



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



REAL NORTHEAST NIGERIA RESILIENCE STUDY

Stakeholder Workshop

USAID Bureau for Resilience and Food Security, USAID/Nigeria

Presented by: TANGO International

July 19, 2022

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions / REAL
2. REAL NE Nigeria Resilience Study: Background and Study Design
3. Recurrent Monitoring Survey (RMS): Quantitative and Qualitative
4. Initial Assessment: Overview and Findings
5. Discussion / Q&A: Informing the RMS and Qualitative Inquiry
6. Next Steps

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

RURAL RESILIENCE ACTIVITY (RRA) - BACKGROUND

NE Nigeria Resilience Study Background

- Evolution of the study
 - Commissioned by USAID Washington's Bureau of Resilience and Food Security (RFS) and Center for Resilience (C4R), in collaboration with the USAID Nigeria Mission, under the Resilience, Evaluation, Analysis and Learning (REAL) award.
 - **Objective:** Understand if and how a portfolio of resilience interventions can mitigate the negative impacts of shock and stress, avert humanitarian need and improve well-being in the midst of a conflict-driven protracted crisis.
 - Portfolio of resilience activities in NE Nigeria
 - Integrated Agriculture Activity (IAA) – IITA
 - Water for Agriculture Activity (WAA) – CRS
 - Rural Resilience Activity (RRA) - MC
 - Workshop in Spring 2020
 - C4R, RFS, Mission, Lead IPs (IITA, CRS, MC), TANGO

NE Nigeria Resilience Study Background

- Proposed research questions

1. Which resilience capacities matter most for mitigating the negative impact of shocks/stresses on key well-being outcomes in a conflict-driven protracted crisis?
2. What combination of interventions is most impactful for (1) strengthening key HH resilience capacities; and (2) mitigating the negative impacts of key shocks/stresses to key well-being outcomes in a conflict-driven protracted crisis? Particular focus on:
 - Market-strengthening interventions
 - Peace-building interventions

- Proposed methodology

- Mixed method (quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis)
- Quantitative: Quasi-experimental (treatment and control groups, measured pre- and post-intervention)

- Critical challenges

- While RRA was beginning implementation at time of initial design, IAA and WFA were already advanced in implementation
- Extremely fluid security conditions restricted ability to implement fixed data collection activities over time (BL to EL)

NE Nigeria Resilience Study Background

- July 2021: USAID proposed revised research questions
 - Focus on impacts of resilience programming on displaced and host populations
 - Integrating peacebuilding into market development interventions
 - Integration of humanitarian assistance with development interventions (incl. COVID-19 assistance)
- Changes in methodology
 - Given the instability of conditions in the study area, the formal quantitative impact evaluation design was dropped
 - Shift focus to performance monitoring design, more emphasis on qualitative analysis to understand reasons for observed changes
 - Design was modified to provide key information in short time frame and in format to be useful for program management decisions
 - Focus data collection and analysis on RRA, since this activity was at earlier stage than the other two resilience activities (IAA, WFA)
- Continued collaboration
 - RFS, C4R, Mission (revised protocol)
 - MC
 - Ensure information collected will be relevant for program management
 - Specific aspects of study design within project implementation areas

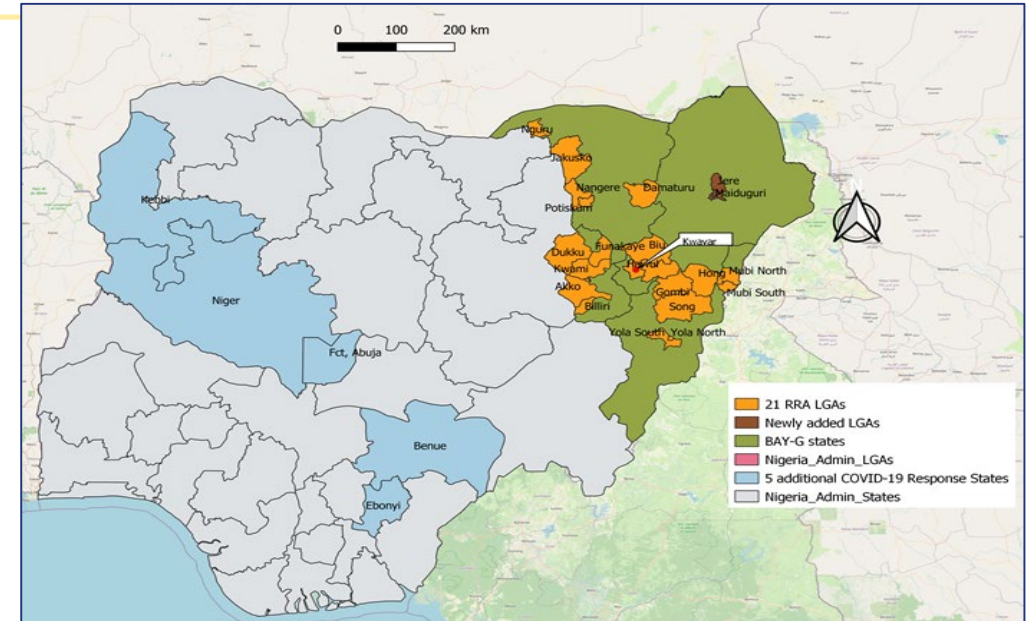
RRA Program Overview

- Five-year (2019-2024) USD 30 million market-systems development activity

- Layered with peacebuilding and COVID-19 humanitarian assistance (+ USD 15 million)
- Funded by USAID FTF

- Implemented by Mercy Corps (Prime), International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC) and Save the Children, and a range of local implementing partners

- In conjunction with 3 FTF activities: Water for Ag, Integrated Ag, BSL, and other programs



Goal: Facilitate and protect economic recovery and growth in vulnerable, conflict-affected areas and sustainably move people out of chronic vulnerability and poverty via expanded opportunities.

RRA Approach and Components

Uses market systems development approach with peacebuilding and short-term humanitarian assistance

Pull Activities

- Stimulate growth of market systems and diverse economic opportunities

Push Activities

- Build capacity to take advantage of market system opportunities

Short-term Humanitarian Assistance

- Alleviate impacts of COVID-19 on households and businesses via cash/capital and in-kind support(e.g., training, inputs)

Peacebuilding Activities

- Develop capacity of government and private sector to become more conflict-sensitive and to improve social cohesion and conflict mitigation

Targeted commodities

- Cowpea
- Groundnut
- Maize
- Rice
- Small ruminants



NE NIGERIA RESILIENCE STUDY - OVERVIEW OF STUDY DESIGN

Study Objectives

*This study will **examine key resilience capacities in target communities and systems and how programmatic strategies and interventions affect these capacities and, in turn, well-being outcomes in a context characterized by high levels of displacement, conflict and insecurity, drought, and food insecurity.***

Objective 1: Investigate the effectiveness of programmatic approaches and intervention sets intended to protect and advance resilience capacities at the household, community, and market-systems levels, layered with peacebuilding and humanitarian assistance.

Objective 2: Explore the dynamics of displacement in relation to resilience programming, resilience capacities, and well-being outcomes.

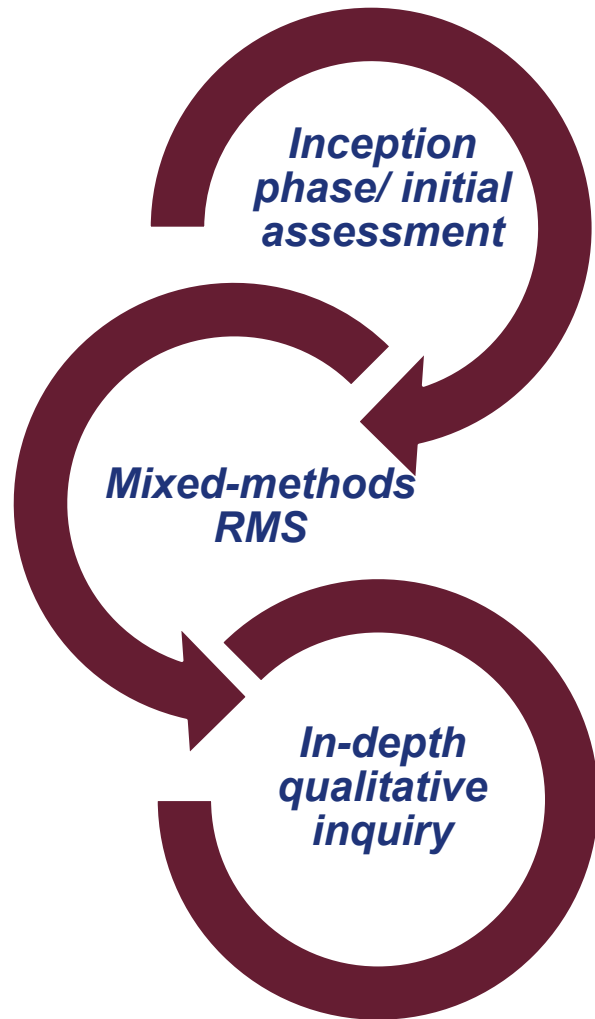
Research Questions (1)

1. **In fragile contexts, what intervention sets contribute to increased resilience capacities, which in turn enable households and communities to better mitigate or recover from the negative effects of shocks and stress?**
 - a. Does implementation of peacebuilding approaches together with resilience programming (i.e., market-systems interventions) strengthen resilience capacities?
 - b. Does integration of humanitarian assistance with resilience programming strengthen resilience capacities among target participants? How?
 - c. How do various combinations of interventions “work” to strengthen resilience capacities? What approaches to sequencing, layering and integration of interventions lead to better outcomes?

Research Questions (2)

- 2. What are the dynamics of resilience activities in areas experiencing high levels of displacement?**
 - a. What are the characteristics of IDPs and host communities and dynamics (e.g., drivers, patterns) of displacement?
 - b. How do interventions affect the resilience capacities and well-being outcomes of IDPs and host communities over time?
 - c. How does displacement affect the functional capacity and sustainability of market-systems?
 - d. How do systems-level interventions affect the resilience capacities of IDPs and communities?

Study Design: Three Iterative Components



Inception Phase Deliverables:

1. Summary report of findings
2. Stakeholder meeting
3. Revised set of RMS Tools

RMS Deliverables:

1. Summary report for each round
2. Workshops with RRA and RFS

Qualitative Inquiry Deliverables:

1. Summary report for each round
2. Workshops (synced with RMS workshops)

Final Deliverables

1. Final report
2. Learning briefs
3. Final webinar with Mission, RFS, RRA, and TANGO staff



Study Design: Key Characteristics

- Adaptive and iterative: Multiple and sequenced components
- Mixed-methods, with an emphasis on lighter, rigorous, qualitative methods
- Field focused: Provide timely information to guide adaptive implementation
- Multi-level: Assess and link resilience pathways at the household, community and market-systems levels
- Complement and augment RRA's ongoing Monitoring and Results Measurement (MRM) system

Proposed Timeline: April 2022 to December 2023

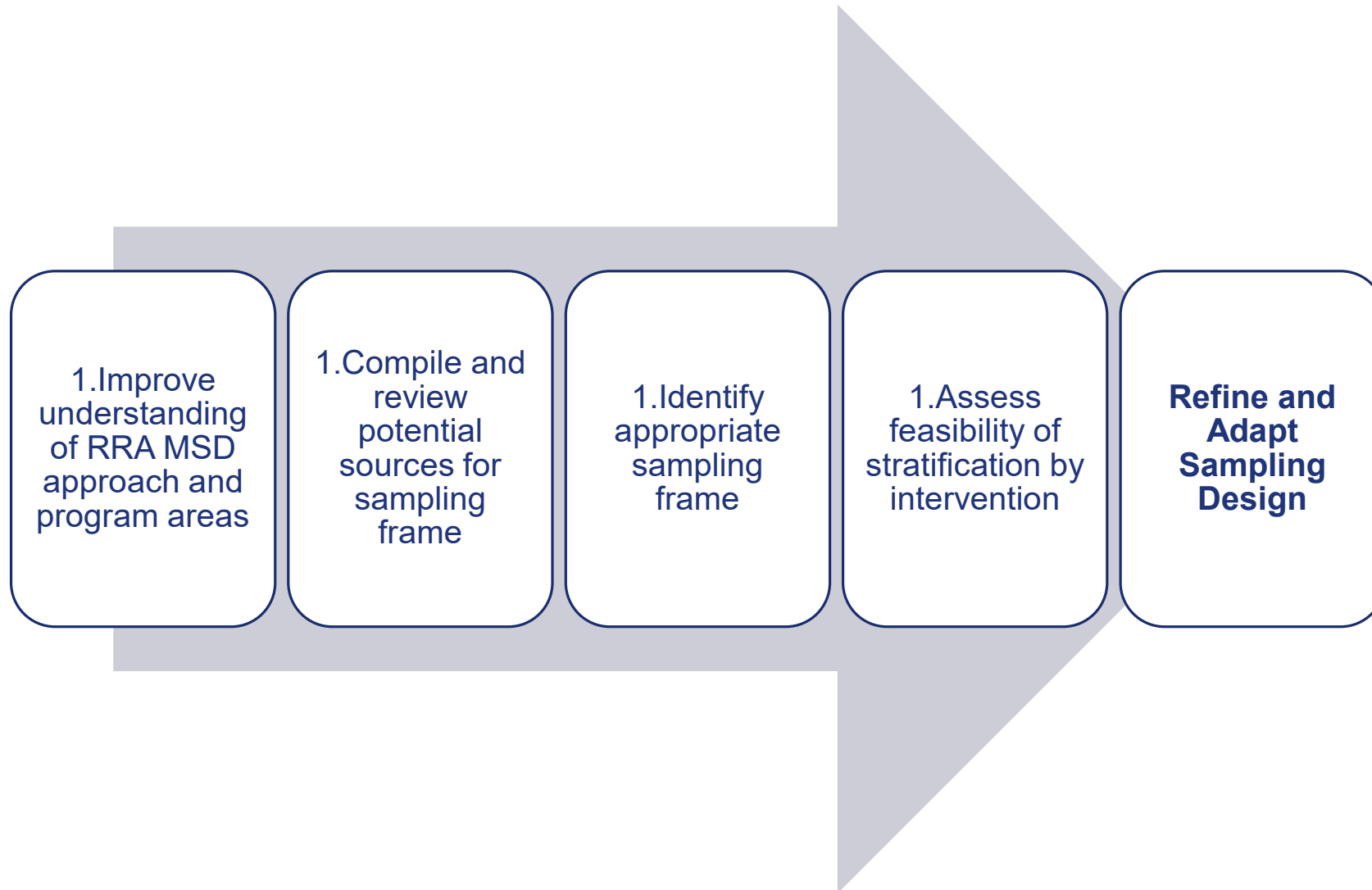
1. Inception phase / Initial assessment: Data collection April/May 2022
2. RMS: 4 rounds, 4-month intervals over 14 months
 - Round 1: August 2022
 - Round 2: December 2022
 - Round 3: April 2023
 - Round 4: July/August 2023
3. In-depth qualitative inquiry: 2 rounds at 6-month intervals
 - Timing takes into consideration external events (e.g., election, transport/fuel constraints, insecurity, national events/holidays)
 - Sequenced to allow each phase to inform subsequent phases

RECURRENT MONITORING SURVEY

Recurrent Monitoring Survey

- Quantitative and qualitative components
 - Four rounds over 14-month period
 - Panel sample of households and communities
 - Informed by inception phase and initial qualitative assessment
- Addresses key questions around resilience of households and communities experiencing conflict and insecurity, displacement setting
- Additional focus on assessing market systems characteristics and resilience
- Adaptive design and implementation approach
- Collaboration with RRA, USAID, and Nigerian partner, Binomial Optimal LLC (BOL)
 - Questionnaire development
 - Sampling Design

Sampling Design Process





Quantitative Methodology

- Panel, two-stage cluster design
 - 1,020 households across 22 LGAs and 31 communities
 - Representative of the RRA MSD approach (not overall population)
- Household and community questionnaires
 - Cover a range of topics needed to calculate resilience indicators and indices
 - Participation in or adoption of services/practices promoted by RRA market actor partners, e.g.:
 - Input market linkages
 - Output market linkages
 - Improved farming practices
 - Other pull/push-related activities
 - Receipt of COVID-19 assistance

Household Survey Topics

- Food security (HFIAS, FCS)
- Shocks and Stresses (including COVID-19)
- Asset ownership
- Access to Markets, Infrastructure, and Services
- Access to Financial Services
- Access to Information
- Livelihood Activities
- Group Participation and Collective Action
- Social and Capacity-Building Support
- Aspirations and Confidence to Adapt
- Gender Norms and Women's Decision-Making
- Humanitarian Assistance (including COVID-19)
- Value Chains and Improved Technologies and Management Practices

Community Survey Topics

- Community Characteristics
- Community Infrastructure and Services
- Community Groups and Social Support
- Government and NGO Safety Net and Emergency Programs
- Governance
- Community Exposure to Interventions
- Gender Norms

RRA-Specific Survey Topics

Availability/use of financial services

- Credit, savings, insurance

Linkages with output markets/use of output services

- Transportation services
- Selling products through trader/off-taker
- Producer groups, cooperatives
- Contract farming

Linkages to input markets

- Availability/use of extension services
- Producer groups, cooperatives

Use of improved tech & practices

- Improved feed, vet services, vaccination
- Improved seeds, fertilizer, pesticides
- Climate-smart water harvesting and irrigation
- Mechanized processes/tools

Training/participation in other services

- Financial literacy training
- Business development services
- Precision farming

COVID-19 transfers (households and businesses)

- Cash/capital
- In-kind

Household Survey Sample Design

Panel, two-stage cluster design

Sample Size

- **Final sample size = 1,020 households**
 - Based on prevalence of moderate and severe food insecurity (FIES).
 - Uses a starting value (0.87) based on RRA baseline survey and a registry of additional RRA participants
 - Computed using power paired proportions sample size procedures
 - Accounts for design effect and non-response/attrition

Sample Selection

- **Stage 1: Cluster selection**
 - Communities randomly selected from sampling frame using probability proportional to size (PPS) methods
- **Stage 2: Household Selection**
 - Households are randomly selected within each community using fractional interval systematic sampling

Survey Sample Design Process

- Key tasks performed by TANGO, in close collaboration with RRA to refine sampling design:
 - 1. Identify appropriate sampling frame**
 - Review RRA baseline survey documentation
 - Review beneficiary databases (market actor and COVID-19)
 - 2. Assess feasibility of stratification by intervention**
 - Integrate information across databases
 - Categorize market actor services into intervention categories
 - Assess variation in intensity of interventions across program areas

Conclusions:

- BL survey and beneficiary databases cannot serve as sampling frame
- A priori stratification of sample not appropriate



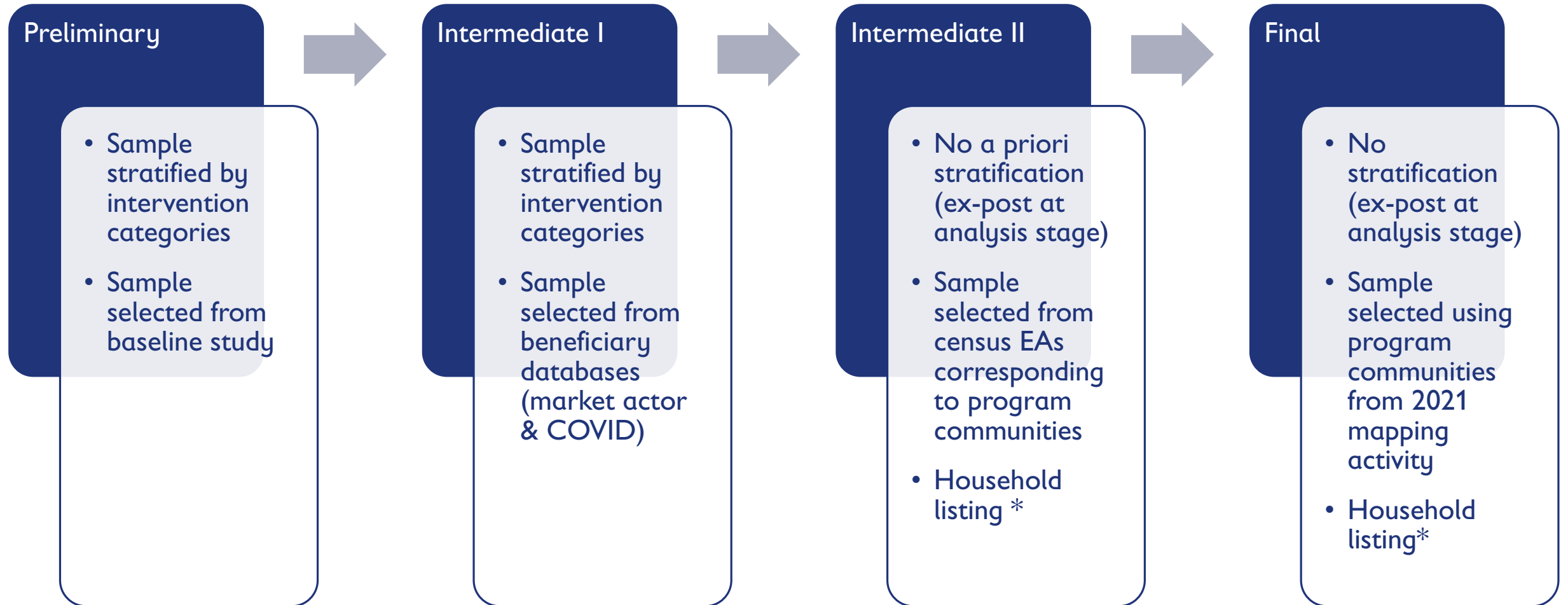
Sample Design Challenges

	Challenge/Issue	Impact	Adaptive Response
Baseline Survey (Nov-Dec 2020)	<p>1) Lack of overlap of baseline study sample with RRA areas (expansion of program into additional LGAs)</p> <p>2) Operational difficulty locating households using BL data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of free-field to input addresses• Likelihood of households moving	Baseline sample could not serve as basis for RMS sampling frame	Review beneficiary databases as alternative sampling frame
Beneficiary databases	<p>1) Incomplete information in beneficiary databases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incomplete geographic/contact information to locate beneficiaries <p>2) Insufficient variability to stratify by intervention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Insufficient variability in types/number of market actor services• Most areas received COVID assistance	<p>Inability to draw sample from beneficiary databases</p> <p>Stratification of sample by intervention not appropriate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consider using census data as sampling frame• Utilize unstratified design• Perform ex-post stratification (analysis phase)

Sample Design Challenges (cont'd.)

	Challenge/Issue	Impact	Adaptive Response
Census data (2006)	Outdated information <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Many RRA communities could not be matched to EAs	Census EAs cannot serve as clusters for 1 st stage sample selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Utilize 2021 mapping activity to select clusters
Mapping Activity (2021)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) PPS based on number of registrants not total size of community2) Number of registrants is not an ideal proxy for number of households<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mixed bag of farmer households, MSMEs and agribusinesses• Possible to have multiple registrants from same household• Registration was not always an exhaustive census of eligible participants	<p>Sample biased towards communities more stable areas with thriving or recovering markets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not representative of the overall population...but representative of the RRA MSD approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Utilize program communities as clusters• Select communities using PPS based on # of registrants• Perform household listing in sampled clusters

Sample Design Summary



*Information collected during listing exercise will be used to identify households likely to be RRA participants – i.e., those participating in targeted value chains, operating MSMEs/agri business, and/or receiving COVID-19 assistance.



Qualitative Methodology

- Purposive sampling strategy
 - 12 community sites drawn from household survey clusters
 - Different set of study participants from quant survey to avoid respondent fatigue
- Site selection criteria:
 - Mix of RRA interventions: MSD, COVID-19, peacebuilding / conflict sensitivity
 - Rural / urban setting
 - Displacement context
 - Access, security, feasibility
 - Market-systems actors at the associated LGA level
- Separate male and female FGDs (alternating rounds; 6 sites in each round)
- KIIs conducted at the community and systems levels



INITIAL ASSESSMENT - OVERVIEW AND FINDINGS

Initial Qualitative Assessment: Overview

- Develop an appropriate targeting plan for subsequent components of the study
 - Better understand the overall RRA programmatic strategy and MRM system
 - Key part of the assessment was to capture the dynamics of displacement and context
- The assessment examined the experience of participants over the past 2-3 years and the time period associated with displacement

IA Sampling and Site Selection Criteria

- Two LGAs in each of the four BAY-G states selected based on:
 - RRA activity type / intervention mix
 - Displacement context (e.g., IDPs, host communities)
 - Security, access, and feasibility
- Qualitative data collected:
 - Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), and
 - Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)

IA Site Selection

- Focus Group Discussion: 16 total; 4 in each state with 2 per LGA
 - Types: gender disaggregated FGDs, ~8 participants, a mix of host community members and IDPs
- IDPs Key Informant Interviews: 28 total, 7 per state
 - Types: institutional, community, internally displaced persons (IDPs)

State	LGA	Community
Adamawa	Yola North	Jambutu
	Yola South	Yolde Pate
Borno	Biu	Biu town
	Kwaya Kusar	Kwaya Kusar town
Gombe	Akko	Kumo
	Gombe	Bolari
Yobe	Damaturu	Mai Sandari, and Gwange
	Potiskum	Dogon Zare

Initial Assessment: Findings by Thematic Area

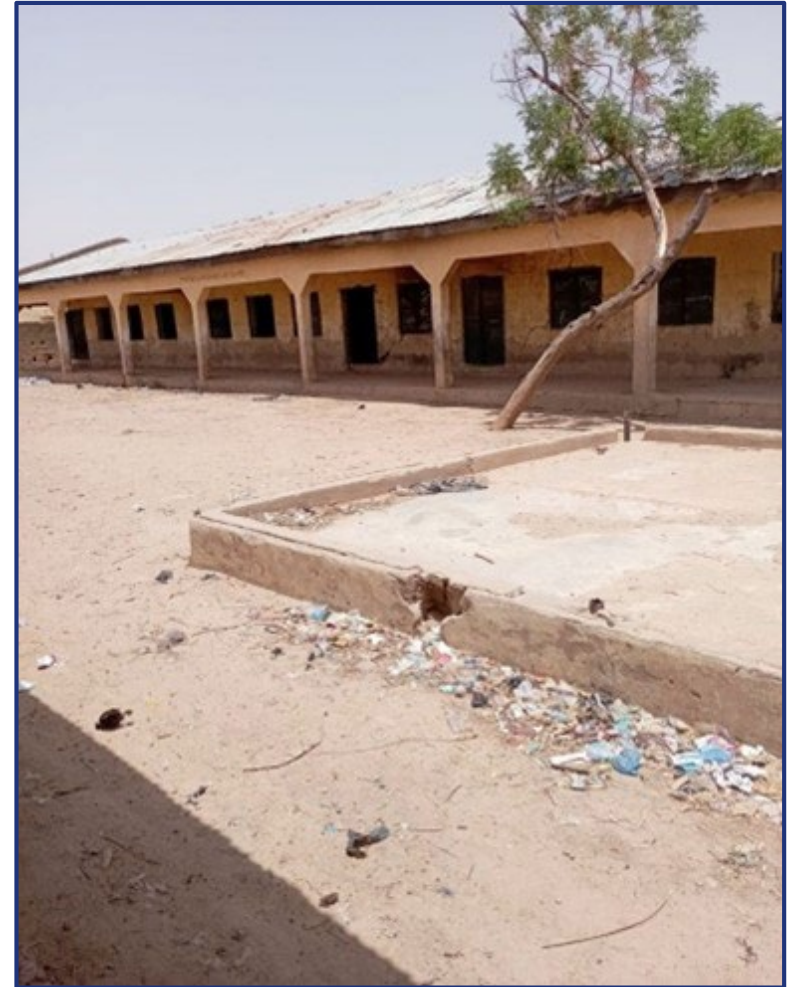
1. Shocks and Stresses
2. Food Insecurity Impacts
3. Livelihoods
4. Influx of IDPs: Context of Displacement
5. Household and Community Response to Conflict and Food Insecurity
6. RRA Interventions and Impacts

Discussion Questions

- What questions do you have from the IA findings? Did any of the findings surprise you? Why or why not?
- What is your assessment of the validity of the findings?
- What is missing from the findings that should be investigated in the RMS and/or iterative qualitative inquiry?

IA Findings: Shocks and Stresses

- Conflict
 - Boko Haram Insurgency (most active 2012-2017)
 - Access to farmland constrained
 - Transportation reduced
 - Loss of livelihoods, school closures, access to health facilities reduced, markets closed
 - Displacement; men first, followed by women and children (or children first with warning)
 - Persistent trauma, fear and mistrust



Primary school converted to shelter for IDPs

IA Findings: Shocks and Stresses

- Conflict (cont'd.)
 - Rise of Youth Gangs
 - Youth unemployment led to increase in crime
 - Herder/farmer conflict
 - Farms encroaching on cattle routes and increased competition for land
 - Herders trying to discourage large-scale farming

“We have nowhere else to take our cattle for grazing” (Adamawa, FGD).

IA Findings: Shocks and Stresses (cont'd.)

- COVID-19
 - Shut down of markets due to lockdowns
 - Food and input access problems
 - Businesses closed
 - Prices increased
- Water stress or shortages
- Climate shocks (flooding)
- Fertilizer price increases due to the Ukraine crises
- Military restrictions on movement of urea
- Fuel price increases and shortages, limiting transport and mobility



Borehole in Yola South

IA Findings: Food Insecurity Impact

- Reduced availability of food due to market inaccessibility
- Reduced access to farmland for growing crops
- Reduced access to inputs for growing crops
- Increase in food prices due to conflict & COVID-related shocks

IA Findings: Livelihoods

- Farming as a livelihood strategy more constrained due to lack of land and inputs
- Shift away from collective farming due to influx of IDPs and breakdown of trust
- Trend toward larger-scale market-based farming
 - Shift from subsistence to larger-scale farming for some farmers
 - Growing crops in both the wet and the dry season
- Widespread reliance on unskilled day labor
- Income diversification



Firewood

IA Findings: Influx of IDPs

- Competition for resources
 - IDPs in host communities competing for land, water, food, and jobs
 - Less competition with IDPs when they are in camps
- Introduction to new farming practices
 - IDPs influencing host communities to grow different crops (e.g., cabbage, vegetable crops)
 - IDPs learning to grow local crops (e.g., rice, sugar cane and beans)

“We consider IDPs a blessing because through them our community witness tremendous improvement, that is why they are well accommodated and integrated without rancor. We even intermarry” (Gombe, KI).

IA Findings: Influx of IDPs

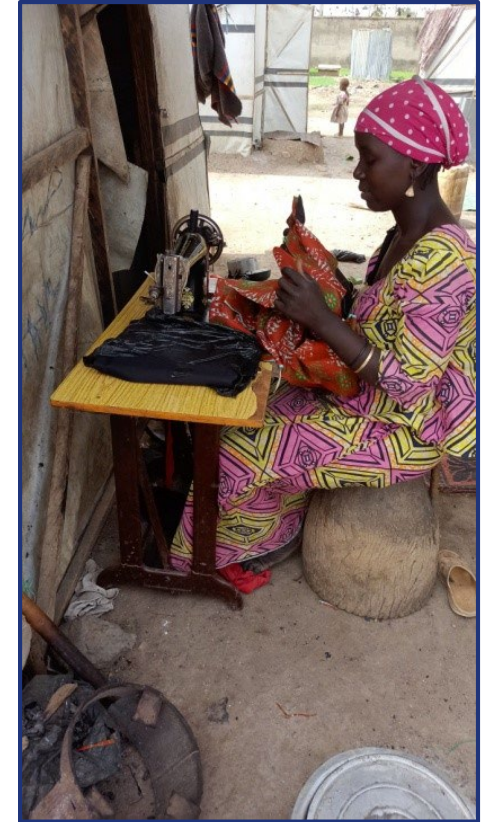
- Mistrust & stigma
 - Some mistrust of IDPs by host community (need for vetting fear of possible association with Boko Haram)
 - Stigma associated with being identified and as an IDP



IDP rented apartment in Bolari

IA Findings: Household and Community Response to Conflict and Food Insecurity

- Formed vigilante groups to address violence from youth gangs and herder/farmer conflict and provide surveillance for government security forces
- Reduced food consumption, some providing meals only for children
- Shared food and non-food items
- Saved seeds and produce for next season, sold when prices are high
- Diversified livelihoods into non-farming activities
- Relied on formal and informal channels to obtain price and security information
- Changed perception of gendered work and increased equity in land access



IDP woman sewing clothes

“All work is important” (Gombe, FGD).

“Not only men can farm” (Adamawa, FGD).

IA Findings: RRA Interventions

- Market Systems Development
 - Strengthening seed and input supply system
 - Improving supply chain management
 - Grain aggregation and trade, food processing, producer organizations
 - Improving access to financial and business services
 - Inclusion of youth and women's economic empowerment
 - Strengthening microenterprises
 - Strengthening savings groups
 - Enhancing livestock and poultry production



Skill acquisition center in Kwaya Kusar

“In the past 2 to 3 years, both IDPs and the host community have formed different groups where they save and access loans when they need them.”

IA Findings: RRA Interventions (cont'd.)

- Peacebuilding & Conflict Mitigation
 - Works with partners and communities to understand and address conflict dynamics
 - Know the type of intervention that is most appropriate for the community
 - Making sure that interventions do not exacerbate the conflict
- Humanitarian (COVID) Assistance
 - Cash transfers



Suggestion box in Yola South

IA Findings: Impact of RRA Interventions

- Improved access to inputs
 - Program participants stated that they benefited from gaining access to improved seed and fertilizer and training on good agricultural practices
 - Increase in yields attributed to these practices
- Introduction to improved farming techniques
 - Better-methods of dry-season farming
 - Improved use of inputs
 - Different scales of farming: micro-gardening and “large-scale” / improved farming

IA Findings: Impact of RRA Interventions (cont'd.)

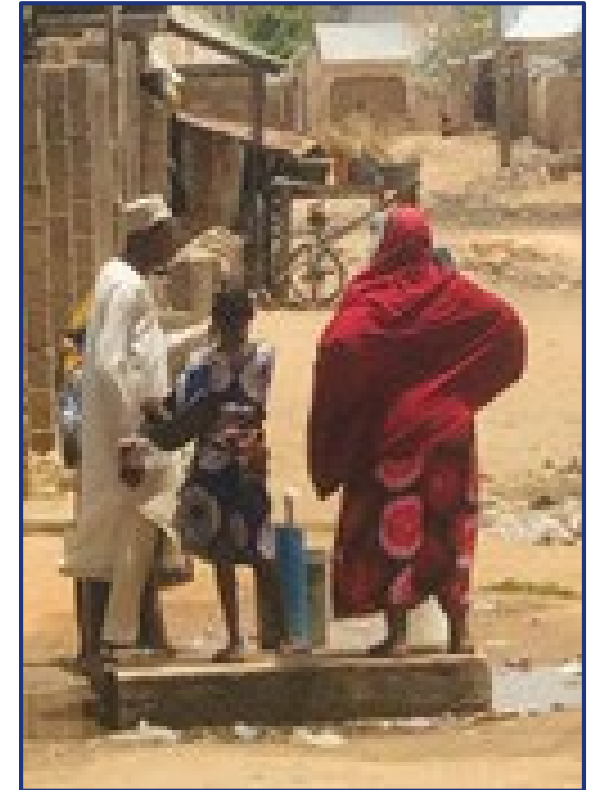
- Linkages with financial institutions
 - Banks will now work with local organizations and households because of their connection to RRA
 - RRA supported savings groups and provided financial literacy training
 - Skepticism around insurance
 - Diversification of livelihoods
 - Many households now have more than one income stream or source of livelihood because of the RRA work
 - Access to information
 - Targeted weather reports to farmers through extension agents
 - Security updates through immigration office, RRA, informal networks
- “People are now seeing opportunities...producing their own products with loans from VSLAs” (Gombe, KI).*
- “IDPs are saving money in preparation for shocks” (Borno, KI).*

IA Findings: Impact of RRA Interventions (cont'd.)

- Improved ability to cope with shocks
 - Cash transfers helped households to purchase farm inputs, start or expand businesses, pay school fees, improve nutrition, and “boost their confidence” (Gombe, KI)
- Women’s empowerment
 - Women acquired skills from interventions
 - COVID-19 relief fund enabled women to buy and rear livestock and start small businesses

IA Findings: Impact of RRA Interventions (cont'd.)

- Influence of personal connections on transparency and targeting of unconditional cash transfers
- Perceptions of exclusion
 - Some communities felt slighted because there were not enough extension workers to cover all wards for the RRA interventions
- Tension between IDPs and hosts (some cases)
- Question of longer-term impact: duration, scale



Borehole in Jambutu

“When the farmers see international logos..., they think they have money, ‘freebies’” (Gombe, KI).

Initial Assessment: Conclusions

- RRA interventions are helping to strengthen resilience capacities of households, communities and systems to deal with conflict shocks and drivers of food insecurity
- Push and pull interventions are helping farmers improve their farming with better knowledge of improved practices, access to inputs and access to markets
- RRA is also helping to diversify income sources so that food security is enhanced
- RRA short-term cash transfers to address COVID-19 impacts has created new opportunities to expand business opportunities and increase production
- RRA's focus on conflict mitigation will be critical going forward given how significant conflict is in this environment and its impact on resilience capacities

Initial Assessment: Implications

- Need a better understanding of the dynamic relationship between IDPs and host communities and how this relationship affects resilience of households and market systems
- The social and human capital of IDP households will influence the opportunities of these households to be resilient even though they are displaced
- Given the competition for land, water and food and employment, interventions must take this dynamic into account at all stages of assessment and implementation
- Increasing competition for limited resources and conflict may threaten the long-term viability of livelihoods
- It will be important to document effective conflict mediation approaches and how these are integrated with market-systems and livelihood interventions

DISCUSSION / Q&A

Discussion Questions

- What questions do you have from the IA findings? Did any of the findings surprise you? Why or why not?
- What is your assessment of the validity of the findings?
- What is missing from the findings that should be investigated in the RMS and/or iterative qualitative inquiry?



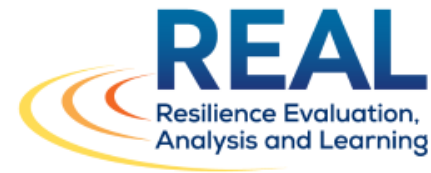
NEXT STEPS

Next Steps

1. Refine RMS Quantitative and Qualitative Tools based on IA findings and Stakeholder Workshop discussion
2. Conduct RMS Training: August 1-13 (listing underway)
3. Perform RMS Data Collection: Aug 14-Sep 2
4. Analysis of RMS Data: September
5. Prepare for iterative Qualitative Inquiry and RMS round 2

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

Mark Langworthy	markl@tangointernational.com
Tim Frankenberger	tim@tangointernational.com
Karyn Fox	kfox@tangointernational.com
Gheda Temsah	gtemsah@tangointernational.com
Stephanie Martin	slmartinak@gmail.com



Rural Resilience
Activity



This presentation is made possible by the generous support and contribution of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents of the materials produced through the REAL Award do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.