



WFP Nigeria Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Providing life-saving support to households directly affected by insecurity in northern Nigeria	2017 Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Resourced (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements*
EMOP 200777 Nigeria Component	352 m	13%	163 m

*January 2017 – June 2017

Emergency Operation (EMOP) 200777

WFP's regional EMOP addresses urgent food and nutrition needs of the most vulnerable people and communities in conflict-affected areas and displacement sites of Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria.

WFP has adopted an agile response, using the most appropriate and context-specific types of assistance and delivery mechanisms to address the needs. WFP uses either food- or cash-based transfers to support displaced people living in camps or with host communities, as well as vulnerable host populations.

Through the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) - established jointly with UNICEF - which includes extensive use of helicopters and the pooling of logistics and telecommunications resources across the humanitarian community, WFP continues to reach remote areas that were previously inaccessible due to the fluctuating security situation.

Prevention of malnutrition for children aged 6 to 59 months will remain integrated with cash or in-kind assistance, and will be extended to pregnant and nursing women. In areas where population returns are possible, a livelihood support intervention will be incorporated to contribute to early recovery and help reduce reliance on food assistance.

Provision of Humanitarian Air Services in Nigeria	2017 Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Resourced (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements*
SO 200834 (Aug 2015 to Dec 2017)	19 m	49%	2.2 m

*January 2017 – June 2017

Special Operation (SO) 200834 – United Nations Humanitarian Air Service

Since August 2015, UNHAS has allowed the humanitarian community to implement and scale-up relief activities to assist affected populations. The operational base of the fixed-wing aircraft is in the capital Abuja, with regular flights to Yola and Maiduguri. Helicopter flights were introduced on 7

Highlights

- In January WFP assisted one million Nigerians in conflict-affected zones in the Northeast of the country through cash-based transfers, in-kind food assistance and specialized nutritious food distributions.
- Following a military airstrike that hit a displacement camp in Rann, Kalabalge Local Government Area (LGA) on 17 January, the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) deployed three helicopters to airlift medical teams and cargo, and evacuate injured patients as part of the emergency response.

July 2016, and they constitute a critical component to access remote and hard-to-reach areas in north-east Nigeria.

UNHAS helicopters were instrumental in the emergency medical evacuation that followed the military airstrike on Rann on 17 January. UNHAS airlifted 967 kg of medical cargo to Rann, ferried medical teams to the ground and successfully evacuated 66 casualties from Rann to Maiduguri over a total of 13 missions.

Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Sector Coordination and Services to augment the Humanitarian Response SO 201302	2017 Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Resourced (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements*
	9 m	24%	2.3 m

*January 2017 – June 2017

Special Operation (SO) 201032

On 7 November 2016, WFP, by reason of its expertise and vast field capacity, launched a Special Operation to support the Government in addressing the main logistics and telecommunication gaps faced by the humanitarian community in north-east Nigeria.

The [Logistics Sector](#) is responsible for logistics coordination and information management, augmentation of storage capacities in Borno state and coordination of cargo movements.

The [Emergency Telecommunication Sector](#) aims at establishing and upgrading security telecommunications in Maiduguri and Damaturu enabling the humanitarian community to carry out their jobs efficiently and safely, ultimately saving more lives.

In Numbers

1.3 m People targeted by WFP for food assistance in February 2017

1.8 m People displaced
(IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix, December 2016)

4.4 m People food insecure in Borno and Yobe States
(Phases 3, 4 & 5, "Cadre Harmonisé", October 2016)

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Maie Sahoury
Caption: A UNHAS helicopter facilitates airlifts of medical staff and equipment, and evacuation of injured patients from IDP camp in Rann – 18 January 2017



January 2017

Operational Updates

- In January, WFP, both directly and through partnerships, reached 1,064,000 people in northeast Nigeria.
- A total of 787,400 people – most of them internally displaced, in camps or in host communities – benefited from in-kind food distributions across Borno and Yobe States.
- A total of 234,000 children aged 6-59 months were assisted with specialized nutritious food, while in areas with functioning markets 218,300 people were assisted through cash-based transfers.
- Through the RRM, established jointly by WFP and UNICEF to enhance access to the most vulnerable populations, 287,600 people were assisted with general food distributions and 24,300 children received supplementary nutritious food in Dikwa, Ngala and Monguno Local Government Areas (LGAs).
- Due to the multidimensional nature of the crisis, WFP has adopted a flexible and agile response, using the most appropriate and context-specific transfer modalities and delivery mechanisms and approaches to address the needs of affected people.
- WFP will scale-up cash transfers where appropriate and where markets are functioning, while the recently increased in-kind food response was temporarily initiated to allow for a rapid scale-up to meet the lifesaving needs.

Partnerships

- Delivering in a highly risky and volatile context requires complementary actions to reach all those in need: WFP is increasing its footprint through 18 partnerships with national and international NGOs.
- WFP also meets regularly with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and *Médecins Sans Frontières* (MSF) to coordinate resources and provision of emergency food with health and nutrition assistance and to maximize deep field capacity.
- In light of the upcoming lean season, WFP is joining forces with FAO to provide emergency food assistance, agriculture and livelihoods support to save lives and protect and build livelihoods of internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees and host communities in Borno and Yobe States.

Challenges

- The operating environment remains challenging and fragile. Security risks directly hinder access, severely restricting field movements.
- Because of a significantly below-average harvest, the annual lean season is expected to start early in April-May instead of July and given the limited purchasing power and the depletion of household stocks, millions of people are likely to remain severely food insecure until October 2017. Without an immediate and full response to the acute needs within the coming year, the situation may evolve into a chronic crisis. Sufficient funds and resources should be made available to stabilize the food security and nutrition crisis, ensure coordinated efforts towards early recovery, and gradually transition to a longer-term development approach with development actors alongside the Government.

Country Background & Strategy



Nigeria is a federal constitutional republic in West Africa with 36 States and a Federal Capital Territory, where the capital Abuja is located. Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa and the seventh most populous country in the world. Nigeria has over 500 ethnic groups.

As at 2015, Nigeria was the world's 20th largest economy and overtook South Africa to become Africa's largest economy in 2014. Some 68 percent of the Nigerian population is literate, and the rate for men (75.7 percent) is higher than that for women (60.6 percent).

The crisis induced by the Boko Haram insurgency remains the principal driving factor of instability in north-east Nigeria. Founded in 2002 in Borno State, Boko Haram has been advocating for the creation of an Islamic state in northern Nigeria. Since 2010, the group has increasingly expanded its operational capabilities, and in March 2014 a state of emergency was declared by the Government in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe States.

As of December 2016, according to IOM's displacement tracking matrix, around 1.77 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) are reported to be in north-east Nigeria, 80 percent of which are located across Borno State (1.4 million), Adamawa (0.15 million) and Yobe (0.11 million) States. Children constitute 55 percent of the IDP population, and 54 percent of the IDP population is female.

Population: **184 million**

2015 Human Development Index:
152 out of 188

Income Level: **Largest economy in Africa and 20th in the world**

Literacy: **68 percent (75.7 percent men and 60.6 percent women)**

Donors

United Kingdom, United States of America, European Commission, UN CERF, Germany, Norway, Canada, Australia, Ireland, Sweden, Switzerland, Belgium and Private Donors.

Country Director (ad interim): Margot van der Velden
Contact info: Chiara Argenti (chiara.argenti@wfp.org) & Mishisalla Beyene (mishisalla.beyene@wfp.org)

Further information: www.wfp.org/emergencies/nigeria