



World Food Programme

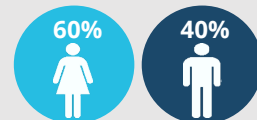
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Nigeria Country Brief July 2024



In Numbers

1,060,146 people assisted
in July 2024



2,655 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 5.3 million distributed through cash-based transfers

US\$ 178.5 million six-month net funding requirement
(August 2024 – January 2025)



Operational Context

Nigeria is Africa's most populous and the sixth most populated country globally. Over half of the people in Nigeria are multi-dimensionally poor, and 65 percent of them live in the North.

Nigeria's northern states – once surplus food production areas now grapple with poverty, recurring conflicts and a widescale humanitarian crisis resulting from the internal displacement of over 2.3 million people in the north-east in addition to 1.3 million people in the north-west and north-central states.

Disruption of agricultural livelihoods and surging cost of food, fuel, and other essential items exacerbate the situation. By May 2024, the average cost of a healthy diet had surged by 107 percent compared to the previous year. Driven by dire security and economic shocks, vulnerable people are forced into extreme survival tactics, including risking abductions and killing to forage for food in insecure areas.

As the lean season peaks between June and August 2024, the March 2024 Cadre Harmonisé projects that 31.8 million people across Nigeria will face hunger at crisis and emergency levels.

WFP has collaborated with the Government since 2016 to provide emergency food and nutrition assistance. Currently, WFP is implementing a five-year Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027) that aims to deliver emergency food assistance and support recovery and resilience-strengthening efforts for vulnerable people and communities. WFP's strategy for lasting solutions is aligned with national priorities while enhancing the domestic capacity for Government-led solutions.



Population: **223.8 million**
(UNFPA 2024)

2023-2024 Human Development Report:
161 out of 193

Income Level: **Lower middle income**

Northeast and northwest: **4.41 million**
children aged 0-59 months acutely
malnourished; **1.04 million** with SAM
and **3.37 million** with MAM (IPC Analysis,
October 2023)

Situation and Strategic Updates

- Broader economic pressures continue to impact food access nationwide, particularly in conflict-affected areas. FEWS NET [projects](#) that Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes will likely persist for people living in inaccessible areas, while widespread Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected to continue for people in conflict-affected areas until January 2025.
- The same report by FEWS NET indicates that the prices of staple food items like maize and millet have remained high, soaring between 249 to 437 percent above the five-year average. Fuel [prices](#) are also up, averaging at 28.35 percent higher than in the previous year – with the highest costs observed within the northeast and northwest regions of the country.
- [Forecasts](#) of flooding in August and September across high-risk states such as Adamawa, [Borno](#) and Yobe combined with limited access to farmlands, are further complicating challenges for domestic food production during the ongoing planting season. [Reports](#) indicate that below average cereal yields in 2023 (8 percent lower than the previous year and 5 percent below the five-year average) were among the drivers of the atypically high market-reliance for food and early onset of the lean season this year.

Operational Updates

- In July, WFP delivered nutrition-integrated food assistance to 900,309 people, representing 88 percent of the targeted population in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe states. Following the IED explosions in Gwoza, WFP supported the local government's response by providing food assistance to over 200 survivors of the attacks. Overall, WFP distributed 2,382 mt of in-kind food and provided US\$ 5.1 million via e-vouchers during the July general food distribution and redemption cycle.
- Integrated with the general food distributions, WFP provided malnutrition prevention support for 22,822 children aged 6-23 months and 4,191 pregnant and breast-feeding women and girls (PBWG). WFP also distributed 272.7 mt of specialized nutritious food, supporting the treatment of 164,478 children and 867 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls living with Moderate Acute Malnutrition in Borno, Adamawa, Yobe and Sokoto states.
- WFP has initiated the installation of a solar power plant for the irrigation systems at the Mamudo Horticulture Hub in Yobe state. Once completed, the solar powered irrigation system will facilitate the year-round cultivation of vegetables and other nutritious locally viable crops in Mamudo community.

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Photo: WFP facilitator during a monitoring visit to one of WFP supported VSLAs.
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WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
2.2 billion	450.1 million
2024 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$) (August 2024 – January 2025)
442 million	178.5 million

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 organisation 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 (UNHAS) to all humanitarian partners
- Provide on-demand services to humanitarian actors

Operational Updates (Continued)

- Through food assistance for assets activities in July, WFP provided 21,505 beneficiaries with US\$ 166,524 via cash-based transfers.
- In July, WFP implemented two tools to enhance meaningful beneficiary access and safety in the delivery of food assistance. These include a questionnaire to assess beneficiary safety and security during redemptions, and a proximity checklist for food distribution points to identify location-based protection risks. These measures aim to reduce risks, particularly those linked to beneficiaries traveling long distances to redeem their food entitlements. Findings from the assessments will be used to make the distribution and redemption processes safer and more accessible.
- WFP supports the financial literacy, inclusion, and independence among beneficiaries through Village Saving and Loans Associations (VSLAs). In July, WFP facilitated the creation of 10 new VSLAs, engaging 221 members (of which 86 percent were women) while actively monitoring existing VSLAs to ensure their sustainability. These peer-managed, community-based groups provide members with essential support, enabling them to grow their savings and access financial services that can enhance their livelihood opportunities. Additionally, members receive training to bolster their financial resilience against ongoing shocks.

Monitoring

- WFP's June [food price](#) monitoring reflects an upward trend. According to the report, the cost of Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) in June increased by a range of 9.5 to 37.8 percent across all the surveyed markets (in Borno and Yobe states) when compared to the cost of the SMEB from three months ago in March.

Challenges

- The Government, WFP and food security sector partners had planned to provide food assistance to 2.8 million people of the 4.8 million acutely food insecure people in the northeast. However, due to funding shortfalls only 46 percent of the targeted population received food assistance in May.
- From August 2024 to January 2025, the funding gap for WFP Nigeria's Country Strategic plan stands at US\$ 178.5 million amounting to 77 percent of the requirements for the same period.

Donors in 2024

Canada, European Union, France, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Sweden, UN CERF, United Kingdom, United States, United Nations Pooled Funds, and private donors.