



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Côte d'Ivoire Country Brief January – March 2025



Operational Context

As a global leader in cocoa and cashew production, Côte d'Ivoire has been experiencing one of the fastest sustained economic growths within sub-Saharan Africa over the past decade. However, poverty reduction remains limited, particularly in rural areas where the impact of economic gains is weakest. A 1% increase in GDP reduces poverty by only 0.6%, below the average in most African countries: as a result, 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 2025 Cadre Harmonisé, more than 1.2 million people face crisis level of food insecurity (Phase 3) with an additional 3.4 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 31 March 2025, almost 67,000 asylum seekers have arrived in northern Côte d'Ivoire, according to UNHCR, with the vast majority fleeing from Burkina Faso. Women and children make up 81 percent of this population. Approximately 82 percent of asylum seekers have integrated into host villages, placing additional strain on already vulnerable communities and affecting social cohesion. The remaining 18 percent are housed in two designated sites, Timalah and Niornigué, established by the Government in July 2023 in the border regions of Bounkani and Tchologo.

Since 1968, WFP has been providing humanitarian and development assistance in Côte d'Ivoire, focusing on boosting educational outcomes, promoting food and nutrition security, and supporting women and girls' inclusion. 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 Index:
166th out of 193 countries

Food insecurity: **1.2 million people in crisis and emergency phases**

2024 Global Gender Gap Index:
121st out of 146 countries

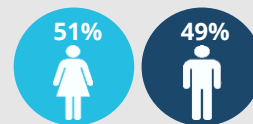
In Numbers

202,804 people assisted

US\$ 520,836 cash-based transfers distributed

460 MT distributed

US\$ 4.8 million six-month (April - September 2025) net funding requirements, representing 58 percent of the total needs-based plan



Strategic Updates

- WFP is currently preparing its **Country Strategic Plan (CSP)** for the 2026–2030 period. Following regional consultations held in early January, a national consultation workshop took place on 20–21 January 2025 to gather feedback from government counterparts, technical partners, and donors. In parallel, WFP has actively contributed to discussions on the National Development Plan and has been closely involved in the formulation of the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), which covers the same period as the CSP, to ensure strong alignment of priorities and strategic coherence.
- In early 2025, a national **Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) survey for nutrition** was conducted under the leadership of the Ministry of Health, to assess the nutritional status of children and women across Côte d'Ivoire. Data collection was completed in the first quarter, and WFP **provided technical support, along with other partners**, to review the preliminary findings. Final results are expected to be released in May. This survey will provide critical data to inform nutrition programming and policy decisions.

Operational Updates

- WFP supported the Directorate of School Canteens (DCS) in the provision of school meals across 713 schools in Bagoué, Poro, Tchologo, Gontougo, Bounkani, Cavally, and Bafing from January to March, reaching over **163,204 children with 460 mt food distributed**. Complementary activities included the **rehabilitation of WASH infrastructure, hygiene and soap-making trainings, literacy support, and awareness campaigns on the importance of homework and teacher attendance**—key to improving school retention and learning outcomes.
- WFP provided **monthly cash assistance** to over 33,000 Burkinabè asylum seekers in Bounkani and Tchologo regions through cash-in-hand distributions, supporting those in transit sites as well as those integrated into

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Photo Caption: A woman smallholder farmer supported by WFP smiles as she holds her harvested crops.
Photo Credit: © WFP/CIV

Country Strategic Plan (2019 – 2025)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
126.2 million	75 million
2025 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (April– September 2025)
24.9 million	4.8 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.

host communities. Additionally, **4,000 vulnerable members of host communities** received **quarterly cash transfers**, aligned with the national social safety net programme, helping to promote social cohesion and reduce pressure on local resources.

WFP delivered **two rounds of cash assistance**, through mobile money transfers (25,000 FCFA each) to nearly **100 people living with HIV** in Abidjan, to **improve their access to nutritious food, health care, and social services**. A final round of transfers is planned for April.

- Under a project financed by the Green Climate Fund (GCF), WFP monitored **17 agricultural production groups** and distributed **250 mini silos to 19 groups to reduce post-harvest losses and improve food storage**. Follow-up trainings will be conducted to ensure the proper use and maintenance of equipment.

Assessments and monitoring

- WFP and its partners supported the Government of Côte d'Ivoire in conducting key national food security analyses through the DISSA (National Monitoring and Food Security Information System) and the Cadre Harmonisé (IPC/CH). Results from the latter, which cover the period from March to May 2025, indicate that **more than 1.2 million people are currently facing crisis-level of food insecurity (IPC/CH phase 3+)**, a **37 percent increase** compared to the same period in 2024. An additional **3.4 million people are under stress (IPC/CH phase 2)**. The situation is poised to further deteriorate during the upcoming lean season (June–August 2025), **with 1.5 million people expected to be in phase 3+**, including over **53,800 people facing emergency levels of food insecurity (IPC/CH phase 4)**.

Challenges

- WFP requires **US\$ 4.6 million over the next six months** (April–September 2025) to sustain its emergency response in the northern regions of Bounkani and Tchologo hosting almost 67,000 asylum seekers from Burkina Faso. Current funding will only cover operations until May 2025, leaving a significant gap in support to vulnerable people. Without additional resources, critical humanitarian assistance risks being interrupted, affecting the food security, nutrition, and stability of already fragile communities.

Donors (active contributions only)

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