TRANSHUMANCE TRACKING TOOL (TTT – DTM)

MAPPING of HERDERS STRANDED along the CENTRAL TRANSHUMANCE CORRIDOR

DTM IOM DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX

DASHBOARD #1

Data collected: January 2021
Publication : February 2021

1.5 M Animals stranded
- **872 k** BOVIDAE
- **629 k** GOATS SHEEPS
- **27 k** CAMELS

57 k Herders stranded
- **4** COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN
- **64%** MALE
- **36%** FEMALE
- incl. **21%** BOYS (<18)
- Incl. **17%** GIRLS (<18)

Map 1. Transhumance **Herders stranded** along the Central Transhumance Corridor - all reasons

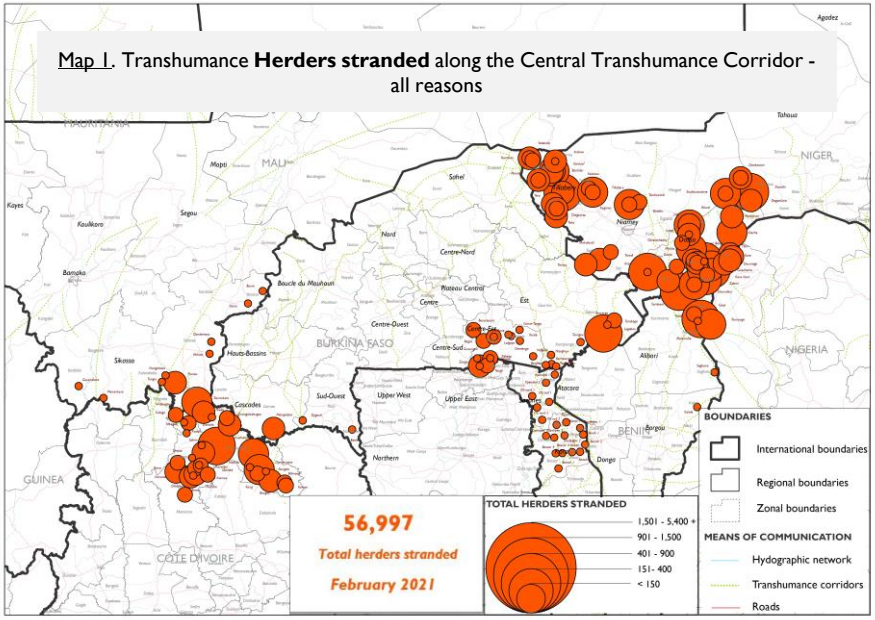


Chart 1. Type of transhumance (# of animals)

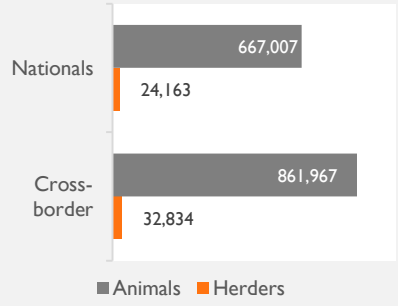
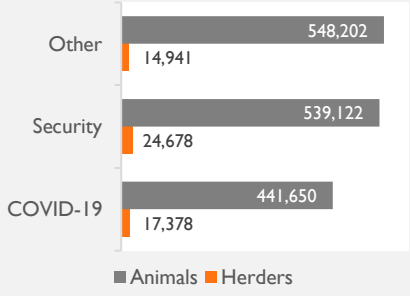


Chart 2. Reason for being stranded (# of animals)



SUMMARY

Context:

Cross-border transhumance is a major herding practice in West Africa, and especially in the Sahel region. As an important economic activity and a driver of regional development, transhumance has, in the past 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. The Central Transhumance Corridor (CTC), which links Sahelian countries to coastal countries, has been particularly affected by these changes.

This dashboard presents the results of data collected in six countries (**Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger and Togo**) along the Central Transhumance Corridor in January 2021. A total of 205 localities were assessed by the **Bilital Maroobe Network** (RBM) and its branches 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 volumes of herders and their cattle currently stranded for COVID-19 or security reasons.

Main results:

A total of **1.5 million animals and 57,000 herders were identified during this exercise and considered stranded along the CTC**. Among those stranded, 43 per cent of herders were stranded for security reasons (unsafe route), 30 per cent for COVID-19 reasons (mobility restrictions), and 26 per cent for other reasons such as government "blocus" or presence/absence of grazing lands.

Recommendations:

- Facilitate access to personal protective equipment (PPE) and sensitize pastoral communities using appropriate communication methods: community radios, livestock markets, water points, etc.);
- Raise awareness and mobilize cross-border consultation frameworks on the needs to negotiate the extended stay of animals on sites that are not dedicated to farming and to negotiate the return of animals to their country to cope with the concentration of animals and the resulting high pressure on natural resources;
- Facilitate animal vaccination campaigns and the establishment of a cross-border preventive prophylaxis system;
- Encourage the implementation of emergency social safety nets adapted to transhumant herders and that takes into account the diversity of their situations;
- Support transhumant herders to obtain civil status cards and documents related to transhumance: the national and international cards of transhumance;
- Concentrate conflict prevention efforts between farmers and herders in areas where herders are stranded against their will;
- Ensure that the information obtained about stranded herders is disseminated to all and informs the decisions of the harmonized framework's actors in the countries concerned but also of regional actors.

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SUMMARY

The vast majority of key informants indicated the presence of different services and infrastructures either at the level of the commune of residence or in a neighboring commune. However, the presence of these services does not necessarily mean that they are available or even accessible. Furthermore, these data were collected during a good period of the pastoral calendar (December / January) when the fields are free, the palatability of woody and herbaceous plants is still acceptable and grazing lands and water points are available. These high proportions, especially in the presence of water points and grazing areas, are the consequence of this pastoral calendar.

In addition, a second question on access to water supply and pasture shows that the situation of stranded transhumant herders needs to be nuanced. Thus, if herders are indeed in areas where water and pasture are present**, access to sufficient water and pasture is much more worrying for the months to come**, especially considering the blockages that still exist (closed borders, etc.)

The risk factors incurred and highlighted by herders are of several types: insecurity, the COVID-19 pandemic but also the closure of borders (linked to the COVID-19 epidemic or not), and climate change. This page should be analyzed in particular in the light of the future intentions of the herders (see following pages).

HEALTH SERVICES

Key informants interviewed mentioned that human (95%) and animal (98%) health services are largely available to transhumant herders in their current place of residence. This acknowledges the presence of these services, **without ensuring that herders will have the necessary resources to access them**.

COVID-19: 74 per cent of herders surveyed said they had received information about the COVID-19 pandemic. However, **only 9 per cent indicated having access to personal protective equipment** and most of them do not know what to do if there is a suspicion of COVID-19 among them.

GRAZING LANDS & WATER POINTS

According to interviews with key informants, pasture areas and water points are available in 95 per cent of the communes where transhumant herders are located.

However, while this proportion of pasture and water availability is encouraging, it does not automatically translate into sufficient access and quantity for all transhumant animals. Thus, **94 per cent of informants indicated that these grazing lands were not sufficient** to supply all the animals in the locality (both cattle belonging to transhumant herders and animals belonging to local herders). Similarly, **98 per cent of key informants consider that water points are not sufficient to cover the needs of the cattle.**

Chart 1. Grazing lands are sufficient to feed all animals

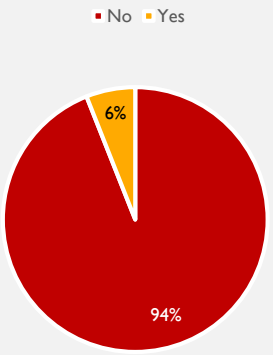
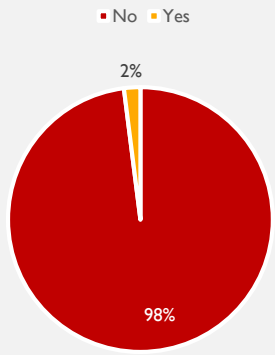


Chart 2. Water points are sufficient for all animals

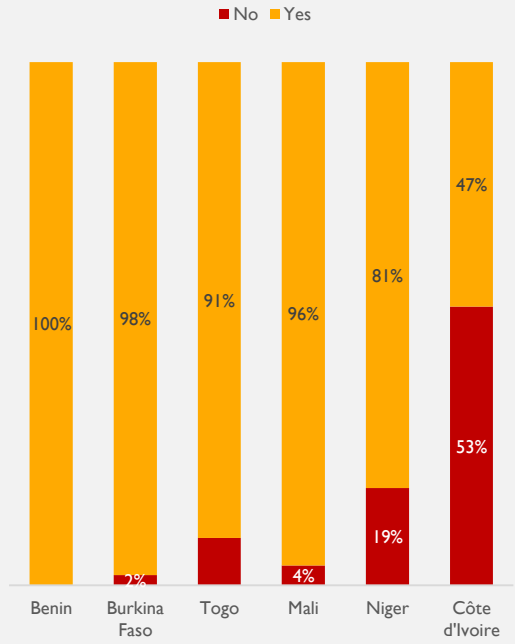


MARKETS

Almost 25 per cent of the herders surveyed do not have access to markets in order to sell their cattle, whether in their current commune of residence or in neighbouring communes.

Access to livestock markets appears particularly difficult for the majority (53%) of stranded transhumant herders in Côte d'Ivoire.

Chart 3. Transhumant herders' access to markets



TRANSHUMANCE TRACKING TOOL (TTT – DTM)

MAPPING of STRANDED HERDERS • REASON FOR BEING STRANDED

DTM IOM DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX

DASHBOARD #1

Data collected: January 2021
Publication : February 2021

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF HERDER STRANDED BY REASON

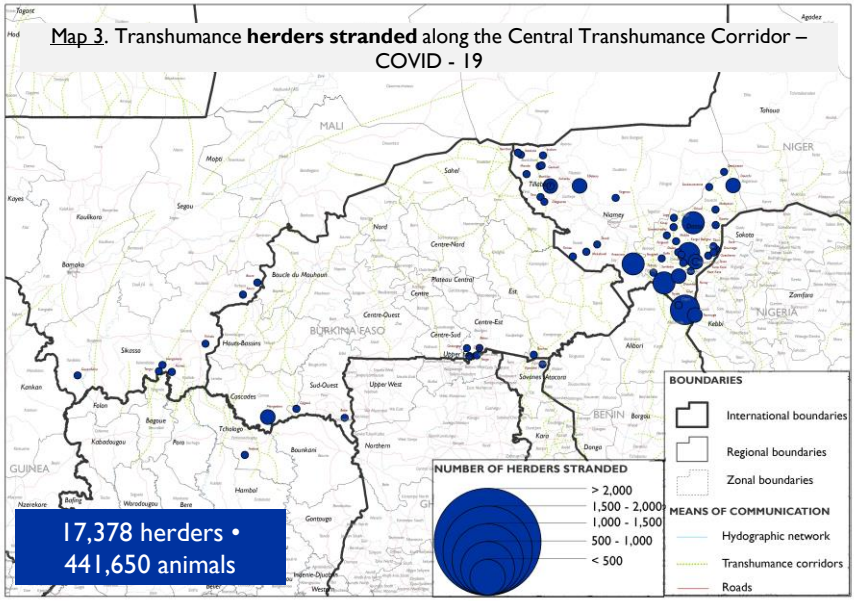
Most transhumance herders stranded for security reasons are currently in the Nigerien regions of Dosso (at the Niger-Nigeria border) and Tillaberi (at the Niger-Burkina Faso border) as well as in the Centre-Est region of Burkina Faso and northern regions of Togo. Herders and cattle are also largely stranded due to COVID-19-related restrictions. Niger is the country which has recorded the largest number of transhumant herders stranded because of COVID-19. In addition, many herders in Burkina Faso mentioned they had to leave their cattle in Côte d'Ivoire when the borders were closed due to the pandemic.

The other reasons for which herders declared to be stranded – mostly in Burkina Faso, Niger and Côte d'Ivoire – are border closures for reasons unrelated to COVID-19 (for those in Burkina Faso stranded at the Benin border), or as an adaptation strategy for herders facing climatic factors and justifying their presence in Côte d'Ivoire by the search for pasture.

Faced with these situations, herders have developed strategies for adapting and optimizing their resources such as choosing to stay in areas provided with water and pasture or reducing the number of animals per herder. Indeed, the number of animals per herder is reduced in insecure situations (22 animals per herder), or if herders are stranded due to the pandemic (25 per herder).

BEN	BFA	CIV	MLI	NER	TOG
Borgou 73	Cascade 518	Tchologo 5,572	Sikasso 765	Tillaberi 8,617	Savanes 167
Alibori 122	Sud-Ouest 97	Poro 6,138		Dosso 29,558	Kara 154
	Est 2,190				
	Centre Est 3,027				

Map 3. Transhumance **herders stranded** along the Central Transhumance Corridor – COVID - 19



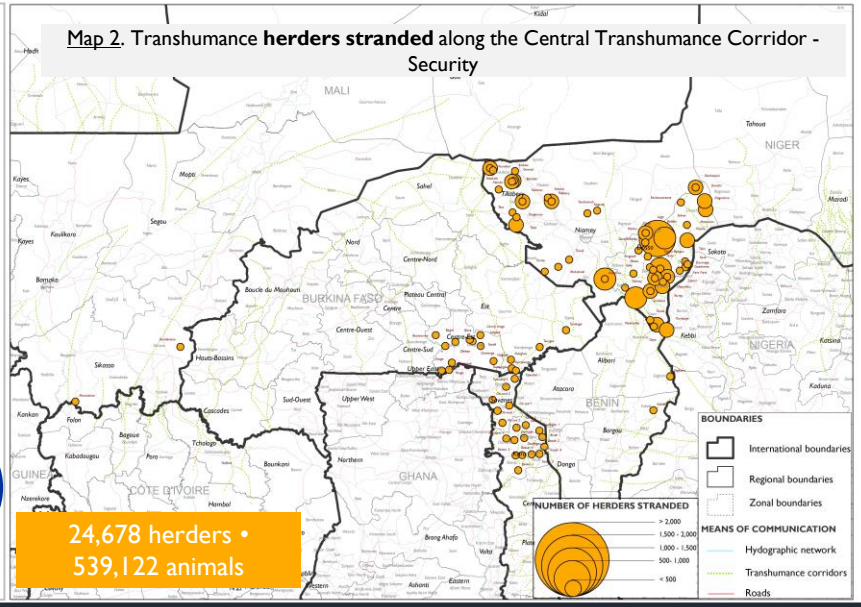
Ratio: animals / herder

22 animals — Stranded: Insecurity

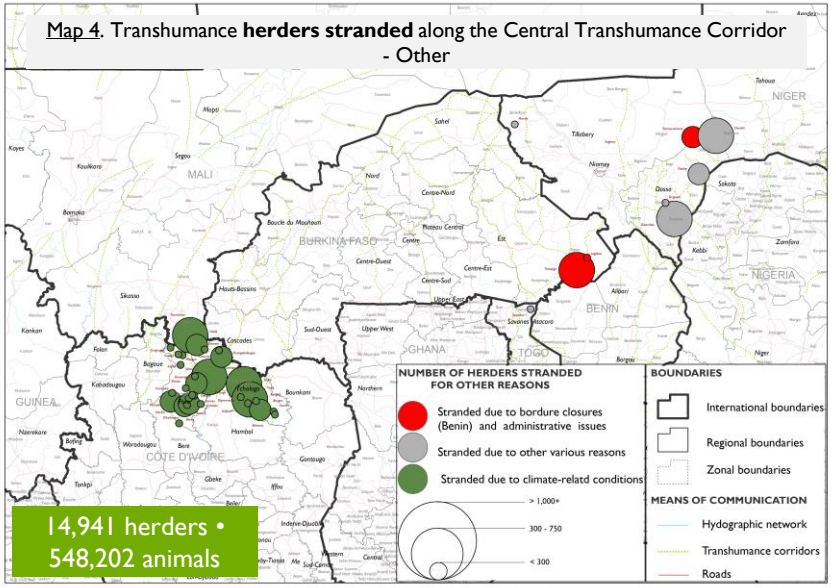
25 animals — Stranded: COVID-19

40 animals — Stranded: Other

Map 2. Transhumance **herders stranded** along the Central Transhumance Corridor - Security



Map 4. Transhumance **herders stranded** along the Central Transhumance Corridor - Other



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TRANSHUMANCE TRACKING TOOL (TTT – DTM)

MAPPING of STRANDED HERDERS • INTENTIONS

DASHBOARD #1
Data collected: January 2021
Publication : February 2021

MOVEMENT INTENTIONS IN THE 3 MONTHS FOLLOWING THE SURVEY

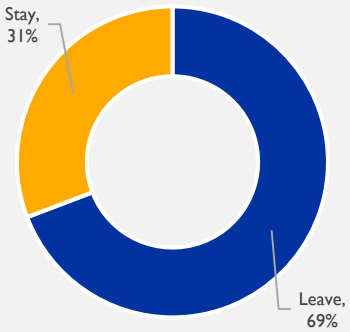
More than two-thirds (69%) of the cross-border stranded transhumant herders intend to leave their current place of residence in the three months following the survey (January/February).

In Niger, where many of the stranded herders are located, the majority plan on leaving their current place of residence to return to their country of origin or to move to another region in Niger. This is how Niger also turns out to be the main destination country for stranded herders. In fact, many of the herders stranded in Niger only intend to change region.

In Côte d'Ivoire, most of the stranded herders explain their presence by the availability of resources for their cattle (and the insufficiency of these same resources in their areas of origin). They consider themselves stranded because of poor pasture where they initially intended to be. Therefore, most of them want to stay in this country.

With regards to intended destinations, less than 12 per cent of herders plan to go to another country, 34 per cent plan to stay in their current country of residence but go to another region and 24 per cent intend to go back to their country of origin (31% plan on staying).

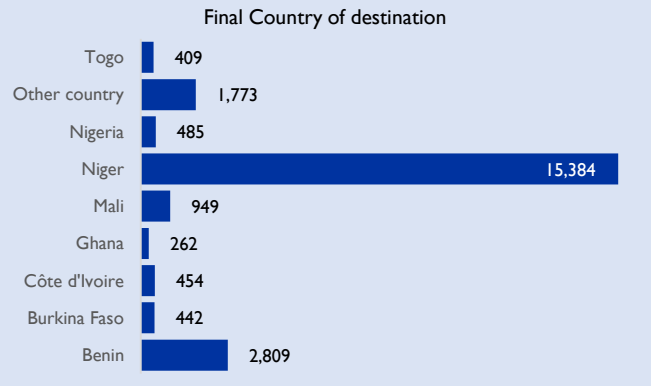
Chart 4. Intentions of cross-border herders



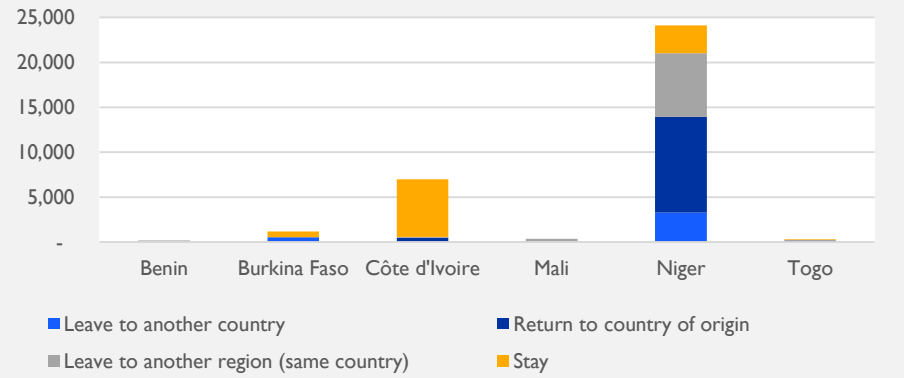
MOVEMENT INTENTIONS – FINAL INTENDED COUNTRY

33,180 herders

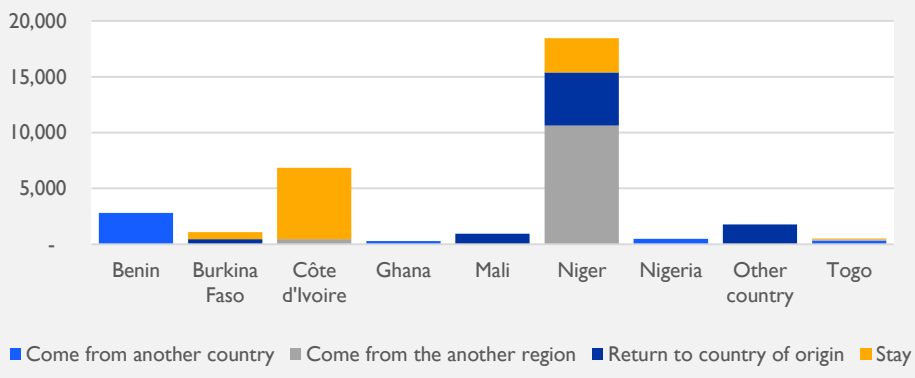
LEAVE			STAY
...to another country	...to another region	...to return home	
3,851 herders (12%)	11,203 herders (34%)	7,913 herders (24%)	10,213 herders (31%)



MOVEMENT INTENTION BY COUNTRY OF CURRENT RESIDENCE



EXPECTED COUNTRY OF DESTINATION OF HERDERS (intention)



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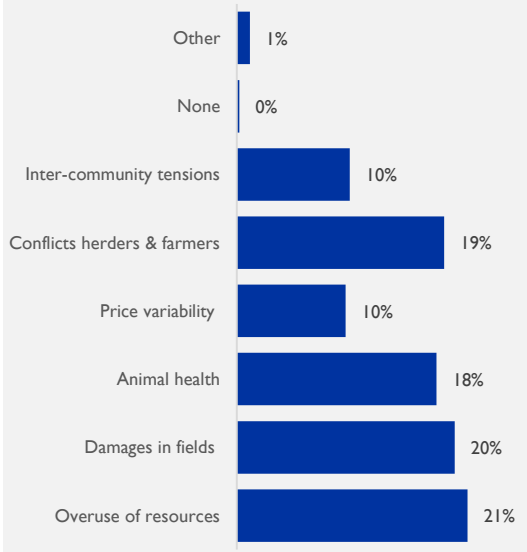
IMPACTS & RISKS

Key informants surveyed state that the overuse of resources on the localities in which transhumant herders are stranded (21%) as well as damages caused by their cattle in surrounding fields (20%) and more largely, conflicts between herders and farmers (19%) are potential causes for conflicts in their current place of residence (see Chart 5).

These findings are reflected into their answers related to the impacts of the situation, both on herders and on host communities. With regards to the first type of impact, herders explain that they are mostly affected by the loss of income (20%), food insecurity (21%) and the illness or death of their animals (22%).

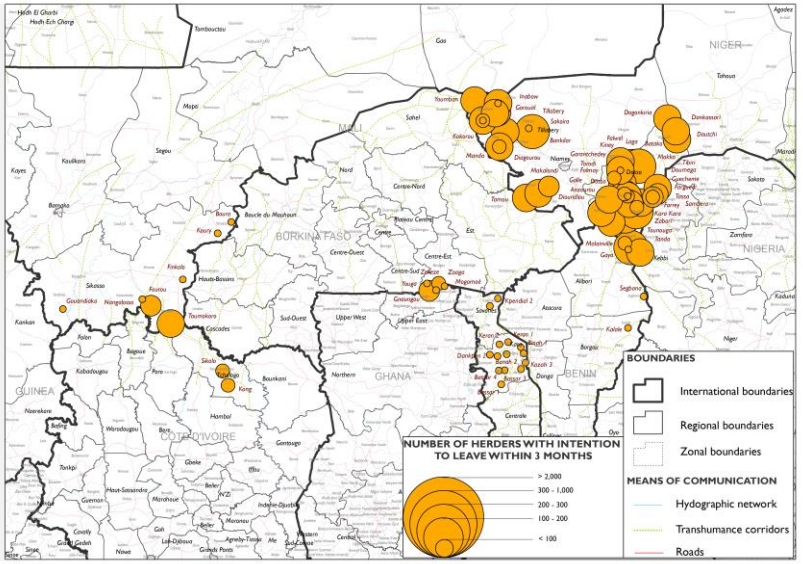
When asked on the impacts on localities, key informants mention conflicts between host communities and herders (18%) as well as a decrease in resources (20%) as the main consequences of the transhumant herders being stranded.

Chart 5. Potential risks associated with herders stranded in the locality

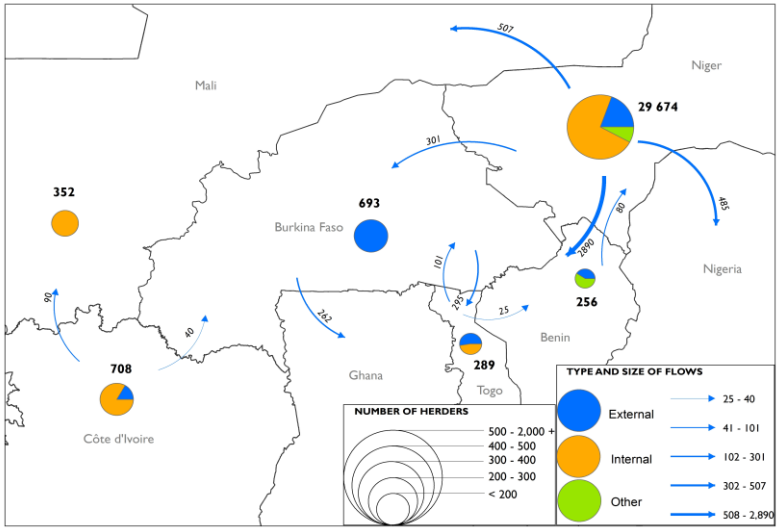


Map 5. Location of transhumant herders with the intention of leaving within 3 months : potential risk areas

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 but also potential conflicts between farmers and herders on these sites as to the use of water and grazing resources which could then become scarce.



Map 6. Location of transhumant herders with the intention of leaving within 3 months: intended destinations



Map 6 identifies the intended destinations within three months by stranded cross-border herders. As in the previous analysis on intentions, it can be noted that herders are mainly located in Niger and that many herders stranded in Niger want to stay there while changing region. This map allows to anticipate the potential arrivals of transhumant herders and their animals. In addition, despite closed borders, many of them want to go to Benin.

TRANSHUMANCE TRACKING TOOL (TTT – DTM)

MAPPING of STRANDED HERDERS • METHODOLOGY

DASHBOARD #1
Data collected: January 2021
Publication : February 2021

PROJECT

Project: IOM, through its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), works with the **Bilital Maroobe Network** (RBM) and its branches of pastoralist organizations to map the movements of transhumance herders along the Central Transhumance Corridor (CTC), in order to better understand the dynamics and characteristics of internal (nationals) and cross-border movements. This project endeavors to provide coherent analysis of cross-border transhumance flows along the CTC and to provide robust estimates of transhumant movements.

The mapping of stranded transhumance herders aims to provide estimates of transhumance herders and cattle currently **stranded at borders due to COVID-19 related restrictions such as borders closures or other security issues**, with the aim to inform the coming ECOWAS High-Level meeting promoting peaceful cross-border transhumance.

Cattle during transhumance, Sikasso, Mali, 2021

METHODOLOGY

Objective: The purpose of this mapping tool specific to the COVID-19 context is two-fold:

- Establish a map of herders and animals currently living in southern countries (Benin, Togo, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire) and which are stranded due to the exceptional situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Identify the regrouping points currently in use and which result from this COVID-19 situation and the resulting mobility restrictions.

Geographic Scope: The data collection focused on the coastal countries where transhumant herders and their cattle are currently stranded: Côte d'Ivoire, Togo, Benin ; as well as Sahelian countries (Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso) where herders are facing multiple challenges (security, mobility restrictions). In order to facilitate data collection, an administrative breakdown of these countries was made with a focus on regions and communes.

Source of information: The main source of information for this exercise was the network of key informants of RBM 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**, a survey was conducted with key informants in the region, in order to identify the communes hosting transhumant pastoralists stranded with their herds. The list of communes generated by this first step of data collection makes it possible to identify the communes where the second survey will be carried out. Thirteen questionnaires were completed at this level.

• **At the commune level,** data was collected from key informants who could provide information on transhumant pastoralists stranded with their herds. The questionnaire identified the specific areas where these transhumant pastoralists and their herds were stranded. The form also identified the potential risks associated with the stay of transhumant herders in this area and their future intentions. 205 questionnaires for 148 communes were completed at this level.

Modalities: because certain areas were lacking in electricity and mobile network, most data collection was done on paper. Country focal points oversaw uploading the data onto the IOM/RBM Kobo.

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