



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Nigeria Country Brief March 2022



## Operational Context

Nigeria, a federal constitutional republic with over 500 ethnic groups, is the most populous country in Africa and the seventh most populated country in the world.

Conflict remains the main driving factor of instability in northeast Nigeria. In May 2013, the Government declared a state of emergency in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States.

UNHCR reports there are over three million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Nigeria mostly in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States. The March 2022 Cadre Harmonisé found that 3.1 million people in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States of northeast Nigeria face crisis or emergency levels of food insecurity between March and May 2022.

WFP operations focus on crisis response to prevent further deterioration of food and nutrition security, reduce malnutrition, and minimize gender inequality. WFP has been present in Nigeria since 2016.



Population: **211.4 million**

2021 Human Development Index: **161 out of 189**

Economy: **Lower middle income**

Northeast: **320,000** children aged 6-59 months with SAM and **515,000** with MAM (HRP 2021)

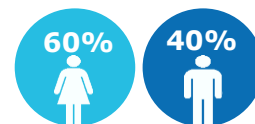
## In Numbers

**5,202 mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 4.26 m** cash-based transfers made

**USD 217 m** six-month net funding requirement  
(April 2022 to September 2022)

**628,770 people assisted**  
in March 2021



## Operational Update

In March, WFP continued providing food assistance to households affected by conflict and crime in Nigeria, reaching 628,770 people in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States in the northeast, and Zamfara and Katsina States in the northwest. WFP reached 96 percent of targeted households under the current resource-based adjusted implementation plan, supporting 3,186 more people than in February. In Borno, general food distribution using in-kind food reached 6,975 new arrivals – people fleeing from hard-to-reach areas not accessible to humanitarian actors due to ongoing conflict.

WFP transferred USD 4.26 million to 321,760 vulnerable IDPs, host community members and returnees via electronic vouchers, enabling affected households to purchase food locally and acquire livelihood-supporting inputs. Vulnerable households received 5,202 mt of locally sourced produce, vegetable oil and salt. With financial support from the Government of Nigeria facilitated jointly with ECOWAS, WFP provided food assistance to the northwest states of Katsina and Zamfara, providing lifesaving support to households displaced by increased conflict and crime.

WFP distributed 599 mt of specialized nutritious food to the homes of 116,552 children aged 6-59 months, caretakers and pregnant and lactating women at risk or facing malnutrition. Daily blanket feeding providing 787 kcal of Super Cereal Plus or lipid-based nutrient supplement medium quantity (LNS-MQ) helped prevent malnutrition among children aged 6-23 months. Pregnant and lactating women received 1,205 kcal of Super Cereal and vegetable oil daily to prevent malnutrition and encourage optimal breastfeeding. The programme is implemented collaboratively with state primary health care centres and the Federal Ministry of Health. Through WFP's multi-sector malnutrition prevention programme, 6,400 people received support for livelihood opportunities to help address structural causes of malnutrition. WFP's livelihood response in Nigeria is implemented on a seasonal cycle, in alignment with the rainy season, when employment opportunities are limited.

WFP will extend the current four-year country strategic plan (CSP) to include the first two months of 2023, in anticipation of approval of a new CSP in February. The planned budget revision will also enable use of cash-based transfers (CBT) through the blanket supplementary feeding programme (BSFP), which assists children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women. Introduction of CBT for malnutrition prevention encourages consumption of locally manufactured nutritious foods.

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**Photo:** WFP/Damilola Onafuwa

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**Caption:** Hauwau Shamsu and her daughter Saratu receive WFP food assistance via prepaid card at a WFP distribution centre in Maru LGA of Zamfara State (February 2022).

## Country Strategic Plan (2019-2022)

2022 Total Requirements (USD)	2022 Available contributions (USD)	Six-month net funding requirement (USD)
<b>406 m</b>	<b>133 m</b>	<b>217 m</b>

## 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 2025

**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).

## Assessments

In March, WFP published findings from a satellite imagery analysis of recent changes to agricultural land in Nigeria, including conflict areas that are inaccessible to humanitarian actors. The analysis observed an improved harvest in parts of northern Borno for the 2021 agricultural season, but these gains were small compared to yields seen in the years before conflict in northeast Nigeria.

The same assessment found reduced agricultural yields in Mariga local government area (LGA) of Niger State and Maru LGA of Zamfara State. Both LGAs have experienced frequent security incidents during the last two years. This type of assessment helps to inform WFP and partners on the impact of conflict on farming and food security in areas where ground-based evidence is difficult to obtain.

WFP is planning a workshop to strengthen the government's capacity for satellite imagery analysis and promote improved skills in the use of these analytical tools. More systematic application of satellite imagery analysis by federal and state governments will help to inform the Cadre Harmonisé in identifying areas in need that require highest prioritization for emergency response.

## Challenges

Due to the delayed arrival of funding contributions, WFP is not currently able to assist all of the 1.4 million vulnerable people that require food assistance. However, in anticipation of improved funding from diverse sources, WFP plans to gradually increase assistance before the forthcoming lean season. In May, WFP plans to reach 750,000 people, then increase to 1.2 million by September, and scale down again during October to December, as harvests come in and lifesaving needs are reduced.

In Bama LGA of Borno State, WFP has observed increased demand for food assistance at WFP intervention locations among new arrivals impacted by government-ordered closure of IDP camps.

## Donors in 2022

Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Korea (Republic of), Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States and private donors.