**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 operational capabilities since 2010. In May 2013 a state of emergency was declared by the governments of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States.

There are over two million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Nigeria (IOM/DTM Round 32), with most in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States. The June 2020 Cadre Harmonisé reports that 4.3 million people are 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.

### In Numbers

- **7,001 mt** of food assistance distributed
- **USD 8.9 m** cash-based transfers made
- **USD 176 m** six-month net funding requirement (July 2020 – December 2020)
- **751,264 people** assisted in June 2020

### Operational Update

WFP food assistance reached 610,163 internally displaced people (IDPs) and host communities in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe States. WFP provided in-kind food to 326,561 people and reached 283,602 through mobile money and e-vouchers.

Malnutrition prevention activities reached 164,408 children and pregnant and lactating women and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) was provided to 4,313 children aged 6–59 months.

WFP provided food or cash livelihoods support to 111,444 households. The pandemic has adversely affected implementation of WFP livelihood activities. Supply chains are obstructed by restrictions on movements across states and major markets. Vulnerable families and communities are experiencing increased prices of food and essential goods with long-term implications for their food security, nutrition and livelihoods.

WFP continues to scale up response in the northeast to provide COVID-19 related and other emergency food assistance to 1.72 million people. Targeting of distributions follows a tiered palliative care approach aligned with the Government response.

At the request of the Federal Government, WFP, IOM, and UNHCR plan direct food assistance to complement Government social safety net efforts using in-kind and cash-based transfers in Lagos, Kano and Abuja. A joint proposal submitted to the UN COVID-19 Basket Fund for USD 8 million includes USD 5 million in food assistance for Phase 1 of the intervention. USD 20 million is required to reach 900,000 people in need. The Federal Government contributed 2,000 mt of cereals from the national Strategic Grain Reserve for COVID-19 response in these urban hotspots.

Technical support provided to the Government’s take-home ration distribution in Abuja and Lagos further strengthened the continuing partnership between WFP and the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development.

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**Photo caption:** Even in lockdown, life floats on in the muddy, murky waters of Makoko. **Credit:** WFP/Damilola Onafuwa
### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Everyone has access to food

**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 2:** No one suffers from malnutrition

**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 3:** Smallholders productivity and incomes

**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 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 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs**

**Strategic Result 6: Policies to support sustainable development are coherent**

**Strategic Result 7: 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

Market volatility due to COVID-19 led to shortage of cereals and pulses and supplier default on contracts. Local purchase of vegetable oil is underway to ease shortages associated with restrictions on imported vegetable oil. Poor road conditions during the rainy season impacted delivery of food to some areas. Restriction of field missions to the highest level of programme criticality constrained the advancement of planned livelihoods activities.

### Sectors

**Food Security Sector** partners collected data using the Household Economy Approach (HEA). The data will indicate whether food-insecure COVID-19 affected urban and peri-urban households are able to 30 percent of food needs. Results will be shared in July.

**Emergency Telecommunications Sector** provided Internet connectivity services to 3,327 humanitarians from 101 organizations.

**Logistics Sector** processed 792 humanitarian cargo movement notifications from 31 organizations to 60 destinations. Sector-managed storage facilities in six locations across Borno State received 812 mt of humanitarian cargo.

**UN Humanitarian Air Service** transported 4,406 and 16,629 kg of cargo between Abuja, Maiduguri and Yola and to and from humanitarian hubs.

### Communications

Makoko, an informal waterfront settlement in Lagos, Nigeria, is often referred to as the *Venice of Africa*. Thousands live in stilt houses nestled deep in murky black waters. Makoko’s population faces extreme risk of COVID-19, as hygiene and social distancing pose serious challenges in these cramped conditions. However, hunger and the threat of eviction pose even bigger risks to residents’ way of life than either disease or infection. 📰 Read more

### Donors

Canada, European Union, France, Germany, Nigeria, private donors, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, UN Funds and Agencies, United States, United Kingdom.