# WFP Côte d'Ivoire Country Brief October 2022

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES



#### **Operational Context**

Based on the last 2021 general population and housing census (RGPH), the population living in Côte d'Ivoire is estimated at 29.4 million. According to the World Bank (2021), Côte d'Ivoire has rebounded strongly with a real growth of 7 percent by the end of 2021 compared to 1.8 percent in 2020.

Despite robust economic growth, the Cadre Harmonisé study conducted in eight regions of Côte d'Ivoire in March 2022 revealed that more than 1,650,000 people are under pressure and in crisis, and in need of resilience-building interventions (24 percent of the total population of these eight regions).

According to the <u>Hunger Map</u> about 5 million people in Côte d'Ivoire had insufficient food consumption as of October 2022.

As of 31 October 2022, Côte d'Ivoire had 87,781 COVID-19 confirmed cases, out of which 86,940 people cured, 827 died, and 14 are still infected. Meanwhile, a total of 20,686,836 doses of vaccine were administered.

Since 1968, WFP has been providing development and humanitarian support to improve food security, reduce malnutrition, enhance education achievements, and minimize gender inequalities. Activities are concentrated in northern and western rural areas, which have a higher concentration of food insecure and vulnerable people.



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# **In Numbers**

**USD 3.1 million** six-month (November 2022 – April 2023) net funding requirements.

# **Operational Updates**

- On 10 October, the Direction des Cantines Scolaires (DCS) officially opened school canteens for the new school year. WFP was represented in Korhogo in the North and Man in the West of the country. This ceremony was an opportunity for the DCS to share the new director's vision for school canteens in Côte d'Ivoire. Emphasis was placed on the actions to be taken to ensure the sustainability of the canteens and the importance of the involvement of all social strata by mobilising agricultural groups and local communities around the canteens.
- From 24 27 October, WFP participated in the Global Child Nutrition Forum (GCNF) in Cotonou, Benin under the theme "Converging forces for resilience and sustainability of school feeding programmes". The delegation from Côte d'Ivoire, composed of WFP and the DCS, participated in several plenary sessions and thematic panels. Recommendations were made: (i) Adopt laws to ensure compliance with national school feeding commitments; (ii) Encourage governments to play a purchasing role to stimulate the market and thus production; (iii) The Forum calls on school feeding programmes to combat all forms of malnutrition, stunting due to micronutrient deficiencies, and overweight and obesity among children.
- WFP continues to support the Ministry of Health in its effort to guarantee the availability of medicines to patients. A series of missions were completed in four regions covering eight health districts to identify areas where supply chain capacity could be strengthened. The areas where WFP can play a supporting role are: the optimization of distribution routes, the review of procedures and the provision of trainings on fleet management at the last mile.
- The Korhogo field office made joint visits with the DCS to 50 schools in the Direction Regionale de l'Education Nationale (DRENA) of Korhogo and Bondoukou to check the status of food stocks. The delegation noted that in 33 schools of the DRENA of Korhogo and Boundoukou, the canteens are currently functioning with the remaining stocks from the previous school year. The mission took the opportunity to sensitise the communities to get involved in the functioning of the canteens by supplying local products.
- WFP continues to work with the Bureau de Vente des Producteurs (BVP) as part of its marketing support to smallholders, collecting and disseminating prices of key agricultural products to them. This price information enables smallholders to make informed decisions about marketing their products, help them to set competitive prices and to negotiate with buyers through its group sales platform.
- On 21 October, WFP participated in the official celebration of World Food Day in the presence of the Minister of Agriculture and the FAO representative in Côte d'Ivoire. The Deputy Country Director participated in the panel whose theme was "Côte d'Ivoire facing the challenge of food sovereignty".

# WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2025)		
2022 Total Requirement (in USD)	2022 Available Contributions (in USD)	Sixth Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
12 m	22 m	3.1m
Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food		

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**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 primaryschool-age children during the school year and promote the purchase of locally produced food for school meals and initiative of rice fortification project.

**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 their capacity to better target and manage food security, nutrition, and social protection programs by 2023 *Focus area: Root causes* 

#### **Activities Outcome 5**

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

**Strategic Outcome 6:** The government, humanitarian, and development partners in Côte d'Ivoire can reach vulnerable populations and respond to emergencies by 2025 Focus area: Crisis response

#### **Activities Outcome 6**

Provide, on-demand, supply chain, ICT, and coordination services to the Government, humanitarian, and development partners

### Yeo Torplé story

Family farming as a means of combating malnutrition in rural areas



Yéo Torplé is a farmer and mother in the village of Nahoualakaha in Korhogo, northern Côte d'Ivoire. She cultivates a vegetable garden to feed her family. This garden is essential to the family members' diet but also to earn an additional income by selling the surplus on the local market.

Torplé is a beneficiary of WFP's household resilience programme, which aims to combat food insecurity, poverty and the low capacity of households to cope with shocks, especially in the vulnerable rural areas. "I received seeds to make a vegetable garden that I set up behind my plot. This garden allows me to have quick access to nutritious and varied food to cook for the whole family at any time".

WFP works with women's farmer groups to build their resilience. This practice of family farming places a particular emphasis on food crops to contribute to household food diversification. The vegetables that they grow and cook are a source of nutritious food throughout the year for their families, and the surplus they sell allows them to be less vulnerable. "Trading the surplus has helped me a lot and has even enabled me to pay for my children's schooling and textbooks," says Torplé.

## Challenges

- Agricultural production in the north of the country is currently facing two challenges: 1) widespread attacks of the insect pest "jassid" have been observed on cotton, resulting in significant production losses. These attacks have also been observed on food crops in the North and North-East zones. Smallholder groups assisted by the resilience programme have expressed great concern about this situation; 2) in the bean plots of the smallholder groups, another pest, "thrips", was observed, which prevented the plants from flowering, resulting in the destruction of over 80 percent of the plants. The Phyto treatment used so far to tackle this issue did not work.
- Funding challenges may prevent WFP to deliver on its commitment toward sustainability and local sourcing of school meals to complement the McGovern Dole funding. An estimated USD 800,000 is needed to fill the gap and initiate the complementary activities planned.

## Donors

Top donors to WFP Côte d'Ivoire in 2022 include the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, ECOWAS, private donors, and the United States of America. Additional support has been provided by the UN.