



In 2023, the levels of acute food insecurity in northeastern Nigeria were comparable to those reported during the peak of the crisis in 2016/17. Ongoing conflict, flooding and high food prices are impacting vulnerable households' agricultural livelihoods, hampering food production. During this year's lean season (June–August 2024), **1 in 4 people in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states are likely to be acutely food insecure.** Emergency agricultural interventions must scale up urgently to increase food availability, access and incomes in the worst affected rural areas.



TO ASSIST
1.78 million people






FAO REQUIRES
USD 38.79 million

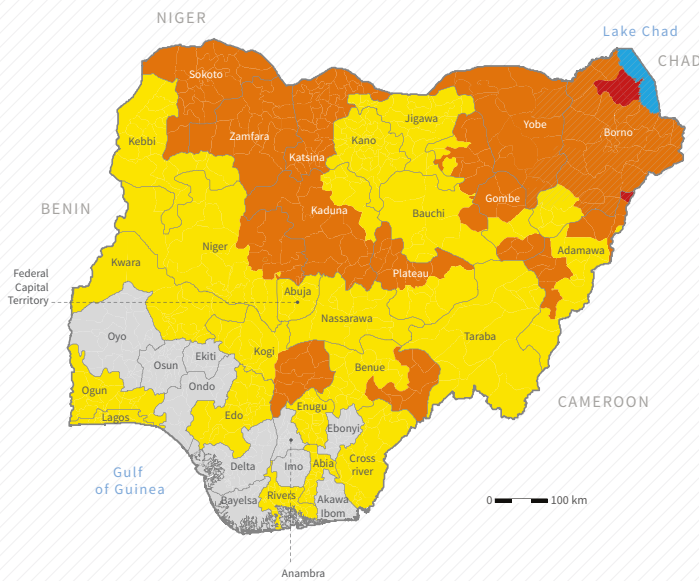


JANUARY–DECEMBER
2024

What investments in agriculture can achieve

USD 170	=	With the seeds and fertilizer provided, each household can cultivate 1 ha of land and produce an estimated 0.92 tonne of cereals and legumes, worth USD 910 on the local market.	=		Support a family of 7 to produce staple food for six months
USD 200	=	With a poultry-raising package (20 pullets, 100 kg of feed, veterinary support services), a household can produce around 63 eggs per week worth USD 14 on the local market.	=		Enable a family to regularly consume protein and sell eggs throughout the year
USD 80	=	With a fuel-efficient stove, briquettes and training, a woman can reduce the number of weekly outings for firewood collection by 50%, and weekly fuel wood expenditure by 46%.	=		Reduce vulnerable women's exposure to protection risks by 50%, as well as cooking time and smoke inhalation

Projected acute food insecurity situation (June–August 2024)



Cadre Harmonisé phase classification

- 1 – Minimal
- 2 – Stressed
- 3 – Crisis
- 4 – Emergency
- 5 – Famine
- Not analysed
- Partially accessible zone

Source: Food Security Cluster. 2023. *Cadre Harmonisé for identification of food and nutrition insecurity risk areas and vulnerable populations in 26 States of Nigeria and Federal Capital Territory*. Rome, Italy. [Cited 15 April 2024]. https://fsccluster.org/ne_nigeria/document/cadre-harmonise-identification-risk

Urgency of humanitarian agricultural assistance

Fourteen years into the conflict due to the Boko Haram insurgency, the humanitarian crisis in northeastern Nigeria remains of high concern. Protracted armed conflict in the northeast and violent clashes between farmers and herders continue to trigger internal population displacements. Natural hazards, in particular the rising incidence and frequency of floods, are also causing widespread displacement and affecting people's livelihoods. The loss of crops and farm animals, combined with high food costs, is severely impacting people's ability to access sufficient food.

Borno state hosts the majority of IDPs – about 1.7 million – and 45 percent of the total caseload in the northeast lives in displacement sites. As most IDP and host communities live in rural areas relying on agriculture for their livelihoods, concerted efforts are needed to restore and boost food production.

Against this background, the federal government declared a state of emergency regarding the food security situation in the country (July 2023), unveiling a comprehensive intervention plan to tackle rising food prices.

Nearly 26 percent of the population in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states is likely to face high levels of food insecurity during the peak of the lean season (June–August 2024), representing a slight increase compared with last year's projection. Emergency agricultural interventions must be scaled up urgently to increase access to nutritious food and avert a worsening food security situation in crisis-affected communities.

Coordination

As co-leads of the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster in Nigeria, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme work closely with 50 local and international partners, in collaboration with institutional counterparts, to ensure a needs-based, coordinated and effective response.

Drivers of food insecurity

Armed conflict

Climate shocks

High inflation

Poverty

Depreciation of local currency

Key facts

Population in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states: **17.1 million**



4.84 million people likely to experience high levels of acute food insecurity (Cadre Harmonisé Phase 3 or above) in the three states



2.2 million internally displaced people in the three states



1.73 million people acutely malnourished in the three states



31% of the population countrywide lives in extreme poverty, of which **89%** in rural areas



USD 2.90 out of 100 in humanitarian assistance to food sectors went to support agriculture and livelihoods (2016–2022)

In 2023, FAO reached 36 736 households (257 152 people) with emergency agricultural assistance. Of these, about 11 100 households received seeds and fertilizers in time for the rainy season, enabling each household to produce an average of 225 kg of cowpea, for instance, to meet their food needs while earning around USD 100 from selling part of the production obtained. With support for the dry season, 14 000 households produced vegetables part of which they sold, generating up to 44 percent of their annual income that was used to cover basic needs. Thanks to the provision of poultry-raising packages to female-headed households, each project participant was able to generate a weekly income of USD 14 from selling eggs, while the consumption of eggs increased from one to four times a week, significantly contributing to enhanced nutrition. The majority of households that benefited from goat restocking indicated that their stock had multiplied by an average of six goats within one year, and household milk consumption increased by 46 percent thus improving nutrition, especially among children.



FAO priorities

Priority	Type of assistance to be provided/content of assistance package	Cost per household (USD)	Number of beneficiary households	Total cost (USD)	Funds needed by	Planned implementation period
Boost local food crop production and carry out Anticipatory Actions to mitigate the impact of forecast natural hazards	Rainy season seed kit 1: maize (10 kg), sorghum (8 kg) or millet (8 kg); cowpea (10 kg); and fertilizer (25 kg)	170	113 676	19 324 920	March	May–September
	Rainy season seed kit 2: groundnut (10 kg) or sesame (1.5 kg); amaranth (0.2 kg); okra (0.3 kg); fertilizer (25 kg)					
	Dry season seed kit: assorted vegetable; or maize (10 kg) or rice (12.5 kg); fertilizer (25 kg)	93	57 462	5 343 966	July	Year-round with access to irrigation water
	Provision of foundation seed, fertilizer and technical training for seed production				June	July–September
	Provision of Purdue improved crop storage bags and technical training on reducing post-harvest losses	500	940	470 000		July–December
	Construction of dykes to mitigate impact of flooding				April	May–July
	Construction of rainwater harvesting reservoirs/facilities					

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Restore vulnerable households' livestock assets and improve animal health	Provision of goat restocking kits to conflict-affected, female-headed households: four goats (three female and one male), feed and mineral licks, along with veterinary supplies	200	9 130	3 469 400	Year-round	Year-round
	Provision of poultry kits to conflict-affected, female-headed households: 20 pullets, feed and technical training	180				
Reduce exposure to protection risks associated with fuelwood collection for cooking among vulnerable women and children	One fuel-efficient stove and pack of briquettes	80	33 125	2 650 000		
Increase access to decent jobs and sustainable income generation for women and youth through agricultural-based businesses such as agroprocessing, fisheries and aquaculture	Establishment of integrated aquaculture, vegetable and crop production centres: provision of mobile fishponds, feed and fingerlings, along with assorted vegetable seeds, fertilizer and wells/boreholes with a solar driven water pumping system for fish and vegetable production; training in entrepreneurial skills and processing techniques	900/ cooperative	38 cooperatives (100 women/ cooperative)	68 400		
	Establish/adapt fish processing centres for the production and processing of Tom Brown (highly nutritious locally produce food supplement) and technical training	900/ cooperative	38 cooperatives (100 women/ cooperative)			
Improve immediate access to nutritious foods	Provision of Tom Brown (either through direct distribution or vouchers) to households with cases of moderate or severe acute malnutrition or those discharged from outpatient therapeutic programme centres	50	36 600	1 830 000		
Enhance Food Security Sector coordination, food security early warning, and information analysis	Food Security Sector coordination			425 242		
	Cadre Harmonisé food security and nutrition analysis					
	Post-distribution monitoring					
	Post-harvest monitoring and evaluation					
	Rapid food security and agricultural livelihoods assessments including Data in Emergencies assessments					
	Dissemination of early warning information					
	Disaster and risk management					

REQUIRED CITATION

FAO. 2024. *Northeastern Nigeria: Humanitarian Response Plan 2024*. Rome. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd0418en>

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