

### SUMMARY

#### 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.

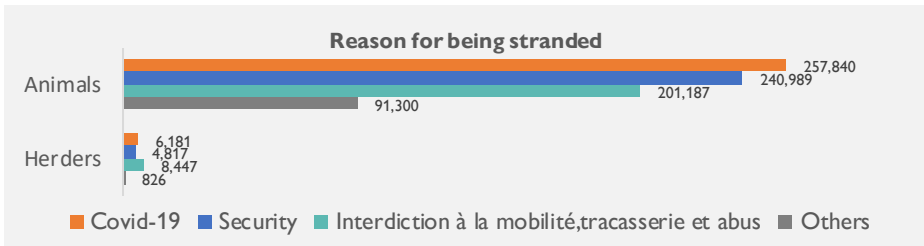
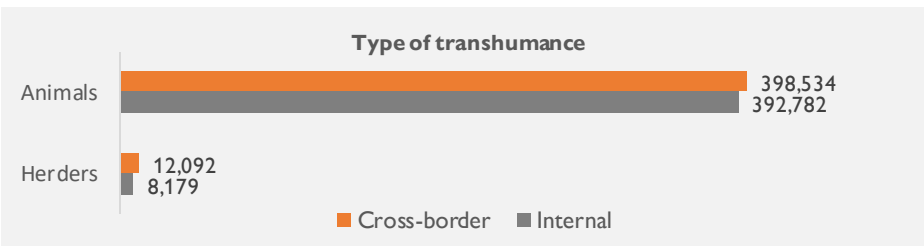
This dashboard presents the results of data collected in Dosso, Niger and Kebbi, Nigeria in April 2022. A total of 17 localities were assessed by the **Bilital Maroobe Network (RBM)** and its network of pastoralist organizations using a common methodology involving regional workshops with relevant stakeholders 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 791,316 animals (Bovidae, sheep, goats and camels) and 20,271 herders were identified and considered as stranded. Among those stranded, 24 per cent of herders were stranded for security reasons (unsafe route), 30 per cent for COVID-19 reasons (mobility restrictions) and 46 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, location 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.
- Continue to build capacities of actors and authorities in mastering the Transhumance Tracking Tools.



### GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF HERDERS STRANDED BY REASON

Most of the transhumant herders are stranded for “other” reasons (42%) including administrative constraints or movement restrictions, or due to COVID-19 (25%) in the region of Dosso, Niger.

A few herders are stranded in the Kebbi region of Nigeria.

Region	COVID-19	Insecurity	Other
<b>Dosso</b>	5,018 (25%)	3,347 (17%)	8,447 (42%)
<b>Kebbi</b>	1,163 (6%)	1,470 (7%)	826 (4%)

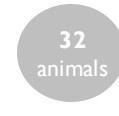
Ratio: animals / herder



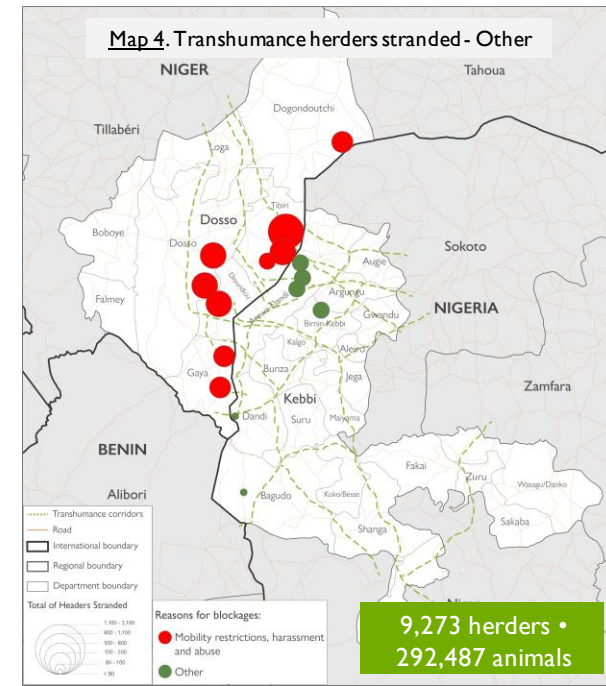
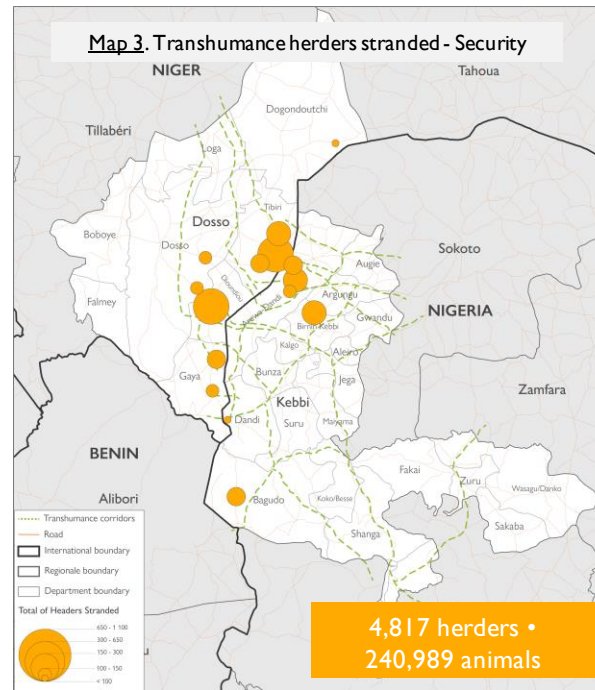
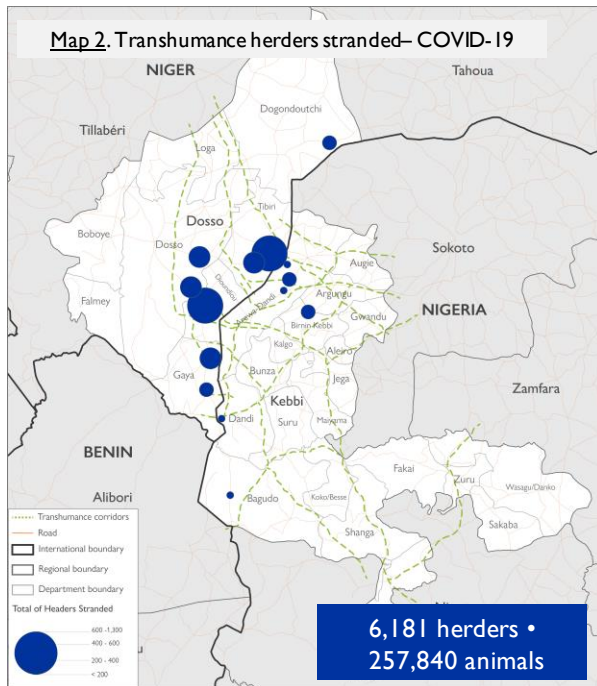
Insecurity



COVID-19



Other



### SUMMARY

The majority of stranded transhumant herders (98%) have access to 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 herders with a national transhumance certificate
<b>318 (2%)</b>	<b>263 (1%)</b>

Only 2 per cent of stranded cross-border transhumant herders and 1 per cent of internal transhumant herders have an international transhumance certificate or national transhumance certificate.

### HEALTH SERVICES

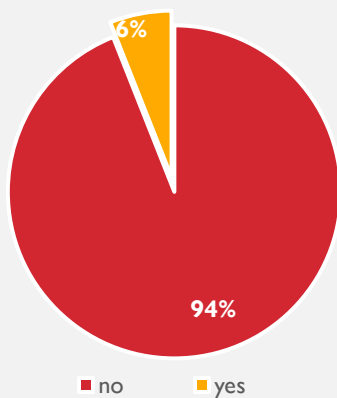
Stranded transhumant herders are located in localities that provide human (100%) and animal (100%) health services. This highlights the presence of these services but does not guarantee that herders have the necessary resources to access them.

### GRAZING LAND & WATER POINTS

According to key informants, 100 per cent of stranded transhumant herders have access to water points and 100 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, 94 per cent of stranded transhumant

herders do not have enough pasture to feed all the animals in the locality (both cattle belonging to transhumant herders and animals belonging to local herders). Similarly, 100 per cent of stranded transhumant herders do not have enough water to meet the needs of their livestock.

Grazing lands are sufficient to feed all animals



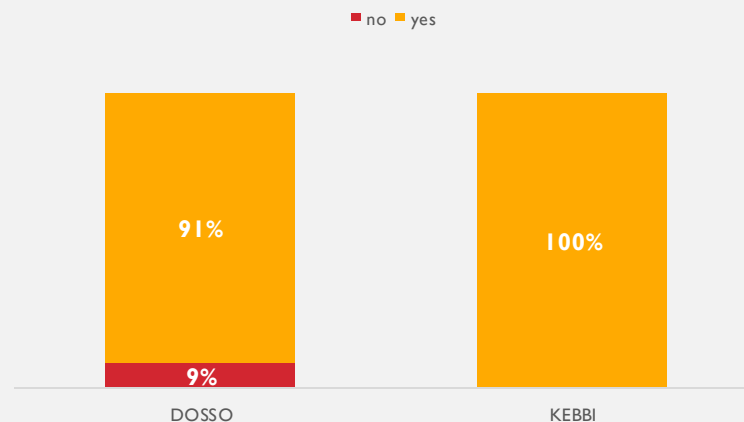
Water points are sufficient for all animals



### MARKETS

Almost all the herders surveyed have access to markets to sell their cattle, whether in their current commune of residence or in neighbouring communes, with the exception of Dosso where access to cattle markets appears particularly difficult for 9 per cent of stranded transhumant herders.

Access to markets



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

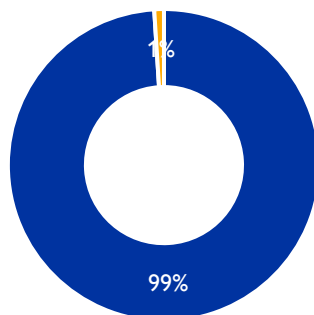
99 per cent of stranded transhumant herders intend to leave their current place of residence within three months of the survey, mostly in June 2022.

In Dosso, Niger, most stranded herders (84%) intend to travel to another Niger region and 16 per cent intend to return to their place of origin (Niger).

In Kebbi, Nigeria, stranded herders mostly intend to return to their country of origin (96%), while four per cent want to stay in Nigeria.

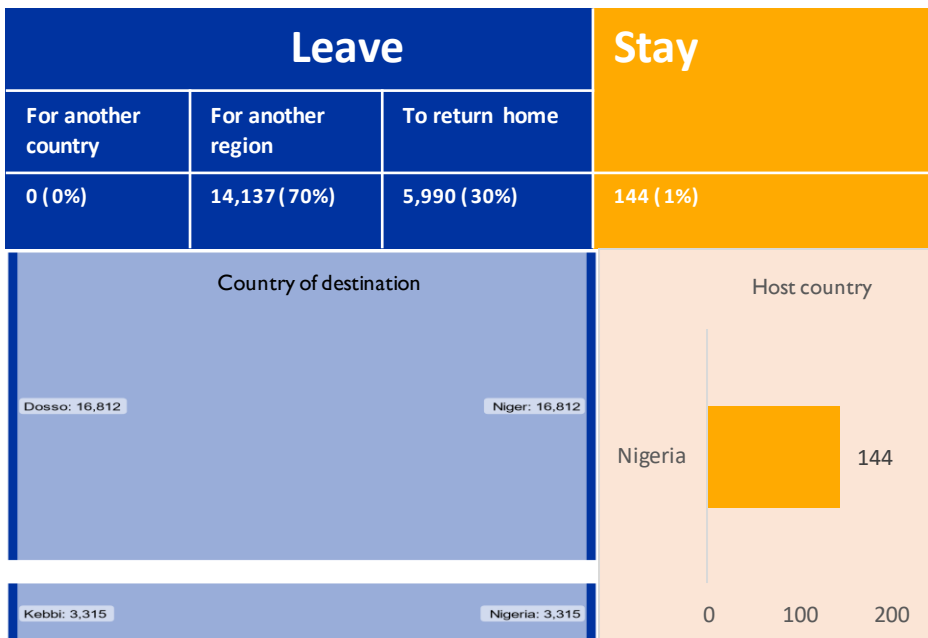
In terms of intended destinations, no herders plan to travel to another country, 70 per cent plan to stay in their current country of residence but move to another region, and 30 per cent plan to return to their country of origin while 1 per cent want to stay.

Intentions of herders

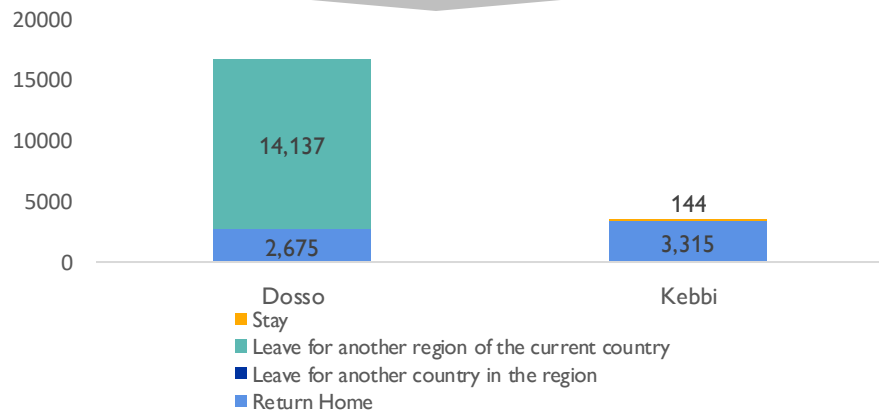


■ leave ■ stay

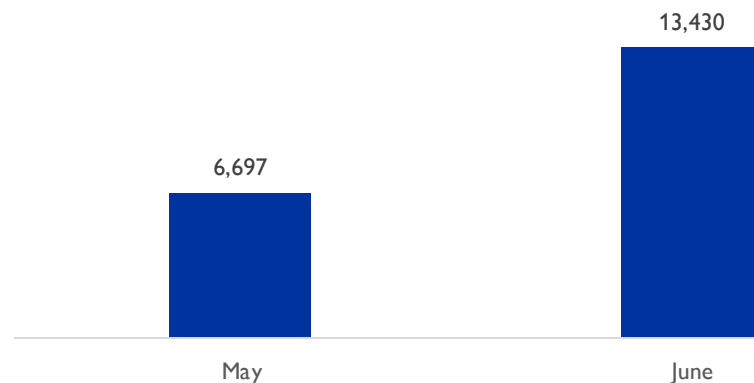
### MOVEMENT INTENTIONS – FINAL INTENDED COUNTRY



### 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 100% of respondents) as well as the damage caused by their cattle in the surrounding fields (100%), conflicts between herders and farmers (94%), inter-community tensions (94%) and animal health (94%) are potential risks linked to prolonged stays in their current place of residence.

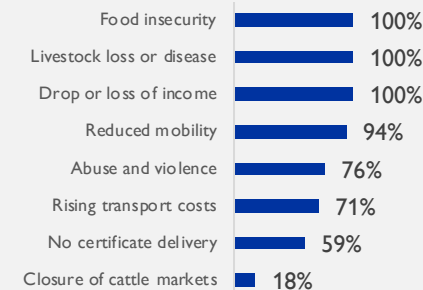
These findings are reflected in their responses with regards to the impacts of the situation, both on herders and on host communities. Regarding the first type of impact, herders explain that they are mainly impacted by loss of income (100%), food insecurity (100%) and illness or death of their animals (100%).

Asked about the impacts on localities, key informants mention no delivery of transhumance certificates (100%), livestock loss or disease (100%), a decrease in resources (100%), conflicts with herders (100%) or food insecurity (100%) as the main consequences of the presence of stranded transhumant herders.

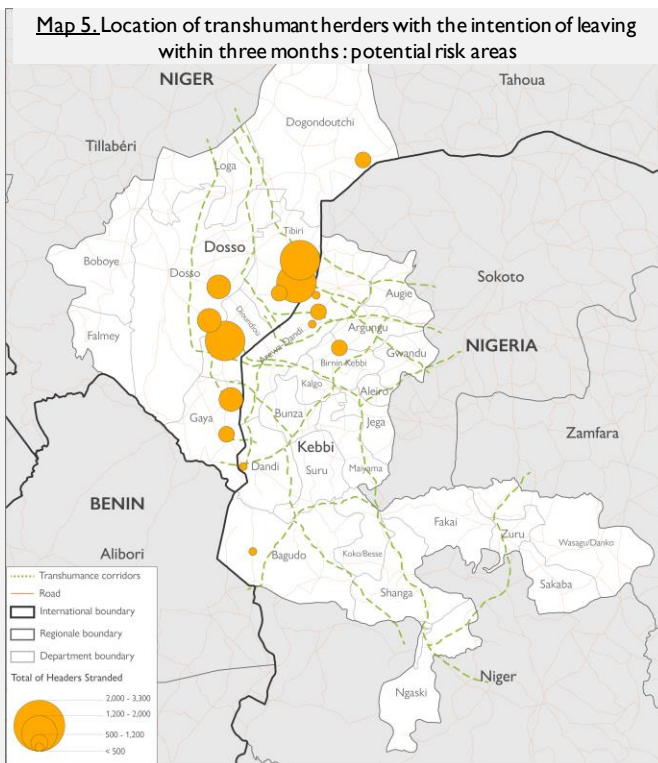
#### Potential risks associated with herders stranded in the locality



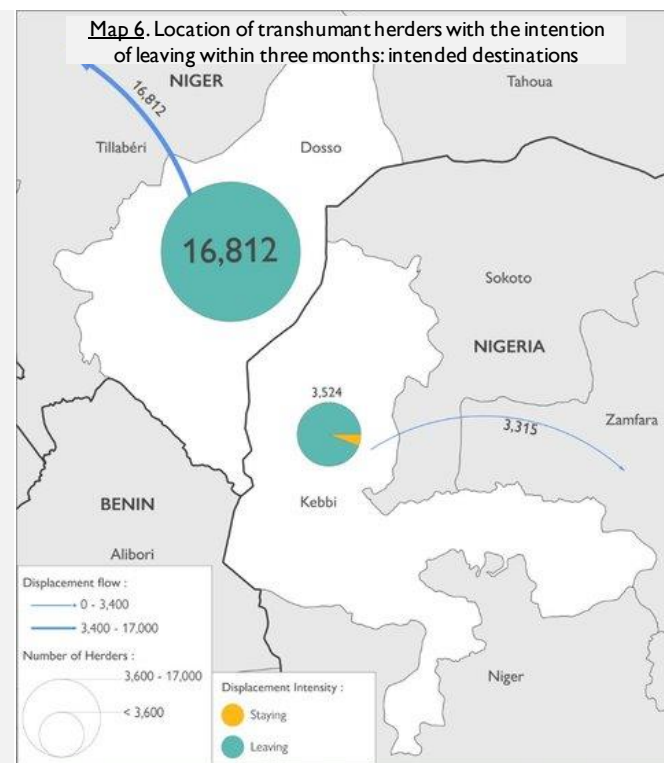
#### Impacts associated with herders stranded in the locality



Map 5 identifies the sites where stranded herders intend to leave within three months. If these herders are refused passage to their intended destinations and are obliged to stay in their current place of residence, this could generate frustrations and tensions between farmers and herders on these sites as to the use of water and grazing resources, which could then become scarce.

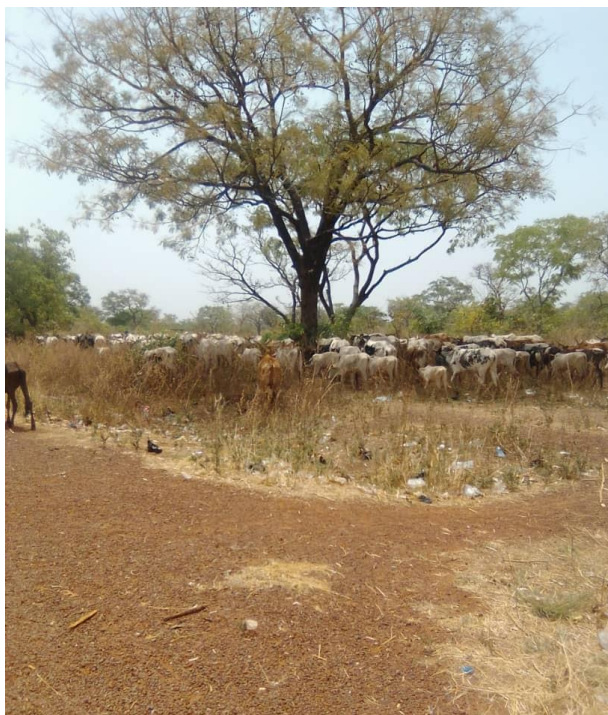


Map 6 identifies the destinations planned with the stranded herders. As in the previous analysis on intentions, it can be noted that herders are mainly located in the Dosso region of Niger and want to stay in Niger but leave for another region (14,137) or return home – which is Niger for 2,675 of these herders. In Nigeria, among the 3,459 stranded herders, 3,315 wants to travel to another Nigerian region.



## 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.**