

**Context**

Cross-border transhumance is a major herding practice in West and Central Africa, and especially in the Sahel region. As an important economic activity and a driver of regional development, transhumance has, in the past few decades, been subject to significant changes. Climatic variation, demographic pressure, growing competition over scarcer resources, political volatility and insecurity have deeply affected transhumant routes, patterns and flows.

This dashboard presents the results of data collected in the Maradi region (Niger) and Katsina State in Nigeria in April 2022. A total of 19 localities were assessed by the **Bilital Maroobe Network** (RBM) and its network of pastoralist organizations using a common methodology involving regional workshops with relevant stakeholders and local assessment conducted by trained enumerators. This information product highlights the number of herders and their cattle currently stranded at borders, as well as potential solutions to resume cattle mobility.

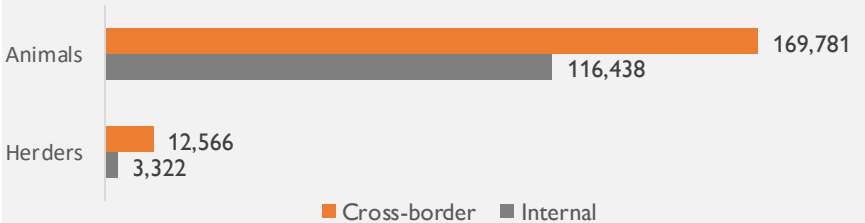
**Main results:**

A total of 286,219 animals (Bovidae, sheeps, goats and camels) and 15,888 herders were identified and considered as stranded. Among those stranded, 61 per cent of herders were stranded for security reasons (unsafe route), 6 per cent for COVID-19 reasons (mobility restrictions) and 33 per cent for other reasons.

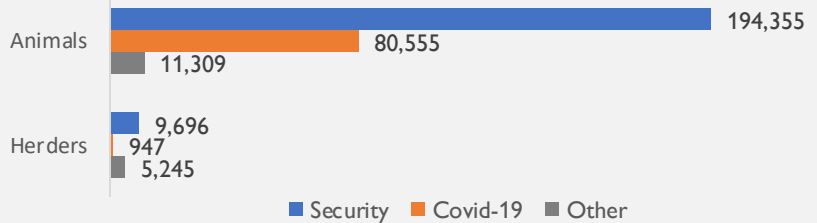
**Recommendations:**

- Strengthen the capacities of actors with regards to their knowledge and understanding of the texts and laws governing transhumance (community leaders, internal and cross-border transhumance, administrative authorities, technical services of the State)
- Popularize texts and laws governing transhumance and translation into local languages for better uptake.
- Ease information access on the state of water and grazing resources, localization of pastoral infrastructures and the security situation.
- Set up communication systems between the cross-border dialogue frameworks of Nigeria and Niger.
- Facilitate access to animal feed.
- Facilitate access to veterinary services to generalize the vaccination of livestock and thus allow the establishment of international transhumance certificates.
- Facilitate the issuance of international transhumance certificates.
- Strengthen the negotiation capacities of pastoral organizations and their members.
- Support the rebuilding of productive capital and the professional integration of stranded herders within host sites.
- Conduct pro-peace awareness sessions with host populations and breeders to facilitate peaceful coexistence.

**Type of transhumance**



**Reason for being stranded**



### GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF HERDER STRANDED BY REASON

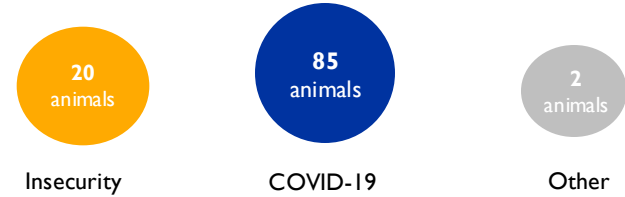
Most of the stranded transhumant herders are in the Maradi region of Niger (89%) and are mainly there for reasons related to insecurity (55% in Maradi and 6% in Katsina).

In Maradi, 33 per cent of transhumant herders who are stranded say they are for reasons other than COVID-19 or insecurity.

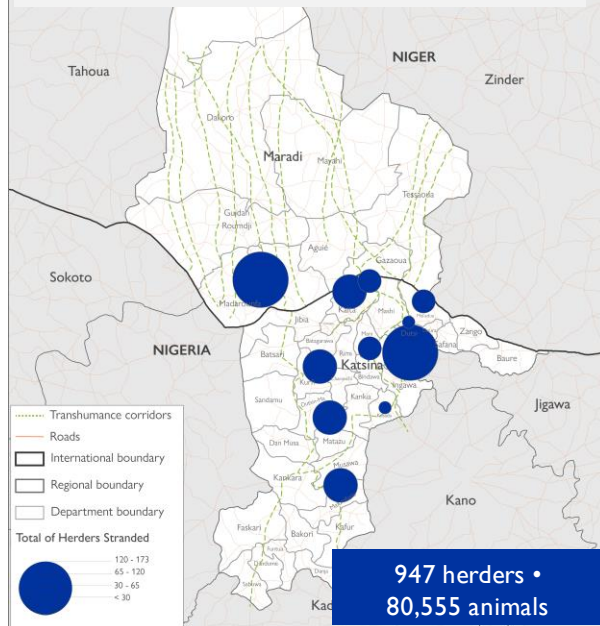
COVID-19 pandemic stranded 6 per cent of transhumant herders, the majority in Katsina.

Region	COVID-19	Insecurity	Other
<b>Maradi</b>	150 (1%)	8,693 (55%)	5,245 (33%)
<b>Katsina</b>	797 (5%)	1,003 (6%)	0 (0%)

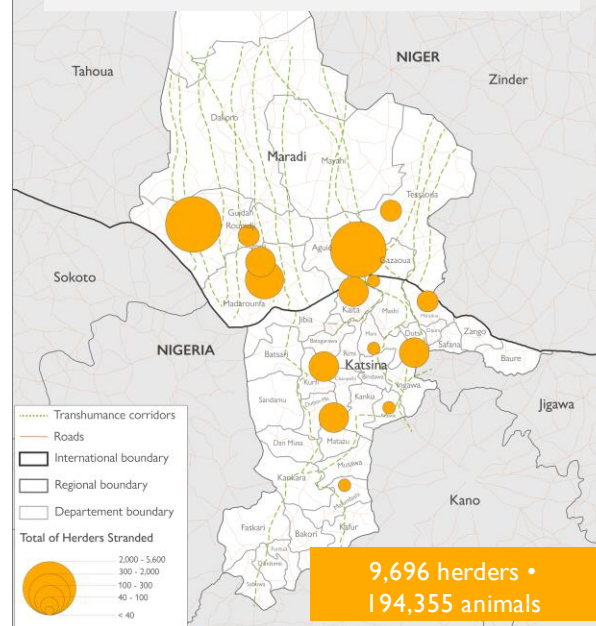
### Ratio: animals / herder



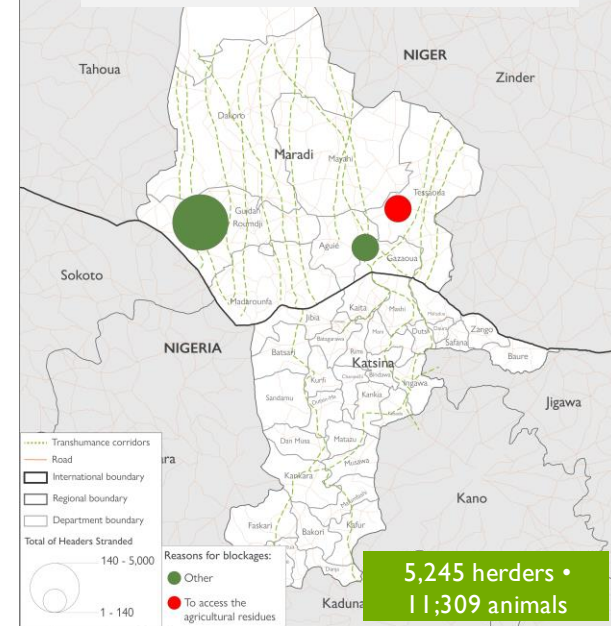
**Map 2. Transhumance herders stranded - COVID-19**



**Map 3. Transhumance herders stranded - Security**



**Map 4. Transhumance herders stranded - Other**



### SUMMARY

The majority of stranded transhumant herders (88%) have access to various services and infrastructures either in the commune of residence or in a neighbouring commune. However, the presence of these services does not necessarily mean that they are working or even accessible.

Another question on access to water and pasture shows that the situation of stranded transhumant herders must be nuanced. Thus, while herders are indeed in areas where water and pasture are present, access to sufficient water and pasture is much more of a concern for the months to come, especially given the blockages that still exist.

### CERTIFICATES OF TRANSHUMANCE

Cross-border transhumant herders with an international transhumance certificate	Internal transhumant breeders with a national transhumance certificate
25(0%)	0(0%)

Only 25 stranded cross-border transhumant herders have an international transhumance certificate.

### HEALTH SERVICES

Stranded transhumant herders are located in localities that provide human (95%) and animal (95%) health services. This highlights the presence of these services but does not guarantee that herders have the necessary resources to access them.

### GRAZING LAND & WATER POINTS

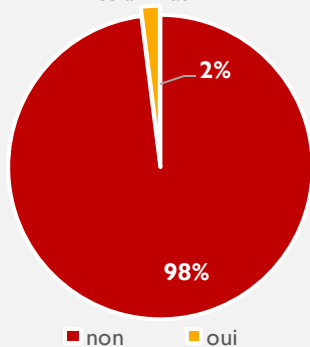
According to key informants, 100 per cent of stranded transhumant herders have access to water points and 94 per cent have access to grazing areas. While this proportion of pasture and water availability is encouraging, it does not automatically translate into adequate access and sufficient quantity for all transhumant animals. Thus, 98 per cent of stranded transhumant

herders do not have enough pasture to supply all the animals in the locality (both cattle belonging to transhumant herders and animals belonging to local herders). Similarly, 92 per cent of stranded transhumant herders do not have enough water to meet the needs of their livestock.

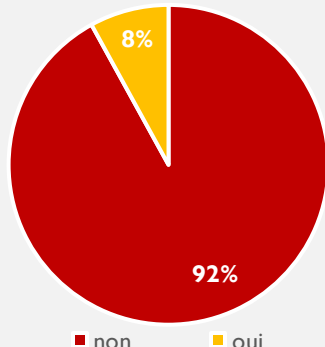
### MARKETS

In Maradi, all the herders surveyed have access to markets to sell their cattle, whether in their current commune of residence or in neighbouring communes. On the other hand, in Katsina, access to livestock markets appears particularly difficult for 39 per cent of stranded transhumant herders.

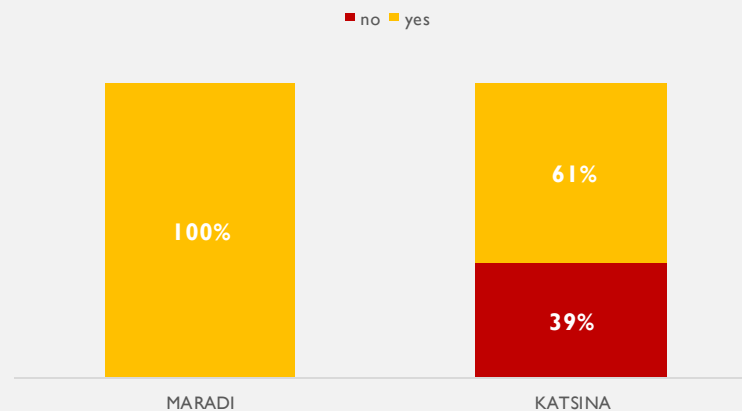
Les pâturages suffisent à l'approvisionnement de l'ensemble des animaux



Les points d'eau suffisent à l'approvisionnement de l'ensemble des animaux



Access to markets



### MOVEMENT INTENTIONS IN THE THREE MONTHS FOLLOWING THE SURVEY

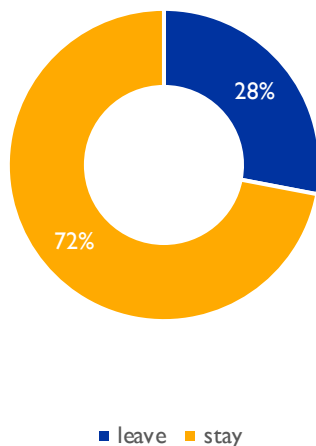
72 per cent of stranded transhumant herders intend to stay in their current place of residence within three months of the survey.

As for the 28 per cent of herders who say they are stranded and want to leave, they are considering leaving mainly in June 2022.

In Maradi, Niger, the majority of stranded herders (11,500) plan to stay in the region hosting them, 2,360 want to go to another region of Niger and 228 want to go to another country.

In Katsina, Nigeria, all stranded transhumant herders want to return to their country of origin

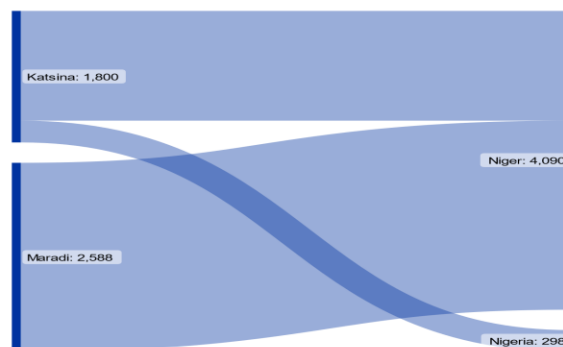
Intentions of herders



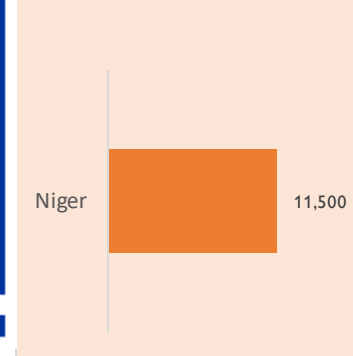
### MOVEMENT INTENTIONS – FINAL INTENDED COUNTRY

Leave			Stay
For another country	For another region	To return home	
228 ( 1%)	2,360 ( 15%)	1,800 ( 11%)	11,500 ( 72%)

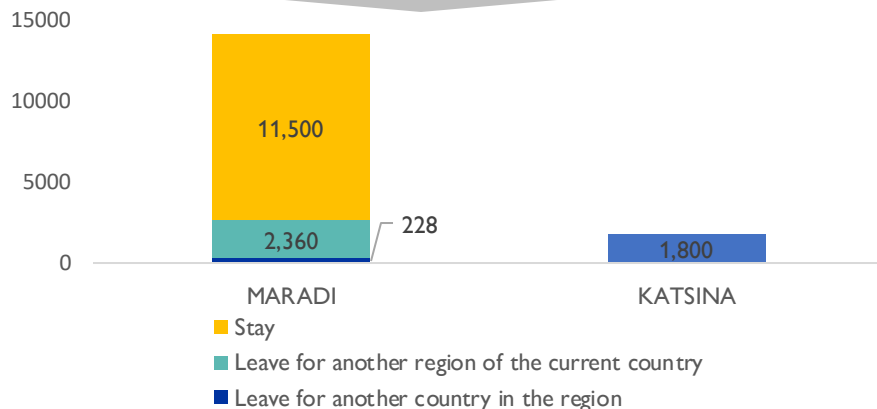
Country of destination



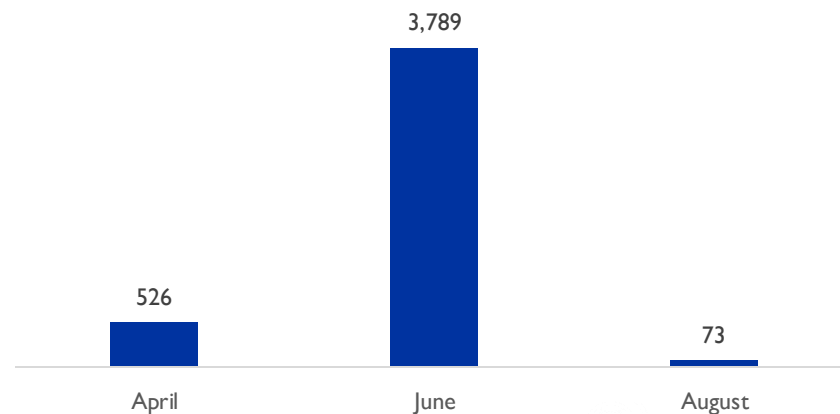
Host country



### MOVEMENT INTENTION BY COUNTRY OF CURRENT RESIDENCE



### EXPECTED DEPARTURE DATE

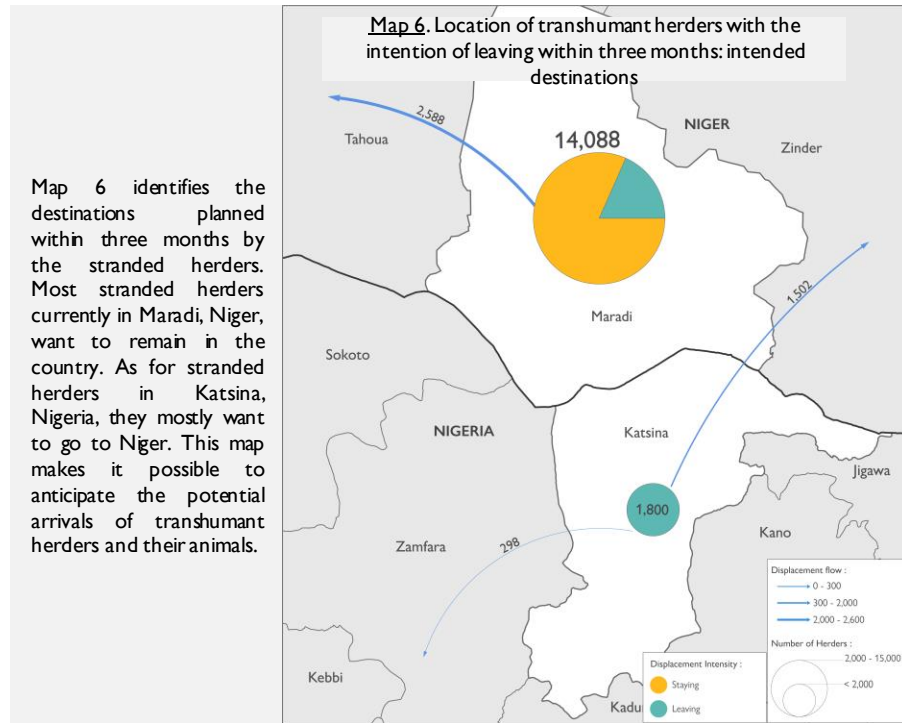
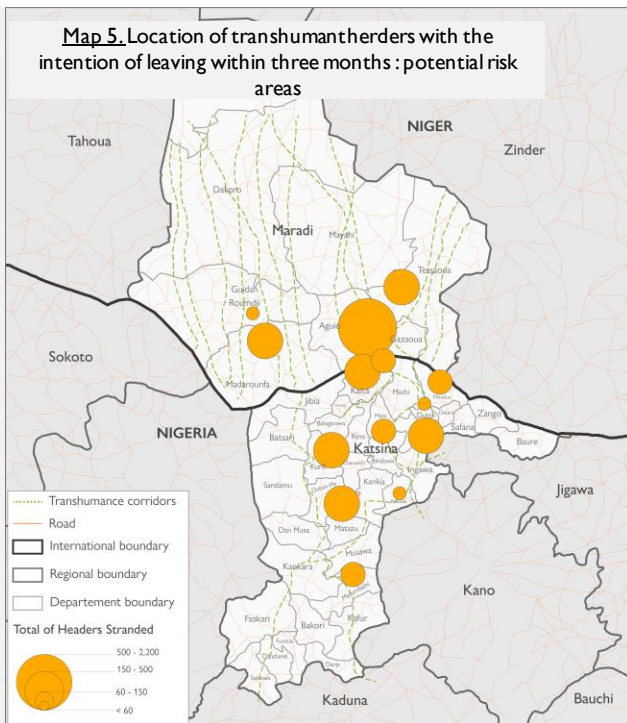
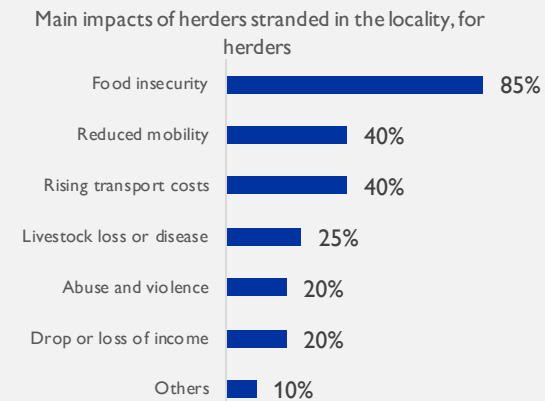
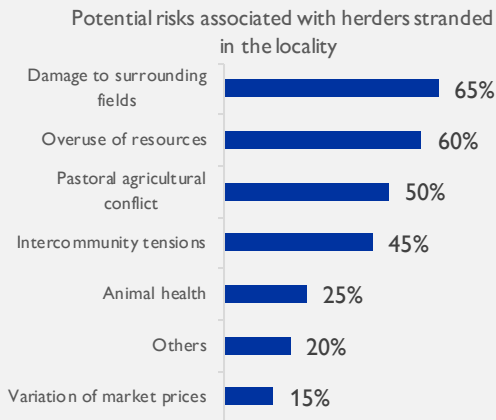


### IMPACTS & RISKS

Key informants surveyed affirm that the overexploitation of resources in the localities in which transhumant herders are stranded (mentioned by 60% of respondents) as well as the damage caused by their cattle in the surrounding fields (65%), are potential risks linked to prolonged stays in their current place of residence.

These findings are reflected in their responses with regards to the impacts of the situation, both on herders and on host communities. Regarding the first type of impact, herders explain that they are mainly impacted by food insecurity (85%).

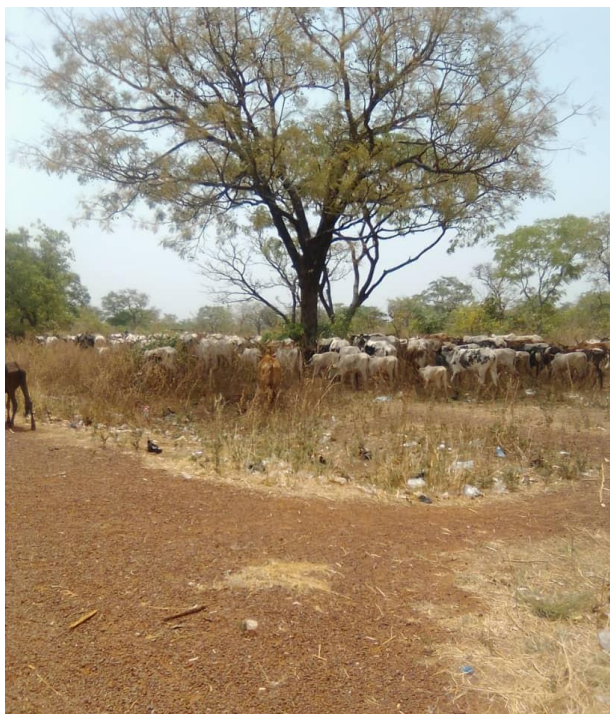
Asked about the impacts on localities, key informants mention that no certificate of transhumance is delivered (100%) as well as food insecurity (75%) and conflicts with herders (70%) as the main consequences of the presence of stranded transhumant herders.





## PROJECT

IOM, through its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), works with the Réseau Bilital Maroobè (RBM) and its network of pastoral organizations to map the movements of transhumant herders in West and Central Africa in order to better understand the dynamics and characteristics of internal (national) and cross-border movements. This project, funded by the Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs of the United States Agency for International Development (BHA – USAID), has as its main objective to facilitate the peaceful management of the mobility of transhumant herders and their livestock through the sharing of reliable information and data to the various stakeholders governing transhumance, by supporting local and inclusive mechanisms for dialogue around transhumance so that they are empowered to provide solutions on the basis of the information collected.



## METHODOLOGY

Objective: The purpose of this mapping tool is twofold:

- Establish a map of herders and animals currently living in cross-border regions with Niger and who are stranded due to the COVID-19 pandemic, security reasons or other reasons such as administrative or vaccination problems, the lack of pasture and water, etc.;
- Identify the meeting points currently used and the main displacement intentions once the situation is resolved as well as the impacts of this situation for the herders.

Geographic Scope: The data collection for the entire project focused on Niger's cross-border regions with Mali, Burkina Faso and Nigeria where transhumant herders and their livestock are currently stranded and face multiple challenges (security, mobility restrictions). In order to facilitate data collection and information sharing, four areas have been identified (Tillabéri, Gao and Sahel; Maradi and Katsina; Dosso and Kebbi; Tahoua and Sokoto).

Source of information: The main source of information for this exercise was the network of RBM key informants currently active in the targeted geographic areas.

Steps: A first step (listing) aimed establishing a list of regions in the targeted geographical area. From this list of targeted regions, RBM and partners identified relevant key informants who can represent and talk about these regions.

- At the regional level, during a cross-border Round Table bringing together all the stakeholders concerned, a survey was conducted among key informants in the region, in order to identify the host localities of transhumant herders stranded with their herds. The list of localities generated by this first stage of data collection made it possible to identify the localities where the second survey was carried out.
- At the locality level, data were collected from key informants able to provide information on transhumant herders stranded with their herds. The questionnaire helped identify specific areas where these transhumant herders and their herds were stranded. The form also helped to identify the potential risks associated with the prolonged stay of transhumant herders in this area and their future intentions.

**Map: The maps presented in this document are for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.**