



# Final Report

Conflict Assessment August 2022

Jere, Monguno and Kukawa

As Prepared By Bodhi Global Analysis Limited

For

Search for Common Ground

<b>Acronyms</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>I. Executive summary</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>II. Introduction and context</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>III. Methodology</b>	<b>9</b>
iii.a Desk Review	9
iii.b Primary Data Collection	9
iii.c Data Analysis	12
iii.d Limitations	12
<b>IV. Demographic details</b>	<b>14</b>
iv.a Assessed sites	14
iv.b Gender segregation and age range	15
<b>iv.b.i Gender</b>	<b>15</b>
iv.b.ii Age	15
<b>iv.b.iii Ethnicity</b>	<b>16</b>
iv.b.iii Profession	17
iv.b.iv Displacement status	18
<b>V. Findings and analysis</b>	<b>20</b>
V.a Causal factors of contestations amongst groups, factors relating to the access and use of natural resources	20
V.a.i Water related conflict	21
V.a.ii Land related conflict	21
V.a.iii Fuel related conflict	22
V.a.iv Food and aid distribution related conflict	23
V.a.v Covid-19	24
V.b Different forms of vulnerabilities (man-made and natural) including the indigenous mechanism(s) for preventing or resolving them, and their efficacy	24
V.ii.i Non-state actors	24
V.ii.ii Gender based vulnerabilities	25

V.b.iii Youth	27
<b>V.c Different levels of livelihood vulnerabilities as experienced across gender, ethnicities, religion, IDPs and refugees</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>V.d Exploring the levels of social cohesion among different social groups in Jere, Monguno and Kukawa using a set of social indicators</b>	<b>29</b>
V.e Assessing the level of change in perception of conflict management and mitigation strategies from adversarial to more collaborative approach by both parties	29
V.e.i Actor analysis	34
V.e.ii Activities	35
V.e.iii Needs	35
<b>Vi. Recommendations</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>VIII. Bibliography</b>	<b>40</b>

## Acronyms

ACLED	Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project
CAN	Christian Association of Nigeria
CIVIC	Centre for Civilians in Conflict
CJTF	Civilian Joint Task Force
COVID-19	Coronavirus
CRMs	Community Response Mechanisms
CRN	Community Response Networks
CSAD	Community Security Active Dialogue
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
DTM	Displacement Tracking Matrix
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
ISWAP	Islamic State - West Africa Province
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
JAS	Jama'atu Ahlis Sunnah Lida'awati wal Jihad
KII	Key Informant Interview
LGA	Local Government Area
NSAGs	Non-State Armed Groups
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
PLWD	Persons Living with Disabilities
Search	Search for Common Ground
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
WFP	World Food Programme



## I. Executive summary

This conflict assessment aims to support Search to achieve the RESILAC project's goal of social cohesion, resilience building and economic recovery through the collaborative management of natural resources in Jere, Monguno and Kukawa. In addition to providing an assessment of the current situation in these LGAs, this conflict assessment also provides a comparison with findings from previous conflict scans, and offers recommendations to mitigate and address the drivers and impacts of conflict in the three LGAs of study.

Conflict and tension in communities across Jere, Monguno and Kukawa remains significant, and is driven by a variety of factors. Relative to previous conflict scans conducted by Search for Common Ground, conflict and competition related to natural resources remains high. These previous conflict scans highlighted that issues related to water points in Kukawa were lessening, however these appear to have grown since November 2021, mostly due to water scarcity. Overall, data demonstrates that water related conflict may be growing across the LGAs of study, due to water shortages<sup>1</sup> and disorderly conduct by members of the community, notably youths<sup>2</sup>. Land related conflict is more prevalent in Monguno as an outcome of conflict between farmers and Fulani herders,<sup>3 4</sup> whereas land related conflict in Jere and Kukawa (as reported by some indigenes who now live in Gubio Camp) is comparatively low. Conflict related to fuel is lower than both water and land, and is reported at similar rates to previous conflict scans. Conflict related to fuel is driven by both competition for resources, but also threats from Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs). Food related conflict is also mentioned frequently in the qualitative data, but not as frequently through the quantitative survey and is not reported as frequently as in previous conflict scans.

NSAGs represent a significant vulnerability to community members. Data shows that community members from all three LGAs see attacks by ISWAP as one of the most significant threats, and particularly in Monguno where the majority of respondents state that attacks occur on an almost daily basis. Gender based vulnerabilities are also reported in the qualitative data; community members report increased instances of sexual and gender based violence, which is reported as growing in Monguno.<sup>5</sup> The increase of SGBV in Monguno, is due to the lack of street lights in the community especially at night,<sup>6</sup> as well as the higher rates of unemployment among young men leading to increased anti-social behaviour, and an increase in violent (sexual) crime.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Jere, Faria Community: Male Community Members. July, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> Jere, Kiribiri: Male Community Members (host). July, 2022

<sup>3</sup> Monguno: Youth (Male & Female) Community Members. 2022

<sup>4</sup> Monguno: Female Returnees, Community Members. 2022

<sup>5</sup> Monguno: Youth Female Community Members. 2022

<sup>6</sup> Monguno: Youth Female Community Members. 2022

<sup>7</sup> Monguno: Youth Female Community Members. 2022

Men are also vulnerable to specific conflict vulnerabilities between farmers, herders and attacks by NSAGs. Other groups vulnerable to attacks by NSAGs include the young, elderly and people living with disabilities (PLWDs) who are less able to defend themselves from attacks. Mirroring previous conflict scans, youth are also particularly vulnerable to the impacts of conflict. Lack of livelihoods has driven an increase in petty crime, which in turn drives further conflict within the community. Primary data on vulnerabilities related to ethnicity and religion were not widely documented, whereas specific vulnerabilities for IDPs were largely livelihood-based.

Livelihood opportunities for community members remain limited across all three LGAs, particularly in Monguno where livelihood opportunities for farmers and herders are significantly impacted by ongoing conflict between groups. Internally displaced people (IDPs) report difficulties in accessing livelihoods, as a result of selling cattle to buy critical supplies, and prejudice from host community members. The impacts of lack of livelihoods are also a key factor influencing social cohesion; community members report that anti-social behaviour from out-of-work youths is a primary stressor on community cohesion, and stress a need for programmes and interventions.

Search is mentioned favourably in relation to conflict management and mitigation across the three LGAs, so much so that little critical feedback has been provided. Specific activities including dancing and games are identified as particularly beneficial for addressing community tensions between groups. Religious and traditional leaders, and elders were also identified as positive influences in the community and key actors in conflict mitigation, particularly related to flash-points, for example conflict at water points.

Recommendations are varied including; initiatives to empower community members to address conflict, associations and committees for community members to monitor and address tensions, advocacy between influential community members and institutional actors, and other initiatives to address conflict and promote peace indirectly, including stimulating livelihood opportunities.

## II. Introduction and context

Based on regional monitoring and reporting since November 2021<sup>8</sup>, the populations of Jere, Monguno and Kukawa LGAs, and Borno state more broadly are vulnerable to several environmental dynamics that have been identified as exacerbators of conflict and tension. Reporting has identified limited access to food and nutrition services as a critical community need; earlier this year Global Protection Cluster Nigeria stated that in inaccessible regions of Northern Borno (notably Kukawa), food security levels are likely to have reached famine levels<sup>9</sup>. This factor is impacting all communities—those who have been displaced, returnees, and the host communities –and is currently a critical need.

Destruction and removal of adequate shelter and protection spaces has also been widely reported. An IOM Nigeria DTM Flash Report (29 July 2022), reported that various degrees of damage have been recorded in several sites in Borno as a consequence of the rainy season. Strong winds and torrential rain have combined to dramatically destroy infrastructure and habitation.<sup>10</sup>

Camp closures have also been impactful. Global Protection Cluster, Nigeria reported in April 2022 that closures of camps in Jere forced relocations and returns across Borno, resulting in further protection risks related to food security, humanitarian aid provision and limitations on freedom of movement<sup>11</sup>. Camp closures have also occurred in Kukawa in July 2022; news outlets reported in July 2022 that the Borno government closed four IDP camps (Dalori 1, Dalori 2, Muna El-Badawi, and Gubio Road), relocating 11,000 families.<sup>12 13</sup> Civilians have faced further insecurity and displacement as a result of camp attacks by NSAGs in 2022; Global Protection Cluster reports 679 NSAG incidents since January 2022, including attacks on IDP camps, with 340 civilian casualties.<sup>14</sup> Other structural factors, namely lack of access to water, fuel, land and pasture are also recurring factors in tension and conflict, have been reported at the state level but figures on incidents are unclear. A recent Issue Brief<sup>15</sup> published by SFCG provides some evidence for how camp closures have impacted dynamics of conflict in the region, for example, host communities receiving migrants are under increased pressure and competition for jobs and resources, which has led to hostilities between host and migrant communities. Further, a Global Protection Cluster report published in April 2022 evidenced an increase in use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) across the Borno state from April to March 2022. 163 casualties were recorded.<sup>16</sup> Data on these factors collected at community level has been

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<sup>8</sup> Date of last conflict scan, in Monguno and Kukawa only

<sup>9</sup> Global Protection Cluster, Nigeria (April 2022). *Protection Analysis Update*. Global Protection Cluster. See [Link](#)

<sup>10</sup> IOM Nigeria. (29 July 2022). *DTM Flash Report NE - Banki Camp, Bama LGA, Borno State*. IOM. See: [Link](#)

<sup>11</sup> Global Protection Cluster, Nigeria (April 2022). *Protection Analysis Update*. Global Protection Cluster. See [Link](#)

<sup>12</sup> Premium Times Nigeria. (2022, July 29). *Borno Govt closes four IDP camps, resettles 11,000 households - zulum*. See: [Link](#)

<sup>13</sup> Peoples Gazette. (2022, July 29). *Four IDP camps closed down in Borno*. Peoples Gazette. See: [Link](#)

<sup>14</sup> Global Protection Cluster, Nigeria (April 2022). *Protection Analysis Update*. Global Protection Cluster. See: [Link](#)

<sup>15</sup> SFCG (2022, August). *Issue Brief. Urban Challenges in Nigeria: Challenges, Opportunities and Recommendations*. See: [Link](#)

<sup>16</sup> Global Protection Cluster, Nigeria (April 2022). *Protection Analysis Update*. Global Protection Cluster. See [Link](#)

collected as part of this conflict scan and is discussed in the findings section of this report.

Communities in Jere, Monguno and Kukawa are also vulnerable to specific conflict actors. International Crisis Group reported in March 2022 that security in northern Nigeria and the surrounding areas of Chad, Niger, and Cameroon is seriously threatened by ISWAP's years-long consolidation of authority in rural Borno<sup>17</sup>. The degree to which civilians are free to move about and live freely under the auspices of ISWAP represents a challenge for authorities to remove ISWAP as regional authorities. Furthermore, financial gains through generally accepted tax levies offer opportunities for them to grow their reach.<sup>18</sup> Moreover, ACLED statistics show that Islamist terrorists are extending their activities and moving closer to the Federal Capital Territory. As of yet, there have only been two recorded incidents of Islamist militant violence against Christians outside of Borno each year in 2020, 2021, and the first part of 2022.<sup>19</sup> ACLED reported in July 2022 that, after Kaduna state, Borno state has the second-highest number of recorded violent incidents targeting Christians in recent years outside of the northwest and north-central areas.

The overall frequency of political violence incidents in Borno state has decreased since 2020. Less than 2 percent of all organised political violence in the state in 2020 and 2021 was directed toward Christians. Indeed, ACLED report that violence towards Christians reported in Borno state 'remains proportionate with broader organised political violence trends'<sup>20</sup> with just one incident reported in the state of Borno so far in 2022.

Other actors, such as Fulani herders and youths have been identified by community members as drivers of conflict within the state of Borno.

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<sup>17</sup> International Crisis Group. (2022, April 28). *After Shekau: Confronting Jihadists in Nigeria's North East*. See: [Link](#)

<sup>18</sup> International Crisis Group. (2022, April 28). *After Shekau: Confronting Jihadists in Nigeria's North East*. See: [Link](#)

<sup>19</sup> Serwat, L. (2022, July 21). *Fact sheet: Attacks on Christians spike in Nigeria alongside overall rise in violence targeting civilians*. ACLED. See: [Link](#)

<sup>20</sup> Serwat, L. (2022, July 21). *Fact sheet: Attacks on Christians spike in Nigeria alongside overall rise in violence targeting civilians*. ACLED. See: [Link](#)

### III. Methodology

This conflict scan was conducted to identify areas of strength and opportunity within RESILAC's areas of deployment in northeast Nigeria. To achieve the project's goal of social cohesion, resilience building and economic recovery through the collaborative management of natural resources in the affected regions, the following broad objectives will guide the development of this assessment:

Identifying the causal factors of contestations amongst groups, factors relating to the access and use of natural resources

Exploring the different forms of vulnerabilities (man-made and natural) playing out in the target communities, including the indigenous mechanism(s) for preventing or resolving them, and their efficacy

Understanding the different levels of livelihood vulnerabilities as experienced across gender, ethnicities, religion, IDPs and refugees

Exploring the levels of social cohesion existent among different social groups in Jere, Monguno and Kukawa using a set of social indicators

Assessing the level of change in perception of conflict management and mitigation strategies from adversarial to more collaborative approach by both parties

Assessing to what extent any change in context, including the Covid-19 pandemic, is affecting the program implementation and how project implementation has affected the context

The research team implemented a mixed methods study of qualitative interviewing and quantitative surveying. The research sought to foster an understanding of the contextual realities, identify potential risks related to 'do no harm' and conflict sensitivity, and provide actionable recommendations to sustainably address, reduce and prevent conflict in Borno.

#### iii.a Desk Review

The research team undertook a comprehensive desk review of previous conflict scans and assessments of the target LGAs, and relevant academic and grey literature. This review focused on literature published between November 2021 and July 2022, constituting the period since the most recent conflict scan conducted by Search.

#### iii.b Primary Data Collection

Primary data collection took place in 14 purposefully selected locations across the three target LGAs - Jere, Monguno, and Kukawa. Due to security restrictions, data collection could not take

place in Kukawa, however, Gubio Camp was selected in its place, due to the large numbers of IDP originating from Kukawa in the camp. The table below shows the locations and sublocations in each LGAs in Borno State.

*Interviewing a respondent for the household survey*



*Table 1: Data collection activities by location*

Borno State	
Locations	Sub-locations
Jere	Kolori, Fulatari
	Shuwari Garke

	Sabon Bolori
	Faria community
	Kirbiri
	Gongolun
	Kolori
Monguno	Kuya
	Fulatari
	Charamari
	Water Board
	Gana Ali
	Market Area
Kukawa	Gubio Camp

KIIs and FGDs were administered in-person, using semi-structured interview guides. Interviews were mostly conducted among Hausa and Kanuri communities, the two most populous ethnic groups in the LGAs of study, and were recorded and transcribed. In addition, KIIs were undertaken with a representative of the Herders' Association and with a representative of PLWDs to reflect the views of minority and marginalised groups. The distribution of data collection activities by location is provided in *Table 2* below.

*Table 2: Data collection activities by location*

Data Collection Activity	Locations			Totals
	Jere	Monguno	Kukawa	
Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)	1	10	0	11
Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)	9	8	6	24 <sup>21</sup>

<sup>21</sup> Note that 1 additional FGD did not have the locations indicated.

Household Survey	140	156	122	418
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**Household Survey:** The surveys were conducted in 14 purposefully selected locations across the three target LGAs - Jere, Monguno, and Kukawa (Gubio IDP Camp served as a proxy for Kukawa LGA). The sample size (150 per LGA) was based on feasibility and available resources. The target number of surveys was met in Monguno, and almost met in Jere. There was a slight shortfall in surveys conducted for Kukawa.

**Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with key stakeholders:** Following an iterative review process, discussion guidelines were created based on the desk review. The core discussion guides were tailored to stakeholder type and specific respondents. The KIIs that were conducted are listed in *Table 3* below.

*Table 3: KIIs - Key Informant Interviews conducted*

<i>LGA</i>	<i>Type of KII respondents</i>	<i>Number of KII respondents</i>
Jere and Monguno	Youth Community Leaders	2 (1 in Jere, 1 in Monguno)
Monguno	IDP Camp Staff in Monguno	1
	Religious Actors	2
	Female Community Leader	1
	Traditional Leader	1
	Farmers Association	1
	Herders Association	1
	Person Living with Disabilities (PLWD)	1
Vigilante	1	

**Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with community members:** FGDs were conducted with groups of 6-8 adult men, adult women, young men, young women,<sup>22</sup> Persons Living with Disabilities (PLWD), host community members, IDPs and returnees. The aim of these FGDs was to elicit how resource-related and non-resource related violence is manifested among the community and how it affects these groups, and which kind of interventions they feel would help alleviate the threat of conflict and build resilience in their locality. These areas of inquiry helped build

<sup>22</sup> FGDs conducted with young people were conducted with individuals 18-34 years

understanding of the trends, drivers, and barriers to ongoing interventions to mitigate any resource-related risks that lead to conflicts in the target areas.

*Conducting a focus-group discussion in Monguno*



### **iii.c Data Analysis**

The research team conducted a rigorous thematic analysis on the qualitative interview data, focusing on comparing and contrasting interview feedback against findings from the desk review, and developing findings that are corroborated by several data points. The team then produced a topline analysis to identify broad themes and trends for further inquiry, followed by a more rigorous analysis, with the intention of concluding firmer recommendations for ensuring conflict sensitivity and adherence to 'Do no harm' principles.

### **iii.d Limitations**

**Limitations on travel to field sites:** due to conflict in Kukawa, enumerators were not able to travel to the field site to collect data. As a proxy, IDPs from Kukawa were interviewed in Gubio Camp, Maiduguri.

**Quality of primary qualitative data:** Primary qualitative data for the study is inconsistent and could be improved in the future for greater analysis and insight. Current limitations include length and detail of answers to questions, misunderstanding of lines of questioning which yields inconsistent data, and incomplete discussions with questions missed or unanswered. As a result, the qualitative data set featured gaps and inconsistencies.

## IV. Demographic details

### iv.a Assessed sites

The figure below demonstrates the number of individuals surveyed in each of the three LGAs. 418 individuals were surveyed, with 140 in Jere, 156 in Monguno and 122 in Kukawa. The survey achieved a strong even distribution across all three LGAs, however the diversity of sampling locations in Jere and Monguno exceeded Kukawa, which is subject to ongoing insecurity which ultimately impacted data collection.

LGA	Sub-location	Proportion of overall sample
Jere	Fariya	6%
	Shuwari Garki	7%
	Gongolun	<1%
	Kolori	3%
	Kolori Fulatari	<1%
	Sabon Bolori	10%
	Kirbiri	8%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>33%</b>
Monguno	Kuya	<1%
	Fulatari	10%
	Charamari	4%
	Water Board	12%
	Gana Ali	6%
	Market Area	4%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>37%</b>
<b>Kukawa</b>	Gubio Camp (Maiduguri)	29%

	<b>Total</b>	<b>29%</b>
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Table 4: Quantitative sample breakdown by location and sublocation

## iv.b Gender segregation and age range

### iv.b.i Gender

Of respondents to the quantitative survey, 46 percent of respondents were male and 54 percent were female. This marks a marked shift from the previous conflict scan whereby 68 percent of respondents were male, and 32 percent were female. The previous conflict scan noted that data was collected during harvest season which impacted the study's ability to achieve gender parity.

Gender parity in surveying was largely achieved across all LGAs:

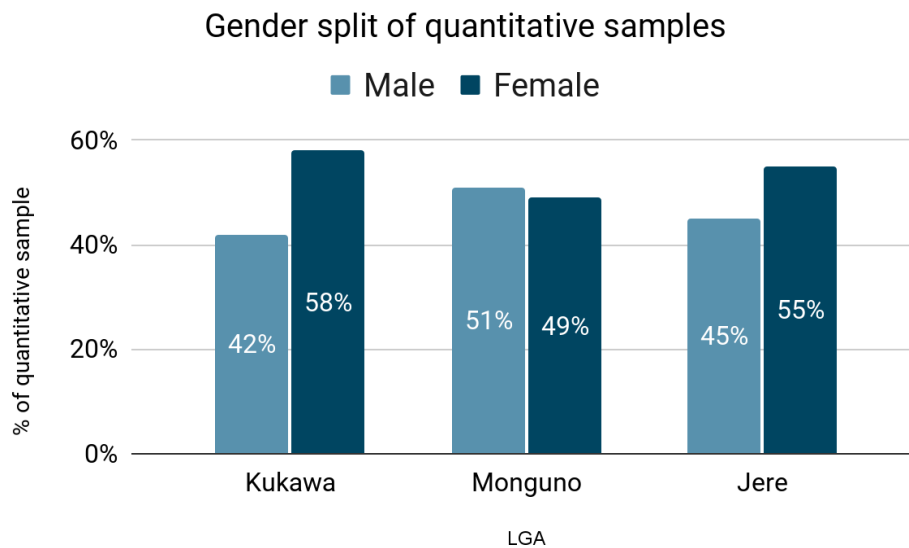


Figure 2: Gender split of quantitative sample

### iv.b.ii Age

The age range of the sample is skewed towards younger audiences, particularly young adults between the ages of 26 to 45 years. This is broadly consistent with national age distribution in Nigeria<sup>23</sup>. This age range was largely captured across all three LGAs, however the survey sample in Monguno underrepresented 26-35 year olds (33 percent total in Monguno vs 42 percent of

<sup>23</sup> Sasu, D. (2022). *Age distribution of population in Nigeria 2021, by gender*. Statista. Retrieved from: [here](#)

the total sample) and overrepresented 45+ year olds (31 percent total in Monguno vs 19 percent of the total sample). Compared to the quantitative sample in the previous conflict scan conducted in Monguno and Kukawa, this quantitative sample skews younger, as seen in the chart below.

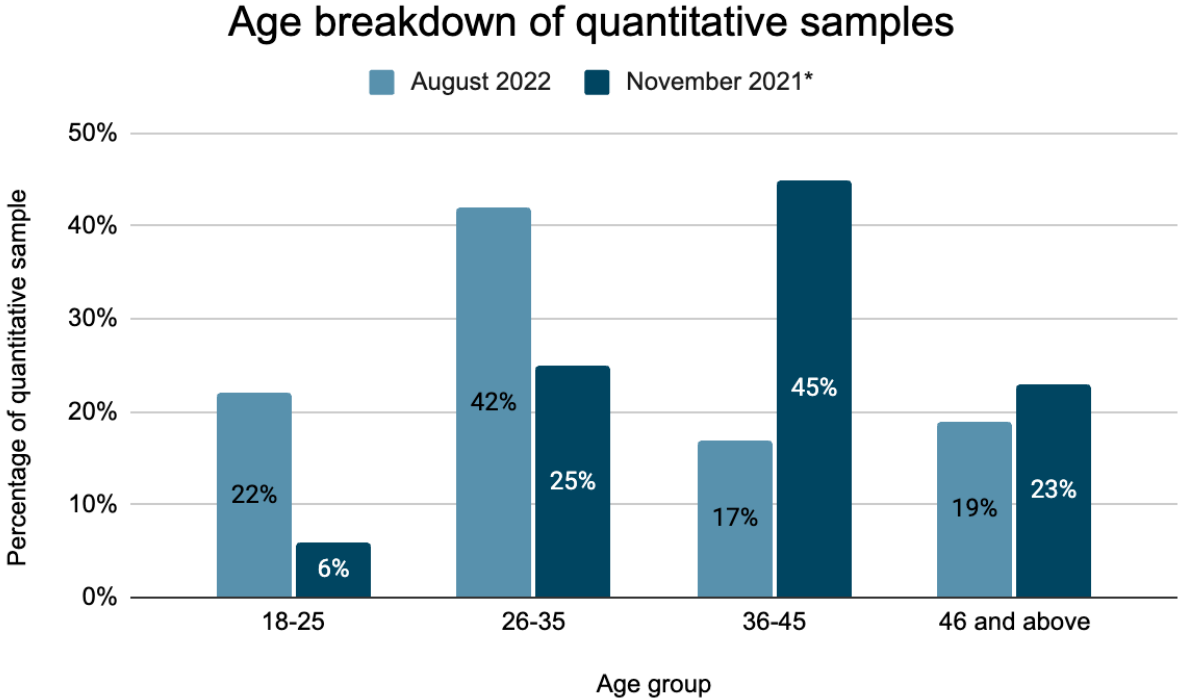
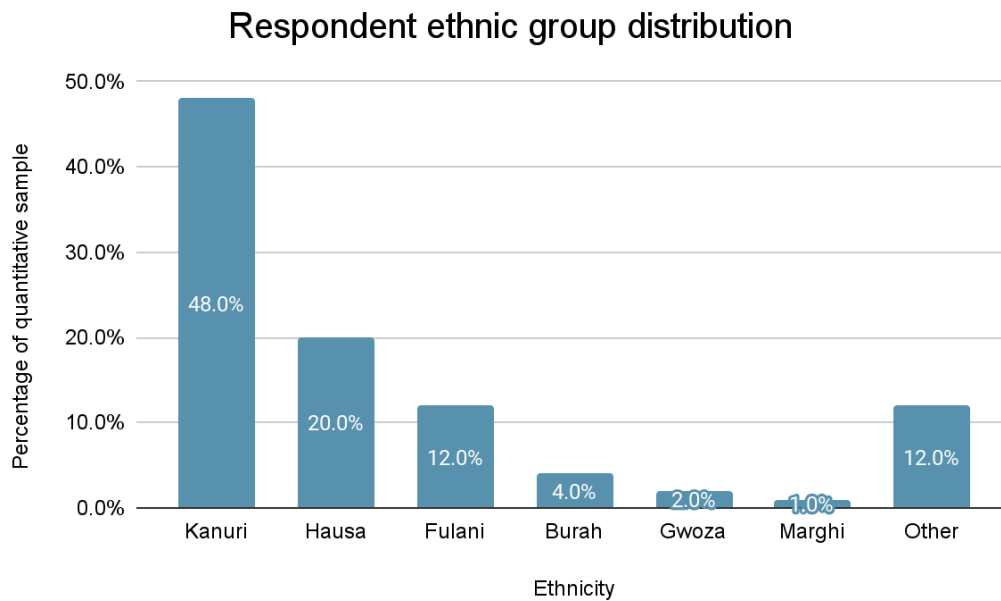


Figure 3: Age breakdown of quantitative samples

\*Conflict scan of November 2021 only covers Monguno and Kukawa

iv.b.iii Ethnicity

In this assessment, the majority of respondents were from the Kunari ethnic group (48 percent), followed by Hausa (20 percent), Fulani (12 percent), and others. In the previous conflict scan of November 2021, the Kunari ethnic group made up the largest ethnic sample, followed by Hausa and Shuwa, however this was across Monguno and Kukawa only.



*Figure 4: Ethnicity breakdown of quantitative sample*

#### iv.b.iii Profession

The vast majority of those surveyed are self-employed (78%), followed by housewives and stay-at-home husbands. Strikingly, only 9 percent of respondents were not working but looking for a job, and the figure was as low as 1 percent in Jere LGA. In light of findings detailed later in this report related to lack of livelihoods particularly for young people, the number of individuals with no work at all is relatively low.

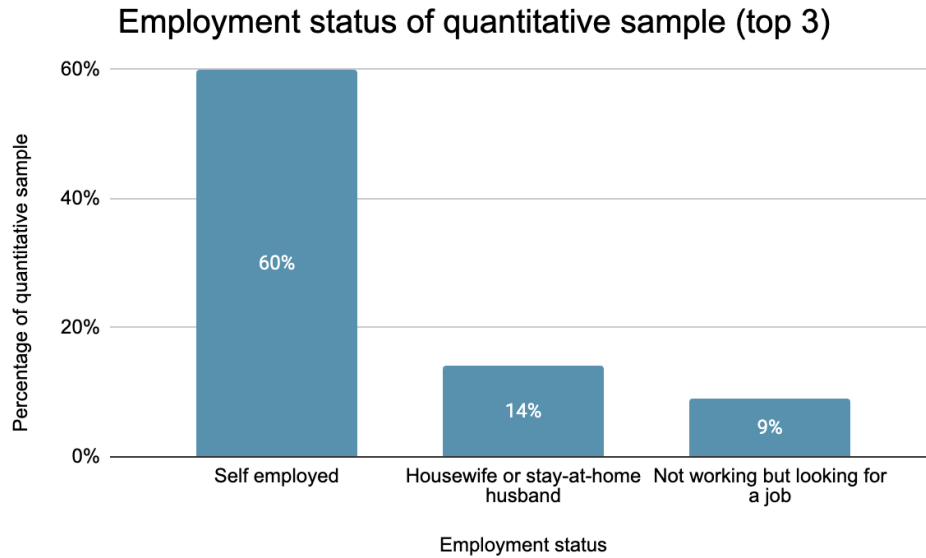


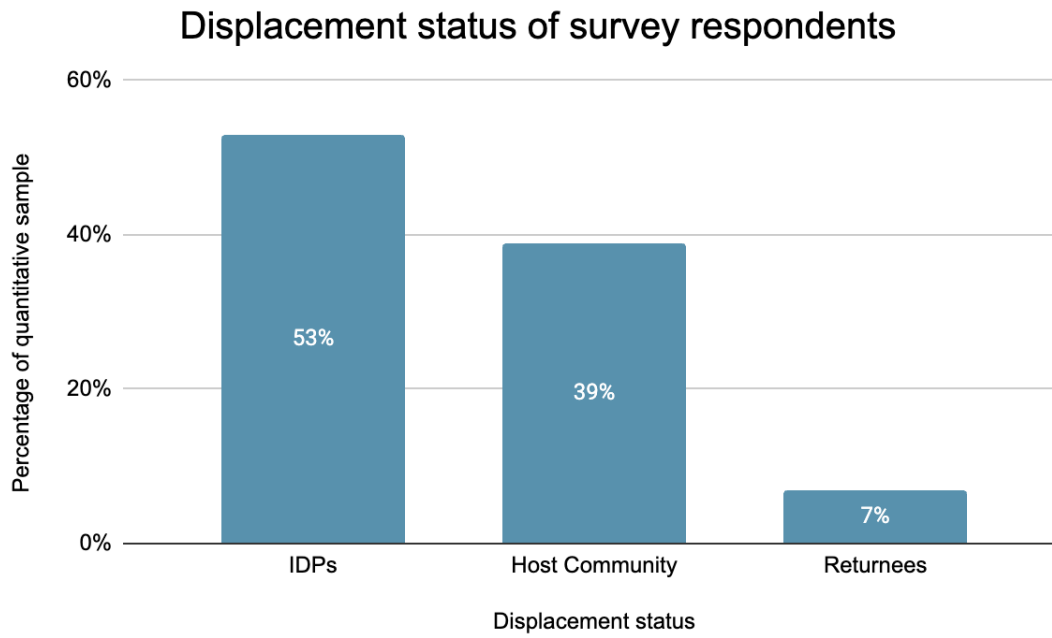
Figure 5: Employment status of quantitative sample (top 3)

#### iv.b.iv Displacement status

Of those surveyed, 53 percent of respondents were internally displaced persons (IDPs), 39 percent were host community members, and 7 percent were returnees. Gubio camp (Kukawa) hosts the greatest number of IDPs across the LGAs, however 61 percent of the sample in Monguno are also IDPs. Shifts in numbers of IDPs are likely influenced by movements between IDP camps and Kukawa; Global Protection Cluster Nigeria reports in April 2022 that IDPs reported attacks by non-state armed groups at both relocation and return sites, among them Kukawa, which has influenced movement between camps and places of origin.<sup>24</sup>

Data also shows that IDPs are broadly equal in gender proportions, with the largest difference seen in Monguno (65 percent female, 57 percent male). Monguno also hosts the greatest number of returnees with 14 percent compared to Kukawa (Gubio Camp) with 4 percent, and Jere (2 percent).

<sup>24</sup> Global Protection Cluster, Nigeria. (April 2022). *Protection Analysis Update*. Global Protection Cluster. See: [Link](#)

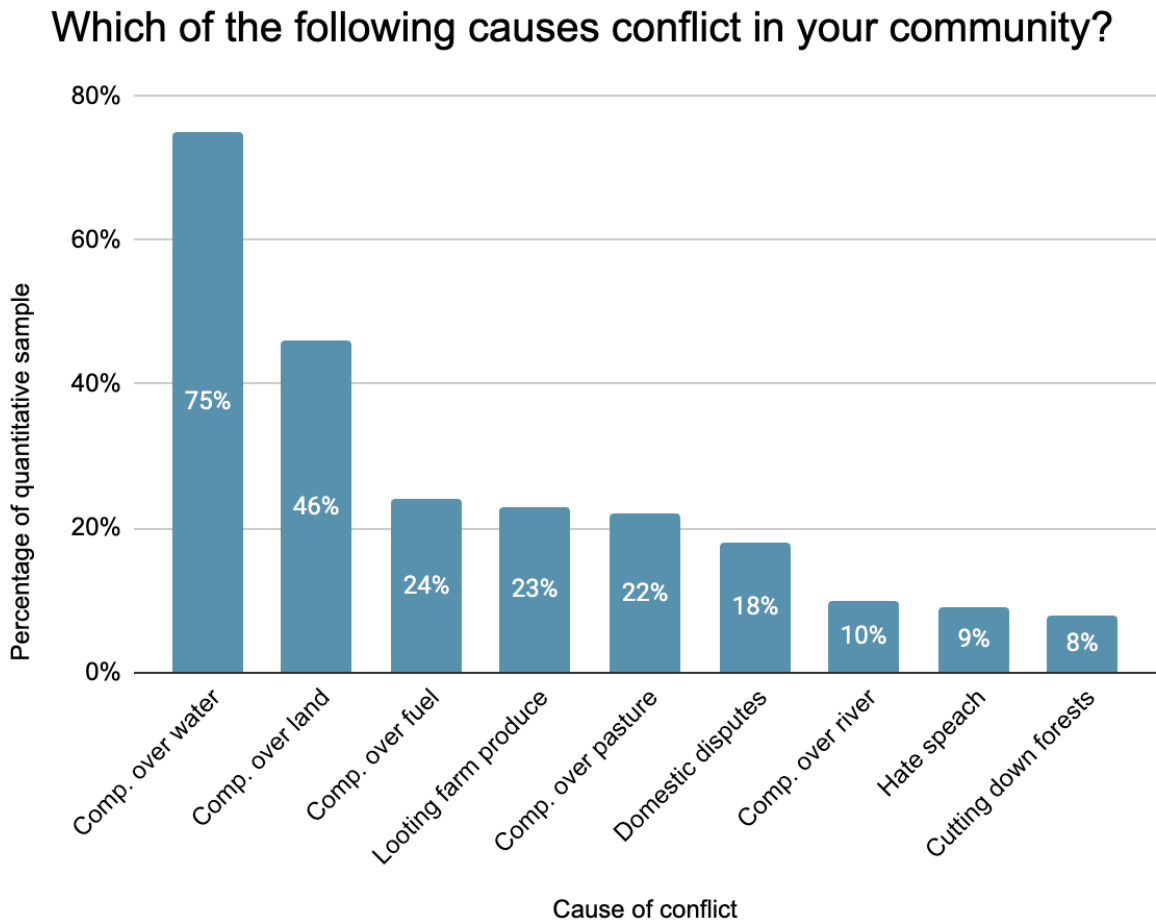


*Figure 6: Displacement status of survey respondents*

## V. Findings and analysis

### V.a Causal factors of contestations amongst groups, factors relating to the access and use of natural resources

When asked about awareness of conflict and disputes related to natural resources, awareness is high across all three LGAs (averaging 88 percent across LGAs). Respondents from Monguno registered the highest awareness at 94 percent. Community members are most aware of competition over water, closely followed by competition over land. Notably, qualitative data mostly focuses on water, land and fuel, and food, which are explored in the next section of the report.



### V.a.i Water related conflict

Survey respondents identified competition over water as a cause of conflict, most strongly in Gubio Camp (Kukawa) with 84 percent, followed by Jere (81 percent) and Monguno (63 percent). In the October 2021 conflict scan, respondents suggested that water related issues in Kukawa were becoming less frequent, as boreholes have become more accessible, a factor that was again mentioned in the quantitative survey of this conflict scan. FGD respondents for this assessment, however, stated that conflict at water points is significant, particularly among women, so much so that violence between two community members led to injury of a pregnant woman, resulting in the death of her unborn child.<sup>25</sup> Broadly, data from previous conflict scans suggests that water related conflict in Kukawa was not as prevalent as in the period after October 2021; data from the conflict scan conducted in August 2020 states that only 24 percent of community members in Monguno and Kukawa witnessed conflict over water, whereas reporting in October 2021 notes that competition over natural resources had eased. Ultimately, it could be that after some progress in addressing water related conflict there has been a regression in quelling conflict around water points. Meanwhile in Jere, residents report competition over limited water as both drinking water and for watering crops<sup>26</sup>. However, some communities report greater cohesion between community members, notably host communities and IDPs.

Competition over water was identified as a driver of conflict by 63 percent of respondents in Monguno. This is largely consistent with the most recent conflict scan (October 2021), which found that tension around water points were greatly reduced. However, there are still reports of violent conflict, particularly between women, and among children (with older male youths pushing through queues)<sup>27</sup> at water points. Notably, data from FGDs demonstrates conflict at water points has been escalated to local police forces and not through Community Response Mechanisms (CRMs).

Lack of access to water for farmland is also a direct cause of conflict, and also negatively impacts livelihoods and food security (see livelihood section) which further exacerbates community conflict dynamics. The crucial nature of this resource exacerbates conflict directly through competition, and indirectly by negatively impacting agricultural livelihoods and community harmony.

Some respondents state that access to water has improved in the period since the previous scan, however specific instances of this were not documented in the broader primary data.

### V.a.ii Land related conflict

The prevalence of land-related conflict differs significantly between LGAs. In Monguno, land disputes were identified as a cause of conflict by 77 percent of community members. Conflict between the host community and Fulani herdsmen, who have restricted access to grazing lands,

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<sup>25</sup> Kakuwa, Gubio Camp: Male Community Members. July, 2022.

<sup>26</sup> Jere, Faria: Male Community Members. July, 2022

<sup>27</sup> Monguno: FGD. Male Returnees. July, 2022.

was mentioned specifically. According to some members of the community this has escalated into severe conflict between community members, and state security actors:

*“soldiers are killing Fulani in bushes because they don’t trust them”<sup>28</sup>*

*“Herdsman killed over 20 people with arrows because the land wasn’t enough for us (farmers and herders) and ISWAP blocked the bush for the herders, therefore, they cannot move deep into the forest.”<sup>29</sup>*

Comparatively, land disputes were identified as a cause of conflict in Kukawa by only 14 percent of respondents, and by 41 percent of respondents in Jere. One explanation for this may be that community members surveyed from Kukawa answered survey questions from their perspective as IDPs in Maiduguri, rather than as community members of Kukuwa. This may explain low levels of conflict over land, and comparatively high levels of conflict over water and fuel.

#### V.a.iii Fuel related conflict

Conflict related to fuel is reported less frequently than conflict over land and water. With an average of 24 percent of community members across all three LGAs reporting fuel as a driver of conflict in their community, the figures are similar to findings from previous conflict scans. Data from August 2020<sup>30</sup> also shows that 24 percent of community members in Monguno and Kukawa saw competition over firewood manifest as conflict at the community level. Across all three LGAs, disputes related to competition over fuel are witnessed daily by an average of 56 percent of community members.

Collecting fuel remains a difficult and dangerous task for community members in all three LGAs. In light of non-state security actors (i.e. ISWAP) operating on the outskirts of LGA centres, qualitative data collected reveals that community members continue to face the threat of kidnapping, killing and sexual assault, particularly as they travel further from centres to find fuel.

Notably, from findings from the quantitative survey, conflict related to firewood is highlighted by men more frequently than women. Data to date demonstrates that women and girls are usually responsible for collecting fuel and face a specific reported threat in sexual assault. This makes this trend striking, and could be explained by men facing possible forced recruitment into non-state armed groups.

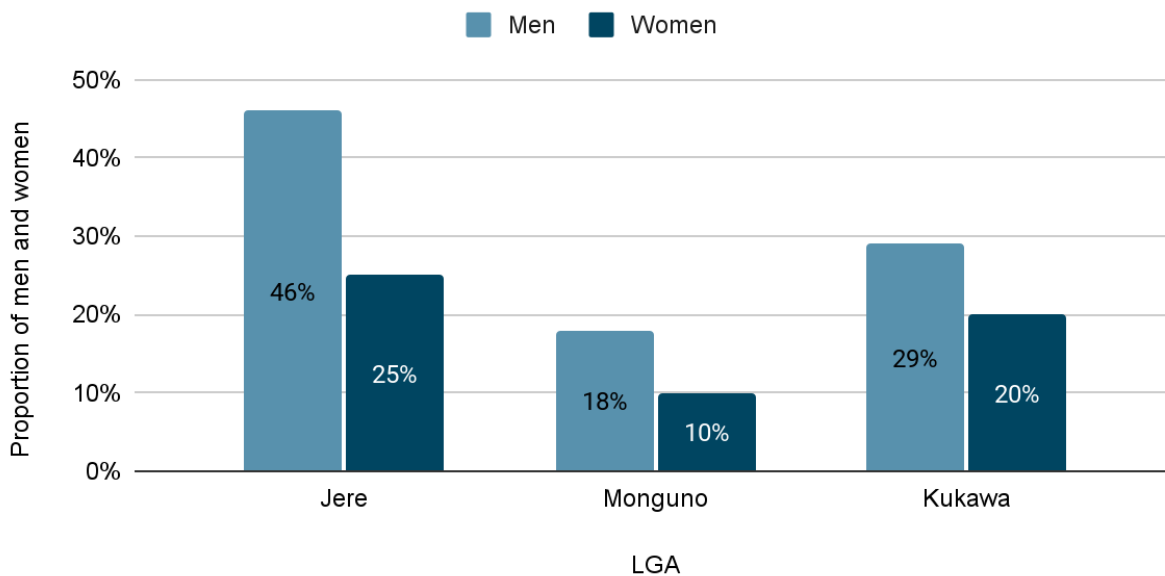
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<sup>28</sup> Monguno: FGD. Male Returnees. July, 2022.

<sup>29</sup> Monguno: Male Community Members (IDP camp). July, 2022.

<sup>30</sup> Search (2020) Conflict Assessment Research on the use of resources in Monguno and Kukawa LGAs, Borno State

## Proportion of men and women per LGA who state that fuel wood is a cause of conflict in their community



Due to the limited nature of the resource, some community members report disputes over fuel between community members, particularly in Kukawa.

### V.a.iv Food and aid distribution related conflict

Qualitative data from both KIIs and FGDs shows that availability of food is a significant concern to community members across all three LGAs, consistent with previous conflict scans. OCHA Nigeria reports that essential nutrition services were reduced across some LGAs in Borno resulting in malnutrition in several LGAs including Jere.<sup>31</sup> This followed reports from Global Protection Cluster, Nigeria that Gubio camp, Kukawa was experiencing a 'food and nutrition emergency.'<sup>32</sup> The lack of food and other humanitarian aid in Monguno has also contributed to tensions between host communities and IDPs, despite the fact that both groups have generally reported getting along well.<sup>33</sup> Although lack of access to food is mentioned frequently by community members across all three LGAs, it is not usually reported as a direct cause of conflict.

Based on the qualitative data available conflict related to aid distribution was reported less than in previous conflict scans. Historically, there were reports of accusations of inter-ethnic bias with regard to registration of community members, aid distribution and restricted access to aid

<sup>31</sup> OCHA. (30 June 2022). *Nigeria Situation Report for Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States No.21*. OCHA. See: [Link](#)

<sup>32</sup> Global Protection Cluster, Nigeria (April 2022). *Protection Analysis Update*. Global Protection Cluster. See: [Link](#)

<sup>33</sup> CIVIC. (2022, March). *CIVILIAN PROTECTION SNAPSHOT: Monguno, Nigeria*. Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC). See: [Link](#)

points. Although qualitative data from this conflict scan does highlight that community members report low access to food, qualitative data does not highlight specific issues with aid distribution and instead notes effective interventions by Search (see later sections for further details).

#### V.a.v Covid-19

Data from this round of the conflict scan did not reveal any new trends related to COVID-19. In fact, COVID-19 was not mentioned by any respondents within qualitative fieldwork, suggesting that its current impacts are minimal compared to previous conflict scans.

It should be noted that the impact of COVID-19 was reported in the previous conflict scan. Community members and key informants reported the withdrawal of humanitarian support on the grounds of public health, which increased hardship and tensions related to ongoing support. Importantly, this should be considered against the trend of minimal reporting on tension and conflict related to aid distribution, which is ultimately positive but requires further monitoring as the public health situation evolves.

### **V.b Different forms of vulnerabilities (man-made and natural) including the indigenous mechanism(s) for preventing or resolving them, and their efficacy**

#### V.ii.i Non-state actors

Attacks on civilians by NSAGs are fuelled by several motivations and target several specific groups. Overall, there was an increase in the number of reported attacks on civilians from the previous eight-month reporting period (March to October 2021), compared to the reporting period for this assessment (October 2021 end to August 2022), from 10 to 14.<sup>34</sup>

Since November, ACLED data details five instances of abduction, or attempted abduction by NSAGs in Jere LGA alone.<sup>35</sup> Female community members were the most frequently targeted group for abduction, however family members of a former political leader and the attempted abduction of a male doctor demonstrate diversity in targets, and potential motivations. This is further observed in Monguno, where two recorded incidents of abduction were recorded, both targeting aid and humanitarian workers.<sup>36 37</sup>

Community members across all three LGAs are vulnerable to attacks by ISWAP in the form of looting, killings and kidnapping for ransom. Quantitative data from the community survey shows that the threat of conflict is felt most sharply in Monguno, with 75 percent of community members stating that attacks by ISWAP and JAS were the most common form of violence in their community (compared with 7 percent in Jere and 10 percent in Kukawa). Monguno

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<sup>34</sup> ACLED. (4th August 2022). Online database Last accessed. See: [link](#).

<sup>35</sup> ACLED. (4th August 2022). Online database Last accessed. See: [link](#).

<sup>36</sup> Abdullahi, M. (2022). Insurgents abduct aid worker in northeast Nigeria. HumAngle. Link: [here](#)

<sup>37</sup> Aid in Danger. (2022). *Bi-monthly news brief, 15-28 June*. See: [Link](#)

community members state that attacks take place on an almost daily basis, and as a result, community members in Monguno state that a young man was killed in the crossfire.<sup>38</sup> These findings contradict updates from the Center for Civilians in Conflict, who reported improved physical safety in Monguno in March 2022.<sup>39</sup>

There are several groups who are particularly vulnerable to NSAG attacks and their subsequent impacts. The presence of ISWAP and JAS has a strong negative impact on herders across the LGAs, particularly in Monguno; FGD data shows that herders stay close to urban centres and allow their cattle to graze on likely substandard land, which may also raise tensions in areas of greater population density. Male returnees in Monguno accuse some Fulani herders of taking their cattle to graze on nearby farmland which destroys crops, and raises community tensions. In these cases, 'if the farmers react, they are either injured or killed by the herders.'<sup>40</sup>

*"The herders are only afraid of the law enforcement (police and the military) but the law enforcement has not taken any actions against the herders and they are not holding the herders accountable for their actions in the community."*<sup>41</sup>

Ultimately, this example demonstrates how the vulnerability of the community to attacks by ISWAP and JAS creates a chain reaction of tension and conflict throughout the community. The presence of NSAGs is also disruptive to the livelihoods of herders and farmers. Male returnees from Monguno state that they block routes to forests and grazing lands for cattle<sup>42</sup>, and previous conflict scans have highlighted issues of land access for farming beyond the safety of community centres.

Beyond specific threats and impacts for herders and farmers, the wider community in the LGAs of study are also vulnerable to NSAG conflict. According to OCHA's Nigeria Situation Report (June 2022), the surge of attacks in Monguno in June 2022 threatened the safety and general wellbeing of civilians, especially spaces housing internally displaced people (IDPs) including Gana Ali camp.<sup>43</sup>

#### V.ii.ii Gender based vulnerabilities

Women continue to face specific gender-related vulnerabilities across the LGAs of study by virtue of their activities in the community, such as collecting firewood and water, both of which include risk of conflict related to competition for resources. Sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) is of particular concern; data from LGAs surveyed demonstrates that community members feel that women are particularly vulnerable to SGBV. Overall,

**37%**

Of males in Jere state that SGBV is the most common form of violence and conflict, compared with 4 percent of women.

<sup>38</sup> Monguno: Female IDP Camp Members. July 2022

<sup>39</sup> CIVIC. (2022, March). *CIVILIAN PROTECTION SNAPSHOT: Monguno, Nigeria*. Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC). See: [Link](#)

<sup>40</sup> Monguno: Male Returnees. July 2022

<sup>41</sup> Monguno: Female community member, IDP camp. 2022

<sup>42</sup> Monguno: Male Returnees. 2022

<sup>43</sup> OCHA. (30 June 2022). *Nigeria Situation Report for Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States No.21*. OCHA. See: [Link](#)

15 percent of community members across the three target LGAs state that SGBV is the most common form of violence and conflict, although strikingly this is highlighted by males more frequently than females. This form of violence may be growing as community members in Monguno believe that rape of women and girls is on the rise.<sup>44</sup>

Men also encounter specific and heightened risks by virtue of their roles within communities. FGDs with male community members, particularly farmers and those in contact with community members working outside of urban centres frequently note a heightened risk of killing and kidnap for ransom by ISWAP, however survey data demonstrates that the risks posed by armed groups are felt equally as sharply by women.

The qualitative data shows that male and female community members also consider women to be particularly vulnerable in instances of conflict from NSAGs, and their subsequent impacts. When discussing groups who are more vulnerable to the effects of conflict than others, community members frequently state that women, the elderly, children and PLWDs are especially vulnerable as they cannot defend themselves.<sup>45</sup> Moreover, women can experience further vulnerabilities after instances of conflict, as community members state that women who lose husbands to violence are at greater risk of diminished livelihoods, compared to male community members who lose their spouses due to conflict.<sup>46</sup>

Some of the vulnerabilities specific to men and women have shifted across the timeframe of the project. For example, previous conflict scans in Jere pointed to the difficulty experienced by women (particularly in the case of IDPs) in accessing water, adequate wash and hygiene facilities. Qualitative and quantitative data from this scan does not highlight these factors as keenly as previous scans, and although their omission may suggest improvement in access in these areas, it cannot yet be verified with the data available. Moreover, testimony from all three LGAs demonstrates that community members are concerned about the poor state of roads and infrastructure, and their inability to access healthcare facilities. Further quantitative data on access to healthcare may be required to validate this trend further.

Male-specific vulnerabilities have also shifted over the course of the project. Data from the March 2021 Jere conflict scan<sup>47</sup> demonstrates that men were particularly vulnerable to lack of livelihoods, which was mirrored by findings from the Monguno and Kukawa conflict scans from the same month, which stated that livelihood solutions most often targeted women, which left men at a disadvantage. Today, testimony from the qualitative data demonstrates that community members across the LGAs point to lack of livelihoods for youths as the most prominent group, which is explored below.

### *Women returning home at the end of their day*

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<sup>44</sup> Monguno: Female Community Members, Youth. July 2022..

<sup>45</sup> Kolori, Fulatari, Jere: Male IDP Community Members. July, 2022

<sup>46</sup> Mongunu: Male Returnees Community Members. July, 2022.

<sup>47</sup> Search (2021) Conflict scan report [Jere], March 2021



### V.b.iii Youth

Across all LGAs, qualitative data demonstrates community members believe that lack of sustainable employment opportunities for youths in the LGAs has resulted in an increase in petty crime (particularly theft, leading to rising tensions and conflict between community members), the use of hard drugs and begging. Many community members and stakeholders see youths as the drivers of conflict and violent outcomes in their communities, particularly for the reported increase in sexual abuse and assault of women and girls, and are therefore a priority group for intervention.

Community members and stakeholders across all three LGAs identify youths as a priority group for intervention. Previous conflict scans called for male youth to be engaged in sensitisation efforts related to actions towards young girls in the Water Board IDP camp in Monguno. It was recommended that these efforts take place through collaboration of religious leaders to include it in their sermon, and traditional leaders to speak against SGBV in the area. How these efforts were implemented is worthy of further exploration.

## **V.c Different levels of livelihood vulnerabilities as experienced across gender, ethnicities, religion, IDPs and refugees**

Qualitative data from all three LGAs demonstrates that livelihood opportunities are limited for men, women and youths. Importantly, lack of livelihoods is both a cause of conflict and tension (as seen above in relation to youths), and an impact of tension and conflict. In Monguno, agricultural livelihoods have been particularly impacted. Community members state that herdsmen are destroying farmland and crops with their movements and grazing.

*"The herders vandalise the farmers' crops and there is little action done by the government to deal with this issue"*<sup>48</sup>

*"Herdsmen are vandalising people's farms and if spoken to, they will either kill you or injure you, this is affecting almost everybody in our community and as a result of that, a lot of people lose their livelihood because 80 percent of the population depend on farms."*<sup>49</sup>

Moreover, one key informant in Jere stated that IDPs have found access to land for pasture or agriculture particularly difficult to obtain. This issue is consistent with findings from the conflict scan conducted in Jere in March 2021, whereby groups including Kwayam and Marghi saw their farmlands 'cut' and reportedly allocated to Kanuris. Ultimately, issues related to land allocation persist in Jere and should continue to be monitored.

Further testimony demonstrates that IDPs encounter prejudice when seeking quality and sustainable livelihoods. Female community members in Monguno state that host community members regard IDPs as 'useless' and thus deny them access to livelihood opportunities,<sup>50</sup> whereas a Faria community leader explains that IDPs face prejudice in the marketplace:

*"Yes some of us were farmers, some businessmen but we have a restriction when we go to sell our things and they discover we are IDPs...they price it anyhow"*<sup>51</sup>

The same informant explains that young IDPs are also particularly vulnerable, stating that youth labourers are systematically underpaid.<sup>52</sup>

IDPs also suffer disproportionately from loss of livelihoods when fleeing conflict and violence. Data collected among camp staff in Sabon Balori, Jere shows that many IDPs left cattle in their places of origin, and many of those who did leave with cattle sold them to pay for immediate and critical needs. Displacement, and its impact on livelihoods, appears to have a greater impact on women than men, notably in Monguno. When asked 'what impact does violent conflict have specifically on women in your area', 68 percent of respondents (both male and female) in Monguno stated 'displacement from livelihood activity' as an impact (compared with 41 percent and 30 percent in Jere and Kukawa respectively).

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<sup>48</sup> Monguno: Male Host Community Members

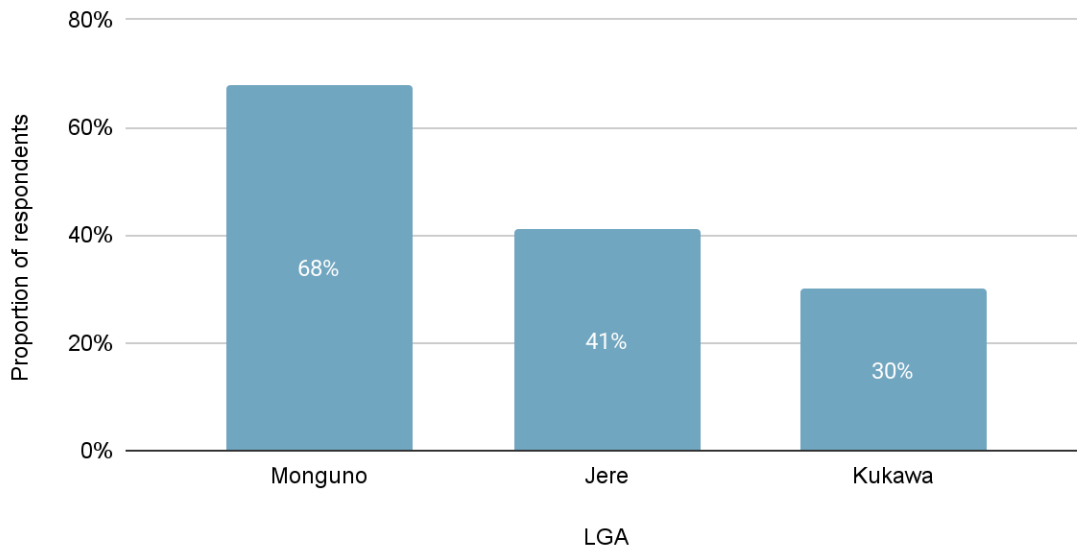
<sup>49</sup> Monguno: Male, Host Community Members

<sup>50</sup> Monguno: Female Community Members, Youth.. Date missing.

<sup>51</sup> Jere, Fariya: KII. CJTF Leader. July, 2022

<sup>52</sup> ibid

Proportion of respondents per LGA who state that 'displacement from livelihood activity' is an impact on women as a result of violent conflict



Lack of water is another factor that has impacted farmers and pastoralists. Reflecting issues raised in competition over natural resources, lack of available and properly managed boreholes has meant that farmers have found difficulty in managing their land. The issue of available water impacts livelihoods and business more broadly;

*"A lot of us uses water either for cooking or for other different activities imagine now if I had a restaurant you know I will need a lot of water for my business and then all of a sudden am in a location where there is no water you know the business will suffer because one of the main ingredient is missing"* Farmers association

The public health situation across the project area has also inhibited livelihood opportunities; several key informant interviews across Jere highlighted an outbreak of cholera, which was linked to negative impacts of livelihoods.

When asked 'what would you say is the main factor that motivates members of your community to join, or show support for armed groups, such as ISWAP or JAS, 'lack of livelihoods' was registered as the primary reason by 71 percent of respondents in Kukawa.

## **V.d Exploring the levels of social cohesion among different social groups in Jere, Monguno and Kukawa using a set of social indicators**

When discussing which actors in the community are responsible for driving conflict, community members feel that youths are most responsible, across all the LGAs.<sup>53</sup> With regard to social cohesion, community members suggest lack of jobs and resulting idleness are crucial factors in

<sup>53</sup> Jere, Sabon Bolori: Community Members (IDPs). July, 2022

youth's participation in anti-social behaviour. Community members also remark on perceived disrespect towards village elders:

*"Youths arranged a party in this community with heavy loud music (which we do not know what they are celebrating). The community elders decided to talk to them and that they should go outside the camp and do their thing because it's disturbing and many people are going through a lot. After talking to them, the youths merged themselves and started insulting everyone in the camp...which is an embarrassment that a child could confidently insult elderly people."<sup>54</sup>*

Respondents stated that due to the lack of job opportunities in the three LGAs, the youth feel marginalised, and therefore create "chaos" in their communities.<sup>55 56</sup> Adults believe the youth are easily manipulated into committing crimes and fear that the youth may get tempted to join ISWAP as they seek a sense of belonging.<sup>57</sup>

#### *Residents queuing up to fetch water*



To a lesser extent, women are identified as sources of conflict within the community, by both men and women. Data from FGDs suggests that a lack of coordination at water points leads to conflict between women (as noted previously).<sup>58 59</sup>

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<sup>54</sup> Kukawa, Gubio Camp: Male community members (IDPs). July, 2022

<sup>55</sup> Kukawa, Gubio Camp: Female Host Community Members. July 2022

<sup>56</sup> Monguno: Male community members (IDP Camp). July 2022

<sup>57</sup> Jere, Shuwari Garke: Male, Host Community Members. July 2022.

<sup>58</sup> Kukawa, Gubio Camp: Female Host Community Members. July, 2022

Religious leaders, traditional rulers (Bulamas), and community leaders are well respected and listened to by the communities.<sup>60</sup> Religious leaders, of different faiths (Christian and Muslim), reportedly encourage the communities to coexist peacefully.<sup>61</sup> They also represent community members' interests, working with the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) to forward the community's concerns/problems to the government. CAN is seen as effective in Monguno because it brings people together to pray and advise one another.<sup>62</sup> In Monguno, respondents reported that there have been many incidents of young girls being raped. Community members spoke highly of traditional leaders for taking action by organising a community night watch group.<sup>63</sup> There are therefore multiple examples of community members coming together to resolve the challenges they face, including conflict and violence in their communities.

*A traditional leader (right) in a discussion with the team*



## **V.e Assessing the level of change in perception of conflict management and mitigation strategies from adversarial to more collaborative approach by both parties**

Quantitative data shows that most community members are aware of specific dispute resolution / conflict management or peace building mechanisms in their community (Jere 86 percent, Monguno 79 percent and Kukawa 69 percent).

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<sup>59</sup> Jere, Sabon Bolori: Community Members (IDPs). July, 2022

<sup>60</sup> Kukawa, Gubio Camp: Female Host Community Members. July, 2022 & Jere, Kirbir: Male Community Members (Host)

<sup>61</sup> Monguno: KII. Religious Leader. (Islam). July, 2022

<sup>62</sup> Monguno: KII. Religious Leader. (Christianity). July, 2022

<sup>63</sup> Monguno: Youth Female Community Members, July 2022

Below is a table of stakeholders present in the LGAs assessed in this conflict scan, followed by the roles in their communities, the influence of their activities.

Table 4: The Stakeholder mapping

Borno's LGAs	Stakeholder	Role	Influence
<b>Monguno and Jere</b>	Traditional Leaders (Bulama), Religious Leaders, and Community Leaders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Advise local government representatives on how to improve their community</li> <li>- Ensure law and order in the community,</li> <li>- Cultural guardians</li> <li>- Employ traditional religious beliefs to punish negative behaviour and promote positive behaviour</li> <li>- Affirm damages in land and marriage disputes</li> <li>- Working with local government on matters of advocacy</li> <li>- Advocate for peaceful interfaith coexistence within the community<sup>64</sup></li> <li>- Encourage people to achieve financial independence</li> <li>- Educate community on Civic Duty Performance</li> <li>- Sensitise the community on the effects of conflict and spread awareness of conflict management<sup>65</sup></li> </ul>	<p><b>Positive:</b> On the issue of rape, the traditional leaders are taking action by organising a team that monitors the community at night. Community members report this measure to be effective.<sup>66</sup></p> <p>Regarding incidents of fights at water points, traditional leaders are addressing tension and conflict through mediation. This is also reported as effective.<sup>67</sup></p> <p>Religious leaders and elders were also identified as key actors in conflict mitigation.<sup>68 69</sup> In Monguno, religious leaders themselves identify conflict in the home, and take responsibility for stopping youths, and particularly young women from engaging in negative coping mechanisms such as sex work.<sup>70</sup> Community stakeholders also conduct community dialogues and help find possible solutions to tensions between Fulani herders and farmers.<sup>71</sup></p> <p>The community broadly trusts the camp committee<sup>72</sup></p> <p><b>Negative:</b> In Monguno, community members recognise that dynamics between Fulani herders and host community farmers have become too complex for the local community leaders to handle alone.<sup>73</sup></p>
<b>Monguno</b>	The Federal Government, and Security Actors, (e.g National Police Service, Military)	The Government: - Uphold law and order, safeguards people and property, promotes social justice and democracy, safeguard human rights and provides social welfare services. <sup>74</sup>	<b>Positive:</b> The federal government has taken action against threats posed by ISWAP. The army increased its patrols and there has been an improvement in security in the community. <sup>75</sup>

<sup>64</sup> Campbell, J. (2021). *The Pervasive Influence of Nigeria's Religious Leaders*. Council on Foreign Relations. Retrieved from: [Link](#)

<sup>65</sup> Campbell .J. (2021). *The Pervasive Influence of Nigeria's Religious Leaders*. Council on Foreign Relations. Retrieved from: [Link](#)

<sup>66</sup> Monguno: Youth Community Members.

<sup>67</sup> Monguno: Male host Community Members.

<sup>68</sup> Jere, Sabon Bolori: Community Members (IDPs). July 2022

<sup>69</sup> Monguno: Youth Community Members. July 2022

<sup>70</sup> Monguno: KII. Religious leader.

<sup>71</sup> Monguno: Female Returnees (Community Members). July 2022

<sup>72</sup> Monguno: KII. Person Living with Disabilities (PLWD)

<sup>73</sup> Monguno: Male IDP Camp members. July, 2022.

<sup>74</sup> Athanasius .J. (2018). *Functions of the Federal Government of Nigeria*. InfoGuide Nigeria. Retrieved from: [Link](#)



<b>Jere and Monguno &amp; Kukawa</b>	CJTF SFCG: Search For Common Ground RESILAC	- Vigilante group that claims responsibility for protecting communities in Northeast Nigeria from Islamic Militant groups (such as Boko Haram, ISWAP, and Peace building programs) that include the whole community. <sup>81</sup>	<b>Positive:</b> In Jere the IDP camp members are grateful to the CJTF for fighting ISWAP. <sup>89</sup> Search, and there was a general consensus that the CJTF always act more superior than others and don't respect community members. <sup>90</sup> People between IDPs and the host community. <sup>82</sup> People
<b>Jere, Monguno and Kukawa</b>	ISWAP	- Conflict Cafes are conducted in the communities - Armed Islamist militant group and division of Islamic State	<b>Negative:</b> In Jere, there are incidents of ISWAP members abducting farmers and demanding ransoms and in some instances, they kill the victims if their demands are not met. <sup>91</sup> Conflict Cafes help to resolve issues between community members (e.g. tension between In Monguno, there have been incidents of ISWAP attacks on the community. The attacks take place almost on a daily basis and as a result, there are incidents of stray bullets hitting/killing civilians. A case in point is a young man in Fulari who was shot and killed during the crossfire <sup>92</sup> between the ISWAP and law enforcement. <sup>93</sup>  In Monguno, the ISWAP group blocked the paths to other regions and forests, hence leading to the Fulani herdsmen taking their livestock to graze on the farmlands, and this affected the farmers' livelihoods. <sup>94</sup> In some cases, the farmers are killed by the herders if

<sup>89</sup> Jere, Kolori, Fulatari: Male, IDP Camp Members July 2022

<sup>90</sup> Monguno: Youth Male Community Members

<sup>91</sup> Jere, Faria: Adult & Youth, Male Community Members. July 2022

<sup>92</sup> Monguno: Female IDP Camp Members

<sup>93</sup> Monguno: Female Host Community Members

<sup>94</sup> Monguno: Female Host Community Members

			they confront them. <sup>94</sup>
<b>Monguno and Kukawa</b>	Fulani Herders	- Nomadic and semi-nomadic herders of cattle, goats and sheep	In Kukawa, returnees who have established farms are experiencing tensions with the Fulani herders due to the herders stealing animals and destroying pastureland. <sup>95</sup>
<b>Kukawa</b>	Politicians	- Members of local or national government, responsible for legislation and policy	<b>Negative:</b> One respondent stated that if the leaders were honest, there would be less conflict in the community. <sup>96</sup>
<b>Monguno</b>	INGOS and NGOs	- Develop and implement humanitarian, peacebuilding and conflict mitigation programmes, initiatives and advocacy	<b>Negative:</b> Accusations of favouritism; volunteers collect token cards for food and give them to their relatives and friends, and don't consider the most vulnerable people in the community. <sup>97</sup>
<b>Monguno, Jere and Kukawa</b>	Women and PLWD	- Members of the community	<b>Positive:</b> In Monguno, Women, PLWD and the youth are used to mobilise the community. <sup>98</sup>  In Jere, PLWD are leaders within the community, and they conduct activities that actively engage youth and women. <sup>99</sup>  In Monguno, women are involved in peacebuilding, conflict management <sup>100</sup> and programs on GBV. <sup>101</sup>  <b>Negative:</b> In Kukawa and Monguno, there were tensions among women at the water point and fights over water distribution. <sup>102 103</sup>
<b>Jere, Monguno and Kukawa</b>	Youth	- Members of the community	<b>Positive:</b> In Monguno, the youth are actively engaged in conflict management in their community. <sup>104 105</sup>

<sup>95</sup> Kukawa: Youth IDP Camp Members

<sup>96</sup> Kukawa: Youth, IDPs Camp Members. July 2022

<sup>97</sup> Monguno: Youth Male Community Members

<sup>98</sup> Monguno: KII. Vigilante.

<sup>99</sup> Jere: KII. Youth Community leader. July 2022

<sup>100</sup> Monguno: KII. Farmers' Association.

<sup>101</sup> Monguno: KII. Person Living With Disabilities.

<sup>102</sup> Kukawa, Gubio Camp: Female Host Community Members

<sup>103</sup> Monguno: Male Host Community Members

<sup>104</sup> Monguno: KII. IDP Camp Staff

<sup>105</sup> Monguno: KII. Vigilante.

<sup>106</sup> Jere, Faria: Adult & Youth, Male Community Members. July 2022

<sup>107</sup> Kukawa: Youth IDP Camp Members. July 2022

<sup>108</sup> Monguno: Youth Female Community Members.

<sup>109</sup> Jere, Shuwari Garke: Male, Host Community Members. July 2022

<sup>110</sup> Jere, Kolori, Fulatari: Male IDP Camp Members. July 2022

<sup>111</sup> Monguno: Youth Female Community Members. July 2022

<sup>112</sup> Kukawa: Male Host Community members. July 2022

			<p><b>Negative:</b> In all three regions, due to lack of livelihoods the youth feel marginalised and are easily manipulated into petty crime (drug abuse, criminal activities e.g. theft) in the community.<sup>106 107 108</sup> Community members view the youth as drivers of conflict,<sup>109</sup> The community feel that the youth do not think of the consequences of their actions and the impact these actions would have on the community.<sup>110</sup></p> <p>At water points, in all three regions (Jere, Kukawa and Monguno), the youth use violence and intimidation at the water points.</p> <p>In Kukawa and Monguno, the youth are accused of rape against young girls in the community..<sup>111 112</sup></p>
Kukawa	Local Committees	- Monitor points of resource distribution (i.e. water points) to ensure order, and addressing conflict and tensions between community members	<b>Positive:</b> Participants reported the successful incorporation of committees to monitor water points. <sup>113</sup>

Data from the quantitative survey finds several other dispute/conflict resolution management or peace building mechanisms identified by the community; International Alert, WFP, CSOs, Karumi/Karami, Media (radio programmes), CSAD (Community Security Active Dialogue), Langa,<sup>114</sup> Rescue Office, Intersos Office, CHN,<sup>115</sup> CFP, NSAGs and IOM.

### V.e.i Actor analysis

When asked about who is addressing conflict within communities, several stakeholders were identified by respondents. Search was mentioned across the LGAs of study, with an overall feeling that Search has positively contributed to conflict mitigation.

*“At first we had no other way out but thank God for Search which later intervened and brought to us various projects and programs teaching us how we can sit down and resolve our various conflicts.”<sup>116</sup>*

Cultural activities, such as dancing and games were mentioned favourably in Jere for engaging youths and other community members in peacebuilding activities. This is a promising trend after similar activities were identified as positive in the March 2021 conflict scan of Monguno and Kukawa. The delivery of training in helping mediate conflict through community dialogue was also appreciated by community stakeholders.

<sup>113</sup> Kukawa: KIIs and FGDs participants, Gubio Camp, Adult Male IDPs. July 2022

<sup>114</sup> Note: Langa, in one of the most widely practised traditional sports among the Fulani/Hausa ethnic group in northern Nigeria.

<sup>115</sup> CHN may be GHN, the Griot of Hope, Nigeria, active in Plateau State. Link here

<sup>116</sup> Jere, Faria Community: KII. Community Leader. June, 2022

Traditional leaders (*Bulamas*), religious leaders and elders were also identified as key actors in conflict mitigation. Key informants reported the successful incorporation of committees to monitor water points in Kukawa,<sup>117</sup> and organising a monitoring team within the community to combat sexual assault which is stated to be effective in Monguno.<sup>118</sup> Religious leaders themselves identify conflict in the homes of community members, and actively stop youths, and particularly young women from engaging in negative coping mechanisms such as sex work.

Overall, community leaders and elders are considered a positive influence on conflict dynamics by community members interviewed across all three LGAs, but are sometimes mentioned negatively. Specifically, community leaders' ability to effectively address and mitigate conflict between farmers and Fulani herders is mentioned in Monguno.<sup>119</sup> When mentioned negatively, it's usually relating to community leaders' prioritisation of access to resources to IDPs and people with the same ethnicity as them.<sup>120</sup>

This does not mark a significant change from opinions in previous scans, however community leaders have previously been accused of lacking commitment to mitigating conflict in Kukawa. In instances where traditional leaders have been identified as not participating in conflict mitigation, community members recognise that conflict dynamics may be too complex to mitigate and beyond the power of local community leaders.<sup>121122</sup>

In Monguno, IDP camp staff state that women and youth are actively engaged in conflict management in their community, and capacity would be further increased if further resources for capacity building were offered by external stakeholders.<sup>123</sup>

*"Even now in our CRN we have people with disabilities who are also leaders...we have women and youths also involved."*<sup>124</sup>

Overall, feedback from FGDs with community members suggests government actors are not as present as community members desire in Monguno and Kukawa (no data in Jere). In Kukawa there is a strong desire for government stakeholders to become further engaged in conflict mitigation particularly through assisting distribution of food. In Monguno, community members express a need for the government to assist in developing dialogue between Fulani herders and local community members. However, some community members in Monguno noted that government activities in the form of patrols have increased.

## V.e.ii Activities

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<sup>117</sup> Kukawa, Gubio Camp: Male Community Members (IDPs). July, 2022.

<sup>118</sup> Monguno: Female Community Members. July, 2022.

<sup>119</sup> Monguno: Male IDP Camp members. July, 2022.

<sup>120</sup> Search (2021) Conflict scan report [Kukawa and Monguno], March 2021

<sup>121</sup> Monguno: Male community members (IDPs). July, 2022.

<sup>122</sup> Monguno: Male Community Members. July, 2022.

<sup>123</sup> Monguno: KII. IDP Camp Staff.

<sup>124</sup> Jere, Faria Community: KII. Youth Leader. July, 2022

Informants mention several key activities that had a positive influence on conflict mitigation. Consistent with previous conflict scans, cultural activities, including dancing and games, are mentioned favourably:

*"[Search] brought us different games like football, Langa, Emther, and many other games that united us together"* IDP Camp staff, Sabon Balori

Water committees, which reportedly 'control queues and establish order' are also mentioned as an important activity. Crucially, water committees also engage in reconciliation and sensitisation activities, which ensure that conflict at water points is addressed and mitigated through several complimentary activities<sup>125</sup>.

### V.e.iii Needs

Overall, access to greater financial support is identified as a key need by conflict mitigation stakeholders;

*"The opportunity I had was to mobilise people for peace and progressive movement and by doing so I had the attention of most of them I wanted. What I will need is financial and moral support from other stakeholders to push the gap more."* Faria community leader, Jere

Beyond financial resources, some stakeholders feel that they are working individually and without the support of institutional stakeholders;

*"...at least you interviewing me is a good sign that somebody shows concern about our situation."* CJTF Chairman Kukawa county

*"This issue has a link with the organisations that used to come for intervention here. As a community leader I try my best to explain the situation around and calm my people to what they are supposed to do."*<sup>126</sup>

Several key informants expressed a desire to involve more women, girls and PLWD in conflict mitigation activities. This ambition builds on previous progress involving women and girls in conflict mitigation (particularly strongly mentioned in the Kukawa and Monguno conflict scan in March 2021).

Livelihood opportunities were strongly recommended by community members to mitigate violence in the future. As previously identified across all three LGAs throughout the project lifecycle and this scan, lack of livelihoods has been identified as a key cause of communal insecurity and conflict by community members and key stakeholders.

Key stakeholders responsible for engaging youths also express a desire to engage youths more actively. While some key stakeholders have identified youths as difficult to engage in activities, others have suggested that activities are not necessarily impactful for behavioural change of youth.

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<sup>125</sup> Kukawa, Gubio Camp: Male Community Members, IDPs (elders). July, 2022.

<sup>126</sup> Jere, Sabon Bolori: KII. Traditional Leader. July, 2022.



## Vi. Recommendations

### **Empowerment activities and education for community and religious leaders**

Future programmes could look to work with community leaders, elders and religious leaders for promoting understanding and collaboration to resolve and prevent conflict within and between communities. Results from a peace-building programme in South Sudan aimed at community leaders show that working with them enabled communities to understand their differences and value their commonalities, to the extent to which community leaders collectively actualised peacebuilding concepts for communities to resolve their differences peacefully.<sup>127</sup>

### **Community members' associations**

Some community members expressed a need for the government to assist in developing dialogue between Fulani herders and community members, however trust in the government's willingness to act in favour of communities was of concern. Establishing or supporting community members to establish associations to bring communities together and share ideas and skills on how to promote cross-cultural and intra- and inter-community dialogue may help promote social cohesion. Evidence from a project which used this approach in Nigeria found that community forums were crucial in the bringing together of leaders within the farmer and herder communities, security actors, government officials and traditional rulers towards collaborative conflict resolution.<sup>128</sup>

### **Establishing/promoting "community monitors/monitoring committee"**

Tension and conflict has continued around water points is a consistent issue across all three LGAs, with tensions and conflict driven by several actors (women fighting other women, older youths pushing through queues. Community monitors of water points and other points where there is a high degree of/propensity for conflict can promote a sense of shared ownership and value for water points, to ultimately promote social cohesion and prevent conflict.

**Promote "peace bubbles"**<sup>129</sup> for collective safety when violence, particularly between distinct groups escalates. Peace bubbles are safe spaces that represent "intersecting dynamics of peace, perception, conflict, economy, political, ethnic, and faith indices." These community peace bubbles are now abundant in Nigeria and are the product of

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<sup>127</sup> Search for Common Ground - Forcier (2019). Final Evaluation for "I Love My Country: Promoting Localized Understanding and Peaceful Coexistence in South Sudan"

<sup>128</sup> Ogbozor, E. et al (2018). Building Bridges Between Herders and Farmers in Plateau, Nasarawa, and Kaduna States FINAL EVALUATION REPORT . Search for Common Ground.

<sup>129</sup> <https://www.peaceinsight.org/en/articles/community-peace-bubbles-in-nigerias-failing-state/?location=nigeria&theme=culture-media-advocacy>

community peacebuilders who work tirelessly to establish social cohesion at the community level. Links to these bubbles or even establishment of them through inter-community programming could provide similar safety opportunities as well as open dialogue between communities for promoting cohesion and peace.

**Advocacy work/building partnerships with “institutional stakeholders” and governments.** Feedback from key community stakeholders reveals that some feel that they are working in silo, and without the support of a wider network that can support their capacity to address and mitigate conflict. In the case of this context, community leaders may be better connected with government stakeholders, who community members desire to become more involved in conflict mitigation, and build more robust institutional networks for recognising conflict and addressing impacts.

**Promote cross-cultural events** which include dance and games/sports. These activities were mentioned favourably by community members for engaging youths in positive activities.

**More conflict management activities** to empower women and youth towards preventing and reducing conflict. In Monguno data demonstrates that women and youth are actively engaged in community conflict management, however these activities are not widely reported in Jere, Kukawa or across all communities in Monguno. Search should seek to discover what has enabled women and youths to take part in these activities in Monguno and apply learnings for awareness and participation elsewhere.

**Promote partnerships/inclusion for women** with regional women mediator networks such as FemWise Africa, which works to strengthen participation of African women in conflict prevention, peace stabilisation efforts and mediation processes.<sup>130</sup> Women mediator networks often work across different communities to open inter-community dialogue for resolving conflict. The networks also work with communities to generate awareness of the connections between local conflict resolution and national, regional and international peace efforts.

**Livelihoods programmes/activities** to promote communal security. Livelihood activities have potential to promote more inclusive and sustainable sources of income generation opportunities and lessen the social-economic inequalities that often fuel conflict among IDP returnees in Borno state.<sup>131</sup> Livelihood programmes should look to build adaptive strategies at several points across market systems to build resilience to future shocks as a result of conflict.<sup>132</sup> Livelihood solutions should be gender-responsive which caters to the needs of both women and men. A gender analysis report (2018) for a livelihood

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<sup>130</sup> FemWise-Africa. (n.d. ). *Global Alliance Of Regional Women Mediator Networks*. African Union. See: [Link](#)

<sup>131</sup> CCDRN | British Council (2018). *Policy Brief: Livelihood Opportunities And Implications For Peace And Security In Communities Selected For The Early Return Of Idps In Borno State*. CCDRN. See: [Link](#)

<sup>132</sup> MercyCorps (2018). BORNO, NORTHEAST NIGERIA STRATEGIC RESILIENCE ASSESSMENT.

improvement project in Borno state found that community members advocated for non-politically motivated project managers for ensuring fair and equitable access to livelihood opportunities by women and men.<sup>133</sup>

**Dedicated youth programme** to support youth livelihoods and wellbeing for preventing their involvement in violence. Programme activities should look to improve and diversify their skills for adapting to changing market needs during and after conflict.

**Improve and promote information sharing.** A strategic resilience study of communities in Borno conducted by Mercy Corps (2018)<sup>134</sup> found that many IDPs lacked basic information on the safety and security of communities in order to manage day-to-day risks and plan where to move to in heightened crises situations.

**Develop Peace Markets for greater dialogue between farmers and herders.** Currently, tension between farmers and pastoralists results in violence and conflict (as seen in the data of this scan) and also restricts commercial opportunities between the two groups. Conciliation Resources have found that in market places frequented by farmers and pastoralists, trade between the two groups was limited, however women, usually wives of farmers and herders, would trade goods secretly. Conciliation Resources encouraged husbands to accompany their wives to the market, thereby sensitising them to the marketplace. These groups now trade through 'peace markets', and their development is guided by a code of commitments from all parties to ensure peace and the opportunity to trade. Search may benefit from learning more about this new initiative, and how it might be applied in the LGAs of study, particularly Jere state where farmer / herder conflict is strongest.

**Develop mechanisms to ensure IDPs need not sell cattle** to pay for essential goods or services, to ensure continuation of livelihoods. Search may work with stakeholders and aid organisations to ensure the continued ownership of cattle by IDPs in their new communities to address structural disadvantages in livelihoods.

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<sup>133</sup> UN Women (2018) Gender Analysis - GENDER AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN BORNO STATE: EXPLORING EVIDENCE FOR INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES FOR FOOD SECURITY.

<sup>134</sup> MercyCorps (2018). BORNO, NORTHEAST NIGERIA STRATEGIC RESILIENCE ASSESSMENT.

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