



# WFP Cote d'Ivoire Country Brief

## Highlights

- A total of 2,995 people and 4,706 households have been reported displaced and impacted due to inter-communal conflicts and heavy rains, respectively, in the West of Cote d'Ivoire.
- Critical shortfalls continue to prevent the implementation of nutrition and resilience activities at the planned level.
- WFP renewed partnership with the mobile company MTN to facilitate cash-based transfers starting in October.

## WFP Assistance

| Protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) – Saving lives and livelihoods, promoting transition 200464 (Apr 2013 - Dec 2016) | Total Requirements (in USD) | Total Received (in USD) | 6 Months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)* |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---|
|   | 70 m                        | 41.1 m (59%)            | 0   |

\* October 2017–March 2018

Under the PRRO, WFP in coordination with UNHCR and the Government continues to provide immediate food assistance to returning Ivorian refugees and vulnerable host populations in western regions. A three-month food package is provided to returnees at entry points. Life-saving assistance is also provided to vulnerable people affected by shocks and inter-communal conflicts, including internally displaced persons (IDPs). WFP supports returnees, IDPs and host populations through food assistance activities to restore or build productive assets so as to increase and diversify livelihoods, create alternative income-generating activities and strengthen resilience of vulnerable communities. Such activities also promote reintegration and social cohesion and are implemented together with local NGOs in the Montagnes district, in the departments of Zouan-Hounien, Bloléquin and Toulepleu.

Capacity development is provided to the Government and local communities to support the implementation of a multi-sectorial and holistic approach to nutrition and resilience. WFP seeks to enhance government capacities in the implementation of strategies, policies and plans, such as the 2016-2020 National Multi-Sectorial Strategic Plan for Nutrition, the National Agricultural Investment Programme and the Social Protection Strategy.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Health and UNICEF, WFP aims at preventing maternal and child undernutrition through community-based nutrition education and awareness – such as adequate breastfeeding and child-care practices – and through blanket feeding.

| Country Programme (CP) –200960 (Jan 2017–Dec 2020) | Total Requirements (in USD) | Total Received (in USD) | 6 Months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)* |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---|
|  | 68.4 m                      | 32.1 m (47%)            | 0   |

\* October 2017–March 2018

Under the Country Programme, WFP has gradually shifted its focus from relief to recovery and development interventions, aiming to address the underlying causes of food and nutrition insecurity and promote the establishment of a sustainable social-protection system in support of the national school meals programme.

WFP interventions focus on three components: nutrition, resilience and school meals. This includes: (i) activities to support resilience and reduce vulnerability to shocks in northern communities affected by climate change – including asset-creation interventions primarily targeting women – and enhance government capacities to mitigate the effects of natural disasters. Nutrition-sensitive programming are built into the design of livelihood interventions; (ii) activities for the prevention of undernutrition and nutrition-sensitization, in line with WFP's shift to a preventive approach, and to enhance government capacities to implement integrated nutrition programs; and (iii) school meals activities and support activities, such as to facilitate the setting up of women's agricultural groups near schools, to improve literacy, as well as capacity-strengthening, technical and financial assistance to the Government to ensure a sustainable hand-over strategy.

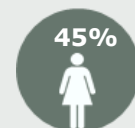
## In Numbers

**277,247** people in need of food assistance, Mar 2016

**258,472** people repatriated since 2011

**25,532** people displaced

**132,514** people assisted through the PRRO in 2017



## Operational Updates

- No returning refugee was recorded, hence three-month food packages planned for Ivorian returnees were not distributed in September. However, 2,900 participants of asset creation and livelihoods interventions continued to benefit from technical assistance, focusing on longer-term capacity development, especially on agricultural techniques.
- WFP implements nutritional prevention activities for 5,500 children aged 6-59 months and 2,100 women. The implementation sites and partners have been identified and WFP has trained 30 government staff to do the screening before starting food assistance.
- Ten (10) women smallholder farmer groups (1,010 members of which 98 percent are women) identified to benefit from the LDS Charities grant, continue to receive technical support. Through this technical assistance, the women smallholder farmer groups cultivate their fields with new climate-sensitive agriculture technology which contributes to improved food security and nutrition.
- To the 2,995 people and 4,706 households displaced and affected due to inter-communal conflicts and heavy rains, respectively, in the West of Cote d'Ivoire, local authorities have provided immediate response to the most vulnerable (hot meals, mats, shelters and health coverage). WFP is monitoring the situation closely should additional help be provided.

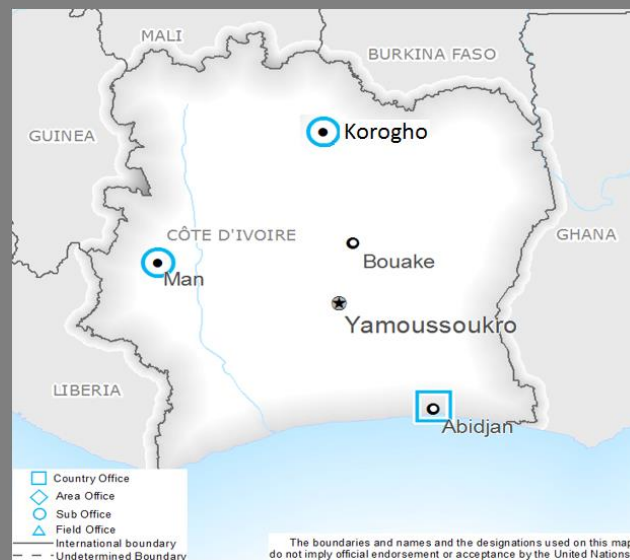
## Challenges

- Critical shortfalls continue to prevent the implementation of nutrition and resilience activities at the planned level.
- With the start of the school year, approximately 75,000 schoolchildren, of the planned 200,000 children, will not be reached with school meals due to insufficient funding.

## Partnership and Capacity-Strengthening

- WFP renewed partnership with the mobile company MTN to facilitate cash-based transfers to the targeted people starting in October. The practical preparation work to enable implementation by the end of October was conducted as well.
- WFP is currently working with two local NGOs (DRAO and CARITAS) in Montagnes region to reinforce its support to meet vulnerable returnees and host populations' food security and nutrition needs as well as increase their income generating opportunities.
- As part of the operationalisation of the national multi-sectoral nutrition plan, WFP provided technical support to the National Nutrition Programme in training and capacity development of local health authorities. The training provided transfer of skills and knowledge required to manage nutrition interventions at the regional and community level.
- In addition, WFP has initiated dialogue to strengthen its partnership with other partners such as FAO, IFAD, UN Women, Hellen Keller International (HKI), to harmonize intervention strategies and to develop synergies to better respond to different needs expressed by the 10 smallholder production groups in northern Cote d'Ivoire.

## Country Background & Strategy



Cote d'Ivoire is a middle-income country where the Government has set ambitious development goals for 2020. It is emerging from a decade of civil and political unrest that caused major displacements, internally and into neighbouring countries. The sustained political and economic stability of the last 5 years have encouraged investments, as well as the return of over 250,000 Ivorian refugees and internally displaced people to their areas of origin. However, social-cohesion is fragile in areas of return and displacement, and inter-communal conflicts are a risk.

Deep socio-economic inequalities linger, where one in two people live under the poverty line, one in three children suffer from chronic malnutrition, and food insecurity persists, especially in northern and western regions where WFP mostly operates. In the West, it is a consequence of the crisis and pressures exerted by high concentrations of returnees and displaced. In the North, of structural poverty, climate change and declining rainfall. High food prices exacerbate the already fragile situation. In addition, primary school enrolment, attendance rates and the quality of education are low.

WFP operations in Cote d'Ivoire started in 1969, focusing on development activities (e.g. promotion of land cultivation and school meals). Due to the socio-political crisis, WFP implemented humanitarian activities, but the regained stability has enabled a shift from relief to recovery and development.

Population: **23.2 million**

2016 Human Development Index:  
**172 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **31.8%**

## Donors

United States, Canada, Japan, Multilateral, Saudi Arabia, Private donors and Switzerland.