

### Introduction

The continuation of conflict in Northeast Nigeria has created a complex humanitarian crisis, rendering sections of Adamawa and Borno states as hard-to-reach (H2R) for humanitarian actors. To support the humanitarian response for affected populations, REACH has been conducting data collection in Northeast Nigeria since November 2018. These H2R assessments aim to provide information on the situation of the estimated 971,000<sup>1</sup> persons living in H2R areas to humanitarian service providers, including demographics, (inter)sectoral needs, access to services, displacement trends, and movement intentions. Additionally, the assessment has been broadened to include indicators related to COVID-19 to monitor for potential localized outbreaks. This Situation Overview covers four local government areas<sup>2</sup> (LGAs) in Adamawa State (Madagali, Michika, Mubi North and Mubi South<sup>3</sup>) and twelve LGAs in Borno State (Abadam, Askira/Uba, Bama, Damboa, Dikwa, Gubio, Gwoza, Konduga, Kukawa, Magumeri, Marte and Ngala, see Map 1).

### Methodology

Using the Area of Knowledge (AoK) method, REACH remotely monitors the situation in H2R areas through monthly multi-sector interviews in accessible LGA capitals with key informants (KIs) who are either (1) newly arrived internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have left a H2R settlement in the last month prior to the data collection or (2) KIs who have had contact with someone living in or having been in a H2R settlement in the last month (traders, migrants, family members, etc).

Data collection took place from 1 July to 30 September 2020. Due to precautions related to the COVID-19 outbreak, data was collected remotely with assistance from local stakeholders. The local stakeholders were located in 13 garrison towns in Borno: Bama, Damboa, Dikwa, Gubio, Guzamala, Gwoza, Konduga, Magumeri, Monguno, Damboa, Maiduguri, Ngala and Pulka. **Findings are only reported on LGAs where at least 5% of the populated settlements and at least 5 settlements in the respective LGA have been assessed<sup>4</sup>.** Unless otherwise stated, the recall period for each question is one month prior to the last information the KI has had from the H2R area.

KIs were purposively sampled and interviewed on settlement-wide circumstances in H2R areas, rather than their individual experiences. Responses from KIs reporting on the same settlement were then aggregated to the settlement level. The response provided by the greatest number of KIs for each settlement is reported. When no most common response could be identified, the response was considered as 'no consensus'. While included in the calculations, the percentages of settlements for which no consensus was reached are not always displayed in the results. Unless otherwise specified, findings are presented as a proportion of assessed settlements within the LGA.

In this report, quantitative data is triangulated with information from in-depth interviews (IDIs) when possible. Two rounds of semi-structured IDIs were conducted remotely to assess (1) the COVID-19 communication and information flow and (2) the sources of food and access to livelihood opportunities of the population living in H2R areas of Borno. Across the two rounds, REACH conducted 58 IDIs in total. The IDIs completed were with participants from Bama (18), Gwoza (15), Damboa (14), Abadam (6) and Guzamala(4).<sup>5</sup>

**H2R data is indicative only and not statistically generalisable and, therefore, must be triangulated with other sources.** More information on the methodology can be found in the [H2R Terms of Reference \(ToR\)](#).

### Key Highlights

**Remaining Populations:** In Borno, the most commonly reported main reason to remain was that people were afraid of travelling. In Adamawa, the main reason people were reported to be staying in the H2R settlements was because they did not want to leave the settlement.

**Protection:** Incidents of abduction of boys and girls were reported to have taken place in all assessed LGAs, as well as incidents of conflict resulting in the death of a civilian. All those types of incidents were particularly commonly reported in Marte, while abductions of boys and girls appeared to be most common in Gwoza.

**Food Security:** Indicative of inadequate access to food, a wide range of coping strategies for accessing food were reportedly used by people in H2R settlements across all assessed LGAs. In the majority of assessed settlements in Bama, Dikwa, Gwoza and Magumeri, it was reported most people ate one meal per day or less.

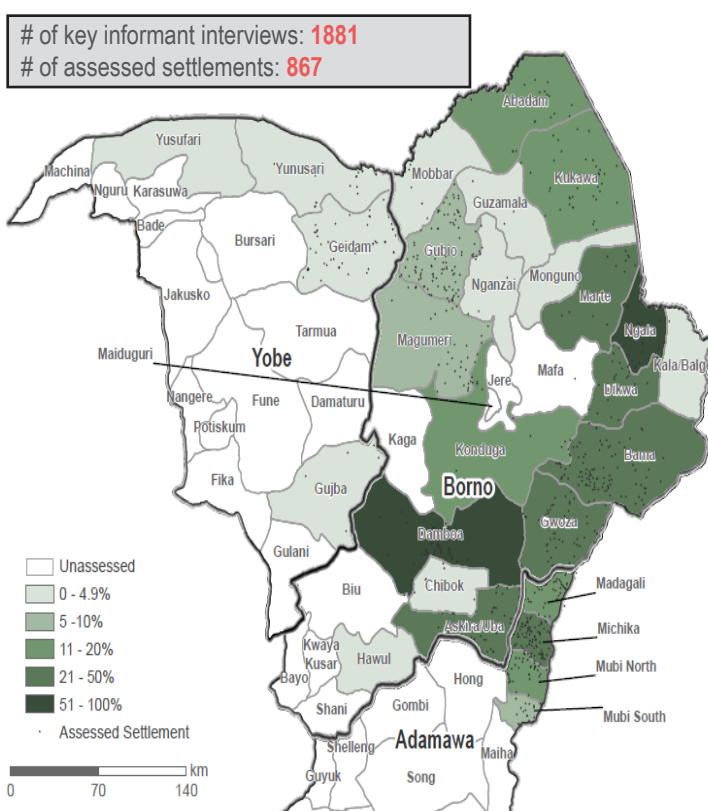
**Health:** Access to functional healthcare services appeared to be limited in most assessed settlements in Borno; the proportion of assessed settlements with reported access to healthcare was higher in Adamawa.

**WASH:** In the majority of assessed settlements, the main drinking water sources were found to be unimproved sources.<sup>6</sup> The lowest proportions of settlements where latrine use was reported include Abadam, Gubio, Konduga, Kukawa, Magumeri and Marte.

**Shelter:** Shelters damage or destruction due to conflict was reported in more than half of the assessed settlements.

**Communication:** Means of communication appeared to be less available in assessed settlements in Borno's LGAs than in Adamawa, with the main source of information most often reported as in-person communication in Borno and radio in Adamawa.

**Map 1: Proportion of settlements assessed, 1 July 2020 - 30 September 2020**



<sup>1</sup> UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. Nigeria: 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview

<sup>2</sup> LGAs represent one administrative level below the state level, with Borno state comprising of 27 LGAs.

<sup>3</sup> Mubi North and Mubi South are considered more accessible compared to the other LGAs introduced in this report. However, due to the large number of displacements observed in July, they were included in the data collection. See the IOM ETT Reports: No. 179, 180 and 181 for information on displacements.

<sup>4</sup> LGA level data is only represented for LGAs in which at least 5% of populated settlements and where at least 5 settlements have been assessed. The most recent version of the VTS dataset (released in February 2019 on [vts.eocnig.org](https://vts.eocnig.org)) has been used as the reference for settlement names and locations, and adjusted for deserted villages (OCHA 2020).

<sup>5</sup> Due to lack of coverage, Guzamala is not included in this report.

<sup>6</sup> Unimproved water sources reported during data collection were river and unprotected wells, while the improved water sources reported were boreholes and protected wells. For more information on definitions of unimproved/improved water sources, see: [https://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/monitoring/jmp2012/key\\_terms/en/](https://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/monitoring/jmp2012/key_terms/en/)



### Demographics



In **99%** of the assessed settlements, KIs reported that members of the **original host communities** who had never been displaced were present.



In **66%** of the assessed settlements, KIs reported presence of **IDPs**.



In **59%** of the assessed settlements, KIs reported presence of **returnees**.

In Adamawa, a higher proportion of assessed settlements was reported to have IDP presence compared to Borno (87% and 58% of assessed settlements, respectively). Within the fully inaccessible<sup>7</sup> LGAs assessed in Borno, the proportion of settlements with reported IDP presence was remarkably high in Abadam (65% of assessed settlements), Kukawa (64%) and Marte (45%). The proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported the presence of returnees was also higher in Adamawa than Borno (87% and 49% of assessed settlements, respectively). Since data collection coincided with the harvest season of millet, maize and sorghum, the reported presence of returnees could be temporary and associated to the start of the harvest season.

In Borno, the most commonly reported reason to remain was that people were afraid of travelling (46%). This was reported in more than 80% of assessed settlements in Bama (94%), Gwoza (91%), Marte (82%) and Ngala (85%). By contrast, in Adamawa, the most commonly reported reason why people remained in the settlement was that people did not want to leave (32% of assessed settlements). Additionally, in Kukawa (74%), Damboa (72%), Gubio (53%), and in Abadam (46%), the most commonly reported incentive to remain was that people did not want to leave the settlement. People choosing to remain in around half or more of the assessed settlements in Kukawa, Damboa, Gubio and Abadam may indicate that the situation was not as dire compared to other areas.

### Movement<sup>8</sup>

As seen in Map 2, almost half of the KIs from Borno and Adamawa states had reportedly travelled to a garrison town in their LGA of origin, suggesting people were choosing to travel to the closest urban location available (46% overall). However, in Adamawa, KIs from Mubi South, Madagali and Michika reportedly often travelled to Maiduguri (54%, 43% and 34%, respectively). In Mubi South and Michika, an equal proportion of KIs also went to Mubi North (46% and 31%, respectively). Likewise, in Borno, despite not being from the LGAs closest to Maiduguri, the majority of KIs from Kukawa, Abadam, Askira/Uba and Magumeri reported travelling to Maiduguri (85%, 69%, 66% and 51%, respectively). In Marte, KIs most commonly reported Ngala as the main travelling destination, which neighbours Marte. Similar proportions of KIs from Konduga reportedly travelled to the Konduga garrison town (43%) and Maiduguri (50%), as did those from Damboa (49% and 50%, respectively). During the IDIs, the most common reasons for leaving H2R settlements were conflict related attacks and looting.

### Arrival at IDP Camps<sup>9</sup>

Hand washing and temperature screenings for new arrivals at IDP camps could help slow the spread of COVID-19. Of KIs who had left H2R areas one month prior to data collection (64%):



**62%** reported having been asked to **wash and/or sanitise their hands** when they arrived at the IDP camp.



**31%** reported their **temperature was measured** when they arrived at the IDP camp.

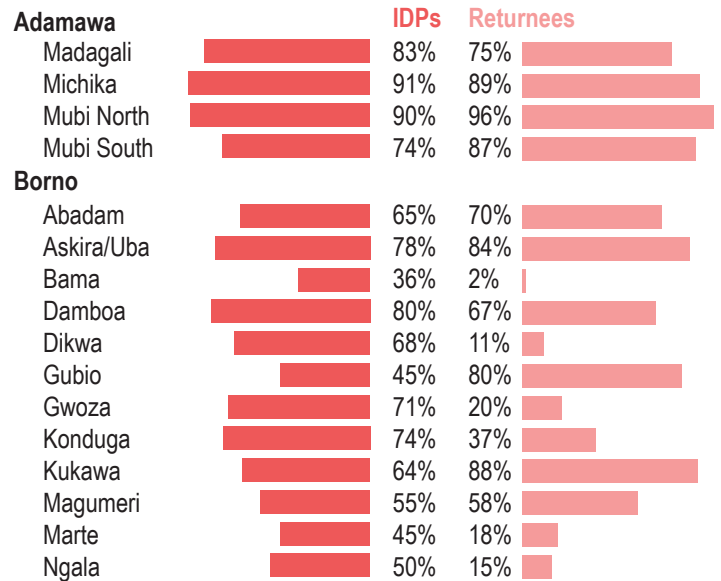
Furthermore, those KIs (64%) were also asked if they faced any challenges when entering other garrison towns or camps, to which the majority (80%) replied that they did not have any trouble entering.

<sup>7</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. Nigeria: 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview. Abadam, Guzamala, Marte and Kukawa are the four LGAs considered fully inaccessible.

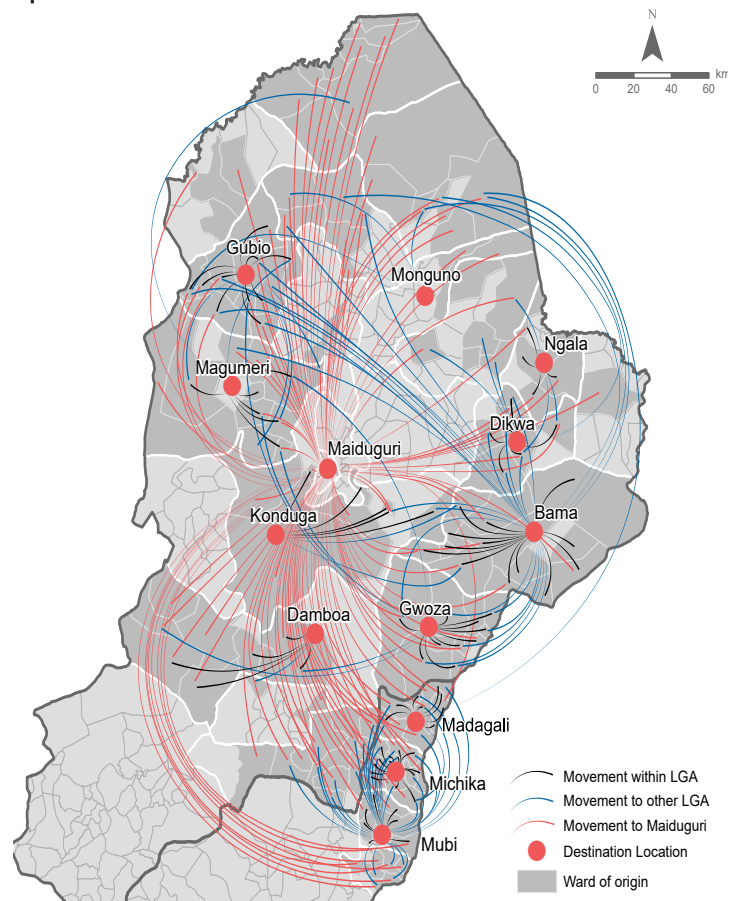
<sup>8</sup> Data presented in this section refers to findings at the individual KI level, not at the settlement level.

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**Figure 1: Proportion of assessed settlements where IDPs and returnees were reportedly present, by LGA**



**Map 2: Reported origin and destination of IDPs from H2R areas, 1 April 2020 - 30 June 2020**



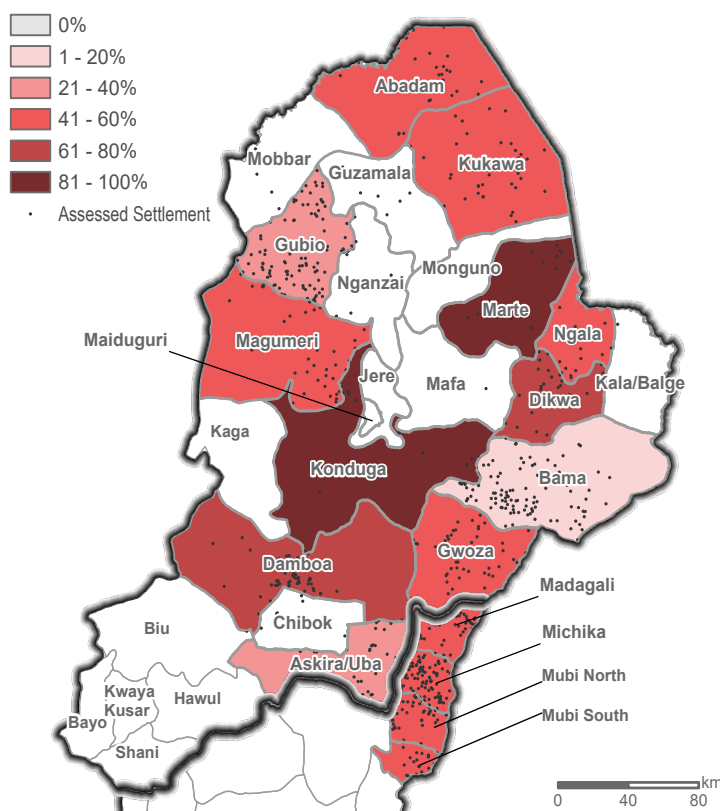


### Protection

In the majority of LGAs assessed in Adamawa, KIs reported that the perceived safety of most people in their settlements had improved, while in Borno, KIs reported that the perceived safety of most people in their settlements had worsened compared to the previous month (see Figure 2).

In all assessed LGAs, an incident of conflict resulting in the death of a civilian(s) had reportedly taken place in at least 20% of assessed settlements in both states (45% overall). The highest proportions of assessed settlements where this was reported were in Konduga (95%) and Marte (82%), both in Borno (see Map 3). With reference to Konduga, although its proximity to Maiduguri and major roadways would generally be considered a positive factor, its vicinity to an area of major concern for parties to the conflict may likely increase the protection risks for communities in H2R settlements in this particular LGA.

**Map 3: Proportion of assessed settlements where at least one incident of conflict resulting in the death of a civilian had reportedly happened in the month prior to data collection**



As shown in Figure 3, in 95% of all assessed settlements in Borno and Adamawa states, men were reportedly free to move within the settlement. Concerning women, the proportion of assessed settlements where women were reportedly free to move within the settlement varied considerably between Adamawa to Borno. In Borno, there appeared to be less freedom of movement for women, (in 62% of assessed settlements women were reportedly free to move) than in Adamawa (95%) where there seemed to be no significant difference between men and women in this regard.

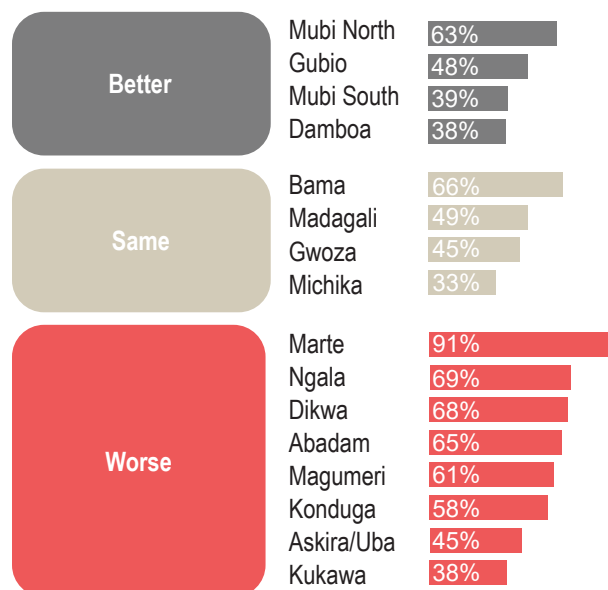


In all assessed LGAs, at least **25%** of assessed settlements were reported to have some **children living without a caregiver**.

In Adamawa, children living without a caregiver was most commonly reported in assessed settlements in Michika (89%) and Mubi South (87%), whilst in Borno, it was particularly reported in assessed settlements in Ngala (92%) and Askira/Uba (84%).

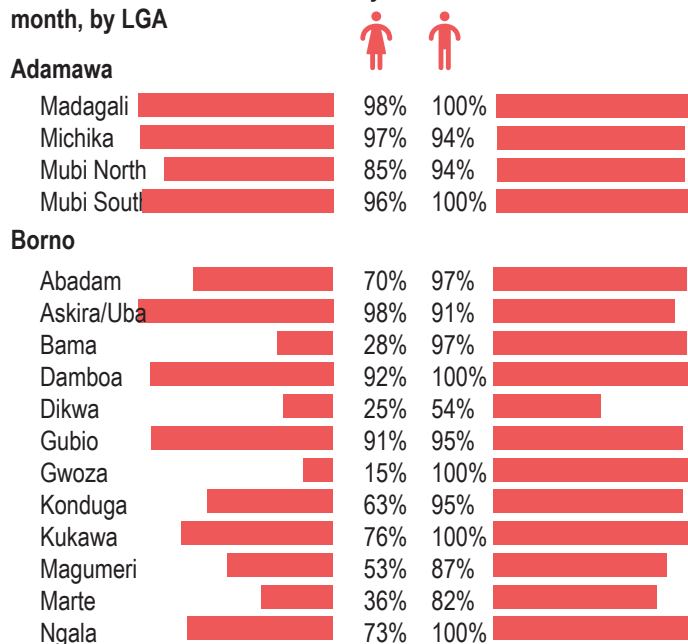
Abductions of girls, boys, women and men seemed to be most common

**Figure 2: Proportion of assessed settlements by most commonly reported perception of the security situation compared to the month prior to data collection, by LGA<sup>10</sup>**



in some eastern Borno LGAs, indicating that the conflict continues to have negative consequences on the lives of people remaining on those areas. The proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported abductions of girls and boys (45% and 41%, respectively) was higher than for where abductions of women and men were reported (35% and 34%, respectively). In Dikwa in Borno state, in most assessed settlements (79%), cases of abduction of girls were reported in the month prior to data collection, while in Adamawa state, the highest proportion of settlements where the same was reported was Madagali (53%). The proportion of settlements reporting abductions of boys was highest in Konduga (68%), Gwoza (66%), Marte (64%) and Bama (63%), all in Borno. The LGAs with the highest proportions of assessed settlements where women were reportedly abducted were in Borno (Dikwa 64%, Askira/Uba 62% and Bama 59%), whereas the LGA with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where abductions of men were reported was Bama (71%).

**Figure 3: Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported that women/men could move freely within the settlement in the last month, by LGA**



<sup>10</sup> The light shades correspond to the LGAs in Adamawa.

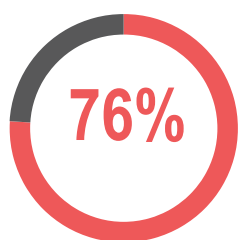


### Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL)

**Figure 4: Proportion of assessed settlements by most commonly reported livelihood activities engaged in by any community member in Adamawa, Borno and overall<sup>11</sup>**

	Adamawa	Borno
1	Subsistence farming 95%	Subsistence farming 84%
2	Rearing livestock 74%	Casual labour 42%
3	Casual labour 57%	Rearing livestock 28%
4	Market sellers or traders 21%	Hunting 21%
5	Hunting 5%	Fishing 19%

In addition to the most commonly reported main livelihoods activities illustrated in Figure 4, in Borno, people were also reportedly engaged in selling/trading in markets in Kukawa (31% of assessed settlements), Abadam (19%) and Konduga (11%), farming to sell also in Kukawa (17%) and Konduga (16%), and receiving remittances in Abadam (24%) and Kukawa (17%). According to the participants of IDIs, casual labour usually includes farming for others, cutting trees and constructing houses. Some participants described that people obtained food in exchange for casual labour, while others were paid with money.



**% of assessed settlements where KIs reported that most people did not have access to their usual livelihood activities.**

The proportion of assessed settlements where it was reported that most people did not have access to their usual livelihood activities varied greatly across both states. In Borno, the proportion of assessed settlement where this was reported was higher than in Adamawa (82% in Borno and 60% in Adamawa). Most people were reported not to have access to their usual livelihood activities in the majority of assessed settlements in Madagali (74%) in Adamawa, and in Marte (100%), Ngala (100%), Bama (97%), Gwoza (97%), Magumeri (97%), Kukawa (95%), Dikwa (93%), Damboa (92%), Abadam (89%) and Konduga (84%), in Borno. In Adamawa, the

**Figure 5: In those settlements where KIs reported most people could not access their usual livelihoods activity (76%), this was reportedly due to the inaccessibility of the following resources, by % of assessed settlements per state\***

	Adamawa	Borno
1	Seeds for farming 37%	Transportation 72%
2	Transportation 36%	Markets for buying/selling 71%
3	Land for animal grazing 35%	Seeds for farming 46%
4	Health 32%	Waterways for fishing 34%
5	Markets for buying/selling 4%	Land for animal grazing 30%
6	Land for farming 19%	Health 30%

same was reported in a smaller proportion of assessed settlements in Michika (68%), Mubi South (65%) and, in only a small proportion of the assessed settlements in Mubi North (21%), while in Borno, it was also reported in a smaller proportion in Askira/Uba (52%) and Gubio (50%).

As seen in Figure 5, in Adamawa, the most commonly reported barrier to accessing the usual livelihoods was lack of seeds for farming. Lack of transportation was reported as the most common barrier in Borno, likely indicative of worse insecurity on roadways outside of accessible garrison towns compared to Adamawa. Closely related to safety on the roads, access to markets appeared to more commonly be a barrier to livelihoods in Borno than in Adamawa. Of particular concern, in the majority of assessed LGAs in both states, it was also reported that some people could not access their usual livelihood because they were not healthy enough (ranging from 12% of assessed settlements in Ngala to 53% in Bama). In this regard, some IDI participants stated that lack of food negatively impacted people's ability to engage in livelihood activities due to lack of strength. IDIs also highlighted that single female headed households faced higher barriers to access livelihood opportunities. Movement restrictions due to the conflict and to cultural norms reportedly prevented women from accessing farming, casual labour, and other income generating activities.

**Figure 6: Proportion of assessed settlements by reported access to land for cultivation compared to last year, by state**

Adamawa	Borno
1% More land available	3%
20% Same amount of land available	37%
68% Less amount of land available	48%

Regarding farming as a livelihood, access to land also differed significantly between states. In all three assessed LGAs in Adamawa, KIs from the majority of assessed settlements reported to have less land available compared to last year (68% overall). In Borno, this was reported in 48% of the assessed settlements. The highest proportions of assessed settlements in which this was reported were in Askira/Uba (81%), Damboa (75%), Dikwa (61%). IDI participants identified fear of conflict related attacks and looting as the main cause of limited access to land. In Gubio, Gwoza, and Ngala the proportion of assessed settlements in which the access to land was less or the same as the previous year was similar (between 37%-43%). Only in Bama (65%), it was commonly reported that most people had access to the same amount of land. Exceptionally, in some assessed settlements in Konduga (11%) it was reported that most people had access to more land, while in some assessed settlements in Magumeri (11%), it was reported that most people did not have access to any land.



**In 99% of the assessed settlements in Adamawa and in 97% of the assessed settlements in Borno, KIs reported that some members of the community planted and harvested in the previous rainy season.**

Although access to land may have changed compared to previous year, in 98% of the assessed settlements in both states, at least some people had reportedly planted and harvested in the previous rainy season. However, due to conflict related attacks and looting, IDI participants stated that there had been changes in farming practices, such as farming on smaller plots closer to home or stopping farming, which will likely impact future food availability.

<sup>11</sup> \* indicates a multiple choice question.



### Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL) (continued)

In 76% of all the assessed settlements across both states, most people were reportedly getting their food from their own cultivation (see Figure 8). However, in some LGAs in Borno, the most commonly reported food source for most people in assessed settlements was foraging, namely in Bama (58%) and Gwoza (35%). Some IDI participants from Bama, Gwoza and Damboa mentioned that people in their settlements were relying on foraging for wild food because their harvest was reduced as a result of conflict related attacks, lootings and/or floods. Likely due to their proximity to urban areas, KIs from some of the assessed settlements in Kukawa (29%), Madagali (17%), Konduga (16%), Magumeri (16%) and Abadam (14%) reported most people got their food through cash purchases.



KIs in **68%** of the assessed settlements reported that **people have no access to a functional market.**

In Adamawa, Madagali and Michika were the only LGAs in which KIs in the majority of assessed settlements (72% and 67%, respectively) reported that people were able to access a market. In almost all but two LGAs in Borno, market access was reported in less than 40% of assessed settlements. The two exceptions were Konduga (47%) and Kukawa (43%). The relatively high proportion of assessed settlements in Konduga and Kukawa with reported market access suggests that people from H2R areas in those LGAs could move between garrison towns where there are markets and H2R settlements. IDI participants highlighted that conflict related attacks often resulted in blockage of roads normally used for trading, reducing access to markets for the majority of the settlements.

Across all LGAs in both states, in at least 30% of assessed settlements, people were reportedly eating wild food that is not normally part of their diet (66% overall). In Adamawa, the highest proportion of assessed settlements reporting people eating wild foods was in Mubi South (74%). In Borno, the highest proportions were in Ngala (92%), Gwoza (91%), Marte (91%), Dikwa (89%), Abadam (84%) and Damboa (84%).

**Figure 8: Main reported source of food for people in assessed settlements, by % of assessed settlements per state\***

	Adamawa		Borno	
1	Cultivated	87%	Cultivated	72%
2	Bought	36%	Forage	71%
3	Family and friends	35%	Bought	46%

Suggestive of insufficient access to food, KIs from 26% of the assessed settlements in Gwoza and 11% of the assessed settlements in Magumeri reported **people were eating less than one meal a day.**

In both states, to cope with the lack of access to food, people were reported to have used a variety of coping strategies (see Figure 7). Aligned with the number of daily meals reportedly consumed by most people in the settlement, the severe coping strategies of reducing the number of meals and skipping days without eating were most commonly reported in assessed settlements in Abadam (81% and 41%, respectively), Magumeri (68% and 32%), Ngala (62% and 31%) and Gwoza (32% and 45%), all in Borno. Indicative of exhaustion or inability to cope with lack of access to food, half of the IDI participants from Gwoza mentioned that people were just being patient and did nothing when they did not have enough food.

Other coping strategies to find new sources of food commonly reported were borrowing food (42% of assessed settlements), engaging in casual labour (22%), sending children to eat with neighbours (11%) and selling or slaughtering more livestock than usual for this time of year (10%). Exceptionally, in Borno, sending family members out to displacement camps to receive food aid was indicated as another strategy to find sources of food in Askira/Uba (14%).

**Figure 7: Proportion of assessed settlements by reported coping strategies used by any community member, by LGA\***

	Consume wild foods	Limit meal size	Reduce number of meals	Consume less expensive food	Borrow food or money	Only children eating	Skip days without eating
<b>Adamawa</b>							
Madagali	25%	30%	32%	30%	32%	26%	11%
Michika	29%	79%	71%	71%	27%	18%	11%
Mubi North	21%	69%	46%	52%	44%	21%	21%
Mubi South	70%	65%	74%	78%	13%	43%	57%
<b>Borno</b>							
Abadam	81%	78%	81%	65%	35%	41%	41%
Askira/Uba	41%	53%	41%	47%	45%	16%	19%
Bama	80%	21%	10%	9%	6%	6%	6%
Damboa	81%	48%	41%	50%	39%	44%	8%
Dikwa	86%	43%	11%	11%	43%	18%	7%
Gubio	37%	61%	42%	24%	70%	20%	3%
Gwoza	86%	25%	32%	11%	9%	22%	45%
Konduga	58%	68%	37%	21%	32%	32%	26%
Kukawa	48%	64%	57%	50%	52%	36%	21%
Magumeri	79%	61%	68%	16%	45%	45%	32%
Marte	91%	55%	55%	36%	27%	27%	36%
Ngala	88%	46%	62%	15%	12%	23%	31%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>18%</b>



### Health

**88%** KIs in **88%** of the assessed settlements reported that **people have no access to functional healthcare services.**

Access to functional healthcare services that people could reach within one day of travelling was reported to be limited in all LGAs of Borno, while access appeared to be better in some LGAs of Adamawa (5% and 31% of assessed settlements overall, respectively). In Adamawa, while KIs from less than 15% of assessed settlements in Mubi North and Mubi South reported access to healthcare, healthcare was reportedly accessible in a much higher proportion in Michika and Madagali (43% and 32%, respectively). In Borno, only in a small proportion of assessed settlements, healthcare services were available in Askira/Uba (17%), Dikwa (11%), Konduga (11%) and Ngala (8%), while in the remaining LGAs, they were reportedly available in less than 5% of assessed settlements.

**Figure 10: Most commonly reported first, second, and third health problem, by proportion of assessed settlements per LGA**

	First	Second	Third
<b>Adamawa</b>			
Madagali	Malaria 53%	Waterborne diseases 21%	Malnutrition 9%
Michika	Malaria 52%	Waterborne diseases 21%	Malnutrition 6%
Mubi North	Malaria 75%	Skin diseases 6%	Malnutrition 4%
Mubi South	Malaria 57%	Waterborne diseases 22%	Malnutrition 9%
<b>Borno</b>			
Abadam	Malaria 43%	Waterborne diseases 24%	Malnutrition 16%
Askira/Uba	Malaria 50%	Waterborne diseases 17%	Malnutrition 9%
Bama	Malaria 67%	Malnutrition 12%	Skin diseases 5%
Damboa	Malaria 66%	Waterborne diseases 6%	Skin diseases 6%
Dikwa	Waterborne diseases 46%	Malaria 25%	None 11%
Gubio	Malaria 71%	Heart pain 7%	Waterborne diseases 6%
Gwoza	Malaria 52%	Malnutrition 14%	None 6%
Konduga	Malaria 63%	Malnutrition 11%	Waterborne diseases 5%
Kukawa	Malaria 67%	Waterborne diseases 10%	None 7%
Magumeri	Malaria 71%	Waterborne diseases 11%	Skin diseases 8%
Marte	Waterborne diseases 45%	Malaria 18%	Skin diseases 9%
Ngala	Malaria 54%	Waterborne diseases 12%	Malnutrition 12%

In the assessed settlements where barriers to healthcare were reported (88%), the main reported barriers to accessing healthcare services were:



In **69%** of the assessed settlements, **lack of healthcare facilities** was reported as a barrier to accessing healthcare, which is indicative of pre-existing structural development challenges.



In **11%** of the assessed settlements, **facilities destroyed by conflict** was reported as a barrier to accessing healthcare. This was particularly reported in Kukawa (30%), Madagali (28%) and Gwoza (20%).



In **6%** of the assessed settlements, **no staff available** was reported as a barrier to accessing healthcare. This was particularly reported in Konduga (24%) and Madagali (15%).

In the assessed settlements where barriers to healthcare were reported (88%), the most common health problems were:

**59%** In **59%** of the assessed settlements, **Malaria/Fever** was reported as the most common health problem.

**12%** In **12%** of the assessed settlements, **waterborne diseases** were reported as the most common health problems.

**7%** In **7%** of the assessed settlements, **malnutrition** was reported as the most common health problem.

Overall, the main health problem reported in most assessed settlements was malaria/fever (59%), followed by waterborne diseases (12%). In some LGAs of Borno, malnutrition was reported to be the main health problem in a noteworthy proportion of assessed settlements in Abadam (16%), Gwoza (14%), Bama (12%), Ngala (12%) and Konduga (11%). These findings appear to be consistent with the information reported on food security indicators in these areas.

### COVID-19

To monitor the development of COVID-19 in H2R areas and identify areas with potential outbreaks, REACH began including COVID-19 relevant indicators in the assessment in April 2020. Although other viruses and bacteria can cause the three main symptoms associated with COVID-19 (cough, fever, difficulty breathing)<sup>12</sup>, an increase in the reporting of these symptoms could potentially suggest a local COVID-19 outbreak in the respective H2R area.



In only in **22%** of the assessed settlements, it was reported that **someone had self-reported symptoms perceivably related to COVID-19<sup>12</sup>.**

Coughing was the most frequently reported COVID-19 perceived symptom across different LGAs (from 11% of assessed settlements in Dikwa, Gubio, Gwoza, Konduga and Michika to 26% in Magumeri). At least one person was reported to have fever with coughing in assessed settlements in Abadam (14%), Askira/Uba (14%), Bama (13%), Gubio (11%), Gwoza (18%), Konduga (16%), Mubi North (17%) and Mubi South (17%). Moreover, in assessed settlements in Bama (12%), Gubio (12%), Magumeri (11%) and Mubi North (25%), people were reportedly experiencing fever and breathing difficulties concurrently.

<sup>12</sup>For more information see: [CDC website](https://www.cdc.gov/).



In **67%** of the assessed settlements, the **primary caretaker of sick persons** was reported to be **the mother**.

The father was also reported to act as the primary caregiver for the sick in at least 10% of assessed settlements in Abadam, Askira/Uba, Bama, Dikwa, Gubio, Kukawa, Madagali, Magumeri and Michika. In the event of a local outbreak, primary caregivers would be at a high risk of contracting the illnesses themselves, suggesting that in many areas women may be at higher risk.



In **22%** of the assessed settlements, **sick members of the community** were reportedly **isolated from others**.

Isolation practices seemed to be least common in some Borno LGAs, as isolation was reportedly practiced in only 6% of assessed settlements in Bama, 7% in Dikwa, 8% in Damboa, 8% in Ngala and 9% in Marte. Other preventive measures cited by IDI participants were praying, practicing social distance, limiting/reducing greetings, covering the face, avoid sharing food or direct water sources and changing burial practices.



### Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)



In **72%** of the assessed settlements, the **main water sources** for most people in the settlement were found to be **unimproved sources**.

Indicative of limited access to clean water, in Adamawa, the main water source for most people was reported to be the river in nearly half of the assessed settlements (45%), followed by unprotected wells (24%). By contrast, in Borno, unprotected wells was the most commonly reported main source of water (48%), followed by river (25%). Probably suggestive of better access to clean water in some LGAs of Borno, protected wells were reported as the main water source in some assessed settlements in Abadam (19%), Damboa (16%), Gubio (15%), Ngala (15%) and Askira/Uba (12%), as well as in Madagali (28%) in Adamawa, and boreholes were reported as the main water source in some assessed settlements in Konduga (11%) and Magumeri (11%). The LGAs with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where it was reported that an unimproved water source was the main source seems to align with the LGAs with a higher proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported that waterborne illnesses were the main health problem, such as Dikwa and Marte.



In **44%** of the assessed settlements, KIs reported that **it took less than 30 minutes** to collect water from their main water sources.

In **32%** of the assessed settlements, KIs reported that **it took between 30 minutes and 1 hour** to collect water from their main water sources.

However, in some locations, collecting water reportedly took between one hour and half a day. The highest proportions of assessed settlements where this was reported were in Mubi South (35%), Kukawa (19%) and Marte (18%). Spending more time collecting water suggests that households have limited access to water, which may negatively impact their ability to engage in hand-washing practices to prevent the spread of diseases, including COVID-19. Additionally, given the high levels of insecurity, especially in Borno State, longer travel periods for water collection may put individuals at greater risk of security and protection concern.



In **52%** of the assessed settlements, KIs reported that **security concerns** limit people's ability to access their preferred water point.

In all assessed LGAs in Adamawa, security concerns were reported to limit people's ability to access their preferred water point (72%, see Figure 11). In line with the previous protection concerns and movement restrictions reported in Borno, fears for their own safety were also reported to limit people's ability to access their preferred water point in over 50%

**Figure 11: Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported that at least one person was not able to access their preferred water point because they feared for their safety, by state**



**Figure 12: Most commonly reported first and second source of water, by proportion of assessed settlements per LGA**

	First	Second
<b>Adamawa</b>		
Madagali	River 36%	Protected well 28%
Michika	River 36%	Unprotected well 34%
Mubi North	River 54%	Unprotected well 25%
Mubi South	River 91%	Unprotected well 4%
<b>Borno</b>		
Abadam	River 35%	Unprotected well 24%
Askira/Uba	River 60%	Protected well 12%
Bama	Unprotected well 74%	River 12%
Damboa	Unprotected well 58%	Protected well 16%
Dikwa	Unprotected well 93%	
Gubio	Unprotected well 51%	River 17%
Gwoza	River 57%	Unprotected well 26%
Konduga	Unprotected well 63%	River 16%
Kukawa	River 33%	Unprotected well 26%
Magumeri	Unprotected well 53%	River / Borehole (11%)
Marte	River 45%	Unprotected well 45%
Ngala	Unprotected well 42%	River 19%

of assessed settlements in Marte (64%), Abadam (59%), Damboa (59%), Gwoza (58%), Konduga (58%), Ngala (58%) and Kukawa (57%) and over 70% in Askira/Uba (72%) and Magumeri (71%).



In **58%** of the assessed settlements, some community members **were reportedly using latrines** in the month prior to data collection.

In Adamawa, KIs from the majority of assessed settlements reportedly used latrines (75% overall), while in Borno, latrines were reportedly used in half of the assessed settlements (51% overall). In Borno, latrine use was reportedly highest in assessed settlements in Damboa (93%), Askira/Uba (83%) and Bama (76%), and was particularly low in assessed settlements in LGAs considered fully inaccessible, namely Abadam (24%), Marte (27%) and Kukawa (31%). However, reporting on latrine use was also particularly low in Gubio (24%), Magumeri (29%) and Konduga (32%).

Of settlements in which some people were reportedly not using latrines (42%):



In **44%** of assessed settlements, the main reason given for people not using latrines was that **there were none available**.

Exceptionally, in Bama and Dikwa, KIs reported that latrines were damaged or destroyed by conflict in 33% and 54% of assessed settlements, respectively.



In **67%** of the assessed settlements, KIs reported that most people in the settlement **only wash their hands with water**.

Given the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the use of water only will not only facilitate the proliferation of waterborne diseases, but could also increase settlements' vulnerability to the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly in places with limited access to healthcare services. Soap was only reported to be used in a small proportion of settlements in Abadam (32%), Askira/Uba (16%), Damboa (13%), Gubio (12%), Konduga (16%), Kukawa (43%), Madagali (19%) and Michika (11%).



## Shelter



In **61%** of the assessed settlements, the majority of people reportedly lived in **makeshift shelters**.

In Adamawa, KIs in 50% of the assessed settlements reported that most community members lived in makeshift shelters, which was closely followed by permanent structures (41% of assessed settlements). Similarly, in Borno, most community members were reported to be living in makeshift shelters in most LGAs (65%). The key exceptions to this were Damboa and Gubio, where in more than half of the assessed settlements, most community members were reportedly living in permanent house structures (61%, 62%, respectively). Meanwhile in Askira/Uba, most people were reportedly living without a shelter and sleeping in the open in more than 14% of assessed settlements in Askira/Uba.

**67%** KIs in **67%** of the assessed settlements reported that the permanent homes and makeshift homes were located **within the boundaries of the settlements**.

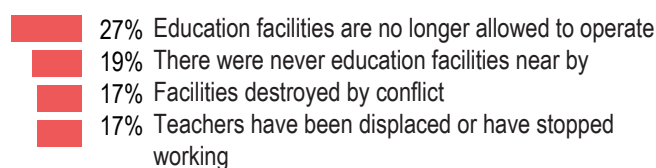
However, in some Borno LGAs, most community members were reported to be living in the bush, away from their original homes (32% in Abadam, 24% in Askira/Uba, 42% in Bama, 14% in Dikwa, 60% in Gwoza, 16% in Konduga, 12% in Kukawa, 13% in Magumeri and 27% in Marte), as well as in some Adamawa LGAs (15% in Madagali and 13% in Mubi South). In Adamawa, in at least 40% of assessed settlements in each LGA, KIs reported that some shelters were damaged or destroyed because of the conflict (82% overall). In Borno, KIs reported this in at least 20% of assessed settlements (50% overall). In both states, the highest proportions of settlements in which this was reported were in Madagali (91%), Marte (91%), Mubi North (85%), Askira/Uba (83%), Michika (83%) and Dikwa (71%).

## Education

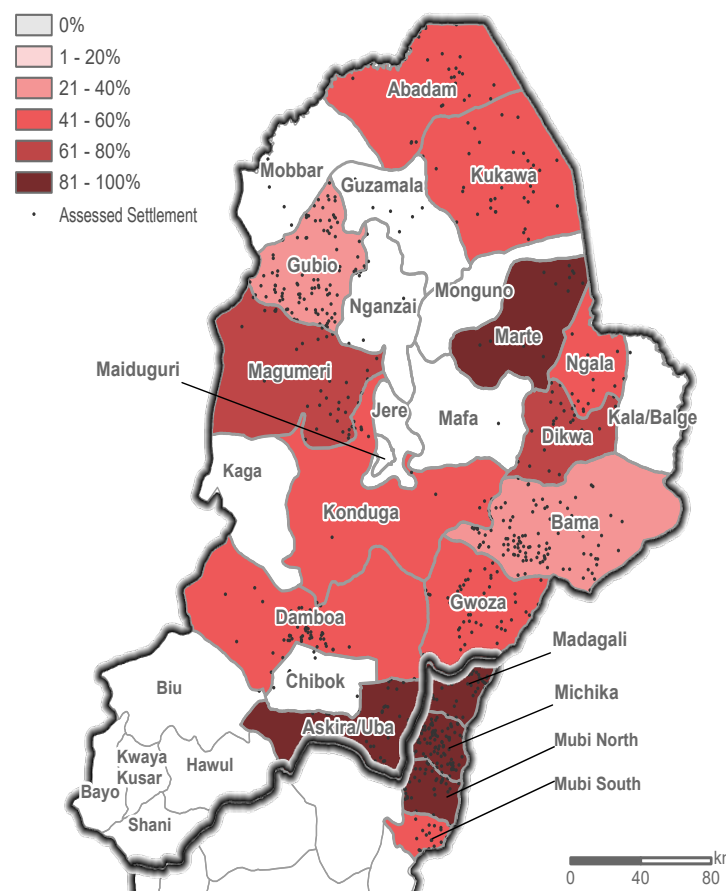
**71%** KIs in **71%** of the assessed settlements reported that **people did not have access to education services**.

Access to any education services that people could walk to was found to be more limited in Adamawa than in Borno (overall 14% compared to 35%, respectively), especially, in Madagali (13%), Michika (11%) and Mubi South (9%). Nonetheless, education services were also reported to be particularly limited in Abadam (16%) and Askira/Uba (14%) in Borno. In contrast, in Gwoza, access was reported in 75% of assessed settlements. It should be noted that this indicator includes both formal and informal education<sup>13</sup>.

**Figure 13: Most commonly reported barriers to education in assessed settlements in Adamawa where barriers to education were reported (86%);**



**Map 4: Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported the presence of partially or fully destroyed shelters due to the conflict**



In the assessed settlements where barriers to education services were reported (71%), the main reported barriers were:



In **43%** of assessed settlements, **lack of education facilities nearby** was reported as a barrier.

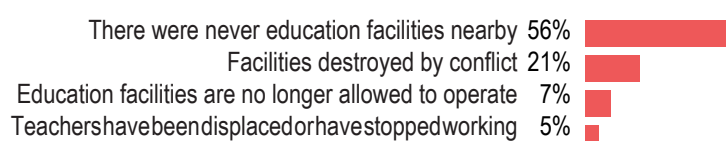


In **20%** of assessed settlements, **facilities being destroyed by conflict** was reported as a reason for lack of access to education services. The proportion of assessed settlements for which this was reported was higher in Ngala (39%), Kukawa (38%), Abadam (32%) and Madagali (28%).



In **14%** of assessed settlements, **education facilities no longer allowed to operate** was reported as a barrier. This was the main reported reason for the lack of access to any educational services in Adamawa (27%).

**Figure 14: Most commonly reported barriers to education in assessed settlements in Borno where barriers to education were reported (65%);**



<sup>13</sup> Formal schooling includes all education service delivery based on curricula developed and endorsed by the national government.



### Sources of Information



In **71%** of the assessed settlements, KIs reported **at least one radio was present** within the settlement.



In **76%** of the assessed settlements, KIs reported **working radio signal** within the settlement.

In Adamawa, radios were reported to be present in 94% of the assessed settlements, as well as working radio signal. In almost all assessed settlements where radios were reportedly present (94% overall), KIs reported that community members could listen to the radios. In Borno, sources of information were reported to be more scarce in some of assessed LGAs, with radios reported to be present in 63% of assessed settlements. The LGAs with the lowest proportions of assessed settlements in which radio presence was reported were located in Dikwa (14%), Gwoza (34%), Bama (39%) and Marte (45%). Similarly, radio signal was reported to be present in 69% of assessed settlements, with the lowest proportions of settlements in which radio signal was reported also in Dikwa (21%), Gwoza (40%), Bama (46%) and Marte (45%). KIs from 93% of the assessed settlements with reported radio presence (63% overall), reported that community members had access to these radios, with the lowest proportions of assessed settlements where this was reported found in Dikwa, Gwoza, Bama, Marte, and Ngala.



In **38%** of the assessed settlements, KIs reported **at least one cellphone was present** within the settlement.



In **33%** of the assessed settlements, KIs reported **working cellphone network** within the settlement.

The existence of cell phones was reported in much lower proportion of assessed settlements compared to radios. Cell phones were most commonly reported to be present in assessed settlements in Adamawa,

**Figure 15: Most commonly reported first and second source of information, by proportion of assessed settlements per LGA**

	First	Second
<b>Adamawa</b>		
Madagali	Radio 62%	In-person 23%
Michika	Radio 76%	In-person 10%
Mubi North	Radio 52%	In-person 31%
Mubi South	Radio 48%	In-person 43%
<b>Borno</b>		
Abadam	In-person 49%	Radio 38%
Askira/Uba	Radio 60%	In-person 21%
Bama	In-person 85%	None 7%
Damboa	Radio 45%	In-person 33%
Dikwa	In-person 75%	None 11%
Gubio	In-person 65%	Radio 20%
Gwoza	In-person 52%	None 32%
Konduga	In-person 47%	Radio 42%
Kukawa	Radio 50%	In-person 33%
Magumeri	In-person 37%	Radio 24%
Marte	In-person 45%	Radio 9%
Ngala	In-person 35%	None 35%

namely Madagali (81%), Michika (78%) and Mubi South (52%). By contrast, in Borno, cell phones were reportedly present in none of the assessed settlements in Marte (0%), and in a tiny minority of settlements in Dikwa (7%). The exception was in Magumeri where cell phones were reported present in more than half of all assessed settlements (53%). Likewise, cell phone network was reported to be even more limited than radio signal, with 62% of assessed settlements overall reported to have cell phone network coverage in Adamawa and 22% in Borno. Across all assessed settlements with reported presence of cell phones (38%), KIs from 85% of settlements reported that community members were able to use their cell phones.

Some IDI participants from Bama, Gwoza and Abadam highlighted that sharing information was not allowed, suggesting more difficulties in accessing information in these LGAs.

In line with the previous findings, in Adamawa, the main source of information was reported to be radio in the majority of assessed settlements (66% overall). In Borno, in-person conversations were the most commonly reported main source of information in more than half of assessed settlements (54%), this was particularly reported in assessed settlements in Bama (85%) and Dikwa (75%) (see Figure 15). KIs from 24% of assessed settlements in Borno also reported radio as the main source of information, most commonly in Askira/Uba (60%) and Kukawa (50%). Overall in Borno, 8% of assessed settlements were reported to not have any source of information, with the highest proportions of assessed settlements in which this was reported in Ngala (35%) and Gwoza (32%). IDI participants from Abadam and Damboa, moreover, shared that traditional and/or religious leaders and elders also spread information discretely via in-person conversations.

Additionally, almost half of the IDI participants from Abadam, Bama, Damboa and Gwoza stated that different population groups had different levels of access to information. The latter primarily referred to women having less access to information than men and, therefore, they reportedly usually have to depend on men to share information with them.

**69%**

In **69%** of the assessed settlements, people reportedly **had difficulty accessing the information they needed on humanitarian assistance**.

Exceptionally, in Dikwa, Gwoza and Ngala, people in almost none (4%, 8% and 8%, respectively) of the assessed settlements were reported to experience difficulties accessing the information they needed regarding humanitarian assistance.

Of assessed settlements where difficulty accessing information on humanitarian assistance was reported (69%):

**52%**

In **52%** of the assessed settlements, it was reported that the **security situation** prevented information from coming through. The proportion of assessed settlements for which the security situation was identified as an obstacle to receive humanitarian information was considerably high in Gwoza (97%), Dikwa (92%), Bama (87%), Marte (78%) and Magumeri (77%), all in Borno.

**16%**

In **16%** of the assessed settlements, it was reported that the main reason was that **there was no cellphone network**.



## Information on COVID-19

**82%** In 82% of the assessed settlements, it was reported that people have heard about COVID-19.

The lowest proportions of assessed settlements in which people were reported to have heard of COVID-19 were in Dikwa (29%), Ngala (42%), Marte (45%) and Gwoza (48%), all in Borno. Meanwhile, KIs in all assessed settlements in Askira/Uba, Michika and Mubi North reported that people had heard of COVID-19 in their settlement. Given the “fully inaccessible” nature of Kukawa and Marte, the reported widespread knowledge of COVID-19 suggests that, although humanitarian actors cannot access these areas, information can reach the area.

For assessed settlements where it was reported that people had heard about COVID-19 (82%), the most commonly reported main source of information on COVID-19 was:



In 58% of the assessed settlements, the most commonly reported main source of information on COVID-19 was radio.



In 33% of the assessed settlements, the most commonly reported main source of information on COVID-19 was community members.

The exception was in Dikwa, where in the majority of assessed settlements (63%) organized armed groups (OAGs) were commonly reported as the main source of information.

Of the assessed settlements where people had reportedly heard of COVID-19 (82%), when asked about the type of information people had heard about COVID-19:

**71%** KIs in 71% of assessed settlements reported that people knew how to protect themselves from the disease.

**54%** KIs in 54% of assessed settlements reported that people knew the symptoms.

**53%** KIs in 53% of assessed settlements reported that people knew how it is transmitted.

**40%** KIs in 40% of assessed settlements reported that people knew its risks and complications.

**27%** KIs in 27% of assessed settlements reported that people knew what to do if someone has symptoms.

## Conclusion

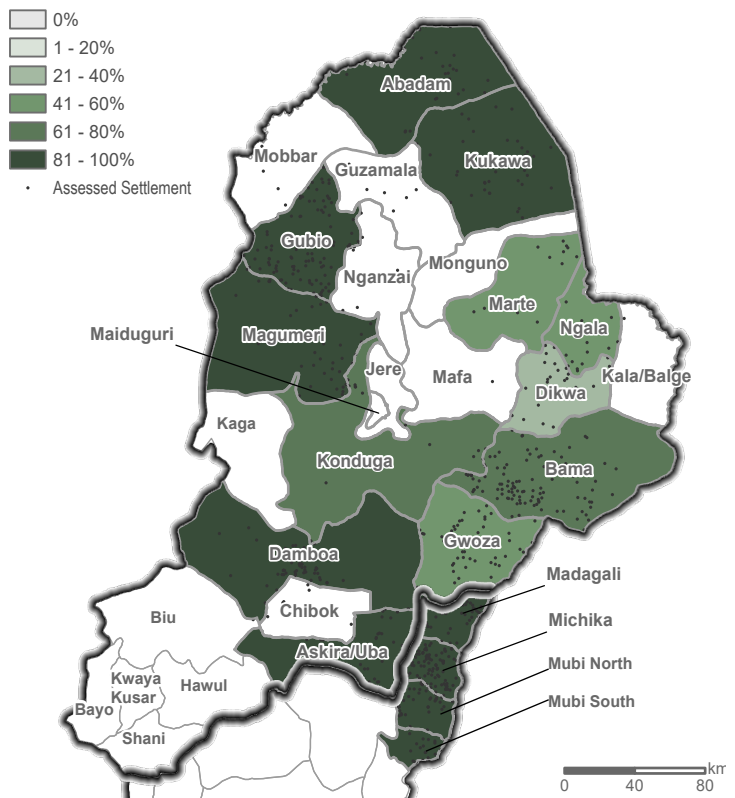
The information shared in KI interviews and IDIs suggests a lack of access to basic services, high levels of food insecurity and severe protection concerns. Borno appeared to have severe levels of food insecurity, and low access to services and infrastructure related to health, shelter and communications. Findings suggest this was similar in Adamawa, where additionally, assessed settlements were found to have comparatively less access to education. Findings related to protection concerns and livelihood opportunities were similar for both states. At the LGA level, KIs from the majority of assessed settlements reported people commonly eat less than one meal per day, with findings pointing to severely limited access to food especially in Gwoza and Magumeri.

The findings in this situation overview are indicative of severe humanitarian needs in the H2R areas of Adamawa and Borno states, related to the reported impact of the protracted crisis and suggested historical lack of access to services. Continued monitoring of these areas is required to provide the information needed to inform the humanitarian response.

### About REACH

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**Map 5: Proportion of assessed settlements where it was reported that people were aware of COVID-19**



**75%** In 75% of the assessed settlements, people were reported to have received some information regarding the situation in IDP camps.

Of these assessed settlements where people had reportedly received information regarding the situation in IDP camps (75%):

- 1 The **first** most commonly reported information concerned the availability of humanitarian services (52% of assessed settlements).
- 2 The **second** most commonly reported information was related to COVID-19 in the camps (48%).
- 3 The **third** most commonly reported information was related to safety and security in the camps (35%).

The relatively high proportion of assessed settlements with reported knowledge of the situation in IDP camps related to COVID-19 are aligned with the high proportions of assessed settlements where there was reported radio presence and signal. This suggests that radio information campaigns related to COVID-19 in IDP camps have reached some H2R areas.