



AGROPASTORAL TERRITORIAL ANALYSIS REPORT

Changing Lives in Innovative Partnerships (CLIP)
Northern Ghana Inter-Municipality Cooperation (NorGIC)

GHANA : Upper East, Upper West, North East, Northern and Savannah Regions

SURGE IN CROSSBORDER COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK DYNAMICS

Since late 2021, there has been an ongoing inter-ethnic conflict in Bawku Municipality, which has at times affected livestock trade. The outbreak of anthrax in June 2023 and the subsequent ban on exportation from the Upper East has also had an impact. **A resurgence in trade at the Bawku livestock market in recent months (see Figure 1), can be largely be attributed to three factors:**

- 1) **a period of calm in the inter-ethnic conflict** which has allowed cross border traders as well as Ghanaian traders from key markets in the south, to regain access to the market;
- 2) **an unfavourable GHS-FCFA exchange rate boosts trade** between border markets, particularly commercial movement, from Bawku and Pusiga markets in Ghana, to Cinkasse in Togo (purchases in Ghana to sell abroad in FCFA); and
- 3) **official autorisation for exportation** from markets in the Upper East.

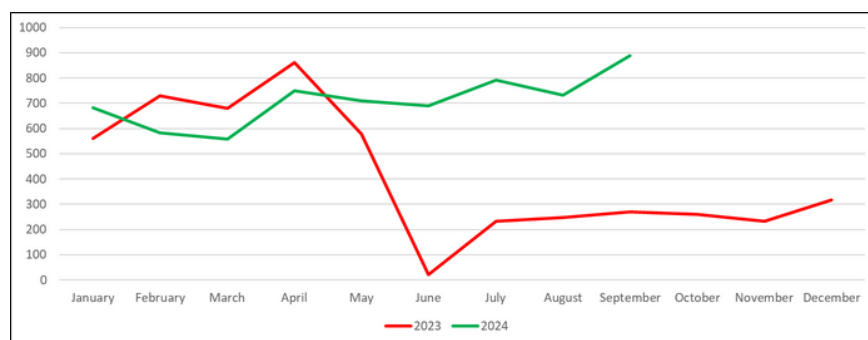
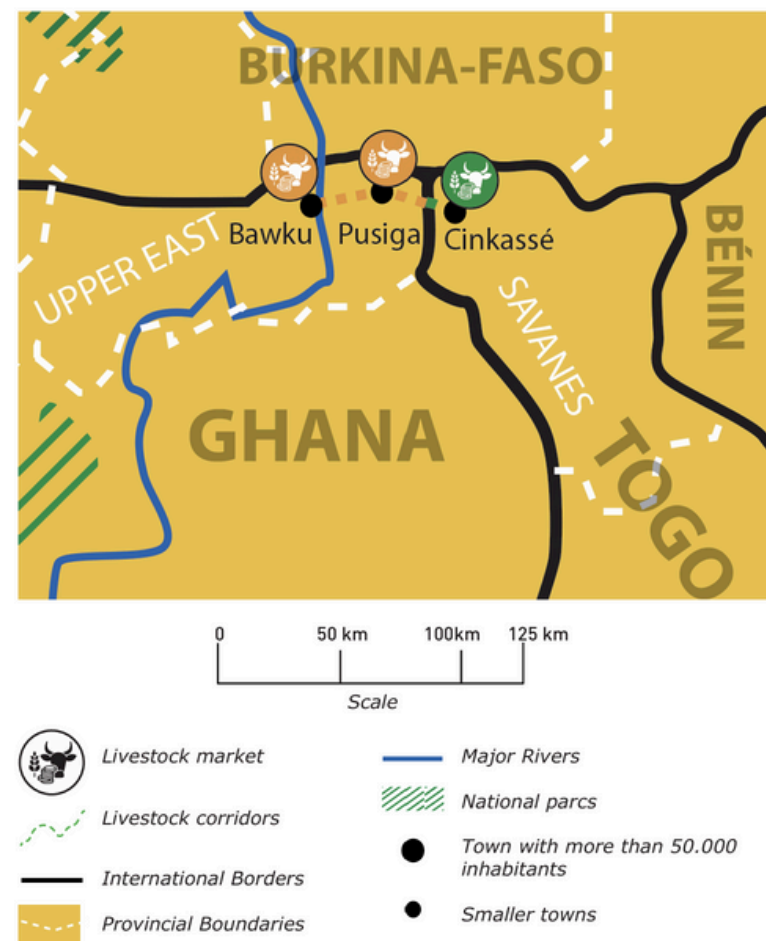
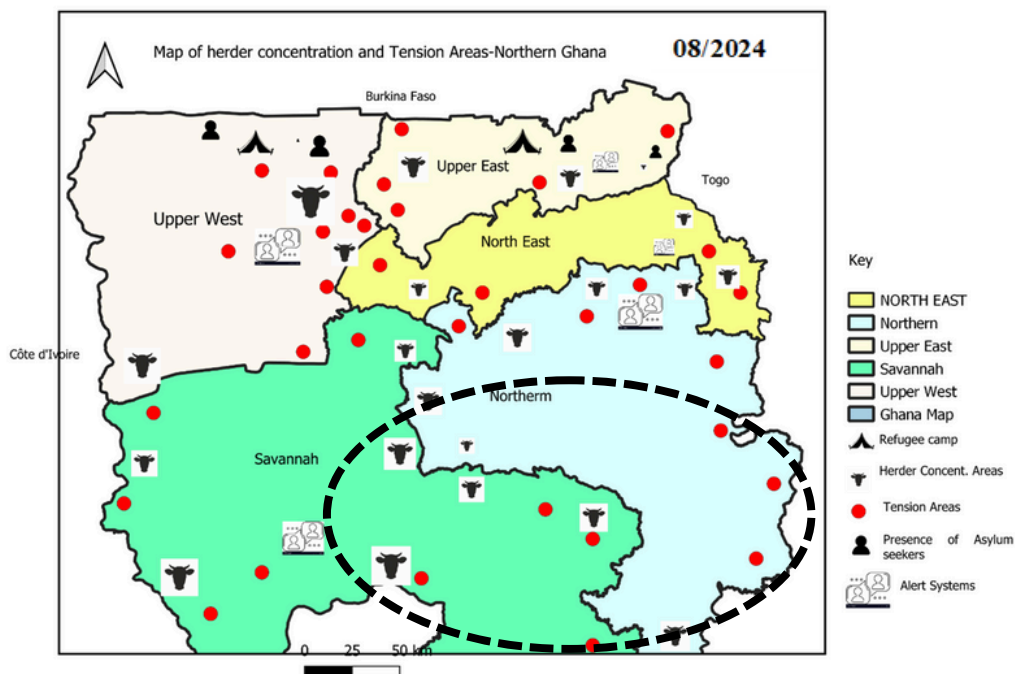


Figure 1: Cattle sold on the Bawku livestock Market

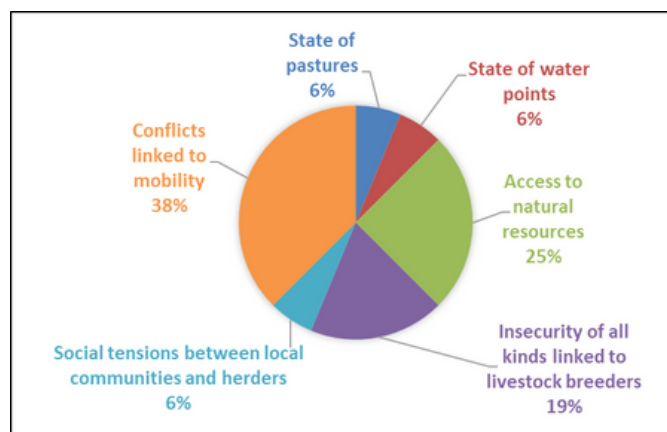


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Map 2: Map of herders concentration and tension areas - Northern Ghana



Graphic 1: Alerts and conflicts linked to livestock mobility in the Northern and Savannah regions between January and August 2024

LIVESTOCK CONCENTRATED IN THE MIDDLE BELT OF NORTHERN GHANA

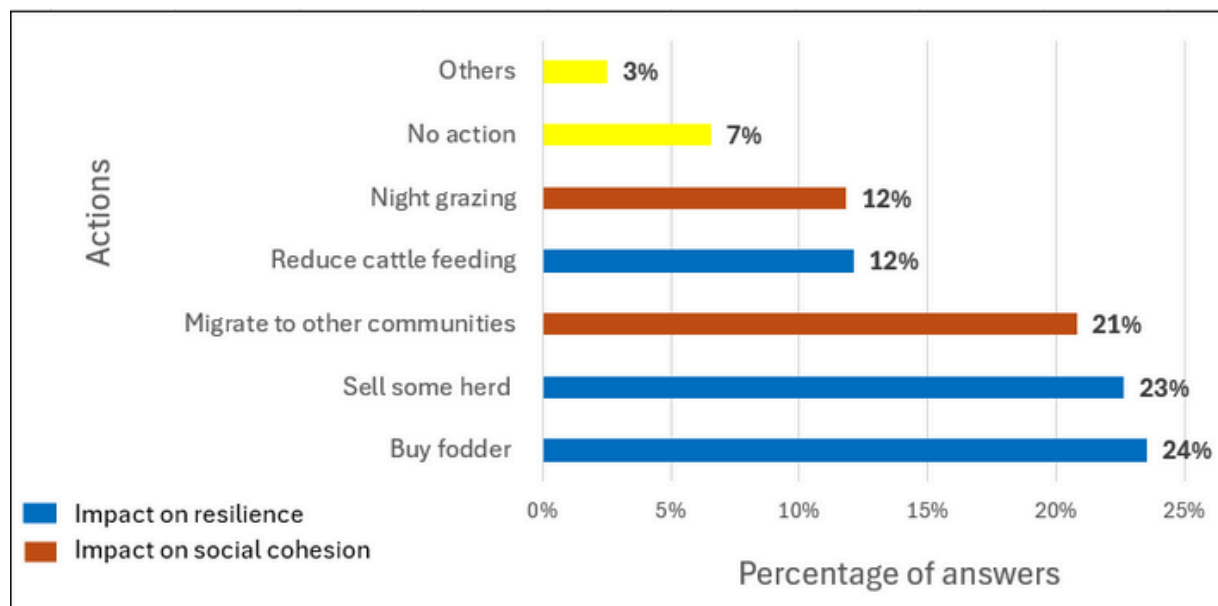
Attracted by the availability of resources around the Volta, the middle belt area of northern Ghana has often been a temporary refuge for livestock. **Today, however, there are increasingly high concentrations of permanent livestock** in this area, such as East Gonja, Central Gonja and Kpendai, where local communities are unaccustomed such large numbers. Compared to the three northern regions of the country, where mobile livestock herding is more common and the situation is relatively stable, **the Savannah and Northern regions, have seen a significant increase in alerts and conflicts in recent months.** These events are often violent and cause significant damage to fields, herds and people. **The lack of access to natural resources, particularly with such large concentrations of livestock, is often the main cause of conflict.** Local actors try to ease these tensions as best they can by settling out of court, but relations between local communities and livestock herders have been severely weakened.

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IMPACT OF THE DROUGHT IN THE NORTHERN REGIONS ON HERDERS

Prolonged dry spells in the north in July and August have led to poor crop production, with rice and maize production particularly affected. Prices on local markets have doubled : 1 sack, normally 400 GHS, now sells for 800/900 GHS. Farmers are severely affected, but pastoralists are not yet showing signs of a significant negative impact. **The rains have continued, resulting in a lot of available pasture, and water resources have been replenished.** Nevertheless, the results of a survey of 745 herders in 21 districts in the northern regions, raise concerns about the coming dry season. **97% of those interviewed expect their livelihoods to be negatively affected.** Prices are likely to remain high after the harvest, when overall production is low, and there is little residue left for herders to graze their livestock. **Key concerns were raised about the pressure which will be put on available resources in the coming season and the willingness of local farming communities to share access to resources given their increased vulnerability.**



Graphic 2: Adaptation stratégies envisagées par les éleveurs