



IN NUMBERS



4.5 million

People severely food insecure
(CH Phases 3, 4 and 5)



1.88 million

People internally displaced
by ongoing crisis



160 000

People reached by FAO
to-date in 2016



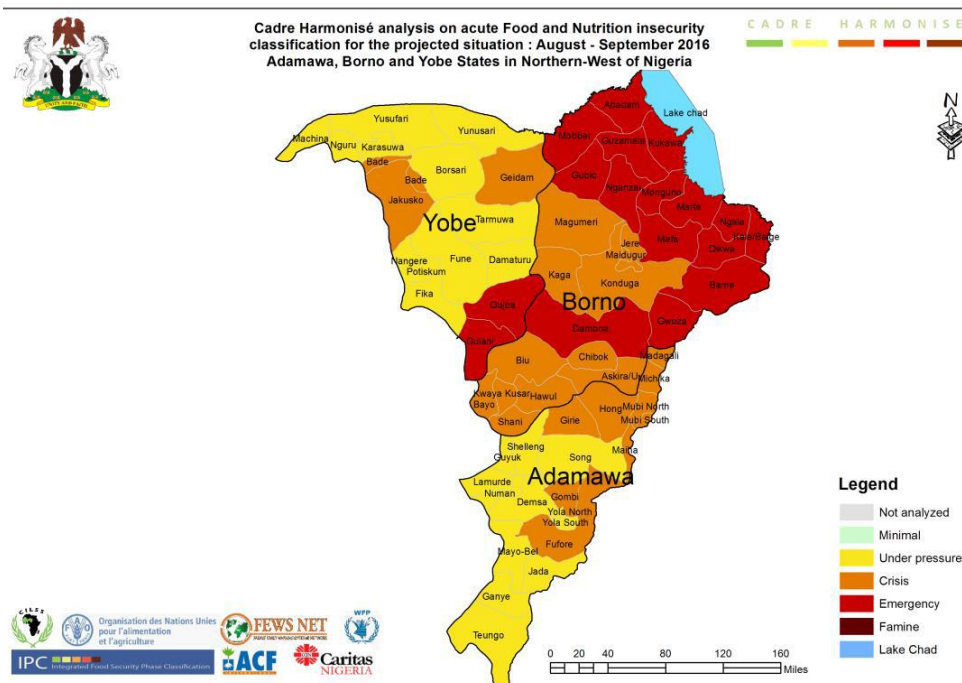
USD 25 million

Needed for 9 months
(Sept 2016–May 2017)

KEY MESSAGES

- **Almost 4.5 million people face acute food insecurity in northeast Nigeria** and require immediate assistance, according to the latest [Cadre harmonisé analysis](#), released on 19 August.
- FAO is seeking **USD 25 million** to tackle food insecurity among returnee, IDP and host communities between September 2016 and May 2017. Of this, **USD 10 million is needed urgently** to support irrigated vegetable production and micro-gardening in the dry season.
- Preparations must begin soon for the 2017 main rainy season to ensure timely delivery of agricultural inputs.
- **Food security coordination and analysis are critical to inform responsive, timely decision-making and programming.**
- Given the severity of the situation and the windows of opportunity offered by access to newly liberated areas, **we must act now** to rapidly restore food security and tackle severe hunger and malnutrition.

MAP



BACKGROUND

The Boko Haram insurgency has led to extensive displacement and high levels of food insecurity in northeast Nigeria. Already poor and vulnerable host communities have absorbed large numbers of people fleeing violence, which has placed considerable pressure on fragile agricultural and pastoral livelihoods, while the insecurity has severely disrupted markets and food availability. In July 2016, the Nigerian Minister of Health declared a “nutrition emergency” in Borno State. Critical levels of food insecurity and malnutrition have been reported in the worst-hit and least accessible areas. Millions of people face severe food insecurity with some areas having seen no food production in the last three years, poor access to markets, high prices of staple foods, low incomes, depleted household food stocks, and the adoption of extreme coping strategies. Some 4.5 million people are now severely food insecure in the three northeastern states of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe. Of these, more than 65 000 people are classified in phase 5 (Famine), while the number of those in phase 4 (Emergency) has tripled since March 2016, reaching over 1 million.

CHALLENGES FACING FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

While improvements in the security situation have encouraged some farmers to return to their fields – often for the first time in two to three years – and, where possible, host communities are providing IDPs with access to land, they are severely constrained by the lack of critical inputs – vegetable and cereal seeds, farming tools, etc. With an estimated 80–90 percent of the population in the Lake Chad area depend on agriculture, fisheries and livestock for their livelihoods and food security, failure to fully engage the sector in the humanitarian response would likely have. Returning to farming is therefore a priority.

Without support now, affected families will continue to rely on prolonged and expensive humanitarian assistance to meet their food needs in the coming months. Wider negative impact includes the lack of economic and employment opportunities with possible harmful consequences including youth radicalization and enrolment in armed groups, resulting in continued civil unrest.

FAO RESPONSE, TARGETS AND FUNDING

TARGETS (September 2016 to May 2017)



2 million people targeted
(248 000 households)

2016/17 dry season

1.025 million people (128 000 households)



Support to rural, urban and peri-urban production (vegetable kits, technical support, infrastructure rehabilitation, cash-for-work, animal health, etc.)

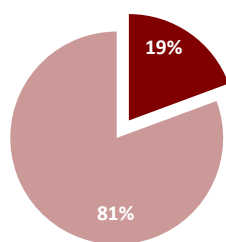
Preparing for the 2017 main season

960 000 people (120 000 households)



Cereal, pulse, vegetable seeds; farming tools and support to alternative livelihoods (aquaculture, livestock restocking, cash-for-work)

FUNDING



■ Funding to-date:
USD 6 million

■ Funding gap:
USD 25 million

FAO requires
USD 25 million*

To assist
248 000 households

*Based on FAO 9 month Response Plan covering the period September 2016 to May 2017.

Donors: Belgium, UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), the European Commission (ECHO), Japan, Ireland, FAO internal resources

2016 RESPONSE TO-DATE



160 536 people reached to-date



137 736 people – livelihood support for the ongoing rainy season
(cereal seeds, cowpea seeds, vegetable seeds, fertilizers)



22 800 people – food assistance for lean season (114 tonnes of rice, 85.5 tonnes of beans)



Food security coordination, information and analysis, including support to the Cadre Harmonisé, remain a key priority for FAO throughout 2016 and 2017.

FAO has launched a **Nine-month Action Plan for northeast Nigeria**, seeking USD 25 million to strengthen capacity to rapidly restore food production among affected populations to not just improve food security, but also to pave the road back to resilience and stability in the region.



Of this, **USD 10 million urgently** required to continue the dry season campaign.

ASSESSMENTS

A global *Cadre Harmonisé* update is planned by mid-October, following a food security and livelihoods assessment by the Food Security Sector. A seeds security assessment planned for September/October to be undertaken jointly with FEWS NET, COOPI and CRS. A fact-finding exploratory mission on land issues is also planned.

CONTACT

Tim Vaessen | Emergency Response Manager | Nigeria | Tim.Vaessen@fao.org

Dominique Burgeon | Strategic Programme Leader, Resilience | Rome, Italy | Dominique.Burgeon@fao.org