



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Nigeria Country Brief May 2022



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.

UNHCR reports over three million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Nigeria, the majority of them in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States. The March 2022 Cadre Harmonisé found that 4.1 million people in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States of northeast Nigeria will face crisis or emergency levels of food insecurity in the 2022 lean season.

WFP operations focus on crisis response to prevent further deterioration of food and nutrition security, reduce malnutrition, and minimize gender inequality. WFP has been present in Nigeria since 2016.



Population: **216.7 million**

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

Economy: **Lower middle income**

Northeast: **613,571** children aged 6-59 months with SAM and **1,129,280** with MAM (IPC Analysis, December 2021)

Contact: Patrina Pink <patrina.pink@wfp.org>

Country Director, a.i.: Ronald Sibanda

www.wfp.org/countries/nigeria

Photo: WFP/Damilola Onafuwa

Caption: Two men load corn for a food assistance recipient following redemption of his WFP value voucher at Bama LGA in Borno State on 28 April 2022.

In Numbers

6,024 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 4.27 m in cash-based transfers made

USD 172 m six-month net funding requirement (June 2022 to November 2022)

679,117 people assisted in May 2022



Operational Update

High inflation across Nigeria, especially impacting food prices, has negatively affected household consumption, with 14.5 million people needing urgent food and livelihood support from March to May 2022, according to the latest [Cadre Harmonisé](#). Among northeast households surveyed by WFP's [Essential Needs Assessment](#), 55 percent reported not having enough food. The Government's [Humanitarian Situation Monitoring Task Force](#) reports that among households newly arrived from areas inaccessible to humanitarian actors, 77 percent experienced crisis- or emergency-level food deprivation and hunger.

Nigeria has experienced one of West Africa's most severe currency devaluations in recent years. Bureau de change (BCD) exchange rates of Nigeria's naira (NGN) for US dollars have nearly halved since 2018.

Amid these economic challenges and worsening food security, WFP continued to provide lifesaving food, nutrition and livelihood support interventions to vulnerable people of the northeast states of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe, while continuing pilot support to Katsina and Zamfara in the northwest.

Conflict has affected industry, infrastructure and displaced more than [2.2 million people](#) in the northeast, and more recently, intracommunal clashes and crime have triggered displacement of [nearly 1 million people](#) across the northwest and northcentral zones, worsening food security and causing grave protection challenges to women and children.

WFP reached 679,117 people in May, 89 percent of plan and 50,602 more than April. WFP assistance included 5,232 new arrivals fleeing areas of Borno State that are hard-to-reach for humanitarian actors. WFP plans to continue scaling up assistance leading into the forthcoming July-August lean season.

WFP allocated USD 4.27 million in electronic vouchers to 350,904 individuals via WFP-vetted vendors. In locations where criteria for cash transfers could not be met, WFP distributed 6,024 mt of domestically sourced produce, vegetable oil and salt, 910 mt more than April, an increase of 18 percent.

WFP nutrition support for pregnant and lactating women and children aged 6-59 months experiencing or at risk of malnutrition reached 133,917 children, caretakers and women with 691 mt of specialized nutritious food. WFP began the gradual resumption of seasonal livelihoods support in May, with plans to reach 14,304 people with asset creation and livelihoods activities by end June.

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2022)

2022 Total Requirements (USD)	2022 Available contributions (USD)	Six-month net funding requirement (USD)
406 m	208 m	172 m

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

WFP's [May 2022 Lean Season Food Security Outlook](#) finds more households than last year will be food deprived in the northeast states of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa during the May to August lean season. The report further finds that at the start of the 2022 lean season over 40 percent of households have inadequate food consumption; a 10 percent increase compared to May 2021.

Even before May, the number of households experiencing inadequate food consumption was already reaching last year's peak. Food insecurity during the lean season typically peaks in August as food stocks from the previous growing season are depleted and households await the harvest of staple foods and cash crops cultivated since May.

The report also applied the multi-dimensional deprivation index (MDDI) to measure non-monetary poverty at household level across six essential needs dimensions: food, health, education, shelter, WASH and safety. Each dimension carries an equal weight in the final index. Among households surveyed, 59 percent were found to be multidimensionally deprived, scoring above the MDDI poverty threshold. Among these, 28 percent were identified as moderately deprived and 31 percent severely deprived.

Challenges

Initiation of WFP seasonal livelihoods support was slowed due to funding challenges. With available resources, WFP will support 8,195 people at Mafa local government area (LGA) of Borno State and 6,109 people in Damaturu LGA of Yobe State. Funding scarcity has substantially reduced the number of LGAs receiving this life-changing support.

Food assistance recipients expressed concern about lack of product diversity at food retail outlets receiving e-vouchers in Geidam and Gujba LGAs of Borno State and Yunusari LGA of Yobe State. WFP is engaging with vendors to broaden the selection available.

In Magumeri LGA, WFP received reports of an attack and confiscation of food by criminals from beneficiaries returning home from a WFP food distribution. The attack underscores the high protection risks still faced by households and may also indicate how increasing economic hardship contributes to crime and risks faced by affected communities.

Donors in 2022

Canada, European Union, France, Germany, Japan, Korea (Republic of), the Government of Nigeria, Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF, United Kingdom, United States and private donors.