



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Nigeria Country Brief June 2020



Operational Context

Nigeria, a federal constitutional republic with over 500 ethnic groups, is the most populous country in Africa and the seventh most populous country in the world. The crisis induced by non-state armed groups remains the principal driving factor of instability in northeast Nigeria. These groups have been expanding operational capabilities since 2010. In May 2013 a state of emergency was declared by the governments of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States.

There are over two million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Nigeria (IOM/DTM Round 32), with most in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States. The June 2020 Cadre Harmonisé reports that 4.3 million people are in need of food assistance in these states.

WFP operations are focused on crisis response to prevent further deterioration of food and nutrition security, reduce malnutrition and minimize gender inequalities. The spread of COVID-19 in Nigeria imposes multiple challenges for WFP food assistance operations, including accessing urban populations in need, and restrictions on movement of WFP and cooperating partner staff, transporters and financial service providers.



Population: **206 million**

2018 Human Development Index:
158 out of 189

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Estimated that >1m children (6-59 mths) in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States are undernourished, 367,000 SAM & 727,000 MAM. (HRP 2019-2022)

In Numbers

7,001 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 8.9 m cash-based transfers made

USD 176 m six-month net funding requirement (July 2020 – December 2020)

751,264 people assisted in June 2020



Operational Update

WFP **food assistance** reached 610,163 internally displaced people (IDPs) and host communities in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe States. WFP provided in-kind food to 326,561 people and reached 283,602 through mobile money and e-vouchers.

Malnutrition prevention activities reached 164,408 children and pregnant and lactating women and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) was provided to 4,313 children aged 6–59 months.

WFP provided food or cash **livelihoods support** to 111,444 households. The pandemic has adversely affected implementation of WFP livelihood activities. Supply chains are obstructed by restrictions on movements across states and major markets. Vulnerable families and communities are experiencing increased prices of food and essential goods with long-term implications for their food security, nutrition and livelihoods.

WFP continues to **scale up response in the northeast** to provide COVID-19 related and other emergency food assistance to 1.72 million people. Targeting of distributions follows a tiered palliative care approach aligned with the Government response.

At the request of the Federal Government, WFP, IOM, and UNHCR plan direct food assistance to complement Government social safety net efforts using in-kind and cash-based transfers in **Lagos, Kano and Abuja**. A joint proposal submitted to the UN COVID-19 Basket Fund for USD 8 million includes USD 5 million in food assistance for Phase 1 of the intervention. USD 20 million is required to reach 900,000 people in need. The Federal Government contributed 2,000 mt of cereals from the national Strategic Grain Reserve for COVID-19 response in these urban hotspots.

Technical support provided to the Government's take-home ration distribution in Abuja and Lagos further strengthened the continuing partnership between WFP and the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development.

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Photo caption: Even in lockdown, life floats on in the muddy, murky waters of Makoko. **Credit:** WFP/Damillola Onafuwa

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2022)

Six-month requirement 2020 (USD)	Six-month allocated contributions (USD)	Six-month net funding requirement (USD)
263 m	87 m	176 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Internally displaced persons, returnees, refugees and local communities affected by crisis in Nigeria are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of shocks

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide unconditional food assistance and income-generating activities to food-insecure internally displaced persons, returnees, refugees and host communities affected by crises (URT: unconditional resource transfer).
- Provide nutrition prevention and treatment packages to children 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating women and girls, other nutritionally vulnerable populations and persons with caring responsibilities (NPA: malnutrition prevention).

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Nutritionally vulnerable people in chronically food insecure areas have enhanced nutritional status in line with the achievement of national and global targets by 2015

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Support improving the nutrition status of children, pregnant and lactating women and girls, adolescents and other nutritionally vulnerable groups (including people living with HIV) through an integrated malnutrition prevention package, including access to nutritious food and quality care, social and behavioural change communication and capacity strengthening (NPA: malnutrition prevention).

Strategic Result 3: Smallholders productivity and incomes

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable populations in targeted areas become more resilient to shocks and are able to meet their basic food needs throughout the year.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide conditional transfers to food-insecure persons, including women, young people and smallholders (ACL: asset creation and livelihood support).

Strategic Result 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 4: Federal, state and local actors have strengthened capacity to manage food security and nutrition programmes in line with national targets in the short, medium and long term.

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Support the technical capacity of federal, state and local actors in information management systems, vulnerability assessment and mapping, monitoring and evaluation, safety net management, food technology and fortification, supply chains, nutrition and emergency preparedness and response, integrating gender. (CSI: institutional capacity strengthening).

Strategic Result 6: Policies to support sustainable development are coherent

Strategic Outcome 5: Government and partner efforts to achieve Zero Hunger by 2030 are supported by effective and coherent policy frameworks

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Support the Zero Hunger Forum and food and nutrition security coordination and advocacy in line with the recommendations of the zero-hunger strategic review (CSI: institutional capacity strengthening).

Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 6: Humanitarian community is enabled to reach and operate in areas of humanitarian crisis throughout the year

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide common emergency telecommunications services to government, United Nations and NGO partners to facilitate effective field operations and provide for staff security (CPA: service provision and platforms).
- Provide common logistic services to government, United Nations and non-governmental partners to facilitate effective field operations (CPA: service provision and platforms).
- Provide humanitarian air services to all partners until appropriate alternatives are available. (CPA: service provision and platforms).

Challenges

Market volatility due to COVID-19 led to shortage of cereals and pulses and supplier default on contracts. Local purchase of vegetable oil is underway to ease shortages associated with restrictions on imported vegetable oil. Poor road conditions during the rainy season impacted delivery of food to some areas. Restriction of field missions to the highest level of programme criticality constrained the advancement of planned livelihoods activities.

Sectors

Food Security Sector partners collected data using the Household Economy Approach (HEA). The data will indicate whether food-insecure COVID-19 affected urban and peri-urban households are able to 30 percent of food needs. Results will be shared in July.

Emergency Telecommunications Sector provided Internet connectivity services to 3,327 humanitarians from 101 organizations.

Logistics Sector processed 792 humanitarian cargo movement notifications from 31 organizations to 60 destinations. Sector-managed storage facilities in six locations across Borno State received 812 mt of humanitarian cargo.

UN Humanitarian Air Service transported 4,406 and 16,629 kg of cargo between Abuja, Maiduguri and Yola and to and from humanitarian hubs.

Communications

Makoko, an informal waterfront settlement in Lagos, Nigeria, is often referred to as the *Venice of Africa*. Thousands live in stilt houses nestled deep in murky black waters. Makoko's population faces extreme risk of COVID-19, as hygiene and social distancing pose serious challenges in these cramped conditions. However, hunger and the threat of eviction pose even bigger risks to residents' way of life than either disease or infection. [🔗 Read more](#)

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