



Conflict Analysis Report

For the Technical Assistance on:

Empowering Communities with Sustainable Agricultural Systems; Piloting a Small-Scale Hydroponics System (EMSAS-Hydroponics)

in Kubau LGA of Kaduna State, Nigeria.

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Table of Content

Acronyms.....	3
Executive Summary	4
1.0. Introduction	6
1.1. Background.....	6
1.2 Objectives of the conflict assessment	7
1.3 Scope of the Conflict Assessment.....	7
2.0 Methodology	8
3.0 Analysis of Findings	10
3.1. Summary of Respondents’ Profile	10
3.2. Demographic distribution of Respondents.....	10
3.2. 1 Gender of respondents.....	10
3.2.2 Age distribution of respondents	11
3.2.4 Religious Beliefs of the Respondents.....	12
3.2.5 Occupation of the Respondents	13
3.2.6 Educational qualification of the respondents.....	13
3.3 Conflict Perception in Kubau LGA.....	14
3.3.1 Perception of Conflict	14
3.3.2 Perception of violence in other communities	17
3.3.3 Peace Dividends.....	17
3.3.4 Community Resilience	18
3.4 Hydroponic Farming and Conflict	20
3.4.1 Hydroponic Farming System.....	20
4.0 Analysis of Key Informant Interview (KII) Tool	20
5.0 Conclusion	27
6.0 Recommendations and Conflict Management Strategy	29
Annexes.....	33

Acronyms

ADR – Alternative Dispute Resolution

DSS – Department of State Services

EMSAS – Empowering Communities with Sustainable Agricultural Systems

EWER – Early Warning and Early Response

LGA – Local Government Area

GHI- Green Habitat Initiative

KADVIS – Kaduna State Vigilance Service

KIIs – Key Informant Interviews

M&E – Monitoring and Evaluation

NGOs – Non-governmental Organizations

NSCDC – Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps

PWDs- Persons with Disability

Executive Summary

The conflict assessment in Kubau LGA aimed to understand the prevalent conflict issues and their underlying causes and actors and how such conflicts have affected development initiatives in the LGA especially as these conflicts relate to climate change. The exercise developed structured questionnaires and Key informant Interview (KII) tools for data collection, using a simple random sampling technique.

The questionnaires were administered to 82 Respondents and the KII tool to 11 critical stakeholders including the local government Councilor, the Emir of Kubau, the Head of Vigilante in Kubau, the secretary of Yan-sa-kai (vigilante), Sarkin Samari (Youth leader), Sarkin Igbo (Tribal leader), Persons with Disability (PWDs), Wakiliyar Mata (Women representative), Wakilin Sarkin Zuntu (Community traditional leader), the Imam of Kubau (Religious leader), representative of the Police among others. All responses were collected with kobo-collect.

Although results from the conflict analysis indicate that Kubau LGA has been peaceful with a reduction in the Herders and Farmers conflict in the past five years, the conflict is however still prevalent at some locations within the LGA, and in neighbouring communities and states such as Bauchi, which have spilt over to Kubau LGA in the past.

It was also found that the presence of conventional government security apparatus and local vigilantes such as the Yan-sa-kai are very active in addressing security threats in the area. To complement the efforts of security operatives, there are also alternative dispute resolution (ADR) structures available in communities to prevent disputes from degenerating into violent confrontations and unleashing mayhem on a large scale.

To support these structures and sustain peace in Kubau LGA, the EMSAS hydroponic project will introduce adaptive ways of mitigating climate change which has caused clashes between herders and farmers over the struggle for land resources, leading to the destruction of lives and property. The EMSAS hydroponic project will also introduce innovative farming techniques to avail farmers (including women), of alternative means of crop cultivation. This will reduce the pressure on land for cultivation of crops, make more land available for cattle rearing and consequently reduce the clashes between herders and farmers in the area. Furthermore, the project will through training

and capacity development, build the resilience of Kubau LGA, against the herders and farmers conflict prevalent in neighbouring communities as indicated by available data, and prevent it from spilling into the LGA now and in future, in line with the major objective of the project.

1.0. Introduction

1.1. Background

The Empowering Communities with Sustainable Agricultural System (EMSAS) Hydroponic project seeks to empower communities in Kubau Local Government Area (LGA), Kaduna state, North-west Nigeria with modern alternative techniques of crop cultivation, as a solution to the incessant clashes between herders and farmers, banditry which has caused untold hardship and advance innovative approaches to climate change mitigation and adaptation. The project also aims at providing workable alternatives that will resolve the incessant conflicts between herders and farmers as well as banditry which has ravaged communities in North-west Nigeria and Kaduna state in particular.

The intensifying farmer-herder conflict in North-west Nigeria and Kaduna state according to Abubakar (2019) can be traced to an expansion of primarily pastoralist militia groups and a proliferation of small arms within the region. Attacks from pastoralist militias seeking grazing pastures for their herds have provoked reprisal attacks by community vigilante groups seeking to protect their farms, leading to further retaliation by the militias. This cycle of conflict has accelerated as grazing land has become scarce due to population increase and the negative impact of climate change which has negatively affected agricultural activities in the area.

This is compounded by the activities of Bandits within the region, which have contributed to perpetuating poverty and significantly affected livelihoods, given that farmers have to pay to access their farms. According to Business Insider Africa, an online magazine, farmers in North-west Nigeria, paid over N140 million to Bandits between 2020-2023 to enable them to access their farms. In another instance, farmers in a specific local government area in Kaduna reportedly paid over N400 million in taxes to bandits to farm and harvest their farm produce¹.

¹ <https://www.google.com/url?q=https://africa.businessinsider.com/local/markets/nigerian-farmers-paid-n140-million-to-bandits-in-three-years-amidst-rising-insecurity/1vvyz2c&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1725372304501003&usg=AOvVaw2Sf41z59c-dPh5kQxpl4SK>

In some North-western States such as Zamfara state, bandits impose taxes on farmers to gain access to their farmlands. Farmers are required to pay sums ranging from N100,000 to N300,000 to cultivate their land or harvest crops. Failure to pay these taxes often results in massacres, the destruction of crops and attacks on villagers. In some cases, the bandits have established a system where farmers must pay a regular levy to avoid attacks. This levy is often collected during the planting and harvesting seasons, severely impacting the livelihood of farmers.

The same scenario has been recorded in Katsina, where the bandits demand payments for 'farming rights.' These payments are enforced under the threat of violence, effectively turning farming activities into a high-risk endeavour. In Jibia and Batsari, bandits have reportedly set up checkpoints to extort money from farmers transporting their produce to markets. This not only disrupts agricultural productivity but also inflates the cost of goods.

In Kaduna state, particularly in Birnin Gwari, bandits impose protection fees on farmers. These fees are framed as payments for protection against other criminal groups, creating a perverse system where farmers are extorted by the very entities they need protection from. The bandits have been known to control local markets, imposing taxes on goods sold and purchased. This control extends to agricultural produce, where farmers are taxed for bringing their goods to the market².

Based on the challenges faced by farmers in the North-west region and Kaduna state in particular, it is important that a system to surmount some of the enumerated challenges be introduced. The EMSAS hydroponic project in this light, aims to provide a workable alternative through the introduction of community-adaptable and scalable models of the hydroponic farming system, with materials readily available and which can be sustained by communities.

The project will introduce sustainable hydroponics systems in the target communities of Kubau Local Government Area which will provide an innovative approach to agricultural production, utilizing controlled environments and efficient water usage. A dedicated demonstration and

² <https://www.google.com/url?q=https://punchng.com/bandits-levies-obstacle-to-food-security/&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1725372273344804&usg=AOvVaw04yLNwi29Bm6xh5KNmFily>

training centre will be established to facilitate hands-on learning experiences for selected beneficiaries. This training centre would be a hub for knowledge exchange and skill development in hydroponic system operation and maintenance. By providing farmers with information on alternative farming techniques through the demonstration/piloting of hydroponics-based agriculture, the project aims to encourage the adoption of the hydroponics farming technique as an alternative to conventional farming methods. Hence, reducing their vulnerability to conflicts and insecurity and devising better approaches to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

The multi-benefit project apart from boosting food production and contributing to the food security value chain at all levels of government in the long run, will reduce pressure on land for the cultivation of crops and the incessant clashes between herders and farmers in the area and Kaduna State at large.

To ensure a smooth implementation throughout the lifecycle of the project, the EMSAS hydroponic project undertook a desk review of the conflict context in Kubau LGA and Kaduna State as a whole to understand the conflict dynamics, actors, past efforts on the part of governments and communities as well as challenges encountered as postulated by literature.

This conflict assessment was carried out using primary data collection methods to compare with what has been specified by literature regarding the conflict context in the locality. The assessment involved critical stakeholders such as local government officials, traditional and religious leaders, women and youth, ethnic minorities as well as persons with disabilities (PWDs) to get the perspective of community members on the conflict context in Kubau LGA.

1.2 Objectives of the conflict assessment

The conflict assessment was majorly aimed at unearthing the conflict dynamics in Kubau LGA, to develop strategies to mitigate the conflicts, for the successful implementation of the EMSAS Hydroponic project in the area.

Specifically, the assessment aimed at:

- a. Establishing the major conflict dynamics prevalent in Kubau LGA.

- b. Identifying the major actors in the conflict, with a view to robust engagement towards mitigation.
- c. Identifying the relevant community stakeholders for engagement throughout the lifecycle of the EMSAS hydroponic project and beyond.
- d. Ascertaining best approaches of gender and social inclusion during the implementation of the EMSAS hydroponic project in Kubau LGA.

1.3 Scope of the Conflict Assessment

Data was collected across four council wards of Kubau LGA; Kubau, Anchau, Dutsen-wai and Zuntu. The exercise targeted critical stakeholders such as Local government officials, traditional leaders, religious leaders, opinion leaders, women, youth, ethnic minorities, Persons with Disability (PWDs) and security agencies across the four council wards.

2.0 Methodology

The conflict assessment employed the simple random sampling method where every community member across the four council wards had a chance to be selected for the survey and as such, Respondents across the four council wards were randomly selected and questionnaires administered on them. The questionnaires were strategically deployed to ensure adequate representation of the various population groups such as men, women, youth, PWDs and ethnic minorities. A total of 82 questionnaires were administered across the four council wards. Eleven (11) key informant interviews (KIIs) tools were administered to a Councillor traditional and religious leaders, Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), the woman and youth Leaders of Kubau, the Nigerian police, vigilante, representatives of ethnic minorities as well as opinion leaders in the LGA.

The questions on both tools focused on obtaining information on the types of conflict in Kubau LGA, the impact of such conflicts on the populace especially women, children and agricultural activities, the major actors in the conflicts, the relevant stakeholders to be engaged during the implementation of the EMSAS hydroponic project as well as the best community suited approaches to implementing the project. All responses were collected and submitted to the predesigned Kobocollect database, which formed the basis for this analysis. A summary of the administered questionnaires is presented in Table 2.1 below.

Table 1: Distribution of questionnaires across the four council wards

S/No	Council ward	Number of administered questionnaires	The number of questionnaires returned
1	Kubau	20	20
2	Anchau	19	19
3	Dutsen Wai	27	27
4	Zuntu	20	16
Total		86	82

The key Informant Interview section of the assessment contacted and interviewed 14 key informants made up of a local government Councilor in Kubau LGA council, the Emir of Kubau, the Head of Vigilante in Kubau, the secretary of Yan-ka-sai (Local vigilante), Sarkin Samari (Youth leader), Sarkin Igbo (tribal leader), PWDs, Wakiliyar mata (Women representative), Wakilin Sarki (Traditional leader), the Imam of Kubau (Religious leader), representative of the Police among others to get their perspectives on the conflict context in Kubau LGA and the best approaches to implementing the EMSAS hydroponic project in the area.

3.0 Analysis of Findings

3.1. Summary of Respondents' Profile

All 82 respondents have lived in Kubau for a reasonable period 17% of respondents have lived there between 1-10 years, 24% of respondents have lived there between 11-20 years, while 59% of respondents have lived in the LGA for 21 years and above.

3.2. Demographic distribution of Respondents

3.2. 1 Gender of respondents

Figure 3.1 below shows the gender disaggregation of respondents during the survey, highlighting that 52.4% (43) of the total respondents are male while 47.6% (39) of the total respondents are female. The slim difference between the percentage of male and female respondents shows that the result of this survey adequately reflects a balanced perspective of both genders in Kubau LGA.

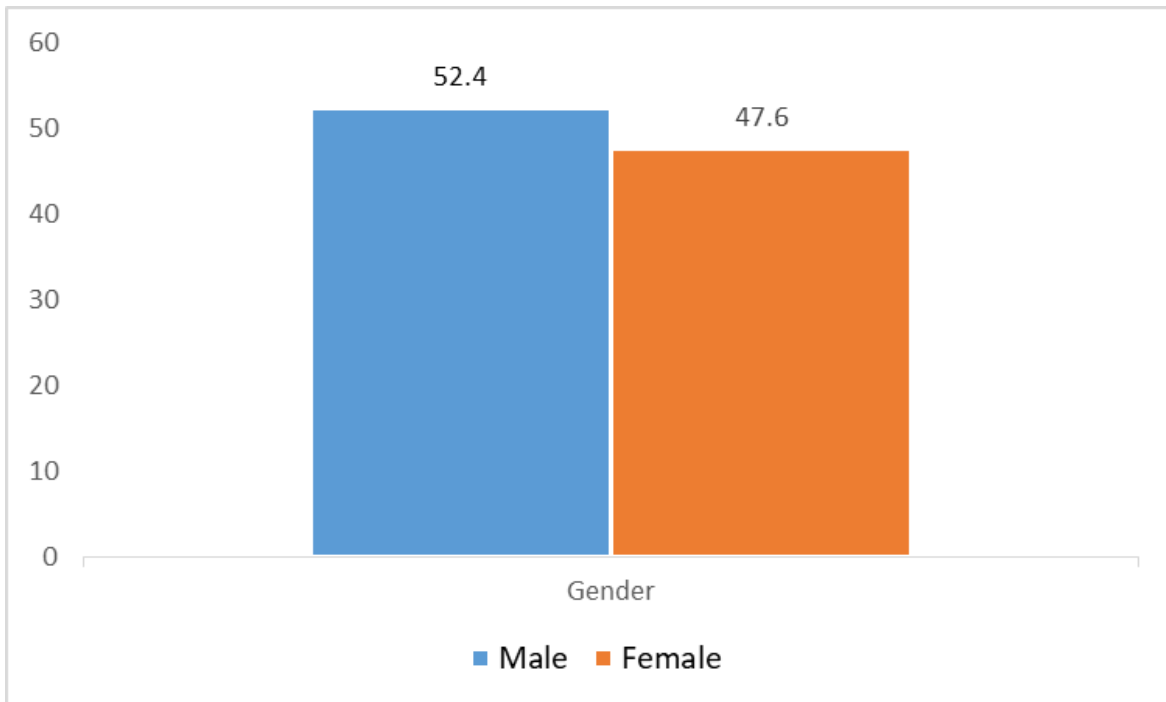


Figure 3.1: Gender distribution of Respondents

3.2.2 Age distribution of respondents

In terms of age distributions, 40.2% (33) of the total population are between the ages of 15-35, 37.8% (31) of the respondents fall between the ages of 36-55, 17.1% (14) of the respondents fall between 56-65 years, while 4.9% (4) of the respondents are 65 years and above.

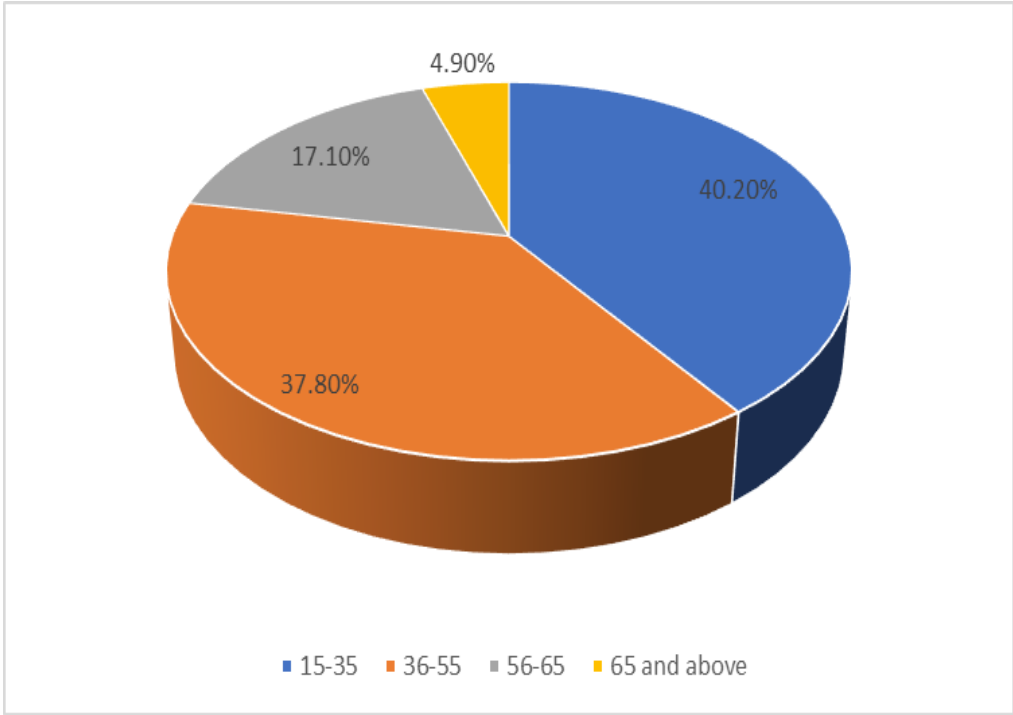


Figure 3.2: Age distribution of Respondents in percentage

3.2.3 Ethnic group of the respondents

The ethnic group distribution presented in Figure 3.3 below shows that 74.4% (61) of the respondents are Hausa/Fulani, 2.4% (2) of the respondents are Sayawa, while 23.2% (19) of the respondents fall under other ethnic groups such as Yoruba, Berom, Igbo, Mwagvul, Angasawa, Jere e.tc.

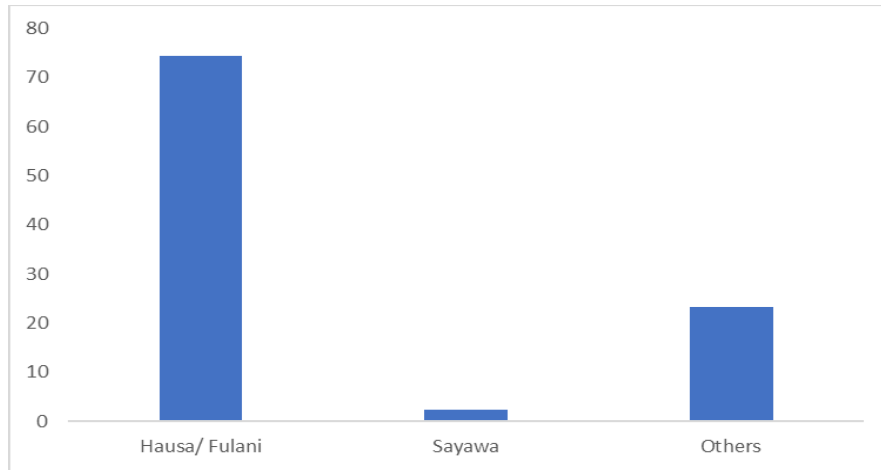


Figure 3.3: Distribution of Respondents according to ethnic groups

3.2.4 Religious beliefs of the respondents

According to the results of the study as presented in Figure 3.4 below, the respondents are majorly distributed across two religious faith groups (Islam and Christianity). Muslims constitute 78.1% (64) of the total respondents, while Christians make up 21.9% (18) of the total respondents.

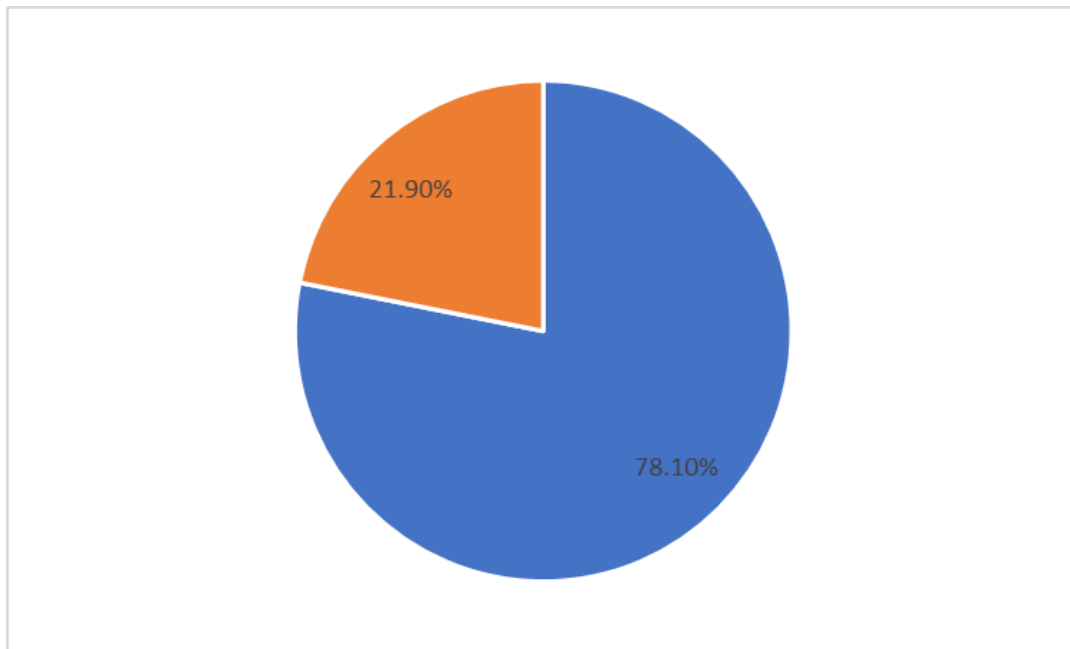


Figure 3.4: Religious distribution of Respondents in percentage

3.2.5 Occupation of the respondents

According to the survey, as shown in Figure 3.5 below, 50% (41) of the respondents are Farmers, 12.2% (10) of respondents indicated that they are in public service, while 36.6% (30) of the respondents are reported to be in other occupations such as teaching, buying and selling, business, speculation of farm produce and meat butchers.

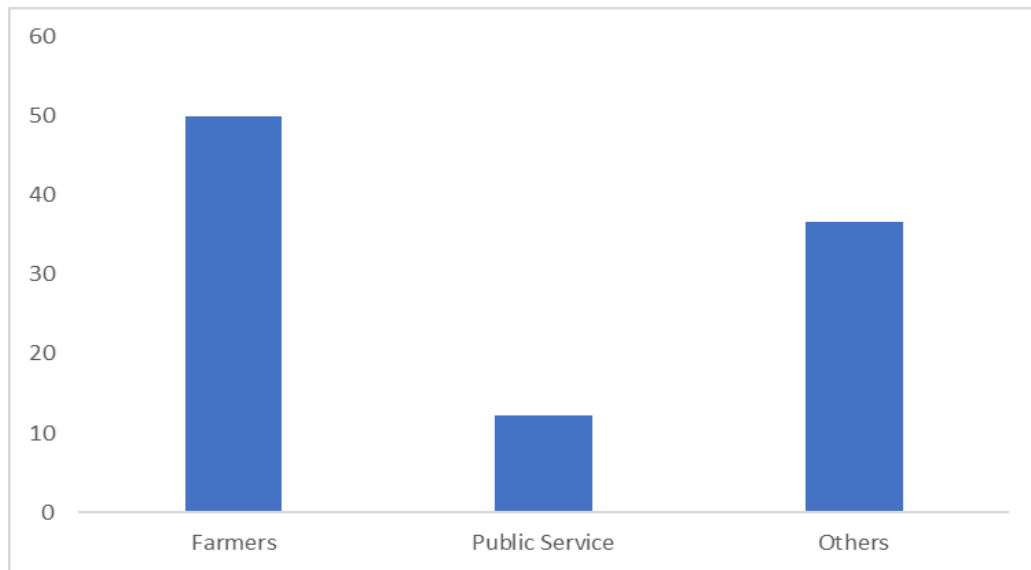


Figure 3.5: Occupational distribution of Respondents

3.2.6 Educational qualification of the respondents

In terms of educational qualifications, figure 3.6 below shows that 30.5% (25) of the respondents have attained tertiary education, 26.8% (22) of the respondents have secondary education, 25.6% (21) respondents have qur'anic education while 15.9% (13) respondents have primary education. 1.2% (1) of the total respondents have not attained any educational qualification.

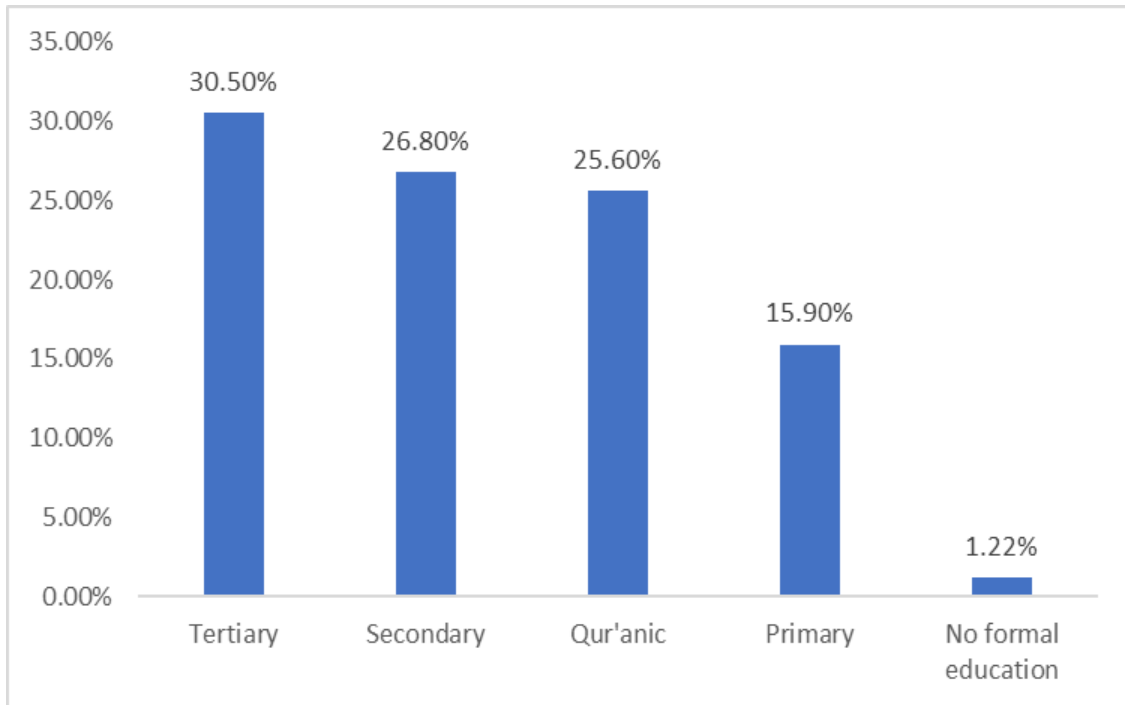


Figure 3.6: Educational distribution of Respondents

3.3 Conflict Perception in Kubau LGA

3.3.1 Perception of Conflict

As shown in Fig. 3.7 below, community members in Kubau LGA perceive their communities to be peaceful and devoid of any form of conflict in the past twelve (12) months. This is affirmed by 73.2% (60) of the respondents who reported that there has been no conflict in Kubau LGA in the last twelve months. 17.1% (14) of the total respondents however reported that there has been one form of conflict or the other in Kubau LGA in the last twelve months, while 9.8% (8) of the respondents said they did not know. The 17.1% (14) respondents who reported that there has been conflict in the past twelve months also reported that between 1-5 incidences of conflicts have occurred within the period under review.

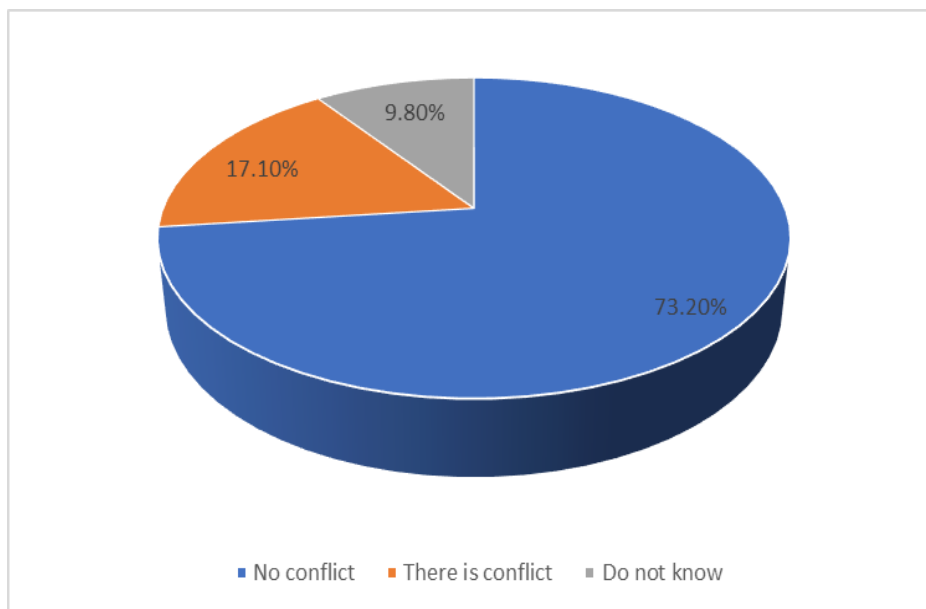


Figure 3.7: Conflict perception

The major types of conflicts identified by the Respondents in Kubau LGA to have taken place in the past are Banditry and Farmers/Herders conflict, which have a low likelihood of recurrence, as most underlying factors have been resolved by authorities and the traditional institution. This is confirmed by Figure 3.8 below, where 92.7 (76) of the total respondents reported having rarely witnessed conflicts in Kubau LGA and 7.3% (6) of the respondents however reported that they have occasionally witnessed conflict in the past 12 months.

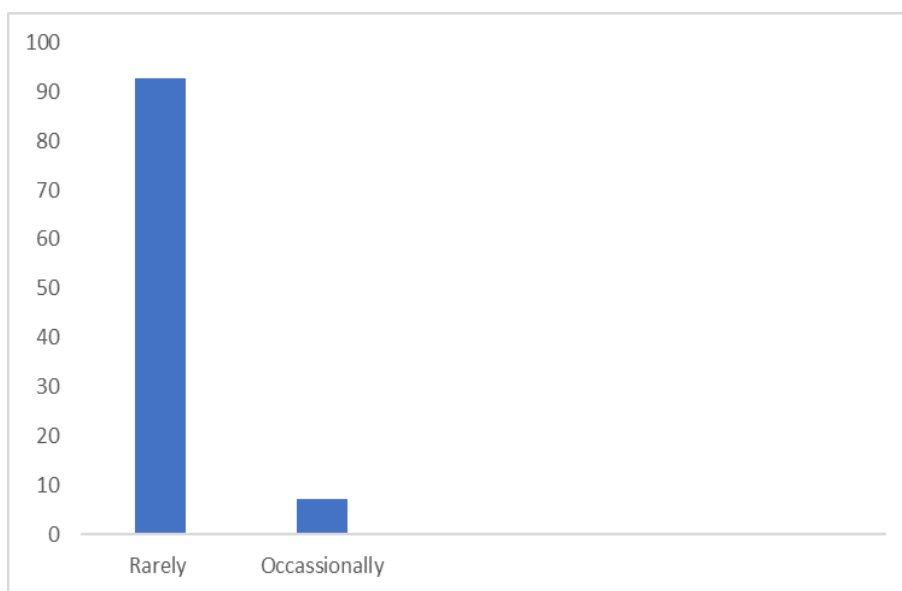


Figure 3.8: Frequency of conflicts in Kubau LGA

These conflicts according to the respondents are not associated with a contest for land or water sources such as streams or rivers. This is confirmed by 76.8% (63) of the respondents who answered in the negative, while 6.1% (5) of the respondents perceive that the identified conflicts such as farmers/herders and banditry are however associated with a contest for land or water sources. This category of respondents also perceives that the major environmental changes that have occasioned this contest are economic changes (such as loss of livelihood), poor trust and land ownership tussle in some instances. 15.9% (13) of the respondents reported that they did not know if the conflicts identified were associated with any form of contest at all.

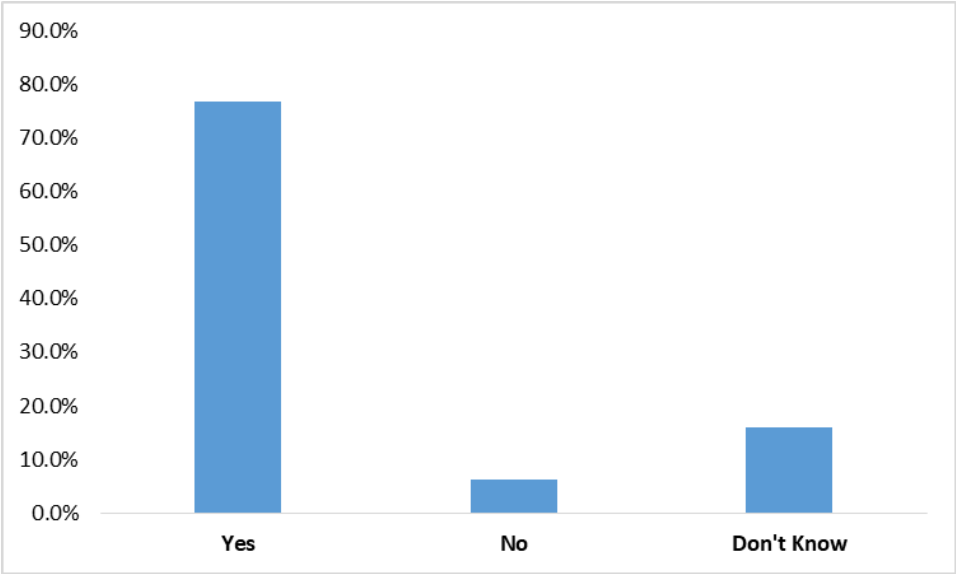


Figure 3.9: Perception of climate change as a driver of conflict

As shown in Figure 3.9 above, residents of Kubau LGA do not believe that these conflicts are caused by climate change. A majority of 67.1% (55) respondents do not agree that the identified conflicts are caused by climate change, as against 13.4% (11) respondents who agree that climate change is a major driver of the conflicts identified above. 19.5% (16) respondents (19.5%) reported they did not know if climate change was a driver of the conflicts or not. This demonstrates a low level of awareness of climate change-driven conflicts. Thus, raising awareness amongst the beneficiaries on the topic of climate change conflicts may be necessary for them to understand how the issues are connected properly.

3.3.2 Perception of violence in other communities

Residents of Kubau LGA perceive their communities are more peaceful, safer and more secure as compared to other neighbouring communities. They also only noticed violence intensifying in their communities over 5 years ago or more in the past. This means they have scarcely noticed any intensity of violence in the past 5 years or more, and can authoritatively say that their community is peaceful, stable and safer when compared to other neighbouring communities.

3.3.3 Peace Dividends

Kubau LGA in the past year has had development initiatives such as the construction of water points, schools, and markets. This is confirmed by 86.6% (71) of respondents who agreed with this assertion. In contrast, however, 8.5% (7) respondents disagreed that there has been no development initiative implemented in Kubau LGA in the past year, while 4.9% (4) respondents reported that they do not know.

These development initiatives, according to the respondents, have helped in building social cohesion among the various religious and ethnic groups across their communities, as confirmed by 90.2% (74) of the respondents.

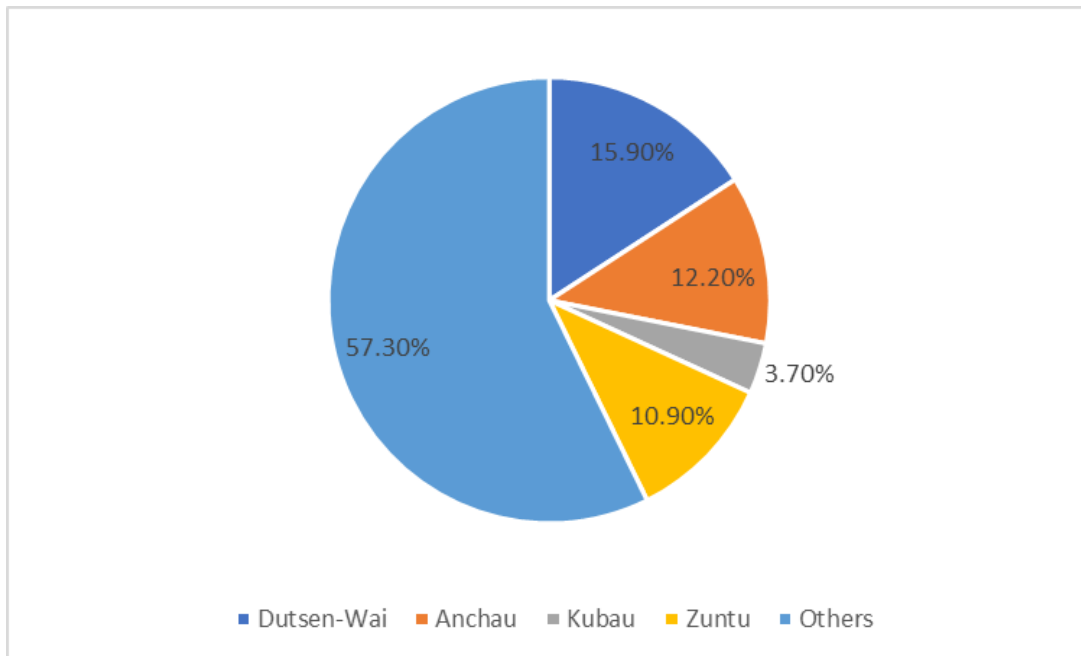


Figure 3.10: Preferred location for siting community projects in Kubau LGA

Figure 3.10 shows that regarding the siting of development projects, 15.9% (13) respondents prefer that such projects be sited in Dutsen-wai, 12.2% (10) respondents prefer Anchau, 3.7% (3) respondents prefer Kubau, while 10.9% (9) respondents prefer that development projects be sited in Zuntu. Other respondents constituting 57.3% were indifferent to any location as according to them, anywhere safe and secure within Kubau LGA would suffice.

Based on the distribution above, the majority of community members perceive that development projects can be sited anywhere, provided such location is safe, secure and accessible.

3.3.4 Community Resilience

With reference to Figure 3.11 below, community members across Kubau, Anchau, Dutsen-wai and Zuntu council wards believe there are community conflict mitigation structures across communities in Kubau LGA as affirmed by 96.3% (79) of the respondents. 1.22% (1) do not believe there are community conflict mitigation structures, and 2.44% (2) respondents reported that they do not know. Community members also believe that such community conflict mitigation structures are very effective as indicated by 77 out of the 82 respondents. This belief is backed up by the availability of community conflict early warning and early response (EWER) mechanisms in the area.

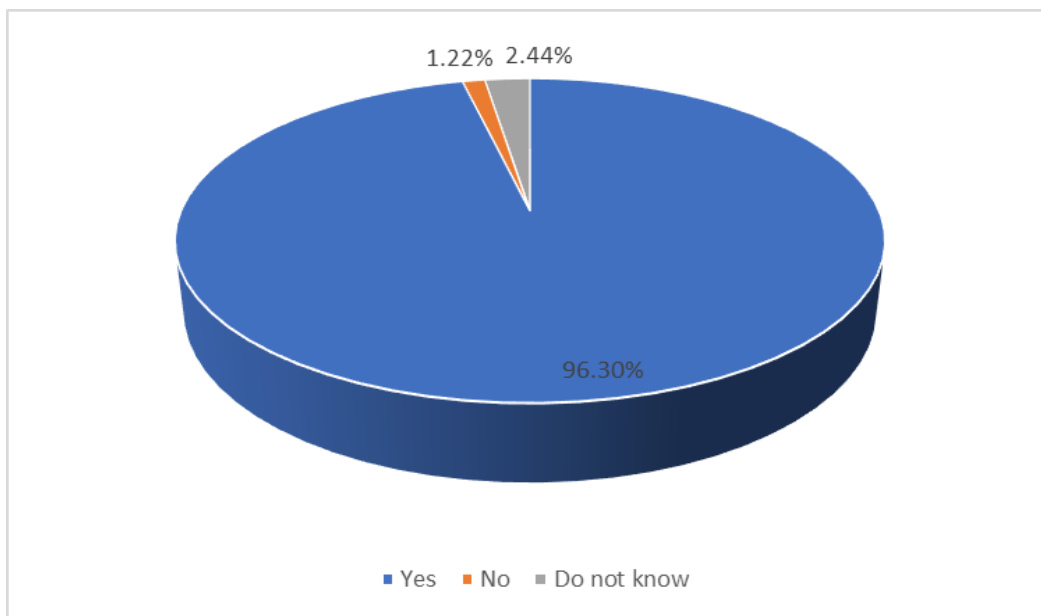


Figure 3.11: Availability of community dispute resolution structures

Community members are also satisfied with the way community leaders such as traditional and religious leaders and security operatives such as the army, police and local vigilantes who operate in the LGA have handled early warning signs in the past six (6) months. This is confirmed by 97.6% (80) of the respondents, which makes Kubau LGA resilient and with the ability to respond to early warning signs before such signs degenerate into violent confrontations.

3.4 Hydroponic Farming and Conflict

3.4.1 Hydroponic Farming System

Community members in Kubau LGA have very little awareness of alternative means of cultivating crops such as hydroponic farming as only 14.6% (12) of the respondents admitted to hearing about the hydroponic system of farming. Conversely, 82.9% (68) of the respondents reported that they are not aware of any alternative means of cultivating crops such as the hydroponic system of farming.

Respondents also reported that conflict has not affected development initiatives such as construction in the LGA in the past, but farmers and herders clashes and youth violent extremism reoccur in the LGA and can best be addressed through community dialogues.

Regarding the ability of the EMSAS hydroponic project to mitigate climate change-induced conflicts, 78.1% (64) of the respondents believe that projects such as the EMSAS hydroponic project can help mitigate climate change-induced conflicts such as herders and farmers conflicts. According to the respondents, the EMSAS hydroponic project may (since it is a system they have yet to fully understand) introduce a new perspective to farming which will reduce the pressure on land and consequently clashes between herders and farmers.

4.0 Analysis of Key Informant Interview (KII) Tool

Critical stakeholders in the communities including traditional, religious, and opinion leaders were interviewed to ensure all perspectives of the communities' conflict dynamics are adequately accounted for in this study.

Results from the KII indicate that 100% (11) of the respondents affirmed they have lived in Kubau LGA for a reasonable number of years, spanning from 1-21 years and above. Whereas 9.1% (1) of the respondents lived between 1-10 years representing, 9.1% (1) of the respondents lived in Kubau between 11-20 years representing, while a majority of 81.8% (9) respondents have lived in the LGA for 21 years and above.

Below are responses to questions outlined during the interviews:

I. How would you describe the current situation in Kubau LGA regarding conflicts?

All the Respondents affirmed that Kubau LGA is currently peaceful, with farming and herding activities going on in peace and harmony among the religious and ethnic groups in the LGA. According to them, this is due to the presence of an active security joint task force, made up of the army, police, Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corp (NSCDC) Kaduna State Vigilante Service (KADVIS) and Yan-Sa-Kai who are active in addressing conflict in the LGA. Also, communities across the LGA have strong early warning and early response (EWER) mechanisms that report early warning signs to the joint task force in the area for appropriate actions, which according to them has been satisfactory thus far.

II. What types of conflicts have occurred in Kubau LGA in recent years? (e.g., ethnic, religious, and political drying up of water sources)

The prevalent conflicts in Kubau LGA identified by Respondents include herders and farmers clashes, ethnic clashes such as those between the Fulani and Hausa ethnic groups over land ownership and political representation, banditry, land disputes and youth restiveness especially during political cycles.

III. Do you think climate change is a driver of the type of conflict you have identified? If yes, how?

The majority (63.6%) of the respondents reported that climate change is a driver of the conflicts identified above, particularly the herders and farmers clashes which are a result of the struggle

for land resources by the two groups, occasioned by drought and desertification in other areas and consequently forced migration.

IV. Who are the main actors involved in these conflicts? (e.g., communities, groups, individuals)

The main actors identified in these conflicts include politicians, Farmers, Herders, religious and traditional leaders and youth (in the case of banditry).

V. What are the underlying causes of these conflicts?

Respondents identified the inadequacy of land resources to accommodate farming and herding activities simultaneously, poor economic conditions due to loss of livelihood, trespass on farmland by cattle, climate change and population explosion which has put pressure on available resources.

VI. How have conflicts in Kubau LGA changed over time? (e.g., increased/decreased intensity, new actors, shifting causes)

Respondents unanimously agreed that conflicts in Kubau LGA have drastically reduced over time, with almost all communities in the LGA being peaceful.

VII. What are the key events or incidents that have triggered conflicts in Kubau LGA?

Politics/elections, clashes between Herders and Farmers, seasonal migration of Herders leading to encroachment on farmlands, cattle rustling and crop theft were identified as the key events or incidents that have triggered conflicts in Kubau LGA in the past.

VIII. How do conflicts in Kubau LGA impact local communities, livelihoods, and social cohesion?

Conflict in Kubau LGA according to Respondents has led to displacement and migration of the population, drastic reduction in agricultural activities, leading to food shortages, increased vulnerability of population groups such as women, children and PWDs, abuse, exploitation and human rights violations, damage to health care facilities and reduced access to medical services, loss of livelihood and psychological trauma. In terms of social cohesion, the displacement of the population has led to the breakdown of social networks which drastically affects the unity experienced within and between communities.

IX. Has conflict affected farming activities in Kubau? If yes in what ways?

Given that Kubau is mostly a farming belt, conflicts in the past affected farming activities primarily. According to the Respondents, when conflicts occur in the area, fear of attacks on farmers and destruction of crops in some instances have led to reduced farm produce, with some Farmers abandoning their farms in extreme cases. Conflict at other times has led to the closure of markets, making it difficult for farmers to sell their produce.

X. How have conflicts in Kubau affected women, youth and persons with disability (PWDs)?

Conflicts generally have limited women's access to farms and reduced their ability to generate income and support their families. They have also exposed women to increased risk of rape, emotional distress, anxiety and trauma, sexual and gender-based violence and forced migration in some instances. On the part of the youth, conflicts have brought an increased risk of youth vulnerability to drug abuse, loss of education and unemployment and increased the risk of radicalization into violent extremist groups. In relation to PWDs, conflict in the area has led to permanent disability due to physical irreparable injuries such as body parts mutilation as well as difficulty in accessing humanitarian aid.

XI. How has the conflict impacted women's and men's access to farming and agricultural activities?

According to the Respondents, conflicts have reduced both men's and women's access to farming activities due to fear of attacks, which has affected agricultural productivity in the area.

XII. Have traditional gender roles been altered or reinforced due to conflicts in Kubau?

Conflicts have altered traditional gender roles in Kubau LGA over time. According to Respondents, women are now more engaging in economic activities such as farming, dressmaking and general trading in the bid to generate income and support their families, as against being full-time housewives and caregiving as was obtained in the past. Women have also taken up more leadership roles in the management of community affairs, family decision-making as well as their active involvement in peacebuilding processes. However, traditional roles such as

caregiving have been reinforced, given the need for women to take care of children and displaced populations in their custody.

XIII. How are the women in your community affected by conflict?

Conflicts such as herders and farmers, banditry and land-related conflicts between the Fulani and Hausa ethnic groups identified by respondents, have led to the loss of spouses for women, which changes the whole family livelihood equation, increased emotional stress and psychological trauma for women and increased chances of rape and sexual exploitation and abuse. Family burdens due to the loss of spouses have also reduced the life expectancy of women in Kubau LGA.

XIV. What efforts have been made to resolve conflicts in Kubau by the Kaduna state government, Kubau LGA council, traditional and religious leaders or community-led initiatives?

The Kaduna state government has put together a joint task force made up of the army, police, and NSCDC and enhanced the operations of the Department of State Security (DSS) to strengthen security in the area. The state government has also created security outfits such as KADVIS to complement the efforts of conventional security. The Kubau local government council has established a local government conflict resolution committee. Initiatives such as Yan-sa-kai aimed at addressing conflicts and promoting peace through mediation and dialogue have also been established at the ward levels in the LGA. Traditional leaders in the area promote interfaith dialogue and cooperation among religious and ethnic groups, through various town halls, peace dialogues and resolution of disputes when they arise.

XV. How effective have these efforts been in addressing conflicts?

Respondents all agreed that these efforts have been very effective in strengthening security, improving community engagements and accounting for the relative peace that has been sustained in Kubau LGA.

XVI. What are the challenges to conflict resolution and conflict management in Kubau LGA?

Some of the identified challenges are poor cooperation among ethnic and religious groups in some instances, poor funding and remuneration for the local vigilante (Yan-sa-kai), mistrust

between community members and government agencies and most of the efforts by the government focusing on providing short-term solutions rather than addressing the root causes of conflict in the area. Another challenge identified by Respondents is the fact that some indigenous people of Kubau give information about communities to outsiders, making Kubau vulnerable to attacks, especially during the Herders and Farmers clashes that occurred in the past. Another challenge identified by Respondents is the deliberate attempt by indigenes to undermine security in the area by providing information to outsiders to enhance easy attacks, especially in the instance of the herders and farmers conflict which occurred in the past.

XVII. Are there ongoing conflict issues in Kubau LGA that you think require urgent attention?

Communal clashes between the Hausa and Fulanis and bike theft are some of the conflict issues that Respondents suggest require urgent attention.

XVIII. If yes, what approaches do you think will help to address the identified issues?

Some of the approaches suggested by Respondents include the provision of financial assistance and gadgets to security operatives to enhance their operations and dialogues with various ethnic and religious groups in the LGA.

XIX. In what ways have development initiatives by community-based organizations, NGOs and International NGOs positively impacted the development of Kubau LGA?

According to Respondents, Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have provided healthcare facilities that have improved access to healthcare in the area. They have also carried out sensitization on key issues such as immunization, drug abuse and conflict to raise awareness among the people. NGOs have also engaged with local communities to address conflict and build trust as well as strengthened local capacities towards conflict resolution, peacebuilding and other community development initiatives. Also, humanitarian aid has been provided by NGOs to victims of conflict to ameliorate suffering in the past.

XX. What have been the major conflict issues affecting development initiatives in Kubau LGA?

According to Respondents, no major conflict issue has affected development initiatives in Kubau LGA. However, failed promises by NGOs in the past have reduced the trust community members have in development initiatives.

XXI. How best do you think the EMSAS Hydroponic project should be implemented in Kubau LGA?

Respondents have agreed that all stakeholders identified and engaged in the project should be carried along throughout the implementation lifecycle of the project. Also, the project team should ensure collaboration with local farmers and herders, leaders of the LGA and stakeholders to guarantee project acceptance. Detailed training on the hydroponic system of farming, crop selection, hydroponic system disease and pest control and management should be provided for local farmers.

Respondents also suggested that a reliable water supply system should be constructed, in addition to conducting a thorough water availability, climatic conditions and market feasibility study. A Strong and regular monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system should be put in place while ensuring that the system uses locally available materials for ease of replication by local farmers and other communities.

Furthermore, start-up capital should be provided for farmers to enable them to establish their farms after the project has provided the required training on hydroponic farming. Finally, the demonstration farm should be set up in an accessible location where everyone in the community can see and access it easily, to avoid exclusion on religious or ethnic grounds.

XXII. Which major stakeholders do you think should be carried along before and during the implementation of the project?

Some of the suggested stakeholders to be engaged include the executive chairman of the Kubau local government council, the Emir of Kubau, traditional heads in all the concerned council wards, the Sarkin Noma and farmers association, security agencies, Farmers, Department of Agriculture, Kubau LGA council, women and youth groups, the PWD community, majority and minority ethnic groups and political appointees in the LGA.

XXIII. Can you rank these stakeholders according to their power and influence?

1. Chairman, Kubau LGA council
2. Emir/traditional leaders
3. Traditional leaders
4. Youth/groups
5. Women/groups
6. Politicians
7. PWDs
8. Farmers
9. Security operatives
10. Community members

XXIV. How best do you think the project team can create a religious and ethnic balance during the implementation of the project?

Some of the suggested approaches to creating a religious and ethnic balance during the implementation of the EMSAS hydroponic project are to ensure a systematic and transparent approach to the selection of beneficiaries while taking into account ethnic, religious, gender and inclusivity considerations. The project team should be trained on cultural sensitivity, religious tolerance and conflict resolution. Also, the project team should be balanced in terms of religious considerations. The project location for the siting of the demonstration farm should be accessible and neutral. Respect for one another should be highly emphasized during project engagements, in addition to fixing most activities on weekends so they don't disrupt farming activities.

XXV. What approaches do you think can be employed by the project team to strengthen cohesion among the religious and ethnic groups in the LGA during the implementation of the EMSAS Hydroponic project?

Joint meetings between farmers and herders, Muslims and Christians will help build social cohesion among these groups. The provision of economic opportunities such as livelihood opportunities that benefit individuals and groups across ethnic and religious considerations, and periodic engagement of community members through community engagements to listen to project concerns and make necessary adjustments will be helpful. Women and PWDs should be

involved as much as possible, with periodic organization of social events that bring together the religious and ethnic groups to strengthen cohesion. Respondents also suggested that volunteer opportunities should be created for community members who would want to join the project team to support the implementation of project activities.

5.0 Conclusion

The conflict assessment in Kubau LGA of Kaduna state set out to understand the conflict context of Kubau LGA, the underlying conflict dynamics, major actors, best-suited stakeholder engagement strategy as well as the best approaches to implementing the EMSAS hydroponic project in the area.

On a general note, the study found out that the herders and farmers conflict caused by forced migration as a result of climate change is still ongoing in the area. Other types of conflicts identified include banditry and clashes over land by Fulani and Hausa ethnic groups. Despite these conflicts, farming, herding and other businesses are going on peacefully in the area, given the presence of security operatives, local vigilantes and effective conflict management and mitigation structures in communities. This means that Kubau LGA is peaceful, safe, and secure and provides an enabling environment for the implementation of the EMSAS hydroponic project.

The study also reveals the presence of effective community conflict mitigation structures across communities in Kubau LGA as affirmed by 96.3%. Development initiatives, such as the construction of boreholes and other public infrastructures have also helped in building social cohesion among the various religious and ethnic groups across the communities.

The result of the analysis further shows that a majority of respondents do not agree that the identified conflicts are caused by climate change. This demonstrates a low level of awareness of climate change-driven conflicts. Thus, raising awareness amongst the beneficiaries on the topic of climate change conflicts is necessary for them to understand how the issues are connected properly.

Also, the study enumerated Herders, Farmers and youth as major actors in these conflicts, and recommended stakeholders such as the executive Chairman of Kubau LGA council, the Emir of

Kubau, women, youth, Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) as well as ethnic minorities for engagement throughout the lifecycle of the EMSAS hydroponic project.

Accordingly, the study highlighted the benefit of the implementation of the EMSAS hydroponic project in the target area as an alternative agricultural practice, to mitigate against Farmer-herder conflicts usually caused by land ownership disputes that have been exacerbated by the impact of climate change and population growth across neighbouring communities in States such as Bauchi. The introduction of an innovative farming system such as the hydroponic system will introduce farmers to new innovative techniques of farming which will reduce pressure on land, mitigate the negative impact of climate change and help address the Herders and Farmers conflict which has caused wanton destruction of lives and property in Kaduna state and North-west Nigeria as a whole.

In conclusion, the exercise was largely successful and has provided the basis for strategy and recommendations for the EMSAS hydroponic project which will ensure that all stakeholders are carried along and the project is implemented sustainably.

6.0 Recommendations and Conflict Management Strategy

Following the major findings of this conflict as specified in the conclusion, the following strategies should be employed throughout the implementation of the EMSAS hydroponic project in Kubau LGA.

- I. The EMSAS hydroponic project is useful and timely in Kubau LGA which is considered safe, and secure and has an enabling environment for the implementation of such initiatives. Its implementation will be useful in addressing the Herders and Farmers conflict still experienced across other locations in the LGA by introducing farmers to innovative and sustainable farming methods, which will reduce pressure on land resources, address the negative impact of climate change and consequently reduce clashes between Herders and Farmers.
- II. The project should be implemented with adherence to the suggestions of community members in terms of stakeholder engagement and inclusivity to ensure conflict and cultural sensitivity, Do-No-Harm as well as social and gender inclusion.

- III. The identified stakeholders in the LGA should be carried along and engaged throughout the lifecycle of the project. This will enhance project acceptance, ownership and sustainability.
- IV. The EMSAS project team should make conscious efforts towards including women, youth, PWDs, ethnic minorities and other vulnerable groups in all project activities and engagements, based on quotas suggested in the conflict management strategy.
- V. Community-level activities should be planned with inputs from stakeholders and project participants to avoid conflict. This will increase the chances of activity attendance and guarantee active participation.
- VI. The constitution of the project team should consider religious, gender, and social inclusion, as suggested by community members in some of their suggested approaches for the implementation of the EMSAS hydroponic project. As much as possible, the project implementation team should be made up of males and females, Muslims and Christians as well as PWDs. This will present the Green Habitat Initiative (GHI) in a good light and provide an example for the community leadership to imbibe.
- VII. All project activities should be planned in conjunction with project participants. This is to avoid a clash of project activities with the farming and herding businesses of project participants and prevent low participants turn up at activities.
- VIII. Project staff should always dress in a manner that respects the religion and culture of the people during project activities and other engagements.
- IX. The EMSAS project team should ensure that project activities and engagements include at least 30% women, and devise deliberate methods to ensure their active participation during activity sessions.
- X. In the same light, at least 10% of PWDs should be deliberately included in all project activities and engagements to provide a platform for them to contribute to the implementation of the EMSAS hydroponic project and a sense of belonging which will strengthen community cohesion.
- XI. The youth and ethnic minorities should also be included in all project activities and engagements.

- XII. Community leaders such as traditional and religious leaders should be trained in conflict management and dispute resolution to strengthen the alternative dispute resolution mechanisms that already exist in these communities. This will consolidate the peace currently enjoyed in Kubau LGA and thus guarantee the establishment of security on the demonstration farm.
- XIII. Quarterly conflict prevention forums should be conducted in Kubau LGA to identify emerging conflict dynamics with a view to developing and implementing community-adaptable approaches to resolving the same.
- XIV. A community trust-building event should be organized during the handover of the demonstration hydroponic farm to the community. This will increase the chances of project acceptability and sustainability, as well as strengthen cohesion among the various ethnic and religious groups in the area.
- XV. Quarterly advocacy visits should be conducted to the identified critical stakeholders in Kubau LGA to engage and inform them of project implementation progress and identify specific roles they are expected to play at each point.
- XVI. Training, dialogues and other community-level engagements should be held in communities to give community members ideas on project continuity and scale-up beyond the lifecycle of the EMSAS hydroponic project.

Table 2 below outlines an action plan for the implementation of the strategy for conflict management and mitigation throughout the lifecycle of the project, specifying actions, timelines and responsible persons.

Table 2: Action plan for conflict prevention and mitigation during the implementation of the EMSAS Hydroponic project

S/N	Conflict Issue	Prevention approach	Timeline									Responsible party	
			Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May		
1.	Mainstreaming conflict sensitivity and Do-No-Harm approaches in project implementation.	Training of the EMSAS project team on conflict sensitivity and Do-No-Harm approaches.											Conflict management Specialist
2.	Non-inclusion of women, PWDs and youths in project activities and engagements.	Ensure the inclusion of 30% women, 10% PWDs, 10% ethnic minorities and youth in all project activities and engagements.											EMSAS Project team
3.	Poor stakeholder engagement during project implementation.	Conduct quarterly advocacy visits to identified stakeholders to inform them of project implementation progress and identify roles they are expected to play.											EMSAS Project team
4.	Inadequate conflict management skills by stakeholders and community members.	Conduct conflict management training for stakeholders and community members to strengthen conflict management and dispute resolution skills.											Conflict Management Specialist
5.	Emerging conflict dynamics	Convene quarterly conflict prevention fora in Kubau to identify emerging conflict dynamics.											Conflict Management Specialist/ EMSAS project team.

Annexes

Annexe 1: Pictures from the data collection exercise.



GHI team of supervisors with the traditional leaders of Anchau community during the data collection of the EMSAS-Hydroponics conflict assessment.



Cross section of enumerators and trainers during a 1-day training workshop for the EMSAS-Hydroponics conflict assessment data collection.



Enumerators being trained on data collection for the EMSAS-Hydroponics conflict assessment



An enumerator (2nd from right) poses with the local community security team at Dutsen-wai ward after the data collection.

Annexe 2: One-on-one interview questionnaire for the conflict analysis of the EMSAS-Hydroponic project.

Questionnaire for EMSAS data collection for conflict analysis

We are pleased to be working on the Empowering Communities with Sustainable Agricultural Systems (EMSAS) project, focusing on piloting a small-scale hydroponics system in Kubau Local Government Area (LGA) of Kaduna State, Nigeria.

The EMSAS project aims to contribute to the resilience and well-being of communities in Kaduna State by introducing sustainable and innovative agricultural practices. Your participation is crucial in helping us understand your needs and challenges related to climate change, violent conflicts, and food insecurity in the region.

We would like to ask you some questions on the conflict dynamics and security context of Kubau LGA, identifying the root causes, major actors and mitigation measures. We would like to learn more about the issues affecting people and explore how violent conflicts could possibly be reduced, and how best the EMSAS hydroponic project can be implemented in a conflict-sensitive approach.

*The survey typically takes about **15 minutes** to complete. Be assured that all information provided will be treated with strict confidentiality. Participation in this survey is voluntary, and you are free to choose whether or not to answer any questions. However, we highly value your input as it will help us tailor our support to better meet your needs.*

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to ask. Otherwise, may we proceed with the survey?

Section 1: Personal Information		
1.	Name	
2.	Do you live in Kubau LGA?	A). Yes B). No
3.	Years lived in Kubau	A). 1-10 years B). 11-20 years C). 21 years and above

4	Community	Kubau Dutsen-wai Zuntu Anchau
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Section 2: Demographic Information

1.	Gender of Respondent	A). Male B). Female
2.	Age of Respondent	Specify
3.	What is your ethnic group?	A). Hausa/Fulani B). Sayawa C). Others (Specify).....
4.	What is your religion?	A). Islam B). Christianity C). Others (specify).....
5.	What is your Occupation?	1. Herdsman 2. Farming 3. Civil/public service 4. Others (Specify).....
6.	Education	1. Tertiary 2. Secondary 3. Primary 4. Qur’anic 5. Non

Section 3: Perception of conflict

1.	Over the last twelve months has there been any kind of violent conflict in your community?	A) Yes B) No C) Do not know
2.	If yes, How many times is (are) the violent conflict (s) in the last six months?	A) 1-5 B) 6-10 C) 11 and above
3.	Which type of community-level violent conflicts have you witnessed in the last twelve months?	A) Banditry B) Inter-religious C) Farmers/Herders
4.	How regularly have you witnessed violent conflict?	A) Weekly B) Monthly C) Yearly

5.	Is any of these conflicts associated with a contest for land or a water source such as a river or stream?	A) Yes B) No C) Do not know
6.	If yes, what major environmental changes have warranted this contest?	
7.	Do you think climate change is a driver of the type of conflict you have identified?	A) Yes B) No C) Do not know

Section 4: Perception of Violence in Other Communities

1.	In relation to levels of violence, would you say your community compared to your neighbouring communities is more peaceful, safe and secured	A) Yes B) No C) I don't know
2.	If more violent, why do you think your community is more violent than other communities?	Please specify
3.	When did you notice violence intensifying in your community?	A) 6 months ago B) 1 year ago C) 5 years and above ago

Section 5: Peace dividends

1.	In the past year, have you had any development projects (e.g. water points, schools, markets, roads) in your area?	A) Yes B) No C) Don't know
2.	Did the project help build social cohesion among the various religious and ethnic groups in your community? (farmer/herder; Muslim/Christian).	A) Yes B) No C) Somehow
3.	What is the best location for siting a project in your community?:	Please specify.....

Section 6: Community Resilience

1.	Are there community conflict mitigation structures in your area?	A) Yes B) No C) Don't know
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2.	How effective are the conflict mitigation structures?	A) Very effective B) Not effective C) Don't know
3.	Is there a community conflict early warning and early response mechanism in your area?	A). Yes B). No C). Don't know
4.	In the past six months are you satisfied with the response of the Security forces to conflict?	A). Yes B). No C). Don't know
5.	In the past six months are you satisfied with the response of the Community leaders to conflict?	A). Yes B). No C). Don't know

Section 7: Hydroponic Farming and conflict

1.	Are you aware of other alternative means of cultivating crops such as hydroponics?	A) Yes B) No C) Don't know
2.	Has conflict affected development initiatives such as constructions in your community in the past?	A) Yes B) No C) Don't know
3.	If yes, please specify	
4.	What are the likely reoccurring conflict issues that if not addressed will affect development initiatives such as the EMSAS Hydroponic project?	A). Youth violent extremism B). Herders and farmers clashes C). Others. Please specify.
5.	How best do you think these issues can be addressed?	A). Community dialogue/youth engagement activities B). Deployment of security operatives C). Others. Please specify.
7.	Can projects such as EMSAS mitigate against climate-change-induced conflicts such as farmer/herder clash.	A) Yes B) No

8.	If yes, How do you think the EMSAS project will mitigate violent clashes?	
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Additional comments		
1.	Is there anything else you would like to share about the conflict context or hydroponic farming in your community?	

Annexe 3: Conflict Analysis KII toll

Key Informant Interview (KII) Tool

Target Respondents: Traditional leaders, Religious leaders, Political leaders, security agents, etc.

Section 1: Personal Information		
1.	Name	
2.	Gender	Male Female
3.	Organization	
4.	Position/Role	
5	Age	A). ≤ 35 B). ≥ 35
6.	Do you live in Kubau LGA?	A). Yes B). No
7	Years lived in Kubau	A). 1-10 years B). 11-20 years C). 21 years and above
8.	Community	Kubau Dutsen-wai Zuntu Anchau

How long have you lived in Kubau LGA and can you share your experience?

What is your role in the community?

How would you describe the current situation in Kubau LGA regarding conflicts?

What types of conflicts have occurred in Kubau LGA in recent years? (e.g., ethnic, religious, political, land-related etc)

Do you think climate change is a driver of the type of conflict you have identified? If yes, how?

Who are the main actors involved in these conflicts? (e.g., communities, groups, individuals)

What are the underlying causes of these conflicts?

How have conflicts in Kubau LGA changed over time? (e.g., increased/decreased intensity, new actors, shifting causes)

What are the key events or incidents that have triggered conflicts in Kubau LGA?

How do conflicts in Kubau LGA impact local communities, livelihoods, and social cohesion?

Has conflict affected farming activities in Kubau? If yes in what way(s)?

How have conflicts in Kubau affected women, youth and persons with disability (PWDs)?

How has the conflict impacted women's and men's access to farming and agricultural activities?

Have traditional gender roles been altered or reinforced due to conflicts in Kubau?

How are the women in your community affected by conflict?

What efforts have been made to resolve conflicts in Kubau by the Kaduna state government, Kubau LGA council, traditional and religious leaders or community-led initiatives?

How effective have these efforts been in addressing conflicts?

What are the challenges to conflict resolution and conflict management in Kubau LGA?

Are there ongoing conflict issues in Kubau LGA that you think require urgent attention?

If yes, what approaches do you think will help to address the identified issues?

In what ways have development initiatives by community-based organizations, NGOs and International NGOs positively impacted the development of Kubau LGA?

What have been the major conflict issues affecting development initiatives in Kubau LGA?

How best do you think the EMSAS Hydroponic project should be implemented in Kubau LGA?

Which major stakeholders do you think should be carried along before and during the implementation of the project?

Can you rank the identified stakeholders according to their power and influence?

How best do you think the project team can create a religious and ethnic balance during the implementation of the project?

What approaches do you think can be employed by the project team to strengthen cohesion among the religious and ethnic groups in the LGA during the implementation of the EMSAS Hydroponic project?