



# WFP Nigeria Country Brief April 2020

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## Operational Context

Nigeria, a federal constitutional republic with over 500 ethnic groups, is the most populous country in Africa and the seventh most populous country in the world. The crisis induced by non-state armed groups remains the principal driving factor of instability in northeast Nigeria. These groups have been expanding their operational capabilities since 2010. In May 2013 a state of emergency was declared by the Government in the States of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe. In 2016, the Government asked WFP to re-establish its presence in Nigeria.

There are two million internally displaced persons (IDPs) reported in Nigeria (IOM/DTM Round 30), of which most are in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States. The March 2020 Cadre Harmonisé (CH) reports nearly three million people in need of food assistance in these states. WFP operations are focused on crisis response to prevent further deterioration of food and nutrition security, reduce malnutrition and minimize gender inequalities. The spread of COVID-19 in Nigeria imposes multiple challenges for WFP food assistance operations, including accessing urban populations in need, and restrictions on movement of WFP and cooperating partner staff, transporters and financial service providers.



Population: **191 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **158 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Estimated that >1m children (6-59 mths) in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States are undernourished, 367,000 SAM & 727,000 MAM. (HRP 2019-2022)

## In Numbers

**10,853 mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 9.9 m** cash-based transfers made

**USD 78 m** six-month net funding requirement (May 2020 – October 2020)

**741,459 people assisted** in April 2020



## Operational Update

WFP food assistance reached 741,459 internally displaced people and individuals in host communities in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States. WFP provided in-kind food to 337,346 people and reached 291,333 more through mobile money and e-vouchers. Double distribution of rations began in some locations during April as a COVID-19 risk mitigation measure and will be scaled up going forward.

WFP malnutrition prevention activities reached 169,948 children and pregnant and lactating women, including treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) provided to 3,612 children 6–59 months. WFP’s multi-sectoral nutrition programme assisting pregnant and lactating women and caregivers of children under 2 participating in UNICEF-supported health services concluded at the end of March.

Considering the exceptional circumstances of COVID-19 and restrictions on movement and gatherings introduced by the Government as a risk mitigation measure, WFP has temporarily suspended the requirement for livelihoods beneficiaries to participate through conditional transfers in communal activities during April and May. Livelihoods beneficiaries will receive unconditional transfers during these two months.

To address the impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable families countrywide, the Federal Government is leveraging the National Home-Grown School Feeding Programme to reach over 3 million households across 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory by providing take-home rations in lieu of on-site feeding to children currently unable to attend school. WFP is providing technical support in vulnerability analysis and market monitoring, targeting and programme design, supply chain, M&E, and communications.

An initial WFP analysis of susceptibility of livelihoods to COVID-19’s spread in northeast Nigeria indicates that in addition to 3.7 million people already predicted by the Cadre Harmonisé to become food insecure during the upcoming lean season, 3.3 million more people may become temporarily food insecure due to government-ordered lockdowns and a larger number of households may resort to negative coping strategies because of rising food prices.

WFP is monitoring the functionality and performance of over 60 food markets in the northeast through a new remote market and price monitoring tool that conducts surveys via mobile telephone. These tools support continuity for evidence-driven targeting and other informed decision making and policies during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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**Photo:** COOPI/ Emmanuel Martins

**Caption:** Pregnant and lactating women and caregivers observe social distancing while queuing at Kukareta food distribution point in Damaturu LGA.

## Country Strategic Plan (2019-2022)

Total Requirement 2020 (USD)	Six Month Allocated Contributions (USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirement (USD)
288 m	113 m	78 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 2015

**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).

## Challenges

The spread of COVID-19 in northeast Nigeria creates new constraints for food assistance. Lockdowns in Kano and Borno States have delayed movement of trucks carrying life-saving food, resulting in delayed distributions and affecting programme implementation.

## Sectors

In response to the lockdown in Borno State, the **Food Security Sector** strengthened its coordination and advocated for facilitated access to deliver food assistance. The Sector also agreed to temporarily suspend all community-based activities due to the state lockdown.

**Emergency Telecommunications Sector** provided Internet connectivity services to 2,999 humanitarians from 95 organizations.

**Logistics Sector** processed 655 humanitarian cargo movement notifications from 26 organizations to 42 destinations using 2,244 vehicles. Sector-managed storage facilities, in six locations across Borno State, received 671 mt of humanitarian cargo for 9 organizations.

**UN Humanitarian Air Service** continued to serve 66 humanitarian agencies by transporting 3,268 passengers and 9,182 mt of cargo between Abuja, Maiduguri and Yola and to and from the humanitarian hubs.

## Communications

As Nigeria works to control the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the Federal Government has ordered bans on air travel, restricted movement within urban centers and closed international borders. Fixed-wing and helicopter flights managed by WFP's United Nations Humanitarian Air Service provide the only available connections for passengers, supplies and equipment that enable Government and humanitarian actors to sustain support to the northeast. Read the full story [here](#).

## Committed contributions in 2020

Canada, European Union, Germany, private donors, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, UN Funds and Agencies, United States, United Kingdom