



- The ongoing conflict in northeastern Nigeria and the economic impact of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic continue to exacerbate food insecurity and malnutrition in the region.
- The latest *Cadre Harmonisé* analysis (November 2021) conducted in 21 of Nigeria's 36 states, as well as the Federal Capital Territory, indicated that about 12.9 million people are in high acute food insecurity (October–December 2021), of whom 2.4 million are in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states. These figures are projected to increase to 18 million and 3.5 million, respectively, during the peak of next year's lean season (June–August 2022), including 13 550 people likely to face catastrophic conditions, if food assistance along with resilience interventions are not urgently intensified and sustained.
- Providing the most vulnerable households with agricultural livelihoods assistance, including through the provision of quality inputs, remains critical to improve their food security and nutrition. During the dry season, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in collaboration with other partners, is carrying out various interventions focusing on crop production, livestock keeping and aquaculture against potential seasonal food production disruptions and other climate-related shocks, by diversifying sources of food production and income. Beneficiary households are also provided with fuel-efficient stoves (FES) to mitigate risks linked to protection, deforestation, health and communal tensions over natural resources, as well as to improve the quality of food preparation, among others.

In numbers



2.4 million people in high acute food insecurity in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states



2 million internally displaced people ([IDPs], International Organization for Migration, November 2021), of whom 80% in Borno



USD 23.8 million still needed by FAO under the 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan for Nigeria

Since 2016, FAO has reached over 7.7 million vulnerable people in the Northeast enabling them to resume agricultural activities to safeguard their livelihoods and strengthen their resilience. The upcoming dry season will reach a further 21 700 households in the three northeastern states.

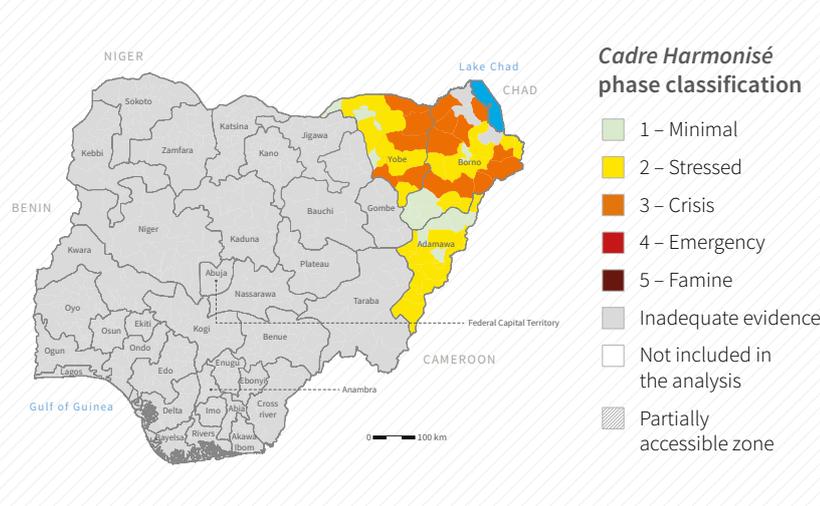
Challenges facing food security and agriculture

The Boko Haram insurgency in northeastern Nigeria lasting over a decade has triggered armed violence in the rest of the northern part of the country in recent months. The conflict has continued to affect food production systems, disrupting livelihoods and triggering significant population displacement, enormous human, social and economic losses, and high levels of acute food insecurity and malnutrition, particularly in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states.

As communities struggle to recover from the effects of COVID-19, including income losses, trade disruptions and rising food prices, other factors such as pests and diseases, albeit much lower than in the previous year, have also led to below-optimal crop yields and livestock productivity. This forces the majority of affected populations to depend on humanitarian assistance for their survival.

The Borno State Government has started a resettlement programme for IDPs calling on development partners to support its efforts to support them with sustainable livelihood interventions, which will further increase the need to support sustainable resettlement.

Acute food insecurity situation (October–December 2021)



Source: The Food Crisis Prevention Network, 2021. Nigeria: Current food security and nutrition situation, October–December 2021 [online]. Abuja, Nigeria. (Cited 5 November 2021). <http://www.food-security.net/data/nigeria/>

In 2021, FAO's dry and rainy seasons farming, aquaculture and livestock support programme in the Northeast contributed to increased food security among conflict-affected households, providing a key source of food and income. Nonetheless, households' food stocks are likely to be exhausted by the beginning of the next lean season (June–August 2022). Despite the ongoing conflict, access to land, as well as staple food and cash crop production have slightly increased in 2021 compared with the five-year average in the three most affected states in northeastern Nigeria, with 86.8 percent, 76.9 percent and 90.8 percent of the population engaged in 2021 wet season production activities in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states, respectively. It is therefore critical to provide vulnerable families with the necessary inputs to engage in agricultural activities to safeguard their livelihoods and prevent worsening levels of food insecurity.

Priorities until December 2021

- 280 households to receive agro-processing equipment | 1 500 households to receive training in group savings and loans associations and kits | 5 250 households to receive goat kits | 4 000 households to receive local pullet and poultry kits | 760 households, of whom 600 led by women to receive training plus aquaculture farming and processing kits | 6 000 households to receive micro-gardening kits | 10 000 households to receive FES

Response to date (January–December 2021)

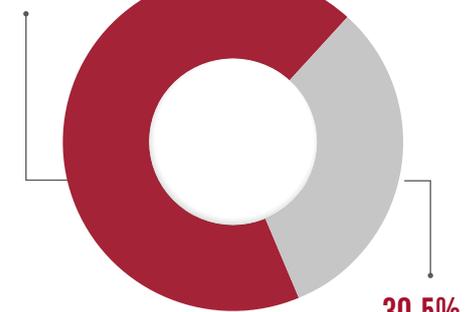
- 65 800 households received improved seeds and fertilisers | 3 000 households benefited from micro-gardening and 15 700 from dry season production support | 12 400 households benefited from livestock restocking | ten fish processing centres equipped with FAO's Thiaroye Processing Technology established, benefiting 200 female-headed households | 10 000 households received zeer pots for preserving fresh food | 17 500 households received FES | 200 female-headed households trained on sustainable fish processing and ten units of environment-friendly fish processing facilities constructed | 200 drip irrigation kits provided to 400 households | 35 farmer field schools established | 29 boreholes for irrigation constructed | 15 integrated fish plus vegetable production clusters established, benefiting 345 households | 4 briquette production centres set up | developing climate-smart investment plans in the three northeastern states

Funding

FUNDING GAP

USD 23.8 million

69.5%



FUNDING TO DATE

USD 11.2 million



FAO requires

USD 36.8 million



to assist

836 000 people

Resource partners

The Governments of Canada, Norway and Germany, the Central Emergency Response Fund, the European Commission Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection, the Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency and the Swiss Development Cooperation

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