



# 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	447 m	11%	219 m

\*includes estimated budget for Budget Revision #9  
\*\*February 2017 – July 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 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.

The prevention of malnutrition for children aged 6 to 59 months will remain integrated with cash or in-kind food assistance, and is being extended to pregnant and nursing women. In areas where population returns are possible, livelihood support interventions 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 (UNHAS)

Since August 2015, UNHAS flights have 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.

**Main Photo** Credit: WFP/Amadou Baraze  
Caption: Rapid Response Mission, Ngala (Borno State), Nigeria

## Highlights

- In February, for the third consecutive month, WFP assisted one million Nigerians in conflict-affected zones in the Northeast of the country through cash-based transfers, in-kind food assistance and specialised nutritious food distributions.
- Given the current levels of food insecurity, significantly below-average crop production, disrupted livelihoods, and very high staple food prices, millions of people are likely to remain severely food insecure, particularly during the upcoming lean season.

Helicopter flights were introduced on 7 July 2016, and they constitute a critical component to access remote and hard-to-reach areas in Northeast Nigeria.

The International Airport in Abuja is due to close from 8 March to 18 April in order to conduct urgently required repairs. UNHAS is currently finalizing interim operational plans and a potential flight schedule from Kaduna to the Northeast during the 6-week closure period.

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

\*January 2017 – June 2017

### Special Operation (SO) 201032

On 7 November 2016, WFP launched a Special Operation to address the main logistics and telecommunication gaps faced by the humanitarian community in Northeast 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 Telecommunications Sector aims at establishing and upgrading security telecommunications in Maiduguri and Damaturu enabling the humanitarian community to carry out their jobs efficiently and safely.

## In Numbers

**1.07 m** people reached by WFP food assistance in Borno and Yobe States in February 2017

**1.9 m** people displaced in Northeast Nigeria  
(IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix, January 2017)

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



February 2017

## Operational Updates

- In February, WFP, both directly and through partnerships, reached 1,074,000 people in Northeast Nigeria.
- A total of 836,000 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 227,000 children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and nursing women were assisted with specialised nutritious food, while a further 177,000 people were assisted through cash-based transfers.
- Due to the multi-dimensional nature of the crisis, WFP has adopted a flexible and agile response, using the most appropriate and context-specific types of assistance and delivery mechanisms to address the needs of affected people.
- 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.
- 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.
- The prolonged humanitarian crisis in the wake of the Boko Haram insurgency has had a devastating impact on food and nutrition security in the region leading to famine-like conditions in some areas. According to a report released by FEWS NET on 25 January, given the reduced capacity to cope and the possibility that additional shocks will occur, Nigeria and three other countries face a credible risk of famine (Phase 5).

## A Story worth Telling

Within Nigeria alone, nearly 2 million people have been uprooted. More have fled across the borders to Cameroon and Chad. The displaced persons have found refuge in formal camps or host communities. Hunger stalks these lands. WFP and its partners feed a growing proportion of the displaced – over a million at the last count, with hopes of reaching double that number in the next few months.

Ajazara and her son have been living now for six months in Bakasi camp in Maiduguri, which serves as a home to 30,000 people. But this is not their first stop. Altogether they have clocked up two years and seven months of displacement. When Boko Haram overran their community, she and her son managed to flee. Ajazara and her son now receive food assistance through WFP's local partner, the International Medical Corps, which is distributing Plumpy'Sup, a peanut-based paste specially designed to combat malnutrition in children under five.

[Read more](#)

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## 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 Northeast 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 January 2016, according to IOM's displacement tracking matrix, around 1.9 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) are reported to be in Northeast Nigeria, 80 percent of which are located across Borno (1.5 million), Adamawa (0.15 million) and Yobe (0.11 million) States. Children constitute 56 percent of the IDP population, and 54 percent of the IDP population are women.

Population: **184 million**

2015 Human Development Index:  
**152 out of 188**

Income Level: **Largest economy in Africa and 20<sup>th</sup> 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, Japan and Private Donors.

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