



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Côte d'Ivoire Country Brief July 2019



Operational Context

With an estimated 25.1 million inhabitants (48.4 percent women), Côte d'Ivoire has enjoyed steady economic growth since the end of the 2010-2011 post-electoral crisis, restoring its middle-income status. However, this has not translated into inclusive socioeconomic development for most of the population. Poverty rates remain high, affecting 46 percent of the population, food security continues to be a challenge and the country suffers from the triple burden of malnutrition, represented by micronutrient deficiencies, undernutrition and overnutrition, with significant regional disparities. WFP is providing support in Côte d'Ivoire 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.

WFP has been present in Côte d'Ivoire since 1969.



Prevalence of food insecurity: **10.8 % of the population**

2017 Human Development Index: **170 out of 189 countries**

2017 Gender Inequality Index: **155 out of 160 countries**

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

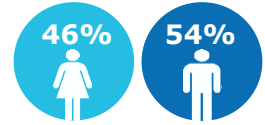
In Numbers

1.12 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 2,570 cash-based transfers made

US\$ 2.31 m six months (August 2019 - January 2020) net funding requirements

86 people assisted in July 2019



Operational Updates

- WFP has finalized the selection of the 20 new localities in northern Côte d'Ivoire which will be targeted as part of WFP's Smallholder Agriculture Market Support (SAMS) initiative. WFP will thus be increasing from 35 farmer groups (3,800 members) assisted to 55 farmer groups (5,900 members), empowering targeted smallholder farmers to improve their food production, food processing, post-harvest loss management and market access capacities, while improving their adoption of good nutrition and hygiene practices. The departments selected for this new phase of assistance will include Dikodougou, Ferkessedougou, Kong, Korhogo and Sinematiali, all in the Savanes District.
- Capacity strengthening and monitoring targeting the 35 smallholder farmer groups assisted since 2017/2018 is ongoing. In July, the focus was on training the members on technical itineraries of diverse food and vegetable crops, crop management and maintenance including phytosanitary treatments, filling of different technical documents. Sensitization of the members to increase the integration of the rural youth into their activities and groups is also ongoing in the 35 localities.
- While school canteens are closed for the summer holidays, WFP and partners are taking the time to carefully plan for the next academic year (2019-2020) and improve the implementation of the school feeding programme, in line with the recommendations of the current USDA-funded school feeding programme's mid-term evaluation. One of the activities involves strengthening the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system. In collaboration with the Government and NGO partners including the Directorate of School Canteens, the Directorate of Pedagogy and Continuing Education and AVSI Foundation, WFP finalized the review and validation of the new M&E support materials including data collection tools, progress report templates and the programme monitoring plan and strategy.

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Main photo: Credit: WFP/Marie Dasylyva

Caption: Children of WFP's beneficiary households, Man 2018

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

2019 Total Requirement (in USD)	2019 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Sixth Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
13.9 m	10.7 m	2.31 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Primary-school-age children and their households in food-insecure areas have access to adequate nutritious food all year

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Provide school meals, take-home rations complementary services to primary-school-age children during the school year and promote the purchase of locally produced food for school meals.

Strategic Outcome 2: Populations affected by shocks have access to food to cover their basic food and nutritional needs during and in the aftermath of shocks

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide an integrated assistance package to affected populations, including food assistance, SBCC and specialized nutritious food to children aged 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating women and girls and people living with HIV, to improve access to food and prevent malnutrition.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Vulnerable food-insecure populations in targeted areas – particularly children, women of child-bearing age and people living with HIV – have improved nutritional status by 2023

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Support the implementation of the national nutrition programme, with a focus on the development and implementation of a gender-responsive social behaviour change communication strategy; the implementation of the national strategy for the fortification of regularly consumed staples; enhancement of the primary education curriculum to include nutrition; and the generation of evidence on the activities in the national multisectoral nutrition plan.

Strategic Result 4: Sustainable food systems

Strategic Outcome 4: Targeted populations and communities have stronger livelihoods, are more resilient to climate and other shocks and benefit from more efficient and equitable value chains and sustainable food systems by 2023

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide an integrated and gender-transformative assistance package to smallholder farmers, especially women's farmer groups, comprising training on good agricultural practices, equipment and social behaviour change communication-related activities that place value on local agricultural potential, asset creation and targeted food assistance; and provide technical support for generating evidence to inform the scale-up of farmer groups' activities.

Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities

Strategic Outcome 5: National institutions have strengthened capacity to better target and manage food security, nutrition and social protection programmes by 2023

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Provide technical support to national partners in their efforts to address school feeding, food security, nutrition, social protection and emergency preparedness and response.

- The preparation for the kick-start of the new phase of food assistance for assets (FFA) activities targeting 5,000 beneficiaries (recent returnees and vulnerable host populations) is ongoing, with the contracting of partners, targeting of beneficiaries and localities, and needs assessment finalized.
- In July, WFP and partners have finalized the fourth review of the Sectorial Plan of Education-Training (PSE 2016-2025), focusing on the theme "The monitoring and evaluation system of the PSE: issues, constraints and challenges". Over 300 participants from the Government, NGOs, civil society of the education sector and financial partners including UN agencies, French Development Agency, World Bank, African Development Bank, African Union, European Union, TRECC and MCC were gathered. Recommendations out of this work session will guide and improve the monitoring, implementation and coordination of the PSE by stakeholders.

Challenges

- Although WFP was able to scale up to 55 smallholder farmer groups through new contributions received in 2019, this covers less than 25 percent of the planned objective for the first year of implementation of the Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2019-2023). An additional USD 1 million is urgently required for WFP to improve the local food production capacities of 150 new additional farmer groups around school canteens through nutrition-sensitive and gender transformative programmes. This is key in safeguarding the sustainability of the national school feeding programme in Cote d'Ivoire, and in improving the food, nutrition and income security of the most vulnerable rural households of Côte d'Ivoire. Of the 5,300 school canteens currently supported by the Government and WFP, less than 20 percent are regularly supplied by local communities, in line with the national sustainability strategy "one school, one canteen, one farmer group".
- As part of WFP food assistance for assets (FFA) programme targeting vulnerable returnees and host populations in western Côte d'Ivoire, the Country Office had to reduce the number of localities targeted by half compared to 2018 due to funding constraints. This risk exacerbates the vulnerability of these communities who are already coping with deteriorated access to land, economic opportunities and basic social services, coupled with high food insecurity as highlighted by the 2018 national food security analysis (SAVA). The region of Tonkpi for example where FFA activities are implemented has a prevalence as high as 38 percent.

Donors

USA, Private Donors and Multilateral