



WFP Côte d'Ivoire

Country Brief

September 2019

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

With an estimated 25.1 million inhabitants (48.4 percent women), Cote d'Ivoire has enjoyed steady economic growth since the end of the 2010-2011 post-electoral crisis, restoring its middle-income status. However, this has not translated into inclusive socioeconomic development for most of the population. Poverty rates remain high, affecting 46 percent of the population, food security continues to be a challenge and the country suffers from the triple burden of malnutrition, represented by micronutrient deficiencies, undernutrition and overnutrition, with significant regional disparities. WFP is providing support in Cote d'Ivoire according to 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 which are particularly more vulnerable and food insecure.

WFP has been present in Cote d'Ivoire since 1969.



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

2017 Human Development Index: **170** out of 189 countries

2017 Gender Inequality Index: **155** out of 160 countries

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

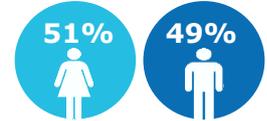
In Numbers

9mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 2,260 cash-based transfers made

US\$ 2.8 m six months (October 2019 - March 2020) net funding requirements

6,395 people assisted in September 2019



Operational Updates

- As part of the preparation of the new National Development Plan (PND 2021-2025), the Government organized several regional workshops, from 9 September to 3 October. The objectives were to conduct a local review of the implementation, achievements and lessons learned of the current development plan (PND 2016-2020). The priorities of each locality for the next five years were also identified, based on the needs of the local communities. WFP participated in these workshops in localities where it has a presence, to discuss about lessons learned and recommendations to improve education, health, environment, peace and social cohesion, agriculture and human capital development.
- Following the three-months summer holidays, primary schools across the country reopened gradually starting September. Only few canteens in two localities out of the seven WFP assists were functional, and hot lunches were provided to 6,341 schoolchildren.
- In the localities targeted as part of the Smallholder Agriculture Market Support (SAMS) initiative, over 33.5 mt of vegetables were produced and harvested. A part of this production is expected to be allocated to school canteens, another part consumed, and another part sold to increase their food security, nutrition and income. The heavy and violent rains started in September are causing disturbances in the smallholder farmers' activities in some northern localities and material damage to their agricultural equipment and units. WFP is monitoring the situation closely and ready to complement the efforts of the local communities should the situation aggravate.
- In partnership with UNHCR and DAARA of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, WFP assisted the voluntary repatriation of Ivorian returnees, providing relief food assistance through cash-based transfers to 54 returnees. Three other convoys of returnees planned by UNHCR in September did not occur due to the difficulties in road access following heavy rains.

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Main photo: Credit: WFP/Marie Dasyuva

Caption: Solar dryers set up by WFP-assisted smallholder farmers in northern Côte d'Ivoire, Korogho 2019

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

| 2019 Total Requirement (in USD) | 2019 Allocated Contributions (in USD) | Sixth Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 13.9 m | 10.7 m | 2.8 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.

- WFP participated in the cross-border meeting between Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia, on the voluntary repatriation of Ivorian refugees. UNHCR and government partners from both Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia shared and discussed the main results achieved throughout the repatriation process of Ivorian refugees from Liberia. Partners also took stock of the main recommendations going forward, including increasing respective advocacy for the integration of returnees in government plans; harmonizing the communication; improving coordination; exploring vaccination support for returnees; and enhancing delivery of biometric documents to the returnees to increase electronic assistance payment.

Beneficiary stories

- Composed of 150 members (99 percent women), the smallholder farmer group of Fapaha in northern Côte d'Ivoire has received the technical assistance of WFP since 2017. Yeo Nonlourou, 38 years old, one of the members of this farmer group shares with her community one of the many things she has learnt through this project: "Before, we did not know much about the modern food production and processing techniques. For example, we were manually threshing the rice by hitting the collected sheaves against a heavy object. This would create a lot of broken pieces. But today, WFP provided us a rice husking machine and a thresher and showed us how to use them. The thresher limits grain breakages, while the huller helps us to whiten the paddy rice properly. With these new equipment, we are selling our rice harvest better." Like Yeo Nonlourou, the results so far of this integrated support are changing the lives of over 3,800 smallholder farmers. The programme helps them improve their resilience and economic autonomy, and they are full of hope for the future. Throughout the period of the CSP (2019-2023), WFP plans to gradually scale-up this approach to rural transformation to reach 125,000 smallholder farmers.

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