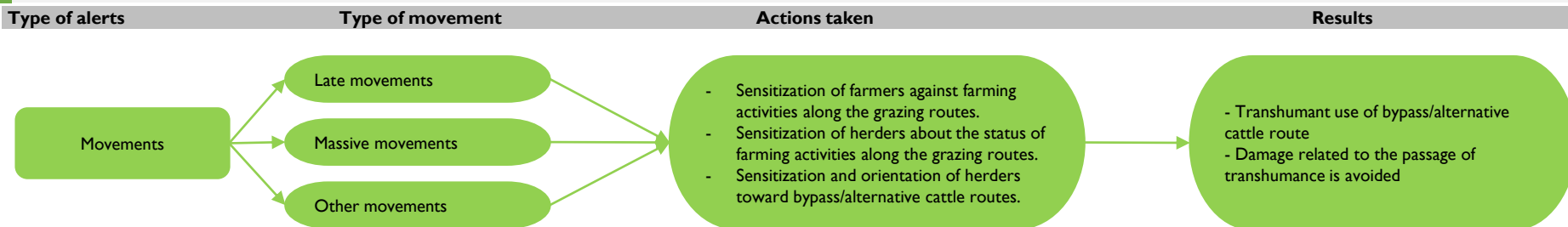


Actors involved in conflict management *

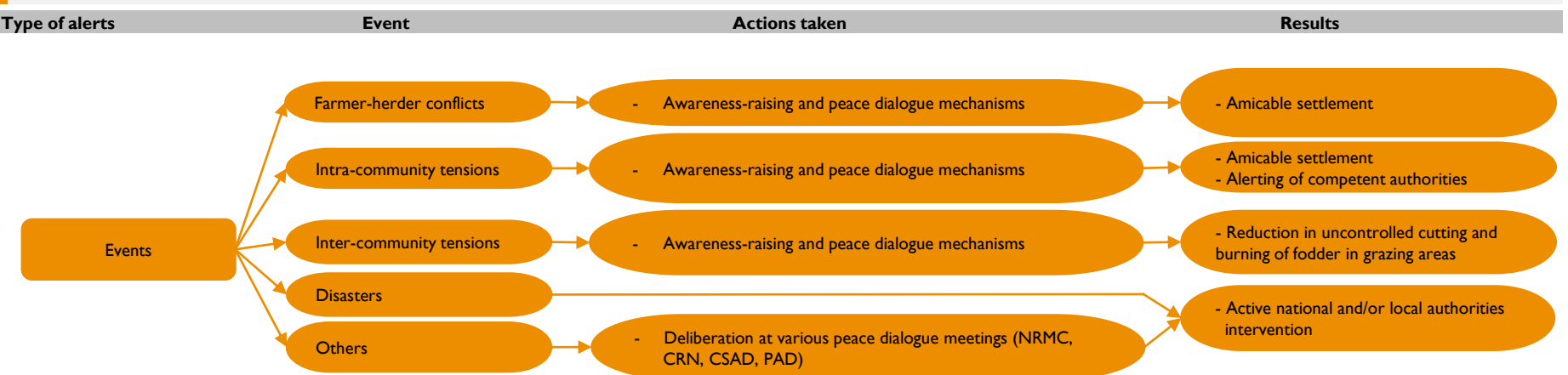


During the TTT EWER alert reporting period, several proactive measures were implemented to mitigate or prevent conflicts related to transhumance movements. These initiatives were informed by alerts provided by trained key informants, which were subsequently triangulated through designated focal point persons within the operational Local Government Areas (LGAs). To enhance the accuracy of reporting, key informants received continuous support and training, ensuring the effective use of mobile data collection tools. The reported alerts were regularly discussed in various forums, including meetings of the Natural Resource Management Committees (NRMCS), Community Response Networks (CRNs), Community Security Architecture Dialogues (CSADs), and Peace Architecture Dialogues (PADs). These discussions led to proposed interventions designed to reduce tensions and conflicts in the affected areas. The flow diagram below outlines the response actions taken based on the alerts, highlighting stakeholder interventions aimed at resolving the issues. Through these coordinated efforts, the program sought to foster a more peaceful and cooperative environment amid the challenges posed by transhumance movements.

RESPONSES TO MOVEMENT ALERTS



RESPONSES TO EVENT ALERTS



The COMITAS project consortium established peace platforms in operational communities to address conflicts between farmers and herders. These platforms include Neighborhood Response Management Committees (NRMCS), Community Response Networks (CRNs), Conflict Sensitivity and Awareness Committees (CSADs), and Peace and Development Committees (PADs). Their primary objective is to provide timely information to local authorities, community leaders, and members, particularly in response to transhumance-related alerts. The consortium employs proactive strategies such as compensation, engagement with social intermediaries, facilitated dialogues, and adaptable approaches to conflict prevention and resolution. A flow diagram highlights the role of local conflict management committees in Adamawa and Taraba states, outlining the steps involved in resolving and mitigating conflicts.

Additionally, ongoing collaboration and timely data sharing among COMITAS members demonstrate a strong commitment to managing conflicts between transhumance groups and farmers in these states. Enhanced data reporting through IOM's Transhumance Tracking Tools, along with continuous training of key informants and collaboration with partners such as Search for Common Ground (SFCG) and Mercy Corps, has promoted dialogue among peace platforms and other stakeholders in operational Local Government Areas (LGAs). The shared data, analysis, and reports have played a key role in guiding the planning and execution of activities within the COMITAS consortium.