



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Nigeria

Humanitarian Response Plan 2019–2021



to assist

1.3 million people



FAO requires

USD 32.4 million



period

January–December 2019

Continuing to provide livelihood support is crucial to ensure that the food security situation does not deteriorate.

A decade into the crisis, the protracted nature of displacement has eroded coping mechanisms, significantly weakened resilience and heightened vulnerabilities. New waves of displacement in 2018 add to the already high numbers of people in northeastern Nigeria who had fled their homes. Insecurity continues to be the main trigger for wide-scale population displacement and dire humanitarian needs in northeastern Nigeria. Recurrent flooding and inter-communal tensions also affect the region.

Objectives

FAO is working with partners of the Food Security Sector to:

- Provide emergency food assistance to meet the needs of the most vulnerable crisis-affected populations.
- Foster the resilience of crisis-affected communities through improved agricultural production, restoration and strengthening of productive assets, and supporting income-generating activities.
- Strengthen coordination with Food Security Sector partners and stakeholders and sectoral working groups engaged in the response.

Activities



Support food production and nutrition

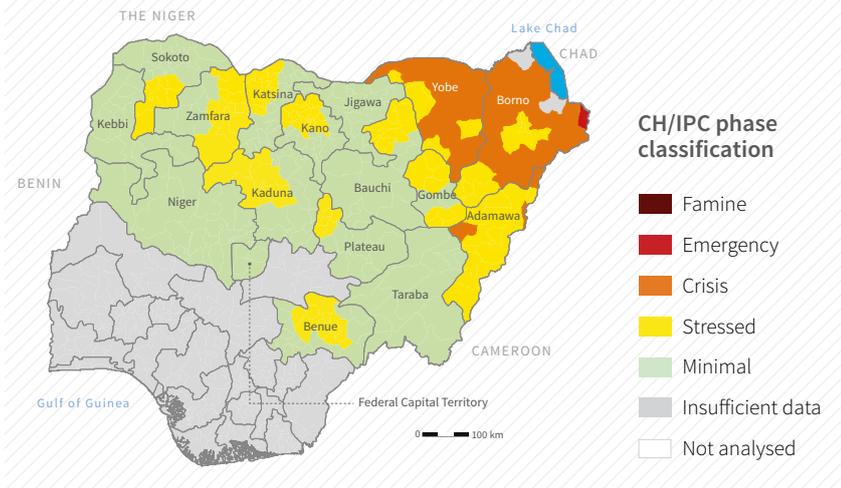
emergency agricultural inputs | nutrition-sensitive vegetable kits | training on nutrition | livestock and poultry kits | village savings and loan groups | training on leadership and entrepreneurial skills, basic financial management and marketing | food conservation and processing equipment | backyard/micro-gardening | water harvesting | fuel-efficient cooking stoves | awareness raising on gender issues, climate change, safe access to fuel and energy, and backyard/micro-gardening



Strengthen food security coordination

Food Security Sector coordination at federal and state levels | information management and food security analysis | strengthen local capacities including of national and federal institutions | joint protection monitoring missions with protection partners and protection integration capacity building

Projected food insecurity and malnutrition situation (June–August 2019)



Source: *Cadre Harmonisé*, November 2018

Impact on food security

The ongoing conflict in northeastern Nigeria has resulted in massive damage to infrastructure, disruption of basic social services and markets, and lack of safe access to farmlands, affecting the livelihoods of vulnerable communities, and particularly of female-headed households. Conflict-related damages are colossal – USD 3.5 billion were reported on agriculture, in a country where the agriculture sector provides livelihoods for about 90 percent of the rural population. With 60 percent of displaced people staying with host families, large-scale displacement continues to place a heavy strain on the already limited resources of vulnerable communities, leading to increased social tensions. Insecurity also impacts access to fuel and energy for cooking, with 85 percent of women and girls reporting heightened protection risks when collecting firewood.

Despite improvements in 2018 thanks to sustained humanitarian assistance, the food security and nutrition situation remains fragile in northeastern Nigeria where food is still the biggest unmet need of IDPs in camps and camp-like settings. Vulnerable households are not able to cultivate enough land nor do they own sufficient livestock to cover their food needs. The ongoing conflict also continues to have a direct impact on people’s nutrition status that is further exacerbated by weak health infrastructures and food insecurity. Although the 2018 agricultural season has been progressing positively, harvests may remain substantially below average due to restricted access to land for most households. There is an urgent need for the perimeters of the government-secured ‘garrison towns’ to be expanded to enable freedom of movement.

In 2019, most displaced people and returnees will continue to rely on humanitarian assistance if early recovery and development interventions are not urgently scaled up. Where security allows, increasing resilience-based livelihood assistance is critical to ensure that households can build long-term self-reliance.

Situation analysis

 **2.7 million** people projected to be severely food insecure during the lean season (June–August 2019)

 **1.8 million** IDPs, of whom **80%** are in Borno state

 **1.6 million** people have returned home since August 2015

 **1 in 5** children with severe acute malnutrition at risk of death if untreated in the North East

 **75%** of conflict-related damages reported on agriculture

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Contact

Suffyan Koroma
FAO Representative
Abuja, Nigeria | FAO-NG@fao.org

Dominique Burgeon
Director, Emergency and Resilience Division
and Strategic Programme Leader – Resilience
Rome, Italy | TCE-Director@fao.org

Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations
www.fao.org/emergencies
www.fao.org/resilience



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