



WFP Côte d'Ivoire

Country Brief

June 2021

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

With an estimated 26.4 million inhabitants, Côte d'Ivoire has maintained peace and experienced remarkable economic recovery since the end of the 2010-2011 post-electoral crisis. Despite its growth, almost half of the population (46 percent) continues to live under the poverty line and the majority suffers from the triple burden of malnutrition, represented by micronutrient deficiencies, undernutrition and overnutrition, slowing down WFP's efforts towards Zero Hunger.

Since 1969, WFP Côte d'Ivoire has been providing support in alignment with the national context. WFP's operations are currently focused on development interventions to improve food security, reduce malnutrition, enhance education achievements, and minimize gender inequalities. Activities are concentrated in northern and western rural areas, which are known to have higher concentration of food insecure and vulnerable populations.

Côte d'Ivoire is observing a decline of active COVID-19 cases. As of 30 June 2021, 48,305 cases have been reported (including 47,834 recovered, 313 deaths and 158 active). Vaccination against COVID-19 continues with three different types of vaccines (Astrazeneca, Sinopharm and Pfizer). WFP is continuing its operations and activities while strictly abiding by the health and sanitary measures to ensure the safety of its staff, partners, and beneficiaries.



2018 Food insecurity: **10.8 %** of the population

2020 Human Development Index ranking: **162 out of 189 countries**

2019 Gender Inequality Index: **153 out of 162 countries**

Chronic malnutrition: **21.6%** of children between 24-59 months

In Numbers

542.336 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 79,864 cash-based transfers made

USD 3.6 m six months (July-December 2021) net funding requirements

97,183 people assisted in June 2021



Operational Updates

- The security situation in the northern and north-eastern regions remains volatile, with two incidents of terrorist attacks reported. WFP's activities in these regions continue to operate with caution.
- A high-level two-day school feeding workshop was organized in Abidjan by WFP, attended by the Minister of Education, representative of AVSI (WFP's implementing partner for the school feeding programme) and various stakeholders. The aim of the workshop was to discuss and consolidate successes, lessons learnt and recommendations drawn from the regional workshops held in May 2021 on the first phase of the McGovern-Dole school feeding programme (2016-2020), as WFP and partners are preparing for the next phase of this programme (2021-2026). The latter will aim to continue improving schoolchildren's access to education and nutrition benefits, while strengthening national ownership of the programme.
- During the national workshop, WFP donated 22 motorcycles to the Ministry of Education, to facilitate monitoring activities of the Directorate of School Canteens (DCS). This is in line with one of the recommendations of the McGovern-Dole mid-term evaluation findings, which highlighted the need to strengthen Government capacity in monitoring of school feeding activities.
- WFP distributed the last take-home rations (THRs) to targeted schoolgirls. The decision to phase out THRs is in line with the transition plan prepared by WFP, the Government and school feeding partners. The impact of phasing out THRs on girls' school attendance and retention will be closely monitored.
- WFP will simultaneously be conducting the final evaluation of the first phase of the school feeding programme and the baseline survey for the second phase. The contracts with the independent evaluation teams have been signed.
- Resilience-strengthening activities, under the Smallholder Agricultural Market Support (SAMS) programme, are ongoing. With technical support from WFP and partners, targeted farmers have started ploughing the land to prepare for the next planting season and prepared strategies for financing planting during the next rainy season. Overall, 357 mt of diverse food produce were harvested and sold at XOF 66,140,713 (approximately USD 120,318).

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Main photo: WFP Côte d'Ivoire

Caption: Students in the schoolyard.

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

| 2021 Total Requirement (in USD) | 2021 Allocated Contributions (in USD) | Sixth Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 21.9 m | 1.2 m | 3.6 m |

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

Activities:

- Provide school meals, take-home rations 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

Activities:

- 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 child-bearing age and people living with HIV – have improved nutritional status by 2023

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- 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 4: Sustainable food systems

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 2023

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- 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: Countries strengthened capacities

Strategic Outcome 5: National institutions have strengthened capacity to better target and manage food security, nutrition, and social protection programmes by 2023

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Provide technical support to national partners in their efforts to address school feeding, food security, nutrition, social protection and emergency preparedness and response.

- A total of 500 people living with HIV (PLHIV) received two months' cash rations (USD 45,454) to support their food and nutritional needs. Both WFP and the National Nutrition unit, trained 34 NGOs and PLHIV groups, on key nutrition messages.

Success story: The impact of school meals and take-home rations on academic performance:

Mr. Silué Naban is a father of one of the students (Aissata) of the Nakaha Public Primary School, in Korhogo region, which is part of the the school feeding programme. Aissata, 9 years old is in grade 6 and has been a beneficiary of the school meals and take-home rations provided by WFP and partners. "I am proud of my daughter's results today. I want to thank the school canteen that made her attend school regularly. She did not even want to miss a day going to school. Her school performance has improved remarkably, especially in reading as well as in the other subjects. Her school results have really changed! Also, the rice that she received monthly allowed my child and her siblings to eat well at home as well. For us parents, the presence of the canteen allowed us to continue our livelihood activities without worrying about how to get lunch for our children. I also want to thank the women agricultural groups who support the school canteens in their localities, by providing a portion of their produce. They are helping to feed our children so that they continue to improve their academic performances and healthy bodies, for a brighter future for all of us".



Photo: Mr Silué Naban and his daughter Aissata, the day of take-home ration distribution in the primary school of Nakaha

Challenges

- The insecurity in the northern and north-eastern regions continues to affect farming activities of rural communities assisted by WFP under the Smallholder Agricultural Market Support (SAMS) programme and to some extent, it also reduces WFP's monitoring capacities in these areas.
- The delay in start of rainfall this year is likely to affect farmers' agricultural activities.

Donors

Top donors to WFP Côte d'Ivoire Country Strategic Plan include the USA, ECOWAS and private donors.