

ENDLINE ASSESSMENT

Report Prepared for The Project: Building Cross-Border Peace and Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods of Cattle Herders and Crop Farmers in Sierra Leone and Guinea

June 2024



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines research and analysis conducted as part of an endline assessment for a project entitled: Building Cross-border Peace and Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods of Cattle Herders and Crop Farmers in Sierra Leone and Guinea. The intervention was funded by the United Nations (UN) Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), and implemented by the World Food Programme (WFP), International Organisation for Migration (IOM), and Talking Drum Studio (TDS), in partnership with key government partners from the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) and the Government of Guinea (GoG). The initiative addressed long-standing tensions between cattle farmers and herders in the border-lying communities of Falaba in northern Sierra Leone and Faranah in central Guinea. The project commenced in November of 2021. It was funded for USD 4,550,000 with an expected two-year duration that was extended via a six-month no-cost extension until May 2024. It aimed to strengthen the relationship between Guinea and Sierra Leone by addressing recurring cross-border conflicts that occur between cattle farmers and herders. Support was provided to border-lying communities to ensure they benefited from more accountable institutions, strengthened social cohesion, and mechanisms that facilitate improved cross-border relations that in turn promote peaceful co-existence.

This endline assessment was undertaken as the project ended – in March and April of 2024 to quantitatively measure the impact of the project based on progress towards project indicators, while also qualitatively examining the other evaluation criteria of relevance, coherence, effectiveness, impact, efficiency, and sustainability in the context of project progress towards overall peacebuilding aims and in consideration of cross-cutting issues like GEWE and conflict sensitivity. The mixed methods approach to the assessment firstly utilised secondary data focused on project-related documentation – in particular, quantitative and qualitative data produced as part of the baseline study undertaken at the start of the project – but also brought in external documents where necessary. Secondly, primary research included both quantitative and qualitative methods. A quantitative survey targeted direct beneficiaries from every project community – ten in Sierra Leone and six in Guinea. In Sierra Leone, there were 500 farmers and 195 herders surveyed, while in Guinea 499 farmers and 105 herders were surveyed. In terms of qualitative data, 34 key informant interviews were carried out with key project stakeholders and fourteen focus groups were done with beneficiary groups as part of the endline.

RELEVANCE

The assessment found that the project was largely relevant to the institutional and country context that it was implemented in. It was aligned with key government priorities and policies promoting peace, cohesion, livelihoods, and cross-border security. This includes key development documents like *Sierra Leone's Medium-term National Development Plan (MTNDP) 2019-2023*¹ and the Government of Guinea's (GoG's) *Vision 2040*². It also includes key government legislation intended to provide the necessary guidance to tackle issues related to conflicts between crop farmers and pastoralists, directly and indirectly supporting Sierra Leone's *Cattle Settlement Policy* and Guinea's *Pastoral Code*. Further, the project targeted relevant areas and communities, including those with a presence of high conflict between cattle herders and crop farmers, and where there was a close proximity to the border and frequency/volume of cross-border traffic. To help ensure appropriate targeting, the intervention was preceded by consultations with government counterparts in both countries at the national and district/prefecture levels to identify areas with high levels and/or risk of conflict between cattle herders and crop farmers. These consultations validated that the border-lying communities in Falaba District, Sierra Leone and Faranah Prefecture, Guinea would benefit from interventions to promote: more peaceful co-existence between/within communities, more effective border management, and improved livelihoods. The relevance of the project to the selected communities was further validated during the project baseline study, which found that two-thirds of people in those communities believed that conflicts

¹ GoSL, 2019, *Sierra Leone's Medium-term National Development Plan 2019–2023*.

² GoG, 2021, *Vision 2040 pour Une Guinée Émergente et Prospère*.

between farmers and herders were a big problem, with most people saying the problem was getting worse.

COHERENCE

The various project components are coherent with and to contribute to UN Sustainable Development Agenda in Sierra Leone and Guinea, like the United Nations Sustainable Development and Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for Sierra Leone and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) in Guinea. The project model and joint programming approach were also designed to create coherent programmatic connections along the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus^{3,4}, focusing on the interlinkages between peace and development primarily through SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions). The project model also contributes to other SDGs: SDG 10 (Reduce Inequality within and among Countries) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

While the assessment did not find other relevant interventions being implemented in project areas by non-UN partners, it did find that the intervention is internally coherent with the portfolio of interventions being undertaken by the implementing agencies, with important linkages and synergies made between those interventions and the project being evaluated. What is more, joint activities implemented as part of the intervention helped to make coherent the different activities implemented by the project agencies. Still, shared project outcomes could have further deepened integration, while the improved sharing of experiences across borders could have resulted in implementation innovations being better integrated across project sites in Sierra Leone and Guinea. Nevertheless, key informants noted that the implementing entities largely focused on their own outcome areas. Joint activities were the exception rather than the rule. Although the need for efficiency requires focus – for example, with individual organisations taking the lead in specific outcome areas, project integration could have been strengthened with the inclusion of a shared outcome that WFP, IOM, and TDS could have worked collaboratively to implement.

EFFECTIVENESS AND IMPACT

Outcome 1: Inclusive Community Forums Promote Conflict Resolution

The endline found that the proportion of respondents that believe that farmers and herders control natural resources equally more than doubled since the baseline, suggesting that the project's efforts to provide fairer and more equal access to natural resources had an impact. Overall, respondents are more likely to say that water resources are equally distributed than farming/grazing land. Because water shortages during the dry season contribute toward heightened conflicts with herders when cattle destroy crops in search of water, the project aimed to establish solar-powered irrigation systems to minimise competition over water resources. However, in both countries, waiting to complete the construction of the irrigation systems until the end of the project, meant that the impacts that the irrigation systems would have on beneficiaries' lives would not be felt during the actual lifespan of the project – though beneficiaries would benefit from them even after the project had officially closed.

A key project impact was the considerable progress in decreasing natural resource disputes. At the baseline, 41 percent of all households had experienced some sort of dispute or conflict between farmers and herders in the year leading up to the survey. Only 8.6 percent said the same at the endline⁵. Qualitative research also suggests significant decreases in conflict between farmers and herders was reported by project participants in all communities in both countries. The most frequently cited reason for the reduction in conflict was the greater knowledge gained through the project about the transhumance calendar and about the importance of adhering to and enforcing it. Further, the project

³ Oxfam, 2019, *The Humanitarian-Development Peace Nexus: What does it mean for multi-mandated organizations?*, Oxfam Discussion Paper.

⁴ Inter-Agency Standing Committee and UN Working Group on Transitions, 2016, *Bac kilogramround paper on Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus*, Inter-Agency Standing Committee and UN Working Group on Transitions Workshop, 20-21 October 2016, pp. 2-4.

⁵ In all, only 114 conflicts were reported in the year preceding the endline. In the year before the baseline there were 490.

also helped to synchronise the transhumance calendar in border areas in Sierra Leone and Guinea. By-laws were meant to be institutionalised through the review and ratification of the *Cattle Settlement Policy* in Sierra Leone and the *Pastoral Code* in Guinea, which the project supported. Unfortunately, each policy experienced delays before it could be enacted. Still, even without the policies to work with, the project did well to popularise transhumance issues and the local by-laws that government them.

Of the conflicts reported through the endline survey, the vast majority were resolved. Farmers and herders in Sierra Leone and Guinea rely on different local platforms to resolve disputes. Many farmers and herders in Sierra Leone engaged as part of this assessment said they had not heard of the Cattle Settlement Committees in their chiefdoms. On the other hand, Transhumance Committees in Guinea are well-known and active in dispute resolution. Therefore, capacity building activities aimed at Transhumance Committees in Guinea are likely to have had a greater impact on improving dispute resolution than those activities strengthening Cattle Settlement Committees in Sierra Leone. Nevertheless, the work of other local leadership structures in Sierra Leone – encouraged through project activities – picked up the slack where the Cattle Settlement Committees were not active.

Outcome 2: Social Cohesion, Trust, and Economic Collaboration

Survey respondents generally agree that both farmers and herders can be trusted. Perceptions of trust of farmers/herders by the groups that they have traditionally been in conflict with have gone up somewhat from the baseline to the endline. Qualitative data indicates that increased trust resulted from the mutual engagement by farmers and herders in project activities – trainings, dialogues, meetings, etc. – etc. As well, the inclusion of herders in inland valley swamp (IVS) farming activities helped improve social cohesion as these two groups worked together on mutually beneficial agricultural activities, which in turn helped to improve communication and strengthen understanding between individual herders and farmers and increase the overall linkages and trust between the two groups.

The endline assessment also shows a significant increase between baseline and endline in respondents who think that farmers and herders control natural resources equally. Gains in this indicator were most likely attributable to project activities that invested in productive agricultural and agropastoral resources for farmers and herders, respectively. As well, there was a big increase between the baseline and endline in the proportion of survey respondents in both countries who believe that it is possible for farmers and herders to work together to solve conflicts about natural resources. Qualitative data indicated that community meetings and discussions were important in building rapport between farmers and herders. As well, including herders as members of farmers-based organisations (FBOs) helped improve economic collaboration and contributed to improved social cohesion.

Increasing food security for farmer and herder households is another key focus of the project. Qualitative research indicated that participants in communities in Sierra Leone and Guinea both indicated that they either increased the number of meals they are consuming or increased the amount of food they are consuming with each meal. Qualitative research also indicated that food diversity was also reported to have increased among farmers. Moreover, the average monthly income among all beneficiaries increased from USD 64.40 at the time of baseline to USD 90.18, with little differences in terms of income between beneficiaries in Sierra Leone and Guinea.

Still, it must be noted that there were a number of challenges that affected the project among herder beneficiaries. In Sierra Leone, project activities with this group were only started in the second half of the project. Further, there were delays – in both countries – in the provision of the solar-powered irrigation systems provided to the project, as well as delays in procuring and distributing improved seeds for the grasses. Still, the grasses planted in Guinea managed to survive to the subsequent year; herders using the grasses indicated that it resulted in healthier calves and improved the health of full-grown cattle by (increasing their weight an estimated 10 kilograms). However, in Sierra Leone, grasses were planted all grasses in each of the five ranching communities died through the dry season. It is noted that, in Sierra Leone, additional viable seeds were delivered in early May 2024 in time for the planting season.

In addition to agricultural activities directly focused on farming and herding, the project also included a number of alternative income generation activities: soapmaking, milk preservation, and honey-making. Of these three activities, all had been planned to take place in Guinea, while only soapmaking was taking place in Sierra Leone. However, since the project's initial focus was its main agricultural livelihoods components, most of the alternative livelihoods activities – with the exception of soapmaking in Guinea – were only implemented towards the end of project. Some of the alternative livelihoods activities were not completed at the time of fieldwork, making with it was difficult to gauge their full impact, it was confirmed that all had been carried out by the project end.

Outcome 3: Improved Cross-Border Management Capacities

By the endline, there were three newly constructed border posts in Guinea at Songoyah and Heremakono, as well as a new border post in Sierra Leone at Koindukura and a rehabilitated border post at Walia (also in Sierra Leone). Each was operational following the provision of furniture, VHF radios, motorbikes, tablets, and other equipment. Still, the border agents at the rehabilitated post in Walia did identify some challenges. Still, transhumance mapping effectively created information that filled what a gap in available data on transhumance activities. This included successfully collecting data on transhumance flow patterns and routes/corridors between the border area situated along Falaba District and Faranah Prefecture, as well as movement periods, corridors, and the origin, profiles, and destination of transhumance activity. The study provided transhumance stakeholders knowledge on transhumance activities and protocols, offering an important evidence base from which to build a better understanding of transhumance and its impacts on the cross-border communities along the corridors.

As a result of these efforts, the endline found that the proportion of people that agree somewhat or a lot that border officials can be trusted to treat everybody fairly increased from 58 percent at the baseline to 82.8 percent at the endline. As well, 63.4 percent of all endline respondents agree somewhat or a lot that that military are trusted to treat everybody fairly if conflicts arise, over the project target of 55 percent and up from 42.1 percent at the baseline. Looking at qualitative data, project beneficiaries living in border areas noted (in focus groups) that their experiences with border agents had improved. They indicated that instances of being hassled and asked for bribes had decreased and the overall demeanour and conduct of the border staff had become more professional. Here, training on border management and human rights were most impactful in leading to noticeable improvements in professionalising border activities and improving the relationships between border agents and the communities they are serving.

EFFICIENCY

The endline assessment found that the project largely met the standards for efficiency. Overhead and personnel expenses were relatively low, with most of the project budget dedicated to programming. All budget lines had been fully exhausted by the end of the project. Further, project funds were used largely as was planned in the project budget, with a few exceptions. Where changes were made, appropriate justifications were given and procedures followed. However, what was planned to be a two-year project required a no-cost extension of six months, which increased the total project duration to two-and-a-half years. The extension was requested due to delays in the delivery of key activities. Efficiency was further underpinned through effective coordination between WFP, IOM, and their partners were oriented around key coordination structures leveraged to guide implementation.

SUSTAINABILITY

To ensure sustainability, the project design was characterised by extensive engagement with a diverse range of stakeholders. This includes national stakeholders, local communities, international organisations, and civil society organisations. Such inclusive engagement helped to encourage ownership of the project activities and increase the likelihood of the sustainability of its various interventions. Project implementation built local capacities to ensure effective and long-term management. In addition, the project aimed to strengthen sustainable agricultural livelihoods for farmers and herders based on market opportunities, making it more likely that impacts are likely to

remain after the project has ended. The project also made some contributions to environmental sustainability through its implementation of climate-smart interventions and reforestation.

Review of *Cattle Settlement Policy* and *Pastoral Code* and the 're-dynamisation' of the Cattle Settlement Committees and Transhumance Committees help institutionalise project priorities. But the committees must still be integrated into local government structures and budgets and the Cattle Settlement Policy must be ratified by the GoSL. Further, the 'hardware' provided as part of the project under Outcome 3 – border posts, computers, motorbikes, tablets, etc. – remain in the possession of the groups to which it was provided, as do trained personnel, though rotation of trained staff to other areas poses some threat to project sustainability. Importantly, border posts have been inaugurated and handed over to government. The governments of Sierra Leone and Guinea also reportedly signed a cross-border cooperation agreement, under which the border posts have been officially. Of course, the sustainability of border posts depends on each government's ability to fund them. The difficulties that each country has had in financing border posts previous to the project threaten their sustainability afterwards. For instance, at the time of the evaluation, border agents were financing the maintenance and fuelling of the motorbikes provided by the project, as no budget allowances had been made for this by the government.

Additionally, the assessment did note some other sustainability issues. While the monitoring did create baseline data on transhumance routes, gathering points, conflict-prone areas, pastoral infrastructure, etc., the implementation of the Transhumance Tracking Tool was limited to the period of time when data collectors / enumerators were supported with incentives – April to July – after which most ceased their participation in the early warning intervention. Thus, the sustainability of these efforts can be called into question, as the enumerators incentivised to carry out the monitoring activities on which the early warning system was based were no longer supported by project structures. Indeed, at the time of the endline, there was very little monitoring work that could be reported from these enumerators.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the conclusions outlined above, this report sets out a number of recommendations to be considered for implementation of the project:

- Ensure on-time completion of project activities, as delays limited the impact the project could have had within its lifespan, and had the potential to create frustration and tensions among beneficiaries.
- Carry out livelihood activities simultaneously to improve project effectiveness and impact.
- Allow for a longer project duration that is better adapted to the complex nature of multi-agency peacebuilding initiatives.
- Adapt peacebuilding programming to the needs of each context, in particular considering how transhumance issues are resolved differently in Sierra Leone and Guinea.
- Continue support for market access for future agricultural livelihoods programmes.
- Ensure sustainability of key structures is supported by government responsibility/funding, including allocating budgetary resources to the upkeep of border posts and equipment.
- Enhance integration and collaboration in some key areas; for example, in addition to taking the implementing organisations each with responsibility over individual outcomes, joint activities could be expanded to include joint outcomes that look to create greater synergies between peacebuilding, livelihoods, and border security.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BMIS – Border Management Information System
CSO – civil society organisation
DHS – Demographic and Health Survey
DISEC – District Security Committee
FCS – food consumption score
FFA – Food Assistance for Assets
FGDs – focus group discussions
GEWE – gender equality and women’s empowerment
GNF – Guinean Franc
GoG – Government of Guinea
GoSL – Government of Sierra Leone
HDI – Human Development Index
IOM – International Organisation for Migration
IRF – integrated results framework
INGOs – international non-governmental organisations
MAFS – Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
MIDAS – Migration Information and Data Analysis System
MTNDP – Medium-term National Development Plan
NGOs – non-governmental organisations
PBF – Peacebuilding Fund
RCO – Resident Coordinator’s Office
SAMS – Smallholder Agricultural Market Support
SLL – Sierra Leonean Leones
SLP – Sierra Leone Police
SPSS – Statistical Package for Social Sciences
SDGs – Sustainable Development Goals
TDS – Talking Drum Studio
ToR – terms of reference
UN – United Nations
UNDAF – United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
UNDS – United Nations development system
UNSDCF – United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
USD – United States Dollar
VSLA – Village Savings and Loan Associations

1 INTRODUCTION

This report outlines research and analysis conducted as part of an endline assessment for a project entitled: Building Cross-border Peace and Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods of Cattle Herders and Crop Farmers in Sierra Leone and Guinea. The intervention was funded by the United Nations (UN) Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), and implemented by the World Food Programme (WFP), International Organisation for Migration (IOM), and Talking Drum Studio (TDS), in partnership with key government partners from the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) and the Government of Guinea (GoG). The initiative addressed long-standing tensions between cattle farmers and herders in the border lying communities of Falaba in northern Sierra Leone and Faranah in central Guinea (Haute Guinée), which are intensifying with climate change, as water shortages undermine the viability of both herder and crop farmer livelihoods. With increasing numbers of cattle herders migrating into project communities in the recent years, there is the fear that conflicts could further escalate and be a source of instability in both countries without interventions such as this one. The project commenced in November of 2021. It was funded for USD 4,550,000 with an expected two-year duration that was extended via a six-month no-cost extension until May 2024.

2 ENDLINE SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

The endline study that is connected to this report is a key project activity. It serves two key objectives: accountability and learning. The accountability objective aims to assess project progress in accordance with evaluation criteria developed by Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD): relevance, coherence, effectiveness, impact, efficiency, and sustainability⁶, as well as consideration of cross-cutting issues related to gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) and conflict sensitivity. Impact was primarily assessed based on data aligned to indicators and targets defined in the project's integrated results framework (IRF) using a mixed methods approach on both sides of the border. In considering of all evaluation criteria, the assessment also took care to ensure peacebuilding results were considered as a main line of inquiry, reflecting on the degree to which the project: mitigated risk factors associated with conflict, enhanced social cohesion, and facilitated cross-border cooperation in and around target areas. Further, the endline looked to determine if the intervention contributed to 'catalytic peacebuilding'⁷ that enables peace processes to become unblocked or if the project created larger or longer-term peacebuilding changes to occur.

The endline assessment considered all activities implemented under the project, including those that have been added/amended since the project designed, over the entire project period, including during the no-cost extension. The endline also took into consideration the context in which the project was implemented, including how external factors affected project performance. It also considered any policies and programmes that the project was directly or indirectly connected to, evaluating its relevance and coherence to these. This final report details endline analysis and findings. It is made up of the following sections: this introduction, a project overview, a summary of the study methodology, an overview of key analysis and findings related to the aforementioned OECD-DAC evaluation criteria, as well as conclusions and recommendations. All the analysis and findings of the endline were used to inform actionable learnings in the form of recommendations that can be used by all project stakeholders for implementation of future projects.

3 PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Building Cross-border Peace and Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods of Cattle Herders and Crop Farmers in Sierra Leone and Guinea project commenced in November of 2021. As mentioned, it was funded for USD 4,550,000 with an expected two-year duration that was extended via a six-month no-cost extension until May 2024. The intervention aimed to strengthen the relationship between

⁶ OECD, "Evaluation Criteria," <https://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation/daccriteriaforevaluatingdevelopmentassistance.htm> (24 April 2024).

⁷ Scharbatke-Church et al., 2010, *Programming and the Peacebuilding Fund, A Concept Note for the UNPBF Advisory Group*, p. 9.

Guinea and Sierra Leone by addressing recurring cross-border conflicts that occur between cattle farmers and herders. Support was provided to border-lying communities in the Falaba District and Faranah Prefecture to ensure they benefited from more accountable institutions and mechanisms that facilitate improved cross-border relations that in turn promote peaceful co-existence. A key element of the project was also to strengthen social cohesion between the Falaba District and the Faranah Prefecture by supporting climate-smart livelihoods and overall farmer-herder cooperation.

As per the project IRF, the project contributed to the following outcomes:

- *Outcome 1:* Border-lying communities in Falaba District and Faranah Prefecture have and use inclusive fora that promote peaceful co-existence and resolve conflict between cattle herders and crop farmers.
- *Outcome 2:* Social cohesion, trust and economic collaboration strengthened within and between Falaba District and Faranah Prefecture through climate-smart livelihoods and farmer and herder cooperation.
- *Outcome 3:* Sierra Leone and Guinea have improved cross-border management capacities and are able to collect and use data to develop evidence-based policies that mitigate conflicts.

These project outcomes – and their associated outputs – were integrated into the theory of change outlined below in Text Box A.

Text Box A: Project Theory of Change

IF regulatory frameworks for cattle and crop farming are designed and implemented in an inclusive and participatory manner, including through representation of women and youth in said processes, and

IF communities are empowered to develop and strengthen sustainable, climate-adaptive, symbiotic pastoral and agricultural livelihoods, including through innovative joint enterprises which involve both herders and farmers, to improve food security, and

IF understanding of cross-border movements and risks are improved and cross-border management and local security capacities are strengthened through enhanced infrastructure, communication channels and data management, while improving the security agents' information sharing with and accountability to local populations,

THEN conflict between herders and farmers will be prevented and trust and economic collaboration will be strengthened within and between communities in Falaba District and Faranah Prefecture

BECAUSE equitable, evidence-based policies, efficient and accountable institutions, rights-based and equal access to resources will be in place to address the key drivers of conflict between cattle herders and crop farmers to mitigate, resolve and prevent disputes.

Work towards the aforementioned theory of change was pursued in partnership with key ministerial partners at GoSL and GoG, leveraging the significant experience and capacities of WFP, IOM, and TDS, based on their established histories and presence in Sierra Leone and Guinea. In Sierra Leone, WFP works across the country to strengthen the livelihoods of food insecure communities by promoting the production of nutritionally diverse foods, diversifying livelihood strategies, and rehabilitate degraded ecologies⁸. Likewise, WFP Guinea has worked to create productive assets and provides financial and technical support to smallholder farmers and vulnerable communities through its integrated Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) and Smallholder Agricultural Market Support (SAMS) programmes⁹. For its part, IOM has been working in a number of different capacities in the two project countries, including in health and humanitarian border management operations in Sierra Leone¹⁰. In Guinea, the agency

⁸ WFP, "Sierra Leone", <https://www.wfp.org/countries/sierra-leone> (18 April 2024).

⁹ WFP, "Guinea", <https://www.wfp.org/countries/guinea> (18 April 2024).

¹⁰ IOM Regional Office for West and Central Africa, "Sierra Leone", <https://rodakar.iom.int/sierra-leone> (21 April 2024).

focuses on building capacity of managing bilateral and regional border check-points, prevention of migration-related crimes, raising awareness of the risks of irregular migration and trafficking in persons, and capacity building for the judiciary and law enforcement agencies¹¹. As a key implementing partner in the project, TDS has considerable experience creating dramas, news programmes, talk shows, and soap operas to spread messages of peace, unity, and reconciliation in Sierra Leone¹² and has been using participatory theatre, training, radio and TV programmes to promote peacebuilding in Guinea¹³. Finally, the project builds on PBF's working as a donor in the West African context, including in Sierra Leone. Since 2016, PBF has funded USD 24,805,920 in Sierra Leone¹⁴. This includes previous funding awarded in 2020 to WFP and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to mitigate localised resource-based conflicts and increase community resilience in Sierra Leone¹⁵. In Guinea, PBF has been working since 2007, with a total of USD 102 million in investments approved over that time, including USD 10.3 million that are currently active¹⁶.

4 PROJECT CONTEXT

Both Sierra Leone and Guinea are among the world's least developed countries with Human Development Indexes (HDIs) of 0.452 and 0.477, respectively. Sierra Leone is ranked 182nd out of 189 countries, and Guinea sits slightly higher at 178. Despite generally friendly relations in the independence era, border disputes between Sierra Leone and Guinea have occurred, undermining the diplomatic relationship between the countries on several occasions. For example, during Guinea's presidential elections, the two countries entered a diplomatic row over accusations related to interference in the 2020 Guinean electoral process, while Sierra Leonean citizens, living in the border areas with Guinea, increased their claims against the alleged occupation of their land by Guinean military personnel. The continuation of border issues between the countries, including in the border areas of Falaba and Faranah, are a risk to stable and peaceful relations between Sierra Leone and Guinea.

Falaba became a new district of Sierra Leone in 2017 and still lacks strong local governance institutions. The Faranah Prefecture is located immediately across the border in neighbouring Guinea, with considerable cross-border movement occurring between these two locations. On the Sierra Leone side the main ethnic groups represented are the *Kurankos*, *Yalunkas*, and *Fula*, whereas on the Guinean side of the border the key ethnicities are the *Djalonke*, *Kurankos*, and *Fula*. The *Fula* are semi-nomadic pastoralists that practice cattle herding, whereas the other groups are largely engaged in subsistence crop farming. Most conflicts occur because grazing cattle destroy the crops of farmers. Many of these are resolved without the intervention of authorities. At the local level, the chief is the key focal point for resolving disputes that cannot be addressed bilaterally. At other times, the local courts (in Sierra Leone) or transhumance committees (in Guinea) preside over decision-making. In both Falaba and Faranah, conflict mediation related to cattle herders and crop farmers is mostly undertaken without the involvement of local authorities. In cases where a settlement has not been reached, the issue can then be escalated to the police or legal action can be taken, however, this is uncommon. For cross-border issues, it often occurs that a chief appoints 1-2 community members to travel to the location in question, survey the damage and estimate the compensation.

There are a number of factors currently mitigating conflict between farmers and herders in Falaba and Faranah. Intermarriage, shared language and ethnicity, trade, and community cohesion are reasons why farmers and herders come together to avoid conflict. There is also an overlap between herders who

¹¹ IOM Regional Office for West and Central Africa, "Guinea", <https://rodakar.iom.int/guinea> (18 April 2024).

¹² TDS, "Talking Drum Studio Sierra Leone", <https://www.tds-sierraleone.org/> (18 April 2024).

¹³ TDS, "Talking Drum Studio Guinée", <https://www.tds-guinee.org/> (18 April 2024).

¹⁴ UN, "Sierra Leone", UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office Gateway, <https://mptf.undp.org/country/sle> (18 April 2024).

¹⁵ UNDP, 2019, "UNDP and WFP Launch New Peacebuilding Project to Mitigate Localized Resource-based Conflicts and Increase Community Resilience in Sierra Leone", December, <https://www.undp.org/sierra-leone/news/undp-and-wfp-launch-new-peacebuilding-project-mitigate-localized-resource-based-conflicts-and-increase-community-resilience-sierra> (23 April 2024).

¹⁶ PBF, 2023, *Guinea Brief*, September, https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/country_brief_guinea_2023-09-18.pdf (23 June 2024).

also undertake farming activities (and vice versa) across ethnic. A *Cattle Settlement Policy* was drafted in 2013 in Sierra Leone; however, it remains unfinished and its contents are not consistently reflected in chiefdom-level bylaws. The *Guinean Pastoral Code* developed in 1995 defines the general rules that govern the practice of cattle herding in the country, including the rights of herders in terms of animal mobility and access to pastoral resources, in addition to how disputes between breeders and farmers should be resolved. Though most disputes between farmers and herders are resolved amicably, some escalate into conflict and tension. In some instances, local and traditional institutions are often relied upon to resolve disputes before they become conflicts. Increased migration of cattle herders from other districts in Sierra Leone to Falaba and from other prefectures in Guinea to Faranah is putting more and more pressure on grazing land, a trend that is combining with the impacts of climate variability and weak enforcement of laws related to cattle and crop farming to create recurring disputes in these areas. Continued conflicts could escalate and lead to a deterioration in community cohesion and threaten to destabilise the security of the border region between the two countries.

5 METHODOLOGY

The endline assessment commenced in March of 2024, with field activities completed in March and April of 2024. The endline relied on a mixed methods approach to quantitatively measure impact of the project based on progress towards project indicators, while also qualitatively examining the other evaluation criteria of relevance, coherence, effectiveness, impact, efficiency, and sustainability in the context of project progress towards overall peacebuilding aims and in consideration of cross-cutting issues like GEWE and conflict sensitivity.

5.1 Secondary Research

Desk research focused on project-related documentation, but also bring in external documents where necessary. Key secondary resources this endline relied on were the project baseline assessment and baseline dataset associated with this assessment (carried out in May of 2022). The baseline provided a basis for quantitatively measuring overall progress of the project based on the indicators/targets set in the IRF. As well, the endline considered annual reports, monitoring reports, and joint monitoring reports. Key government policies and reports were also used to determine project relevance with important national development and peacebuilding priorities. Other key documents from national and international stakeholders that the endline considered included: research and policy reports from government, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), international non-governmental organisations (INGOs), and multilateral organisations, as well as literature on topics related to the prevention of youth violence and the promotion of peacebuilding in Sierra Leone and Guinea; all secondary sources were cited throughout this endline assessment report, as necessary.

5.2 Primary Research

Primary research relied on both quantitative and qualitative methods. All methods are complementary and mutually reinforcing – in some instances adding different perspectives and in others being used to triangulate others sources of information. The main primary methods that were used are described below.

5.2.1 Quantitative Research

Quantitative methods took the form of an endline survey. The survey focused on measuring quantitative indicators for each of the three project outcomes. The quantitative research design and survey tool were largely based on those used during the baseline study, so that endline indicators that are comparable to those established at the start of the project; see Annex B for outline of survey questions. Survey questions formulated for the baseline were designed based on project indicators in the IRF, with 2-4 questions formulated to capture each indicator in order to reinforce the overall survey consistency and to avoid potential bias.

Surveys were carried out by eight enumerators, with sixteen total enumerators working in each country. Research assistants were trained on the endline study objectives and methodology. Training concluded

with a pre-test, which served as a way of consolidating methodological and technical training and refining the final survey instrument. The eight enumerators in each country worked in teams of four. Every team worked for ten days, completing approximately sixty surveys per community (fifteen surveys per enumerator) over two days. The survey targeted direct beneficiaries from every project community – ten in Sierra Leone and six in Guinea. In Sierra Leone, there were 500 farmers and 195 herders surveyed, while in Guinea 499 farmers and 105 herders were surveyed.

Table 1: Age Range of Respondents

Age Range	Guinea	Sierra Leone
20 years and under	1.3%	5.6%
21 to 30 years	18.8%	37.4%
31 to 40 years	26.9%	57.1%
41 to 50 years	28.2%	0%
51 years and over	24.8%	0%

The previous table breaks down the survey by age category. The average the average age of all respondents is just under 36 years of age.

5.2.2 Qualitative Research

Qualitative research was carried out by the consultant, with the help of field staff for the purposes of translation and facilitation on-the-ground logistics. The qualitative design relied on two types of methods: key informant interviews and focus group discussions (FGDs); see Annex C for outline of interview and focus group questions. To understand the project in relation to key evaluation criteria such as relevance, coherence, efficiency, and sustainability, as well as the underlying causal and explanatory factors affecting project impact and effectiveness.

Interviews were be conducted at the national level in Freetown and Conakry at the district/prefecture level in each country, in chiefdoms/sub-prefectures, and focus groups were carried out in four communities in each country (sampling those communities to that also include border posts supported by this project. In terms of sampling of respondents, selection of interviews and focus groups with farmers and herders relied on convenience sampling, leveraging beneficiaries that were available at the time of data collection. Groups to be sampled for qualitative research are included in Table 2.

Table 2: Groups to Be Sampled for Qualitative Research

	Sierra Leone	Guinea
<i>National Level</i>	WFP, IOM, TDS, Resident Coordinator's Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and Ministry of Internal Affairs	WFP, IOM, TDS, PBF Secretariat, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Territorial Administration, Ministry of Security and Civil Protection
<i>District/Prefecture Level</i>	District Council, District Council Chair, District Security Council (with potential for separate interviews with Sierra Leone Police, Office for National Security, and civil society organisations (CSOs)) Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Prefectural Defense and Security Council, security actors (National Police Force, Gendarmerie, Customs Office, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, and Ministry of Territorial Administration
<i>Chiefdom/Sub-Prefecture Level</i>	Paramount Chief, Chief Courts, Speaker / Deputy Chief, Chiefdom Development Committee, and Cattle Settlement Committee (at chiefdom level).	Transhumance committees, herders associations, farmers associations, and relevant CSOs
<i>Community Level</i>	Herders, farmers, and border agents	Herders, farmers, and border agents

In total, 34 key informant interviews and fourteen focus groups were carried out as part of the endline. Interviews and FGDs were be semi-structured – using open-ended questions and change case studies – that allowed for follow-up questions to develop deep descriptions of community dynamics. This approach allowed for qualitative research to be tailored to the knowledge of each participant

group, which would not be possible with a rigid format. For focus groups, convenience samples were stratified to ensure heterogeneity of persons sampled. For instance, sex composition was be considered so that, as much as possible, representation of both males and females in qualitative data collection. Discussions will be generally made up of 8-10 persons. Like key informant interviews, FGDs were also semi-structured, with discussions flowing through a list of topics in a way that allowed the facilitator to probe and spend time on important topics as these arose.

5.3 Data Collection, Analysis, and Reporting

Both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies employed rigorous and systematic techniques to capture, clean, and analyse data. As mentioned, data was captured through tablet devices. After data collection it was cleaned to check for and eliminate inconsistencies using a number of techniques, including: checks for logic/sequencing and outliers, prevalence of non-response, high error rates, etc. Fifty-four surveys were removed from the sample after data cleaning. Remaining surveys were weighted upwards to meet the sampling requirement just mentioned. Analysis was conducted using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) to produce statistics that are understandable and useful and serve as broad an audience as possible. Importantly, data was disaggregated to generate statistics to capture the female perspectives, geographical differences between data, and other key disaggregations. Qualitative data was captured through a combination of notetaking and digital recording. Notes were compiled and analysed throughout the research process, while digital recordings were analysed when research is completed, determining continuities and discontinuities in qualitative data in a way that complemented and extended quantitative aspects of the research. The evaluator used content analysis to identify key themes in responses between interviews and focus groups to give meaning to the data. Qualitative analysis will involve coding of important issues and using these to determine qualitative trends to complement quantitative data from secondary sources. The final endline findings are compiled in this comprehensive report, initial drafts of which was circulated among IOM, WFP, TDS, and RCO, and other relevant partners for feedback. Their recommendations were duly considered and incorporated into analysis and reporting.

5.4 Limitations

Overall, the endline was implemented well and faced few challenges or limitations. Those that were faced are noted below here, and should be taken into account when considering the study findings.

Table 3: Constraints, Limitations, and Management Strategies

Constraints/Limitations	Management Strategies
<i>Language:</i> project locations cut across two major languages and a number of different local languages.	The translation of all survey tools from English to French was done with the support of staff at WFP Guinea. Care was taken to ensure that the original meanings of questions were as much as possible transferred between the two settings. Language barriers also created challenges during training. Again, translation support was provided by WFP Guinea. In response to this, trainings were oriented towards building enumerators' capacities to deeply understand meaning and content of the survey instrument, so that each is able to appropriately understand the objective and nature of the research questions, so as to better implement the research methodology and tools in the field. In-field supervision provided an element of quality control to help ensure that enumerators carried out the research project as designed.
<i>Cross-border and cross-partner coordination:</i> project incorporated activities in two countries and across multiple organisational stakeholders.	Coordination was key to the success of the endline, which essentially consisted of two related research projects that were conducted in separate countries. This required that, from the very start of the endline, all relevant partners be proactively incorporated into key endline activities, including: indicator revision, research and tool design, training, etc. Key activities – like the drafting of the inception report, research tools, training design, and final report – were led by the consultant, with input the of all major stakeholders through group and bilateral consultations. Final products were agreed up on in a consultative manner.
<i>Travel constraints:</i> not possible to visit all project sites	Due to time constraints, it was not possible to visit all project sites as part of the qualitative research activities of the assessment. Qualitative research was undertaken by sampling a number of project communities, which included key

	border areas and visits to all border posts. Otherwise, data collection was triangulated across different stakeholders and surveys were carried out in all project communities
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5.5 Ethical Considerations

The highly sensitive nature of peacebuilding issues poses a unique set of challenges for any data gathering activity that touches on such issues. Failure to make such considerations can result in harm to the physical, psychological, and social wellbeing of those who participate in such research and can even put their safety at risk. To begin, conflict sensitive considerations have been included in the design of both quantitative and qualitative tools, avoiding direct formulation of conflict sensitive questions. Further, this study explicitly acknowledged that research must, at all times, consider the benefits and risks to respondents in and communities.

Prior to the field data collection, the research team was made aware of main conflict dynamics particularly involving youth in the targeted areas, based on the findings of the baseline and other project documents. Importantly, it was deemed the role of the research teams to promote a secure and comforting environment, and to proactively appraise situations for potential sources of insecurity. Further, comprehensive training was given to all members of the research team to help ensure that the study approach, methods, and tools to ensure that all principles and guidelines – including those outlining safety, respect, confidentiality and non-discrimination – were understood and adhered to throughout the research project. To this end, the study guidelines ensured that all data was anonymised and responses were not revealed to anybody other than the evaluator and the research team.

Only respondents who provided informed consent were interviewed. Those who did not grant consent were not included in the study. Moreover, respondents were able to opt out at any other point during the course of the study/analysis. In the event of potential security risks data collection should be stopped or amended in a way that such risks are addressed. Indeed, the safety and security of all those involved in data collection was of paramount concern throughout the project, taking into account security as the overarching determination when determining research sites, sampling strategy, tools and questions, training, movement and logistics in-field, interviewing practices, etc.

6 FINDINGS

This section presents the main findings of the endline. It is structured by presenting analysis and findings for pertinent quantitative and qualitative data based on OECD-DAC evaluation criteria.

6.1 Relevance

Key Finding 1: The assessment found that the project was largely relevant to the institutional and country context it was implemented in. It was aligned with key government priorities and policies promoting peace, cohesion, livelihoods, and cross-border security. Importantly, the project is connected to the GoSL's main development document – the *Sierra Leone's Medium-term National Development Plan (MTNDP) 2019-2023* – which it contributes to under Goal 3 (a society that is peaceful, cohesive, secure, and just), as well as Cluster Two (diversifying the economy and promoting growth) and Cluster Seven (addressing vulnerabilities and building resilience)¹⁷. In Guinea, the government's *Vision 2040* underscores good governance, peace, unity, and national solidarity, which the project's peacebuilding objectives are aligned with¹⁸. Baseline data further underscores the project's relevance to priorities of beneficiary groups. For instance, baseline data indicated that conflict between farmers and herders in Sierra Leone and Guinea was considered to be a big problem by about two-thirds of respondents, with almost half of respondents also saying that such conflicts were increasing. The project's three-pronged strategy of profiling transhumance movement, providing livelihoods to herders and farmers, and promoting cohesion and conflict resolution between farming and herding communities. As well, the project was relevant to key government legislation intended to provide the

¹⁷ GoSL, 2019, *Sierra Leone's Medium-term National Development Plan 2019–2023*.

¹⁸ GoG, 2021, *Vision 2040 pour Une Guinée Émergente et Prospère*.

necessary guidance to tackle issues related to conflicts between crop farmers and pastoralists, directly and indirectly supporting Sierra Leone's *Cattle Settlement Policy* and Guinea's *Pastoral Code*.

The project is also relevant in supporting other priorities the GoSL and GoG have set out. For instance, for instance, the project is aligned with the GoSL's flagship programme Feed Salone, which aims to boost agriculture productivity to fuel inclusive growth, increase local food production, reduce hunger, and build resilient food systems¹⁹. Under the umbrella of Feed Salone, support given to farmers through the project is being implemented in accordance with the core mandate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS): rice intensification and livestock development²⁰. In Guinea, the project is especially relevant to the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock's explicitly state mission and responsibility "to put in place mechanisms for resolving farmer-herder conflicts"²¹; as well, the project contributes to a number of other missions and responsibilities of the ministry: to contribute to the achievement of food security, to design and develop legislation and regulations in agricultural matters, to design and implement agricultural development programmes, to take into account the environmental dimension in the sector, and to promote technology transfer, agricultural advice, supervision, support for rural women and the structuring of the rural world. In terms of border management, a key priority area outlined in the GoSL's *National Migration Policy for Sierra Leone*²², a key objective for the GoSL is to ensure the security of all entry and exit border crossing points: by strengthening border security, detecting and stopping threats at entry and exit points, defending against irregular migration, and collaborating with border security agencies in neighbouring countries to improve the quality of operations²³. In Guinea, the project was aligned with key government priorities of cross-border collaboration and border management²⁴. The project is also aligned with Guinea's *National Migration Policy*, which was endorsed in 2021, the first priority of which is strengthening border management²⁵.

Key Finding 2: The project targeted relevant areas and communities, including those with a presence of high conflict between cattle herders and crop farmers, and where there was a close proximity to the border and frequency/volume of cross-border traffic. To help ensure appropriate targeting, the intervention was preceded by consultations with government counterparts in both countries at the national and district/prefecture levels to identify areas with high levels and/or risk of conflict between cattle herders and crop farmers. These consultations validated that the border-lying communities in Falaba District, Sierra Leone and Faranah Prefecture, Guinea would benefit from interventions to promote: more peaceful co-existence between/within communities, more effective border management, and improved livelihoods. The relevance of the project to the selected communities was further validated during the project baseline study, which found that that two-thirds of people in those communities believed that conflicts between farmers and herders were a big problem, with most people saying the problem was getting worse.

6.2 Coherence

Key Finding 3: The various project components are coherent with and to contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Agenda in Sierra Leone and Guinea. The United Nations Sustainable Development and Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for Sierra Leone and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) in Guinea define how the UN development system (UNDS) will support progress towards the achievement of the SDGs in each country. Under Sierra Leone's UNSDCF, the intervention is relevant to the strategic and mutually reinforcing priority areas of: sustainable agriculture; food and nutrition security; climate resilience; and transformational

¹⁹ GoSL, "Feed Salone", <https://feedsalone.gov.sl/> (23 April 2024).

²⁰ MAFS, "Our Core Mandate", <https://maf.gov.sl/> (23 April 2024).

²¹ MAGEL, "Missions et Attributions du Ministère", <https://magel.gov.gn/mission-et-attributions/> (29 May 2024).

²² GoSL, 2022, National Migration Policy for Sierra Leone, <https://slid.gov.sl/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/20220114-Final-Draft-National-Migration-Policy-4.pdf>

²³ GoSL, "Border Management and Control Operations", <https://slid.gov.sl/border-management-and-control/> (23 April 2024).

²⁴ Key informant interview, Government of Guinea.

²⁵ Key informant interview, Government of Guinea.

governance²⁶. Within Guinea's UNDAF the project supports: populations, especially women and youth, are capacitated to ensure civic participation, social cohesion, security and equitable access to justice; development and implementation of development programs for productive sectors and promotion of value chains to ensure food and nutrition security; and, tools for planning and sustainable management of environment and natural resources are revised/elaborated and used to take into account climate change²⁷. Finally, the project model and joint programming approach were designed to create coherent programmatic connections along the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus^{28,29}, focusing on the interlinkages between peace and development primarily through SDG 2 (Zero Hunger, Targets 2.1, 2.3, and 2.4) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, Targets 16.3, 16.6, and 16.7). The project model also contributes to other SDGs: SDG 10 (Reduce Inequality within and among Countries, Targets 10.2, 10.3, and 10.7) and SDG 13 (Climate Action, Target 13.1).

Key Finding 4: The assessment did not find other relevant interventions being implemented in project areas by non-UN partners, but it did find that the intervention is internally coherent with the portfolio of interventions being undertaken by the implementing agencies, with important linkages and synergies made between those interventions and the project being evaluated. For example, the project is coherent with a *WFP Strategic Plan (2022-2025)* that prioritizes vulnerable smallholders farmers. Further, the LRFPP builds on WFP's long-standing work with SHFs in a wide range of programmatic scenarios. The *WFP Strategic Plan (2022-2025)* prioritises vulnerable SHFs^{30,31}, and in particular Outcome 3: people have improved and sustainable livelihoods. At the level of the Country Office, with the activities of WFP offices Sierra Leone and Guinea. In Sierra Leone, the project builds on WFP's experience supporting smallholder farmers across the country to cultivate, process, and market rice, as well as other agricultural commodities. Local procurement from farmers groups supported through the project also connected them to WFP's the HGSF programme, which is consistent with a broader corporate focus by WFP on local procurement³² and in line GoSL's efforts shift from a school feeding model that relies on a largely import-based approach to one that increasingly sources home-grown commodities produced by smallholders in rural communities³³.

In Guinea, the cross-border project is coherent with the Country Office's resilience building and support to smallholder farmers, through which WFP creates productive assets and provides financial and technical support to smallholder farmers and vulnerable communities through its integrated Food Assistance for Assets and Smallholder Agricultural Market Support programmes. As well, WFP project activities were integrated into other important school feeding and nutrition activities in the Zero Hunger Village of Timberba. In this way, the project integrates the home-grown school feeding model, promoting local production for nutritious school meals and helps provide nutritious food to vulnerable people, including children aged under five, pregnant and breastfeeding women, etc.

Moreover, the project is coherent with IOM's work in Sierra Leone to support border governance and capacity building. For instance, IOM supports the GoSL to improve its border governance through the installation of vital border governance equipment at official crossing points, including the deployment of the Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS), a user friendly and customisable Border Management Information System (BMIS) at a major crossing point with Liberia. In Guinea, IOM's work connects to its other integrated border management activities throughout the country,

²⁶ UN, 2019, *UNSDCF, Sierra Leone: 2020-2023*.

²⁷ UN, "Guinea", UN Sustainable Development Group, <https://unsdg.un.org/un-in-action/guinea> (19 April 2024)

²⁸ Oxfam, 2019, *The Humanitarian-Development Peace Nexus: What does it mean for multi-mandated organizations?*, Oxfam Discussion Paper.

²⁹ Inter-Agency Standing Committee and UN Working Group on Transitions, 2016, *Bac kilogramround paper on Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus, Inter-Agency Standing Committee and UN Working Group on Transitions Workshop*, 20-21 October 2016, pp. 2-4.

³⁰ WFP, 2022. WFP corporate results framework (2022-2025). P. 4, 6, etc.

³¹ WFP, 2022, *WFP Strategic Plan (2022-2025)*, 21 November, WFP/EB.2/2021/4-A/1/Rev.2, https://executiveboard.wfp.org/document_download/WFP-0000132205?_ga=2.94177882.678124252.1713956710-1029820545.1713956710.

³² WFP, 2019, *Local and Regional Food Procurement Policy*.

³³ MBSSE, *Sierra Leone National School Feeding Policy*, September 2020.

which helps improve policy, operational systems, human resources, and necessary administrative and technical structures to respond more effectively to the various challenges of migration and border management in the country. In particular, it aligns with work such initiatives as: Strengthening border management, social cohesion, and cross-border security in the Parrot's Beak area. The programme is another cross-border initiative being jointly implemented between IOM, UNDP, World Health Organisation, and International Trade Centre to strengthen capacities of Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia for cross-border collaboration on migration and health management in an area where borders of the countries meet.

Key Finding 5: Joint activities helped to make coherent the different activities implemented by the project agencies. Still, shared project outcomes could have further deepened integration, while the improved sharing of experiences across borders could have resulted in implementation innovations being better integrated across project sites in Sierra Leone and Guinea.

For instance, TDS was contacted by IOM to carry out training of border agents and other security personnel on conflict management. TDS trained FBO members and herders on conflict resolution. Also, if there were instances of conflict or other issues that erupted in communities between project-supported farmers and herders, then TDS would help and intervene with conflict resolution work. Further, some of the conflict resolution activities TDS was carrying out would be informed by data coming from the DC/IOM enumerators in the respective communities. As well, WFP, IOM, and TDS worked together to carry out radio doing sensitisation. Other activities implemented jointly included: cross-border dialogue, some meetings on the sensitisation of calendar, coordination meeting, training stakeholders at the border and at the security forces / local. Nevertheless, key informants noted that the implementing entities largely focused on their own outcome areas. Joint activities were the exception rather than the rule. Although the need for efficiency requires focus – for example, with individual organisations taking the lead in specific outcome areas, project integration could have been strengthened with the inclusion of a shared outcome that WFP, IOM, and TDS could have worked collaboratively to implement.

Efforts were also made to integrate project lessons across borders, learning from the implementation model of each country. For instance, early successes with IVS in Sierra Leone were shared in Guinea. However, there were also a number of missed opportunities to leverage project success across borders. Importantly, a number of innovations in Guinea to the project that proved successful. One such innovation was training on the creation of a saltlick for cattle. A saltlick provides a block for cattle to lick essential mineral nutrients from a deposit of salts and other minerals, keeping them on ranches rather than being drawn away where they can potentially destroy farms. Discussions with herders indicate that one such salt block lasts approximately 1-3 months, depending on number of animals that are on a ranch. Another innovation implemented in Guinea the production of multi-nutritional straw treated with urea and produced from crop residues (rice and maize bran). It also encourages the production of better-quality cow dung to fertilise agricultural soils while limiting the growth of weeds and free roaming of cattle. As with the salt block, it keeps animals in place while they are eating it. With better integration and sharing of knowledge across countries, these two innovations could also have been adopted in Sierra Leone.

6.3 Effectiveness and Impact

The analysis below highlights the project's progress under the outcomes and outputs outlined in the IRF. Survey data is used to indicate the headway made toward project targets and data from interviews and focus groups explains how project has contributed to lives of beneficiaries and to their communities, or where there have been challenges in implementation.

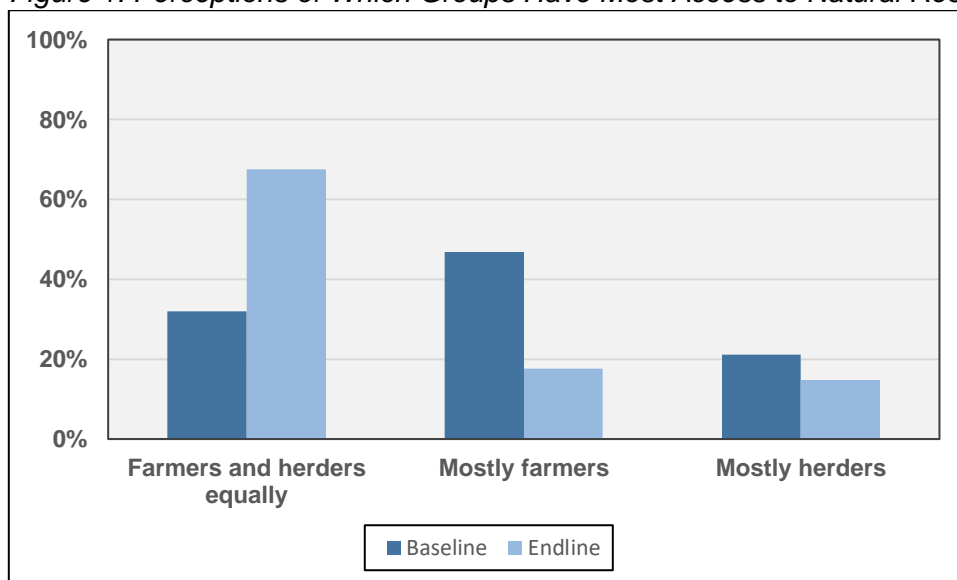
6.4 Outcome 1: Inclusive Community Forums Promote Conflict Resolution

The following provides an analysis of indicators for Outcome 1, which supports border-lying communities in Falaba District and Faranah Prefecture to have and use inclusive forums that promote peaceful co-existence and resolve conflict between cattle herders and crop farmers.

6.4.1 Perceptions of Access to Natural Resources

This section examines Outcome Indicator 1a, which measures the proportion of farmers/herders who believe that these groups access farmland and water resources equitably. **Key Finding 6: Figure 1 shows that at the time of the endline the proportion of respondents that believe that farmers and herders control natural resources equally more than doubled since the baseline, increasing from 32 percent to 67.5 percent exceeding the project target of 55 percent.** The percentage of beneficiaries that think that natural resources are controlled by mostly farmers or mostly herders went down between the baseline and endline. These findings suggest that the project's efforts to provide fairer and more equal access to natural resources had an impact.

Figure 1: Perceptions of Which Groups Have Most Access to Natural Resources



The following table analyses perceptions of natural resource distribution by the country of the respondent. It indicates that the majority of endline respondents in both countries are most likely to say that farming/grazing land and water are shared equally among farmers and herders. Overall, respondents are more likely to say that water resources are equally distributed than farming/grazing land. Those in Guinea were also more likely to say that farmers have more access to land and water than do herders.

Table 4: Perceptions of Which Groups Have Most Access to Natural Resources, by Country

	Guinea	Sierra Leone
Who mostly has access to farm/grazing land in this community?		
<i>Farmers and herders equally</i>	53.3%	59.9%
<i>Mostly farmers</i>	46.3%	5.6%
<i>Mostly herders</i>	0.3%	34.5%
Who mostly has access to water resources in this community?		
<i>Farmers and herders equally</i>	71.5%	82.0%
<i>Mostly farmers</i>	26.4%	10.4%
<i>Mostly herders</i>	2.1%	7.6%

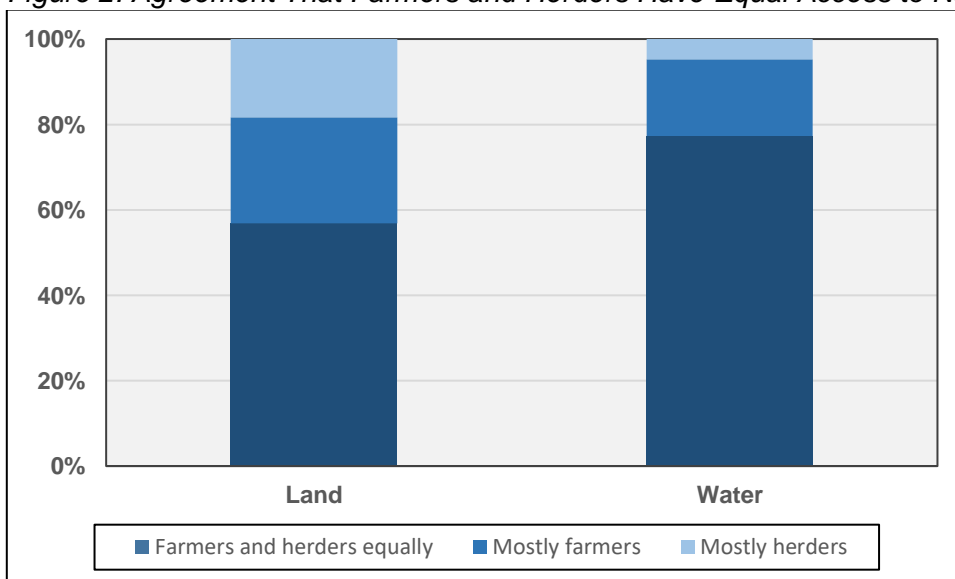
Table 5 further disaggregates survey respondents' perceptions of access to natural resources – this time by the sex of respondent. It shows that males and females are both most likely to say that farmers and herders equally access all natural resources. The same is true when asking specifically about land and water resources.

Table 5: Perceptions of Which Groups Have Most Access to Natural Resources, by Sex

	Female	Male
Who mostly has access to natural resources in this community?		
<i>Farmers and herders equally</i>	66%	68.9%
<i>Mostly farmers</i>	20.2%	15.2%
<i>Mostly herders</i>	13.8%	15.8%
Who mostly has access to land in this community?		
<i>Farmers and herders equally</i>	55.1%	58.4%
<i>Mostly farmers</i>	28.6%	21.3%
<i>Mostly herders</i>	16.3%	20.3%
Who mostly has access to water resources in this community?		
<i>Farmers and herders equally</i>	76.8%	77.7%
<i>Mostly farmers</i>	20%	16.1%
<i>Mostly herders</i>	3.1%	6.7%

Finally, the survey also gauged peoples' opinions of whether farmers and herders in their community have equal access to natural resources, farming/grazing land, and water resources, as shown in Figure 2 below. Endline respondents were more than twice as likely to agree somewhat or a lot that farmers and herders have equal access to water resources, with 93.8 percent of respondents saying this at the endline compared to 45.3 percent at the baseline.

Figure 2: Agreement That Farmers and Herders Have Equal Access to Natural Resources



Qualitative research conducted during the baseline on access to natural resources indicated that most interviewees and focus groups participants stated that water resources are scarcer than 5-10 years ago. Endline research participants also indicated that water scarcity as a problem and that climate change exacerbates this problem. However, they did not indicate that this water scarcity is accelerating; in other words, water scarcity is still a problem, but not one that is increasing in its magnitude. This is likely because two years is too short timeframe to gauge long-term changes due to climate variation. As well be shown below, despite continuing water scarcity, project activities (especially those focused on community sensitisation, conflict mediation, and dispute resolution) still managed to decrease tension and conflict between farmers and herders.

Water shortages during the dry season contribute toward heightened conflicts with herders when cattle destroy crops in search of water. Because of this, the project aimed to establish solar-powered irrigation systems to minimise competition over water resources. **Key Finding 7: In both countries, the**

construction of solar-powered irrigation systems was yet to be completed when fieldwork for this assessment was being carried out in the all of the five identified ranches in Falaba District and six ranches in Faranah Prefecture; though this was finished by the time the project ended. Delays in the completion of this part of the project largely resulted from changes to how this activity would be carried out. Initially, the water points were to be hand-dug. But after consultation with partners – such as World Vision – it was decided that a drilled boreholes were necessary, so as to be able to reach deeper reservoirs of water that would last throughout the year. The new approach to the provision of water will no doubt improve the long-term impact and sustainability of the project, as hand-dug water points would have dried out quickly.

While the solar irrigation systems had not been completed – they were installed later when borehole drilling had been finished – twenty Sierra Leonean women with no prior formal education and from vulnerable crop farmers and cattle herders’ households were trained by Barefoot Women, a women solar engineering association. In Guinea, similar training was also provided on site to community members by the supplier when the solar water pump was delivered to the villages. These project beneficiaries will help to maintain the irrigation systems in the future as part of a sustainable strategy for mitigation of disputes between herders and farmers through the containment of the cattle in fenced ranches. However, waiting to complete the construction of the irrigation systems until the end of the project, meant that the impacts that the irrigation systems would have on beneficiaries’ lives would not be felt during the actual lifespan of the project – though, of course, beneficiaries would benefit from them even after the project had officially closed. Given that the irrigation had not yet been finished at the time of the survey, it cannot be said that this project output had directly contributed to the number of beneficiaries saying that equal access to water resources had increase. Beneficiaries did express that they were anticipating the benefits of the water points, and had perhaps incorporated these anticipated benefits into their responses about water distribution. Another explanation is that their responses reflected the increased dialogue that was taking place at community level about issues between farmers and herders, which included participatory discussion about how water and other resources would be accessed and distributed.

6.4.2 Satisfaction with Local Mechanisms and Structures

This section examines Outcome Indicator 1b, which focuses on the proportion of farmers/herders reporting increased satisfaction with district/prefecture and chiefdom/sub-prefecture mechanisms/structures. The project supported Cattle Settlement Committees in Sierra Leone and Transhumance Committees in Guinea to better define the roles, responsibilities, and composition of each committee, with particular attention paid to training the committees on local conflict issues, relevant bylaws, conflict analysis, and conflict management, as well as the need to include female representation. Following these interventions, the expectation was that the committee would have stronger capacities to work for local populations – farmers and herders – to help prevent, resolve, and manage disputes.

The table below looks at respondents’ opinions that different groups are working for everybody equally, showing that 58.6 percent of all endline agree strongly or somewhat that Cattle Settlement / Transhumance Committees are working for benefit of all equally; the project target is 80 percent. Importantly, it shows that in Guinea the vast majority (99 percent) of respondents say this about Transhumance Committees, an increase from 70.4 percent at the baseline. In Sierra Leone, only 20.4 percent of endline respondents said that Cattle Settlement Committees work for everybody equally. This does not necessarily mean that beneficiaries in Sierra Leone have negative opinions about Cattle Settlement Committees. Actually, as we will see below, many beneficiaries do not have contact with the committee. As such, most endline respondents in Sierra Leone said they have no opinion about this question (as only 3.7 percent disagree that Cattle Settlement Committees are working for the benefit of farmers and herders equally); a more detailed analysis on differences in the performance of the Cattle Settlement Committee and Transhumance Committees will be provided in Section 6.4.4 below.

Table 6: Belief That Local Structures Work for The Benefit of All Equally

	Total	Guinea	Sierra Leone
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	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline
Local government officials in this community work for the benefit of all equally...						
Agree*	74.3%	79.1%	79.9%	98.9%	68.7%	61.2%
Disagree**	14.5%	6.4%	8.8%	0.6%	20.2%	11.7%
Traditional leaders in this community work for the benefit of all equally...						
Agree*	96.0%	98.9%	96.8%	99.7%	95.0%	98.1%
Disagree**	1.6%	0.7%	1.4%	0.2%	2.0%	1.1%
Cattle Settlement / Transhumance Committees in this community work for the benefit of all equally...						
Agree*	-	58.6%	70.4%	98.4%	-	20.4%
Disagree**	-	2.3%	20.9%	1.0%	-	3.7%
* Respondents who somewhat or strongly agree.						
** Respondents who somewhat or strongly disagree.						

Otherwise, the table above indicates that respondents in Guinea generally have more trust the all types of the stakeholders indicated (local government, traditional leaders, and committees). In Sierra Leone, respondents believe that it is traditional leaders that are working for the benefit of everybody equally. We will see below that in Sierra Leone conflicts between farmers and herders are more likely to be solved at the community level. Therefore, chiefs and other leaders are the key stakeholder most community members turn to when dealing with disputes and other problems there. Qualitative research indicated that the buy-in and participation of all levels of stakeholders in project activities, including dialogues, workshops, and other types of meetings was important to the project's success. Research participants indicated that including stakeholders in this way improved overall transparency and trust between farmers, herders, and different stakeholders as issues related to land, water, conflict, conflict resolution, etc. were discussed and the rules, roles, and responsibilities around these issues were clarified.

6.4.3 Prevalence of Natural Resource Disputes

Here the endline provides an analysis related to Outcome Indicator 1c, which focuses on decreasing the proportion of beneficiaries reporting natural resource disputes between farmers/herders. Both the baseline and endline studies looked at the types of dispute mechanisms used to deal with farmer-herder conflict, where 'conflict' is defined as including non-violent disputes or violent disputes between farmers and herders, as well as their families and communities, over the allocation/management of natural resources (like land and water), and resultant destruction of crops, cattle, or other property from issues related to allocating/managing natural resources). Overall comparisons between baseline and endline data show considerable progress in decreasing natural resource disputes. To start, at the baseline, two-thirds (66.4 percent) of all respondents were of the opinion that conflicts between farmers and herders over natural resources in their community were a big problem. Only 11.2 percent of endline respondents said this. At the time of the baseline, data indicated that conflicts between farmers and herders were considered to be a major problem due to their frequency³⁴. Farmers lost important livelihoods due to destroyed crops, though few of these conflicts ever escalated into violence committed against persons or into destruction of property such as houses³⁵.

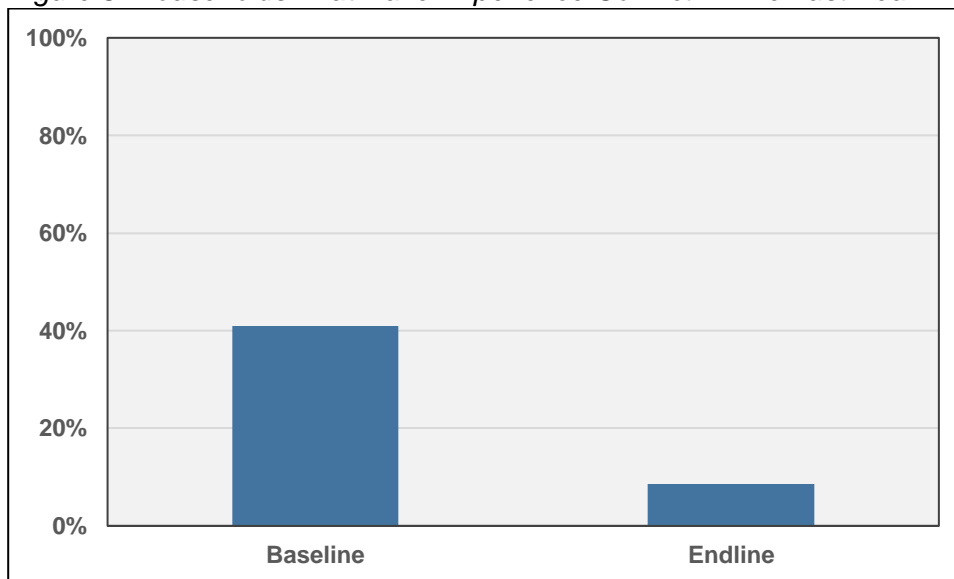
Looking again at endline data, 73.3 percent of endline respondents said that conflict between farmers and herders is decreasing a lot, while another said that it is decreasing somewhat. **Key Finding 8: Figure 3 indicates that there has been a sharp drop the number of beneficiaries that said they had experienced conflict with a farmer/herder in the last year. At the baseline, 41 percent of all households had experienced some sort of dispute or conflict between farmers and herders in**

³⁴ In error, the project target was set at 50 percent, which was above the baseline measure rather than under it.

³⁵ A baseline interview with a government representative from Sierra Leone indicated that there had only been five situations of "serious conflict" – that required intervention from the District Security Committee (DISEC) – in Falaba District in the last four years. No similar cases were reported in Guinea.

the year leading up to the survey. Only 8.6 percent said the same at the endline³⁶. In Sierra Leone, those beneficiaries reporting a conflict in the last year dropped from 41.4 percent to 6.1 percent, where experiences with conflict among Guinean beneficiaries decreased from 40.7 percent to 11.3 percent.

Figure 3: Households That Have Experience Conflict in The Last Year



Qualitative research also suggests significant decreases in conflict between farmers and herders was reported by project participants in all communities in both countries³⁷. Although qualitative estimates varied somewhat between communities, there was an overall noticeable trend to significantly decreasing conflict. In general, focus group participants – both farmers and herders – estimated that the total number of conflicts decreased from about 30-40 annually per community to 1-5 cases per year per community. The most frequently cited reason (during interviews and focus groups) for the reduction in conflict was the greater knowledge among within communities about the transhumance calendar that requires cattle to be fenced in between 1 June and 1 January. Sensitising stakeholders and communities about the start and duration of the transhumance calendar, as well as the importance of enforcing it, was a key project activity that was mentioned during qualitative research as having an important impact in decreasing conflict. Further, the project also helped to synchronise the transhumance calendar in border areas in Sierra Leone and Guinea, which research participants say has helped to make conflict less likely between farmers and herders on each side of the border. Thus, the project addressed the key issues primary causes of conflict between famers and herders, as identified by the baseline for this project: poor adherence to bylaws stipulating when cattle should be fenced, a lack synchronisation between the transhumance calendars,³⁸ and a lack of awareness about the fencing period.

By-laws were meant to be institutionalised through the review and ratification of the *Cattle Settlement Policy* in Sierra Leone and the *Pastoral Code* in Guinea, which the project supported. But each policy experienced delays before it could be enacted. Sierra Leone’s Cattle Settlement Policy is awaiting approval by MAFS and the National Security Coordinating Group. In Guinea, the Pastoral Code was only ratified in early 2024. As a result of these delays, the project could not popularise the policies themselves or the specific contents of each policy, but had to instead rely on sensitising local populations to general issues related to disputes between farmers and herders. If the policies had

³⁶ In all, only 114 conflicts were reported in the year preceding the endline. In the year before the baseline there were 490.

³⁷ To triangulate quantitative data about the prevalence of conflict, the assessment also attempted to estimate how much farmer-herder conflicts decreased by.

³⁸ In Sierra Leone, cattle must be penned from 10 June to 10 January. Similar laws are in place in Guinea, requiring fencing of cattle every year between 25 June and 25 January. Conflicts are highest at the beginning and end of these periods. Most herders attempt to fence cattle during the time required.

been finished earlier, the impacts of the project would have been felt nationally, through policies that would have covered all the border areas on topics ranging from transhumance movement to animal infections/vaccinations.

Still, even without the policies to work with, the project did well to popularise transhumance issues and the local by-laws that government them. It is important to note again that including local authorities in peace summits and other sensitisation meetings created buy-in, and allowed leaders to speak to communities in favour the by-laws that dictated dates for when cattle should be fenced and when they could graze. Creating local ownership for project priorities among community leaders was a key strategy the intervention used to help make sure that the transhumance calendar was respected and enforced. Also important to decreasing conflict is that a number of communities have used forums set up by the project – meetings, dialogues, etc. – to take steps to designate separate areas where farmers and herders can work, thereby creating buffer zones between the two groups, which makes conflict less likely.

6.4.4 Natural Resource Disputes Solved through Local Platforms

This section examines data related to Outcome Indicator 1d, which is the proportion of natural resource disputes between farmers and herders solved through Cattle Settlement Committees and Transhumance Committees strengthened by the project. Though conflict between farmers and herders has decreased considerably since the intervention began, such conflicts still do occur in project communities. Of the conflicts reported through the endline survey, the vast majority were resolved³⁹. In total, 96.5 percent of respondents said that the conflicts they were involved in were resolved – up slightly from 88.3 percent at the baseline. Outside parties helped resolve these conflicts 67.3 percent of the time. In Sierra Leone outside parties helped in a significantly higher percentage of conflicts (95 percent) than in Guinea (51.4 percent). Qualitative research also indicated that many conflicts were solved bilaterally between the parties involved. Farmers participating in FGDs indicated that, previous to the project, herders were more likely to ignore farmers when crops were damaged, forcing farmers to take complaints to local authorities. However, since the project, herders are more likely to settle disputes directly with the aggrieved farmers; greater social cohesion through peace messaging and increased interaction through collective work in the FBOs, which include both farmers and herders, has also given cattle herders a better understanding of the challenges that farmers face and made herders more responsive to farmers.

Table 7: Local Platforms Involved in Dispute Resolution

	Total		Guinea		Sierra Leone	
	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline
<i>Traditional leaders</i>	95.7%	36.9%	90.1%	28.2%	98%	52.1%
<i>Government officials</i>	17.7%	20.0%	17.8%	27.4%	17.7%	7.0%
<i>Cattle Settlement / Transhumance Committees</i>	N/A	18.5%	48.5%	25.0%	N/A*	7.0%
<i>Youth leaders</i>	6.4%	8.7%	9.9%	4.8%	4.5%	15.5%
<i>Women's leaders</i>	5.4%	6.7%	12.9%	2.4%	1.5%	14.1%
<i>Other</i>	13.5%	9.2%	22.8%	12.1%	8.5%	4.2%
* The endline only considered transhumance committees, in Guinea, since Cattle Settlement Committees were not yet operational in Sierra Leone at the time of the study.						

Overall, 18.5 percent of endline respondents went to these committees, which is lower than the project target of 65 percent, as shown in the table. The table above indicates that farmers and herders in Sierra Leone and Guinea rely on different local platforms to resolve disputes. At the endline, more than half (52.1 percent) of those who reported a conflict in Sierra Leone (and included an outside party in the

³⁹ When farmer-herder conflict occurs, it is typically resolved through three types of settlement: bilateral settlement between farmers and herders (including: settlement with no compensation), settlement that is mediated by local authorities (including: town chiefs, and community-based committees), and settlement that is determined by higher authorities (including: section chiefs, paramount chiefs, Cattle Settlement Committees, and Transhumance Committees, etc.).

resolution of that conflict) said they went to traditional leaders as part of the dispute. Only 7 percent of disputes reported in Sierra Leone were resolved by Cattle Settlement Committees. By contrast, it was Transhumance Committees in Guinea that were involved in resolving almost half (48.5 percent) of disputes reported in the last year, up from 25 percent at the baseline.

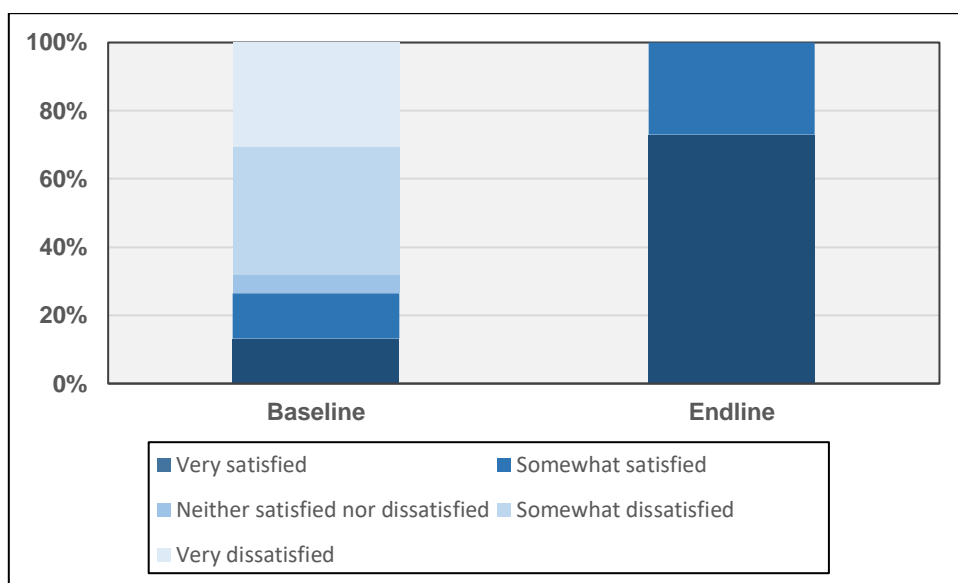
Qualitative research carried out for the assessment indicated that the project had successfully improved the capacities of Cattle Settlement Committees and Transhumance Committees, providing training and equipment to them. In Sierra Leone forty Cattle Settlement Committee members were trained on conflict analysis techniques and conflict resolution approach, while in Guinea 75 Transhumance Committee members were trained on the same thing. TDS Sierra Leone in collaboration with TDS Guinea also facilitated a knowledge exchange meeting between the transhumance committees of both countries to assist with peer-to-peer learning, contributing to greater ownership and sense of responsibilities from the members. Committees have also been provided with motorbikes – one to each committee – to facilitate transportation of their members.

Key Finding 9: Still, qualitative data indicates that there is a higher overall awareness about the committees in Guinea than in Sierra Leone. Many farmers and herders in Sierra Leone engaged as part of this assessment said they had not heard of the Cattle Settlement Committees in their chiefdoms. Generally, the committee is not well-known or highly utilised as a community level dispute resolution mechanism in Sierra Leone; as evidence of this, few of the farmers and herders interviewed in the country indicated that they had gone through the committee to assist with dispute resolution. On the other hand, Transhumance Committees in Guinea are well-known and active in dispute resolution. This is mostly likely due to the fact that in such committees in Guinea were already functioning before the project – albeit without formal training and with fewer resources – whereas in Sierra Leone the committees were not at all functional until the project resurrected these structures through trainings and other forms of capacity building. Further, qualitative research indicates that these committees work at different levels in their respective countries. In Guinea, Transhumance Committees operate at the sub-prefecture level and sometimes have community representation, meaning that they take on all scales of disputes – including relatively minor ones. In Sierra Leone, Cattle Settlement Committees operate at the chiefdom level and generally are generally called to tackle more major disputes that involve violence (or the threat of it), as well as large-scale damage to crops. Therefore, capacity building activities aimed at Transhumance Committees in Guinea are likely to have had a greater impact on improving dispute resolution than those activities strengthening Cattle Settlement Committees in Sierra Leone. Nevertheless, the work of other local leadership structures in Sierra Leone – encouraged through project activities – picked up the slack where the Cattle Settlement Committees were not active.

6.4.5 Satisfaction with Dispute Resolution through Local Platforms

Outcome Indicator 1e focuses on the proportion of issues raised with committees that are solved to the satisfaction of famers/herders that are involved. Endline respondents who reported having a conflict resolved with the help an outside party indicated a very high level of satisfaction with how that conflict was resolved. Looking at endline respondents in both countries, Figure 4 shows that all endline respondents were satisfied with the outcome of their dispute (over the target of 80 percent); 73.0 percent said they were very satisfied and 27 percent said they were somewhat satisfied. This is up considerably from the baseline, at which time just over two-thirds (68.1 percent) of all respondents, who reported having a conflict resolved with the help an outside party, said they were either very or somewhat satisfied with how their conflict was resolved. Disaggregating endline responses we see that, in Sierra Leone, 68.4 percent said they were very satisfied and 31.6 percent said they were somewhat satisfied, while in Guinea, 77.8 percent said they were very satisfied and 22.2 percent said they were somewhat satisfied.

Figure 4: Level Satisfaction with Conflict Resolution



Key Finding 10: According to qualitative data, the higher overall levels of satisfaction related to the dispute settlement are said to be the result of the project's efforts to build the capacities of both community stakeholders and community members to manage, mitigate, and resolve conflicts between cattle herders and crop farmers. Key to this were efforts to popularise chiefdom bylaws through workshops, ensuring that these were discussed and known by both local authorities and farmers/herders, so that dispute resolution could be carried out transparently and fairly.

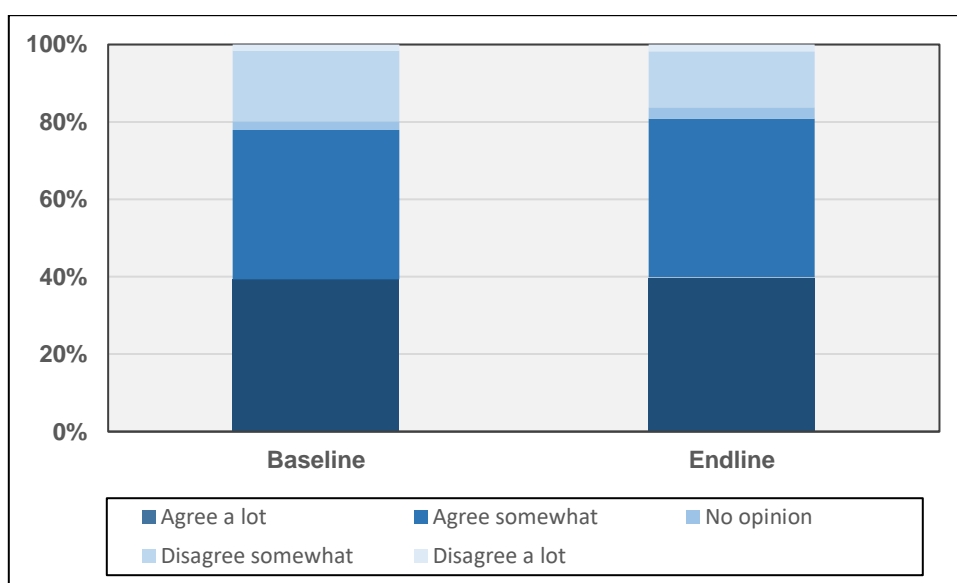
6.5 Outcome 2: Social Cohesion, Trust, and Economic Collaboration

This section analyses Outcome 2, which focuses on social cohesion, trust and economic collaboration strengthened within and between Falaba District and Faranah Prefecture through climate-smart livelihoods and farmer and herder cooperation.

6.5.1 Perceptions of Trust for Herders/Farmers

This section presents analysis for Outcome Indicator 2a, which focuses on respondents' trust in groups they traditionally have been in conflict with. According to Figure 5, survey respondents generally agree that both farmers and herders can be trusted. Looking at both countries, 80.8 percent of all endline respondents agreed somewhat or a lot that farmers can be trusted (see Figure 5), just meeting the project target of 80 percent. This was up slightly from 77.9 percent that said this up at the baseline.

Figure 5: Perceptions That Farmers Can Be Trusted



Looking at the proportion of endline respondents saying that herders can be trusted, 70.3 percent said that – up from 64.8 percent at the baseline (see: Figure 6); 36.0 percent of endline respondents said that they agreed with this a lot, while 31.3 percent said they agreed somewhat that herders can be trusted. Disaggregated analysis suggests that there is not much variation by sex or age in terms of trust towards farmers or herders.

Figure 6: Perceptions That Herders Can Be Trusted

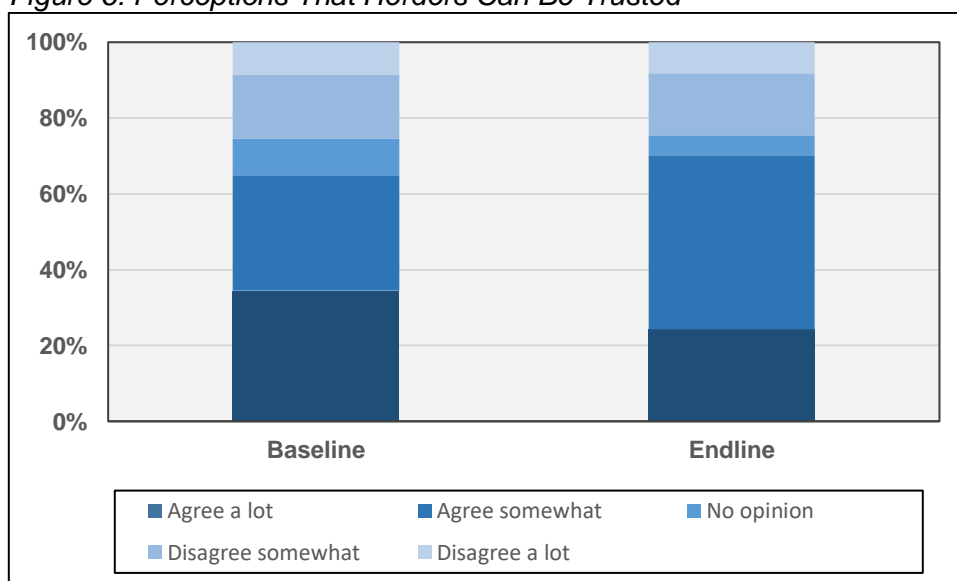


Table 8 shows that perceptions of trust of farmers/herders by the groups that they have traditionally been in conflict with has gone up somewhat from the baseline to endline. Over three-quarters (78.3 percent) of herders now agree somewhat or a lot that farmers in their community can be trusted and 67.2 percent of herders agree that herders can be trusted.

Table 8: Perceptions That Farmers/Herders Can Be Trusted, by Agricultural Group

	Farmers		Herders	
	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline
Farmers in this community can be trusted.				
Agree*	78.1%	82%	76.5%	78.3%
Disagree**	20.8%	17.2%	19.5%	18.3%

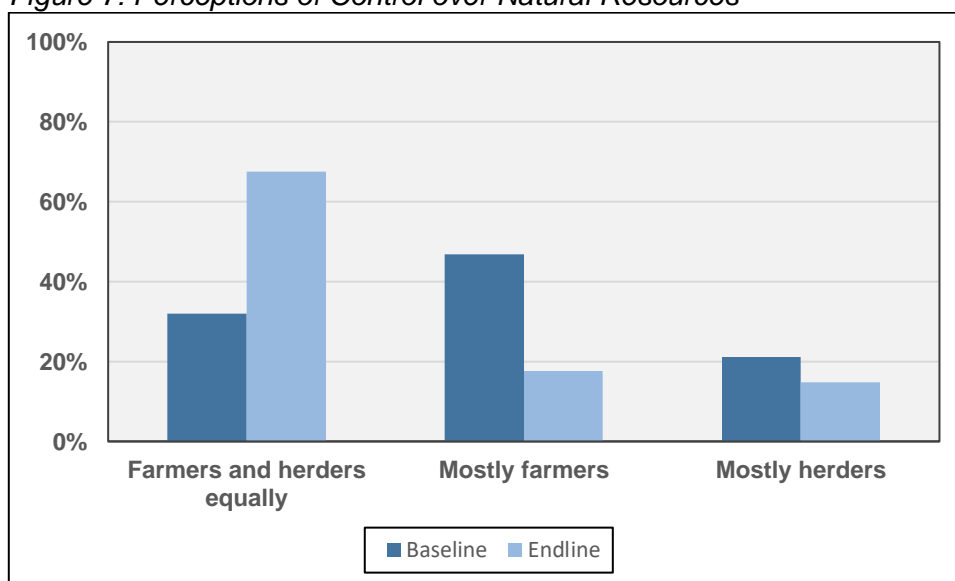
Herders in this community can be trusted.				
Agree*	63.6%	67.2%	70.7%	71.2%
Disagree**	25.5%	23.%	25.9%	24.5%
* Respondents who somewhat or strongly agree.				
** Respondents who somewhat or strongly disagree.				

Qualitative data indicates that increased trust resulted from the mutual engagement by farmers and herders in project activities – trainings, dialogues, meetings, etc. – etc. As well, the inclusion of herders in IVS farming activities helped improve social cohesion as these two groups worked together on mutually beneficial agricultural activities, which in turn helped to improve communication and strengthen understanding between individual herders and farmers and increase the overall linkages and trust between the two groups.

6.5.2 Perceptions of Input into Control over Natural Resources

This section looks at the data linked to Outcome Indicator 2b, which is the proportion of farmers/herders reporting that representatives of their social group have input into local natural resource management. The following figure analyses baseline and endline respondents' opinion on who has most input into control over the distribution of resources in their communities. **Key Finding 11: It shows that there was a significant increase between baseline and endline in respondents who think that farmers and herders control natural resources equally. About two-thirds (67.5 percent) of endline respondents said this, which was up from about one-third (32 percent) of baseline respondents, to exceed the project target of 60 percent.**

Figure 7: Perceptions of Control over Natural Resources



Gains in this indicator were most likely attributable to project activities that invested in productive agricultural and agropastoral resources for farmers and herders, respectively. For example, farmers, who previously felt disenfranchised due to continual degradation of their farms by invading cattle, now were supported to invest resources into developing and cultivating IVS for improved production of crops offers farmers access and control of productive assets. For their part, herders have been provided with improved grasses and solar irrigation systems. That grasses were provided earlier and more effectively in Guinea than in Sierra Leone might explain why disaggregating the data shown above by country (in Table 9) indicates that endline respondents in Guinea are slightly more likely to say that farmers and herders each have equal say into resource distribution.

Table 9: Perceptions of Groups with Most Input into Resource Distribution, by Country

	Guinea	Sierra Leone
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	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline
<i>Farmers and herders equally</i>	20.3%	70.7%	42.3%	64.7%
<i>Mostly farmers</i>	77.5%	29.0%	21.2%	7.4%
<i>Mostly herders</i>	2.2%	0.3%	36.5%	27.9%

The subsequent table shows that females are more likely than males to say that farmers and herders have equal input into resource distribution, with more males saying that it is mostly farmers that input into resource distribution.

Table 10: Perceptions of Groups with Most Input into Resource Distribution, by Sex

	Females	Males
<i>Farmers and herders equally</i>	35.7%	28.8%
<i>Mostly farmers</i>	41.9%	53.7%
<i>Mostly herders</i>	22.4%	17.5%

Table 11 disaggregates by age category the respondents' perceptions of input into resource distribution by farmers and herders.

Table 11: Perceptions of Groups with Most Input into Resource Distribution, by Age

	20 years and under	21 to 30 years	31 to 40 years	41 to 50 years	51 years and over
<i>Farmers and herders equally</i>	16.7%	33.1%	38.5%	15.3%	13.5%
<i>Mostly farmers</i>	71.2%	42.4%	38.9%	82.7%	83.7%
<i>Mostly herders</i>	12.1%	24.5%	22.6%	2%	2.9%

Endline survey results indicated that those 20 years of age and under, and those that are 41 years and over, are least likely to believe that farmers and herders have equal input into resource distribution. Instead, these age groups are much more likely to believe that it is mostly farmers that have input into resource distribution.

6.5.3 Belief That Farmers/Herders Work Together

The following analysis focuses on outcome indicator 2c, which targets the proportion of farmers/herders who believe that by working together satisfies their respective interests. **Key Finding 12: According to Table 12, there was a big increase between the baseline and endline in the proportion of survey respondents in both countries believe that it is possible for farmers and herders to work together to solve conflicts about natural resources. Almost all endline respondents agree – either strongly or somewhat – that this is the case; this over the project of 90 percent.**

Table 12: Perceptions That Farmers and Herders Work Together to Solve Conflicts

	Total		Guinea		Sierra Leone	
	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline
It is possible for farmers and herders to work together to solve conflicts about natural resources?						
<i>Agree*</i>	76.2%	95.1%	86.6%	94.4%	65.7%	95.7%
<i>Disagree**</i>	10.7%	4.0%	3.5%	4.1%	17.9%	3.9%
How often do farmers and herders in this community work together to solve conflicts over natural resources?						
<i>Often</i>	21.2%	30.4%	23.2%	54.1%	19.1%	21.0%
<i>Sometimes</i>	49.1%	64.8%	46%	45.1%	52.2%	70.6%
<i>Seldom or never</i>	29.8%	4.8%	30.8%	0.8%	28.7%	8.4%
* Respondents who somewhat or strongly agree.						
** Respondents who somewhat or strongly disagree.						

The table above also suggests that there was a large decrease in the percentage of respondents who believe that farmers and herders never work together to solve conflicts over natural resources. However,

endline respondents in Guinea are much more likely to say that this is often the case than are those in Sierra Leone. The survey results are indicative of increasing levels of social cohesion in project areas, which is a key factor currently mitigating conflict between farmers and herders in Falaba District and Faranah Prefecture. It was frequently noted within qualitative research that farmers and herders sought to settle disputes amicably – even bilaterally – in order to keep social good relations with their neighbours and other community members. Qualitative data also indicated that community meetings and discussions were important in building rapport between farmers and herders. As well, including herders as members of FBOs helped improve economic collaboration and contributed to improved social cohesion.

Table 13: Perceptions That Farmers and Herders Work Together to Solve Conflicts, by Sex

	Female	Male
It is possible for farmers and herders to work together to solve conflicts about natural resources?		
Agree*	95.4%	94.8%
Disagree**	3%	3.9%
How often do farmers and herders in this community work together to solve conflicts over natural resources?		
Often	28.3%	32.2%
Sometimes	67.3%	62.5%
Seldom or never	4.4%	5.2%
* Respondents who somewhat or strongly agree.		
** Respondents who somewhat or strongly disagree.		

The table above indicates that males and females equally agree that it is possible for farmers and herders to work together to solve conflicts about natural resources. The same table also shows that male endline respondents stated that farmers and herders often work together to solve conflicts over natural resources.

Table 14: Perceptions That Farmers and Herders Work Together to Solve Conflicts, by Age

	20 years and under	21 to 30 years old	31 to 40 years old	41 to 50 years old	51 and over
It is possible for farmers and herders to work together to solve conflicts about natural resources?					
Agree*	95.8%	94.7%	95.3%	94.3%	96.1%
Disagree**	2.1%	4.8%	3.7%	4.5%	3.2%
How often do farmers and herders in this community work together to solve conflicts over natural resources?					
Often	12.8%	24.5%	22%	56%	52.6%
Sometimes	85.1%	69.9%	71.3%	41.7%	47.4%
Seldom or never	2.1%	5.5%	6.7%	2.3%	0%
* Respondents who somewhat or strongly agree.					
** Respondents who somewhat or strongly disagree.					

Table 14 shows that all age groups are likely to agree somewhat or a lot that farmers and herders work together to solve conflicts about natural resources. The table also indicates those 41 years and over are most likely to say that farmers and herders in their community work often together to solve conflicts over natural resources.

6.5.4 Food Security and Incomes for Farmer/Herder households

Increasing food security for farmer and herder households is a key focus of the project, as per activities under Outcome Indicators 2d. But before looking at the food security of beneficiaries, this section starts with an analysis of how the project affected beneficiary incomes. Falaba and Faranah

have some of the most economically vulnerable and food insecure people in each country, who are living in resource-scarce and degraded environments. **Key Finding 13: Qualitative research also indicated that a key impact of the project on farmers' lives was increased food consumption. Participants in communities in Sierra Leone and Guinea both indicated that they either increased the number of meals they are consuming or increased the amount of food they were consuming with each meal. Indeed, it was a consistent finding across all farmers groups sampled during qualitative data collection in both Sierra Leone and Guinea that their consumption of food had increased since before the start of the project. Qualitative research also indicated that food diversity was also reported to have increased among farmers.** Planting of vegetables on swampland was widely reported, which had a particularly important effect in providing micronutrient-rich vegetables to remote areas that otherwise found it difficult to access these through existing markets.

The CBT provided to farmers and herders as part of the development of IVS and cattle ranches helped to address immediate food needs and other necessities by providing households with cash infusions, while at the same time it promotes the building or rehabilitation of assets that will improve project beneficiaries' long-term food security and resilience. WFP Sierra Leone provided support in the rehabilitation of 50.1 hectares of IVS in the ten project communities. Following the successful completion of this activity, 501 work participants received thirty-day food assistance as CBTs totalling USD 130,761 to economically boost households and strengthen local markets. Similarly, in Guinea, 50 hectares of IVS were rehabilitated, but across six communities. To assist herders and farmers during fencing work, reforestation, fodder production and IVS development, WFP Guinea transferred at a total of USD 172,058,60 to 1,126 households.

Key Finding 14: Project beneficiaries indicated that spending CBT on food and other household necessities. In some cases, cash was invested in assets such as cattle, capital for small business, and petrol water pumps for vegetable cultivation in dry season. There were also some notable cases of investment in community infrastructure in Guinea, where community used CBT to help construct public structures. For instance, in Tinterba community CBT was pooled by recipients to build a community structure for meetings and a school (where there are six teachers, five of whom are volunteers from the community). As well, in Gibendo, community members use CBT funds to build a health centre and school.

Table 15: Average Income per Household

	Average		Guinea		Sierra Leone	
	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline
<i>Monthly household income local currency</i>	N/A	N/A	GNF 654,424.69	GNF 756,732.49	SLL 729,219.65	SLL 1,755,000.78
<i>Monthly household income USD</i>	USD 64.40	USD 90.18	USD 75.67**	USD 90.81***	USD 53.14*	USD 89.54****
* USD 1 equals GNF 8,649 (on 20 July 2022). ** USD 1 equals SLL 13,724 (on 20 July 2022) *** USD 1 equals GNF 8,333 (on 3 May 2024) **** USD 1 equals SLL 19,608 (on 3 May 2024)						

Key Finding 15: Table 15 shows that average monthly income among all beneficiaries increased from USD 64.40 at the time of baseline to USD 90.18, with little differences in terms of income between beneficiaries in Sierra Leone and Guinea. Disaggregating income data between farmers and herders suggests that herder households reported considerably higher incomes than did farmer households. The average monthly income in herder households was reported to be USD 156.33, compared to USD 71.24 in farmer households. Qualitative research also suggested increased incomes among farmers, which were realised due to improved production and processing capacities, as well as through better market linkages (where these were made). However, qualitative data did not indicate corresponding increases to the incomes of herders, especially in Sierra Leone, where project activities with this group were only started in the second half of the project. As well, some other income-generating

activities planned by the project had not yet been implemented; as is explained in greater detail below. Given this, it is reasonable to assume that some of the income increases can be attributed to the project, while some may have been overall inflationary pressures that are present throughout the country.

6.5.4.1 Agricultural Livelihoods

In terms of income increases, the assessment found that the project made its most significant impacts via increases on rice yields, in both Sierra Leone and Guinea, which in turn contributed to increased incomes of farmer beneficiaries. Prior to the project, qualitative research indicates that farmers in Sierra Leone and Guinea reported carrying out lowland rice farming in swamps. But they mainly did so on individual or family plots, at a subsistence level and without the use of good agricultural practices. None of the farmers groups in either country reported conducting second croppings of rice. Indeed, government representatives working in agriculture on both sides of the border indicate that the vast majority of all farmers in Falaba and Faranah do not carry out second croppings of rice.

Since the project has commenced, the many farmers groups have started second croppings. In Sierra Leone, six-of-ten FBOs completed second croppings of rice, while others did vegetables. Lensenia community claims it will even attempt to carry out three croppings in 2024. The IVS Rice Yield Report compiled for the 2023 Cropping Season by WFP and MAFS indicates that – with 4.8 metric tonnes per hectare – project sites in Falaba had the highest yields amongst IVS sites supported by WFP in any district. IVS sites in Falaba recorded 184 (50 kilogram) bags with milled equivalent of 5.5 metric tonnes⁴⁰. In project sites in Guinea, in 2023, 107.5 tonnes of rice were harvested on 50 hectares, for an average yield of 2.15 tonnes per hectare.

In Guinea, the rehabilitation of IVS was started late in 2023, which meant that farmers could not carry out second croppings that year; IVS development had to wait on the completion of community based participatory planning and a technical study to map the topography of the land and draw up development plans. These were not finished until June 2023, by which point the rainy season had already begun and it was not possible to start land development – a dry-season activity. However, discussions with farmers groups in Guinea during the evaluation indicate that the majority aim to carry out two croppings of rice in 2024. For those that do not carry out second croppings of rice, they will instead plant other types of products – such as groundnuts and vegetables. Indeed, focus groups with farmers in both countries also indicate that the project has created better access to fresh vegetables, which were otherwise very difficult to access. Moreover, agricultural products such as groundnuts and vegetables are more likely to be carried out by female farmers, who benefit from the extra income earned from these activities. Yield data for Guinea was not provided during the drafting of this report.

As well, the introduction of short duration rice means that rice can now be harvested in three months, as opposed to the 6-7 months that it previously took. This had two key impacts. Firstly, it allowed farmers to do multiple harvests of rice in a single season. Secondly, it the shorter duration that the rice matured at made it more likely that rice would be harvested before cattle were released for grazing. All FBOs contacted through qualitative research reported keeping short duration rice in seed banks to use for subsequent seasons. Some of the communities are also offering the rice that they have as seed rice to other communities through WFP. As well, WFP Guinea has left the seed bank with the Ministry of Agriculture to preserve the seed rice for the improved varieties provided through the project.

Key Finding 16: The project also supported beneficiaries with improved processing capacities, which helped them produce better quality grains that could be brought to market for higher prices. The ability to produce and process high quality rice has also created important market opportunities for beneficiary farmers, including to HGSF in each country. Creating market linkages to WFP's HGSF programmes is especially important in this regard. In Sierra Leone, WFP is purchasing – either directly or indirectly – from each of the FBOs they are supporting. In Guinea, as well, it is notable that the FBO in Tinterba community sold produce for school feeding as well. At the time of the assessment, FBOs in Sierra Leone had received machinery for the

⁴⁰ WFP and MAFS, 2024, *IVS Rice Yield Report, 2023 Cropping Season*.

processing of rice to support value chains that could be connected to markets, WFP provided agricultural machinery such as threshers, power tillers, and (to select communities) mills. Similar machinery was scheduled to be delivered in Guinea, but had not yet been at the time of the assessment⁴¹. Those groups that had already received agricultural machinery reported a number of important benefits. Firstly, power tillers and threshers reduced the amount time required for farming and processing. With the time savings farmers could engage in work on their personal plots or on other income-generating activities.

Some FBOs were also able to generate revenue by renting these machines to other community members. Especially those that received rice mills, provided milling services to other farmers, while saving on expenses that they would otherwise have had to pay for the milling of their own rice. For instance, in the WFP-supported FBO in Lensenia earns one cup of rice that for every seven cups that they mill, which allows the group to earn approximately seven 150-kilogram sacks per season. Half of the proceeds from these rice sales are divided among the group, while half are reinvested for the maintenance of the machine and other FBO activities. In Guinea, farmer groups have not received machinery yet, meaning that they have to get their rice milled elsewhere at a cost. For instance, in Sambaya paid GF 1,500,000 for the milling of 52 100-kilogram bags of rice.

Some of the revenues were invested into Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) created as part of the project. Qualitative research also found that many VSLAs were still operating at the time of the evaluation. Most functional groups were making weekly payments of around SLL 5,000-10,000 per member, though some could not always meet this threshold. Of course, participation in VSLAs is dependent on earning sufficient income to contribute. In the case that loans had been taken for the VSLA, it was for agriculture, investment in small business, healthcare, and for the paying of school fees. In the end, VSLAs provided an important source of financing as there is no other place to get loans in the community. VSLAs benefit especially women beneficiaries, who are responsible for most of the domestic and childrearing duties in their households – now have access to low interest loans if they experience shortfalls in funding household expenses.

6.5.4.2 Agropastoral Livelihoods

In addition to the solar-powered irrigation systems provided to the project, which is already described above, the key livelihoods activities provided herders in both countries was training on in fodder production, and fast-growing nutritious grasses (*brachiaria ruziziensis* and *panicum maximum*), which were planted in community fenced grazing areas. In Guinea, grasses were provided in the first year of the project, while in Sierra Leone they were provide in the project's second year. **Key Finding 17: Seeds for the grasses in both countries were provided after the planting season had started. Despite the late planting, the grasses in Guinea survived to the subsequent year. Herders using the grasses indicated that it resulted in healthier calves and improved the health of full-grown cattle by (increasing their weight an estimated 10 kilograms). In Sierra Leone grasses were planted in the second year and all grasses in each of the five ranching communities died through the dry season.** This situation was exacerbated by the lack of waterpoints in each community – due to the late delivery of irrigation systems – since there was no way for herders to water their grasses to get them through the dry season. It is noted that, in Sierra Leone, additional viable seeds were delivered in early May 2024 to meet with the right planting season.

6.5.4.3 Alternative Livelihoods

In addition to agricultural activities directly focused on farming and herding, it also included a number of alternative income generation activities: soapmaking, milk preservation, and honey-making. Of these three activities, all had been planned to take place in Guinea, while only soapmaking was taking

⁴¹ This support is usually provided at a late stage, giving WFP time to understand which communities are most committed to the project activities and most prepared to manage and maintain the assets. For this reason, it is worth noting that not all communities have received the same level of support in terms of equipment. The most committed communities benefited from stronger support, while others did not receive the same amount of equipment because they were less involved in project activities and did not achieve the same results as their neighbours. This inequality in the provision of equipment is a strategy designed to encourage less successful communities to be more active in project activities.

place in Sierra Leone. **Key Finding 18: However, since the project's initial focus was its main agricultural livelihoods components, most of the alternative livelihoods activities – with the exception of soap-making in Guinea – were only implemented towards the end of project. Some of the alternative livelihoods activities were not completed at the time of fieldwork, making with it was difficult to gauge their full impact, it was confirmed that all had been carried out by the project end.** In Guinea, for instance, the provision of equipment and training for milk preservation had yet to be undertaken; nor had the distribution of equipment for honey-making. These training courses for these activities provided by the cooperating partners during the final months of the project. Cooperating partners had previously been unable complete alternative livelihoods activities, as the targeted communities wanted to focus their energies on land development and rice production.

In Sierra Leone, training on soapmaking had been completed, but only two weeks prior to the assessment. Intended training for soapmaking was delayed by national elections in June 2023, during which time movement by the Barefoot Women was considered too risky. Afterwards, priority was once again given to the intense dedication on IVS swamp development and cultivation was prioritised over soapmaking activities. For this reason, those trained in in this form of income generation had not yet attempted to undertake soapmaking in their own communities. Still, qualitative research indicated that the trainees had already been able to sell the soaps they had made as part of the training. Guinea provides a better example of the impact of income-generation activities around soapmaking, as these were commenced midway through the project. Qualitative data from Guinea suggests that trainees were able to use their training to make and sell soaps as a additional livelihood. Beneficiaries are able to make and sell soap to members of their own communities, as well as selling soap on market days to members of other communities, who then act as 'middlemen' by reselling to their own friends and neighbours. In Massekuli, for instance, making and selling soap indicated that they mostly sell it to people that come and buy from other towns and resell most Fridays. Each woman generates GNF 100,000-200,000 revenue, keeping approximately GNF G30,000 profit. Each retains sufficient income to reinvest in soap-making materials and then retains the remainder for personal and household usage. When asked, the women involved in soapmaking across different communities indicated that they keep/control the profits, using their earnings for household expenses.

6.6 Outcome 3: Improved Cross-Border Management Capacities

The following analysis examines indicators for Outcome 3, which supports Sierra Leone and Guinea in their ability to have improved cross-border management capacities and are able to collect and use data to develop evidence-based policies that mitigate conflicts.

6.6.1 Government Investment in Borderland Areas

This section looks at Outcome Indicator 3a, the extent to which Sierra Leone and Guinean governments invest in conflict prone borderland areas to strengthen cross-border management governance and counter alienation of borderland communities using evidence and data. Table 16 shows that an overall increase between the baseline and endline in the perception that border officials are properly trained and properly equipped to control conflict between border communities in Sierra Leone and Guinea – close to the project target of 80 percent. Endline respondents in Sierra Leone more likely to say this than are respondents on the other side of the border.

Table 16: Perceptions that Border Officials Have Adequate Capacities

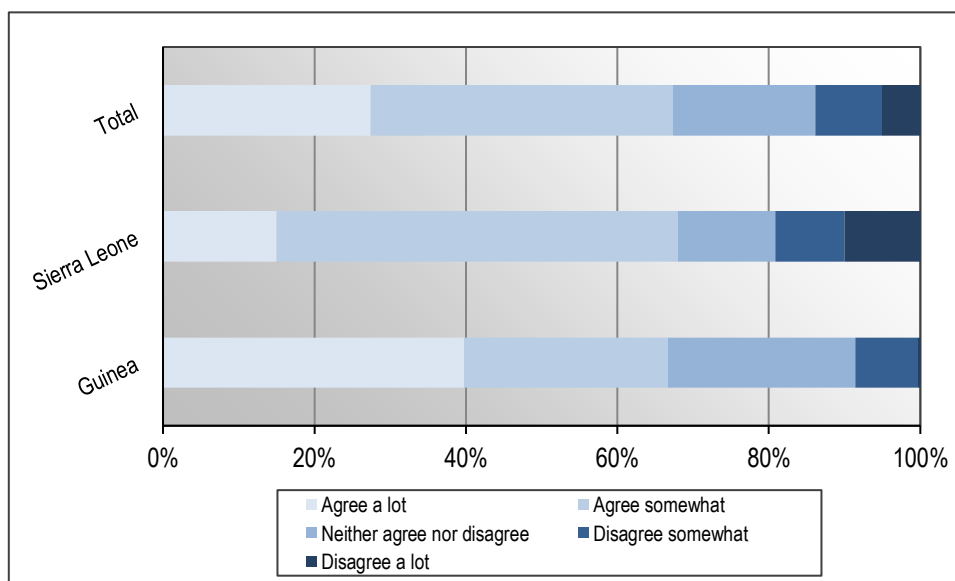
	Total		Guinea		Sierra Leone	
	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline
Border officials are properly trained to control conflict between border communities in Sierra Leone and Guinea.						
<i>Agree*</i>	39.4%	78.2%	39.4%	58.3%	59.4%	99.4%
<i>Disagree**</i>	24.5%	0.6%	24.5%	0.8%	6.3%	0.4%
Border posts are properly equipped to control conflict between border communities in Sierra Leone and Guinea.						
<i>Agree*</i>	32.4%	77.6%	32.4%	57.0%	41.8%	99.4%

Disagree**	29.9%	0.7%	29.9%	1.2%	18.3%	0.2%
* Respondents who somewhat or strongly agree.						
** Respondents who somewhat or strongly disagree.						

Qualitative research carried out for the baseline indicated that the border areas supported by the project suffered from poor infrastructure, with border posts that were either non-existent or that lacked facilities and equipment necessary to carry out border patrols and gather intelligence to measure the impact of transhumance migration to insecurity and report them adequately. This situation had improved considerably by the time of the endline. **Key Finding 19: By the endline, there were three newly constructed border posts in Guinea at Songoyah and Heremakonon, as well as a new border post in Sierra Leone at Koindukura and a rehabilitated border post at Walia (also in Sierra Leone). Each was operational following provision of furniture, VHF radios, motorbikes, tablets, and other equipment. Still, the border agents at the rehabilitated post in Walia did identify some challenges.** Firstly, they mentioned delays in providing furniture for the post, which were not yet distributed at the time of assessment, but had reportedly been provided as of early May. As well, border agents at Walia indicated that they did not receive the motorbikes that had been promised by the project⁴².

Another challenge across all border posts was that VHF radios distributed by the project often lacked the range to communicate over very long distances. This became a problem, in particular, when conducting patrols along Sierra Leone and Guinea's long porous border. Despite these challenges, the GoSL had deployed border agents from police, immigration, and customs, who were overall better equipped to carry out their duties, including monitoring and joint monitoring using motorcycles provided by the project. As well, the project trained border personnel on integrated border management, human rights, conflict management and on cross-border cooperation. A total of four training sessions were conducted benefiting a total of 102 border agents. In addition, key informants also noted that by building the capacities of border agents to collect data on cross-border migration was important because it was used to generate official statistics that could be provided to and used by central governments.

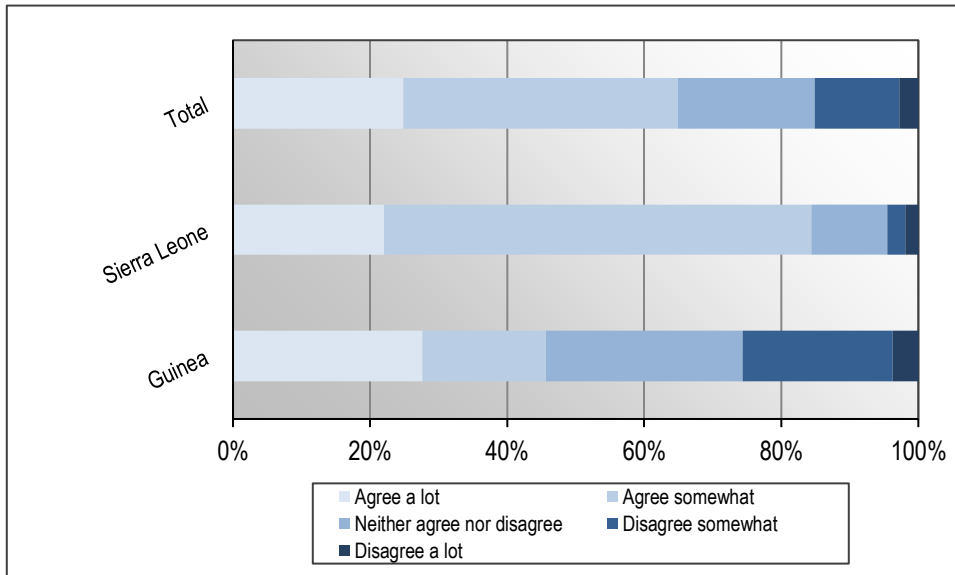
Figure 8: Perceptions That Can Predict Cross-border Migration



⁴² As in Koindukura, motorbikes in Walia were handed over to local government for the direct distributions to the respective locations as per protocol. Police authorities in Walia decided to hold on to their motorbikes in Mongo and to date have not delivered it to the staff in Walia. IOM has reported meeting with the Local Unit Commander in Mongo – new to the position – to investigate these issues. Though local police officials promised to investigate this issue, it still had not been resolved while this assessment was being finalised. Further, the Head of Immigration for Falaba district staying in Mongo, and has retained one motorbikes that was supposed to be in Walia for the immigration staff. As there is no motorbike at district level, the Head of Immigration is reportedly using this project-allocated motorbike for monitoring and patrolling all border posts in Falaba, including Walia.

Key Finding 20: Figure 8 indicates that many survey respondents (67.3 percent) agree that officials are able to properly predict patterns of migration between border communities in Guinea and Sierra Leone. Figure 9 also suggests that about two-thirds (64.9 percent) of people – even more in Sierra Leone – agree somewhat or a lot that the migration of cattle between border communities in Guinea and Sierra Leone is well regulated and controlled.

Figure 9: Perceptions That Migration of Cattle Is Well Regulated



The quantitative data just presented is supported by qualitative data collected during the assessment. Interviewees noted that the project’s work to profile and track transhumance routes, gathering points, conflict-prone areas, and pastoral infrastructure provided crucial information for informed decision-making for government authorities and other local leaders. **Key Finding 21: Transhumance mapping effectively created information that filled what a gap in available data on transhumance activities. This included successfully collecting data on transhumance flow patterns and routes/corridors between the border area situated along Falaba District and Faranah Prefecture, as well as movement periods, corridors, and the origin, profiles, and destination of transhumance activity. The study provided transhumance stakeholders knowledge on transhumance activities and protocols, offering an important evidence base from which to build a better understanding of transhumance and its impacts on the cross-border communities along the corridors.** These efforts were institutionalised through the creation of ‘data hubs’ among district and prefecture stakeholders in each country.

The different mapping exercises deployed ‘enumerators’ – data collectors based throughout the project chiefdoms/sub-prefectures – to monitor and contribute to timely information sharing and decision-making to prevent potential disputes and conflicts. Their monitoring work was used for community engagement and sensitisation on transhumance issues in both countries as part of an early warning mechanism. Enumerators on both sides of the border were incentivised for 3-4 months (through approximately April to July 2023) to monitor issues that could result in conflict between farmers and herders to report these to the proper district/prefecture authorities in each country. In both Sierra Leone and Guinea, key informants from the district/prefecture noted a number of cases (between 10-15 each) that they had intervened in during that time due to information provided by the enumerators. There were other cases – the total number of which was not known – that the enumerators had intervened in directly at community level.

6.6.2 Accountability of Border Agents

Looking at data for Outcome Indicator 3b, which is the proportion of farmers/herders who believe that border agents are accountable and provide effective service, we see that: the proportion of people that

agree somewhat or a lot that border officials can be trusted to treat everybody fairly increased from 58 percent at the baseline to 82.8 percent at the endline (above the project target of 80 percent).

Table 17: Perceptions That Border Officials Can Be Trusted to Treat Everybody Fairly

	Total		Guinea		Sierra Leone	
	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline
If herders and farmers in this community have conflicts, they can trust that border officials will treat everybody fairly.						
Agree*	58.0%	82.8%	58.7%	89%	57.3%	76.5%
Disagree**	17.1%	1%	18.5%	0.6%	15.5%	1.3%
* Respondents who somewhat or strongly agree.						
** Respondents who somewhat or strongly disagree.						

The endline data presented in the table above indicates that there are overall increases in trust in border agents. Sex-disaggregated data for this indicator showed little in terms of differences between male and female endline respondents. Looking at qualitative data, analysis suggests that improvements can at least in part be attributed to trainings received through the project. **Key Finding 22: Project beneficiaries living in border areas noted (in focus groups) that their experiences with border agents had improved. They indicated that instances of being hassled and asked for bribes had decreased and the overall demeanour and conduct of the border staff had become more professional. Here, training on border management and human rights were most impactful in leading to noticeable improvements in professionalising border activities and improving the relationships between border agents and the communities they are serving.**

6.6.3 Trust in Security Authorities

This section looks at Outcome Indicator 3c, which measures trust between the populations and the security authorities as a result of the accountability mechanism with indicators.

Table 18: Perceptions That Military and Police Can Be Trusted to Treat Everybody Fairly

	Total		Guinea		Sierra Leone	
	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline	Baseline	Endline
If herders and farmers in this community have conflicts, they can trust that military will treat everybody fairly.						
Agree*	42.1%	63.4%	46.5%	66.6%	37.5%	60.1%
Disagree**	34.9%	9.6%	31.7%	11.9%	38.3%	7.4%
If herders and farmers in this community have conflicts, they can trust that police will treat everybody fairly.						
Agree*	40.7%	73.4%	34.3%	71%	47.0%	75.7%
Disagree**	38.1%	7.5%	36.0%	3.2%	40.2%	11.5%
* Respondents who somewhat or strongly agree.						
** Respondents who somewhat or strongly disagree.						

The table above indicates that: 63.4 percent of all endline respondents agree somewhat or a lot that that military are trusted to treat everybody fairly if conflicts arise, over the project target of 55 percent and up from 42.1 percent at the baseline. Endline respondents in Guinea were somewhat more likely to say this than were endline respondents in Sierra Leone. Likewise, trust in police to treat everybody fairly rose between the baseline and endline, from 40.7 percent to 63.4 percent among all respondents. This indicator also exceeded the project target of 60 percent. This time, it was endline respondents in Sierra Leone that were somewhat more likely to say this than endline respondents in Guinea. Even neither the police nor the army are usually involved the settlement of disputes between farmers and herders in either country, unless intervening in cases of serious violence, it is conceivable that the project has raised people's overall trust in security institutions.

6.7 Efficiency

Key Finding 23: The endline assessment found that the project largely met the standards for efficiency. Still, the short duration of the project (two years initially) required a no-cost

extension of an additional six months, which increased the total project duration to two-and-a-half years and had an impact on project efficiency. Overhead – referred to as ‘general and operating costs’ – was 12.1 percent. Another 20.3 percent of the budget was allocated to personnel expenses, meaning that about two-thirds (67.7 percent) of the project budget was dedicated to programming. All budget lines have been fully exhausted. Further, project funds were used largely as was planned in the project budget, with a few exceptions. Where changes were made, appropriate justifications were given and procedures followed. However, what was planned to be a two-year project required a no-cost extension of six months, which increased the total project duration to two-and-a-half years. The extension was requested due to delays in the delivery of key activities. For instance, as already mentioned, the provision of irrigation systems to herders in Sierra Leone and Guinea, as well as processing equipment to farmers in Guinea, were only delivered at the end of the project, meaning the impacts of these activities could not be felt until after the project’s end. This lowered the intervention’s overall operational efficiency, which is measured by looking at the impacts of the intervention relative to the resources invested into it. The impacts of delayed project activities would not be felt – or would not be felt fully during the project period. As well, since the extension was issued, the implementing agencies have been funding some of the overhead as project activities were completed.

Key Finding 24: Efficiency was underpinned through effective coordination between WFP, IOM, and their partners were oriented around key coordination structures leveraged to guide implementation. Efficiencies gained from strong project coordination started with the recruitment of a Project Coordinator with expertise in peacebuilding, whose sole responsibility was coordinating project implementation and collaborating with government counterparts and partners in Sierra Leone and Guinea on behalf of all project partners. The need for a dedicated coordinator position was key recommendations from the assessment of a previous PBF-funded project that WFP led⁴³. Leveraging lessons from previous projects can itself be seen as an efficiency, whereby lessons from the experiences from similar interventions helped in shaping the activities under this project through the adoption of tried and tested mechanisms without the need for trial and error.

Including a dedicated Project Coordinator role within the project was key to opening and maintaining communication channels between the implementing agencies and their partners, something that was pivotal to troubleshoot programming challenges and share experiences, challenges, and lessons learned during project implementation. It also supported other coordination mechanisms, like the project’s Technical Committees in each country, which oversaw and guided project activities at the national level. These committees institutionalised the consistent involvement of stakeholders, demonstrating a commitment to collaborative coordination of the project. Quarterly technical meetings were used to report on the project’s progress and share experiences among project partners, helping to ensure key points of integration and synergies.

Key informants in Guinea did suggest that one area where coordination and collaboration could be improved: namely between the PBF in terms of maintaining regular contact and sharing information. It is believed by some stakeholders in the project that this limited monitoring of the project, contributing to the delay in the project implementation, as well as reduced communication and weaker project coordination at the PBF level between the two countries. Such challenges were said to be the result of a number of factors, the most important of which was said to be the relative lack of human resources at PBF in Sierra Leone. The PBF Secretariat in Guinea has an office with multiple staff, whereas the representation in Sierra Leone is the function of a single person. However, stakeholders in Sierra Leone that were consulted for the endline conversely suggest that implementation agencies and partners should operate as autonomously as possible. Indeed, there are indications that given the multifaceted nature of the project, it was able to be implemented with relative speed and efficiency. As mentioned above, the performance of the Project Coordinator was largely effective in creating conditions to facilitate joint implementation, and that a – despite delays – the implementation of a

⁴³ WFP, 2021, *Endline Assessment: Report Prepared for The Project: Mitigating Localised Resource-Based Conflicts and Increasing Community Resilience in Pujehun and Moyamba Districts of Sierra Leone*.

complex peacebuilding-development project that required joint implementation from multiple agencies in multiple countries moved relatively quickly. While it is true that the project required a six-month no-cost extension, the same is true of other multi-agency PBF-funded projects implemented solely within Sierra Leone⁴⁴.

6.8 Sustainability

Key Finding 25: To ensure sustainability, the project design was characterised by extensive engagement with a diverse range of stakeholders. This includes national stakeholders, local communities, international organisations, and civil society organisations. Such inclusive engagement helped to encourage ownership of the project activities and increase the likelihood of the sustainability of its various interventions. Project implementation built local capacities to ensure effective and long-term management. Most beneficiaries from the intervention are local people residing in targeted areas – farmers, herders, Youth Contractors, government workers, local authorities, enumerators, etc. – thereby helping ensure that the skills and structures needed for improving livelihoods and resolving conflicts remains within the communities. Moreover, efforts like the border and migration assessment and conflict analysis contributed to the relevance of the project's interventions by aligning them with the actual needs and aspirations of the local communities.

Key Finding 26: The project aimed to strengthen sustainable agricultural livelihoods for farmers and herders based on market opportunities, making it more likely that impacts are likely to remain after the project has ended. For instance, irrigated IVS can be used for continuous and sustainable food production without relying on traditional shifting upland agriculture that relies upon seasonal rainfall. Further, the project built the long-term agricultural productivity and sustainability, by supporting smallholder farmers with interventions that increased the productivity across different value chain activities, including processing, value addition, and market access support. There are also some key indications that FBOs have taken important steps toward sustainability by collectively reinvesting agricultural profits into farming and other income generating activities. This is especially the case in Sierra Leone. For instance, some FBOs have been able use some of the profits they have made to buy 100 kilograms of groundnuts to sell to traders, while others are setting money aside for agricultural machinery such as milling machines. Seeds for improved rice have been retained in both countries. Some are now being distributed to farmers in other communities. In Guinea, WFP is looking to buy part of this harvest to expand improved grasses to its operations in Senekori, where WFP is working and want to introduce into agroforestry.

In Sierra Leone, farmers groups were certified as FBOs. Doing so solidifies their organisational structures and makes it more likely these groups will remain durable after the project closes. Certification as FBOs as qualifies those groups for additional support from MAFS, which would not have been available to them otherwise. MAFS has been working closely with these FBOs throughout the project and has committed to further strengthening and supporting these groups, in collaboration with their executives and the Youth Contractors assigned to them. The capacity building of Youth Contractors – skilled young residents from project communities – is another step towards sustainability in Sierra Leone. All training that was provided to Youth Contractors was also received by MAFS Extension Officers. Importantly, MAFS key informants noted that since the establishment of Falaba in 2018 as a separate district, the GoSL has not engaged in IVS development/farming there. With the project, there has been an improvement in technical knowledge on IVS farming at the ministry. In Guinea, WFP partnered with local NGOs, who worked with community members to support the project at the local level. Youth Contractors and local NGOs provide an effective community-level delivery mechanism to implement agricultural livelihood activities in each country.

⁴⁴ For example: Mitigating Localised Resource-Based Conflicts and Increasing Community Resilience in Pujehun and Moyamba Districts of Sierra Leone and Empowering youth at risk as resources for sustaining peace and community resilience in Tonkolili and Kenema districts in Sierra Leone,

Key Finding 27: The project made some contributions to environmental sustainability through its implementation of climate-smart interventions and reforestation. These interventions play a crucial role in protecting the environment and mitigating climate change effects. By integrating climate-smart practices in both countries and syntropic farming pastures within the ranches in Sierra Leone, the project demonstrates a forward-thinking approach that not only addresses immediate agricultural needs but also aligns with long-term priorities for climate change adaptation and mitigation. The same can be said for the reforestation of 45 hectares of degraded land that took place in Guinea. Gains in sustainability in Sierra Leone are threatened by delays in providing seeds for fast-growing nutritious grasses. As mentioned above, the late planting of grasses led meant that all grasses dried out in each of the five ranching communities supported in Sierra Leone. Unless these seeds are provided again to herders in Sierra Leone to secure fast-growing grass varieties, they may not be encouraged to adhere to the agreed upon transhumance corridors, as it will be less likely that they can ensure cattle are able to graze a safe distance from farmland.

Key Finding 28: ‘Hardware’ provided as part of the project under Outcome 3 – border posts, computers, motorbikes, tablets, etc. – remain in the possession of the groups to which it was provided, as do trained personnel, though rotation of trained staff to other areas poses some threat to project sustainability. Importantly, border posts have been inaugurated and handed over to government. Inauguration was supported by the presence of Sierra Leone's Minister of Internal Affairs, David Panda-Noah, and the Minister of Territorial Administration and Decentralisation of Guinea, Hon. Mory Conde, along with high-ranking officials and representatives of various ministries, which is an indication of government commitment to take over posts. In another indication of commitment to manage and maintain border posts, the government has dispatched border agents to each post, who are paid for by government. Each border post has been properly staffed and are operational, though rotation of trained staff to other areas threatens project sustainability somewhat. Many of the staff interviewed during the baseline had only been stationed at the border posts for a number of months.

The governments of Sierra Leone and Guinea also reportedly signed a cross-border cooperation agreement, under which the border posts have been officially included. Of course, the sustainability of border posts depends on each government's ability to fund them. The difficulties that each country has had in financing border posts previous to the project threaten their sustainability afterwards. For instance, at the time of the evaluation, border agents were financing the maintenance and fuelling of the motorbikes provided by the project, as no budget allowances had been made for this by the government. To further illustrate the difficulties the government face, a government key informant indicated that though the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Sierra Leone plans to include allowances for the maintenance of border posts and other aspects of the projects in its budget estimates, these initial budgets must also go through finance and parliament. Even if the budgets are approved, then there is no guarantee that the funds be disbursed.

Looking at support provided to local governments, in Sierra Leone, a data analysis unit was created at the Falaba District Council and, in Guinea, the data analysis unit resides at the office of the prefectural Directorate of Agriculture and Livestock in Faranah. The office equipment and computer hardware provided to both of these units was still being used at the council and the directorate. The surveys that 1OM funded will also now be integrated into national statistics data collection in Guinean. These are important indications of sustainability. Still, the assessment did note some sustainability issues. While the monitoring did create baseline data on transhumance routes, gathering points, conflict-prone areas, pastoral infrastructure, etc., the implementation of the Transhumance Tracking Tool was limited to the period of time when data collectors / enumerators were supported with incentives – April to July – after which most ceased their participation in the early warning intervention. Thus, the sustainability of these efforts can be called into question, as the enumerators incentivised to carry out the monitoring activities on which the early warning system was based were no being longer supported by project structures. Indeed, at the time of the endline, there was very little monitoring work that could be reported from these enumerators.

Key Finding 29: Review of *Cattle Settlement Policy* and *Pastoral Code* and the ‘re-dynamisation’ of the Cattle Settlement Committees and Transhumance Committees help institutionalise project priorities. But the committees must still be integrated into local government structures and budgets and the Cattle Settlement Policy must be ratified by the GoSL. Though Cattle Settlement Committees in Sierra Leone and Transhumance Committees in Guinea have been ‘re-dynamised’ through training and equipment, the assessment also found that it will be difficult to keeping these structures functioning without continued financial support for their operations – for example, for fuel, motorbike maintenance, etc. Adequate budget allocation for project-related activities in the district and prefectures plans is crucial for sustainability. To this end, project stakeholders in Guinea are advocating to get prefecture to allocate local funds to committees in its area. No such plan has been put in place in Sierra Leone according to key informants. As well, the *Cattle Settlement Policy* in Sierra Leone still requires ratification by the government. To be sustainable, both the *Cattle Settlement Policy* and Guinea’s *Pastoral Code* will require government to mobilise resources to operationalise the implementation of the each to effectively address issues related to conflicts between crop farmers and cattle herders.

6.9 Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

One way the project promoted GEWE is by seeking the active involvement and engagement of women in conflict mitigation and cross-border management. Women were encouraged to participate and share their perspectives and experiences through these forums, which proactively promoted gender inclusion. For instance, three cross-border meetings were conducted from 26-28 March 2023 in Guinea involving 84 participants, including representatives from various women groups in Songoyah, Heremakono, and Banian Sub-Prefectures in Guinea. On 3-4 May 2023, meetings were also organised in Mongo Chiefdom in Sierra Leone with sixty participants, forty of whom were women. Among other things, these meetings aimed to address the challenges faced by women in agropastoral and commercial activities, as well as other issues related to female participation in cooperation, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding. Another activity where the project ensured active participation of women in shaping cross-border management and conflict mitigation policies was through a 22-24 March 2023 training in Faranah Prefecture in Guinea for twenty youth stakeholders (including nine women) in conflict analysis and management. Seventeen young men and (including seven women) also benefited from this training in Sierra Leone in May 2023. These trainees have been actively involved in the collection of transhumance-related data in collaboration with local governments.

GEWE was also incorporated into livelihoods activities, particularly those focused on IVS farming. Livelihoods activities in both countries have placed an emphasis on mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment throughout national priorities, including a gender quota of at least 30 percent representation in elected positions. Many FBOs exceed this minimum quota for female participation, meeting gender parity. Likewise, female participation was also promoted in FBO executives. In Sierra Leone, females are generally well represented within the executive/leadership structures of farmers organisations, as executive committees of FBOs include approximately an equal number of males and females. In Guinea, executive positions tend to be skewed towards male FBO members. While cattle herders in target locations have a composition of both men and women, cattle tend to be owned by men, while women - who are cattle herder wives - provide support to their husbands in looking after the cattle. Alternative livelihoods such as soapmaking were also targeted at females, to provide them an income outside of agriculture.

6.10 Conflict Sensitivity

As a starting point to applying a conflict sensitive approach to the project, a conflict analysis⁴⁵ was carried out by the key implementing agencies to inform the design of the intervention, identifying three

⁴⁵ As a starting point, conflict sensitivity requires an organization to understand the context in which it is operating (particularly intergroup relations) and understand the interactions between its interventions and the context/group relations before it acts upon the understanding of these; see: Interpeace, 2010, *What Is Peacebuilding? Do no Harm, Conflict-Sensitivity and Peacebuilding*, https://www.interpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/08/2010_IP_What_Is_Peacebuilding_Do_No_Harm_Conflict_Sensitivity_And_Peacebuilding.pdf (28 June 2024).

key factors that are driving herder and crop farmer conflicts: 1) inadequate and poor implementation of the regulatory frameworks which govern the interaction between cattle herder and crop farmer livelihoods, 2) non-climate adaptive and non-disaster proofed livelihoods resulting in a competition for resources at the detriment to herders' and farmers' relations, and 3) ineffective border management and coordination of cross-border cattle movements and data gaps. A follow-up conflict analysis was also carried out TDS in order to specifically inform the aspects of the intervention captured under Outcome 1. Given these two analyses it can be said that the project started with a detailed understanding of the peace and conflict context, as a starting point for understanding impact and interactions between WFP, IOM, and TDS and the context. The project was then designed to act upon the understanding of these key factors and their interactions, in order to maximise positive impacts and maximise negative impacts of programming.

Given the notable positive peacebuilding impacts noted above, the project positive contributions to peace in the areas it was targeting. Moreover, local buy-in and stakeholder and community participation underpinned the project model, clearly communicating the objectives and modalities of the project, while including a wide range of stakeholders at each level. That being said, there did exist potential for frustration among herder groups due to project sequencing in Sierra Leone that focused first on rice farming, which was then compounded by subsequent delays in completing key activities targeting local herder populations. This could have been deemed by herder beneficiaries to be favouring farmers at the expense of herders, undermining cohesion between the two groups. Evaluations of previous PBF projects in Sierra Leone also noted that delays in completing key intervention have the potential to create significant frustration amongst project beneficiaries⁴⁶. However, this assessment did not note such frustrations among herder populations. Buy-in created in other areas of the project and continual in-field engagement between WFP project staff and herder beneficiaries defuse the potential negative fallout project delays.

7 CONCLUSIONS

This report presented findings from the endline assessment for a project entitled: Building Cross-border Peace and Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods of Cattle Herders and Crop Farmers in Sierra Leone and Guinea. This project aimed to strengthen the relationship between Sierra Leone and Guinea by addressing recurring cross-border conflicts that occur between cattle farmers and herders. Surveys, interviews, and focus groups carried out as part of the endline indicated significant overall improvement in key project indicators (generally above project targets) across all three outcomes. For instance, endline data showed that border-lying communities in Falaba District and Faranah Prefecture have and use inclusive fora that promote peaceful co-existence and resolve conflict between crop farmers and cattle herders. Most people generally think that natural resources are more equally distributed. Most importantly, there has been a large overall decrease in conflict among farmers and herders in project communities. Where conflicts do exist, most are resolved in a satisfactory way. In Sierra Leone, traditional authorities are key to conflict resolution, while in Guinea Transhumance Committees play a bigger role.

Further, social cohesion, trust, and economic collaboration have been strengthened through climate-smart livelihoods and farmer and herder cooperation. Here, it is livelihoods strategies related to rice farming that were most impactful. In this regard, the yields of farming groups improved considerably, which resulted in improvements to their well-being. The project also supported the livelihoods of herders, though the impacts of these efforts were perhaps less pronounced – partly due to delays in key project activities. Alternative livelihoods strategies – soapmaking, milk preservation, and honey production – can also benefit project participants, once these are rolled out in full.

Looking at the capacities for integrated cross-border management and security, the endline found improvements in both Sierra Leone and Guinea, as well as in the ability of governments on both sides

⁴⁶ See, for example: FAO, 2023, *Evaluation of project "Empowering youth at risk as resources for sustaining peace and community resilience in Tonkolili and Kenema districts in Sierra Leone"*, UNJP/SIL/052/PBF, MPTFO Gateway ID: 00124562.

to collect and use data to develop evidence-based policies that mitigate conflicts. The construction of three border posts and the rehabilitation of another has improved poor infrastructure, while training and the provision of equipment to border agents and other security personnel has improved their ability to carry out their work professionally. Looking at the border agents, police, and military in both countries, surveys indicate that confidence in all groups was increased, even if it also found that police and military rarely participate in the resolution of farmer-herder conflicts, unless intervening in cases of serious violence.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the conclusions outlined above, this report sets out a number of recommendations to be considered for implementation of the project.

8.1 On-Time Completion of Project Activities

At the time of the endline fieldwork, a number of project activities had not been completed. This included: the provision of solar-powered irrigation systems, processing equipment for farmers in Guinea, and equipment for milk preservation and honey-making. Delays in carrying out the project activities as planned limited the impact the project could have had within its lifespan. It should be noted that by the end of the evaluation all planned activities had been carried out to completion. Although it did not occur in this project, failure to deliver project components on time in peacebuilding contexts can create frustration among beneficiaries and increase tensions in project areas.

8.2 Carry Out Livelihood Activities Simultaneously

In subsequent projects, effectiveness and impact can be enhanced if most livelihoods activities had been started earlier in the project. In Sierra Leone, for instance, challenges with the provision of improved grasses could have been addressed in the second year of the project, if this activity had been commenced in year one. As well, impacts from soap-making could have been greater within the project lifecycle if this part of the project had been undertaken earlier. In Guinea, capacity building on milk preservation and honey-making were also not completed at the time of fieldwork for this assessment, meaning that the impact of these alternative livelihood activities would also be limited within the lifespan of the project. As the project comes to an end, it will not be possible for project staff to monitor the development/progress of any activities carried out at the end of the project in each country, meaning that they will not be able to provide support if challenges arise.

8.3 Longer Project Duration

The timely implementation of project activities of future projects could be facilitated by a longer project duration, which would allow an extended timeline that is better adapted to the complex nature of multi-agency peacebuilding initiatives that integrate appropriate measures to prevent or mitigate risks likely to affect the project implementation and performance. As noted in previous PBF evaluations⁴⁷, a two-year project will be very hard-pressed to enact the type of transformative social change required for a jointly implemented process that requires considerable time to be spent on coordination, integration, communication, monitoring, etc., not to mention the inevitable likelihood of other programming obstacles and delays. An extended programming period could be useful, for instance, to help bring herders – as well as farmers – fully into the project and work with them over a period of time that ensures that impacts are maximised and the gains the project makes are lasting in an inclusive peace. Both peacebuilding and development are processes that require engagement over time. A longer-term approach to peacebuilding allows for more time to build a peace process that takes its time to become participatory and collaborative, each of which is much more likely to create long-term impacts.

⁴⁷ WFP, 2021, *Endline Assessment: Report Prepared for The Project: Mitigating Localised Resource-Based Conflicts and Increasing Community Resilience in Pujehun and Moyamba Districts of Sierra Leone*.

8.4 Adapt Peacebuilding Programming to The Needs of Each Context

In Sierra Leone and Guinea, transhumance issues are resolved differently. Many farmers and herders in Sierra Leone do not utilise Cattle Settlement Committees in their chiefdoms, instead relying on local authorities. On the other hand, Transhumance Committees in Guinea are well-known and active in dispute resolution. Where many conflict mitigation factors already exist at community level, as in the case of Sierra Leone, requires a different project design that is more focused on community actors in its awareness-raising and peace education activities. On the other hand, in Guinea, where Transhumance Committees play more of a role in resolving disputes between farmers and herders, addressing transhumance issues should focus on strengthening the capacities of these committees to play a peacebuilding role. Farmer-herder conflicts are likely to become more widespread in the future, as the number of cattle increases and climate/environmental pressures grow in project communities, creating more of a requirement that context-appropriate mitigation and response strategies are developed and implemented in the future.

8.5 Continue Support for Market Access for Future Agricultural Livelihoods Programmes

The findings of this assessment showed that facilitating market access for farmers through local procurement supports the sustainability of other agricultural livelihoods interventions that provide quality inputs, technical knowledge, and better organisational capacities, among other needs. Because market development is a key need among smallholders, future programming aimed at promoting agricultural livelihoods should continue leveraging WFP's procurement footprint – whether through integration for school feeding or other programmes – to provide a guaranteed, fair, and remunerative market for marginalised farmers. Such pro-smallholder local procurement can help address the challenges of insufficient market access to ensure fairer agricultural value chains for farmers by offering a predictable and stable local market and to maximise the benefits they can derive from such access.

8.6 Sustainability of Key Structures Requires Government Responsibility/Funding

The sustainability of key project successes depends on the ability of the Government of Sierra Leone and the Government of Guinea to fund them. This includes allocating budgetary resources to the upkeep of border posts, as well as for the maintenance and fuelling of the motorbikes. Support for the Cattle Settlement Committees and Transhumance Committees will also be important – both in terms of funding and monitoring. More could have also been done to ensure that the enumerators initially engaged by the project were engaged in a way that could be sustained throughout the project and after it finished. While they contributed to developing transhumance baseline data and then provided input into early warning and response to emerging issues/conflicts related to farmers and herders, their contribution in this regard ended after a few months. In the absence of continued involvement from the enumerators it is unclear how the early warning system can continue to function effectively.

8.7 Integration and Collaboration Could Have Been Enhanced in Some Key Areas

A number of joint activities and coordination mechanisms facilitated project integration. However, the integration of project activities could have been further improved. For example, in addition to taking the implementing organisations each with responsibility over individual outcomes, joint activities could be expanded to include joint outcomes that look to create greater synergies between peacebuilding, livelihoods, and border security. As well, some project experiences were shared across the two countries – for instance, experiences with IVS. However, there were also interesting innovations – like the salt block and multi-nutritional straws – that could have been implemented without much difficulty in Sierra Leone as well. This would have provided additional benefits to herders.

ANNEX A: PRELIMINARY ENDLINE QUESTIONS AND RESULTS FRAMEWORK

The following table outlines the preliminary questions related to the results framework.

Table 19: Updated Integrated Results Framework

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification/ frequency of collection
Outcome 1: Border-lying communities in Falaba District and Faranah Prefecture have and use inclusive fora that promote peaceful co-existence and resolve conflict between cattle herders and crop farmers SDG 16 Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights Equality and Non-discrimination Recommendations 111.27, 111.47, 111.64, 111.65–111.72, 111.77–111.79, 111.86–111.90 ⁴⁸		Outcome Indicator 1a: Proportion of farmers/herders who believe that herders and farmers have equal access to natural resources by groups (sex-disaggregated) Baseline: 32% (Female: 35.8%; and male: 29.7%) (Farmers: 32.2%, and herders: 31%) (Under 20 years: 16.7%; 21 to 30 years: 33.5%; 31 to 40 years: 38.9%; 41 to 50 years: 16.3%; and 51 years and over: 17.3%) Target: 55%	Baseline survey with farmers/herders Baseline/endline: key informant interviews (KIs) and focus group discussions (FGDs) with community leaders and civil society organisations (CSOs) representatives
		Outcome Indicator 1b: Proportion of farmers/herders who agree somewhat or a lot that District/Prefecture and Chiefdom-level mechanisms/structures are working for all people equally Baseline: Local government: 74.3%; traditional leaders: 96.0%; Transhumance Committees (only in Guinea): 70.4% (Local government: (farmers: 74.1% and herders 74.9%); traditional leaders: (farmers: 96.1% and herders 95. %); Transhumance Committees (only in Guinea): (farmers: 68.8% and herders 82.6%). Target: 80%	Baseline survey with farmers/herders Baseline/endline: KIs with representatives from District/Prefecture and Chiefdom-level mechanisms/structures and FGDs with herders/farmers

⁴⁸ UN General Assembly, 2021, *National report submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 16/21*, Sierra Leone, Human Rights Council Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review Thirty-eighth session 3–14 May 2021.

		<p>Outcome Indicator 1c: Proportion of natural resource disputes ⁴⁹ between farmers and herders out of all the natural resource disputes (captured by the baseline)</p> <p>Baseline: 41% (farmers: 39.5%; and herders 48.7%)</p> <p>Target: 50%</p>	Baseline survey with farmers/herders
		<p>Outcome Indicator 1d: Proportion of natural resource disputes between herders and farmers solved through district Cattle Committees and Transhumance Committees</p> <p>Baseline (only in Guinea): 48.5%</p> <p>(Farmers: 44.2%; and herders: 64.0%)</p> <p>Target: 65%</p>	Baseline survey with farmers/herders
		<p>Outcome Indicator 1e: Proportion of respondents who raised issues where an outside party (community or government structures – e.g., traditional leaders, transhumance committee, police, etc.) helped with their dispute and who were somewhat or very satisfied with outcome of dispute resolution.</p> <p>Baseline: 68.1%</p> <p>(Farmers: 63.9%; and herders 82.4%)</p> <p>Target: 80%</p>	Baseline survey with farmers/herders
	Output 1.1: <i>Cattle Settlement Policy</i> (Sierra Leone) and <i>Pastoral Code</i> (Guinea) updated, validated,	Output Indicator 1.1.1: <i>Validated Cattle Settlement Policy</i> and <i>Pastoral Code</i> by Government of Sierra Leone and Government of Guinea, respectively	<p>Soft copy available on respective ministry websites, collected once</p> <p>Baseline/endline: KIs with district/prefecture level officials, chiefdom/sub-prefecture level officials, and local leaders</p>

⁴⁹ A 'dispute' may include a non-violent disagreement or violent conflict between herder(s) and farmer(s), as well as their families and communities, over the allocation/management of natural resources (like land and water), and resultant destruction of crops, cattle, or other property from issues related to allocating/managing natural resources.

disseminated and implemented at national and district/prefecture level	Baseline: 0 Target: 2	
	Output Indicator 1.1.2: Number of district and prefecture-level committee members supported Baseline: 0 Target: 30 district and prefecture-level committee members supported	Workshop report indicating number of farmers/herders in attendance collected after each workshop
	Output Indicator 1.1.3: Local institutions (police and security actors, district security committee, district cattle settlement committee, local authorities, local courts, etc.) at chiefdom and community level trained on validated policy Baseline: 0 Target: 40%	Attendance list, collected after each community meeting
	Output 1.2: District Cattle Committee and Prefecture-level committees are strengthened and more inclusive in their composition	Output Indicator 1.2.1: Number of district and prefecture-level committee members supported Baseline: 0 Target: 30 district and prefecture-level committee members supported
– Activity 1.2.1: Organise quarterly cross-border On-Air Town Meetings – Activity 1.2.2: Set up joint cross-border alert teams	Output Indicator 1.2.2: Number of border alert teams set up Baseline: 0 Target: 2 border alert teams	Monitoring reports
	Output Indicator 1.2.3: Number of episodes of radio drama produced and broadcast Baseline: 0 Target: 80 episodes of radio drama produced and broadcast, 16 community participatory theatre tours conducted	Monitoring reports
– Activity 1.2.3: Develop broad and accessible media programming on pastoralism reforms to support awareness-raising efforts and strengthen the engagement of all stakeholders on pastoralism-related issues – Activity 1.2.4: Fostering		

	<p>dialogue on pastoralism challenges through Community Theater (Participatory theater performances)</p> <p>– Activity 1.2.5: Establishment of action-oriented Town Hall Meetings</p>		
	<p>Output 1.3: Chiefdom by-laws strengthened, and community members capacitated to manage, mitigate and resolve conflicts between cattle herders and crop farmers</p> <p>– Activity 1.3.1: Support transhumance/chieftdom committees to define role, responsibilities and composition of the committee, with particular attention paid to representation of marginalised groups namely women and youth</p> <p>– Activity 1.3.2: Hold workshops to review and update by-laws to reflect Cattle Settlement Policy/Pastoral Code</p> <p>– Activity 1.3.3: Provide training on Pastoralism Conflict Analysis and Management, Common Ground Approach to Conflict Management, and Women and Youth Conflict</p>	<p>Output Indicator 1.3.1: Number of chiefdom by-laws strengthened to manage, mitigate and resolve conflicts (in Sierra Leone)</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 2 (1 per chiefdom)</p> <p>Output Indicator 1.3.2: Number of district and prefecture-level committee members; chiefdom/transhumance committee members, and community members capacitated to manage, mitigate, and resolve conflicts between cattle herders and farmers</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 200 total (60 chiefdom/transhumance committee members and 140 community members)</p>	<p>Monitoring reports</p> <p>Training attendance lists and training reports</p>

	Transformation Leaders to build capacity of transhumance committees cattle settlement committees		
	<p>Output 1.4: Annual and quarterly events held to strengthen cross-border decision-making and dialogue</p> <p>– Activity 1.4.1: Organise Annual Peace Summit</p>	<p>Output Indicator 1.4.1: Annual summit planned, held, and attended by key stakeholders</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 2 (1 per year)</p>	<p>Meeting notes, Peace Summit report, collected annually</p>
	<p>– Activity 1.4.2: Organise quarterly cross-border community dialogue forums</p>	<p>Output Indicator 1.4.2: Quarterly cross-border community dialogues planned, held, and attended by key stakeholders</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 8 (4 per year)</p>	<p>Meeting notes, and cross-border community dialogue reports, collect annually</p>

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification/ frequency of collection
Outcome 2: Social cohesion, trust and economic collaboration strengthened within and between Falaba District and Faranah Prefecture through climate-smart livelihoods and herder and farmer cooperation SDG 2 and 13 <i>Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights Right to adequate standard of living and social security Recommendation 111.173</i>		Outcome Indicator 2a: Proportion of farmers/herders who say they agree somewhat or a lot that their trust in groups they traditionally have been in conflict with has increased Baseline: herders: 76.5% and farmers 63.6% Target: herders: 85% and farmers: 80%	Baseline survey with farmers/herders
		Outcome Indicator 2b: Proportion of farmers/herders reporting that representatives of their social group have equal input into local natural resource management (sex- and age-disaggregated) Baseline: 31.3% (Females: 35.7%; and males: 28.8%) (20 years and under: 16.7%; 21 to 30 years: 33.1%; 31 to 40 years: 38.5%; 41 to 50 years: 15.3%; and 51 years and over: 13.5%) Target: 60%	Baseline survey with farmers/herders
		Outcome indicator 2c: Proportion of farmers/herders who agree somewhat or a lot working together satisfies their respective interests (sex- and age-disaggregated) Baseline: 76.2% (Female: 72.9%; and male: 78.1%) (20 years and under: 89.4%; 21 to 30 years old: 69.7%; 31 to 40 years old: 75.5%; 41 to 50 years old: 90.7%; and 51 and over: 84.8%) Target: 90%	Baseline survey with farmers/herders

		<p>Outcome indicator 2d: Proportion of targeted households with improved food security</p> <p>Baseline: Guinea FCS: 1) Acceptable 24% 2) Limite et pauvre 76%</p> <p>•Consumption-based Coping Strategy Index, Rcsi 1) Pas de stress 5% 2) Strategie de Stress 32% 3) Strategie de Crise 63%</p> <p>Target: FCS 1) Acceptable 51% 2) Limite 38% 3) Pauvre 11% CSI 1) Pas de stress 27% 2) Strategie de Stress 54% 3) Strategie de Crise 19%</p> <p>Baseline: Sierra Leone FCS CSI</p>	Baseline survey with farmers/herders
	<p>Output 2.1: Establishment of community pastures infrastructure to protect farmland and reduce likelihood of crop destruction and associated community tension</p> <p>– Activity 2.1.1: Afforestation with forest gardens' technique around inland valley swap with fast-growing trees and/or barbed wires based on a needs assessment</p> <p>– Activity 2.1.2: Provision of fast-growing grass varieties to herders to encourage confined system</p>	<p>Output Indicator 2.1.1: Number of households benefiting from community pastures (Sierra Leone only)</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 200 herder households</p> <p>Output Indicator 2.1.2: Number hectares established as community pastures</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 30 hectares</p> <p>Output Indicator 2.1.3: Number of illiterate women from vulnerable households on solar pump maintenance</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 20 women</p>	<p>Project monitoring interviews/registration</p> <p>Land survey</p> <p>Training attendance lists and training reports</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Activity 2.1.3: Reforestation of degraded water catchment areas 		
	<p>Output 2.2: Establishment of solar-powered irrigation systems to minimise competition over water resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Activity 2.2.1: Install solar-powered irrigation systems around cattle ranches – Activity 2.2.2: Develop small-scale, solar-powered irrigation systems/improved wells within fenced Inland Valley Swamps (IVS) for continuous cultivation of rice and vegetables 	<p>Output Indicator 2.2.1: Number of households benefiting from solar-powered irrigation</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 200 herder households</p>	Project monitoring registration and interviews
	<p>Output 2.3: Farmers and herders are trained on climate-smart agriculture and breeding practices including post-harvest management and dairy value chain to build social cohesion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Activity 2.3.1: Establishment of composting enterprises led by women and youth farmers, creating symbiotic linkages between herders and crop farmers – Activity 2.3.2: Training of farmers on improved agricultural practices, 	<p>Output Indicator 2.3.1: Number of farmers/herders trained on climate-smart agriculture and breeding practices (including provision of appropriate supplies)</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 1,000</p>	Project monitoring registration and interviews, pre-/post-test and follow-up from training
		<p>Output Indicator 2.3.2: Representation of women on composting enterprises</p> <p>Baseline: N/A Target: 50%</p>	Enterprise registration lists and meeting minutes
		<p>Output Indicator 2.3.3: Representation of youth (both men and women) on composting enterprises</p> <p>Baseline: N/A Target: 75%</p>	Enterprise registration lists and meeting minutes

<p>including IVS development and rehabilitation, accounting management, internal governance of farmers' organisations and the false bottom technique for women parboilers, dairy products processing techniques, technical package in rice production (TPRP), and post-harvest management and market linkage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Activity 2.3.3: Development/rehabilitation and fencing of IVS – Activity 2.3.4: Provision of short-duration seeds and fertilizer to supported Farmer Based Organisations FBOs – Activity 2.3.5: Support FBOs with tools (power tillers, mobile rice threshers, and milling machines) – Activity 2.3.6: Provision of food assistance to farmers during IVS development and fencing work – Activity 2.3.7: Establish milk collection points for women herders 			
	<p>Output Indicator 2.3.4: Number of farmers receiving training on improved agriculture practices, short-duration seeds and fertilizer, and tools</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 1,000 total (500 Sierra Leone and 500 Guinea)</p>	Training attendance lists and training reports, pre-/post-test and follow-up from training	
	<p>Output Indicator 2.3.5: Total hectares of IVS developed/rehabilitated and fenced</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 50 hectares</p>	Land survey	
	<p>Output Indicator 2.3.6: Total number of households benefiting from milk collection points established (Guinea only)</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 100 cattle rearing households</p>	Project monitoring interviews/registration	

Cross-cutting indicators		<p>Accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Proportion of assisted people sensitised about and aware of safeguarding protection guidelines/mechanisms - Proportion of targeted people receiving assistance without experiencing threats, safety challenges, or insecurity - Proportion of targeted people who report that WFP programmes are dignified (e.g., short wait times, respectful treatment, accessible venue, etc.) - Proportion of targeted people having unhindered access to WFP programmes <p>Baselines: 0 Targets: 95%</p>	Post-distribution monitoring
		<p>Gender</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proportion of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food / cash / vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality <p>Baselines: 0 Targets: 65%</p>	Post-distribution monitoring

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification/ frequency of collection
Outcome 3: Sierra Leone and Guinea have improved cross-border management capacities and are able to collect and use data to develop evidence-based policies that mitigate conflicts SDG 10,16		Outcome Indicator 3a: Proportion of farmers/herders who agree somewhat or a lot that border officials properly trained to control conflict between border communities in Sierra Leone and Guinea Baseline: 49% (Females: 51.3%; and males 47.8%) Target: 80%	Government policy, strategic paper committing investments in the borderland management Budget analysis of investments in borderland management Baseline/endline: KIIs with government authorities at different levels and with local leaders
		Outcome Indicator 3b : Proportion of farmers/herders who agree somewhat or a lot that border officials are trusted to treat everybody fairly in a conflict (sex- and age-disaggregated) Baseline: 58% (Females: 59.80%; and males: 57%) (Under 20 years: 62.5%; 21 to 30 years: 62.2%; 31 to 40 years: 57.6%; 41 to 50 years: 54.6%; and 51 years and over: 43.8%) Target : 80%	Baseline survey with farmers/herders Baseline/endline: KIIs with border agents and herders/farmers, women and community leaders
		Outcome Indicator 3c: Proportion of people who agree somewhat or a lot that military and police are trusted to treat everybody fairly in a conflict Baseline: Military; 42.1%; and police: 40.7% Target : Military: 55% Police: 60%	Baseline survey with farmers/herders Baseline/endline: KIIs with security officials and FGDs with farmers/herders and local leaders
	Output 3.1: Migration data including transhumance movement along the Sierra Leone/Guinea borders is collected and analyzed for improved decision/policy making	Output Indicator 3.1.1: Strong initial assessments on capacity of the border security authorities and border management providing evidence of the requirement for effectiveness, accountability to support effective border management and peace building in the target areas. Baseline: 0 Target: 2(1 in each target country)	KIIs with border agents, as well as Additional assessment to explore in greater detail baseline findings through: document review, additional interviews, order assessment report, activity reports, field mission reports,

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Activity 3.1.1: Conduct a comprehensive Border and Migration assessment in Faranah Prefecture and Falaba District 	<p>Output Indicator 3.1.2: Strategies based on initial assessments enacted by authorities/communities that address underlying border issues and satisfy respective interests.</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 10 (for both countries)</p>	<p>Baseline, follow-up survey and end line survey, collected at beginning, mid-way and at the end of the project</p> <p>Activity report, field mission report, project report</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Activity 3.1.2: Organise a workshop to share the results and inform feasible and tailor-made strategies to improve border management. 	<p>Output Indicator 3.1.3: Empowered data analysis units conducting data recordings and producing reliable transhumance data for evidence-based decision making.</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 6</p>	<p>Activity report, field mission report, project report</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Activity 3.1.3: Support the creation of migration data analysis unit in Faranah Prefecture and Falaba District 	<p>Output Indicator 3.1.4: Number of security agents trained and knowledgeable to effectively undertake quality data collection, transhumance mapping and accountable for data collection standard.</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 20 (10 in Guinea / 10 in Sierra Leone)</p>	<p>Activity report, field mission report, project report</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Activity 3.1.4: Organise capacity building training in data collection and transhumance mapping 	<p>Output Indicator 3.1.5: Communities and populations sensitised on transhumance related issues engage in conflict mitigation efforts.</p> <p>Baseline: 0 / 0 Target: 5 / 300</p>	<p>Activity report, field mission report, project report</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Activity 3.1.5: Organise information sharing campaign on transhumance corridor. 		
	<p>Output 3.2: Key border check points are rehabilitated and technical and operational capacities of law enforcement agencies are improved</p>	<p>Output indicators 3.2.1: POEs rehabilitated that support sustainable conflict mitigation process, provide increased protection to border communities</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 4 (2 in Guinea, 2 in Sierra Leone)</p>	<p>Activity report, field mission report, project report</p>
	<p>- Activity 3.2.1: Construction of at least 4 border posts with equipped facilities</p>	<p>Output Indicator 3.2.3: POEs equipped with standardised equipment that have eased their mobility, communication and information sharing challenge.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p>	<p>Activity report, field mission report, project report</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Activity 3.2.3: Provision of equipment for mobility, communication and information exchanges – Activity: 3.2.4 Organise integrated border management training sessions of immigration and border officials 	<p>Target: 30 (motorcycle), 30 (VHF police radio set with base station)</p> <p>Output Indicator 3.2.4: Increased knowledge from integrated border management training sessions</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 3 sessions /50 on the Guinea side, and 3 training/ 50-personnel on the Sierra Leone side.</p>	Pre-/post-test and follow-up from training
	Output 3.3: Cross-border transhumance bilateral consultations and dialogues are enhanced	<p>Output Indicator 3.3.1. number of cross-border meetings organised channeled through cross-border cooperation mechanism.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 4</p>	Survey including FGDs and interviews, collected quarterly
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Activity 3.3.1: Develop and support mechanism for cross-border coordination within two countries 	<p>Output indicator 3.3.2. High-level consultative meetings between Sierra Leone and Guinea resulting in evidence driven policy solutions on transhumance issues.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 2 (regional level)</p>	Activity report, field mission report, project report
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Activity 3.3.2: Organise bilateral consultation meetings on ECOWAS transhumance protocol in conjunction with local quarterly dialogues for – Activity 3.3.3: Joint monitoring and evaluation by two countries district councils 	<p>Output Indicator 3.3.3. local solutions provided by districts council after monitoring and evaluation missions</p> <p>Baseline:0</p> <p>Target: 4</p>	Survey including FGDs and interviews, collected quarterly

ANNEX B: SURVEY TOOL

Hello. My name is _____ and I am working with World Food Programme (WFP), International Organisation for Migration (IOM), and Talk Drum Studio (TDS). These are international organisations working in Sierra Leone and Guinea. We are conducting a survey in this district about life, farming, and cattle herding in this area and about some of the groups here. We would very much appreciate your participation in this survey.

This information will help our organisation, and the government plan to deliver programmes and services in communities like this. The survey usually takes between 20 and 30 minutes to complete. Your answers will be kept strictly confidential and will not be shown to other persons and we will not link your name to any answers.

We cannot provide you with any direct benefits for your household, or promise any specific development for your community. But we are gathering data to better understand the situation in your community and in this district. We will make sure that what you tell us today will be communicated to WFP, IOM, TDS, and its partners so that they can try to help communities such as this one.

Participation is voluntary and you can choose not to answer any individual question you find very personal or all of the questions. However, we hope that you will participate in this survey since your views are important.

At this time, do you want to ask me anything about the survey?

(After answering any questions). Do we have your consent to begin now? (Get consent).

Yes (begin survey)

No (thank respondent for their time and begin next survey)

Introduction

1. Please enter the Questionnaire ID
 - a. Questionnaire ID (specify) _____
2. Please enter the Enumerator ID
 - a. Enumerator ID (specify) _____
3. Please select chiefdom
 - a. List
4. Please enter the community name
 - a. Community name (specify) _____

Respondent Characteristics

Now I will ask you some questions about you and other people in your household.

5. What kind of agriculture do you mostly do?
 - a. Mostly farming
 - b. Mostly cattle herding
6. What project activities have you participated in? (Select all that apply)
 - a. IVS farming
 - b. Cattle ranching
 - c. Syntropic farming
 - d. Peach and/or conflict resolution training
 - e. Training on border security
 - f. Other (specify)
7. Sex of respondent
 - a. Male
 - b. Female

8. Age of respondent
 - a. Age (specify) _____
 - b. Don't know
 - c. Refuse to answer
9. What is the ethnicity of the respondent?
 - a. List
10. Number and ages of household members
 - a. List age ranges
 - b. Don't know
 - c. Refuse to answer
11. What is the sex of the head of your household?
 - a. Male
 - b. Female
 - c. Don't know
 - d. Refuse to answer
12. Where do you get most of your news about what goes on in district? (Select all that apply)
 - a. Family or neighbours (i.e., word of mouth)
 - b. Town halls and other community meetings
 - c. Radio
 - d. Television
 - e. Text message, WhatsApp, or other phone messaging
 - f. Social media
 - g. Internet
 - h. Other
 - i. Don't know
 - j. Refuse to answer

Asset Creation Module

Now I will ask you some questions about assets in your household.

13. In the last two years, have you participated in the asset creation activities and received a food assistance transfer (like IVS rehabilitation or creating syntropic farming)?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
14. Do you think that the assets created in your community are better protecting your household, its belongings, or your farm/ranch from natural disasters (floods, drought, landslides, mudslides...)?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Not Applicable to the FFA programme in this locality
15. Do you think that the assets that were built or rehabilitated in your community have allowed your household to increase or diversify its production (agriculture / livestock / other)?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Not Applicable to the FFA programme in this locality
16. Do you think that the assets created in your community have improved the ability of your household to sell to markets or access basic services (water, sanitation, health, education, etc)?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Not Applicable to the FFA programme in this locality
17. Do you think that the assets that were built or rehabilitated in your community have decreased time working or increased leisure time for any of your family members (including women and children)?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Not Applicable to the FFA programme in this locality

- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Not Applicable to the FFA programme in this locality
18. Do you think that the trainings and other support provided in your community have improved your household's ability to manage and maintain assets (farm/ranch)?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Not Applicable to the FFA programme in this locality
19. Do you think that the assets that were built or rehabilitated in your community have improved your natural environment (for example more vegetal cover, water table increased, less erosion, etc.)?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Not Applicable to the FFA programme in this locality

Asset benefit indicator module

Now I will ask you some questions about assents in your household.

20. How many income sources does your household have?
- a. One
 - b. Two
 - c. Three
21. What is the main source of income for the household?
- a. Wage labour - Professional
 - b. Wage labour - Skilled
 - c. Wage labour - Unskilled/Casual/Agriculture
 - d. Wage labour - Unskilled/Casual/non-agriculture
 - e. Pension
 - f. Remittances
 - g. Aid/gifts
 - h. Borrowing money/Living off debt
 - i. High risk activity (e.g. begging, scavenging)
 - j. Saving/selling assets
 - k. Petty trade/selling on streets
 - l. Small trade (own business)
 - m. Medium/large trade (own business)
 - n. Small Agriculture production including livestock (2 bushels or 5 cows or less)
 - o. Medium/large agriculture production including livestock (more than 2 bushels or 5 cows)
 - p. Other (specify) _____
22. In the last month, what was the estimated value in local currency of the main source of income for the household?
- a. Estimate value (specify) _____
23. What is the second source of income for the household?
- a. Wage labour - Professional
 - b. Wage labour - Skilled
 - c. Wage labour - Unskilled/Casual/Agriculture
 - d. Wage labour - Unskilled/Casual/non-agriculture
 - e. Pension
 - f. Remittances
 - g. Aid/gifts
 - h. Borrowing money/Living off debt
 - i. High risk activity (e.g. begging, scavenging)
 - j. Saving/selling assets

- k. Petty trade/selling on streets
 - l. Small trade (own business)
 - m. Medium/large trade (own business)
 - n. Small Agriculture production including livestock (2 bushels or 5 cows or less)
 - o. Medium/large agriculture production including livestock (more than 2 bushels or 5 cows)
 - p. Other (specify) _____
24. In the last month, what was the estimated value in local currency of the second source of income for the household?
- a. Estimate value (specify) _____
25. What is the third source of income for the household?
- a. Wage labour - Professional
 - b. Wage labour - Skilled
 - c. Wage labour - Unskilled/Casual/Agriculture
 - d. Wage labour - Unskilled/Casual/non-agriculture
 - e. Pension
 - f. Remittances
 - g. Aid/gifts
 - h. Borrowing money/Living off debt
 - i. High risk activity (e.g. begging, scavenging)
 - j. Saving/selling assets
 - k. Petty trade/selling on streets
 - l. Small trade (own business)
 - m. Medium/large trade (own business)
 - n. Small Agriculture production including livestock (2 bushels or 5 cows or less)
 - o. Medium/large agriculture production including livestock (more than 2 bushels or 5 cows)
 - p. Other (specify) _____
26. In the last month, what was the estimated value in local currency of the third source of income for the household?
- a. Estimate value (specify) _____

Distribution of Natural Resources

Now I will ask you about your opinion about the distribution of natural resources (land, water, forest, and others) in this community. Please answer according to the accompanying scales, where appropriate.

27. Which groups mostly control all natural resources (land, water, forest, and others) in this community? (Read answers out loud).
- a. Mostly farmers
 - b. Mostly herders
 - c. Farmers and herders equally
 - d. Don't know
 - e. Refuse to answer
28. Which groups mostly control land in this community? (Read answers out loud).
- a. Mostly farmers
 - b. Mostly herders
 - c. Farmers and herders equally
 - d. Don't know
 - e. Refuse to answer
29. Which groups mostly control water resources in this community? (Read answers out loud).
- a. Mostly farmers
 - b. Mostly herders
 - c. Farmers and herders equally

- d. Don't know
 - e. Refuse to answer
30. Herders and farmers in this community have equal access to all natural resources (land, water, forest, and others)? (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
31. Herders and farmers in this community have equal access to land? (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
32. Herders and farmers in this community have equal access to water resources? (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
33. In the last two years (since the project started), access to land resources between herders and farmers have become... (Read scale out loud).
- a. A lot more equal
 - h. Somewhat more equal
 - i. No opinion
 - j. Somewhat less equal
 - k. A lot less equal
 - l. Don't know
 - m. Refuse to answer
34. In the last two years (since the project started), access to water resources between herders and farmers have become... (Read scale out loud).
- a. A lot more equal
 - b. Somewhat more equal
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Somewhat less equal
 - e. A lot less equal
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer

Conflicts in This Community

Now I will ask you about your opinion about conflicts in this community. A 'conflict' may include a non-violent dispute or violent interaction between herder(s) and farmer(s), as well as their families and communities, over the allocation/management of natural resources ((land, water, forest, and others)).

and resultant destruction of crops, cattle, or other property from issues related to allocating/managing natural resources). Please answer according to the accompanying scales, where appropriate.

35. Conflicts between this community and bordering communities in Sierra Leone are... (Read scale out loud).
- Very high
 - High
 - Neither high nor low
 - Low
 - Very low
 - Don't know
 - Refuse to answer
36. In the last year, conflicts between this community and bordering communities in Sierra Leone have been... (Read scale out loud)
- Increasing a lot
 - Increasing somewhat
 - Staying the same
 - Decreasing somewhat
 - Decreasing a lot
 - Don't know
 - Refuse to answer
37. Conflicts between herders and farmers over natural resources (land, water, forest, and others) in this community are... (Read scale out loud).
- A big problem
 - Somewhat of a problem
 - A minor problem
 - Not a problem at all
 - Don't know
 - Refuse to answer
38. In the last year, conflicts between herders and farmers over natural resources (land, water, forest, and others) in this community have been... (Read scale out loud).
- Increasing a lot
 - Increasing somewhat
 - Staying the same
 - Decreasing somewhat
 - Decreasing a lot
 - Don't know
 - Refuse to answer
39. Do you agree that the cross-border project (implemented by WFP, TDS, and IOM) has contributed to decreasing conflicts between herders and farmers over natural resources (land, water, forest, and others) in this community (Read scale out loud).
- Agree a lot
 - Agree somewhat
 - No opinion
 - Disagree somewhat
 - Disagree a lot
 - Don't know
40. What are the main ways that the cross-border project (implemented by WFP, TDS, and IOM) has contributed to decreasing conflicts between herders and farmers over natural resources (land, water, forest, and others) in this community (Select all that apply).
- Provided farmers with better livelihoods
 - Provided herders with better livelihoods
 - Help control the movement of cattle

- d. Made conflict resolution more fair
 - e. Created greater community cohesion
 - f. Improve knowledge of conflict resolution
 - g. Improved border security (equipment, training, etc.)
 - h. Improve knowledge of cross-border flows
 - i. Other (specify): _____
 - j. Don't know
 - k. Refuse to answer
41. In the last year, has anybody from this household experienced any conflict over natural resources(land, water, forest, and others)?
- a. Yes
 - b. No (skip to next section)
 - c. Don't know (skip to next section)
 - d. Refuse to answer (skip to next section)
42. In the last year, how many such conflicts did somebody in this household experience?
- a. Specify number _____
43. Speaking only about the most recent conflict, who was the conflict between? (Select all that apply)
- a. Farmer(s)
 - b. Herder(s)
 - c. Government authorities (including police and military)
 - d. Traditional authorities
 - e. Private company
 - f. NGO
 - g. INGO
 - h. Other (specify) _____
 - i. Don't know
 - j. Refuse to answer
44. Still speaking only about the most recent conflict, what were the main causes of that conflict?
- a. Access to land
 - b. Access to water
 - c. Access to natural resources other than land or water
 - d. Other (specify) _____
 - e. Don't know
 - f. Refuse to answer
45. Still speaking only about the most recent conflict, was that conflict resolved?
- a. Yes
 - b. No (skip to next section)
 - c. Don't know (skip to next section)
 - d. Refuse to answer (skip to next section)
46. Still speaking only about the most recent conflict, did any outside party help resolve the conflict?
- a. Yes
 - b. No (skip to next section)
 - c. Don't know (skip to next section)
 - d. Refuse to answer (skip to next section)
47. Still speaking only about the most recent conflict, which outside parties helped resolve the conflict? (Select all that apply)
- a. Traditional leaders
 - b. Government officials
 - c. Cattle settlement committee
 - d. Youth leaders
 - e. Women's leaders

- f. NGO
- g. INGO
- h. Police
- i. Military
- j. Border officials
- k. Other (specify): _____
- l. Don't know
- m. Refuse to answer

48. Still speaking only about the most recent conflict, were you satisfied with the outcome of the resolution? (Read scale out loud).

- a. Very satisfied
- b. Somewhat satisfied
- c. Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- d. Somewhat dissatisfied
- e. Very dissatisfied
- f. Don't know
- g. Refuse to answer

Opinions about Farmers/Herders

Now I will ask you about your opinion regarding the role of farmers and herders in this community. Please answer according to the accompanying scales, where appropriate.

49. Farmers in this community can be trusted. (Read scale out loud).

- a. Agree a lot
- b. Agree somewhat
- c. No opinion
- d. Disagree somewhat
- e. Disagree a lot
- f. Don't know
- g. Refuse to answer

50. Herders in this community can be trusted. (Read scale out loud).

- a. Agree a lot
- b. Agree somewhat
- c. No opinion
- d. Disagree somewhat
- e. Disagree a lot
- f. Don't know
- g. Refuse to answer

51. Most conflicts in this community area started by farmers. (Read scale out loud).

- a. Agree a lot
- b. Agree somewhat
- c. No opinion
- d. Disagree somewhat
- e. Disagree a lot
- f. Don't know
- g. Refuse to answer

52. Most conflicts in this community are started by herders. (Read scale out loud).

- a. Agree a lot
- b. Agree somewhat
- c. No opinion
- d. Disagree somewhat
- e. Disagree a lot
- f. Don't know

- g. Refuse to answer
- 53. It is possible for farmers and herders to work together to solve conflicts about natural resources (land, water, forest, and others). (Read scale out loud).
 - a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
- 54. How often do farmers and herders in this community work together to solve conflicts over natural resources (land, water, forest, and others)? (Read scale out loud).
 - a. Often
 - b. Sometimes
 - c. Seldom or never
 - d. Don't know
 - e. Refuse to answer

Government and Traditional Groups

Now I will ask you about your opinion regarding the role of different government and traditional groups in this community in solving conflicts. Please answer according to the accompanying scales, where appropriate.

- 55. The migration of cattle between border communities in Guinea and Sierra Leone is well regulated and controlled.
 - a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
- 56. Which groups or committees are most important for regulating and controlling migration of cattle between border communities in Guinea and Sierra Leone? (List up to three and rank)
 - a. Traditional leaders
 - b. Government officials
 - c. Cattle settlement committee
 - d. Youth leaders
 - e. Women's leaders
 - f. NGO
 - g. INGO
 - h. Police
 - i. Military
 - j. Border officials
 - k. Other (specify): _____
 - l. Don't know
 - m. Refuse to answer
- 57. If you had a natural resource conflict (land, water, forest, and others), you would take it to the cattle settlement committee to try to get it resolved. (Read scale out loud).
 - a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat

- e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
58. Which groups or committees are most important for preventing or resolving conflicts between herders and farmers? (List up to three and rank)
- a. Traditional leaders
 - b. Government officials
 - c. Cattle settlement committee
 - d. Youth leaders
 - e. Women's leaders
 - f. NGO
 - g. INGO
 - h. Police
 - i. Military
 - j. Border officials
 - k. Other (specify): _____
 - l. Don't know
 - m. Refuse to answer
59. Local government officials are important for solving conflicts between herders and farmers in this community. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
60. Local government officials in this community are working for the benefit of farmers and herders equally. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
61. Local government are able to properly predict patterns of migration between border communities in Guinea and Sierra Leone.
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
62. If herders and farmers in this community have conflicts, they can trust that local government officials will treat everybody fairly. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer

63. Traditional leaders are important for solving conflicts between herders and farmers in this community. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
64. Traditional leaders in this community are working for the benefit of farmers and herders equally. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
65. If herders and farmers in this community have conflicts, they can trust that traditional leaders will treat everybody fairly. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
66. Cattle settlement committees are important for solving conflicts between herders and farmers in this community. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
67. Cattle settlement committees in this community are working for the benefit of farmers and herders equally. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
68. If herders and farmers in this community have conflicts, they can trust that cattle settlement committees will treat everybody fairly. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer

69. Police are important for solving conflicts between herders and farmers in this community.
(Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
70. Police in this community are working for the benefit of farmers and herders equally. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
71. If herders and farmers in this community have conflicts, they can trust that police will treat everybody fairly. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
72. Military are important for solving conflicts between herders and farmers in this community.
(Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
73. Military in this community are working for the benefit of farmers and herders equally. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
74. If herders and farmers in this community have conflicts, they can trust that military will treat everybody fairly. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer

75. Border officials are important for solving conflicts between herders and farmers in this community. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
76. Border officials in this community are working for the benefit of farmers and herders equally. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
77. If herders and farmers in this community have conflicts, they can trust that border officials will treat everybody fairly. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
78. Border officials make conflict between herders and farmers in this community worse. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
79. Border officials are properly trained to control conflict between border communities in Sierra Leone and Guinea. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
80. Border posts are properly equipped to control conflict between border communities in Sierra Leone and Guinea. (Read scale out loud).
- a. Agree a lot
 - b. Agree somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Disagree somewhat
 - e. Disagree a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer

81. In the past two years (since the project started), capacity (equipping and training) of border posts to properly control conflict between border communities in Sierra Leone and Guinea has... (Read scale out loud).
- a. Improved a lot
 - b. Improved somewhat
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Worsened somewhat
 - e. Worsened a lot
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer
82. In the past two years (since the project started), the capacity (equipping and training) of border posts to properly control conflict between border communities in Sierra Leone and Guinea has made you feel... (Read scale out loud).
- a. Very safe
 - b. Somewhat safe
 - c. No opinion
 - d. Somewhat unsafe
 - e. Very unsafe
 - f. Don't know
 - g. Refuse to answer

Conclusion

Thank you for speaking with me today. The interview has now been completed. Do you have any questions regarding the interview?

83. If there are any comments about the survey or about specific questions in the survey please input here. _____

ANNEX C: QUALITATIVE TOOLS

WFP/IOM

Relevance:

1. Did the project address the most important underlying conflict issues in the project communities? Were there any key peacebuilding issues that remain unaddressed still?
2. Have the peacebuilding issues changed throughout the lifecycle of the project? How and why? If so, did the project adequately change with the evolving situation?

Coherence:

3. How does the project reflect the comparative advantage of WFP/IOM in building?
4. Were these comparative advantages integrated into the different parts of the project to find synergies?
5. Where were synergies from joint programming created where they otherwise would not have been if the two agencies had implemented their respective project components separately?
6. Is the project integrated coherently into other WFP/IOM projects/programmes in Sierra Leone? How does it complement those programmes?

Effectiveness:

7. Have all the expected outputs been achieved to date? Are there any outputs that have been missed (especially with the 2023 elections)? If so, why?
8. What as the reasoning for the no-cost extension?
9. Were any activities outputs delayed? If so, how did this affect project impacts.
10. To what extent the project management structure and coordination mechanisms were effective in generating the expected results?
11. How did the project management and coordination effectively adapt to changing conditions and gaps and challenges to improve the effectiveness of implementation?
12. How effectively did the project monitor its progress and use the monitoring data to direct implementation?

Impact:

13. What were the main impacts of the project? Did all target groups (and everybody in the target groups) benefit from the impacts as expected? Were there any groups left behind?
14. Were greater impacts greater impacts (especially peacebuilding impacts) achieved due the integrated nature of the project?
15. Were there any unintended impacts? If so, what were these and how did the project manage them?
16. How did external forces affect the project impacts?

Efficiency:

17. Were project activities funded in adequately and in a timely way? Were there any programming areas that were not adequately funded, or where funding delayed programming?
18. Were all project activities undertaken in the most cost-effective manner? Were there any project activities that could have benefited from greater efficiency?
19. Were there cost savings from synergies due to joint programming rather than if the work been done individually?

Sustainability:

20. What is the likelihood that progress towards the project outcomes/outputs sustained by national partners and stakeholders over time (i.e., has the project made long-lasting and societal changes in communities)? What achievements are likely/unlikely to continue beyond the project period?

21. Have key stakeholders (e.g., government, CSO, companies, or communities) made commitments (especially financial commitments) to sustain the project after its completion?
22. What factors could undermine the sustainability of the project?

Conclusion:

23. Based on our discussion here, is there anything else that you would like to add, highlight, or explain in greater detail?

RCO/PBF

Relevance:

1. Did the project address the most important underlying peacebuilding issues in the project communities? Are there any key peacebuilding issues that remain unaddressed?
2. Have the relevant peacebuilding issues changed throughout the lifecycle of the project (especially with the 2023 elections)? If so, did the project adequately change with the evolving situation?
3. How well aligned is the project with Sierra Leone's / Guinea's cooperation framework?

Coherence:

4. Is the project well-integrated into other peacebuilding projects/programmes in the districts it is working in? Are there any notable redundancies/overlaps relative other programmes?
5. Where were synergies from joint programming created where they otherwise would not have been if the two agencies had implemented their respective project components separately?
6. To what extent the project management structure and coordination mechanisms were effective in generating the expected results?
7. How did the project management and coordination effectively adapt to changing conditions and gaps and challenges to improve the effectiveness of implementation?

Effectiveness:

8. What were the main successes during implementation?
9. What were the main challenges during implementation?

Impact:

10. What were the main impacts on peacebuilding from the project?
11. Were there any unintended impacts – positive or negative? If so, what were these and how did the project manage them?

Efficiency:

12. Were all project activities undertaken in the most cost-effective manner? Were there any project activities that could have benefited from greater efficiency?
13. Did the project promote synergies according to the respective comparative advantages of WFP, IOM, and TDS to help achieve greater value for money than if the work been done individually?

Sustainability:

14. How sustainable are the peacebuilding effects of the project? Are there any that might not be sustained?

Conclusion:

15. Based on our discussion here, is there anything else that you would like to add, highlight, or explain in greater detail?

TDS

Relevance:

1. Did the project address the most important underlying conflict issues in the project communities? Were there any key peacebuilding issues that remain unaddressed still?
2. Have the peacebuilding issues changed throughout the lifecycle of the project? How and why? If so, did the project adequately change with the evolving situation?

Effectiveness:

3. Have all the expected outputs been achieved to date? Are there any outputs that have been missed (especially with 2023 elections)? If so, why?
4. How did the project design seek to benefit the most vulnerable, disadvantaged, and marginalised populations?

Impact:

5. What were the main impacts of the project? Did all target groups (and everybody in the target groups) benefit from the impacts as expected? Were there any groups left behind?
6. Were greater impacts greater impacts (especially peacebuilding impacts) achieved due the integrated nature of the project?
7. Were there any unintended impacts? If so, what were these and how did the project manage them?
8. How did external forces affect the project impacts?

Efficiency:

9. Were project activities funded in adequately and in a timely way? Were there any programming areas that were not adequately funded, or where funding delayed programming?
10. Were funds disbursed on time and in a way that allowed for the timeline and efficient functioning of the project?
11. Were all project activities undertaken in the most cost-effective manner? Were there any project activities that could have benefited from greater efficiency?

Sustainability:

12. What is the likelihood that progress towards the project outcomes/outputs sustained by national partners and stakeholders over time (i.e., has the project made long-lasting and societal changes in communities)? What achievements are likely/unlikely to continue beyond the project period?
13. Have key stakeholders (e.g., government, CSO, companies, or communities) made commitments (especially financial commitments) to sustain the project after its completion?
14. Did the project help build the capacities of TDS in any way?

Conclusion:

15. Based on our discussion here, is there anything else that you would like to add, highlight, or explain in greater detail?

Government at National Level

Relevance:

1. How does the project reflect the key priorities of the government?
2. Did the project address the most important underlying peacebuilding issues in the project communities? Are there any key peacebuilding issues that remain unaddressed?
3. Have the relevant peacebuilding issues changed throughout the lifecycle of the project (especially with 2023 elections)? If so, did the project adequately change with the evolving situation?
4. How well aligned is the project with Sierra Leone's key peacebuilding priorities (as well as any relevant policies/plans)?

Coherence:

5. Is the project well-integrated into other peacebuilding projects/programmes in the districts it is working in? Are there any notable redundancies/overlaps relative other programmes?

Effectiveness:

6. What were the main successes during implementation?
7. What were the main challenges during implementation?

Impact:

8. What were the main impacts on peacebuilding from the project?
9. Were there any unintended impacts – positive or negative? If so, what were these and how did the project manage them?

Efficiency:

10. Were all project activities undertaken in the most cost-effective manner? Were there any project activities that could have benefited from greater efficiency?
11. Did funding requirements change due to changing priorities? Was project funding adapted appropriately? Was the rationale for the funding changes transparent and accountable?
12. Did the project promote synergies according to the respective comparative advantages of IOM and WFP to help achieve greater value for money than if the work been done individually? Where were synergies from joint programming created where they otherwise would not have been if the two agencies had implemented their respective project components separately?

Sustainability:

13. How sustainable are the peacebuilding effects of the project? Are there any that might not be sustained?
14. What commitments has the GoSL made (at central, district, and chiefdom level) to ensure the sustainability of the project?
15. What key programming lessons (positive or negative) came out of the project that might be scalable or transferable to other projects?

Conclusion:

16. Based on our discussion here, is there anything else that you would like to add, highlight, or explain in greater detail?

Government at District/Prefecture Level

Relevance:

1. How does the project reflect the key priorities of the government in this district/prefecture?
2. What are the main peacebuilding/conflict issues in this area? Was the project adequately designed to address these?

Effectiveness/impact:

3. Since the project started, are peacebuilding/conflict issues in this area increasing, decreasing, or staying the same? What are the key ways the project has influenced this change (or lack of it)?
4. What have been the main impacts of the project? Were there any unintended impacts?
5. Were there any negative impacts? Did the project take steps to address these?
6. Did all target groups (and everybody in the target groups) benefit from the impacts as expected? Were there any groups left behind?
7. What have been the main challenges of the project? Were these challenges properly accounted for/addressed?

Sustainability:

8. Does the project have an exit strategy? What is it and are government officials (and other stakeholders) able to take on the project elements when it is over?
9. To what extent have local institutions improved their capacities to address key peacebuilding issues?
10. How sustainable are the development/peacebuilding effects of the project? Are there any that might not be sustained?
11. What factors/risks could undermine the sustainability of the project? Were these factors/risks properly accounted for/addressed?

Conclusion:

12. Based on our discussion here, is there anything else that you would like to add, highlight, or explain in greater detail?

Cattle Settlement Committees / Transhumance Committees

Relevance:

1. What are the main conflict issues between farmers and herders in this area and did the project address these adequately?
2. Are there any gaps in the project's ability to address the conflict between farmers and herders issues in this area?

Effectiveness/impact:

3. Since the project started, are these types issues/incidents increasing, decreasing, or staying the same? What are the key factors influencing this change (or lack of it)? What role have border officials played in affecting such issues/incidents?
4. In what way ways has critical infrastructure and equipment provided by this project contributed security?
5. How was the project enhanced the committee's knowledge and capacities in key areas to related to cross-border security
6. Do any challenges/gaps remain?
7. Since the project has committee's relationship with their local communities changed (e.g., improved, no change, or worsened)? Why? What still needs to be done to improve the relationship?
8. Where there any elements of the project that have not been delivered, were delayed in their delivery, or were delivered not as planned? What were the reasons for this and how did affect project impact?
9. What have been the main challenges of the project? Were these challenges properly accounted for/addressed?

Sustainability:

10. Does the project have an exit strategy? What is it and are committees (and other stakeholders) able to take on the project elements when it is over?
11. What factors/risks could undermine the sustainability of the project? Were these factors/risks properly accounted for/addressed?

Conclusion:

12. Based on our discussion here, is there anything else that you would like to add, highlight, or explain in greater detail?

Border Officials

Relevance:

1. What are the main cross-border peacebuilding/conflict issues in this area and did the project address these adequately?
2. Are there any gaps in the project's ability to address the key cross-border peacebuilding/conflict issues in this area?

Effectiveness/impact:

3. Since the project started, are these types issues/incidents increasing, decreasing, or staying the same? What are the key factors influencing this change (or lack of it)? What role have border officials played in affecting such issues/incidents?
4. In what way ways has critical infrastructure and equipment provided by this project contributed cross-border security?
5. How was the project enhanced border officials' knowledge and capacities in key areas to related to cross-border security
6. Do any challenges/gaps remain?
7. Since the project has border officials' relationship with their cross-border counterparts change (e.g., improved, no change, or worsened)? Why? What still needs to be done to improve the relationship?
8. Since the project has border officials' relationship with their local communities changed (e.g., improved, no change, or worsened)? Why? What still needs to be done to improve the relationship?
9. Where there any elements of the project that have not been delivered, were delayed in their delivery, or were delivered not as planned? What were the reasons for this and how did affect project impact?
10. What have been the main challenges of the project? Were these challenges properly accounted for/addressed?

Sustainability:

11. Does the project have an exit strategy? What is it and are border officials (and other stakeholders) able to take on the project elements when it is over?
12. How sustainable are the impacts of the project by the border officials? What support is needed from other stakeholders? Can they / have they committed to taking these on?
13. What factors/risks could undermine the sustainability of the project? Were these factors/risks properly accounted for/addressed?

Conclusion:

14. Based on our discussion here, is there anything else that you would like to add, highlight, or explain in greater detail?

Farmers/Herders

Relevance:

1. What are the main peacebuilding/conflict issues in this area? Did the project address these?

Effectiveness/impact:

2. Since the project started, are these types issues/incidents increasing, decreasing, or staying the same? What are the key factors influencing this change (or lack of it)? How did the project contribute to any changes?
3. Have relations in the community changed since the start of the project? Please explain?
4. How have the lives of the beneficiaries and their households been changed because of the project?
5. Were there any unintended or negative impacts? Did the project do anything to address these?
6. (For those communities with border posts), how have their relationships with border officials in Sierra Leone and Guinea changed since the start of the project? What are reasons for this?
7. Did all target groups (and everybody in the target groups) benefit from the impacts as expected (e.g., were there particular economic and social benefits to women or youth)? Were there any groups left behind?
8. Where there any elements of the project that have not been delivered, were delayed in their delivery, or were delivered not as planned? What were the reasons for this and how did affect project impact?
9. What have been the main challenges of the project? Were these challenges properly accounted for/addressed?

Sustainability:

10. Does the project have an exit strategy? What is it and are communities (and other stakeholders) able to take on the project elements when it is over?
11. How sustainable are the impacts of the project by the project communities? What support is needed from other stakeholders? Can they / have they committed to taking these on?
12. What factors/risks could undermine the sustainability of the project? Were these factors/risks properly accounted for/addressed?

Conclusion:

13. Based on our discussion here, is there anything else that you would like to add, highlight, or explain in greater detail?