



WFP Cote d'Ivoire Country Brief

May 2018

Operational Context

Cote d'Ivoire is a middle-income country with an estimated population in 2018 of 25.1 million. Since 2012, the country has witnessed positive political, economic and security developments, enabling most refugees and internally displaced persons to return to their areas of origin. Despite favourable trends in the educational, social and nutritional status of the population compared to the aftermath of the crisis, deep socio-economic inequalities still linger.

WFP has been present in Cote d'Ivoire since 1969, and has been providing support according to the national context. WFP operations are currently focused on development interventions to improve food security, reduce malnutrition, enhance education achievements and minimize gender inequalities. WFP activities are concentrated in northern and western rural areas which are particularly more vulnerable and food insecure.



Prevalence of food insecurity:
12.8 % of the population

Chronic malnutrition: **21.6 % of children aged 24-59 months**

2016 Gender Inequality Index:
151st out of 155 countries

2016 Human Development Index:
171st out of 188 countries

Main
Photo

Credit: Olivier Flament
Caption: Young girl drinking WFP's specialized nutritious food which help improve the nutritional intake of children.

In Numbers

507.87 mt of food assistance distributed in May 2018

20,100 returnees and vulnerable hosts registered to participate in livelihood activities from March to June 2018

US\$ 3.63 m six months (June-November 2018) net funding requirements

146,806 people assisted in May 2018

51%



49%



Operational Updates

- Although the number of returns has significantly decreased in 2018, WFP continues to support the voluntary repatriation of Ivorian refugees returning from neighbouring countries, in collaboration with UNHCR. A total of 421 returnees received food rations comprised of rice, pulses, vegetable oil and iodised salt upon arrival in May, to cover basic needs of a family of five for an initial period of three months.
- The agricultural needs of the 1,023 smallholder farmers mobilized around school canteens in northern Cote d'Ivoire were assessed to provide the appropriate second wave of support. Technical and nutrition interventions will be integrated, including community sensitization activities to encourage the participation of men; purchase and distribution of agricultural inputs and equipment; germination tests of market garden seeds; nutritional education sessions for women farmers, etc.
- The annual press conference of the UN Country Team in Cote d'Ivoire took place on 2 May, with the participation of all the heads of agencies and about twenty journalists. The purpose of this conference was to sensitize the media on the programmes and activities of the United Nations (UN) in Cote d'Ivoire, to communicate with one voice on the achievements and contributions of the UN in 2017 in the context of the implementation of the UNDAF or the *Cadre Programmatique Unique* (CPU). Moreover, this press conference served as a forum for WFP to discuss about our cooperation with the Government, the institutions, the local communities, the civil society and the private sector.
- Selected staff of WFP Cote d'Ivoire took part in the training organized by the Regional Bureau on food safety and quality. This training aimed to equip the staff of different units on the quality and safety of food, as WFP handles large quantities of food for its school meals, nutrition and resilience programmes. Similar trainings will be conducted for Cooperating Partners.

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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/cote-ivoire

WFP Country Strategy

Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
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Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018)

17.94 m	10.47 m	3.63 m
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Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Food insecure children in targeted areas have access to adequate safe and nutritious food all year-round
Focus area: Root causes

9.51 m	8.48 m	0.54 m
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Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: Children and Pregnant and Lactating Women and Girls (PLW/G) in vulnerable communities have improved nutritional status in line with national targets by 2020
Focus area: Root causes

1.88 m	0.44 m	1.21 m
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Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and incomes

Strategic Outcome 3: Food-insecure smallholders and communities in targeted areas have increased resilience to shocks and improved livelihoods to support food security and nutrition needs all year-round
Focus area: Resilience building

6.22 m	1.46 m	1.71 m
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Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities

Strategic Outcome 4: National institutions have strengthened capacities to develop and manage food security, nutrition and social protection policies and programmes in line with the national targets by 2020.
Focus area: Root causes

0.33 m	0.02 m	0.16 m
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WFP Country Activities

SO 1 1 – Provide daily nutritious school meals with a literacy component to children of school age in targeted public primary schools, with a focus on quarterly incentives (in-kind or cash-based) for girls in fifth and sixth grade to address disparities and encourage regular attendance and retention in school.

SO 2 2 – Provide nutritious food and support access to health services and nutrition education to pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLW/G) and children aged 6-23 months to prevent malnutrition.

SO 3 3 – Provide asset creation activities to food-insecure smallholder farmers, to strengthen resilience to shocks and enhance food security.
4 – Provide technical support to strengthen the production, management and marketing capacities of smallholder farmers and their organizations.
5 – Provide capacity strengthening on productive safety nets, climate change adaptation, early warning, and food systems to targeted populations.

SO 4 6 – Provide capacity strengthening to national partners on policy development, programme planning and management of food security and nutrition programmes, including school meals programmes, national nutrition programmes, purchase for progress, vulnerability analysis and emergency preparedness.

Monitoring

- WFP completed 26 monitoring visits in May to monitor school meals and FFA activities, and perform market analysis. This represents 23 percent of the monthly plan.
- This month was marked by the visit of the USDA delegation from 13 May to 18 May, to monitor and evaluate the progress of the Mc-Govern Dole school meals programme in Cote d'Ivoire. Through this quinquennial programme, WFP is engaged to support the Government in providing school meals to over 125,000 children per year from 2016 to 2020. Schools and warehouses were visited and the delegation interacted with the school canteens' managers, cooks, student-parent associations, local authorities and the WFP-supported farmer groups. These various exchanges and visit allowed the delegation to witness the progress of the project, and to make recommendations on the management of food and warehouses, food preparation, literacy activities, etc.

Challenges

- Funding constraints continue to hamper the country office's ability to implement activities at the planned scale, in particular nutrition activities targeting pregnant and lactating women and children aged 6-23 months. Securing additional funding is critical given the high level of chronic malnutrition in Cote d'Ivoire.
- Additional resources, amounting to USD 3.63 million, is urgently required to cover operational requirements during the lean season.

Story Worth Telling

YEO Nanfougognou is a 23-year-old mother living in Fapah, a village in northern Cote d'Ivoire, benefiting from WFP's technical support to women smallholder farmers around school canteens. Not only did this project allow her to improve the quality, quantity and diversity of her productions, but she was also able to acquire good nutritional practices, a new notion for this young woman. "With this training, we understood the importance of diversifying food, how children should eat, the importance of exclusive breastfeeding. This project also allowed us to know the importance of nutrition, especially for pregnant women." Finally, to the question "What has the project changed in your life?", she answers: "a better appreciation of my contribution to the community, thanks to my new knowledge and enhanced production", as she is able to contribute to the school retention of children by putting at the disposal of school canteens part of her food production.

Donors

United States, Multilateral, Private donors.

GENDER MARKER 2A 