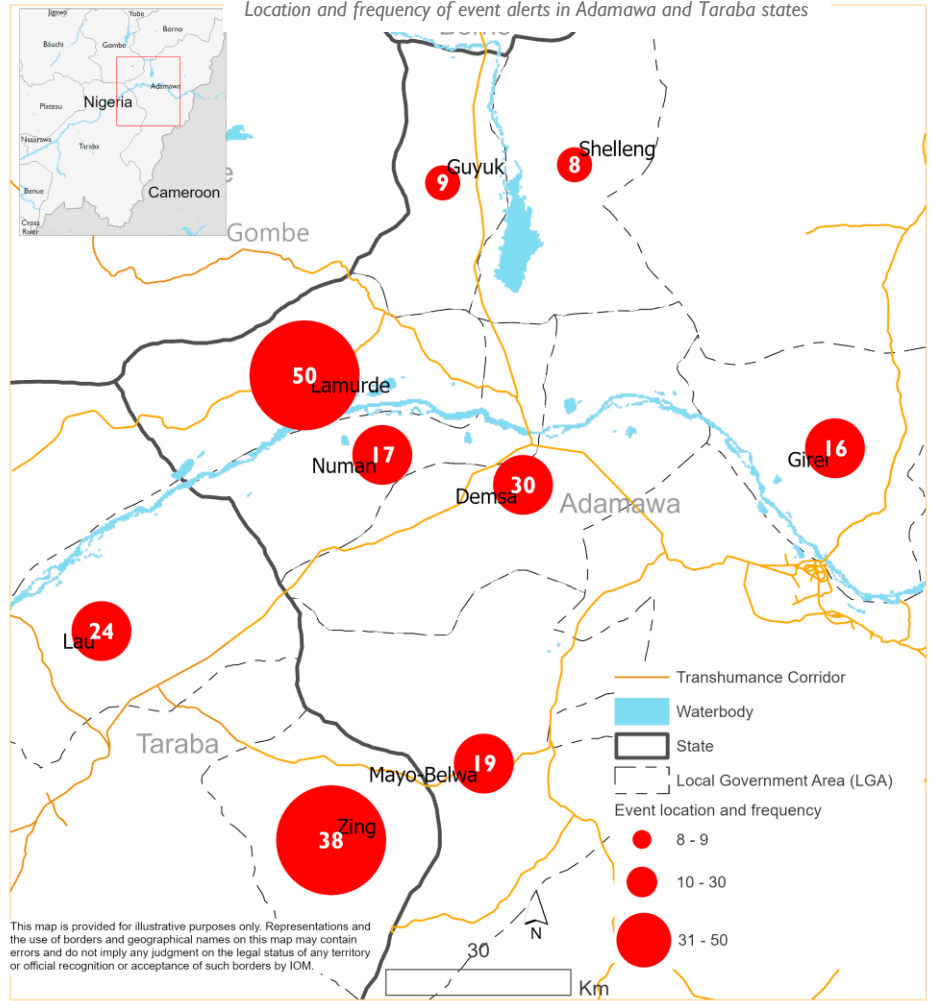




Location and frequency of event alerts in Adamawa and Taraba states



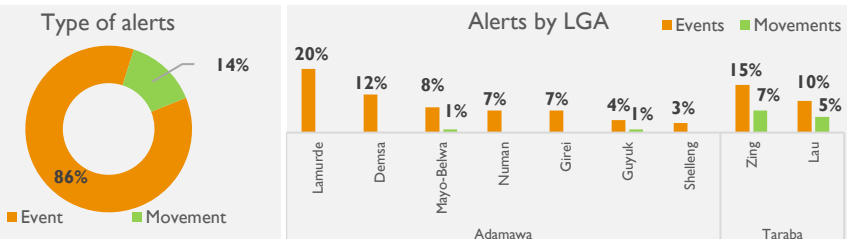
The tensions between farmers and herders in Adamawa and Taraba states, North-East Nigeria, have been compounded by multiple factors, including desertification, climate change, and insufficient rainfall, among others. The situation is exacerbated by rapid and exponential population growth, leading to an attendant increase in demand for natural resources, including suitable land for both farming and transhumance activities. Consequently, these factors intensify competition for the already scarce natural resources, often resulting in conflicts that can escalate into violent confrontations between farming and herding communities.

The Transhumance Tracking Tool (TTT), a component of the International Organization for Migration's (IOM) Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), with the assistance of community key informants implemented the Early Warning System across nine designated Local Government Areas (LGAs) in the adjacent states of Adamawa and Taraba.

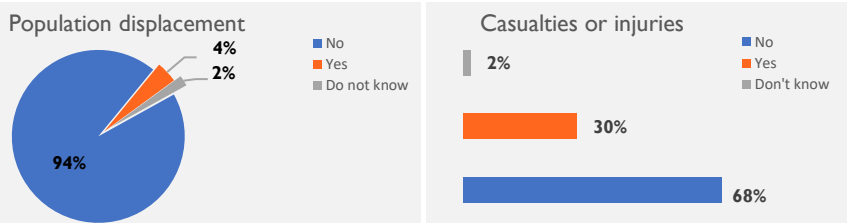
In December 2023, a total of 246 alerts were reported, consisting of 211 events (86%) and 35 movements (14%). The alerts included 155 (63%) and 91 (37%) reports in Adamawa and Taraba states, respectively. The reported event alerts encompassed farmer-herder conflicts, inter and intra-community tensions, and disasters. In contrast, the movement alerts involved massive and early movements. Zing LGAs in Taraba state and Lamurde LGA in Adamawa state recorded the highest number of alerts, accounting for 22 and 20 per cent, respectively. Following closely were Lau (15%), Demsa (12%), Mayo-belwa (9%), Numan (7%), Girei (7%), Guyuk (5%), and Shelling (3%). Disaggregated ward-level data suggest that Kodomti in Numan LGA and Waduku ward in Lamurde LGA of Adamawa state documented the highest number of alerts at the ward at 8 and 7 per cent respectively. This is followed by Monkin in Zing LGA of Taraba state and Lamurde ward in Lamurde LGA in Adamawa state, each accounting for 5 per cent of event alerts.

The reported event alerts suggested a 4 per cent instance resulted in population displacement, while 30 per cent of the reported alerts resulted in casualties or injuries.

TYPE OF ALERTS



CONSEQUENCES OF EVENTS



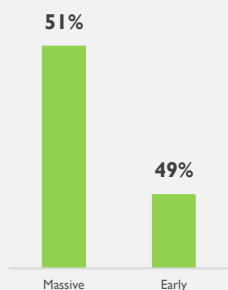
As the rainy season ends and harvesting period reaches its peak during the reporting period, 51 per cent of the reported movement alerts were associated with the movement of over 500 cattle, while the remaining 49 per cent are characterized as early movements of cattle. These movements are anticipated to potentially result in damage to surrounding fields (83%), non-use of official transhumance corridors (83%), competition for animal resources (83%), early passage of pastoral groups (74%), and fluctuations in market prices (20%). It is expected that all potential instances of movement alerts would involve pastoral groups, local farmers, and livestock breeders. National and/or local authorities are likely to be engaged in 91 per cent of cases, with foresters and non-state armed groups anticipated to be involved in 43 and 9 per cent of instances, respectively.

Of the reported event alerts, farmer-herder conflicts and intra-community tensions emerge as the primary causes, each constituting 46 per cent of the total instances of event alerts. Inter-community tensions constitute 6 per cent, while disasters and other causes are each at 1 per cent. The reported event alerts indicate that conflicts between farmers and herders may be linked to prevalent farm /crop destruction and encroachment, accounting for 70 per cent, among other factors. Also of primary concern, constituting 24 per cent of the farmer-herder conflicts, is kidnapping, robberies, accidents, and attacks, 15 per cent are related to cattle rustling and animal theft, 6 per cent are linked to night grazing and underage grazing, and 4 per cent are linked to incidences of drug abuse, 3 per cent are related to Non-use of official transhumance corridors and cattle routes blockage, While 1 per cent each were related to instances of competition around animal resources (by-products) and bush burning. Other miscellaneous causes constitute 2 per cent of the farmer-herder conflicts.

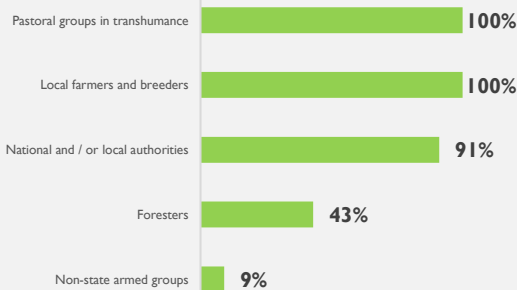
Local farmers and breeders constitute 67 per cent of key participants in event alerts, followed by national and/or local authorities at 26 per cent. Pastoral groups engaged in transhumance and community members each account for 18 per cent, while farmer-to-farmer conflicts, non-state armed groups, and others are each represented at 8 per cent. During this period, 48 per cent of reported event alerts were successfully resolved, with the involvement of local and/or national authorities (64%), community leaders (63%), pastoral organizations (34%), humanitarian organizations (22%), Community Response Network (CRN) members (9%), customary chiefs (4%), religious leaders (3%), and other entities such as community youth leaders (2%).

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

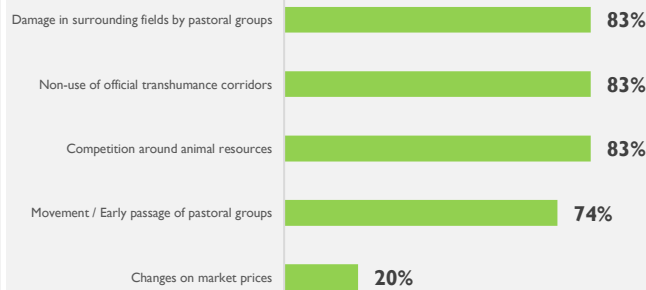
Types of movements



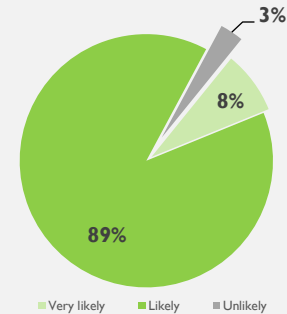
Actors who may be involved in potential future events *



Likely consequences *

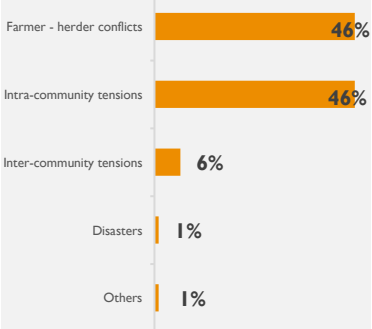


Probability of risks materialization

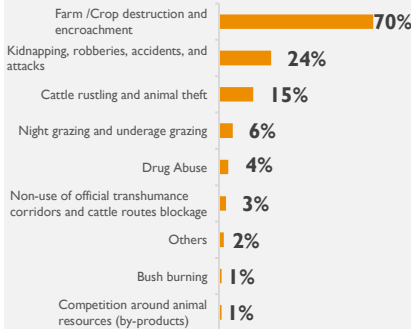


EVENT ALERTS (* data consisting of multi-choice options)

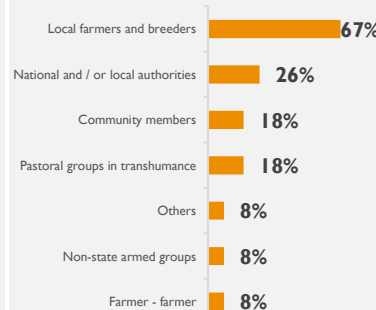
Types of event



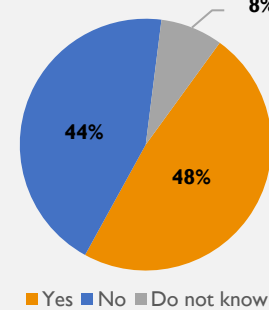
Causes of farmer-herder conflicts *



Actors involved in the events*



Are the events resolved?

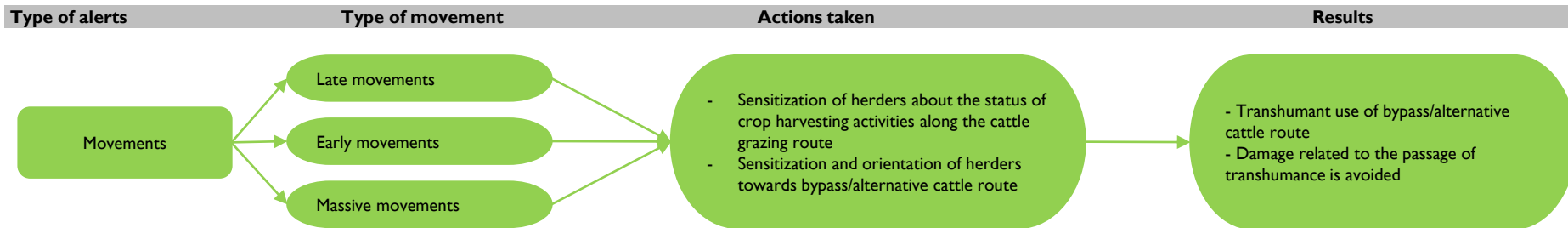


Actors involved in conflict management *



During the reporting period, proactive steps were taken to mitigate or prevent conflicts associated with transhumance movements that emanated from the alerts communicated by key informants and triangulated by designated focal individuals in the operational Local Government Areas (LGAs) within Adamawa and Taraba states. Among such measure is the active capacity building and engagement of local stakeholders in responding to these alerts following the information provided by key informants. The reported alerts were in many cases, identified and discussed, during the Natural Resource Management Committees (NRMCM), Community Response Network (CRN), Community Security Architecture Dialogue (CSAD), and Peace Architecture Dialogue (PAD) meetings in addition to proffer the appropriate intervention to diffuse or deescalating tensions and conflicts in the affected community areas. The following table delineates the specific actions taken to document and address various types of alerts. Moreover, incidents of crop theft and other issues stemming from interactions between farmers and herders have been reported, especially during the peak of the crop harvesting season.

RESPONSES TO MOVEMENT ALERTS



RESPONSES TO EVENT ALERTS



Information gathered through IOM's Transhumance Tracking Tool and shared with Search for Common Ground (SFCG) has played a pivotal role in fostering dialogue among consortium partners and other key stakeholders in the project's wards and LGAs. This data has been crucial in shaping the design and implementation of activities conducted by organizations within the COMITAS consortium.

Moreover, the establishment of peace platforms in these communities, including NRMCMs, CRN, CSAD, and PAD, primarily aims to promptly disseminate timely information to local authorities, village leaders, and key community members within the project's operational areas. These peace platforms continue to be essential in proactively preventing conflicts and associated population displacement, particularly in response to alerts related to transhumance. The proactive measures encompass diverse strategies, such as compensating victims, engaging social intermediaries, facilitating dialogues and negotiations, and adopting flexible approaches to address and preempt conflicts.

The active involvement of local conflict management committees in Adamawa and Taraba states has been crucial in resolving and mitigating these situations. The ongoing exchange of data from the Transhumance Tracking Tools and responses to alerts within the COMITAS consortium underscores collaborative efforts aimed at effectively managing and mitigating transhumance and farmers related conflicts in Adamawa and Taraba states.