



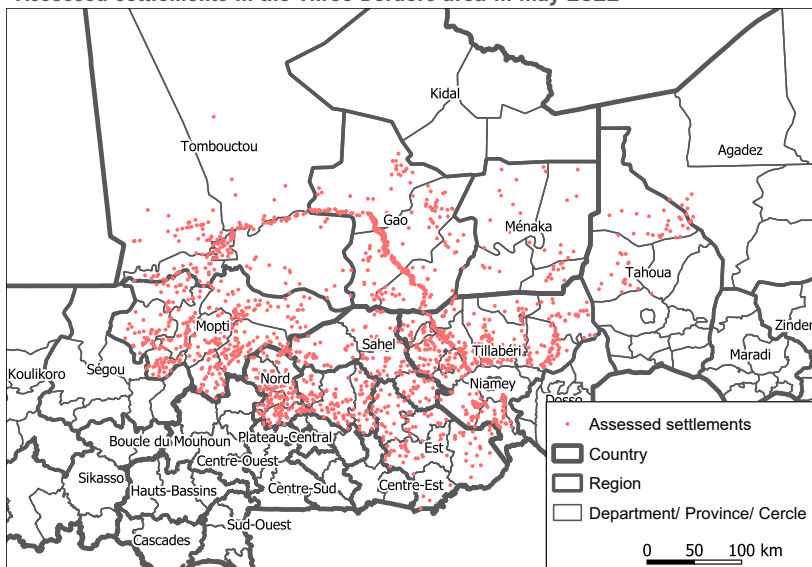
# Humanitarian Situation Monitoring (HSM)

## Three Borders area | Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger

May 2022

### Geographical coverage

#### Assessed settlements in the Three Borders area in May 2022



### Admin 2 (province, cercle, department) covered

**Burkina Faso (province)** | Bam, Namentenga, Sanmatenga, Gnagna, Gourma, Komondjari, Kompienga, Tapoa, Loroum, Passore, Yatenga, Zondoma, Oudalan, Seno, Soum, Yagha

**Mali (cercle)** | Bourem, Gao, Ansongo, Anderamboukane, Inekar, Menaka, Tidermene, Bandiagara, Bankass, Djénne, Douentza, Koro, Mopti, Tenenkou, Youwarou, Dire, Goundam, Gourma-Rharous, Niafunke, Timbuktu

**Niger (department)** | Tassara, Tillia, Abala, Ayerou, Banibangou, Bankilare, Filingue, Gotheye, Ouallam, Say, Tera, Tillabery, Torodi

### Assessment coverage

- 2 306 KIs interviewed**
  - 1 997 had visited the settlements in the last 30 days
  - 309 had been in contact (in person / phone) with someone from the settlement in the last 30 days
- 1 911 settlements assessed**
- 49 / 49 Admin 2 assessed with 5% coverage or more**

### Context overview

Since the beginning of the 2012 crisis, the population of the border zone between Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger ('Liptako-Gourma' region) has been affected by the consequences of community-based conflicts, owing to the socio-economic challenges and access to scarce resources such as land and water. These conflicts have been exploited by armed groups, causing the displacement of more than **2.1 millions IDPs** as of June 2021<sup>4</sup>. Consequences of heightened and frequent insecurity spread across the three countries, limiting access to vulnerable populations and creating information gaps about their urgent needs. To address this information gap faced by the humanitarian response in the Three Borders area, REACH conducts a monthly Humanitarian Situation and needs Monitoring (HSM), in collaboration with clusters and the humanitarian community. This project aims to provide overviews of the dynamics in the region and the needs in the region's hotspots. All the information products are available on the [Reach Resource Center](#).

### Methodology

REACH employs its 'Area of Knowledge' to collect information in hard-to-reach areas. This methodology aims to collect, analyse and share up-to-date information regarding multisector humanitarian needs, access to basic services and population displacements. It also allows data collection in hard-to-reach settlements. Data is collected at settlement-level through Key informants (KIs), and is aggregated at the Admin 1, 2 and 3 level. Selected KIs are purposively sampled and have recent and precise knowledge about a specific settlement of the Three Borders area. When assessed settlements have more than one KI reporting on the settlement, data is aggregated at the settlement level. Data is only reported for Admin 2 in which 5% of settlements have been assessed.

This Situation Overview presents data collected between the **4th and the 20th of May 2021**. Unless otherwise specified, all percentages represent the proportion of settlements assessed where KIs have reported that specific response for the majority of the population of the settlement in a 30-days period prior to the data collection. **Therefore, findings presented in this product should be considered as indicative.**

### Key results

		Burkina Faso				Mali			Niger	
% of assessed settlements where KIs have reported:		C-N <sup>1</sup>	Est	Nord	Sahel	Gao	Mopti	Menaka	Tbkt <sup>1</sup>	Tahoua
	The presence of internally displaced persons (IDPs)	93%	54%	91%	82%	28%	66%	48%	13%	9%
	The arrival of new IDPs during the past month	42%	16%	15%	21%	20%	13%	62%	0%	15%
	The arrival of returnees during the past month	25%	60%	36%	0%	28%	41%	0%	15%	0%
	Lack of access to enough food for the majority of the population	34%	66%	98%	59%	51%	76%	63%	57%	88%
	Disruption of livelihoods for the majority of the population	10%	47%	48%	19%	44%	77%	65%	52%	43%
	No access to functioning health services within walking distance	3%	7%	8%	7%	24%	19%	50%	57%	1%
	No access to functioning nutrition services within walking distance	0%	4%	2%	3%	39%	38%	64%	44%	15%
	Insufficient access to water	29%	44%	67%	78%	32%	24%	63%	52%	39%
	The majority of IDPs not living in adequate conditions <sup>2,3</sup>	21%	93%	73%	39%	74%	87%	81%	71%	78%
	No access to functioning educational services within walking distance	27%	88%	32%	93%	40%	54%	76%	45%	24%
	The majority of the population not feeling safe	40%	79%	57%	80%	53%	95%	67%	66%	41%

1. In this Factsheet the following abbreviations are used : C-N for the Centre-Nord region ; Tbkt for the Timbuktu region

2. Percentage calculated on the total number of settlements where KIs reported the presence of these population groups in the settlement in the 30 days prior to data collection

3. The definition of «adequate condition of living» is left to the discretion of the KIs.

4. World Food Programme. [Central Sahel Situation Report](#), June 2021; these figures represent the total number of registered IDP and refugees in the three countries (Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger), and not only in the regions assessed by the HSM.

5. KIs could select all relevant options to answer this question

6. The definition of « within walking distance » and « functioning market » is left to the discretion of the KIs



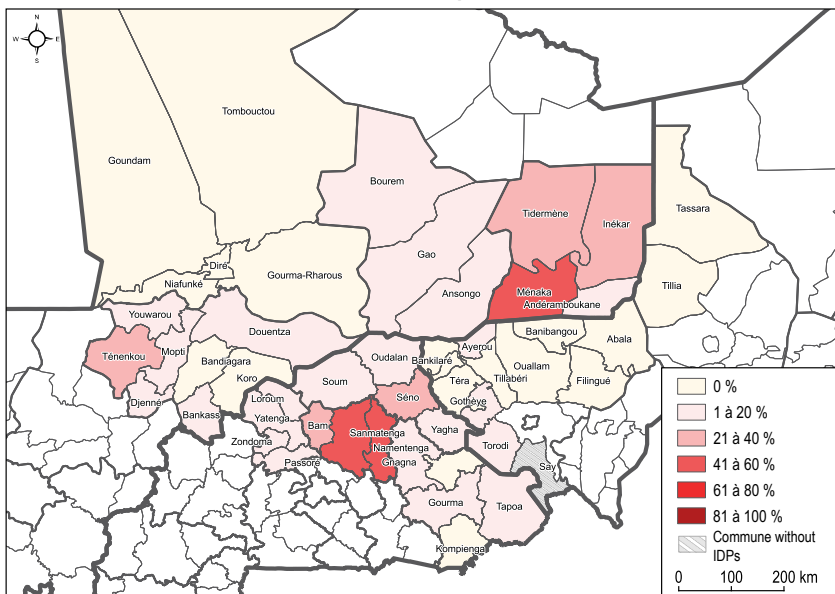
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### Displacement and population movements

% of assessed settlements where KIs have reported recent arrival of IDPs:



Over the first semester 2022, displacements persisted in the 3 Borders Area. In Burkina Faso, the number of IDPs in the first half of 2022 exceeded the number of IDPs in 2021<sup>8</sup>. In Menaka (Mali), where the situation has gradually deteriorated since January, KIs reported arrivals of IDPs within the last 30 days in 62% of the assessed settlements. In Niger, several waves of displacement occurred on the right bank of the Niger River, especially in the departments of Torodi, Gotheve, and Tera, from early May to early June<sup>8</sup>. The regions where the largest proportion of assessed settlements with returnees presence were Timbuktu (Mali) and the Sahel and the Nord regions (Burkina Faso). Despite a volatile security context, the main reasons for returns were the lack of access to livelihood in the host settlement, to take care of relatives stayed in the settlement (Timbuktu), poor living conditions in the host settlement and improvement of security conditions in the settlement of origin (Sahel, Nord).

### Main push factors triggering population displacement for IDPs (% of assessed settlements in the Three Borders area)<sup>2</sup>:

Violence in settlement of origin	72%	
Preventive displacement	20%	
Inter/intra-community tensions	4%	

Top 3 regions with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported the presence of IDPs / returnees / refugees:

IDPs	Returnees	Refugees
1 C-N <sup>1</sup> 93%	1 Tckt <sup>1</sup> 28%	1 Nord 4%
2 Nord 91%	2 Sahel 11%	2 Sahel 2%
3 Sahel 82%	3 Nord 9%	3 Tahoua 2%

Widespread insecurity, remained the main factor triggering IDPs movements. In the three countries, security incidents in the settlement of origin were reported as the main reason for displacement among most IDPs present in a large majority of the assessed settlements. In Mali, preventative displacement was reported as the main reason for the displacement of IDPs present in more than 20% of assessed settlements, according to KIs. Community-based tensions seemed to be an important push factor in Menaka (19% of assessed settlement) and Mopti (10%).

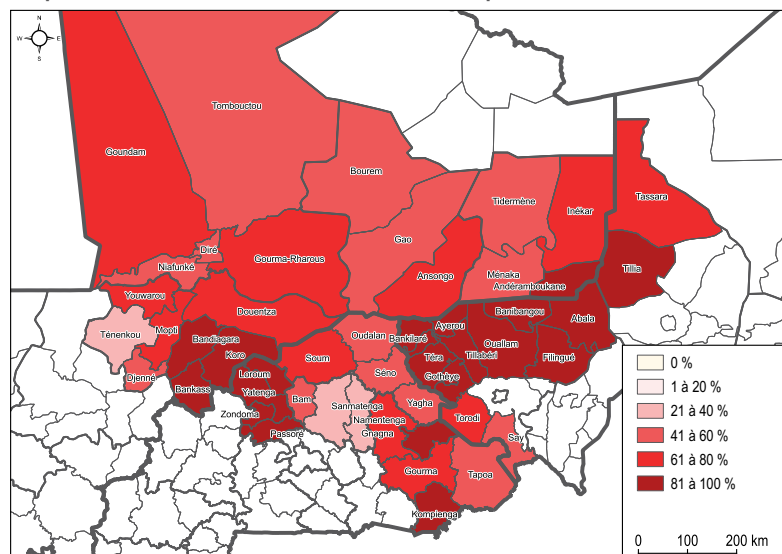
### Food Security and Livelihood

At the start of the 2022 lean season, the situation regarding food insecurity in the Three Border area was alarming. According to KIs, the majority of the population in 71% of total assessed settlements experienced food scarcity (compared to 60% in May 2021). In Tahoua, Tillabery and the Nord regions, this proportion exceeded 85%. Across all 3 Borders zone (100% of assessed settlements), KIs reported an increase in cereals prices, preventing populations from accessing food. Indeed, in 74% of the assessed settlement, KIs reported that high prices / lack of financial resources was the main factor explaining difficulties to access food. Added to that, food stocks had reportedly depleted in 65% of the assessed settlement, with a higher proportion in the Nord (90%), in the Est (88%), in the Sahel (83%) and in Mopti (71%) regions. In Tahoua, lack of access to food seemed to be combined with the lack of cattle and restricted access to functioning markets. According to KIs, the halting of humanitarian food distributions in Mopti and Timbuktu was the main cause of the lack of access to food items (in more than 1/2 of assessed settlement).

% of assessed settlements where KIs reported the absence of functioning markets within a walking distance and main reason (Three Borders area / Top 3 regions)<sup>5,6</sup>:

Three Borders area	16%	Absence of market <sup>7</sup>
Tahoua	52%	Absence of market <sup>7</sup>
Timbuktu	52%	Lack of transport
Menaka	52%	Insecurity

Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported a lack of access to food:



% of assessed settlements in the Three Borders area where KIs reported that the majority of the population had access to their usual livelihood:



7. Within walking distance.

8. Groupe de Coordination Opérationnelle de la Réponse Rapide. [Situation des alertes et PDI dans les régions](#) au Burkina

Faso, Juin 2022. OCHA. [Rapport de situation au Niger](#). Juin 2022.



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### Health and Nutrition

% of assessed settlements where KIs reported the absence of functioning health services within a walking distance and main reason of the access constraint (Three Borders area / Top 3 regions)<sup>5 6 9</sup>:

Three Borders area	17%	Health services too far away
Timbuktu	57%	Health services too far away
Menaka	50%	Health services too far away
Tahoua	44%	Health services too far away

According to KIs, although health facilities exist in 83% of assessed settlements, access remains difficult because of the long distance between the settlement and the closest functioning health facility. As a consequence of insecurity, local health services were reportedly closed in a large part of the assessed settlements in the Sahel (71%), in Tillabery (50%), in the Nord (33%) and in the Est (27%) regions<sup>9</sup>. Destruction of infrastructures was also reported in the Centre-Nord (33%), in the Sahel (29%) and in Tahoua (11%) regions<sup>9</sup>. In Mali, insecurity led to health workers displacements in Menaka (37%) and in Timbuktu (29%)<sup>9</sup>.

### Shelters and Non Food Items (NFI)

% of assessed settlements where the majority of IDPs were not reportedly living in adequate housing conditions (Three Borders area / Top 3 regions)<sup>2 3</sup>:

Three Borders area	69%
Est	93%
Mopti	87%
Menaka	81%

Top 3 main reasons why the majority of IDPs was not living in adequate conditions (% of assessed settlements)<sup>2 3 10</sup>:

- 1 Shelter does not guarantee intimacy standards 60%
- 2 Shelter does not guarantee protection 11%
- 3 High risk of eviction 11%

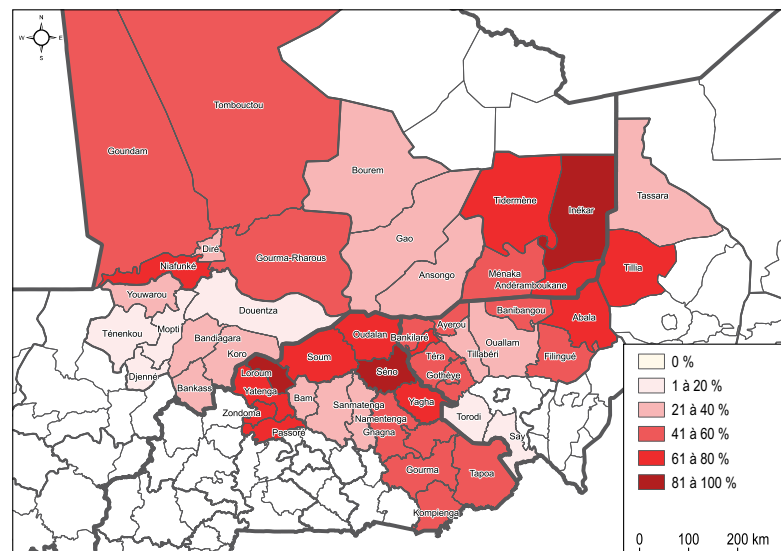
Regarding shelter conditions, KIs reported that the majority of the host communities was living in solid shelters or traditional huts in about 90% of total assessed settlements. On the other hand, the situation seems more unstable for displaced communities. In 69% of assessed settlements of the 3 Borders Area, KIs reported that the majority of IDPs were not living in adequate housing conditions. The main factor of this problem was mainly related to a lack of protection / intimacy in the shelter, which increases the exposure of vulnerable populations (women, children) to the risks of violence. In Niger, eviction appeared to be higher in Tillabery (30% of assessed settlement). However, in the 3 Borders Area, KIs reported that the majority of IDPs seemed to be welcomed to the host communities in 78 % of the assessed settlements. Some tensions appeared to be latent in localised zones, where KIs reported that the relationship between host communities and IDPs was fragile, particularly in Menaka (17% of assessed settlement) and in the Sahel (15%) regions.

9. Percentage calculated on the total number of settlements where KIs reported that the majority of the population did not have access to functioning health services in the last 30 days.

10. Percentage calculated on the proportion of settlements where KIs reported that the majority of IDPs were not living in

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported insufficient access to water to cover households needs:



% of assessed settlements where KIs reported handwashing without soap or ash for the majority of the population (Three Borders area / Top 3 regions):

Three Borders area	75%
Tillabery	88%
Nord	90%
Sahel	78%

Access to clean water in the Three Borders area remains limited. According to KIs, the majority of the population had access to enough water to cover household needs in about one settlement out of two (41% of assessed settlements) amongst assessed settlements in the whole area, notably in Burkina Faso (55%). In Burkina Faso, the large number of displaced populations increased pressure on infrastructures and led to long waiting time at the water sources, according to KIs. In Mali, access to water has largely deteriorated in the northern regions, while it appears to have improved in the center (Mopti). However, insecurity still seems to be an important factor in preventing groups of population from accessing vital resources. KIs in the Malian regions of Menaka indicated that populations could not access to their usual water source because of insecurity in 52% of assessed settlements. In Niger, the populations of the northern departments of Tillabery and Tahoua are critical regarding access to drinking water. In the 3 Borders zone, the quality of water was reportedly mostly described as poor to be generally poor, with cloudy water reported in 14% of the total of assessed localities. These proportion were higher in Burkina Faso (21%) and in Mali (15%).

% of assessed settlements where KIs reported that the majority of the population did not use latrines (Three Borders area / Top 3 regions):

Three Borders area	53%
Nord	78%
Tahoua	77%
Tillabery	76%

adequate conditions.

11. KIs were asked which humanitarian sectors they thought were priorities in their settlement. They could choose up to three priority areas of intervention.



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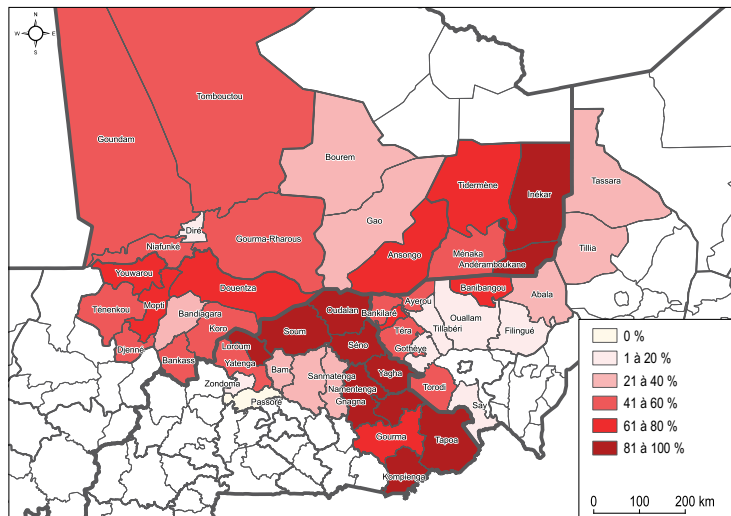
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### Education

Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported lack of access to functioning education services within walking distance<sup>6</sup>:



Main occupation of girls and boys when not attending schools (% of locations assessed)<sup>13</sup>:

- 1 Domestic work 47%
- 2 Work outside 20%
- 3 Leisure 18%

In the 3 Borders zone, KIs indicated that the majority of the population in 46% of assessed settlements did not have access to functioning education services within a walking distance. The situation seems even more critical in Niger (Tillabery, Tahoua) and in Burkina Faso (Centre-Nord, Nord). In the 3 countries, according to KIs, the main reasons explaining the lack of access to education services was the insufficient number / total absence of education workers and teachers. In 76% of assessed settlements, KIs reported that the population did not have any strategy to cope with a lack of access to education<sup>13</sup>.

### Accountability to Affected Populations

% of assessed settlements where at least part of the population received humanitarian assistance:

Three Borders area 20%

Centre-Nord	66%		Tahoua	21%	
Timbuktu	43%		Mopti	13%	
Gao	28%		Tillabery	10%	
Menaka	28%		Est	9%	
Sahel	24%		Nord	4%	

Top 3 priority sectors of humanitarian intervention for the majority of the population (% of assessed settlements in each country)<sup>11</sup>:

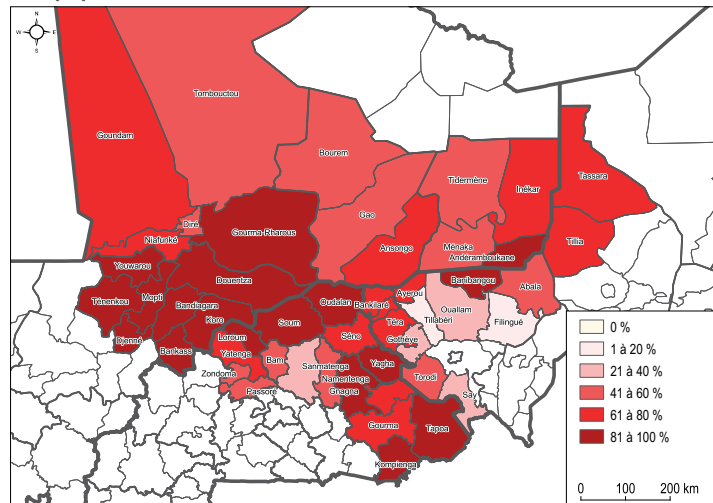
Burkina Faso	Mali	Niger
1 Food sec. <sup>12</sup> 93%	1 Food sec. <sup>12</sup> 83%	1 Food sec. <sup>12</sup> 82%
2 WASH 50%	2 Livelihood 39%	2 WASH 44%
3 Cash 38%	3 WASH 36%	3 Health 32%

<sup>12</sup>. Food security.

<sup>13</sup>. Percentage calculated on the total number of settlements where KIs reported that the majority of the population did not

### Protection

Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported that the majority of the population did not feel secure:



Main protection concerns (% of assessed settlements in the Three Borders area)<sup>4</sup>:

Violence (armed groups)	58%	
Cattle theft	35%	
Movement restrictions	24%	
Criminality	24%	

Perception of insecurity amongst the population remained very strong across the whole area. In the whole Three Borders zone, the majority of the population did not feel safe in the settlement in more than half (64%) of all assessed settlements, according to KIs. This perception of insecurity was particularly widespread in the region of Mopti (95%) and in the Sahel (80%), and has significantly deteriorated in Menaka, on the East of the Est region, in the North of the Nord region, and on the right bank of the Niger River in the départements bordering Burkina Faso. Violence by armed groups and repercussion on civilian populations seemed to remain the main concern regarding protection issues. In Mali, incidents in which civilians were killed or seriously injured were reported in 51% of assessed settlements (38% in May 2021). In Burkina Faso, exposure to IEDs, restrictions on movements, and kidnapping were commonly mentioned as main security concerns.

### Communication

% of assessed settlements where a stable telephone network did not exist (Three Borders area / Top 3 regions):

Three Borders area	45%	
Menaka	93%	
Gao	71%	
Sahel	62%	

Difficulties in accessing to information about humanitarian assistance affected the population of 26% of total assessed settlements in the three countries, while some regions appeared more isolated. In the Est and the Menaka regions, this issue concerned more than 6/10 assessed settlements in each region, according to KIs. A stable telephone network was reportedly non-existent in 45% of assessed settlements, with a higher proportion in Menaka (93%), in Gao (71%) and in the Sahel (62%). A limited access to a stable telephone network combined with acute insecurity further isolated populations, preventing them from accessing informations and aid.

have access to functioning educational services in the last 30 days.



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