



YOBE STATE FOOD SECURITY SECTOR STRATEGY 2024–2026

BY

NIGERIA FOOD SECURITY SECTOR

LIST OF ACRONYMS

BAY	Borno, Adamawa and Yobe
BHA	Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease of 2019
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DP	Development Plan
DTM	Displacement Tracking Matrix
ECHO	European Commission Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FEWSNET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
FMAFS	Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
FSS	Food Security Sector
GOVT	Government
HEA	Household Economy Analysis
HDPN	Humanitarian Development Peace Nexus
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
INGOs	International Non-Governmental Organizations
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPC	Integrated Phase Classification
KII	Key Informant Interviews
LGAs	Local Government Areas
MHADM	Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management
RRR	Reconstruction, Rehabilitation and Resettlement
MVAM	Mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping
N	Naira
NATIP	National Agricultural Technology and Innovation Policy
NDP	National Development Plan
NEMA	National Emergency Management Agency
NNGOs	National Non-Governmental Organizations
NPK	Nitrogen Phosphate and Potassium
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEMA	State Emergency Management Agency
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UN	United Nations
VSF	Victims Support Fund
WFP	World Food Programme
YOSERA	Yobe State Socio-economic Reform Agenda

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1.0. BACKGROUND

The Yobe State Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP), International and National Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs and NNGOs), and other stakeholders through the coordination of the Food Security Sector (FSS) sought to engage the services of an independent Consultant to support the review and updating of the Yobe State FSS strategy, with a focus on both emergency food assistance, and agricultural livelihoods in Yobe state, one of the BAY states in of North-Eastern Nigeria, and covering the period 2024-2026.

The need to update the Yobe FSS Strategy was a result of sustained relatively high levels of food insecurity amidst an evolving context since 2018. Some of the new dynamics that emerged include the high inflation rates and resultant high food commodity prices, flooding (notably in 2022), changing conflict situation and resultant crop land change, COVID-19 impacts, amidst resource constraints and access challenges in some Local Government Areas (LGAs). The changes in context have happened amidst other pre-conflict challenges such as erratic & extreme weather patterns, infrastructural challenges and chronic poverty. Further there are also emerging opportunities that could be exploited for the benefit of the target groups, including access to agricultural land in some locations, increased community demands for access to self-reliant opportunities that have since brought new changes and dynamics to the context. It is anticipated that the needs assessment will deepen understanding of the current situation of the various affected groups and individuals in Yobe state, with a focus on their risks, vulnerabilities, capacities and opportunities and existing structures (govt/private level), policies, and institutions to inform a fit for purpose and more efficient and sustainable food security response, providing durable solutions that are premised on the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus.

2.0. ALIGNMENT WITH RELEVANT POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

The new FSS Strategy, whose key objective is to address the food insecurity challenges and needs of the populations affected by displacement in Yobe State, closely aligns with the Federal Government National Development Plan-NDP (2021-25), a medium-term blue print whose objective is to unlock the country's potentials in all sectors of the economy for a sustainable, holistic and inclusive national development, developed by the different facet of the Private Sector, sub-national Government, civil society organization (CSO) and facilitated by the Federal Government of Nigeria. The vision of the NDP, 2021-2025 further aligns with the need to pursue socio-economic transformation for the country, and as envisioned in the long-term aspiration of Nigeria, and articulated in the Nigeria Agenda 2050.

At sector level, the new FSS Strategy closely further aligns with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development policies, and more specifically, the National Agricultural Technology and Innovation Policy (NATIP 2022-2027) whose objective is to modernize the agricultural sector in line with the changing global food systems and supply chains. Further, the policy focuses on approaches to ensure resilience, recovery and growth. At a global level the need to develop a new FSS Strategy dovetail with Nigeria's commitments towards attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) eliminating poverty and zero hunger.

At State level, the new FSS Strategy will align closely with the Yobe State 25 Year Development Plan (DP) which was still under development at the time of this assessment. With a vision of transforming Yobe State into 'The Pride of the Sahel and a model for development' the envisaged 25 Year DP will replace the Yobe State Socioeconomic Reform Agenda (YOSERA) which lapsed in 2020, setting the stage for a new strategy and policy thrust that will inform development priorities for the coming 25 years. The 25 Year DP is being developed taking into consideration the challenges, emerging opportunities in agriculture, commerce, trade and Yobe State human resources, and will provide for the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the State, including Zero Hunger.

3.0. ASSIGNMENT OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the assignment was to comprehensively review and update the Yobe State Food Security Sector Strategy for 2024-2026.

The specific objectives were:

1. To provide an updated **contextual understanding (governance, socio-economic situation, natural resource management and insecurity)** so as to identify impacts on food security for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Yobe State.
2. To analyze and identify **food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) needs** for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Yobe state.
3. To analyze and identify **food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) risks, vulnerabilities and challenges** for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Yobe state.
4. Analyze the **different risk, conflict and protection-sensitive opportunities and capacities** available for improving food security for IDPs, Returnees and Host Communities in Yobe state while taking into consideration cross-cutting issues including climate change, multi-sectoral implementation and the Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus among others.
5. To **propose practical and sustainable recommendations for emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods** activities for food security actors in Yobe state to adopt, especially given the resource constraints.



4.0. ASSESSMENT MISSION APPROACHES AND METHODOLOGY

4.1. Organization of the Mission

4.1.1. Inception Phase

During the inception and field phases, the Consultant reviewed relevant reports and documents of relevance to the assignment, deepening understanding on the context, Federal Government (including Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (FMAFS) and State level entities (including State Ministries of Agriculture) priorities and plans, recent and on-going initiatives by FAO, WFP, UNICEF, IOM, OCHA, UNDP and UNHCR, INGOs and NNGOs, and stakeholders operating in the target state of Yobe.

Some of the key documents and reports that were reviewed as part of Yobe Food Security Sector Strategy (FSSS) development process include Country Strategy Sector Reports and Plans, Policies, and Strategies; Cadre Harmonize Reports (since 2016); Federal Government and State level Annual Reports on Food Security Situation; FSS, FEWSNET Monthly Bulletins; Save the Children's HEA Analysis and Livelihood Zoning from 2018; FAO Emergencies Quarterly updates; Nutrition Sector IPC Reports; WFP MVAM Market Bulletins; OCHA and IOM DTM Reports.

Data and assessment tools were also developed during this phase and validated by FSS Cluster partners, including FAO and WFP teams, and the Yobe State Ministry of Agriculture Officials. The tools developed included (i) checklist Key Informant Interview questions (KII) for State Ministry of Agriculture officials, UN agencies (including WFP, FAO, OCHA, and IOM), International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) and National NGOs, Academia, SEMA and NEMA, Community Leaderships, and private sector (ii) Focus Group Discussions (FGD) Checklist questions targeting IDPs in camps and camp like settlements, IDPs in Host Communities, Host communities and Returnees.

4.1.2. Field Phase

As part of the assessment and field phase, the Consultant interacted with key FSS partners and stakeholders, including undertaking KII with officials from the Yobe State Ministry of Agriculture Senior Officials (including Permanent Secretary and Technical Department Directors), NEMA, SEMA, Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MHADM), FAO, WFP, UN OCHA, Consultation meetings and KII were also held with donors, including the Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs (BHA) and ECHO. Further, KII interviews were also held with selected partners and stakeholders, including Yobe State Agricultural Development Programme, Victims Support Fund (VSF-a NGO).

Further, the Consultant undertook FGDs with target groups (returnees, host communities, IDPs in Camps and Camp-like settlements as well as IDPs in Host Communities), from selected Local Government Areas (LGAs), in Yobe State, including Fune and Damaturu. During the FGD sessions, men and women were interviewed separately to ensure women were able to fully articulate and raise their issues and concerns without let or hindrance.

The FGDs offered an opportunity to interrogate and assess the key constraints, risks and needs of the target groups whilst also further exploring opportunities that could help address their challenges going forward. Movement restrictions due to time constraint and access issues meant that a limited number of LGAs were visited during the mission.

The Consultant also convened a half-day workshop in Damaturu, bringing together representatives from the State Ministry of Agriculture, NEMA, SEMA, IDP representatives, INGOs and NNGO, providing an opportunity to further interrogate the issues facing the target groups, federal and state level contextual developments of relevance and interest to the target groups in recent years as well as develop consensus on possible interventions and recommendations to address the needs of the target groups, with a focus on food insecurity in Yobe State.

Following the conclusion of the consultation processes in Yobe State, a Validation Workshop was convened at the Federal level in Abuja, bring together representatives from the BAY States Ministries of Agriculture, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, donors, International Rescue Committee, Save the Children, Mercy Corp, FAO, and WFP, amongst other key FSS Partners and stakeholders. During the workshop, preliminary findings and recommendations for the new FSS Strategy (2024-26) were presented, with further feedback and inputs provided by the participants to address gaps. More importantly, the validation workshop was an opportunity to triangulate findings from the state level consultations. An overview of the participants to the Abuja Validation Workshop is presented in Annex 4.

5.0. KEY FINDINGS, PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY CHALLENGES OF THE TARGET GROUPS

5.1. Recent contextual security and socio-economic developments in YOBE State

Like the rest of Nigeria, Yobe State has been negatively impacted by the more recent policy pronouncements at Federal level, which have worsened an already worse food insecurity situation for the target groups. More precisely, the removal of fuel subsidies and the merging of the official and black-market exchange rates have seen food prices and overall costs of goods and services skyrocket, with vulnerable groups like IDPs and returnees being further disadvantaged. Prior to the removal of fuel subsidies, farmers in the State were buying a litre of fuel at N250 and the price had skyrocketed to N550 per litre by the time of the assessment. The steep increase in fuel prices had a huge and negative impact on irrigated agriculture in the State and a number of farmers could no longer continue to irrigate their crops. Similarly, the cost of fertilizer had shot up in the State, further affecting crop production and productivity.

Compared to the peak periods of the insurgency, the security situation in Yobe State has improved significantly. However, LGAs that border Borno State to the South remain insecure and therefore partially inaccessible to humanitarian actors. These include Gujba, Gulani and Geidam. Also, to the North, there are still insecurity challenges in Yunusari and Yusufari LGAs that border Niger. Apart from these insecure and often inaccessible LGAs (with need for escort for humanitarian actors), Yobe State is now secure overall with no movement restrictions to IDPs, Hosts and Returnees.

There were no existing camps hosting IDPs in Yobe State at the time of the assessment and all IDPs were residing in host communities. According to latest IOM/SEMA DTM data (March 2023), there were 168, 119 IDPs living in host communities and spread across 9 LGAs of Yobe State, including Damaturu, Gujba, Gulani, Fune, Potiskum, Bade, Geidam, Yunusari and Bursari.

According to the latest IOM DTM Report (Round 44), Yobe currently hosts 172,393 IDPs, and 355,319 returnees. The relatively large number of returnees in comparison to IDPs bears testimony to the relative peaceful conditions in Yobe State, which creates conditions for medium to long term agricultural livelihoods type of interventions. The majority of the returnees in the State are in Damaturu, Gulani, Gujba and Geidam.

Despite the relatively peaceful conditions in Yobe State, food insecurity remains high with most of the target groups (hosts, IDPs and returnees) facing chronic hunger. For instance, and according to the March 2023 Cadre Harmonize Report, 806,912 people were in IPC phase 3 and above and the number expected to rise to 1,223,288 during the peak of the lean season (May to September).

Extreme weather phenomenon, including heavy windstorms (April 2022) and downpours in Yobe state from May 2022 resulted in 17 LGAs experiencing flooding, resulting in displacement, loss of lives, food, Non-Food Items, livestock and destruction of buildings and farmlands worth millions of naira. Further, increased frequency of drought, high food prices, including increased cost of cereals, seeds and fuel have exacerbated the food insecurity situation in the State. Further, poor infrastructure in the majority of the LGAs have affected food supply chains, trade and access to services.

5.2. Food security (emergence and agricultural livelihoods) needs for target groups in YOBE State

Overall, there is a heightened need for agricultural livelihoods support for the target groups in Yobe State, especially for IDPs and Returnees. The relatively peaceful conditions in Yobe State, coupled with easy of movement of people, including IDPs, hosts and the returnees, has created an increased and more urgent demand for agricultural livelihoods type of interventions and opportunities for self-reliance.

Overall, access to farm inputs is a challenge for the target groups, and this includes improved seed varieties, fertilizers and chemicals for pest and disease control. Improved seed varieties were largely inaccessible to the target groups due to exorbitant costs, with IDPs and returnees most affected due to heightened poverty levels of these demographic groups. In addition to agricultural inputs, access to farm tools for land preparation well as chemicals for pests and disease control remains a challenge for all the target groups.

Whilst several IDPs, hosts and returnees expressed interest in dry season vegetable production and micro-gardens, they lack basic equipment and tools like watering cans, hoes, and rakes. Access to good quality vegetable seeds is also a challenge.

With huge potential for livestock development, the target groups also need support towards restocking as well as access to veterinary drugs and medicines. Though not directly linked to food security, IDPs in Yobe State particularly face challenges with regards access to shelter. With no camps provided to them, the IDPs rely on host communities who provide them with rental shelter, often paid for a year in advance. With limited income earning opportunities, little savings and incomes available to the IDPs is often diverted to cater for shelter needs, leaving them more food insecure and with no money to invest towards agricultural livelihoods or other opportunities for self-reliance.

A significant number of the target groups, including IDPs and Returnees, are keen to venture into small businesses, such as vending and petty trading, but do lack start-up capital for the same.

In the same vein, the target groups face serious challenges in accessing basic services that are essential for human development, such as safe drinking water, sanitation facilities as well as health and education services. The influx of IDPs and returnees in the host communities has put pressure on the already limited basic services that existed in the State.

5.3. **Food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) risks, vulnerabilities and challenges faced by the target groups.**

The food insecurity situation in Yobe State is mainly driven by chronic poverty, and environmental factors, with drought and desertification as the main challenges. Thus, the State has skeletal and sparse vegetation cover, and the soil is degraded. Further, long dry spells are common, which fuels the food insecurity situation overall. In addition to drought, flooding is also increasingly becoming a challenge in Yobe State. For instance, in 2021, a total of 2,899 households (17,394 persons) living in lowland communities across 11 local government areas (LGAs) in Yobe State were affected by severe flooding. In this regard, the affected LGAs were Gulani, Damaturu, Fune, Gujba, Bursari, Karasuwa, Nguru, Jakusko, Fika, Nangere and Tarmuwa.

Against this prevailing context in the state, and coupled with insecurity challenges in the inaccessible LGAs, IDPs and returnees show significantly higher levels of deprivation and vulnerability in terms of food consumption, coping, nonmonetary poverty, and food stock levels. With all IDPs living in host communities, food assistance is hardly available, and this has further exacerbated their vulnerability.

The combination of climate change, high food prices (due to economic downturn and macro-economic policy pronouncements on fuel and the USD to Naira exchange rate, and insecurity in the inaccessible LGAs), have all affected the livelihoods of all the target groups and their access to food, with their purchasing power drastically reduced as well as limiting production and productivity at the farm level.

LGAs in the state that are hard to reach are the most vulnerable and the level of vulnerability and food insecurity increases as the lean season progresses, which is from May to August of each year. Localized farmer/herder clashes are also not uncommon in the State and this often triggers clashes, displacements and loss of livelihood assets for the target groups.

Given the above scenario, target groups are particularly vulnerable, with those most in need being IDPs in the host communities who hardly receive food assistance as well as the returnees. Limited social networks also make the IDPs and returnees particularly vulnerable whilst lack of own land to build shelter and to farm is another unique challenge for the IDPs in host communities. With no own land, the IDPs resort to payment of rentals for them to access farming land whilst landlords demand exorbitant rentals for accommodation, meaning there is little, or no money left for IDPs to invest in livelihoods and income earning opportunities. Whilst many of the target groups are keen to start small businesses, access to start-up capital (loans or grants) is a challenge.

Whilst returnees often have their own land, majority of them have lost productive assets and tools to work the land. Further they also face re-integration challenges, and some have lost their original homes and face shelter challenges like the IDPs.

Overall, all the target groups face challenges with regards access to agricultural inputs and improved seed varieties due to exorbitant costs involved as well as non-availability at local levels. Although insecurity is no longer much of an issue (compared to the peak period of the crises) in the State, the ban on use of NPK fertilizers still stands and this has negative implications on farm yields and overall productivity.

In addition to input access challenges, the target groups have limited access to extension services, considering that the whole of Yobe State only has 50 extension workers. Lack of extension services is detrimental to production and productivity in both the livestock and crop sectors. Whilst the livestock sector is key to the economy of Yobe State, access to drugs and veterinary medicines is a challenge due to poor infrastructure (including lack of electricity and energy), resulting in the lack of a cold chain in the livestock sector. The lack of livestock marketing infrastructure at local levels also means that livestock farmers and herders have no access to niche livestock markets.

The influx of IDPs from mainly Borno State and returnees has further stretched an already fragile service delivery system in the State, resulting in limited access to education, WASH, and health facilities for most of the target groups.

5.4. Key Vulnerable Groups

Feedback from target groups and key informants revealed that the neediest and most vulnerable individuals amongst the target groups are the IDPs (who all live in the host communities) as well as the returnees. Both target groups have limited livelihood options and the IDPs receive very limited food assistance and humanitarian assistance due to dwindling resources.

Within the IDPs and returnees however, the most vulnerable groups are the widows, lactating mothers, and the chronically sick. Due to traditional norms, it is normally the men that go and provide farm labour and earn income for their families, as well as gather firewood for sale in the urban centres. Widows do not have this support function and are therefore on their own. Most of the widows had their husbands killed by non-state armed actors and they were still traumatized with these experiences, often with no psycho-social support and counseling services available to them. Similarly, single female headed households were reported to face additional challenges in accessing food and livelihood sources compared to male headed households, across all the target groups, forcing some of them to engage in negative coping strategies.

In the same vein, lactating mothers were found to be equally vulnerable as they often are at risk of suffering from malnutrition due to poor diets. Lactating mothers cannot leave their babies behind to go and explore income earning chores and this puts them at further risk.

6.0. CAPACITIES OF TARGET GROUPS AND EXISTING OPPORTUNITIES THAT CAN BE EXPLOITED IN PURSUIT OF BOTH EMERGENCE AND SELF-RELIANCE LIVELIHOODS IN YOBE STATE

The majority of the target groups are agro-pastoralist and subsistence farmers and possess both crops and livestock production skills. A significant number of the returnees, hosts and IDPs in the host communities possess crops and livestock rearing skills. In addition to crop farming, the target groups are also engaged in vegetable production and horticulture, especially during the dry season where water availability is not a challenge. With regards livestock, small livestock rearing is particularly popular amongst IDPs who ordinarily do not have access to land for pasture and rearing of large stock. In addition to farming skills, some of the target groups (especially host communities) were also into some form of business, including petty trading and vending of various goods and commodities such as cereals, fruits and vegetables. Although limited, some of the target groups also possess various vocational skills, including construction, motor mechanics, tailoring.

Despite the contextual challenges that face the target groups in Yobe State, there are existing opportunities that can still be exploited, in pursuit of mainly agricultural livelihoods opportunities. Yobe state's economy is largely driven by agriculture and livestock with more than 80% of the population engaged in agro-pastoralism and subsistence farming. Food crops such as millet, sorghum, beans, and maize are grown by small-scale farmers to generate income. Cash crops include ground nuts, sesame seed, and cotton.

Nature based value chains also exist and these include shear butter, and Gum Arabic, which all have potential for export. The State Ministry of Agriculture also report that the State is the largest producer of gum Arabic in Nigeria. A significant proportion of the local population are pastoralists and there are opportunities for commercial livestock production, including cattle, sheep, goats, and sheep. Yobe State hosts the largest cattle markets in West Africa. The Potiskum international livestock market is one of the largest in Sub-Saharan Africa and this creates a market access opportunity for livestock farmers in Yobe.

Further the state hosts the Geidam cattle where hundreds of cows depart to Lagos and the southern states of the country every day. Yobe State supplies meat hides and skin to other parts of the country, and particularly to the southern states. Key business centers in the State include Potiskum, Nguru, Gashua, Geidam and Damaturu. Overall, the State is divided into three agro-ecological zones, each with its own agricultural potential:

Northern Zone: The region supports the production of a wide range of field crops and cereals which are all rain fed. These include millet, sorghum, cowpea, which are all rain fed. This is also the major livestock producing region of Yobe State, and home to large numbers of camel and small ruminants such as sheep and goats. Irrigated agriculture is also practiced, and the target commodities include onion, vegetables and irrigated maize and rice. The LGAs covered by these agro-ecological zones include Geldam, Yusunari, Yusufari, Bade, Nguru, and Machina.

Middle Zone: This is the largest sesame producing region in Yobe State, in addition to gum Arabic, and sorghum.

Southern Zone: This comprises the LGAs of Gujba, Gulani, and Fika. Key crops grown include sorghum, maize, and rice and the rainfall patterns are generally good. Traders often come to purchase commodities and take them to the southern parts of the country.



7.0. PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS AND STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS IN SUPPORT OF FOOD SECURITY FOR THE TARGET GROUPS

Provided in Table 1 below are the key strategic recommendations proposed to address the root causes of the food insecurity issues facing the target groups:

Policy related Issues	Strategic Recommendation(s)
Strategic prioritization with food and emergence assistance in the face of funding cuts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Despite the significant improvements in the security situation (compared to peak period of displacement crises), the need to scale up food assistance (and targeting the most vulnerable IDPs, Hosts and Returnees) during the peak of the lean season (June-Sept) remain relevant given the food insecurity situation of the vulnerable groups in Yobe State¹. □ However, and unfortunately, it is becoming increasingly getting difficult to follow these guidelines in the face of budget cuts. □ Donors are therefore encouraged to consider continuing food assistance funding, especially scaling up during the lean season. □ Whilst food assistance is often scaled down outside the lean season, it is important to note that the needs of the most vulnerable, including IDPs in host communities, new arrivals and some members of the host communities) remain high and funding is equally needed during this period.
Inadequate funding towards the agricultural sector in Yobe State.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Need for the Federal Government of Nigeria to prioritize investment and funding towards the Agricultural Sector, and as part of its commitments to the Malabo Declaration, for which the authorities committed to allocate a minimum of 10 per cent of annual budget to Agriculture. □ This is essential to ensure meaningful impact in the sector and in view of dwindling donor resources visa vis increasing needs in States like Yobe, where only 50 agricultural extension staff are available for the whole State.
Durable Solutions and local integration of IDPs in Host Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ There is need for Yobe State authorities to come up with a local integration framework for IDPs who have been in a protracted situation with no access to their own land for shelter and farming in the State. □ The majority of the IDPs do not expect to return to their ancestral lands due to insecurity concerns and have been in Yobe State for almost a decade now and see the State as their new home. It is therefore essential for the local authorities, donors and development partners to craft a local integration strategy that will unlock opportunities for self-reliance for them. □ There is need to balance security and food security objectives where possible, ensuring adequate security is provided to Hosts, IDPs and Returnees so as to ensure unhindered access to livelihoods including farmlands. □ The ban on cultivation of cereals that are a meter or so above the ground needs to be reviewed in view of the slight improvements in security in the State. □ Despite pronouncements by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development that the use of NPK fertilizers had been lifted, target groups are still of the impression that use of NPK fertilizers in the State remains prohibited. □ There is need for a clear policy pronouncement on the issue to avoid inconsistencies on the issue.
Limited access to farming land by IDPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Yobe State officials, through the Ministry of Agriculture, are urged to craft a Land Access Framework for IDPs to ensure they have access to their own land for farming in the immediate and interim term.
Programmatic Related Issues	Strategic Recommendations

¹ Most recent CADRE Harmonise Reports show the number of food insecure people in the State high and at over 1 million, despite significant security improvements.

Scaling up emergence food assistance to IDPs and Returnees in the lean season	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Whilst there is general consensus in the State, that food assistance is undermining opportunities for self-reliance and the need to address the root causes of food insecurity amongst the target groups, there is still needed to provide food assistance during the lean season. □ Food assistance provision will act as a strategy to cushion the target groups and ensure they do not resort to negative coping strategies that might undermine their participation in agricultural livelihoods opportunities. □ Food assistance could take the form of cash for assets/work, providing opportunities to inject cash in the local economy and enable markets to function.
Explore opportunities to graduate from food assistance to long-term agricultural livelihoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Support with emergency food assistance should be undertaken as a short-term measure to address immediate needs, whilst the same target groups should receive agricultural livelihoods support that ensure self-reliance in the medium to long-term. In this regard the Food Security Sector Actors should consider adopting the Graduation Approach².
Need to address the root causes of food security and other needs facing the target groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ The FSS, working with Yobe State institutions, donors, development and humanitarian partners, needs to adopt an integrated approach to programming, ensuring a multi-sectorial approach to addressing the root causes of food insecurity in the state. □ The mission observed that, beyond food security, the target groups also need access to other key and critical basic services which include health, WASH, shelter and education. It is therefore essential that a holistic and integrated type of programming is adopted, to ensure better impact from investments that are geared towards food security enhancement.
Increasing production and productivity in the crops sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ There is a need to ensure target groups are supported with the recommended input regimes to ensure increased yields and productivity across the various crop types. □ The current focus by humanitarian and development actors is on reaching out to as many beneficiaries as possible without paying attention to recommended seeds and fertilizer application rates per unit piece of land. □ There is also a need for enhanced investments towards extension support services, especially by both the Federal and Yobe State Ministries of Agriculture. The Farmer Field School Initiative by FAO needs to be complimented with broad based investments towards extension support services from the public institutions and this calls for recruitment of extension officers and providing them and ensuring they are equipped with the right tools to meet their mandate.
Dealing with issue of IDPs access to farming land in the short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ The Consultant observed that IDPs tend to have better access to farmland during the dry season as opposed to the rain season, as hosts tend to let go of their farms during this period. □ Consequently, support to dry season farming needs to be expedited to ensure IDPs take advantage of the relatively easy availability of farming land during this period. This should also be coupled with support towards establishment of irrigation facilities to expand the scope for dry season farming. □ Where humanitarian and development partners provide inputs to IDPs there is need to ensure issues of access to farming land are taken into consideration, and where possible, effort made to broker relationships with hosts to ensure IDPs protection needs are met as they negotiate land access with hosts.
Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ To promote full integration of IDPs and Returnees in the Host communities, there is need to integrate peacebuilding and social cohesion activities with food assistance or development activities. □ Further, and given the insecurity challenges that still persist within the inaccessible LGAs, there is need for a formal framework through which donors, humanitarian and development partners can support NGOs and stakeholders in their programmes and projects in the 'inaccessible' LGAs. Whilst these areas a no go for most INGOs and development partners, the NGOs were observed to have a unique and comparative advantage as they can use their networks to safely access the regions, but their resources are very minimal visa vis the needs.

² The Graduation Approach is a holistic livelihoods program designed to address the multi-dimensional needs of extreme poor households. It consists of five core components: time-limited consumption support; a savings component; an asset transfer; training in how to use the asset; and life skills coaching and mentoring.

Recommended activities to address food insecurity challenges for the target groups:

Given the increasingly stable conditions in Yobe State and the apparent normalization of the security situation, FSS partners are urged to now provide support that goes beyond short-term assistance to help target groups rebuild their lives and stand on their own feet. This entails activities related to:

- Provision of permanent housing to IDPs in Host communities.
- Strengthening security of tenure with regards access to land.
- Scale up the implementation of life-saving interventions of food assistance and unconditional cash transfers (social welfare package) to the new arrivals and vulnerable groups, especially during the lean season.
- Promote resilience-building interventions for target groups, including agricultural livelihoods.

Livestock Markets Development: Yobe is home to the international Potiskum international livestock market, one of the largest in Sub-Saharan Africa and this creates a market access opportunity for livestock farmers in Yobe. Further the state hosts the Geidam cattle market where hundreds of cows depart to Lagos and the southern states of the country every day.

Livestock farmers in the LGAs, however, find it difficult to access these markets due to distance issues. To facilitate market linkages and to incentivize livestock traders and brokers, there are opportunities to develop interior and smaller livestock markets in key LGAs, with facilities such as water points and loading ramps for trucks and lorries.

Promotion of cold chains to address veterinary drugs and medicines access issues: Opportunities to unlock potential in the livestock sector lie in improved animal disease control and ready availability of drugs and vaccines, including establishment of a cold chain. Currently, there are extremely limited or no investments towards this activity by development or humanitarian actors in the State, with resources being provided by some partners towards vaccination campaigns, which are felt to be unsustainable and not addressing the root causes. Investments towards this activity should priorities energy infrastructure issues, such as installation of solar powered cold chains and partnerships with private sector drugs vendors and distributors to ensure easy access for the target groups.

Promote and scale up sustainable livestock restocking exercises: small stock such as ruminants (sheep and goats), as well as local chickens have proved to be an effective way to improve incomes and nutrition for the target groups and this needs to be scaled up, with donors being urged to promote investments towards the activity. To ensure this is sustainable and also create long lasting impact in terms of reach and coverage, the FSS Cluster needs to explore the introduction of the Livestock Pass-On Initiative. Lessons and experiences with this initiative in other countries on the continent show that the first line beneficiaries can successfully pass-on the livestock offspring to another target household beneficiary and through the income from the sale of the goats, sheep or chickens, the target groups will be able to provide food, school requirements for the children and other basic needs for their **families**.

Promote market-led interventions in the supply of inputs (seeds and tools), as opposed to free hand-outs. Free hand-outs and distribution of farming inputs by both humanitarian and development actors has had the negative impact of crowding out the private sector actors. In the long run this will mean the private agro-actors in Yobe State are out of business and farming communities will find it difficult to access input markets, assuming humanitarian support comes to an end. To guard against this, the FSS actors are urged to pilot input voucher schemes where inputs are distributed to target groups through agro-dealers. The agro-dealers could receive a commission for every voucher redeemed, thereby keeping the agro-dealers in business. The agro-dealers could also stock other agricultural products of interest to the target groups and farming communities at large, guarding against markets collapse and also passing on the message that ultimately, it is the private sector that will be able to supply inputs and other farming services in a more sustainable way, in the long term.

Provide grants and matching grants to target groups, as sources of finance for business startups. A significant number of the target groups are keen to set up small business and be self-reliant. However, access to start-finance remains a challenge. The FSS Cluster could explore the provision of start-up grants and business start-up kits to the target groups, with individuals and self-interest groups first receiving relevant training and capacity building to ensure they are market ready. To guard against dependence syndrome and also to ensure the sustainability of this initiative, the grants can be managed in the form of a revolving fund, where interest free repayments are made, and the monies will be able to benefit other needy target groups. Targeting could be such that the most vulnerable such as new IDP arrivals, lactating mothers, and widows will be supported with grants with no requirement for repayment whilst everyone else would need to make repayments over an agreed period of



time. Foster families taking care of unaccompanied children and orphans could also be exempted from making repayments on the grants. Opportunities to establish and support cottage industries also need to be explored, anchored on available natural resources and promising local value chains that offer participation of large numbers of the target groups and with market potential.

Promote irrigated micro-gardens where water points are available or can be developed. Micro-gardens offer opportunities for income earning whilst enabling the target groups to meet household dietary needs. These interventions need to be scaled up where resources permit and opportunities for group farming promoted amongst the target groups. Investments towards drilling of water points should also be supported, with the water points have a dual effect, meeting both WASH and irrigation needs. Support with market access for the micro-gardens would need to be explored, and in this respect, there is need for a comprehensive market access to determine the key products of demand at the markets and support the micro-gardens to meet the market demands, including ensuring quality horticultural seeds are available to the vegetable producers.

Promote environmental conservation, tree planting (including fruits trees) in the face of increasing desertification. There is need to promote environmental protection awareness, afforestation and tree planting activities in Yobe State, in the face of increasing threats of desertification. There are opportunities for FSS Cluster members to support Yobe State in access funding under the Green Fund and leverage on the Federal Government's commitments towards Nigeria's Nationally Determined Contributions. Afforestation activities and tree planting could target host communities as they have their own land, and to incentivize them, initial focus could be on fruit trees that offer income earning opportunities.

Provide resources and support towards Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Projects and programmes in the State: Donors, and FSS Cluster partners, working together with NEMA and the State Ministry of Agriculture should support the implementation of the Federal 2019 National Disaster Risk Management Policy, which is focused on areas like awareness, governance, capacity and resilience. There is also a need for close collaboration and coordination with the Department of Climate Change to ensure alignment of state level DRR activities with the National Adaptation Plan Framework.

List of Annexes

FGD Checklist questions with IDPs in Host Communities

Key Assessment Area	Checklist questions
<i>General Profiling</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> When did you first settle in this area following displacement from your original home to settle in this area in this area as an IDP? <input type="checkbox"/> Which NGO and NNGO as well as UN agencies are operating in your state of LGA and what projects are they promoting, in the area of emergence food assistance or agricultural livelihoods? <input type="checkbox"/> How would you describe your relationship with your host community counterparts? Would you say it's cordial and you co-exist well? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there areas of conflict/tension that you experience with your Host counterparts? <input type="checkbox"/> How well are you integrated, socially and economically? <input type="checkbox"/> With regards access to emergency and agricultural live livelihoods support, are there programmes that particularly target you and/together with your host counterparts? <input type="checkbox"/> Any similar initiatives by the state Government?
Food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) needs for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states.	
<i>Who is the most vulnerable populations among the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), in the camps and camp like settlements in the state?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which groups or category of people are particularly at risk with regards food insecurity in your community? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there incidences of stunting and malnourishment amongst under 5s? <input type="checkbox"/> What is the situation for pregnant women and lactating mothers with regards food security? Would you say their nutritional needs are well catered for? <input type="checkbox"/> Do e the conditions in the camps and settlements allow for self-reliance activities or does one have to live productive lives and in pursuit of livelihoods opportunities?
<i>What are the most food insecure periods of the year for you?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> For how long do households normally exhaust their food stocks after harvesting? <input type="checkbox"/> Which months of the year do people normally experience the most difficulties in assessing food? <input type="checkbox"/> How do you normally deal with food insecurity during such periods? Do you have access to emergency food assistance during this period? <input type="checkbox"/> Where you do, what type of food assistance and quantities are normally provided to households or individuals (consider cereals, legumes and oils)
<i>What is the food security needs (immediate and resilience) for you?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which types of food stuffs do you require in order to survive? <input type="checkbox"/> Please list the type and quantities of food you need, say per month (including those provided through emergency food assistance as well as what you need through own agricultural production or other livelihoods means (where possible). <input type="checkbox"/> In your answer above, consider quantities of cereals that you need to survive through to the next harvest or per each calendar month broken down as cereals (rice, sorghum or maize), legumes and oils,
Food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) risks, vulnerabilities and challenges for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states	
<i>What risks and vulnerabilities do you face as IDPs in this location in achieving food security?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What threats, both immediate and in the medium term, do you face or envisage, in relation to achieving food security. <input type="checkbox"/> To what extent are you at risk to extreme weather conditions (drought and floods) and how has this affected your harvests and yields over the past years? Have you faced these conditions in the past and how has this affected your community? Do you have mechanisms to cope and deal with these threats when they occur and how adequate have the support mechanisms been (either from authorities, donors or NGO partners?) <input type="checkbox"/> Are there any crop and livestock diseases that you face, and which pose a risk to household food security or general livelihoods?

<p><i>What are the challenges that you face in achieving food security?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> With regards access to livelihood opportunities, and other opportunities for self-reliance, do you think you are receiving the right support for you to succeed? <input type="checkbox"/> What is the situation with regards to access to land, seeds, tools for those who want to venture into crop farming? <input type="checkbox"/> Do you always receive the emergency food assistance on time (when its provided) or there are issues that hinder timely distribution? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there insecurity issues that affect your access to farmland? <input type="checkbox"/> For livestock keepers, do you have access to pasture and water to graze your animals without let or hindrance? <input type="checkbox"/> How about access to finance and capital to start small businesses or finance farming operations? <input type="checkbox"/> To what extent have changes in weather patterns affected your household food security situation? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there any local by-laws and regulations from authorities that hinder you and other community members' ability to produce food for themselves and their families. <input type="checkbox"/> How accessible are basic services such as health, WASH and to what extend does this affect your ability to pursue livelihood activities or be self-reliant. <input type="checkbox"/> Are there issues with your local infrastructure that could affect your different enterprises, egg access to markets, business development services or extension support?
<p><i>What are the coping strategies for food insecurity for you in achieving food security?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> How do you cope and manage in times of extreme hunger and food shortages? <input type="checkbox"/> Besides support provided through food assistance by UN agencies such as WFP and NGOs, how else do you manage to survive? <input type="checkbox"/> Please list in order or importance, livelihood activities that you engage with in trying to cope and deal with food insecurity
<p>Analyze the different risk and conflict and protection-sensitive opportunities and capacities available for improving food security for IDPs, Returnees and Host Communities in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states while taking into consideration a cross-cutting issues including climate change, multi-sectoral implementation and the Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus among others.</p>	
<p><i>What capacities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do you possess and have that can be tapped to improve food security</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What assets, tools, skills and expertise, do you have, which can be exploited in pursuit of both emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods opportunities? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there local institutions, actors or stakeholders that particularly target your community with regards support, trainings or capacity building programmes that relate to food security enhancement? <input type="checkbox"/> What do you see as gaps in your ability to be self-reliant? <input type="checkbox"/> Do you have apex associations and representations that work to promote your interests with regards food security, including interacting with market actors?
<p><i>What opportunities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do you have or see that can be tapped to improve food security (including inaccessible/hard to reach areas)?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What opportunities are available to the target population, which can be exploited in support of emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods? <input type="checkbox"/> Please consider availability of household labour, access to land, markets functionality, availability of basic services such as WASH, HEALTH, water resources amongst other opportunities. <input type="checkbox"/> What productive tools and skills do you possess which can be used in pursuit of both emergence and agricultural livelihoods opportunities, <input type="checkbox"/> What opportunities and initiatives are being undertaken by state actors, national and international NGOs to improve food security situation, both emergence and agricultural livelihoods situation in the area or amongst your community?

FGD Checklist questions with returnees from within locations in the same states

Key Assessment Area	Checklist questions
General Profiling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> When did you return from displacement and how easy was it to settle in your home area of origin? <input type="checkbox"/> What triggered your return and which location did you live as an IDP and for how long? <input type="checkbox"/> Did you manage to bring any assets, tools and new skills with you? <input type="checkbox"/> Was it easy to assume a normal life upon your return, for instance, did you move to your original home, was it habitable, did you receive any support to resettle? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there development partners and stakeholders providing particular support, both emergence and agricultural livelihoods opportunities for food security enhancement to you? <input type="checkbox"/> Which basic services are available and which ones are in short supply? <input type="checkbox"/> What NFI do you receive and which ones are in short supply? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there areas of conflict/tension that you experience with your community neighbours since your return?
Food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) needs for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states	
<i>Who is the most vulnerable populations among the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), in the camps and camp like settlements in the state</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which groups or category of people are particularly at risk with regards food insecurity in your community? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there incidences of stunting and malnourishment amongst under 5s? <input type="checkbox"/> What is the situation for pregnant women and lactating mothers with regards food security? Would you say their nutritional needs are well catered for? <input type="checkbox"/> Do e the conditions in the camps and settlements allow for self-reliance activities or one to live productive lives and in pursuit of livelihoods opportunities?
<i>What are the most food insecure periods of the year for you</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> For how long do households normally exhaust their food stocks after harvesting? <input type="checkbox"/> Which months of the year do people normally experience the most difficulties in assessing food? <input type="checkbox"/> How do you normally deal with food insecurity during such periods? Do you have access to emergence food assistance during this period? <input type="checkbox"/> Where you do, what type of food assistance and quantities are normally provided to households or individuals (consider cereals, legumes and oils)
<i>What are the food security needs (immediate and resilience) for you?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which types of food stuffs do you require in order to survive? <input type="checkbox"/> Please list the type and quantities of food you need, say per month (including those provided through emergence food assistance as well as what you need through own agricultural production or other livelihoods means (where possible). <input type="checkbox"/> In your answer above, consider quantities of cereals that you need to survive through to the next harvest or per each calendar month broken down as cereals (rice, sorghum or maize), legumes and oils,
Food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) risks, vulnerabilities and challenges for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states	
<i>What risks and vulnerabilities do you face as IDPs in this location in achieving food security?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What threats, both immediate and in the medium term, do you face or envisage, in relation to achieving food security. <input type="checkbox"/> To what extend are you at risk to extreme weather conditions (drought and floods) and how has this affected your harvests and yields over the past years? Have you faced these conditions in the past and how has this affected your community? Do you have mechanisms to cope and deal with these threats when they occur and how adequate have the support mechanisms been (either from authorities, donors or NGO partners?) <input type="checkbox"/> Are there any crop and livestock diseases that you face and which pose a risk to household food security or general livelihoods?

<p><i>What are the challenges that you face in achieving food security?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> With regards access to livelihood opportunities, and other opportunities for self-reliance, do you think you are receiving the right support for you to succeed? <input type="checkbox"/> What is the situation with regards to access to land, seeds, tools for those who want to venture into crop farming? <input type="checkbox"/> Do you always receive the emergence food assistance on time (when its provided) or there are issues that hinder timely distribution? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there insecurity issues that affect your access to farm land? <input type="checkbox"/> For livestock keepers, do you have access to pasture and water to graze your animals without let or hindrance? <input type="checkbox"/> How about access to finance and capital to start small businesses or finance farming operations? <input type="checkbox"/> To what extent have changes in weather patterns affected your household food security situation? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there any local by-laws and regulations from authorities that hinder you and other community members' ability to produce food for themselves and their families <input type="checkbox"/> How accessible are basic services such as health, WASH and to what extent does this affect your ability to pursue livelihood activities or be self-reliant <input type="checkbox"/> Are there issues with your local infrastructure that could affect your different enterprises, eg access to markets, business development services or extension support?
<p><i>What are the coping strategies for food insecurity for you in achieving food security?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> How do you cope and manage in times of extreme hunger and food shortages? <input type="checkbox"/> Besides support provided through food assistance by UN agencies such as WFP and NGOs, how else do you manage to survive? <input type="checkbox"/> Please list in order or importance, livelihood activities that you engage with in trying to cope and deal with food insecurity
<p>Analyze the different risk and conflict and protection-sensitive opportunities and capacities available for improving food security for IDPs, Returnees and Host Communities in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states while taking into consideration a cross-cutting issues including climate change, multi-sectoral implementation and the Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus among others.</p>	
<p><i>What capacities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do you possess and have that can be tapped to improve food security</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What assets, tools, skills and expertise, do you have, which can be exploited in pursuit of both emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods opportunities? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there local institutions, actors or stakeholders that particularly target your community with regards support, trainings or capacity building programmes that relate to food security enhancement? <input type="checkbox"/> What do you see as gaps in your ability to be self-reliant? <input type="checkbox"/> Do you have apex associations and representations that work to promote your interests with regards food security, including interacting with market actors?
<p><i>What opportunities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do you have or see that can be tapped to improve food security (including inaccessible/hard to reach areas)?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What opportunities are available to the target population, which can be exploited in support of emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods? <input type="checkbox"/> Please consider availability of household labour, access to land, markets functionality, availability of basic services such as WASH, HEALTH, water resources amongst other opportunities. <input type="checkbox"/> What productive tools and skills do you possess which can be used in pursuit of both emergence and agricultural livelihoods opportunities, <input type="checkbox"/> What opportunities and initiatives are being undertaken by state actors, national and international NGOs to improve food security situation, both emergence and agricultural livelihoods situation in the area or amongst your community?

FGD Checklist questions with returnees from other countries (Niger, Chad and Cameroon).

Key Assessment Area	Checklist questions
<i>General Profiling</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> When did you return from displacement and how easy was it to settle in your home area of origin? <input type="checkbox"/> What triggered your return and which country did you live as a refugee and for how long? <input type="checkbox"/> Did you manage to bring any assets, tools and new skills with you? <input type="checkbox"/> Was it easy to assume a normal life upon your return, for instance, did you move to your original home, was it habitable, did you receive any support to resettle? <input type="checkbox"/> How well have you re-integrated since your return, both socially and economically? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there development partners and stakeholders providing particular support, both emergence and agricultural livelihoods opportunities for food security enhancement to you? <input type="checkbox"/> Which basic services are available and which ones are in short supply? <input type="checkbox"/> What NFI do you receive (if any) and which ones are in short supply? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there areas of conflict/tension that you experience with your fellow community neighbours since your return?
Food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) needs for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states	
<i>Who is the most vulnerable populations among the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), in the camps and camp like settlements in the state</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Which groups or category of people are particularly at risk with regards food insecurity in your community? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there incidences of stunting and malnourishment amongst under 5s? <input type="checkbox"/> What is the situation for pregnant women and lactating mothers with regards food security? Would you say their nutritional needs are well catered for? <input type="checkbox"/> Do the conditions in the camps and settlements allow for self-reliance activities or one to live productive lives and in pursuit of livelihoods opportunities?
<i>What are the most food insecure periods of the year for you</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> For how long do households normally exhaust their food stocks after harvesting? <input type="checkbox"/> Which months of the year do people normally experience the most difficulties in assessing food? <input type="checkbox"/> How do you normally deal with food insecurity during such periods? Do you have access to emergence food assistance during this period? <input type="checkbox"/> Where you do, what type of food assistance and quantities are normally provided to households or individuals (consider cereals, legumes and oils)
<i>What are the food security needs (immediate and resilience) for you?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Which types of food stuffs do you require in order to survive? <input type="checkbox"/> Please list the type and quantities of food you need, say per month (including those provided through emergence food assistance as well as what you need through own agricultural production or other livelihoods means (where possible). <input type="checkbox"/> In your answer above, consider quantities of cereals that you need to survive through to the next harvest or per each calendar month broken down as cereals (rice, sorghum or maize), legumes and oils,
Food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) risks, vulnerabilities and challenges for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states	
<i>What risks and vulnerabilities do you face as IDPs in this location in achieving food security?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> What threats, both immediate and in the medium term, do you face or envisage, in relation to achieving food security. <input type="checkbox"/> To what extent are you at risk to extreme weather conditions (drought and floods) and how has this affected your harvests and yields over the past years? Have you faced these conditions in the past and how has this affected your community? Do you have mechanisms to cope and deal with these threats when they occur and how adequate have the support mechanisms been (either from authorities, donors or NGO partners?) <input type="checkbox"/> Are there any crop and livestock diseases that you face and which pose a risk to household food security or general livelihoods?

<p><i>What are the challenges that you face in achieving food security?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> With regards access to livelihood opportunities, and other opportunities for self-reliance, do you think you are receiving the right support for you to succeed? <input type="checkbox"/> What is the situation with regards to access to land, seeds, tools for those who want to venture into crop farming? <input type="checkbox"/> Do you always receive the emergence food assistance on time (when its provided) or there are issues that hinder timely distribution? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there insecurity issues that affect your access to farm land? <input type="checkbox"/> For livestock keepers, do you have access to pasture and water to graze your animals without let or hindrance? <input type="checkbox"/> How about access to finance and capital to start small businesses or finance farming operations? <input type="checkbox"/> To what extent have changes in weather patterns affected your household food security situation? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there any local by-laws and regulations from authorities that hinder you and other community members' ability to produce food for themselves and their families <input type="checkbox"/> How accessible are basic services such as health, WASH and to what extend does this affect your ability to pursue livelihood activities or be self-reliant <input type="checkbox"/> Are there issues with your local infrastructure that could affect your different enterprises, eg access to markets, business development services or extension support?
<p><i>What are the coping strategies for food insecurity for you in achieving food security?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> How do you cope and manage in times of extreme hunger and food shortages? <input type="checkbox"/> Besides support provided through food assistance by UN agencies such as WFP and NGOs, how else do you manage to survive? <input type="checkbox"/> Please list in order of importance, livelihood activities that you engage with in trying to cope and deal with food insecurity

Analyze the **different risk and conflict and protection-sensitive opportunities and capacities** available for improving food security for IDPs, Returnees and Host Communities in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states while taking into consideration a cross-cutting issues including climate change, multi-sectoral implementation and the Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus among others.

<p><i>What capacities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do you possess and have that can be tapped to improve food security</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What assets, tools, skills and expertise, do you have, which can be exploited in pursuit of both emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods opportunities? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there local institutions, actors or stakeholders that particularly target your community with regards support, trainings or capacity building programmes that relate to food security enhancement? <input type="checkbox"/> What do you see as gaps in your ability to be self-reliant? <input type="checkbox"/> Do you have apex associations and representations that work to promote your interests with regards food security, including interacting with market actors?
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FGD Checklist questions with Host Communities

Key Assessment Area	Checklist questions
<i>General Profiling</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which NGO and NNGO as well as UN agencies are operating in your state of LGA and what projects are they promoting, in the area of emergence food assistance or agricultural livelihoods? <input type="checkbox"/> How would you describe your relationship with IDPs that are settled amongst yourselves? Would you say its cordial and you co-exist well? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there areas of conflict/tension that you experience with them? <input type="checkbox"/> With regards access to emergence and agricultural livelihoods support, are there programmes that particularly target you and/together with your IDPs/returnees counterparts? <input type="checkbox"/> Any similar initiatives by the state Government?
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Food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) risks, vulnerabilities and challenges for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states	
<i>What risks and vulnerabilities do you face as IDPs in this location in achieving food security?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What threats, both immediate and in the medium term, do you face or envisage, in relation to achieving food security. <input type="checkbox"/> To what extend are you at risk to extreme weather conditions (drought and floods) and how has this affected your harvests and yields over the past years? Have you faced these conditions in the past and how has this affected your community? Do you have mechanisms to cope and deal with these threats when they occur and how adequate have the support mechanisms been (either from authorities, donors or NGO partners?) <input type="checkbox"/> Are there any crop and livestock diseases that you face and which pose a risk to household food security or general livelihoods?

<p><i>What are the challenges that you face in achieving food security?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> With regards access to livelihood opportunities, and other opportunities for self-reliance, do you think you are receiving the right support for you to succeed? <input type="checkbox"/> What is the situation with regards to access to land, seeds, tools for those who want to venture into crop farming? <input type="checkbox"/> Do you always receive the emergence food assistance on time (when its provided) or there are issues that hinder timely distribution? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there insecurity issues that affect your access to farm land? <input type="checkbox"/> For livestock keepers, do you have access to pasture and water to graze your animals without let or hindrance? <input type="checkbox"/> How about access to finance and capital to start small businesses or finance farming operations? <input type="checkbox"/> To what extent have changes in weather patterns affected your household food security situation? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there any local by-laws and regulations from authorities that hinder you and other community members' ability to produce food for themselves and their families <input type="checkbox"/> How accessible are basic services such as health, WASH and to what extend does this affect your ability to pursue livelihood activities or be self-reliant <input type="checkbox"/> Are there issues with your local infrastructure that could affect your different enterprises, eg access to markets, business development services or extension support?
<p><i>What are the coping strategies for food insecurity for you in achieving food security?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> How do you cope and manage in times of extreme hunger and food shortages? <input type="checkbox"/> Besides support provided through food assistance by UN agencies such as WFP and NGOs, how else do you manage to survive? <input type="checkbox"/> Please list in order of importance, livelihood activities that you engage with in trying to cope and deal with food insecurity
<p>Analyze the different risk and conflict and protection-sensitive opportunities and capacities available for improving food security for IDPs, Returnees and Host Communities in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states while taking into consideration a cross-cutting issues including climate change, multi-sectoral implementation and the Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus among others.</p>	
<p><i>What capacities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do you possess and have that can be tapped to improve food security</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What assets, tools, skills and expertise, do you have, which can be exploited in pursuit of both emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods opportunities? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there local institutions, actors or stakeholders that particularly target your community with regards support, trainings or capacity building programmes that relate to food security enhancement? <input type="checkbox"/> What do you see as gaps in your ability to be self-reliant? <input type="checkbox"/> Do you have apex associations and representations that work to promote your interests with regards food security, including interacting with market actors?
<p><i>What opportunities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do you have or see that can be tapped to improve food security (including inaccessible/hard to reach areas)?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What opportunities are available to the target population, which can be exploited in support of emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods? <input type="checkbox"/> Please consider availability of household labour, access to land, markets functionality, availability of basic services such as WASH, HEALTH, water resources amongst other opportunities. <input type="checkbox"/> What productive tools and skills do you possess which can be used in pursuit of both emergence and agricultural livelihoods opportunities, <input type="checkbox"/> What opportunities and initiatives are being undertaken by state actors, national and international NGOs to improve food security situation, both emergence and agricultural livelihoods situation in the area or amongst your community?

Annex 6: KII Checklist questions for UN agencies (FAO, WFP, IOM, OCHA, UNDP, UNHCR)

Key Assessment Area	Checklist questions
<i>General</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which programmes and projects are you implementing or have implemented in recent years in the BAY states, both emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods related <input type="checkbox"/> Who are your key donor partners and implementing partners (National and state levels)? <input type="checkbox"/> How coordinated is your response amongst the agencies, is there a dedicated agriculture working group and how effective has information sharing been through the FSS? <input type="checkbox"/> What has been the funding trends in the sector and where do you see things going in the coming 2 to 3 years in terms of funding and donor priorities in the sector and Nigeria as a country <input type="checkbox"/> To what extend is the demand for self-reliant related support amongst the target groups, as opposed to humanitarian and emergence support? <input type="checkbox"/> To what extend do we now have a culture of donor dependence amongst the target groups, which can pose a risk to development related interventions in the sector.
Food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) needs for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states	
<i>Who is the most vulnerable populations among the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> As part of your emergency food assistance response or agricultural livelihoods programming, which particular groups or individuals do you target and why? <input type="checkbox"/> What does their vulnerability manifest? <input type="checkbox"/> What are the root causes of this vulnerability and what factors are exacerbating the situation?
<i>What are the most food insecure periods of the year for the IDPs, Host Communities and Returnees?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which times of the year would you define as the hunger gap for the target groups in the BAY states? <input type="checkbox"/> As development and humanitarian actors, what measures have you deployed in the past to mitigate against the adverse impact of food insecurity during this period? <input type="checkbox"/> Has there been increased funding from the donor community as part of the response measures? <input type="checkbox"/> What has been the contribution and support from the Government of Nigeria? (both at federal and state levels)
<i>What are the food security needs (immediate and resilience) for the IDPs, Host Communities and Returnees?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What are the key needs of the target population and groups in relation to achieving food security, both immediate and long term resilience? <input type="checkbox"/> What is the average monthly food requirement (cereals) to a typical household in each state per month and how much do they access through emergence food assistance, own agricultural production or other livelihoods means such as petty trading etc.?
Food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) risks, vulnerabilities and challenges for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states	
<i>What are the risks, vulnerabilities and challenges that the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states face in achieving food security?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What would you say are the key risks that face the target groups and population with regards achieving food security, both in the immediate and long-term? <input type="checkbox"/> How do these risks manifest? <input type="checkbox"/> What vulnerabilities and challenges do the target groups/populations normally face? Please in your answer, consider issues to do with access to essential services, lifesaving food stuffs, NFIs, access to agricultural land, pasture and water, seeds, planting materials and productive assets, climate related events (floods and droughts), pests and diseases outbreaks (affecting both crops and livestock), access to extension support and training, availability of household labour to support agricultural activities during the farming season, access to finance, markets and availability of relevant infrastructure, including road connectivity. <input type="checkbox"/> How are do vulnerable groups in the hard to reach and conflict prone areas supported and which actors are normally on the ground? To what extend are these particular groups at further risk due to issues around lack of access, and what strategies are in place to address the same?

What are the coping strategies for food insecurity for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states in achieving food security?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> How do you people manage in times of extreme hunger and food shortages? <input type="checkbox"/> Besides support provided through food assistance by UN agencies such as WFP and NGOs, how else do people manage to survive? Please consider alternative livelihood sources such as petty trading, fishing, casual work etc. <input type="checkbox"/> What negative coping strategies have you also observed?
Analyze the different risk and conflict and protection-sensitive opportunities and capacities available for improving food security for IDPs, Returnees and Host Communities in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states while taking into consideration a cross-cutting issues including climate change, multi-sectoral implementation and the Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus among others.	
What capacities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do the affected population (Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees) in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states have that can be tapped to improve food security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What assets, tools, skills and expertise, do the target groups have, which can be exploited in pursuit of both emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods? <input type="checkbox"/> Given the risks and vulnerabilities facing the target groups and communities, to what extend do you think these are fit for purpose? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there existing social networks, associations and membership organizations that could help to advance the cause of the target groups from a food security perspective? If yes, how has the development community worked to strengthen them in the past?
What opportunities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do the affected population (Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees) have that can be tapped to improve food security (including inaccessible/hard to reach areas)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What opportunities are available to the target population, which can be exploited in support of emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods? Please consider federal and state level support and initiatives, research and extension, availability of household labour, access to land, markets and connectivity, availability of basic services such as WASH, HEALTH, Education, water resources amongst other opportunities. <input type="checkbox"/> For the hard to reach areas, what peace building measures and security arrangements are being put in place by local and Federal Authorities to ensure accessibility and stability in the medium to long term. <input type="checkbox"/> How is support to target groups in hard to reach areas normally channeled and how is this monitored?
What are other government and non-government cross cutting opportunities including the HDP nexus, multi-sectoral engagement with other sectors such as Nutrition, WASH, Health, Protection that can improve food security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What coordination mechanisms are in place between the humanitarian and development actors to ensure an effective Triple nexus response? <input type="checkbox"/> To what extend is multi-sectoral engagement (Nutrition, WASH, Health and Protection) being effective in improving food security? <input type="checkbox"/> What are the gaps and opportunities for improvement? <input type="checkbox"/> What opportunities and initiatives are being undertaken by state actors, national and international NGOs to improve food security situation, both emergence and agricultural livelihoods support
To propose practical and sustainable recommendations for emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods activities for food security actors in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states to adopt especially given the resource constraints.	
What potential strategies can be implemented to deliver the emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods in a more efficient and sustainable way amidst the resource constraints?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What strategies and approaches do you see as applicable in ensuring emergency and agricultural livelihoods support are delivered in a more efficient and sustainable way, given the resource constraints. Please consider opportunities to promote market functionality and avoiding crowding out market actors where possible. <input type="checkbox"/> What opportunities exist to ensure vulnerable groups graduate from humanitarian assistance in the medium term and how can this be supported or promoted?
What potential strategies can be implemented to better deliver food security support in a conflict sensitive way to the people in inaccessible and hard to reach areas?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What structures are in place, working with local authorities and state entities to ensure access to hard to reach areas and deliver food security support? <input type="checkbox"/> What conflict sensitive approaches have you adopted or found useful as part of efforts to ensure reach and access to hard to reach areas

KII. Checklist questions with INGOs and NNGOs

Key Assessment Area	Checklist questions
<i>General</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which programmes and projects are you implementing or have implemented in recent years in the BAY states, both emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods related <input type="checkbox"/> Who are your key donor partners (national and state levels)? <input type="checkbox"/> How coordinated is your response amongst the implementing agencies, is there a dedicated agriculture or livelihoods working group and how effective has information sharing been through the FSS? <input type="checkbox"/> What has been the funding trends in the sector and where do you see things going in the coming 2 to 3 years in terms of funding and donor priorities in the sector and Nigeria as a country <input type="checkbox"/> To what extend is the demand for self-reliant related support amongst the target groups, as opposed to humanitarian and emergence support? <input type="checkbox"/> To what extend do we now have a culture of donor dependence amongst the target groups, which can pose a risk to development related interventions in the sector.
Food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) needs for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states	
<i>Who is the most vulnerable populations among the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> As part of your emergency food assistance response or agricultural livelihoods programming, which particular groups or individuals do you target and why? <input type="checkbox"/> What does their vulnerability manifest? <input type="checkbox"/> What are the root causes of this vulnerability and what factors are exacerbating the situation?
<i>What are the most food insecure periods of the year for the IDPs, Host Communities and Returnees?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which times of the year would you define as the hunger gap for the target groups in the BAY states? <input type="checkbox"/> As development and humanitarian actors, what measures have you deployed in the past to mitigate against the adverse impact of food insecurity during this period? <input type="checkbox"/> Has there been increased funding from the donor community as part of the response measures? <input type="checkbox"/> What has been the contribution and support from the Government of Nigeria? (both at federal and state levels)
<i>What are the food security needs (immediate and resilience) for the IDPs, Host Communities and Returnees?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What are the key needs of the target population and groups in relation to achieving food security, both immediate and long term resilience? <input type="checkbox"/> What is the average monthly food requirement (cereals) to a typical household in each state per month and how much do they access through emergence food assistance, own agricultural production or other livelihoods means such as petty trading etc.?
Food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) risks, vulnerabilities and challenges for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states	
<i>What are the risks, vulnerabilities and challenges that the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states face in achieving food security?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What would you say are the key risks that face the target groups and population with regards achieving food security, both in the immediate and long-term? <input type="checkbox"/> How do these risks manifest? <input type="checkbox"/> What vulnerabilities and challenges do the target groups/populations normally face? Please in your answer, consider issues to do with access to essential services, lifesaving food stuffs, NFIs, access to agricultural land, pasture and water, seeds, planting materials and productive assets, climate related events (floods and droughts), pests and diseases outbreaks (affecting both crops and livestock), access to extension support and training, availability of household labour to support agricultural activities during the farming season, access to finance, markets and availability of relevant infrastructure, including road connectivity. <input type="checkbox"/> How are vulnerable groups in the hard to reach and conflict prone areas supported and which actors are normally on the ground? To what extend are these particular groups at further risk due to issues around lack of access, and what strategies are in place to address the same?

What are the coping strategies for food insecurity for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states in achieving food security?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> How do you people manage in times of extreme hunger and food shortages? <input type="checkbox"/> Besides support provided through food assistance by NGO partners, how else do the target groups manage to survive? Please consider alternative livelihood sources such as petty trading, fishing, casual work etc. <input type="checkbox"/> What negative coping strategies have you also observed?
Analyze the different risk and conflict and protection-sensitive opportunities and capacities available for improving food security for IDPs, Returnees and Host Communities in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states while taking into consideration a cross-cutting issues including climate change, multi-sectoral implementation and the Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus among others.	
What capacities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do the affected population (Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees) in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states have that can be tapped to improve food security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What assets, tools, skills and expertise, do the target groups have, which can be exploited in pursuit of both emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods? <input type="checkbox"/> Given the risks and vulnerabilities facing the target groups and communities, to what extend do you think these are fit for purpose? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there existing social networks, associations and membership organizations that could help to advance the cause of the target groups from a food security perspective? If yes, how has the development community worked to strengthen them in the past?
What opportunities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do the affected population (Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees) have that can be tapped to improve food security (including inaccessible/hard to reach areas)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What opportunities are available to the target population, which can be exploited in support of emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods? Please consider federal and state level support and initiatives, research and extension, availability of household labour, access to land, markets and connectivity, availability of basic services such as WASH, HEALTH, Education, water resources amongst other opportunities. <input type="checkbox"/> For the hard-to-reach areas, what peace building measures and security arrangements are being put in place by local and Federal Authorities to ensure accessibility and stability in the medium to long term. <input type="checkbox"/> How is support to target groups in hard to reach areas normally channeled and how is this monitored?
What are other government and non-government cross cutting opportunities including the HDP nexus, multi-sectoral engagement with other sectors such as Nutrition, WASH, Health, Protection that can improve food security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What coordination mechanisms are in place between the humanitarian and development actors to ensure an effective Triple nexus response? <input type="checkbox"/> To what extend is multi-sectoral engagement (Nutrition, WASH, Health and Protection) being effective in improving food security? <input type="checkbox"/> What are the gaps and opportunities for improvement? <input type="checkbox"/> What opportunities and initiatives are being undertaken by state actors, national and international NGOs to improve food security situation, both emergence and agricultural livelihoods support
To propose practical and sustainable recommendations for emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods activities for food security actors in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states to adopt especially given the resource constraints.	
What potential strategies can be implemented to deliver the emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods in a more efficient and sustainable way amidst the resource constraints?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What strategies and approaches do you see as applicable in ensuring emergency and agricultural livelihoods support are delivered in a more efficient and sustainable way, given the resource constraints. Please consider opportunities to promote market functionality and avoiding crowding out market actors where possible. <input type="checkbox"/> What opportunities exist to ensure vulnerable groups graduate from humanitarian assistance in the medium term and how can this be supported or promoted?
What potential strategies can be implemented to better deliver food security support in a conflict sensitive way to the people in inaccessible and hard to reach areas?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What structures are in place, working with local authorities and state entities to ensure access to hard-to-reach areas and deliver food security support? <input type="checkbox"/> What conflict sensitive approaches have you adopted or found useful as part of efforts to ensure reach and access to hard-to-reach areas

KII Checklist questions with private sector actors (input and output market actors, traders and chambers of commerce)

General	<input type="checkbox"/> What business relationship do you have with the target groups (IDPs, or Returnees in this area)? <input type="checkbox"/> Please consider this in the perspective of input market, output market, support with financial services or any other business development services)
Issues around infrastructure and business enabling environment	<input type="checkbox"/> What are your views with regards to the business enabling environment in these location? <input type="checkbox"/> What issues could be hindering your interaction and business relationship with the target groups, from a contextual perspective, e.g. poor infrastructure and connectivity, insecurity etc.
Business relationship with target groups-issues and challenges	<input type="checkbox"/> Which agricultural products do you need as part of your supply chain and to what extend are returnees and IDPs part of this? <input type="checkbox"/> Which goods and services do you also normally sell to them? Please consider this in the context of emergence food support or agricultural livelihoods (tools, seeds, chemicals for disease control, equipment for post-harvest loss control etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> What challenges do you see that affects the ability of the target group to be self-reliant? <input type="checkbox"/> Do you feel they have the right skills, tools and productive assets to interact effectively with agricultural markets? What support may they need? <input type="checkbox"/> What are their production levels for the key crops and cereals as well as livestock? <input type="checkbox"/> Compared to the host communities, do you see any particular issues that disadvantage this particular group in their pursuit of self-reliance opportunities
Business relationship with target groups-Opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/> Are there any opportunities that can be tapped into to unlock potential amongst the target groups with regards economic empowerment? <input type="checkbox"/> Which key value chains would you think could be most profitable for them and how can the development community support in this regard?
Feedback on donor programmes and opportunities for partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/> How has emergence food assistance or agricultural development programmes negatively or positively affected your business? <input type="checkbox"/> Which approaches do you think should be promoted to avoid crowding out the private sector? <input type="checkbox"/> How best can emergence food assistance be delivered in your view? Please consider cash versus direct deliveries etc.

KII Checklist questions with State level Ministry of Agriculture officials, NEMA, SEMA, and LGAs

Key Assessment Area	Checklist questions
Updated contextual understanding (governance, socio-economic situation, natural resource management and insecurity) and impacts on food security for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States.	
<i>Who is the most vulnerable populations among the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> From your perspective engaging with the target population, who would say are the vulnerable groups and individuals amongst the IDPs, Host Communities and Returnees? <input type="checkbox"/> For these groups what is the cause of their vulnerability? <input type="checkbox"/> How does their vulnerability manifest and what factors are exacerbating the situation?
<i>What are the food security needs (immediate and resilience) for the IDPs, Host Communities and Returnees?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> What are the key needs of the target population and groups in relation to achieving food security, both immediate and long term resilience? <input type="checkbox"/> For immediate food needs, which food items do the target communities mostly need or lack and how has been the response by both the authorities, humanitarian and development partners? <input type="checkbox"/> With regards resilience, what are the gaps in the target population with regards achieving sustainable agricultural livelihoods?
Food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) needs for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states	
<i>What are the risks, vulnerabilities and challenges that the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states face in achieving food security?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> What would you say are the key risks that face the target groups and population with regards achieving food security, both in the immediate and long-term? <input type="checkbox"/> How do these risks manifest? <input type="checkbox"/> What vulnerabilities and challenges do the target groups/populations normally face? Please in your answer, consider issues to do with access to essential services, lifesaving food stuffs, NFIs, access to agricultural land, pasture and water, seeds, planting materials and productive assets, climate related events (floods and droughts), pests and diseases outbreaks (affecting both crops and livestock), access to extension support and training, availability of household labour to support agricultural activities during the farming season, access to finance, markets and availability of relevant infrastructure, including road connectivity. <input type="checkbox"/> How are vulnerable groups in the hard to reach and conflict prone areas supported, and which actors are normally on the ground? To what extent are these particular groups at further risk due to issues around lack of access, and what strategies are in place to address the same?
<i>What are the coping strategies for food insecurity for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states in achieving food security?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> How do the target groups manage in times of extreme hunger and food shortages? <input type="checkbox"/> Besides support provided through food assistance by UN agencies such as FAO, WFP and NGOs, how else do people manage to survive? Are there any Government led support initiatives or social safety net programmes in place? <input type="checkbox"/> What negative coping strategies have you also observed?
Analyze the different risk and conflict and protection-sensitive opportunities and capacities available for improving food security for IDPs, Returnees and Host Communities in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states while taking into consideration a cross-cutting issues including climate change, multi-sectoral implementation and the Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus among others.	
<i>What capacities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do the affected population (Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees) in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states have that can be tapped to improve food security?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> What assets, tools, skills and expertise do the target groups have, which can be exploited in pursuit of both emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods? <input type="checkbox"/> Given the risks and vulnerabilities facing the target groups and communities, to what extend do you think these are fit for purpose? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there existing social networks, associations and membership organizations that could help to advance the cause of the target groups from a food security perspective? If yes, how has the development community worked to strengthen them in the past?

<p><i>What opportunities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do the affected population (Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees) have that can be tapped to improve food security (including inaccessible/hard to reach areas)?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ What opportunities are available to the target population, which can be exploited in support of emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods? Please consider federal and state level support and initiatives, research and extension, availability of household labour, access to land, water resources, pasture, markets and connectivity, availability of basic services such as WASH, HEALTH, Education, water resources amongst other opportunities. □ For the hard to reach areas, what peace building measures and security arrangements are being put in place by local and Federal Authorities to ensure accessibility and stability in the medium to long term. □ How is support to target groups in hard to reach areas normally channeled and how is this monitored?
<p><i>What are other government and non-government cross cutting opportunities including the HDP nexus, multi-sectoral engagement with other sectors such as Nutrition, WASH, Health, Protection that can improve food security</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ What initiatives and opportunities are being offered by the Government (at different levels), which can complement the efforts of NGOs and Civil Society Actors in bring lasting peace, protection of the target population whilst working to improve they food security situation. □ To what extend has there been cross-departmental/internal coordination, development of joint analyses and country strategies with nexus potential, to enhance capacities to take advantage of risk, conflict and conflict sensitive opportunities to improve food security situation. □ To what extend is there coordination between project-based development and humanitarian interventions, in order to effectively meet the needs of the most vulnerable people. □ To what extend do we have local leadership and the development of national and local systems to accountably provide essential social services as a strategy for more sustainable, appropriate and transformative responses. □ Which forms of cooperation (inter-agency, among donors and also with the Federal Republic of Nigeria and State Entities) create added value for the stakeholders to effectively implement the HDP Nexus concept? □ How can we ensure new structures are in place to incentivize cooperation be created or existing ones adapted?
<p>To propose practical and sustainable recommendations for emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods activities for food security actors in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states to adopt especially given the resource constraints.</p>	
<p><i>What potential strategies can be implemented to deliver the emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods in a more efficient and sustainable way amidst the resource constraints?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ What strategies and approaches do you see as applicable in ensuring emergency and agricultural livelihoods support are delivered in a more efficient and sustainable way, given the resource constraints. Please consider opportunities to promote market functionality and avoiding crowding out market actors where possible. □ What opportunities exist to ensure vulnerable groups graduate from humanitarian assistance in the medium term and how can this be supported or promoted?
<p><i>What potential strategies can be implemented to better deliver food security support in a conflict sensitive way to the people in inaccessible and hard to reach areas?</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ What structures are in place, working with local authorities and state entities to ensure access to hard-to-reach areas and deliver food security support? □ What conflict sensitive approaches have you adopted or found useful as part of efforts to ensure reach and access to hard-to-reach areas

KII Checklist questions with community leaderships, community based extension workers, and religious leaderships.

Key Assessment Area	Checklist questions
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which programmes and projects are being implemented or have implemented in recent years in the BAY states, both emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods related <input type="checkbox"/> Who are the key humanitarian and development actors operating in your state with regards emergence food assistance and agricultural livelihoods? <input type="checkbox"/> How effective has been their support, any gaps and concerns in their strategy? <input type="checkbox"/> To what extent is the demand for self-reliant related support amongst the target groups, (IDPs, Host Communities and Returnees) as opposed to humanitarian and emergence food assistance? <input type="checkbox"/> To what extent do you see a culture of donor dependence amongst the target groups, which can pose a risk to development related interventions in the sector. <input type="checkbox"/> Are there opportunities for closer market engagement, looking at both crops and livestock sectors, including fisheries and other value chains.
Food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) needs for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states	
Who is the most vulnerable populations among the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which groups and individuals do you see as the most vulnerable amongst the target groups in your community, from a food security perspective. <input type="checkbox"/> What does their vulnerability manifest? <input type="checkbox"/> In your view, what could be the root causes of this vulnerability and what factors are exacerbating the situation?
What are the most food insecure periods of the year for the IDPs, Host Communities and Returnees?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which times of the year would you define as the hunger gap for the target groups in your community? <input type="checkbox"/> What measures have you seen being deployed by government, development and humanitarian actors, to mitigate against the adverse impact of food insecurity during this period?
What are the food security needs (immediate and resilience) for the IDPs, Host Communities and Returnees?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What are the key needs of the target population and groups in relation to achieving food security, both immediate and long-term resilience? <input type="checkbox"/> What is the average monthly food requirement (cereals) to a typical household in each state per month and how much do they access through emergence food assistance, own agricultural production or other livelihoods means such as petty trading etc.?
Food security (food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) risks, vulnerabilities and challenges for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states	
What are the risks, vulnerabilities and challenges that the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states face in achieving food security?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What would you say are the key risks that face the target groups and population with regards achieving food security, both in the immediate and long-term? <input type="checkbox"/> How do these risks manifest? <input type="checkbox"/> What vulnerabilities and challenges do the target groups/populations normally face? Please in your answer, consider issues to do with access to essential services, lifesaving food stuffs, NFIs, access to agricultural land, pasture and water, seeds, planting materials and productive assets, climate related events (floods and droughts), pests and diseases outbreaks (affecting both crops and livestock), access to extension support and training, availability of household labour to support agricultural activities during the farming season, access to finance, markets and availability of relevant infrastructure, including road connectivity. <input type="checkbox"/> How are vulnerable groups in the hard to reach and conflict prone areas supported, and which actors are normally on the ground? To what extent are these particular groups at further risk due to issues around lack of access, and what strategies are in place to address the same?

What are the coping strategies for food insecurity for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states in achieving food security?	<input type="checkbox"/> How do the target groups manage in times of extreme hunger and food shortages? <input type="checkbox"/> Besides support provided through food assistance by UN agencies such as WFP and NGOs, how else do people manage to survive? Please consider alternative livelihood sources such as petty trading, fishing, casual work etc. <input type="checkbox"/> What negative coping strategies have you also observed?
Analyze the different risk and conflict and protection-sensitive opportunities and capacities available for improving food security for IDPs, Returnees and Host Communities in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states while taking into consideration a cross-cutting issues including climate change, multi-sectoral implementation and the Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus among others.	
What capacities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do the affected population (Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees) in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states have that can be tapped to improve food security	<input type="checkbox"/> What assets, tools, skills and expertise do the target groups have, which can be exploited in pursuit of both emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods? <input type="checkbox"/> Given the risks and vulnerabilities facing the target groups and communities, to what extent do you think these are fit for purpose? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there existing social networks, associations and membership organizations that could help to advance the cause of the target groups from a food security perspective? If yes, how has the development community worked to strengthen them in the past?
What opportunities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do the affected population (Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees) have that can be tapped to improve food security (including inaccessible/hard to reach areas)?	<input type="checkbox"/> What opportunities are available to the target population, which can be exploited in support of emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods? Please consider federal and state level support and initiatives, research and extension, availability of household labour, access to land, water resources, pasture, markets and connectivity, availability of basic services such as WASH, HEALTH, and Education, amongst other opportunities. <input type="checkbox"/> For the hard-to-reach areas, what peace building measures and security arrangements are being put in place by state and federal authorities to ensure accessibility and create conditions for agricultural development? <input type="checkbox"/> How is supported to target groups in hard to reach areas normally channeled and how is this monitored?
To propose practical and sustainable recommendations for emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods activities for food security actors in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states to adopt especially given the resource constraints.	
What potential strategies can be implemented to deliver the emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods in a more efficient and sustainable way amidst the resource constraints?	<input type="checkbox"/> What strategies and approaches do you see as applicable in ensuring emergency and agricultural livelihoods support are delivered in a more efficient and sustainable way, given the resource constraints. Please consider opportunities to promote market functionality and avoid crowding out market actors where possible. <input type="checkbox"/> What opportunities exist to ensure vulnerable groups graduate from humanitarian assistance in the medium term and how can this be supported or promoted?
What potential strategies can be implemented to better deliver food security support in a conflict sensitive way to the people in inaccessible and hard to reach areas?	<input type="checkbox"/> What structures are in place, working with local authorities and state entities to ensure access to hard-to-reach areas and deliver food security support? <input type="checkbox"/> What conflict sensitive approaches have you adopted or found useful as part of efforts to ensure reach and access to hard-to-reach areas

KII Checklist questions with academia

Issue	Checklist questions
What are the risks, vulnerabilities and challenges that the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Host Communities, Returnees in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states face in achieving food security?	<input type="checkbox"/> Is there any research and documentation available with regards risks and vulnerabilities often faced by the target groups? <input type="checkbox"/> As academia, how can you best partner with development and humanitarian actors to address some of the key risks related to climate change and mitigate against the adverse effects? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there predictive models available on the extent to which climate change and extreme weather conditions will pan out in the years to come and do we have early warning systems that can be used to cushion vulnerable groups and their communities? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there any peace building best practices that you know could be used as best practices to promote peaceful co-existence between host communities and IDPs, in situations of conflict.
What potential strategies can be implemented to deliver the emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods in a more efficient and sustainable way amidst the resource constraints in the BAY states for the benefit of IDPs, Returnees and Host communities	<input type="checkbox"/> Do you have any recommendations, based on contemporal research, and how best to deliver emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods support in a cost efficient and sustainable manner? <input type="checkbox"/> What can be done to avoid a culture of dependence as well as crowding out the private sector/market distortions
What opportunities (emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihoods) do you see that can be tapped to improve food security (including inaccessible/hard to reach areas)? In the BAY states	<input type="checkbox"/> What initiatives are you working on in relation to food security, both emergence and agricultural livelihoods, that can synergies and compliment efforts of development or humanitarian partners in the BAY states? <input type="checkbox"/> Based on the climatic and agro-ecological conditions in the BAY states, what agricultural livelihoods interventions can best be promoted and under what type of partnerships and collaborations should be developed to ensure long term sustainability of outcomes.
Triple Nexus Approach	<input type="checkbox"/> How best can the triple nexus approach be adapted and applied within the context of the BAY states, and what should be the role of different actors. <input type="checkbox"/> including Federal and state level Governments, UN, NGOs and stakeholders such as academia?