



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Côte d'Ivoire Country Brief December 2020

Operational Context

With an estimated 25.5 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 of the population 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 operations are currently focused on development interventions to improve food security, reduce malnutrition, enhance education achievements and minimize gender inequalities. WFP activities are concentrated in northern and western rural areas of the nation, which is known to have higher concentration of food insecure and vulnerable populations.

Following the first reported case of COVID-19 in the country on 11 March 2020, Côte d'Ivoire is continuously experiencing a low number of new confirmed cases. As of 31 December, 22,366 cases are reported (21,909 recovered, 137 deaths and 320 active). WFP's operations and activities are resuming back to normal, strictly abiding by the health and sanitary measures and regulations.



Prevalence of food insecurity: **10.8 %**
of the population

2019 Human Development Index: **162**
out of 189 countries

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

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

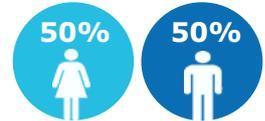
In Numbers

261 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 11,182 cash-based transfers made

USD 11.2 m six months (January 2021 – June 2021)
net funding requirements

122,294 people assisted
In December 2020



Operational Updates

- WFP in Côte d'Ivoire has continued its emergency response to provide immediate relief to internally displaced persons (IDPs) affected by the October 2020 presidential election. WFP is providing food assistance (rice, vegetable oil and beans) in regions identified through rapid needs assessments conducted by local partners and inter-agency multisectoral groups. To date, WFP has partnered with UNHCR, Red Cross and Caritas in support of 4,700 people in 39 localities. The country office is planning to augment its assistance to different localities and extend the length of assistance to best serve affected IDPs and host communities who lost their sources of livelihoods. A survey on food security and livelihood status is also planned, to gain an in-depth understanding of residual needs of affected population to support their returns to places of origin and help restore their livelihoods.
- School feeding and livelihood activities in western regions resumed timidly as residents, who had fled the region due to the volatile political and security situation, started returning. As the situation stabilized, WFP resumed food deliveries to assisted schools to restart school feeding activities.
- To encourage long-term sustainability of the national school feeding programme, WFP and partners continue to sensitize local communities to increase their engagement and ownership of the programme. A joint mission was conducted in December by WFP and its Government partner, the Directorate of School Canteens (DCS) of the Ministry of Education, to document best practices of rural smallholder farmers' contribution to supply locally produced food to school canteens.

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Main photo: Credit: WFP/Marie Dasylyva

Caption: WFP food distribution to IDPs in the village of Bayota (Centre East), Department of Gagnoa

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

2021 Total Requirement (in USD)	2021 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Sixth Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
15.9 m	32 m	11.2 m

Allocated contributions for 2020 operations are USD 11.7 million. However, USD 32 million reflect the recent addition of multi-year grant.

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.

- As the income-generating activities under the Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) programme resumed, WFP's remote monitoring results indicated the level of community ownership and sustainability of the programme. The participants continued to reinvest on the assets created in 2019 in agriculture, poultry or fish farms for continued growth. An evaluation mission was also conducted to better understand the impact of the income-generating activities designed to strengthen livelihoods and resilience of Ivorian returnees. The final report will be available in January 2021.
- To further enhance the resilience and economic empowerment of rural smallholder women farmers, WFP partnered with UNESCO to provide literacy training to 300 women farmers supported in the northern region. The training aimed to increase targeted women's literacy rate, so they could access relevant information about the prices and marketing opportunities for their agricultural production. The final evaluation of this pilot project highlighted stakeholders' satisfaction of the training modules, which was tailored to serve the needs of beneficiaries. Moreover, the overall success rate of the final literacy test was 79 percent, indicating that a good majority of participants can now read, write and calculate basic arithmetic.
- WFP's support to smallholder farmers under the Smallholder Agricultural Market Support (SAMS) programme continued, focusing on three different areas: post-harvest management; agricultural off-season activities; harvesting and marketing activities, including the collection and dissemination of market information on food prices. In addition, a joint mission was carried out with the Network of Transformers of Agricultural Products of Côte d'Ivoire (RET-PACI) to eight WFP-supported agricultural groups, in order to assess their food processing potential (of agricultural products), for a potential partnership between WFP, RET-PACI and the farmer groups.

Challenges

- Funding shortfall of 11.2m will impact WFP operations. Urgent resources are required to ensure timely food assistance to IDPs and host-communities affected by electoral violence. In addition, scale-up of support to the smallholder farmers, a critical component for the sustainability of the school feeding programme, remains largely under-resourced.

Donors

Support to WFP Cote d'Ivoire in 2020 has been provided by the USA and private donors.