

WFP Côte d'Ivoire Country Brief July 2024

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 July 2024, an estimated number of 63,861 asylum seekers have arrived in northern Côte d'Ivoire, fleeing from Burkina Faso (98 percent) and Mali (2 percent). According to UNHCR, 57 percent of this population are children and 55 percent are women. Eighty percent of asylum seekers have settled in host villages, additionally stretching communities with preexisting vulnerabilities and negatively impacting social cohesion. Around 12,500 asylum seekers are accommodated in two designated sites, Timalah and Niornigué, 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**

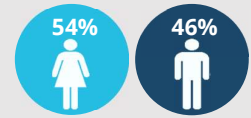
2023/2024 Human Development Report: **166 out of 193**

Food insecurity: **900,000 people in crisis phase**

2023 Global Gender Gap Index: **122 out of 146 countries**

In Numbers

20,845 people assisted



US\$ 156,666 cash-based transfers distributed

US\$ 8.1 million six-month (August 2024 - January 2025) net funding requirements, representing 56 percent of the total needs-based plan

Strategic Updates

- On 4 and 5 July 2024, WFP Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia and China participated in a regional seminar in Abidjan on rice value chain development in West Africa. The objective was to foster constructive policy dialogue, facilitate knowledge and expertise sharing, and strengthen public-private partnerships to effectively support rice value chain development initiatives, with a particular focus on smallholder farmers. This event was jointly organised by WFP, CERFAM, AfricaRice and the Agence pour le Développement de la Filière Riz (ADERIZ), with the support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Operational Updates

- In July 2024, 50 groups of smallholder farmers supplying school canteens received capacity building support, as part of the McGovern Dole project, including innovative cultivation techniques, marketing, associative management, and simplified accounting. The roles and responsibilities of the members of the groups' executive committees were also clarified. The groups received agricultural inputs and equipment to support their activities as the new agricultural season begins with the sowing of certain crops.
- In July 2024, WFP provided emergency food assistance through cash-based transfers (cash in hand) to 20,845 vulnerable people, 54 percent of whom were women. The assistance was provided to asylum seekers in the two transit sites of Niornigué and Timalah, and to out of sites asylum seekers. WFP also provided specialized nutritious food to 534 pregnant and breastfeeding women and 1,700 children from 6 to 59 months, to prevent moderate acute malnutrition.

Assessments and monitoring

- WFP conducted the bimonthly monitoring of staple commodities in nine (9) markets in its intervention areas in Côte d'Ivoire. The results showed that food prices have remained relatively stable, except for floriado yam and beans, for which there has been a price rise by 17 and 4 percent respectively, compared with June 2024. It is also observed that the prices of

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	8.1 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 school meals.

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.

local and imported rice have rose by 5 and 8 percent respectively, compared with July 2023, while the price of grain maize has dropped by 12 percent. Despite these increases, the national average cost of the energy food basket (according to WFP emergency response standards) remained stable around 50,000 Fcfa, except in Bouna and Dimbokro where it was observed a 9 and 6 percent increase respectively, compared with June 2024.

- The report of the assessment of the level of knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) in HIV-sensitive nutrition, health and social protection for effective care of HIV-affected households, conducted in May 2024, was validated during a workshop on 11 July 2024. During this workshop, key findings for improving care for vulnerable households affected by HIV in Côte d'Ivoire were presented to participants. The conclusions of this study will provide a solid basis for developing more effective nutrition, healthcare, and social support strategies to improve the living conditions of HIV affected people.

Challenges

- For the next six months (August 2024 - January 2025), WFP urgently needs US\$ 8.6 million for its crisis response to address increased food insecurity among asylum seekers, mainly from Burkina Faso, and host communities. WFP has already halved the food ration to these populations in-need since April 2024 and there is a high risk that their already precarious food security will worsen if no additional funding is received.

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, and the United States of America (USDA). Additional support is provided by Multilateral funding, UN, and Private donors.