



- Increased violence and forced displacement continue to affect the humanitarian situation in northeastern Nigeria – the key hotspot of the armed conflict in the country – that has been further aggravated by trade disruptions and an economic decline linked to the effects of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).
- The latest *Cadre Harmonisé* analysis (March 2021) indicates that 9.2 million people countrywide face crisis or worse levels of food insecurity (March–May 2021), of whom 3.2 million in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states. This figure is expected to increase to over 12.8 million people, of whom 4.4 million in the three northeastern states, during June–August 2021, unless resilience-focused and humanitarian actions are taken.
- Climate change and variability, limited access to agricultural land and high food prices are also adversely affecting the food security and nutrition in the northeastern states.

Challenges facing food security and agriculture

The decade-long armed conflict in northeastern Nigeria has severely affected food production systems in this part of the country, with Adamawa, Borno and Yobe being the most affected states and experiencing high displacement, enormous human, social and economic losses, and high levels of acute food insecurity and malnutrition. Of the 2.2 million IDPs in the three northeastern states, more than 80 percent are in Borno. The influx of IDPs is placing an additional burden on host communities who already face limited access to land and other resources thus affecting food production. Vulnerable households also have less access to humanitarian services due to the inaccessibility of some areas deemed ‘no go’ amid security concerns.

As communities struggle with the effects of COVID-19 and related containment measures, including income losses, trade disruptions and rising food prices, other factors such as drought, floods, pests and diseases have also led to reduced crop yields and livestock productivity. This forces the majority of affected populations to depend on humanitarian assistance for their survival. Regulations governing the movement of cash, and the absence of information and communications technology infrastructure remains a significant challenge to providing targeted local government areas with social protection measures such as cash transfers.

According to the 2020 crop yield survey, FAO-supported farmers recorded higher yields per hectare compared with their unsupported counterparts – up to 40 percent higher maize and millet yields, for example. Nonetheless, crisis-affected households are yet to return to pre-conflict production levels. This remains largely due to limited access to land, productive assets and agricultural inputs.

In numbers



3.2 million people in high acute food insecurity (Phase 3+) in the three northeastern states, *Cadre Harmonisé* (March–May 2021)

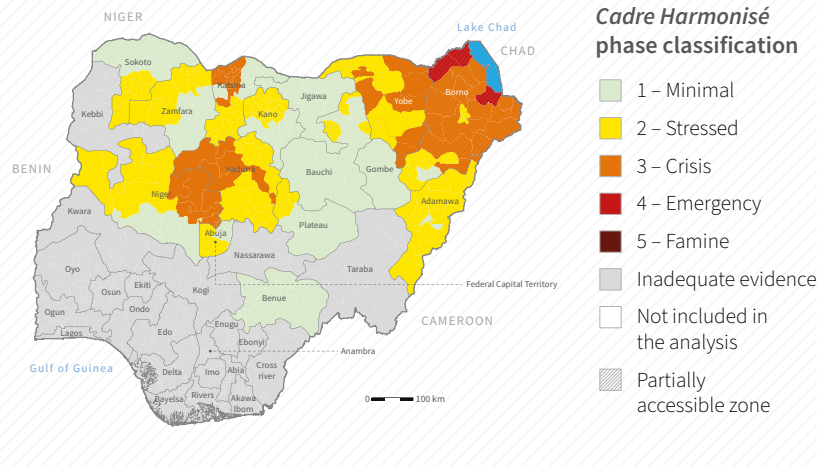


2.2 million internally displaced people (IDPs) in the three northeastern states



USD 27.9 million still needed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) under the 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan

Acute food insecurity situation (March–May 2021)



Source: The Food Crisis Prevention Network. 2021. *Nigeria: Projected food security and nutrition situation, March–May 2021* [online]. Abuja, Nigeria. [Cited 20 April 2021]. <http://www.food-security.net/datas/nigeria/>

With the deterioration of the food security situation and an increased risk of famine in areas of Borno state, providing agricultural inputs to the most vulnerable households in time for the planting season starting in June is crucial to quickly increase food availability and access. In addition, livestock rearing and aquaculture interventions mitigate the risk of seasonal crop failure and other climate-related shocks, underlining the importance of diversifying livelihoods production and income sources. Finally, providing fuel-efficient stove production support will mitigate risks linked to malnutrition, protection, deforestation, health and communal tensions over natural resources.

Priority activities (June–July 2021)



28 000 households to receive rainy season kits including 364.4 tonnes of assorted improved vegetable and cereal seeds, and 1 529.5 tonnes of fertilizers.



6 230 households to receive 230 bulls, 10 000 goats and 80 000 pullets, as well as 600 tonnes of feed.



10 000 households to be supported with 10 000 fuel-efficient stoves.



7 400 households to receive fresh food vouchers worth NGN 14 750 (USD 38.7) each.

Response to date

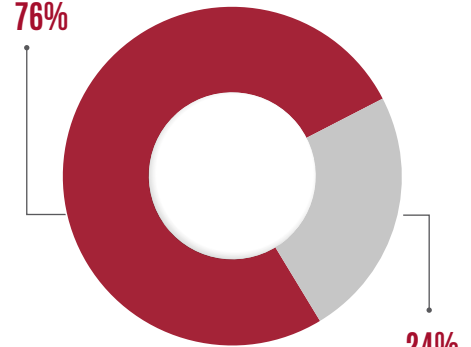
- 24 830 households received dry season kits with 17.5 tonnes of assorted improved vegetable and cereal seeds, and 620.8 tonnes of fertilizers.
- 2 955 households provided with 405 bulls, 7 400 goats, 14 000 chicks and 25.5 tonnes of assorted feed.
- 30 youth trained and provided with six assorted agroprocessing equipment.
- 300 households supported with fish production and aquaculture kits including fingerlings and feed.
- 10 660 households supported with 4 280 irrigation kits and 1 500 tube wells and wash boreholes rehabilitated and constructed.
- 17 000 households provided with 17 000 fuel-efficient stoves.
- 9 800 households received fresh food vouchers worth NGN 14 750 (USD 38.7) each to access assorted vegetables, beans and eggs.

Funding

FUNDING GAP

USD 27.9 million

76%



24%

FUNDING TO-DATE

USD 8.9 million



FAO requires

USD 36.8 million



to assist

831 600 people

Resource partners

The Governments of Belgium, Germany and Norway, the European Union, the Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

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