

SAVING

CHANGING LIVES

**LIVES** 



# **In Numbers**





25,663 people assisted

40.2 mt of food assistance distributed in June 2024

US\$ 217,767 cash-based transfers distributed

**US\$ 4.4** million six-month (July - December 2024) net funding requirements, representing 55 percent of the total needs-based plan

## **Operational Context**

As a global leader in cocoa and cashew production, Côte d'Ivoire has been experiencing one of the fastest sustained economic growth within sub-Saharan Africa over the past decade. However, the country is still facing significant social challenges, including poverty, food insecurity, malnutrition, and gender disparities. Approximately 23 percent of children under five are stunted, and 68 percent of those aged 6 to 59 months battle anaemia. According to the March 2024 Cadre Harmonisé, 922,490 people are projected to be in crisis (phase 3) in 27 regions (out of 31), from June to August 2024 with 3.8 million people under stress (phase 2).

The escalation of the Sahel crisis in early 2023 led to an influx of asylum seekers, straining the resources of host communities. As of 30 June 2024, an estimated number of 61,000 asylum seekers have arrived in northern Côte d'Ivoire, fleeing from Burkina Faso (98 percent) and Mali (2 percent), according to UNHCR. Fifty-seven percent of this population are children and 55 percent are women. 47,000 asylum seekers have settled in host villages, additionally stretching communities with preexisting vulnerabilities and negatively impacting social cohesion. Around 12,000 asylum seekers are accommodated in two designated sites, Timalah and Nioronigue, set up in July 2023 by the Government and located in the border regions of Bounkani and Tchologo.

Since 1968, WFP has been providing humanitarian and development assistance in Côte d'Ivoire, focusing on reducing gender inequalities, boosting educational outcomes, and promoting food and nutrition security.

WFP works closely with the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and partners to promote school feeding, address malnutrition, and improve food systems. Activities are mainly concentrated in the rural areas in the north, west, and north-east which have a higher concentration of food insecure and vulnerable people.



Population: 29.4 million

Food insecurity: **922,490** people in crisis phase

2023/2024 Human Development Report: **166 out of 193**2023 Global Gender Gap Index: **122 out of 146 countries** 

## **Strategic Updates**

 In June 2024, WFP Côte d'Ivoire launched an unprecedented operation that facilitated the reception and transit of 3,000 metric tons of rice from the port of Abidjan to humanitarian operations in Burkina Faso. This initiative aims to respond to the growing food emergency in this neighbouring country, exacerbated by internal conflicts and unfavourable climatic conditions.

## **Operational Updates**

- In June 2024, WFP provided emergency food assistance in the form of cash transfers to 25,663 vulnerable people, out of which 54 percent were women. Out of this population, 22,177 were asylum seekers living both in Nioronigué and Timalah transit sites and out of the transit sites in the Tchologo and Bounkani regions. The remaining 3,486 people were host family members in the two hosting regions. This represents a 7 percent increase compared to May 2024.
- To address nutrition needs, WFP provided Specialized Nutritious Foods to 850 pregnant and breastfeeding women and 1,303 children aged between 6 and 59 months. This included 23.4 metric tons of Super Cereal (Corn Soya Blend +), 15.3 metric tons of Super Cereal Plus and 1.5 metric tons of vegetable oil. Assistance was coupled with awareness-raising sessions on malnutrition prevention at the Nioronigué and Timala transit sites.

## **Assessments and monitoring**

According to the results of the March 2024 Cadre Harmonisé (CH), 922,490 people are projected to be acutely food insecure (phase 3, crisis) during the lean season period from June to August 2024. This represents 4 percent of the population of the country. In addition, 3.8 million people are projected to be under stress (phase 2), representing 16 percent of the total population of the country.

### WFP Country Strategy



### Country Strategic Plan (2019 - 2025)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
95.9 million	61.1 million
2024 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (July- December 2024)
9.4 million	4.4 million

#### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

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

Activity 1: Provide school meals, take-home rations and complementary services to primary-school-age children during the school year and promote the purchase of locally produced food for

**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

Activity 2: 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 childbearing age and people living with HIV - have improved nutritional status by 2025.

Focus area: Root causes

Activity 3: 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 3:** Food systems are sustainable

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 2025.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activity 4: 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: Country capacities are strengthened

Strategic Outcome 5: National institutions have strengthened capacity to better target and manage food security, nutrition and social protection programmes by 2025.

Focus area: Root causes

Activity 5: Provide technical support to national stakeholders (Government, private sector and communities) in their efforts to address school feeding, food security, food system, nutrition, social protection and emergency preparedness and response.

- The results of the Post Distribution Monitoring conducted in June 2024 reveal that 82.5 percent of the cash distributed by WFP was used by asylum seekers and host communities for food, evidencing that food is their highest need. This expenditure on food is higher in the transit sites, with 90 percent of the cash used for food (13 percent increase compared to 78 percent from the PDM in January 2024). This indicates that site-based asylum seekers entirely rely on the assistance provided by WFP to meet food needs as they have no livelihood opportunity in the vicinity of the sites.
- The Post Distribution Monitoring results also show a decrease of the food consumption score of beneficiaries in transit sites. Indeed, in June 2024, 12.4 percent of beneficiaries are reported to have a poor food consumption score, which is the double of the 6.9 percent reported in November 2023. This could be attributed to the reduction by half of the food ration since April 2024.
- WFP field office in Bondoukou participated in the celebration of the Excellence Day, organised by the Bondoukou Regional Department of Education and Literacy (DRENA) on 7 June 2024. During the event, prizes were awarded to the two best school canteens, one of which is supported by WFP under the McGovern-Dole Programme. Each school canteen received a cutlery kit comprising plates and cups.

### **Challenges**

Due to funding constraints, WFP has been forced to halve its food assistance to asylum seekers since April 2024. Emergency operations to asylum seekers from Burkina Faso continue to face critical funding shortfall, with a gap of US\$ 4.4 million. If this gap is not filled in a timely manner, WFP risks suspending its assistance to these populations who are almost entirely dependent on food assistance, thus leading to the worsening of their already vulnerable food security situation.

### **Donors** (only active contributions are reflected)

Donors to WFP Côte d'Ivoire CSP 2019-2025 include Australia, Côte d'Ivoire, the Economic Community of West African States, the European Union (ECHO), France, Germany, the Green Climate Fund, Private donors (Takeda Pharmaceutical), and the United States of America (USDA). Additional support was provided by Multilateral funding and the UN.