



WFP Côte d'Ivoire

Country Brief

January 2020

World Food Programme

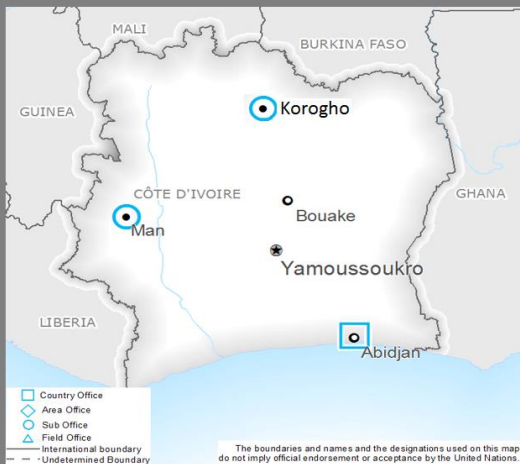
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

With an estimated 25.5 million inhabitants (48.4 percent women), Côte d'Ivoire maintained peace and a remarkable economic recovery over the past years. However, the approach of the 2020 presidential elections is challenging current stability and raising some uncertainty. Despite its remarkable growth rate, social inequalities persist. With almost half of the population living below the poverty line (46 percent), malnutrition and food security remain challenges, slowing down the progress towards Zero Hunger.

Present in Côte d'Ivoire since 1969, WFP has been providing support according to the national context. WFP's 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: **10.8 %** of the population

2018 Human Development Index: **165** out of 189 countries

2018 Gender Inequality Index: **157** out of 162 countries

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

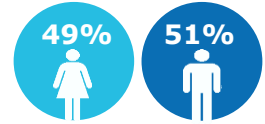
In Numbers

1,171 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 0 cash-based transfers made

US\$ 3.9 m six months (February 2020 – July 2020) net funding requirements

120,101 people assisted in January 2020



Operational Updates

- In January, nutritious hot school meals were provided to 119,952 schoolchildren. Meanwhile, take-home rice rations were distributed to 15,000 targeted girls in fifth and sixth grades to retain and encourage girls to complete the primary education cycle.
- Following an assessment mission in June 2019 targeting WFP-supported women's smallholder farmers, to determine their needs in literacy support, WFP launched a literacy pilot project in partnership with UNESCO and the Directorate of Literacy and Nonformal Education (DAENF) of the Ministry of Education. The objective of the project was to strengthen functional literacy skills of 300 women's smallholder farmers in northern Côte d'Ivoire. The official launch ceremony of the project and activities was organized on 21 January in Korhogo, gathering local authorities and United Nations (UN) agencies. Learning kits were distributed to targeted women representatives during the launch, including literacy manuals, pens, blackboards, notebooks, calculators and smartphones. The region of Poro in the North was selected for this pilot phase as it is not only one of the poorest, food insecure and malnourished, but it also records the lowest literacy levels.
- As part of the literacy pilot project in northern Côte d'Ivoire, WFP facilitated the training of 23 trainers from the ten localities targeted by the project. Literacy techniques were taught, including on digital literacy, which is expected to enable women to continue self-learning at home.
- The rainy season harvest of the targeted ten smallholder farmer groups under the Small Agricultural Market Support (SAMS) programme in northern Côte d'Ivoire ended in January. Overall, 143 mt of produce were harvested, including 86 mt of food crops and 56 mt of vegetables (of which 10 mt was intended for school canteens). In addition, inputs were distributed, while preparatory activities for the off-season campaign are ongoing among different farmer groups part of the programme. The first harvest season of the 13 newly targeted farmer groups in the North is expected to start in March 2020.
- In collaboration with UNHCR and the *Direction d'Aide et d'Assistance aux Réfugiés et Apatrides* (DAARA) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, WFP supported the voluntary repatriation of 149 Ivorian returnees (81 women and 68 men) coming from Guinea and Liberia. The returnees received in-kind food assistance for the initial three-month period, to cover their immediate needs.

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Main photo

Credit: WFP/Marie Dasyva

Caption: Women smallholder farmers of Kafiokahasoutenu, January 2020

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

2020 Total Requirement (in USD)	2020 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Sixth Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
15.6 m	12.5 m	3.9 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 2019 phase of the food assistance for assets programme (FFA), supporting asset creation and reintegration of returnees and vulnerable host populations, ended in December 2019. However, monitoring of assets created, including traditional poultry farms, and crop improvement is still ongoing. The modern poultry farming activities took off successfully, contributing to improved incomes and food security among targeted beneficiaries. Following the training on aquaculture farming practices, the beneficiaries of Gontepieu village had a successful harvest, with 100 kg of fish caught. A part was donated to the local school canteen, to diversify and enrich school children’s daily meals, while another part was sold to reinvest in the project.
- WFP supported the organization of an appropriation seminar on 30 and 31 January of the national strategy for women empowerment in Côte d’Ivoire. Led by the State Secretariat in charge of Women empowerment (*Secrétariat d’État Chargé de l’Autonomisation des Femmes* or SECAF), participants defined together the vision and activities of the strategy, in line with the Government’s priorities, in view to develop a working plan for the implementation of the strategy. The strategy aims to promote equal opportunities, equity and full participation of women in decision making in Cote d’Ivoire.
- On 29 and 30 January, WFP Côte d’Ivoire, and the Directorate of School Canteens (DCS) of the Ministry of Education of Côte d’Ivoire participated in the workshop dedicated to the development of a national school feeding model in Benin. Invited by the Regional Centre of Excellence against Hunger and Malnutrition (CERFAM) and WFP Benin, it was an opportunity for WFP and DCS to share the Ivorian home-grown school feeding model and experience with the respective counterparts of the Government of Benin.

Donors

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