



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Nigeria Country Brief October 2021



## Operational Context

Nigeria, a federal constitutional republic with over 500 ethnic groups, is the most populous country in Africa and the seventh most populated country in the world. Conflict remains the main driving factor of instability in northeast Nigeria. In May 2013, the Government declared a state of emergency in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States of northeast Nigeria.

UNHCR reports over three million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Nigeria, the majority of them in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States. The October 2021 Cadre Harmonisé found 2.4 million people in northeast Nigeria require food assistance (IPC/CH Phase 3 and 4) during the current period (September-December 2021) and 3.5 million people will require emergency food assistance between June-September 2022.

WFP operations focus on crisis response to prevent further deterioration of food and nutrition security, reduce malnutrition, and minimize gender inequalities. The spread of COVID-19 in the country has imposed challenges for WFP food assistance operations, including accessing urban populations in need, and restrictions on movement of WFP and cooperating partner staff, transporters, and financial service providers. WFP has been present in Nigeria since 2016.



Population: **211.4 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **161 out of 189**

Economy: **Lower middle income**

Northeast: **320,000** children aged 6-59 months with SAM and **515,000** with MAM (HRP 2021)

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**Photo credit:** Siegfried Modola/WFP/Arete

**Caption:** Kummima Dansuli, 30, shares a plate of *tuwo*, a Nigerian dish made from rice flour, that she prepared for her family in Anka IDP camp of Zamfara State.

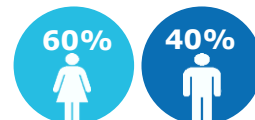
## In Numbers

**13,618 mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 9.22 m** cash-based transfers made

**USD 192 m** six-month net funding requirement (November 2021 to April 2022)

**1.6 million people assisted** in October 2021



## Operational Update

Thanks to better harvests and famine prevention activities supporting the most at-risk households, food security outcomes have improved in the northeast. The most recent [Cadre Harmonisé analysis](#) published in October finds that **2.4 million people face crisis or higher levels of food insecurity**, a decline of 700,000 people since last year's post-harvest period.

WFP remains committed to leaving no one behind, especially people in hard-to-reach areas of the northeast States of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe that receive little or no humanitarian assistance. In October, **WFP reached 1,604,014 people** in need, including 22,305 newly arrived internally displaced persons (IDPs).

**Saving lives**, WFP distributed 13,618 mt of mostly locally grown food to 1.2 million people. Using e-vouchers, prepaid cards, bank cards and mobile money, WFP completed cash-based transfers of USD 9.2 million to 583,908 people, enabling households to buy life-saving food to sustain their families.

WFP **emergency nutrition support** assisted 123,630 children aged 6-23 months and 85,363 pregnant and lactating women and girls. Another 11,990 children aged 6-59 months received specialised nutritious foods to address moderate acute malnutrition. Under WFP's **multi-sectoral malnutrition prevention** activity, 5,925 children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls received USD 100,868 in life-changing cash support.

Through **support for livelihoods** in Tagali/Sugum of Bade local government area (LGA), the Government of Yobe State has allocated 100 hectares of land and WFP has established an irrigation system supporting 1,000 smallholder farmers (34 women headed households and 100 male headed households). The irrigation system enables maize production in both wet and dry seasons and is used for the production of vegetables, including roselle, sorrel, amaranth, onion and pepper.

In Mafa LGA of Borno State, WFP is working with local actors to **increase agricultural yields** through training of 241 people (146 women and 95 men) in integrated pest management, post-harvest management and good agronomic practices for dry season vegetable production.

WFP **support for hydroponics** helped 78 households with limited access to grazing land for their animals to produce 8,078 kg of fresh fodder, enough to feed six sheep or goats for one month.

## Country Strategic Plan (2019-2022)

| 2021 Total Requirements (USD) | 2021 Available contributions (USD) | Six-month net funding requirement (USD) |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>471 m</b>                  | <b>324 m</b>                       | <b>192 m*</b>                           |

\* Six-month net funding requirement as of 18 October 2021.

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Internally displaced persons, returnees, refugees, and local communities affected by crisis in Nigeria are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of shocks

**Focus area:** Crisis response

#### Activities:

- Provide unconditional food assistance and income-generating activities to food-insecure internally displaced persons, returnees, refugees, and host communities affected by crises (URT: unconditional resource transfer).
- Provide nutrition prevention and treatment packages to children 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating women, and girls, other nutritionally vulnerable populations, and persons with caring responsibilities (NPA: malnutrition prevention).

### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Nutritionally vulnerable people in chronically food insecure areas have enhanced nutritional status in line with the achievement of national and global targets by 2025

**Focus area:** Resilience building

#### Activities:

- Support improving the nutrition status of children, pregnant and lactating women and girls, adolescents and other nutritionally vulnerable groups (including people living with HIV) through an integrated malnutrition prevention package, including access to nutritious food and quality care, social and behavioural change communication and capacity strengthening (NPA: malnutrition prevention).

### Strategic Result 3: Smallholders productivity and incomes

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Vulnerable populations in targeted areas become more resilient to shocks and are able to meet their basic food needs throughout the year.

**Focus area:** Resilience building

#### Activities:

- Provide conditional transfers to food-insecure persons, including women, young people, and smallholders (ACL: asset creation and livelihood support).

### Strategic Result 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Federal, state, and local actors have strengthened capacity to manage food security and nutrition programmes in line with national targets in the short, medium, and long term.

**Focus area:** Root causes

#### Activities:

- Support the technical capacity of federal, state, and local actors in information management systems, vulnerability assessment and mapping, monitoring and evaluation, safety net management, food technology and fortification, supply chains, nutrition and emergency preparedness and response, integrating gender. (CSI: institutional capacity strengthening).

### Strategic Result 6: Policies to support sustainable development are coherent

**Strategic Outcome 5:** Government and partner efforts to achieve Zero Hunger by 2030 are supported by effective and coherent policy frameworks

**Focus area:** Root causes

#### Activities:

- Support the Zero Hunger Forum and food and nutrition security coordination and advocacy in line with the recommendations of the zero-hunger strategic review (CSI: institutional capacity strengthening).

**Strategic Result 8:** Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 6:** Humanitarian community is enabled to reach and operate in areas of humanitarian crisis throughout the year

**Focus area:** Crisis response

#### Activities:

- Provide common emergency telecommunications services to government, United Nations and NGO partners to facilitate effective field operations and provide for staff security (CPA: service provision and platforms).
- Provide common logistic services to government, United Nations, and non-governmental partners to facilitate effective field operations (CPA: service provision and platforms).
- Provide humanitarian air services to all partners until appropriate alternatives are available. (CPA: service provision and platforms).

## Assessments

The October Cadre Harmonisé analysis workshop led by the Government's National Programme for Food Security relied strongly on WFP's essential needs and nutrition assessment data. The workshop concluded that 2.4 million people in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States are in food insecurity Phase 3 and above (crisis) during the September to December 2021 period, and this number may rise to 3.5 million people in the June to August 2022 lean season if no humanitarian support is provided. These estimates indicate that food security has improved compared to the 2019 and 2020 lean seasons, a change mainly attribute to the good harvest.

In contrast to improving year-to-year conditions observed for the northeast, food security in other parts of Nigeria is getting worse, exacerbated by economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic and rising food prices. Currently, 12.9 million people countrywide face crisis or higher levels of food insecurity through December. The northwest and northcentral states of Katsina, Kaduna and Sokoto each have over 800,000 people in crisis or emergency food insecurity between October and the end 2021, and 2.4 million people in Lagos State face crisis or emergency food insecurity for the same period. Between June and August 2022, 18 million people across Nigeria are projected to be in IPC/CH Phase 3-5.

WFP cooperating partner Intersos conducted risk assessments on protection, gender and accountability to affected populations in Bama, Banki and Damasak of Borno State. In addition to examining the protection concerns of vulnerable people, the assessments explored gender dynamics and the different needs and vulnerabilities of women, men, girls and boys. Intersos also looked at possible changes in gender roles and relations arising from WFP interventions, and sought to identify any negative impacts on the context, divisions, social tensions or frequency of violence in communities assisted by WFP.

## Challenges

Access challenges continued to hamper delivery of food assistance. Without timely military escorts required by the Government to accompany humanitarian cargo, WFP was unable to reach some of the 11 percent of households not served in October. In Ngala, 73 percent, and in Nganzai, 43 percent of planned households received their in-kind food and cash-based transfer entitlements. Distribution in Magumeri was halted due to late arrival of food and cancelled in Kaga because of scarcity of funds to purchase pre-positioned GCMF stock. Nearly 5,000 beneficiaries in Yobe were blocked from redeeming e-vouchers due to technical errors. WFP is investigating the cause of the errors.

## Donors in 2021

Canada, European Commission, France, Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea, the Government of Nigeria, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States and private donors.