

CHALLENGES FACING FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE

Among conflict-affected households in northeastern Nigeria, including IDPs and returnees, the demand for food and livelihood support is high. IDPs recently leaving inaccessible areas were observed to be in poorer physical conditions than the local population and typically move to cities or local government area capitals, placing an additional burden on local administrations. More than 48 000 new IDPs were identified in the three northeastern states. The region also hosts more than 1.6 million returnees, who are eager to resume their livelihood activities.

While humanitarian efforts have bolstered food production during the rainy season (May–October 2018) and improved access to food, crisis-affected households are yet to return to pre-conflict levels of food production. This is largely due to limited access to land and capital to invest in agricultural inputs. Straining household incomes, food prices of critical food commodities typically increase upon the closure of the main harvests and amid market disruption caused by escalating attacks. Dependent on mostly rainfed agriculture, farmers and livestock owners in the region will continue to face water shortages for both crop irrigation and domestic use, limiting production to the rainy season. Dry season (October–April) food production is low in northeastern Nigeria and must be scaled up as a counter weight to the high price of food and to increase household incomes and food security.

Safe access to fuel and energy (SAFE) is inadequate in northeastern Nigeria, posing risks in terms of malnutrition, protection (e.g. attacks during the collection of wood), deforestation, health risks and tensions over natural resources.

Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states also show the highest vulnerability and lowest adaptive capacity to the effects of climate change, particularly dry spells, erratic rainfall and floods.

FAO PRIORITIES, RESPONSE AND FUNDING

PRIORITY ACTIVITIES



920 0 households to receive rainy season support. Three types of kits will be distributed:

- x **Kit 1:** cowpea, millet, maize and sorghum seeds and fertilizer
- x **Kit 2:** amaranth, okra and fertilizer
- x **Kit 3:** groundnut and sesame



10 589 households to benefit from vaccinations and veterinary support for about 120 000 livestock; about **6 500 households** to receive 26 400 goats; **2 900 female-headed households** to receive 35 000 poultry; **1 100 households** to receive 1 000 rams and 600 bulls



15 600 households to benefit from micro-gardening kits (vegetable seeds and hand tools) and training to improve nutrition and food security



18 000 households to receive locally produced fuel-efficient stoves

ACHIEVEMENTS



Completed dry season distributions, reaching about 78 000 households with agricultural inputs (seed and fertilizer). All targeted areas reached with the exception of Mobbar in Borno State due to high insecurity



Began the distribution of goats, bulls and poultry to at-risk women and youth during the dry season

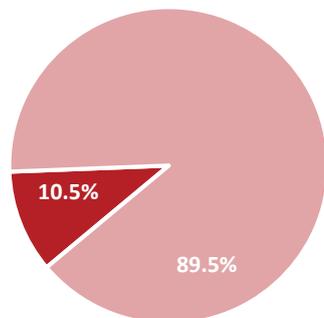


Distributed micro-gardening kits to 11 000 households, and activities ongoing to reach the remaining 4 600 households identified



Distributed 2 500 emergency SAFE kits (light weight fuel-efficient stove and solar lanterns) to at-risk households in Ngala, Borno State

FUNDING



■ **Funding to date :**
USD 3.4 million

■ **Funding gap:**
USD 29 million

APPEAL AND RESPONSE TO-DATE

FAO is seeking USD 32.4 million to assist 1.3 million people. Of this amount, USD 3.4 million has been mobilized.

Resource partners: the European Commission Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), and the Governments of Sweden and the United States of America.

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