



World Food Programme

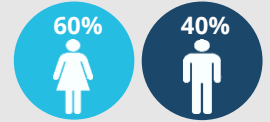
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Nigeria Country Brief January 2025



In Numbers

1,448,825 people assisted*
in January 2025



2,616 mt of food assistance distributed*

US\$ 9.9 million distributed through cash-based transfers*

US\$ 142 million six-month net funding requirement
(February 2025 – July 2025)

*Estimated data from preliminary distribution report dated 17 February 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 September 2024, the average cost of a healthy diet had surged by 113 percent compared to the previous year. Driven by violent conflicts and economic shocks, Nigeria has consistently ranked top ten in terms of population affected by a major food crisis for the past eight years.

As the lean season peaks between June and August 2025, the October 2024 Cadre Harmonisé projects that 33.2 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: 5.44 million children aged 0-59 months acutely malnourished; 1.76 million with SAM and 3.67 million with MAM (IPC Analysis, November 2024)

Situation and Operational Updates

- WFP is supporting government response to food insecurity by providing emergency food assistance and resilience support to acutely food insecure people. These include internally displaced people, returnees, refugees and other vulnerable community members living in areas that have been affected by either conflict or climate related disasters. **In January, WFP provided food assistance with food and cash to over 1.4 million people across Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states.** While 84 percent of the beneficiaries received e-voucher top-ups, in-kind food remains relevant in areas where local market functioning is not conducive for cash assistance. Despite ongoing insecurity posing significant challenges to operations, WFP successfully reached 73 percent of the targeted beneficiaries through in-kind modalities in January.
- Flood Response:** The effects of the unprecedented floods in 2024 are still being felt. Many affected people have not been able to return to their homes. Food and recovery assistance continues for those displaced before as well as because of the flood damages. **In coordination with the Borno State Government and other partners, WFP is facilitating a phased response to support the recovery of the flood-affected people.** This includes food assistance (food and cash), complemented by early recovery initiatives. In January, WFP distributed cash and dry food rations to 66,555 flood-affected people in the Gubio IDP camp and among host communities. WFP is also collaborating with the Government to rehabilitate damaged roads and construct homesteads and latrines for flood-affected people in the Malakyari area of Maiduguri.
- Malnutrition Prevention and Management Programme:** In January, WFP provided assistance to 46,057 children (aged 6-59 months) and pregnant and breast-feeding women and girls (PBWGs) with in-kind assistance and e-vouchers that are redeemable for specialized nutritious foods depending on the context. WFP is advancing on its plan to optimize Tom Brown – a local nutrient dense food – for the management of child wasting, in alignment with latest WHO guidelines and the shift towards cost-effective and efficacious local solutions. In Katsina, WFP has already registered 62 percent of the targeted beneficiaries to receive Tom-Brown products.
- Food Systems and Livelihood Enhancement:** In Konduga LGA of Borno state, WFP distributed farm inputs – solar powered irrigation machines, improved rice, wheat and vegetable seeds among others – to 1,997 beneficiaries. The distribution was part of an event to kick-off a WFP supported Sustainable Food Production project.

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Photo: WFP and the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation are working together to support vulnerable people in Sokoto and Katsina states. ©WFP/Nigeria.

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
2.2 billion	576.3 million
2024 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$) (February 2025 – July 2025)
474.7 million	141.8 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)

- WFP is enhancing local food systems to bolster the livelihoods and food security of communities against ongoing and new shocks. In stable areas across Borno and Yobe states, WFP is developing Zero Hunger Villages where community members are empowered with productivity enhancing equipment and trainings on innovative and climate-resilient agricultural practices. For example, WFP supported the construction of warehouses, chicken pens, and a solar-powered plant for irrigation in the Bade local government area (LGA) of Yobe state.

Monitoring

- In January, WFP collaborated with representatives from ECOWAS and the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation (FMHAPA) to conduct a monitoring mission on the joint WFP-FMHAPA-ECOWAS project in Sokoto and Katsina states. The project has enabled the provision of malnutrition prevention support to 9,000 children and 8,300 PBWG across four targeted LGAs - Katsina and Jibia LGAs in Katsina state and Sokoto south and Bodinga LGAs in Sokoto state. The construction of a communal grain processing facility and the distribution of individual livelihood enhancing inputs – start-up kits – are among the complementary livelihood activities aimed at enhancing the self-sufficiency of supported households. As part of the mission, the monitoring team assessed the functionality of the government-owned community feedback mechanism that was set up under the institutional capacity strengthening component of the joint project.

Funding

- WFP Nigeria requires US\$142 million to sustain operations from February to July 2025. 81 percent of the funding requirements is for lifesaving unconditional resource transfers. As a result of underfunding, WFP is scaling down general food distributions by 42 percent in February 2025 to target 954,846 beneficiaries across Adamawa, Borno, Katsina and Yobe states.

Donors in 2025

Germany and Saudi Arabia