



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Côte d'Ivoire Country Brief April – June 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, 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 1.4 million people face crisis and emergency levels of food insecurity (Phase 3 & 4) with an additional 3.1 million people under stress (Phase 2). This is a sharp increase (by 54 percent

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 May 2025, 69,845 asylum seekers were registered in Côte d'Ivoire, according to UNHCR, the vast majority of whom had fled from Burkina Faso. Women and children make up 81 percent of this population. An estimated 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**

2025 Human Development Index: **157th out of 193 countries**

Food insecurity: **1.4 million people** in crisis and emergency phases

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

In Numbers

210,223 people assisted



US\$ 1 million cash-based transfers distributed

674.47 MT of food distributed

US\$ 9.9 million six-month (July – December 2025) net funding requirements, representing 66 percent of the total needs-based plan

Strategic Updates

- On 15 May, WFP joined a **high-level nutrition roundtable** convened by the Government and chaired by the Vice-President to mobilize resources for the National Multisectoral Nutrition Plan. The Government reaffirmed nutrition as a key priority and announced plans for legislation to expand school meals to 100% coverage and increase feeding days.
- From 23 May to 1 June, WFP ensured a strong presence at **SARA (Salon de l'Agriculture et Ressources Animales)**, participating in key panels including the Opening Panel and the ECOWAS 50th Anniversary Conference, where its school feeding programme was highlighted as a model for linking local agriculture to nutrition and education.
- On 30 May, **WFP and the Ministry of Environment signed a new MoU (2025–2028)** to strengthen programmes supporting communities facing climate shocks. Through this partnership, both parties will work together to implement a USD 10 million project funded by the Green Climate Fund and WFP to strengthen the resilience and economic empowerment of 70,000 vulnerable women and young people in the Poro region.

Operational Updates

- On 28 March, WFP and partners closed the 2024 climate insurance campaign, providing small-scale farmers in the north and west regions with protection against climate shocks. The total payout amounted to **8 million FCFA**, benefiting **3,168 people**, 39 percent of whom women, out of 33,666 insured individuals.
- From 16 to 23 June 2025, WFP organized two bootcamps in Sinématiali, Dikodougou, and Korhogo for farmers, partners, and community leaders on sustainable agriculture. The first covered **nature-based solutions for soil restoration and water management**; the second focused on **agroforestry techniques** to boost soil health and yields. These sessions aimed to equip local actors with practical skills to promote climate-resilient agriculture and enhance ecosystem resilience in northern Côte d'Ivoire.

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Photo Caption: A child enjoying a nutritious lunch provided through the WFP school feeding programme.
Photo Credit: © WFP/Côte d'Ivoire

Country Strategic Plan (2019 – 2025)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
126.2 million	77.7 million
2025 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (July– December 2025)
24.9 million	9.9 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.

- On 20 June 2025, WFP and UNHCR **launched the UNITE project** in Ferkessédougou. This €2.8 million project, funded by the European Union (DG-INTPA), aims to boost resilience and foster social cohesion of displaced people and host communities in the north. WFP will provide conditional cash transfers to build community assets like irrigation and gardens, assisting 1,470 households in Tchologo and Bounkani regions. This project is part of a wider €10 million EU-funded regional initiative targeting Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Togo.
- On 27 June, WFP Côte d'Ivoire hosted **Chef Christian Abégan, WFP Chef Advocate** for food security, nutrition and sustainable food systems in West and Central Africa. During interactive sessions with staff, he passionately shared his vision for sustainable nutrition improvement using local products. He emphasized the critical role of nutrition education and early dietary habit changes to achieve lasting health benefits for future generations.
- To improve access to nutritious food, health care, and social protection, WFP provided cash assistance of 25,000 FCFA via mobile money to **594 people living with HIV** in Abidjan in April, in partnership with the national nutrition programme. In June, **6,414 pregnant and breastfeeding women** also received a three-month cash support to improve access to nutritious food.

Assessments and monitoring

- In April, WFP conducted a **targeting exercise** to prioritise emergency food assistance for the most vulnerable in northern Côte d'Ivoire. Due to funding shortfalls, WFP **reduced its caseload by 35%** (from 41,000 to 26,500 people), mainly affecting out-of-site asylum seekers (down by 64% from 22,500 to 8,000).
- In May, WFP and the Ministry of Agriculture completed an **Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA)** in Tchologo and Bounkani regions. Findings showed high food insecurity: **41% of asylum seekers** and **29% of host families** face moderate or severe food insecurity.

Challenges

- WFP urgently needs **USD 9.9 million** to maintain emergency assistance through December 2025. With available resources, WFP can only maintain its assistance to a reduced caseload (64%) until October. Without new resources, vital assistance risks interruption, threatening the food security, nutrition, and stability of already vulnerable communities.

Donors (active contributions only)

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