Highlights

- During the month of December WFP, both directly and through partnerships, provided food and nutrition assistance to 1.23 million people (98 percent of the plan) through in-kind distributions (77 percent of total food intervention) and cash-based transfers (23 percent) in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States.

- According to the December Emergency Food Security Assessment, conducted by WFP and other partners, overall, 34 percent of households across Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States are food insecure. This represents a 10 percent reduction in the prevalence of food insecurity compared to the last assessment in March 2017.

Displaced households and female-headed households are amongst the most food insecure households.

In Numbers

(Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States)

2.56 m people food insecure (IPC 3-5)
(October-December 2017)

3.68 m people projected to be food insecure
(IPC 3-5)
(June – August 2018)
(Cadre Harmonisé, October 2017)

560,000 children 6 to 59 months and
230,000 pregnant or lactating women
acutely malnourished

1.56 m people displaced
(IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix, December 2017)

People assisted in December 2017: 1,230,000*

- General Food Assistance: 1,197,000
- In-Kind Food Distributions: 907,000
- Cash Based Transfers: 290,000
- Nutrition Assistance: 246,000

*The total includes in-kind, CBT and standalone supplementary feeding beneficiaries.

Situation Update

- The security situation in Northeast Nigeria remains highly volatile. An escalation in the numbers of incidents related to armed group attacks has been reported since September last year, with an increase in the use of children as suicide bombers in 2017 compared to 2016.

- On 16 December, a convoy escorted by Nigerian military, including WFP-hired food trucks, was the subject of an attack by armed groups near Ngala, Dikwa Local government area, resulting in the death of four people. Two of the 25 WFP-contracted trucks involved in the incident were affected carrying 93 mt of food commodities. WFP is discussing with relevant authorities the establishment of humanitarian convoys.

- The recent WFP/FEWS NET market assessment indicates that most markets in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States are functioning well. However, markets in partially accessible locations such as Gwoza, Ngala, Bama, Konduga, Gulak and Michika remain fragile and are characterized by limited availability of key staple food commodities.

- On 5 December WFP carried out a rapid food security and livelihood assessment in Mobbar LGA. The key findings indicate that the food security situation remains difficult, but not alarming, therefore targeted food assistance should be implemented. A gradual shift to cash-based assistance was deemed feasible by the report which found the main roads axis viable to commercial trucks.

- Oxfam and WFP conducted in early December an Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) in Kala Balge LGA, which due to insecurity could not be covered earlier. The findings reveal a critical food security situation amongst new arrivals in Rann. Although access to food has slightly improved compared to last year, due to humanitarian assistance and the recent harvest of food commodities, the level of food availability is still below pre-crisis level. The report recommendations include a gradual transition to early recovery or livelihood support for host populations who have access to land.

- The December IOM-DTM report (Rounds XX) indicates a marginal decrease (less than 1 percent) in the number of individuals displaced in Nigeria’s northeast, while food assistance remains a priority need for 69 per cent of people displaced.

- Clashes between nomadic Fulani herdsmen and farming communities have been on the rise in the north-central and north-east regions, including Adamawa state. According to OCHA more than 40,000 people have been displaced, and at least 30 people have been killed following clashes that erupted on 01 January between farmers and herdsmen in south-eastern Benue State. State authorities have established camps to accommodate the displaced population.

- The number of refugees fleeing English-speaking areas of Cameroon for Nigeria is on the rise, with women and children comprising 80 percent of the approximately 10,000 people registered so far, in eastern Nigeria’s Cross River state, by UNHCR.

- WFP, UNHCR and partners have elaborated a contingency plan to respond to the potential needs of
40,000 people over a three-month period should the situation escalate. A technical coordination meeting was held with government authorities in Cross-River state on 18 December to take stock on the situation, coordinate activities and discuss future plans.

**WFP response**
- A significant number of national and international NGOs interested in partnering with WFP in 2018 submitted proposals at the beginning of the month. After due revision, 18 partners (9 national and 9 international) were selected for further finalization of partnership agreements.

**Food and Nutrition Assistance**
- During the month of December, across Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States, WFP reached 1.23 million people with food and nutrition assistance.
- 907,000 beneficiaries (101 percent of the plan) of them internally displaced in camps or in host communities – benefited from food distributions, while in areas with functioning markets 290,000 people (91 percent of the plan) were assisted with cash or vouchers.
- WFP provided preventative nutrition assistance to 132,000 children 6 to 23 months (85 percent of planned) and 114,000 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) (89 percent of planned). These vulnerable children and women received specialised nutritious foods, screening for malnutrition, and health, nutrition and WASH messages through WFP’s blanket supplementary feeding programme activities.
- 15,500 mt of mixed food commodities were dispatched and USD 3.1 million were disbursed.
- In December, as part of OCHA-led Rapid Responses Mechanism (RRM) alerts, a total of 8,950 new IDPs were assisted by WFP and partners (5,000 in konduga LGA, 2,280 Nganzai LGA, 270 in Bama LGA; and 1,400 in Gwoza LGA).
- In January, WFP will target 1.28 million people in Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa States with food and cash assistance, and 282,000 children and PLW with nutrition assistance.

**Supply Chain**
- Challenges persisted during the month for the timely delivery of internationally procured foods, in particular Super Cereal and salt. The delays were mainly due to quality issues of Super Cereal encountered at origin coupled with the on-going access issues at Lagos Port. As a mitigating measure WFP launched tenders for the local procurement of salt, and quality issues of Super Cereal are being addressed.
- Due to the sudden price hike for beans procured locally, the planned deliveries were delayed. Spot tenders were launched to better reflect market rates.
- The shortfalls of salt, beans and Super Cereal affected the December food basket. In Borno and Yobe States 10,000 beneficiaries did not receive beans, salt was not distributed to 165,000 people, and 600,000 beneficiaries were not assisted with Super Cereal.

**Sectors and Common Services**

### Food Security Sector (FSS)
- In December, approximately 4 million unique individuals were supported by 61 FSS partners with food security interventions - 2 million individuals with Food Assistance (in-kind and cash based transfers) and 2 million people with Agricultural inputs and Livelihood activities.

### Logistics Sector
- In December, the Logistics Sector facilitated the storage of 2,200 m3 (600 mt) of humanitarian relief items in Maiduguri, Monguno and Banki on behalf of 18 organisations.
- In response to a deteriorated security situation on the Dikwa-Ngala road, the Logistics Sector is strengthening the cooperation and engagement between humanitarian actors and military counterparts, to ensure timely availability of information and clarifications on events occurring on the ground.

### Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS)
- As part of the Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) roll-out in Maiduguri, the ETS has set the tracking of staff and vehicles feature over VHF network to increases the safety of humanitarians. The ETS will install displays at the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) Security Information and Operations Centre (SIIOC) and at the Communications Centre (COMCEN) in Maiduguri to monitor movements.

### UN Humanitarian Air Service
- In December, UNHAS transported a total of 1,668 passengers via a fixed wing aircraft and 2,776 passengers via four helicopters.
- As a result of the Steering Committee held in December, UNHAS will introduce as of 1 April 2018, a partial cost recovery system for the fixed wing service between Abuja, Yola and Maiduguri in order to start addressing a more sustainable financing system for the service.

### Funding outlook
- The 12th budget revision for the Emergency Operation 200777 extends the project until June 2018 and outlines that during the lean season, 1.5 million people will be targeted with general food distributions, nutrition assistance and livelihood support.
- As of 7 January, the shortfall for Nigeria EMOP to cover activities until December 2018 is USD 199 million – with an average gross monthly requirement of USD 28m.

**WFP Nigeria Resourcing Situation (as of 7 January)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Requirements in 2018</th>
<th>6-month net funding requirements*</th>
<th>Shortfall (percent)*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMOP 200777 Emergency Operation (Jan 2015-Jun 2018) Nigeria component</td>
<td>USD 315 million</td>
<td>USD 33 million</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO 200834 UNHAS (Aug 2015-Jun 2018)</td>
<td>USD 29.6 million</td>
<td>USD 9.2 million</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO 201032 Logistics and ETS Sector (Nov 2014-Jun 2018)</td>
<td>USD 10.7** million</td>
<td>USD 239,000</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* January 2018 – June 2018
** ETS annual requirements amount to 6.7m while Log Sector requirements to 4 m

### Donors
(In alphabetical order): Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Korea, Lithuania, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, OPEC, Private Donors, Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF, United Kingdom, and United States of America.

### Contacts
Chiara Argenti, IM Officer chiara.argenti@wfp.org
Mishisalla Beyene, IM Officer mishisalla.beyene@wfp.org

For further information, visit WFP Nigeria webpage on http://www.wfp.org/countries/nigeria