Operational Context

Nigeria, a federal constitutional republic, is Africa’s most populous nation and the sixth most populated in the world. The country faces multiple challenges, including reduced agricultural output due to flooding in 2022, the highest inflation rate in nearly two decades, and protracted conflict with non-state armed groups in the northeast states of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe (BAY).

The proportion of Nigerians living below the poverty line exceeds 40 percent, and the World Bank projects their number to increase 13 million more by 2025. The March 2023 Cadre Harmonisé projected that 24.8 million people across 26 states and the Federal Capital Territory (Abuja) would face crisis or higher food insecurity during the current June to September lean season. UNHCR reports over three million people are internally displaced, mostly in the BAY States. In July 2023, Nigeria’s recently elected President declared a state of emergency on food security.

Since 2016, WFP has collaboratively provided lifesaving food assistance in Nigeria, working with national actors to support the achievement of national targets for zero hunger by 2030. WFP focuses on crisis response, early recovery, and addressing the root causes of food and nutrition security through support for Government-led solutions.

In Numbers
1,513,732 people assisted

6,801 mt of food assistance distributed

US$ 14.13 m distributed through cash-based transfers

US$ 168.7 m six-month net funding requirements (August 2023 – January 2024)

Operational Updates

- In June, WFP assisted 1,513,732 people across northeast and northwest Nigeria. Despite degraded road conditions along main supply routes and limited supply of cereal and nutritious food triggering distribution delays, WFP delivered 75 percent of the planned assistance in June. This included 992,829 people reached via e-vouchers and 436,997 people who received in-kind food assistance across the BAY states.

- WFP also targeted supplementary feeding and provided specialized nutritious food to 77,257 children aged 6-59 months with moderate acute malnutrition across Borno and Yobe States in June. Contingent on receiving additional resources, WFP has planned to reach 2.1 million people in July.

- In July, WFP supported multi-stakeholder collaboration to develop Nigeria’s National Food System Transformation Implementation Plan and engaged in panel discussions during the UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment in Rome, where Nigeria showcased its model in the presence of the Vice President of Nigeria. WFP also supported the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development (FMHADMSD) with evidence and lessons learned to support revisions to the National Home-Grown School Feeding Implementation Plan for 2023-2026.

- WFP is also collaborating with the National Emergency Management Agency, National Cash Transfer Office, National Social Safety-Net Coordinating Office and FMHADMSD in a five-step process to develop standard operating procedures for the national shock-responsive social protection plan. WFP is seeking resources to facilitate Step 4 of the process that will implement pilots of the improved procedures in selected locations. Subsequently, WFP plans to support the integration of lessons learned into the social protection plan prior to its deployment countrywide.

Food assistance planned for northwest Nigeria

Thanks to over USD 1.6 million being jointly mobilized by the Government of Nigeria and WFP, 1,949 individuals from 390 families are planned to receive cash-based transfers while nutrition support is set to benefit 12,445 individuals from 2,489 families in Katsina and Zamfara States. Applying a multi-dimensional food systems approach, WFP is collaborating with FMHADMSD and ECOWAS to deliver malnutrition treatment combined with support for nutrition-integrated school feeding, livelihoods and government capacity strengthening.

Contact info: Blessing Gominah, blessing.gominah@wfp.org
Country Director: David Stevenson, david.stevenson@wfp.org
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/nigeria

Photo: Hauwa Mohammed processing catfish grown with support from WFP’s aquaculture training in Borno State.
WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirements (USD)</th>
<th>Total Received (USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,561 m</td>
<td>263.5 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023 Requirements (USD)</td>
<td>Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (USD) (August 2023 - January 2024)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>473 m</td>
<td>168.7 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 nutrition-sensitive package to nutritionally vulnerable groups.

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

- Monitoring across 47 markets of the BAY states indicated significant increase in the cost of the survival minimum expenditure basket (SMIB). Between June and July, the cost of the 70 percent SMIB for a family of six increased by 5 percent (from NGN 32,311 to NGN 34,318) in Maiduguri and Jere LGAs of Borno State and by 9 percent in Damaturu of Yobe State. Higher food prices in local markets mean families must spend more to meet their basic needs, imposing greater strain on already stressed household budgets and making it more difficult for families to afford healthcare, education, transportation and other essential services.
- WFP’s Lean Season Food Security Outlook published in June reports growing reliance on food-based coping strategies in the northeast. The report finds that inadequate food consumption affects 47 percent of households, an increase of 8 percentage points from 2022 and an increase of 7 percentage points from the beginning of the lean season. This concerning trend, coupled with the recent humanitarian update showing 45.6 percent of surveyed households struggle with insufficient food intake, highlights increased vulnerability to malnutrition, disease, poverty, and reduced resilience among the most vulnerable.

Challenges

- Rising food prices have led to a shortage of cereals in Nigeria, impacting WFP purchases of Nigeria-grown commodities and constraining the prepositioning of stock in hard-to-reach areas of the BAY states. While WFP strives to maintain timely and cost-effective delivery of food assistance to people in need during the current lean season, the limited domestic supply of food remains a challenging constraint.
- The increasing insufficiency in food consumption is compounding existing reliance on food-based coping strategies to survive economic shocks and escalating the risk of widespread malnutrition. WFP’s integrated response prevents malnutrition, enhances resilience and livelihoods, and strengthens national capacity to develop and manage food security and nutrition policies, strategies, and programmes. However, implementation of these activities at the necessary scale is hindered by scarcity of financial resources.

Donors in 2023

Canada, Denmark, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, Norway, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, UN CERF and private donors.