



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



WFP Nigeria Country Brief April - May 2023

In Numbers

1,232,127 people assisted

in April 2023



9,776 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 10.95 m distributed through cash-based transfers

USD 215 m six-month net funding requirements
(June – November 2023)

Operational Context

Nigeria, a federal constitutional republic with over 500 languages, is the most populous country in Africa and the sixth most populated country in the world. Three-quarters of the country's population is under 25 years of age.

In May 2013, the Government declared a state of emergency in the northeast states of Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe (BAY). Conflict and crime in the northeast and other parts of Nigeria remain key drivers of instability and have triggered greater humanitarian needs.

UNHCR reports over three million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Nigeria in 2023, with the majority in the BAY states. The March 2023 Cadre Harmonisé projected 24.8 million people countrywide will face crisis or emergency levels of food insecurity from June to September 2023, among which 4.3 million (17 percent) are in the BAY states.

WFP has provided humanitarian assistance in Nigeria since 2016 through crisis response activities that prevent further deterioration of food and nutrition security and early recovery activities that help build resilience of crisis-affected communities.



Population: 216.7 million

2021 Human Development Index: 163
out of 191

Income level: Lower middle income

Northeast and northwest: 5,932,000
children aged 6-59 months acutely
malnourished; 1,623,000 with SAM and
4,308,000 with MAM (IPC Analysis,
November 2022)

Operational Updates

- The March [Cadre Harmonisé](#) reports persistent **insecurity in the northeast** due to armed conflict. Rising crime in other northern states and the Naira currency redesign policy have posed significant challenges for food security in Nigeria.
- WFP provided nutrition-sensitive emergency and integrated resilience support to conflict-affected vulnerable people across Borno, Adamawa, Yobe and Zamfara States. In April, 1,217,537 people received nutrition-integrated food assistance through **unconditional resource transfers**, including 434,548 people supported with in-kind food and 759,909 people supported with cash-based transfers.
- Integrated malnutrition prevention** reached 28,080 children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWG) in northeast and northwest Nigeria. WFP provided 250 g of Super Cereal Plus daily to PBWG and to children aged 6-23 months to prevent malnutrition and encouraged optimal practices through social and behaviour change communication.
- WFP plans to **reach 2 million beneficiaries** by June 2023, including conflict-affected IDPs, returnees, and host communities. This target represents 48 percent of the 4.3 million people identified as facing crisis or emergency levels of food insecurity during the 2023 lean season.
- WFP has **pre-positioned contingency stock** to assist an additional 100,000 people in anticipation of a possible surge of newly displaced people arriving from hard-to-reach areas. To alleviate access constraints during the rainy season, WFP is also pre-positioning nutrition-sensitive food in areas prone to seasonal damage to roads and other transportation infrastructure.
- UNHAS** ensured swift and reliable air transport for humanitarian actors, completing 493 flights in May 2023, including 5 medical flights for patients in urgent need of medical assistance. In response to user feedback, UNHAS has prepared plans for the expansion of available routes for humanitarian passengers and air cargo to Biu local government area (LGA) in southern Borno.

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Photo: Recycled wastewater from a WFP-supported sustainable fish farm irrigates vegetable gardens in Borno State.

Credit: WFP/ Joke Ekundayo

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirements (USD)	Total Received (USD)
2,561 m	234.7 m
2023 Requirements (USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (USD) (June – November 2023)
595.1 m	215 m

Strategic Outcome 1: People meet their urgent food and nutrition needs

CSP Outcome 1: Food-insecure internally displaced persons, refugees, returnees, and host community members in crisis-prone and conflict-affected areas of Nigeria have access to adequate nutritious food and early recovery activities that meet their immediate food needs and live in cohesive households and communities, during and after shocks.

Focus area: *Crisis response*

Activities:

- Provide food assistance and an integrated package of gender-transformative malnutrition prevention alongside social and behaviour change communication, asset creation, skills development, and complementary livelihood activities to crisis-affected, food-insecure people
- Provide malnutrition treatment activities, alongside gender-transformative social and behaviour change communication, to children 6–59 months of age and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls

Strategic Outcome 2: People have better nutrition, health and education outcomes

CSP Outcome 2: Nutritionally vulnerable people in Nigeria benefit from better access to healthy diets and complementary services to improve their nutrition status in line with national targets by 2027

Focus area: *Resilience building*

Activity:

- Support the provision of an integrated, multisectoral, gender-transformative, nutrition-sensitive package to nutritionally vulnerable groups

Strategic Outcome 3: People have improved and sustainable livelihoods

CSP Outcome 3: By 2027, targeted vulnerable households and smallholder farmers in Nigeria have improved sustainable livelihoods and enhanced social cohesion derived from food systems that are resilient to shocks and thus facilitate enhanced access to nutritious diets all year round

Focus area: *Resilience building*

Activities:

- Provide an integrated package of nutrition and climate adaptive livelihood activities to vulnerable households, especially those with nutritionally vulnerable groups, to improve diets
- Provide support on gender-transformative, climate-smart, youth-inclusive food production, post-harvest and commodity quality management and marketing to smallholder farmers

Strategic Outcome 4: National programmes and systems strengthened

CSP Outcome 4: National actors have strengthened capacity and an enhanced enabling environment for the development and management of food security and nutrition policies, strategies, processes, and programmes in line with national targets to achieve zero hunger by 2030

Focus area: *Root causes*

Activity:

- Provide nutrition-sensitive and gender-transformative technical support on emergency preparedness and response, social protection, food systems, digital solutions, policy development and coherence and other innovative approaches targeting SDG 2 to national actors, including institutions

Strategic Outcome 5: Humanitarian and development actors are more efficient and effective

CSP Outcome 5: The humanitarian community in Nigeria is enabled to reach and operate in areas of crisis throughout the year.

Focus area: *Crisis response*

Activities:

- Provide common logistic services to government, United Nations, and non-governmental organization partners to facilitate effective field operations
- Provide common emergency telecommunications services to the Government, humanitarian partners and crisis-affected communities to facilitate effective field operations, provide for staff security and support the protection of affected communities
- Provide United Nations Humanitarian Air Service services to all humanitarian partners
- Provide on-demand services to humanitarian actors

Monitoring

- In April, the Government published its [Humanitarian Situation Update](#) which tracks food and nutrition security trends. The update reported 45.6 percent of surveyed households struggle to have sufficient food intake. Acute malnutrition reaching severe levels (IPC Phase 4) was found among newly displaced persons in locations inaccessible to humanitarian actors, indicating food insecurity, poor water and sanitation, and poor health conditions in those areas.
- Through the use of SugarCRM, WFP successfully improved the uptake of evidence and issues raised by the process monitoring and community feedback mechanism. The process synchronizes two monitoring systems and supports the automated escalation of feedback and complaints. With this redesign, WFP will improve the case resolution rate and close the feedback loop which can provide valuable insights for decision-making. WFP's toll-free 1333 hotline recently added Shuwa-Arabic to the current languages of Hausa, Kanuri, Pidgin English, and English which are offered to users.

Challenges

- Access constraints caused by insecurity have worsened due to deteriorated road conditions and delays in obtaining clearance for commodity movement with military escorts. The community of Rann is still recovering from heavy flooding in 2022. Poor road conditions in Damasak, Michika, and other locations continue to hamper the delivery of food assistance to prioritized people in need.
- WFP has a six-month net funding requirement of USD 215 million to sustain operations through November and implement lean season planning to reach 2 million vulnerable people in need in northeast Nigeria. WFP plans to extend government capacity strengthening and direct food and nutrition support to the northwest once necessary resources can be mobilized. Unless additional resources can be mobilized, funding constraints may hamper UNHAS fixed- and rotary-wing flight continuity beyond September 2023.

Donors in 2023

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