



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

**Nigeria**

# Data in Emergencies Monitoring (DIEM-Monitoring) brief – round 1

Results and recommendations  
January 2022

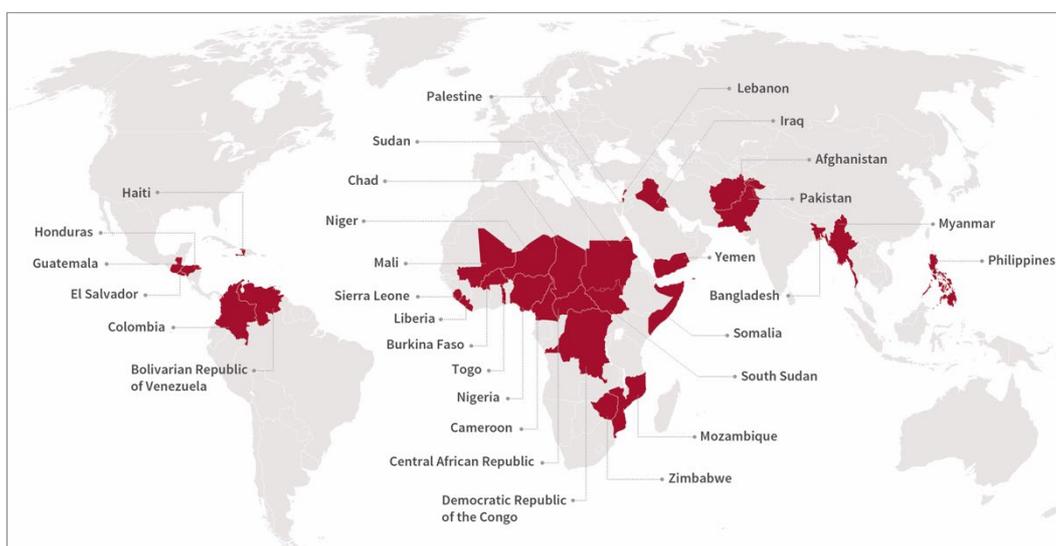
Data collection 20 May to 25 June 2021

## Methodology

In May and June 2021, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) led a household survey at the admin 1 level in Nigeria covering five states: Yobe, Borno and Adamawa in the northeast; and Zamfara and Katsina in the northwest. The aim of this assessment was to monitor the impact of a range of shocks on crop, livestock and fisheries production and marketing, and household food security.

This round 1 survey comprised, 2 739 household interviews administered across the five states: 556 in Adamawa; 568 in Borno; 535 in Yobe, 758 in Katsina and 322 in Zamfara. Data were disaggregated at the admin 2 level for comparison between Local Government Areas directly impacted by armed conflict and those not affected.

Figure 1. Countries with established DIEM-Monitoring System



Source of map: United Nations. 2020. *Map of the World* [online]. [Cited 6 December 2021]. [www.un.org/geospatial/content/map-world](http://www.un.org/geospatial/content/map-world)

### About DIEM-Monitoring

FAO has established the Data in Emergencies Monitoring (DIEM-Monitoring) System to collect, analyse and disseminate data on shocks, livelihoods and food security in countries prone to multiple shocks. DIEM-Monitoring aims to inform decision making by providing regularly updated information on how different shocks are affecting livelihoods and food security.

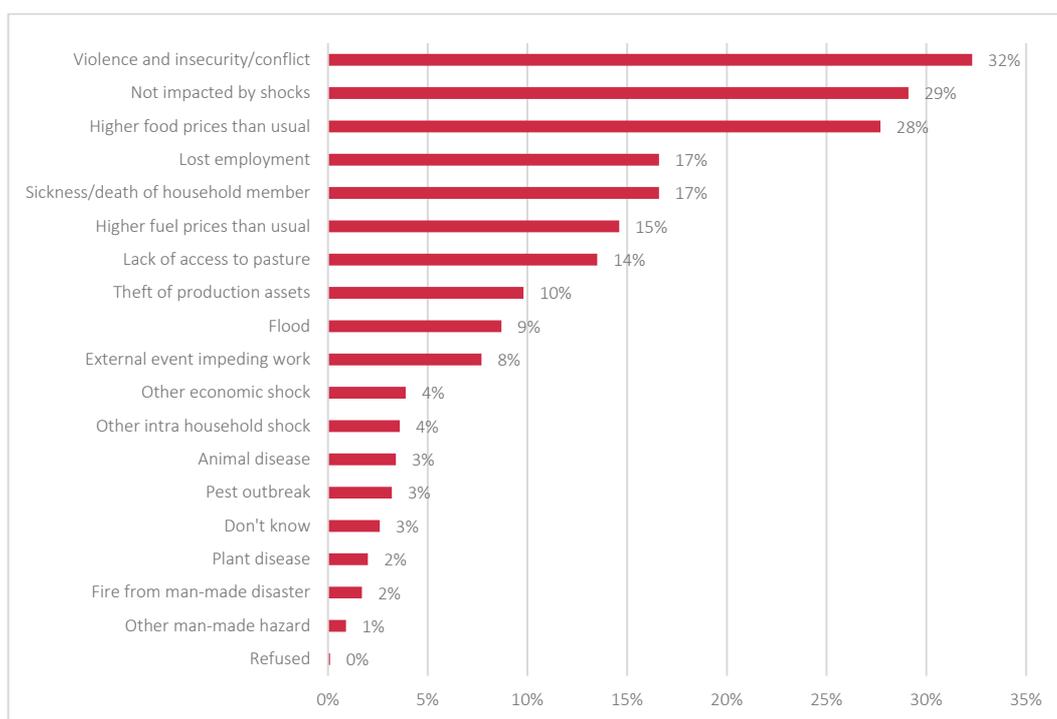
At the core of the DIEM- Monitoring System are country-level dashboards. Readers are encouraged to explore these dashboards to gain more insights on the context in Nigeria and other countries.

> Learn more at <https://data-in-emergencies.fao.org/pages/monitoring>

## Income and shocks

Across the five states surveyed, 61 percent of survey respondents reported that they rely on agriculture for at least one source of income. Among those not engaged in agriculture, 13 percent reported that they depend on the trade of agricultural products and 11 percent on casual employment. Of the 71 percent of respondents that reported being affected by one or more shocks, the most frequently cited were violence and conflict, high food and fuel prices, and a lack of access to pasturelands (Figure 2). By state, this percentage ranged from 52 percent in Borno to 67 percent in Adamawa.

Figure 2. Most-reported shocks (percentage of respondents)



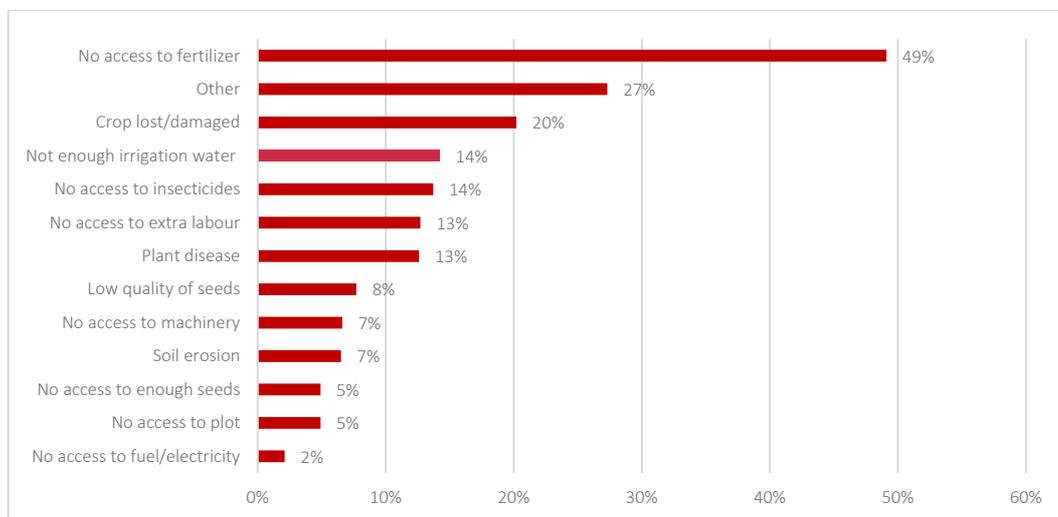
Source of data: FAO. 2021. Nigeria: DIEM-Monitoring assessment results (May–June 2021).

## Crops

The three most commonly planted crops were maize (by 39 percent of crop producers), millet (20 percent) and rice (16 percent). During the most recent cropping season 74 percent of crop-producing households faced difficulties. The most frequently reported were access to fertilizers (by 49 percent of crop producers), crop losses (20 percent) and a lack of irrigation water (14 percent) (Figure 3).

Of the 36 percent that faced difficulties in selling their production, 42 percent cited high marketing costs, 34 percent reported too-low prices and the 30 percent reported that the usual traders were not buying as much as before. For 87 percent of farmers, crop prices were higher than the average in the previous three years.

Figure 3. Crop-production difficulties (percentage of respondent crop producers)



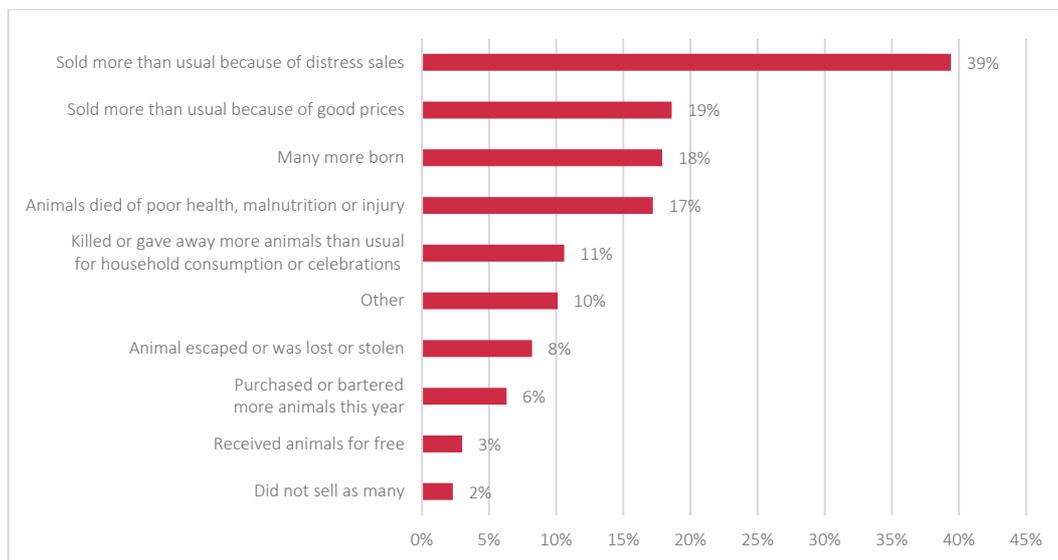
Source of data: FAO. 2021. Nigeria: DIEM-Monitoring assessment results (May–June 2021).

## Livestock

Households in Katsina were more likely to own livestock (60 percent) than those in Yobe and Zamfara (46 percent in each). Poultry was the most commonly raised livestock breed, by 31 percent of livestock producers (in Borno, more than half of livestock producers raised poultry). Other livestock raised in the survey area included goats (26 percent), sheep (23 percent) and cattle (18 percent). Herd sizes averaged 12 animals for cattle, goats and sheep, but were much larger for poultry.

Nearly 70 percent of livestock producers reported a decrease in herd numbers in the past year (Figure 4). Among the 39 percent of households citing difficulties selling livestock, 41 percent mentioned that the usual traders were not buying as much of their production as usual, 39 percent reported that prices were too low and 29 percent found marketing prices too high.

Figure 4. Reasons for change in livestock numbers (percentage of respondent livestock producers)

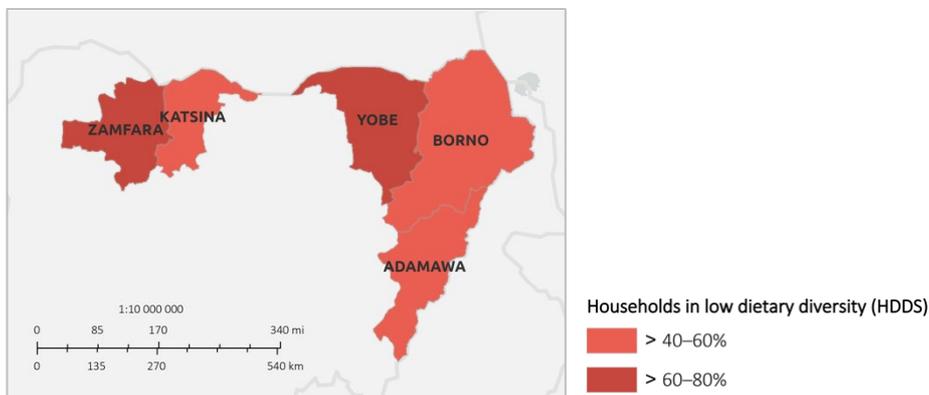


Source of data: FAO. 2021. Nigeria: DIEM-Monitoring assessment results (May–June 2021).

## Food security

Food Insecurity Experience Scale results indicate that 61 percent of respondents were worried about access to food in the previous month, 62 percent had reduced their consumption of healthy foods and 67 percent had reduced the diversity of the foods they consumed. Over 50 percent reported skipping meals, 63 percent eating less food and 51 percent reported running out of food to eat. Household Dietary Diversity Scores (HDDS), which measure the number of food groups out of 12 consumed by households in the past 24 hours, averaged 3.9; by state. Average scores were lowest in Yobe (3.3) and Zamfara (3.5) states (Figure 5). They were also lower on average in areas affected by armed conflict and banditry (3.7) than in more secure areas (4.08). Across the five states surveyed, approximately 50 percent of households had low dietary diversity, with the prevalence as high as 62 percent in Yobe and 61 percent in Zamfara.

Figure 5. Low dietary diversity based on HDDS, by state (percentage of respondents)

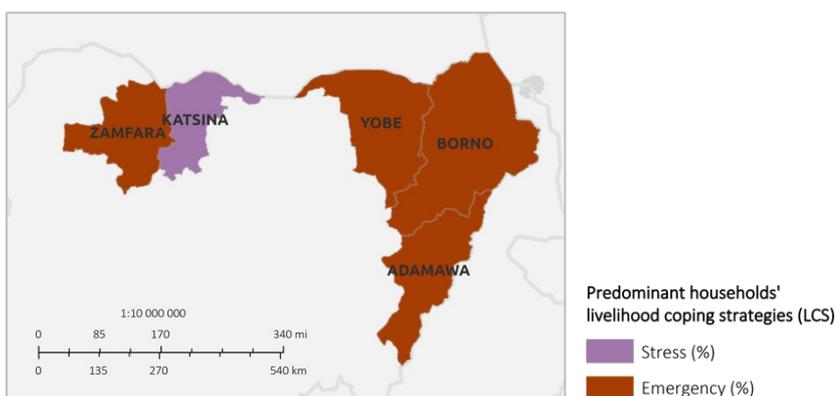


Source of data: FAO. 2021. Nigeria: DIEM-Monitoring assessment results (May–June 2021).

Source of map: Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS. 2018. *Map of Nigeria* [online]. [Cited 14 January 2022]. <https://data-in-emergencies.fao.org/pages/explore>

Livelihood-based Coping Strategy Index (LCSI) results indicated that 40 percent of respondents had employed Emergency-level coping strategies in the three months preceding the survey. These coping strategies, which include selling productive assets such as land or livestock, were the predominant coping strategies adopted in four of five states surveyed (Figure 6).

Figure 6. Coping strategies employed based on LCSI, by state (percentage of respondents)



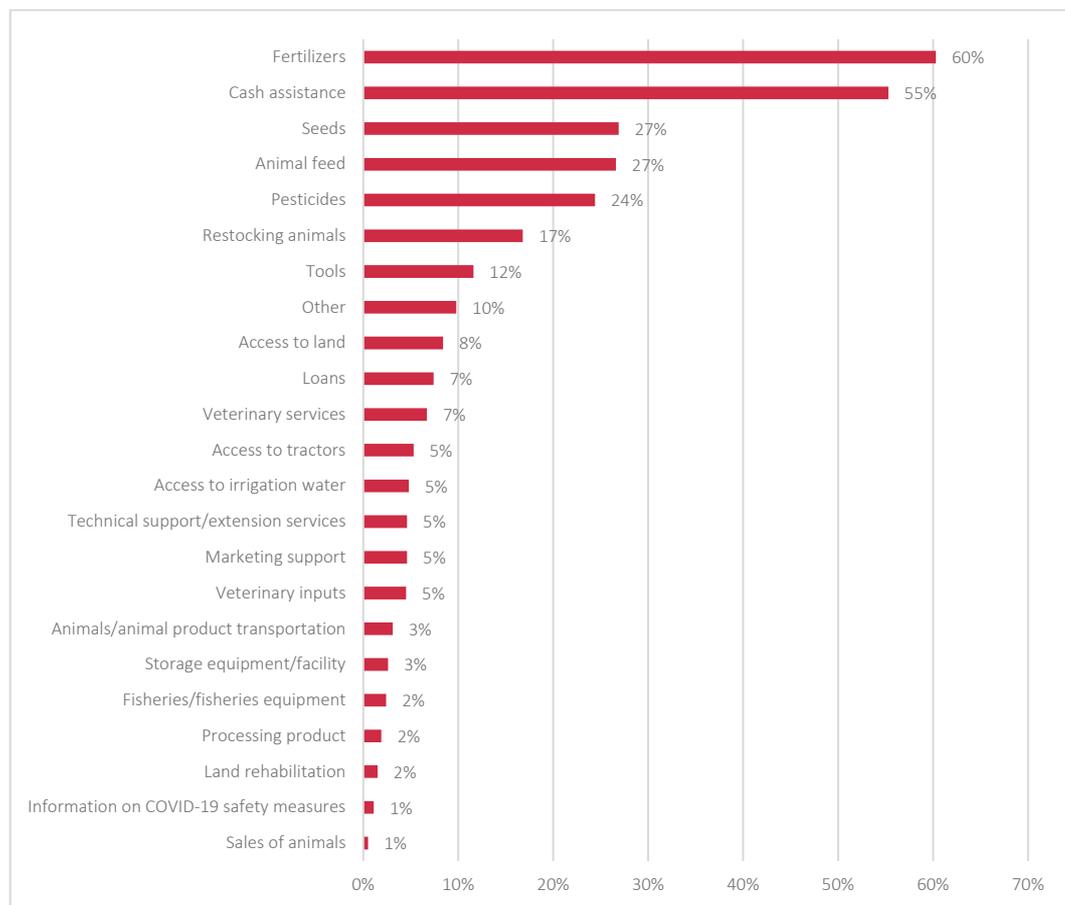
Source of data: FAO. 2021. Nigeria: DIEM-Monitoring assessment results (May–June 2021).

Source of map: Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS. 2018. *Map of Nigeria* [online]. [Cited 14 January 2022]. <https://data-in-emergencies.fao.org/pages/explore>

## Needs

The need for assistance in the next six months was reported by 97 percent of all respondents. The most-reported need by surveyed households was for fertilizers (60 percent). Other reported needs included cash assistance, seeds, animal feed and pesticides (Figure 7). Among the households surveyed, 86 percent had not received assistance in the three months prior to the survey.

Figure 7. Needs for assistance (percentage of respondents)



Source of data: FAO. 2021. Nigeria: DIEM-Monitoring assessment results (May–June 2021).

## Recommendations

- > Critical agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and pesticides are needed to increase vulnerable households' food production and dietary diversity. Programmes to support crop producers should focus on providing access to natural fertilizers and pesticides along with training in their use.
- > For livestock producers, cash assistance should be provided through vouchers for animal feed, along with support for herders that are unable to sell their livestock because of high marketing costs or low sale prices.
- > Income generation should also be supported through programming that strengthens producers' asset base (e.g. through livestock restocking and village-level fisheries production centres), and connects producers with buyers. Income-generating activities should focus on women to increase their purchasing power – monitoring markets and food prices closely.
- > Household Dietary Diversity Scores for this sample averaged 3.9, with lower scores in areas affected by insecurity. In order to ensure that the most vulnerable households have access to nutritious food on a regular basis, cash-based interventions (such as unconditional cash transfers) should be considered where the context allows for unrestricted movement, following an in-depth market assessment. Food vouchers can also be provided to ensure food diversity.



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

This brief is made possible by the support of the American People through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents of this report are the sole responsibility of FAO and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States of America Government.

## Contact

---

### FAO Representation in Nigeria

FAO-NG@fao.org  
fao.org/nigeria | @FAONigeria  
Garki, Abuja

---

### FAO Office of Emergencies and Resilience

OER-Director@fao.org  
fao.org/emergencies | @FAOEmergencies  
Rome, Italy

---

### Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on the map(s) in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. Final boundary between the Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined.



Some rights reserved. This work is available under a CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO licence