



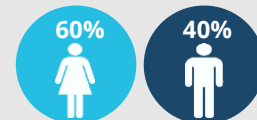
World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Nigeria Country Brief September 2025

In Numbers

995,695 people assisted*
in September 2025



1,143 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 10.7 million distributed through cash-based transfers

US\$ 80.4 million six-month net funding requirement
(October 2025 – March 2026)

*Preliminary figures



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 December 2024, the average cost of a healthy diet had surged by 90 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 March 2025 Cadre Harmonisé projected that 30.6 million people across Nigeria would be facing 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)

Strategic Updates:

- **African Food Systems Forum (AFSF) 2025:** WFP Nigeria participated in the AFSF held in Dakar during September, focused on **highlighting the transformative potential of youth in driving agricultural leadership, innovation and delivery**. During the summit, Nigeria's Minister of Agriculture and Food security emphasized the Government's commitment to adopting inclusive and climate-smart agricultural practices at scale. WFP is aligned with this strategy and continues to advocate for public and private collaboration to drive innovative, sustainable and inclusive food systems solutions that build on the results from ongoing humanitarian and resilience initiatives.
- **Donor Monitoring Mission:** During September, ECHO conducted a monitoring mission in WFP intervention sites in Dikwa Local Government area of Borno state. The visit provided an opportunity for oversight on the ongoing humanitarian food assistance with a focus on WFP's beneficiary registration and verification, community feedback mechanisms and the voucher-based food assistance modality. The recommendations by the mission team will be fed into future programming in alignment with WFP's knowledge management strategy.

Operational Updates

- **Emergency Food assistance:** In September, WFP supported the basic food needs of 899,363 people in Borno, Yobe and Katsina states with 927 mt of food and US\$ 9.5 million in e-vouchers and cash transfers. The assistance included support to 1,259 people that were affected by the floods in Dikwa and 1,288 newly arrived displaced people across the IDP camps in Borno state. The unconditional resource transfers were coupled with malnutrition prevention support for 28,359 nutritionally vulnerable household members (children aged 6- 23 months and pregnant and breast-feeding women and girls).
- **Anticipatory Action:** WFP also supported Nigeria's first anticipatory action for flood response by providing multipurpose cash transfers of NGN208,000 per household to at least 77,272 people living in Yola North, Yola South, Girei and Fufore Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Adamawa State. The assistance was launched within 72 hours following the trigger activation. The cash transfers were part of a comprehensive intervention by the Government and inter-agency partners to empower vulnerable communities and households to act early and protect their homes, access to food and livelihoods from the devastating impact of the floods in Adamawa state.

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Photo: Habiba used the cash transfers she received for anticipatory action on floods to buy food and protect her business from the impact of the flood. © WFP

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
2.2 billion	674.1 million
2025 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$) (October 2025 – March 2026)
475 million	80.4 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)

- **Malnutrition Supplementation Programme:** WFP supported the supplementation for 67,357 malnourished children (aged 6 - 59 months) and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWGs) across the northeast and the northwest. The Targeted Supplementation Feeding Programme was integrated with targeted trainings that were delivered to over 39 health workers in Government nutrition clinics across Katsina state. Trainings aimed at enhancing domestic institutional capacity around best practices for food handling, warehouse management, and supply chain incident management.

Monitoring

- The cost of the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) which represents the amount of food a household needs to meet their basic food needs declined between August and September in the northeast. This reduction is largely attributed to the start of the harvest season, however not all markets in the northeast are showing this trend. While the cost of the SMEB dropped 21 percent points in Bama LGA, it remained unchanged in Geidam LGA, while Gwoza LGA saw an increase. Although access to food is projected to improve for households with stable incomes, conflict affected internally displaced people are projected to continue facing high food needs due to ongoing security.

Challenges

- **Resource Constraints:** Funding constraints compel WFP to support only 65 percent of the rations needed by 900,000 people until the end of the year. A pipeline break for emergency food assistance is projected in December. WFP needs US\$ 80.1 million to sustain emergency food assistance for the next six months.
- Compounding challenges related to the volatile security context and poor road infrastructure continue to affect the delivery of assistance to acutely food insecure people living in hard-to-reach locations across Borno and Yobe states. WFP sustains assistance by adopting several strategies including modality modification, prepositioning of food and airlifts by UNHAS. However, some areas risk being cut-off from humanitarian support due to the mounting access constraints.

Donors in 2025

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