



IN NUMBERS



2.7 million

people projected to be severely food insecure (Phases 3-5), *Cadre Harmonisé* (June–August 2019)



1.9 million

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



1.3 million

people targeted to receive assistance from FAO in 2019



USD 29 million

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

KEY MESSAGES

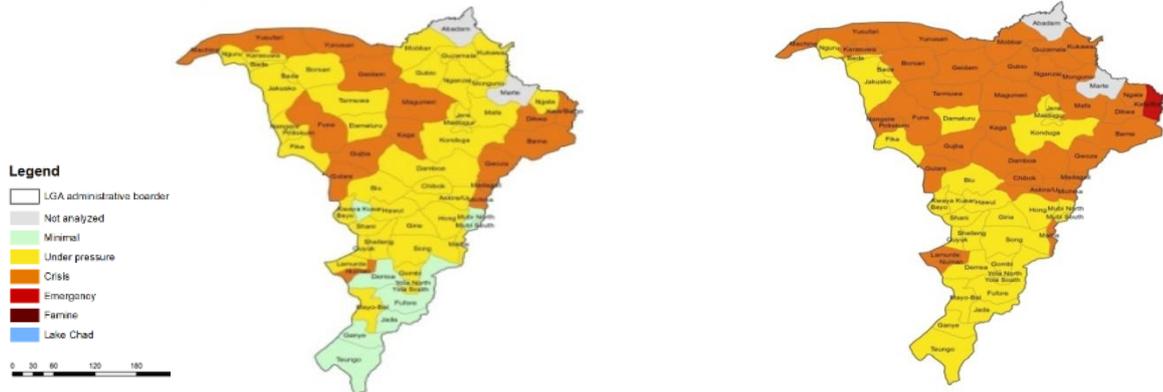
- 78 000 households in northeastern Nigeria were targeted for FAO’s 2018/19 dry season activities – FAO has distributed fertilizer and high yielding, early maturing rice and maize seed as well as vegetable seed. While the dry season has historically represented a break in farming, continued crop production during this period is central to enabling stronger, more resilient and food-secure farming households.
- Small-scale farmers require immediate assistance to boost their resilience ahead of the forthcoming lean season (June–August), as close to 2.7 million people will face severe food insecurity if humanitarian efforts do not continue.
- More than 48 000 new IDPs were identified in the three northeastern states (October 2018), the bulk of whom have been displaced due to escalating insecurity. These households typically face higher levels of food insecurity and malnutrition.

MAPS

Cadre Harmonisé, November 2018

October–December 2018

Projection for June–August 2019



BACKGROUND

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).

Of the 1.9 million IDPs, who face significant food and livelihood challenges in the three northeastern states (DTM IOM, January 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 severe climate variability that is negatively affecting production systems, resulting in reduced crop yields and livestock productivity.

Thanks to the provision of food and livelihood assistance, acute food insecurity in three northeastern states has reduced from 2.5 million (October–December 2017) to 1.7 million people (October–December 2018). However, if humanitarian actions do not continue, 2.7 million people are likely to face severe food insecurity in June–August 2019 (*Cadre Harmonisé*, November 2018).

CHALLENGES FACING FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE

Among conflict-affected households in northeastern Nigeria, including IDPs and returnees, the demand for food and livelihood support is high. IDPs recently leaving inaccessible areas were observed to be in poorer physical conditions than the local population and typically move to cities or local government area capitals, placing an additional burden on local administrations. More than 48 000 new IDPs were identified in the three northeastern states. The region also hosts more than 1.6 million returnees, who are eager to resume their livelihood activities.

While humanitarian efforts have bolstered food production during the rainy season (May–October 2018) and improved access to food, crisis-affected households are yet to return to pre-conflict levels of food production. This is largely due to limited access to land and capital to invest in agricultural inputs. Straining household incomes, food prices of critical food commodities typically increase upon the closure of the main harvests and amid market disruption caused by escalating attacks. Dependent on mostly rainfed agriculture, farmers and livestock owners in the region will continue to face water shortages for both crop irrigation and domestic use, limiting production to the rainy season. Dry season (October–April) food production is low in northeastern Nigeria and must be scaled up as a counter weight to the high price of food and to increase household incomes and food security.

Safe access to fuel and energy (SAFE) is inadequate 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 also show the highest vulnerability and lowest adaptive capacity to the effects of climate change, particularly dry spells, erratic rainfall and floods.

FAO PRIORITIES, RESPONSE AND FUNDING

PRIORITY ACTIVITIES



98 400 households to receive rainy season support. Three types of kits will be distributed:

- **Kit 1:** cowpea, millet, maize and sorghum seeds and fertilizer
- **Kit 2:** amaranth, okra and fertilizer
- **Kit 3:** groundnut and sesame



10 589 households to benefit from vaccinations and veterinary support for about 120 000 livestock; about **6 500 households** to receive 26 400 goats; **2 900 female-headed households** to receive 35 000 poultry; **1 100 households** to receive 1 000 rams and 600 bulls



15 600 households to benefit from micro-gardening kits (vegetable seeds and hand tools) and training to improve nutrition and food security



18 000 households to receive locally produced fuel-efficient stoves

ACHIEVEMENTS



Completed dry season distributions, reaching about 78 000 households with agricultural inputs (seed and fertilizer). All targeted areas reached with the exception of Mobbar in Borno State due to high insecurity



Began the distribution of goats, bulls and poultry to at-risk women and youth during the dry season

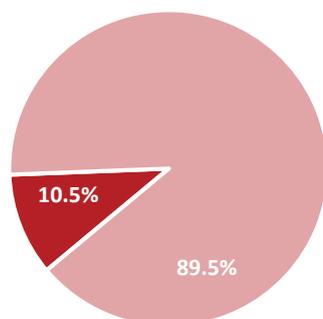


Distributed micro-gardening kits to 11 000 households, and activities ongoing to reach the remaining 4 600 households identified



Distributed 2 500 emergency SAFE kits (light weight fuel-efficient stove and solar lanterns) to at-risk households in Ngala, Borno State

FUNDING



■ **Funding to date :**
USD 3.4 million

■ **Funding gap:**
USD 29 million

APPEAL AND RESPONSE TO-DATE

FAO is seeking USD 32.4 million to assist 1.3 million people. Of this amount, USD 3.4 million has been mobilized.

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

CONTACTS

Nourou Macki Tall | Deputy Representative, Head of Office | Maiduguri, northeastern Nigeria | NourouMacki.Tall@fao.org

Suffyan Koroma | FAO Representative | Abuja, Nigeria | Suffyan.Koroma@fao.org

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