



IN NUMBERS



3.6 million

people projected to be in severe acute food insecurity (Phases 3-5), *Cadre Harmonisé* (June–August 2020)



1.8 million

internally displaced people (IDPs) due to the crisis (Displacement Tracking Matrix [DTM], International Organization for Migration [IOM], November 2019)



1.1 million

people targeted to receive assistance from FAO in 2020



USD 32.3 million

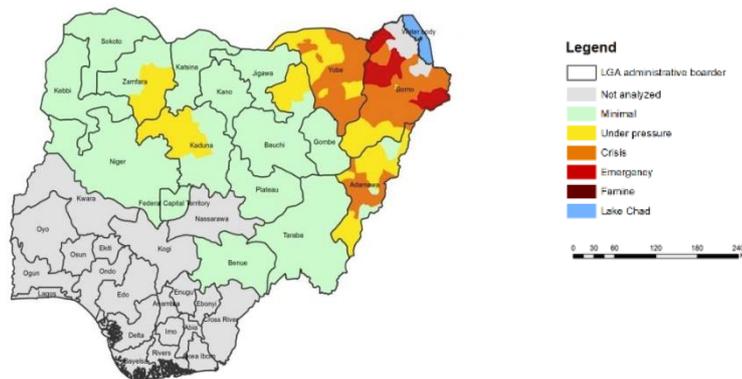
still needed by FAO under the 2019–2021 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Nigeria for 2020

KEY MESSAGES

- FAO completed distributions of dry season inputs (crop seeds and NPK 15:15:15 fertilizers) to 35 500 households across Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states. Dry season crop production ensures food availability during the lean season (June–August). Water pumps for irrigation were also distributed to around 2 400 households, enabling them to cultivate 600 ha of farmland and reduce pump rental costs, time and labour, especially for women tasked with fetching water.
- The figures of the latest *Cadre Harmonisé* (November 2019) analysis for the three northeastern states estimates around 3.6 million people in the region are projected to be in severe acute food insecurity from June to August 2020 – traditionally the lean season in the North-East – up by almost 20 percent compared with the projection for last year’s lean season.
- FAO’s programme in the North-East is severely underfunded, the Organization is appealing to resource partners to provide the critical financial resources needed to reach more households in time for the 2020 rainy season and the 2020/21 dry season.

MAPS

Projected acute food insecurity situation (June–August 2020)
Cadre Harmonisé, Novembre 2019



BACKGROUND

Over a decade of conflict has severely affected food production systems in northeastern Nigeria, with the worst affected states of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe experiencing high displacement, enormous human, social and economic losses, and severe levels of food insecurity and malnutrition. The overall impact of the conflict on agriculture is estimated at USD 3.7 billion (World Bank and Buhari Plan, 2016).

Of the 1.8 million IDPs, who face significant food and livelihood challenges in the three northeastern states (DTM IOM Round 29, November 2019), more than 80 percent are in Borno. Due to the influx of IDPs and the tense security situation, host communities have reduced access to land and other resources for food production, leading to high levels of poverty and malnutrition. Vulnerable households also face less access to humanitarian services due to the inaccessibility of some areas deemed ‘no go’ amid security concerns. Compounding these challenges is a severe climate variability that is negatively affecting production systems, resulting in reduced crop yields and livestock productivity that FAO is addressing through the distribution of quality agricultural inputs and training.

CHALLENGES FACING FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE

A recent upsurge in attacks at the start of the year prevented farming households from accessing food and livelihood support in some areas. Ngala, an accessible LGA, was recently attacked and the UN Humanitarian hub burned. This has resulted in the closure of the hub, directly affecting FAO's distribution of fuel-efficient stoves. Late season floods also affected food production, destroying shelter, livestock and fields. Low productive capacities among affected populations mean the majority of them still depend on humanitarian assistance for survival. Regulations around the movement of cash and the absence of internet infrastructure is a challenge to providing targeted LGAs cash as safety net. While humanitarian interventions have enhanced food production, crisis-affected households are yet to return to pre-conflict production levels. This is largely due to limited access to land, assets and capital to invest in agricultural inputs. Livestock rearing and aquaculture interventions mitigate the risk of seasonal crop failure and other climate-related shocks. Through the diversification of production and income sources, these alternative livelihood activities provide liquid assets which can be realized at any time. Safe access to fuel and energy is an ongoing concern 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 demonstrate high vulnerability and low adaptive capacity to the effects of climate change, particularly dry spells, erratic rainfall and floods.

FAO PRIORITIES, RESPONSE AND FUNDING

PRIORITY ACTIVITIES



7 000 households of the 35 500 supported for the dry season to be trained on good agricultural practices, integrated pest management, and post-harvest handling and storage techniques



1 400 youths to receive 1 400 bulls;
3 900 households to receive 15 600 goats (four goats each); **2 500 households** to receive 30 000 point of lay pullets and housing (12 pullets each); and **20 water points** to be constructed



200 households to benefit from fish farming support and starter kits (fish tanks, fingerlings, kilns, etc.)



18 000 households to receive locally produced fuel-efficient stoves

ACHIEVEMENTS



All 35 500 targeted households were assisted during the 2019/20 dry season through the provision of two types of kits: one with rice seeds and fertilizer; and the other with amaranth, cabbage, okra and tomato seeds, and fertilizer



9 788 households benefited from veterinary support and the vaccination of 121 700 animals; **all 6 510 targeted households** received 26 040 goats; **all 2 910 targeted female-headed households** received 34 920 poultry; **all 1 100 targeted households** received 1 000 rams and 600 bulls



150 households reached with fish starter kits

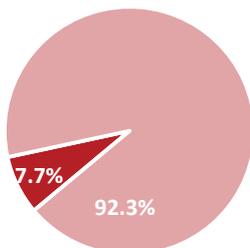


All 2 800 households benefited from 2019/20 dry season micro-gardening kits (vegetable seeds and hand tools) and training to improve nutrition and food security



7 000 households reached with fuel efficient stoves

FUNDING



- Funding to date: USD 2.7 million
- Funding gap: USD 32.3 million

ASSESSMENTS

FAO's post-harvest assessment of the 2019 rainy season intervention is ongoing and should be published by April 2020.

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

CONTACTS

Al Hassan Cisse | FAO Representative in Nigeria *ad interim* | Maiduguri, northeastern Nigeria | Alhassan.Cisse@fao.org

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