

NIGERIA RAPID RESPONSE Famine Prevention 2023

23-RR-NGA-58762

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Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator

PART I – ALLOCATION OVERVIEW

Reporting Process and Consultation Summary:		
Please indicate when the After-Action Review (AAR) was conducted and who participated.	21/02/2	024
An After-Action Review took place with FAO, WFP, UNICEF, UNOCHA and sector coordinators/representatives nutrition), on 21 February 2023.	(Food Secu	rity,
Please confirm that the report on the use of CERF funds was discussed with the Humanitarian and/or UN Country Team (HCT/UNCT).	Yes ⊠	No □
There is a new HC and there will be an extensive briefing on the CERF allocations with him to ensure he is prop how the funding has been used in recent years. The consolidated report will be shared with the HC and HCT for next HCT.		
Please confirm that the final version of this report was shared for review with in-country stakeholders (i.e. the CERF recipient agencies and their implementing partners, cluster/sector coordinators and members and relevant government counterparts)?	Yes ⊠	No 🗆

Recipient agencies and related sectors were involved in the reporting process, including the review of drafts of this report and during the After-Action Review. The final report will be circulated to agencies, sectors, and other key stakeholders.

1. STRATEGIC PRIORITIZATION

Statement by the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator:

The CERF allocation surpassed its target of 173,922 and reached 313,994 beneficiaries including 127,785 women, 36,504 men, 75,989 girls and 73,716 boys. The UN and its humanitarian partners covered critical needs related to nutrition and food and CERF resources were key in ensuring concerns were addressed.

WFP and its partners provided food assistance, using cash-based transfer mechanisms, to 158,740 beneficiaries significantly surpassing the original target. The funding revitalised local economies and supported the most vulnerable families by providing them with a means for improved access to food and other necessities.

In collaboration with UNICEF, 7,000 children under 5 years old and pregnant or lactating women were targeted by FAO, comprising approximately 49,000 households. These beneficiaries received nutrient-dense local recipes, specifically Tom Brown, produced in upgraded agro-processing and fish-processing enterprises. Additionally, 500 households, totalling around 3,500 individuals, were provided with integrated aquaculture and micro gardening inputs, emphasizing female-headed families, to enhance the production of nutrient-rich fish and fresh vegetables for household consumption. A further, 2,900 households of about 20,300 individuals, in LGAs at risk of famine-like situations gained access to timely agricultural inputs, including seeds and fertilizers. This support increased food availability at the household level, ensuring sustained nutrient needs and preventing further nutrition deterioration.

UNICEF supported the treatment of 15,000 children with SAM across 100 treatment centres. This included 13,500 children (5,140 boys and 8,360 girls) with SAM without medical complications were treated in OTP sites; and 1,500 children (675 boys and 825 girls) with SAM with medical complications who were treated in stabilization centres (SCs). The grant enabled UNICEF to provide a consistent supply of life-saving nutrition commodities for SAM treatment. Additionally, 8,595 community nutrition mobilizers were trained on active case finding of children suffering from SAM in the eight focal LGAs. A further 1,804 caregivers were trained on family led MUAC. As part of preventive interventions, 60,000 women and 4,500 men with children aged 6–23 months benefitted from counselling on optimal maternal, infant and young child nutrition (MIYCN) through mother-to-mother and father-to-father support groups. Capacity building was conducted for 80 staff from implementing partners to support implementation. A total of 948 MIYCN counselling sessions were conducted by 158 support groups in a six-month period, with 40 new groups established between June–December 2023.

The overall impact of the allocation has been positive. In addition to addressing key nutrition and food needs during implementation, the grant ensured there was no break in service provision for nutrition services.

CERF's Added Value:

The CERF funding added value to the humanitarian response by enabling humanitarian partners respond to time critical needs of the population affected by food insecurity and malnutrition. The allocation improved coordination between FAO and UNICEF on addressing malnutrition in a holistic manner and opened discussions for future collaborations between UNICEF and both FAO and WFP in potential areas of complimentary among the agencies. NGOs and government partners were engaged as implementing partners in the delivery of assistance.

Did CERF funds lead to a fast delivery of assistance to people in need?								
Yes ⊠	Partially □	No □						
Yes, the funds were made available at the right time an encountered during implementation.	d supported the fast delivery of assistance. I	No major challenges were						
Did CERF funds help respond to time-critical needs?								
Yes ⊠	Partially	No □						

The funds were provided at the right time, addressing food insecurity and coming before the peak of the malnutrition, thereby allowing for needs to be addressed in a time critical way. The flexibility of CERF also allowed funds to be used as needs arose, resulting in critical needs being addressed in a timely manner.

Did CERF improve coordination amongst the humanitarian community?								
Yes ⊠	Partially □	No □						
on the grant and how to ensure that nutrition of	concerns found were holistically supported be	entary way. All three agencies had discussions eyond the treatment phase. The three agencies some collaboration supported by other funding,						
Did CERF funds help improve resource m	obilization from other sources?							
Yes ⊠	Partially	No □						
Following positive results recorded because of the use of the CERF grants, more funds were received from various donors for continuing assistance in the locations of intervention. The CERF grant supplemented procurements of nutrition supplies which led to more support from other donors.								

Considerations of the ERC's Underfunded Priority Areas1:

FAO prioritized the principles of non-discrimination and disability inclusion during project implementation, with special consideration for women and girls with disabilities to ensure no barriers existed in accessing services, as well as promoting inclusiveness. This project promoted inclusion of people living with disabilities through a community participatory approach with stakeholders and shared information addressing their specific needs.

For UNICEF, women and children were at the centre of response activities and gender norms, relations and inequalities in project communications, beneficiary targeting, distribution points, access to and delivery of services actively addressing concerns. UNICEF mainstreamed gender-based violence (GBV) in its programming through awareness raising and training of nutrition sector partners, and the inclusion of GBV components in partnership documents with all implementing partners. Although no concerns were reported, the nutrition response leveraged LGA third-party facilitators and service providers in reporting any issues raised by women, girls and people with disabilities.

WFP worked in close collaboration with Christian Blind Mission to strengthen its implementing partners' capacity for disability inclusion in food security implementation and community engagement. This training was conducted for all implementing partners in WFP's area of intervention. Additionally, WFP partners (contractors and community-based structures) were trained on support people living with disabilities through prioritization and inclusion in all activities, including leadership/participation in community structures. Community consultation through focus group discussions and key informant interviews were also done with consideration for disabilities. WFP IEC materials also portray the inclusion of people with special needs. The protection monitoring exercises confirmed that people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups with special needs were taken into consideration. For example, they and other vulnerable groups like nursing mothers, aged etc received their assistance at home through the community-based structures.

Table 1: Allocation Overview (US\$)

Total amount required for the humanitarian response	396,000,000
CERF	9,000,000
Country-Based Pooled Fund (if applicable)	0
Other (bilateral/multilateral)	88,338,934
Total funding received for the humanitarian response (by source above)	97,338,934

Table 2: CERF Emergency Funding by Project and Sector/Cluster (US\$)

Agency	Project Code	Sector/Cluster	Amount
FAO	23-RR-FAO-016	Food Security - Agriculture	1,000,000
UNICEF	23-RR-CEF-027	Nutrition	2,000,000
WFP	23-RR-WFP-022	Food Security - Food Assistance	6,000,000
Total			9,000,000

In January 2019, the Emergency Relief Coordinator identified four priority areas as often underfunded and lacking appropriate consideration and visibility when funding is allocated to humanitarian action. The ERC therefore recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and HCTs/UNCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. These areas are: (1) support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, reproductive health and empowerment; (2) programmes targeting disabled people; (3) education in protracted crises; and (4) other aspects of protection. While CERF remains needs based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the questions and answers on the ERC four priority areas here.

Table 3: Breakdown of CERF Funds by Type of Implementation Modality (US\$)

Total funds implemented directly by UN agencies including procurement of relief goods	8,308,131
Funds sub-granted to government partners*	385,517
Funds sub-granted to international NGO partners*	213,804
Funds sub-granted to national NGO partners*	92,548
Funds sub-granted to Red Cross/Red Crescent partners*	0
Total funds transferred to implementing partners (IP)*	691,869
Total	9,000,000

^{*} Figures reported in table 3 are based on the project reports (part II, sections 1) and should be consistent with the sub-grants overview in the annex.

2. OPERATIONAL PRIORITIZATION:

Overview of the Humanitarian Situation:

Some 4.3 million people in Nigeria's northeastern BAY states (Borno, Adamawa and Yobe) are food insecure, beyond having already been made vulnerable due to the conflict that has affected the region for 14 years. If not addressed, the situation may deteriorate to famine-like conditions for many. Alongside the food crisis is a rapidly expanding nutrition crisis. Some 170,000 pregnant and nursing mothers and two million children are predicted to be acutely malnourished at the height of the lean season, including 700,000 children who will be severely acutely malnourished, meaning that their prospects of survival are acutely diminished. Many nutritional stabilization centres and therapeutic feeding programmes have had to close because of lack of funding. This combination of food insecurity and malnutrition makes people particularly vulnerable to waterborne and other diseases.

Operational Use of the CERF Allocation and Results:

In response to the crisis, the Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated \$9 million for life-saving activities. The allocation will target those facing the highest levels of food insecurity. It will also support the recently launched Lean Season Food Security and Nutrition Crisis Multi-Sector Plan 2023 that outlines measures to address acute food insecurity and malnutrition crisis while building longer-term resilience. The CERF allocation will provide humanitarian assistance to 171,143 vulnerable people in the Food Security and Nutrition sectors, including cash assistance.

People Directly Reached:

The CERF allocation surpassed its target of 173,922 and reached 313,994 beneficiaries including 127,785 women, 36,504 men, 75,989 girls and 73,716 boys. Overlapping beneficiaries between UNICEF and FAO nutrition and agriculture components were expected but not reflected in the report due to a delay in the implementation of some components of the FAO project as of time of reporting. The WFP project initially planned to support 95,131 beneficiaries for a period of 3 months, however, due to the significant change in foreign exchange rate in June 2023 that led to the devaluation of the local currency, the funds were utilized to reach 158,740 beneficiaries. One consideration in reporting achieved figures for UNICEF was the use of monthly average number of children aged 6–59 months screened for the cumulative screening data in the nutrition intervention, This was done because many children were screened more than once during the reporting period and it was seen as an effective way to avoid double counting.

People **Indirectly** Reached:

FAO intervention indirectly benefited mothers in the project catchment areas as well as women, children, and community leaders who benefit from nutrition education and awareness campaigns. The same group in the catchment area also indirectly benefited from improved access to Tom Brown products produced from the Tom Brown production centers. The community at large benefits from improved access to nutritious food, such as fish and vegetables coming from the integrated aquaculture-gardening centers. Information and recommendations generated from this intervention are disseminated to benefit stakeholders within the two states for future nutrition-sensitive agriculture interventions, planning, implementation, and policymaking. FAO estimates that 120,400 people benefit from the action. UNICEF estimates that about 650,000 people, mainly women and children community members in internally displaced persons camps and host communities, have indirectly benefitted from project interventions. The beneficiaries were engaged through mother-to-mother and father-to-father support group meetings in communities, counselling of caregivers at health facility level and 'word-of-mouth' social marketing strategies in the sharing of beneficiaries' experiences and recommendations such as key MIYCN messages with family and friends. These messages were also delivered during other community activities including community MUAC screenings, and during health education and nutrition care sessions in health facilities. In addition, 80 trained health workers have benefitted from improved capacities that will be sustained within communities as part of support localization. For WFP, the people living in the same area as the targeted population were the indirect beneficiaries of this project.

Table 4: Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding by Sector/Cluster*

	Planned					Planned Reached					
Sector/Cluster	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	
Food Security - Agriculture	12,782	6,377	14,931	14,910	49,000	12,782	6,377	14,931	14,910	49,000	
Food Security - Food Assistance	33,772	14,743	23,023	23,593	95,131	56,351	24,604	38,415	39,368	158,738	
Nutrition	60,000	4,500	8,250	6,750	79,500	58,652	5,523	22,643	19,438	106,256	

^{*} Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

Table 5: Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding by Category*

Category	Planned	Reached
Refugees	0	792
Returnees	19,600	19,600
Internally displaced people	57,581	73,005
Host communities	96,741	220,597
Other affected people	0	0
Total	173,922	313,994

Table 6: Total No	umber of People Direct	Number of peodisabilities (Pv	pple with vD) out of the total	
Sex & Age	Planned	Reached	Planned	Reached
Women	81,544	127,785	2,214	3531
Men	22,386	36,504	507	985
Girls	35,360	75,989	765	1893
Boys	34,632	73,716	743	1826
Total	173,922	313,994	4,229	8,235

PART II - PROJECT OVERVIEW

3. PROJECT REPORTS

3.1 Project Report 23-RR-FAO-016

1. Project Information									
Agency:		FAO	FAO Country:				Nigeria		
Sector/cl	uster:	Food Security - Agricul	ture		CERF project	t code:	23-RR-FAO-016		
Project ti	tle:	Provision of life-saving Government areas with				sistance to	Crisis affected popu	ulations in Local	
Start date	e:	12/06/2023			End date:		11/12/2023		
Project re	evisions:	No-cost extension		Redeployn	nent of funds		Reprogramming	\boxtimes	
	Total red	quirement for agency's	sector res	ponse to curi	rent emergency	/ :		US\$ 76,670,000	
	Total fu	nding received for ager	ıcy's secto	or response to	current emerç	gency:		US\$ 3,600,000	
	Amount	received from CERF:						US\$ 1,000,000	
Funding	Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners: US\$						US\$ [0]		
		ernment Partners		US\$ [0]					
		national NGOs onal NGOs		US\$ [0] US\$ [0]					
		Cross/Crescent Organisa	ation					US\$ [0]	

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

Thanks to CERF funding, FAO is tackling severe acute food insecurity and malnutrition in four Local Government Areas (LGAs) Bama, Dikwa, Gwoza and Monguno, at risk of famine-like conditions. FAO provides locally produced nutritious food and agricultural inputs and Data analysis and recommendations have been generated to strengthen early warning and early actions, crucial in preventing child malnutrition.

In collaboration with UNICEF, a comprehensive strategy has been implemented to target 7,000 children under 5 years old and pregnant or lactating women, comprising approximately 49,000 households. These beneficiaries receive nutrient-dense local recipes, specifically Tom Brown, produced in upgraded agro-processing and fish-processing enterprises. Additionally, 500 households, totalling around 3,500 individuals, are provided with integrated aquaculture and micro gardening inputs, emphasizing female-headed families, to enhance the production of nutrient-rich fish and fresh vegetables for household consumption.

Furthermore, 2,900 households, amounting to approximately 20,300 individuals, in LGAs at risk of famine-like situations gain access to timely agricultural inputs, including seeds and fertilizers. This support increases food availability at the household level, ensuring

sustained nutrient needs and preventing further nutrition deterioration. Before the NTE of the project, FAO requested a no cost extension which was rejected. However, to ensure reaching all beneficiaries, FAO is taking advantage of the possibility to finalize delivery up to 6 months past the end date of the project in CERF funding and some activities are currently still under implementation.

3. Changes and Amendments

While the project proceeds largely as planned, some adjustments had to be made. Only a few beneficiaries received rainy season due to adverse climate events and procurement challenges. The reprogramming aims to support beneficiaries with dry season inputs. Considering the agricultural this shift to dry season support, means this activity is still ongoing.

Another adjustment had to be made to ensure the most vulnerable people could access the Tom Brown. Initially, the project intended to distribute vouchers for Tom Brown. However, the distances between targeted beneficiaries and processing centers made this linkage impractical. In response, FAO adjusted the intervention's modality to direct procurement and distribution to the targeted households. Grateful for the flexibility afforded by SFERA project to allow six-month past NTE to implement the remaining component, the project team is taking advantage of this opportunity to ensure the successful completion of the initiative.

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Food Security - Agriculture									
			Planned				Reached			
Category	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	5,110	2,555	5,971	5,964	19,600	5,110	2,555	5,971	5,964	19,600
Internally displaced people	3,836	1,911	4,480	4,473	14,700	3,836	1,911	4,480	4,473	14,700
Host communities	3,836	1,911	4,480	4,473	14,700	3,836	1,911	4,480	4,473	14,700
Other affected people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	12,782	6,377	14,931	14,910	49,000	12,782	6,377	14,931	14,910	49,000
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
	80	100	60	60	300	80	100	60	60	300

^{*} Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

The project indirectly benefits mothers in the catchment areas as well as women, children, and community leaders who benefit from nutrition education and awareness campaigns. The same group in the catchment area also indirectly benefits from improved access to Tom Brown products produced from the Tom Brown production centers. The community at large benefits from improved access to nutritious food, such as fish and vegetables coming from the integrated aquaculture-gardening centers. Information and recommendations generated from this intervention are disseminated to benefit stakeholders within the two states for future nutrition-sensitive agriculture interventions, planning, implementation, and policymaking.

6. CERF Results Framework									
Project objective	objective Enhance food and nutrition security of vulnerable households in Local Governments (LGAs) at risk of a famine-like situation in Borno State.								
Output 1 Families with acutely malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women have improved access to nutrient-rich Tom Brown products.									
Was the planned our	tput changed through a reprogram	ning after the applic	cation stage? Yes	s □ No □					
Sector/cluster	Food Security - Agriculture								
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification					
Indicator 1.1	Number of community-based Tom Brown production enterprises supported	4	4	Activity completion report					
Indicator 1.2	Number of women cooperative groups trained on formulation of Tom Brown products using locally available cereals and pulses	5	5	Training reports					
Indicator 1.3	Number of Tom Brown vouchers distributed to referral families/HHs with cases of SAM	21000	21000	List of beneficiaries					
Indicator 1.4	Cash.5a Number of people receiving conditional vouchers (Tom Brown)	7000	7000	List of beneficiaries					
Indicator 1.5	Cash.5b Total value of conditional vouchers distributed in USD (Tom Brown)	267,000	n/a	As the distribution modality changed, the indicator is no longer align with the current context					
Explanation of outpo	ut and indicators variance:	The initial plan to distribute Tom Brown voucher was readjusted to effectively target the most vulnerable people through direct distribution, due to the distance between the OTPs and Tom Brown production centers. The targets are expected to be met, and even surpassed in the case of tom brown provision due to the change of modality and the exchange rate. Flexibility of CERF project to deliver within 6 months past the NTE will enable the project to reach their targets.							
Activities	Description Implemented by								

Activity 1.1	Support 4 existing community-based Tom Brown production enterprises to upscale Tom Brown production in 4 LGAs (Local Government Areas)	
Activity 1.2	Train 5 women cooperative groups in the recipe and formulation of Tom Brown products using locally available cereals and pulses.	
Activity 1.3	Distribute Tom Brown vouchers to referral families/HHs with cases of SAM from UNICEF (United Nations Children Fund)	

	Children Fund)	F (United Nations			
Output 2	Communities in LGAs at risk of fam through the provision of integrated ac			iversity access to highly nutritious	
Was the planned	output changed through a reprogrami	ming after the appl	ication stage?	Yes □ No □	
Sector/cluster	Food Security - Agriculture				
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification	
Indicator 2.1	Number of community-based integrated fish production and homestead vegetable gardening group established	5	5	List of beneficiaries	
Indicator 2.2	Number of community-based knowledge groups trained on integrated fish production and homestead vegetable gardening, and nutrition education	5	5	Training report	
Indicator 2.3	Number of tube wells with solar- powered pumps constructed for community-based integrated fish production and homestead vegetable gardening	25	25	Activity completion report	
Indicator 2.4	Number of households/beneficiaries accessed for longitudinal data collection for monitoring and evaluation	700	700	Survey questionnaire	
Indicator 2.5	Number of dissemination and learning workshops conducted	2	2	Workshop report	
Explanation of o	utput and indicators variance:	that ended in Octol round of data colle	ber. Learning workshop	n extension of 22-UF-NGA-55396 to be conducted after the last going is completed. The targets TE as per CERF rule)	
Activities	Description		Implemented by		
Activity 2.1	Establish 5 community based in homestead vegetable gardening produced in the community based in the community base		Direct implementation		
Activity 2.2	Train 5 community-based know integrated fish and homestead ve production, and nutrition education		Direct implementation		

Activity 2.3	Construction of 25 tube wells with solar powered pumps for community-based integrated fish and homestead vegetable gardening production clusters	
Activity 2.4	Conduct 3 rounds of longitudinal data collection amongst beneficiaries to monitor effect of activities on child nutrition and household food insecurity outcomes and conduct socio-anthropological participatory learning exercise- community consultation in identified hotspots	
Activity 2.5	Present results to multi sectoral stakeholders in Yobe and Borno States to strengthen early warning, early actions and prevent child malnutrition	

	actions and prevent child malnutrition	n					
Output 3	Most vulnerable households in LGA provision of timely quality crop produ			ed food security through the			
Was the planned	output changed through a reprogram	ming after the appl	ication stage? Yes [□ No □			
Sector/cluster	Food Security - Agriculture	Food Security - Agriculture					
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification			
Indicator 3.1	Ag.1 Number of people receiving agricultural inputs (items/packages/kits)(Number of vulnerable male and female households receiving rainy season seeds and NPK fertilizer inputs)2900 vulnerable households (20 300 male and female individuals approx.)	20,300	20,300 (2450 for raing season and 17850 for dry season)				
Indicator 3.2	Number of vulnerable male and female households receiving extension services through Farmer Field Schools Approach 10 Farmer Field Schools (250 male and female individuals approx.)	250	250	List of FFS participants			
Indicator 3.3	Number of field visits conducted for crop performance monitoring	5	1	Back to office report			
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		Partial distribution of rainy season assistance was done with 2450 people reached with inputs (total of 26.1 kg seeds of okra, 17.6 kg of amaranth seeds, 2620 kg seeds of cowpea and 8.75 MT of NPK fertilizer distributed) Bama internally displaced Camp. Reduced number of beneficiaries due to climate adverse situation and procurement limitations. The remaining beneficiaries are to receive dry-season outputs, this had implication on the indicator 3.3 as well. The targets will be met by June 2024 (6 months after NTE as per CERF rule).					
Activities	Description	, ,	Implemented by				
Activity 3.1	Rainy season seeds and NPK fertiliz	er input distribution					
Activity 3.2	Establishment and management of fa	armer field schools	Direct implementation				
Activity 3.3	Field visits and crop performance mo	onitoring	Direct implementation				

7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas² often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP) 3:

FAO utilizes Community Based Participatory Planning and Assessment (CBPP&A) approach to engage communities in the identification of beneficiary HHs based on a pre-determined criterion. The CBPP&A approach ensures that the most vulnerable and needy HHs, which might normally be excluded, are identified through community-based approaches. FAO conducts regular stakeholder meetings at the state and community levels to get input and recommendations on its programs. This allows for government engagement and community inclusion in identifying priorities. In partnership with IPs, FAO conducts a review of the implementation process, which is used to inform the implementation of future program design

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:

FAO has Community Feedback Mechanisms in place that include a toll-free number and community facilitators (Community Club Facilitators and Community Based Extension Agents) who have primary contact with beneficiaries. Additionally, FAO establishes help desks to handle complaints and feedback whenever a distribution is underway. An Accountability Focal Person (AFP) is solely responsible for maintaining a database in which all complaints and feedback are recorded. The MEAL specialists working with the AFP are responsible for following up on all cases and ensuring that all cases are investigated, and feedback is provided to complainants.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

FAO has a zero-tolerance policy towards any form of sexual harassment, exploitation, or abuse by its staff, implementing partners, volunteers and any other persons associated with the organization (vendors, contractors etc). FAO strengthened the existing toll freeline established to receive complaints for incidents related to SEA. All cases related to SEA are handled by the trained PSEA focal point following the SOPs in place. FAO will also ensure that services are available to victims through referral pathways. All related cases reported or identified are channelled to FAO's Ethics Office for investigation

d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

Gender mainstreaming and empowerment of women and girls is central to FAO programming. In this project, principles of safe and meaningful participation of women and girls is central to the project implementation. Women and girls are exclusively engaged on specific gender issues to voice out issues that affect them. Gender-sensitive nutrition education is implemented to sustain good dietary practices through capacity building for women and girls. In addition, there is awareness creation and sensitization on protection risks for women and girls. Finally, FAO establishes and strengthens clubs aimed to foster community-based practices for malnutrition.

e. People with disabilities (PwD):

² These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas here.

³ AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the <u>IASC AAP commitments</u>.

Women and girls with disabilities are at higher risk of violence and experience protection issues compared with women and girl without disabilities. Therefore, principles of non-discrimination and disability inclusion will be prioritized for this project implementation, with special consideration for women and girls with a disability to ensure no barriers exist in accessing services, as well as promoting inclusiveness. This project promoted inclusion of people living with disabilities through a community participatory approach with stakeholders and share information addressing their specific needs of women and girls with disabilities

f. Protection:

Protection mainstreaming has been an integral part of FAO safer programming. For this project intervention, a protection lens is mainstreamed throughout all activities ensuring that protection risks and potential violations are taken into consideration. FAO ensures implementation of the four-protection mainstreaming principles of do no harm, promote non-discrimination, meaningful access, safety, dignity, participation, empowerment, and accountability measures to the affected communities throughout the project implementation.

g. Education:

N/A

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
Yes, CVA is a component of the CERF project	No	0

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multipurpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

The objective was to provide Tom Brown to 7000 children U5, and PLWs referred from UNICEF centres to supplement their dietary intake. Through previous intervention, FAO has been supporting agro-processing centres to produce quality Tom Brown products. Through this project, FAO conducted a feasibility assessment of directly linking the targeted beneficiaries with the pre-identified processing centre to redeem their vouchers. The distances between targeted beneficiaries and processing centres did not allow this linkage and FAO shifted the modality of intervention towards direct procurement and distributing it to the targeted households.

Parameters of the used CVA modality:

Specified CVA activity (incl. activity # from results framework above)	Number of people receiving CVA	Value of cash (US\$)	Sector/cluster	Restriction
Distribution of Tom Brown vouchers	0	US\$ 0	Food Security - Agriculture	Choose an item.

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities

14177724840?s=20
33372690820?s=20

3.2 Project Report 23-RR-CEF-027

1. Project Information								
Agency:		UNICEF			Country: Nigeria			
Sector/cl	uster:	Nutrition			CERF project	t code:	23-RR-CEF-027	
Project ti	tle:		Provision of life-saving nutrition interventions to reduce morbidity and mortality among women and children in atrisk Local Government Areas with famine-like situations in NE Nigeria.					
Start date	e :	09/06/2023	09/06/2023 End date:			08/12/2023		
Project re	evisions:	No-cost extension		Redeployn	nent of funds		Reprogramming	
	Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency: US\$ 52,801,169						US\$ 52,801,169	
	Total fu	nding received for ager	ncy's secto	or response to	current emerç	gency:		US\$ 10,000,000
	Amount	received from CERF:						US\$ 2,000,000
Funding	Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners: US					US\$ 385,517		
	Government Partners						US\$385,517	
	International NGOs							US\$ 0
	Natio	onal NGOs						US\$ 0
	Red	Cross/Crescent Organisa	ation					US\$ 0

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

Through this CERF rapid response allocation in 2023, UNICEF channelled funding to extremely hard-to-reach areas with severe nutrition needs in North-East Nigeria. Support was targeted at eight local government areas (LGAs) classified as famine-like in Borno and Yobe states. Integrated packages of nutrition services were delivered through existing community structures and outpatient therapeutic programme (OTP) sites managed by the government and sector partners. The funds provided comprehensive support for community mobilization, early identification and referral of children aged 6–59 months with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) through the mother/family-led mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) approach and programme monitoring. A total of 15,000 children with SAM were admitted to 100 treatment centres. This included 13,500 children (5,140 boys and 8,360 girls) with SAM without medical complications were treated in OTP sites; and 1,500 children (675 boys and 825 girls) with SAM with medical complications who were treated in stabilization centres (SCs). The grant enabled UNICEF to provide a consistent supply of life-saving nutrition commodities, including 23,000 cartons of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF), 200 cartons of F-75 and 100 cartons of F-100 therapeutic milks to the field for SAM treatment. Additionally, 8,595 community nutrition mobilizers were trained on active case finding of children suffering from SAM in the eight focal LGAs and provided with new MUAC tapes to replace worn-out ones. A further 1,804 caregivers were trained on family led MUAC.

As part of preventive interventions, 60,000 women and 4,500 men with children aged 6–23 months benefitted from counselling on optimal maternal, infant and young child nutrition (MIYCN) through mother-to-mother and father-to-father support groups. Capacity building was conducted for 80 staff from implementing partners who received training to support programming. A total of 948 MIYCN counselling sessions were conducted by 158 support groups in a six-month period, with 40 new groups established between June—

December 2023. This CERF contribution also strengthened existing early warning information systems such as the quarterly sentinel surveillance, with one of three planned cycles covered in Borno and Yobe states. It also provided support for training on nutrition SMART survey and community sentinel surveillance to nutrition partners and core nutrition personnel in the State Primary Health Care Development Agencies in Borno and Yobe states.

3. Changes and Amendments

None

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Nutrition									
		Planned				Reached				
Category	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	24,000	2,000	3,300	2,700	32,000	23,461	2,455	9,057	7,775	42,748
Host communities	36,000	2,500	4,950	4,050	47,500	35,191	3,068	13,586	11,663	63,508
Other affected people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	60,000	4,500	8,250	6,750	79,500	58,652	5,523	22,643	19,438	106,256
People with disabilities (Pw	D) out of the	total	.		- 1		•	.		-
	1,800	120	248	203	2,371	1,760	147	681	585	3,173

^{*} Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

UNICEF estimates that about 650,000 people, mainly women and children community members in internally displaced persons camps and host communities, have indirectly benefitted from project interventions. The beneficiaries were engaged through mother-to-mother and father-to-father support group meetings in communities, counselling of caregivers at health facility level and 'word-of-mouth' social marketing strategies in the sharing of beneficiaries' experiences and recommendations such as key MIYCN messages with family and friends. These messages were also delivered during other community activities including community MUAC screenings, and during health education and nutrition care sessions in health facilities. In addition, 80 trained health workers have benefitted from improved capacities that will be sustained within communities as part of support localization.

6. CERF Results Framework						
Project objective To provide life-saving nutrition humanitarian interventions to reduce morbidity and mortality among women and children in at-risk Local Government Areas with famine-like situations in North-East Nigeria						
Output 1	Children 6-59 months in camps an supplementation and community and					
Was the planned o	utput changed through a reprogram	ming after the application	n stage? Yes □	l No □		
Sector/cluster	Nutrition					
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification		
Indicator 1.1	N.4 Number of people screened for acute malnutrition (Number of children 6-59 months screened for acute malnutrition including disability)	500,000	147,709 (monthly	NE Nutrition Sector 5Ws		
Indicator 1.2	N.3a Number of people admitted to SAM treatment programme (therapeutic feeding)(Number of children 6-59 months newly admitted for SAM treatment in OTPs)	13,500	13,500	NE Nutrition Sector 5Ws		
Indicator 1.3	N.3a Number of people admitted to SAM treatment programme (therapeutic feeding)(Number of children 0-59 months newly admitted for SAM treatment in SCs)	1,500	1,500	NE Nutrition Sector 5Ws		
Indicator 1.4	(Caregivers (both mothers and fathers) of children 6-23 months counselled on MIYCN)	64,500	64,500	NE Nutrition Sector 5Ws		
·	put and indicators variance:	Indicator 1.1: Population screening of children aged 6–59 months is conducted and reported monthly by a community structure jointly set up and supported by the State Primary Health Care Development Agencies in the BAY states and nutrition sector partners. Cumulative screening data for the period of the project may be misleading because many children were screened more than once during the reporting period. To avoid double counting, UNICEF is reporting on the indicator as a monthly average number of children aged 6–59 months screened.				
Activities	Description Implemented by					

Activity 1.1	Procurement and prepositioning of supplies and provision of treatment for severely malnourished children 6-59 months through health facilities	l ' '
Activity 1.2	Procurement and distribution of Micronutrient Powder to enhance the quality of diets of children 6-23 months using home fortification	
Activity 1.3	identification of children with acute malnutrition, and they will conduct active case finding by screening approximately 500,000 children 6-59 months olds	
Activity 1.4	Supportive supervision and joint program monitoring visits	Two joint supported supervision and monitoring visits were conducted by UNICEF, the government and FAO during the reporting period, to Jere LGA in Borno State and Jakusko LGA in Yobe State. The government and UNICEF also made a total of 43 visits to 43 LGAs during CNM training on screening and the family-led MUAC approach.

Output 2	Improved knowledge and practice of pregnant and lactating women and caregivers of children aged 0-23 months on optimum Maternal, Infant, and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) and other key household practices.						
Was the planned of	Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes ☐ No ☐						
Sector/cluster	Nutrition						
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification			
Indicator 2.1	Number of pregnant and lactating women/caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months reached with skilled IYCF support, hygiene, and other key household messages	60,000	60,000	NE Nutrition Sector 5Ws			
Indicator 2.2	Number of mother to mother /father to father support groups or care groups established for scaling up IYCF-E promotional services	40	40	NE Nutrition Sector 5Ws			
Indicator 2.3	N.5 Number of people receiving vitamins and/or micronutrient supplements(Number of pregnant and lactating women that receive micronutrient (IFA) supplementation.)	30,000	30,000	MNCHW report			
Indicator 2.4	N.6 Number of people receiving training and/or community awareness sessions on maternal, infant and young child feeding in emergencies (Number of pregnant	64,500	64,500	NE Nutrition Sector 5Ws			

	and lactating women receiving messaging or counseling on maternal, infant and young child nutrition)			
Indicator 2.5	Number of implementing partner staff receiving training to support programme implementation	80	80	NE Nutrition Sector 5Ws
Explanation of	output and indicators variance:	No variance		·
Activities	Description	Description		
Activity 2.1	Counselling of PLWs by Communit (CNMs) at community level and s health workers at the health facilitie	killed counselling by	girls from the eight ta counselling from CNI	gnant and breastfeeding women and arget LGAs received skilled Ms and health workers that had been optimal maternal and child nutrition
Activity 2.2	Monitoring the conduct of Mother to Mother and Father to Father support group sessions		support groups within	n this six-month reporting period, with eetings monitored by UNICEF third
Activity 2.3	Joint monitoring and supportive supervision to program sites		supported supervision programme sites. The made a total of 43 visions.	ment and FAO made two joint on and monitoring visits to e government and UNICEF also sits to 43 LGAs during CNM training e family-led MUAC approach.

Output 3	Conduct three Sentinel Surveillance	Conduct three Sentinel Surveillance in Borno and Yobe States			
Was the planned	Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes ☐ No ☐				
Sector/cluster	Sector/cluster Nutrition				
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification	
Indicator 3.1	Number of Sentinel Surveillance conducted	3	1	Sentinel surveillance Report	
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		surveillance in Borno an	ere only sufficient to cover d Yobe states; however, the ted during a similar time p	nere was some overlap with	
Activities	Description	Imp	lemented by		
Activity 3.1	Bi-monthly collection of data from sampled sentinel settlements/communities. The community sentinel surveillance system will cover all accessible wards in Borno and Yobe states. Yobe State was included in cover in Yobe State were covered.				

7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and

Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas⁴ often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP) 5:

UNICEF, WFP and FAO had extensive consultations at the start of this project to identify target locations, types of interventions and integrating approaches across the partner agencies. This joint effort produced a project design that maximized the impact and use of resources. Target locations were agreed based on community needs identified by different assessments, including malnutrition surveillance activities, partner surveys, sentinel surveillance and monitoring of nutrition activities by third-party facilitators. CNMs and health workers were engaged through a consultative process by UNICEF third-party facilitators that identified the needs of women and children (boys and girls) and people with disabilities, all of which were factored into the project design. UNICEF third-party facilitators monitored the mentoring of health workers and community structures with partners at the LGA level and mechanisms were set up for receiving feedback from the target population. Joint project monitoring was also conducted with FAO and the LGAs in focal states.

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:

UNICEF used the established complaint and feedback mechanism in place in the project locations. To reinforce accountability and improve response design and delivery of services, UNICEF leveraged third-party facilitators at the targeted LGAs to sensitize communities on their right to provide confidential feedback about the programme. UNICEF therefore ensured safe and equitable access to and use of nutrition services, although no complaints or feedback were received during the life of the project.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

PSEA was mainstreamed into programming at the start of this project through training conducted for implementing partners on Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP), PSEA and gender. The same principles were integrated into partnership documents. All programme staff, including community nutrition workers, were trained on child safeguarding, and had signed their individual agencies code of conduct. Communities were also sensitized through relevant forums, such as mother-to-mother and father-to-father support group meetings, to identify and confidentially report issues related to PSEA at any service point or during activities.

d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

Women and children were at the centre of the response activities. UNICEF actively addressed and incorporated gender norms, relations and inequalities in project communications, beneficiary targeting, distribution points, access to and delivery of services. UNICEF mainstreams gender-based violence (GBV) in its programming through awareness raising and training of nutrition sector partners, and the inclusion of GBV components in partnership documents with all implementing partners. Although no concerns were reported, the nutrition response leveraged LGA third-party facilitators and service providers in reporting any issues raised by women, girls and people with disabilities.

e. People with disabilities (PwD):

The programme ensured that people with disabilities, particularly women and girls, were actively sought out and given priority access and special consideration, for example in queuing for supplies, and services at nutrition sites. In addition, protection partners were available

⁴ These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas here.

⁵ AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the <u>IASC AAP commitments</u>.

to ensure that the needs people with disabilities were communicated to communities from the initial consultations and inception meetings by third-party facilitators and were met.

f. Protection:

Protection principles were incorporated into the delivery of the interventions and ensured that activities targeted the most vulnerable, enhanced safety and dignity, and promoted and protected the rights of beneficiaries. The populations at risk were identified with consideration for different vulnerabilities underlying the risks, including those experienced by men, women, girls and boys, and groups such as internally displaced people, the elderly and people with disabilities. Primary consideration was given to UNICEF's accountability to affected populations, to identify, understand and support protection measures.

g. Education:

N/A

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
No	No	None

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multi-purpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

It was not feasible for this project.

	Parameters of the used CVA modality:				
	Specified CVA activity (incl. activity # from results framework above)	Number of people receiving CVA	Value of cash (US\$)	Sector/cluster	Restriction
-	None				

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities Title Weblink

3.3 Project Report 23-RR-WFP-022

1. Pro	1. Project Information							
Agency:	y: WFP		Country:		Nigeria			
Sector/c	luster:	Food Security - Food As	sistance		CERF project	code:	23-RR-WFP-022	
Project title: Provision of life-saving nutrition sensitive assistance to crisis affected population in Local Government Area famine-like situations in NE Nigeria.					ernment Areas with			
Start dat	e:	01/06/2023			End date:		30/11/2023	
Project r	evisions:	No-cost extension		Redeploym	nent of funds		Reprogramming	
	Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency: US\$ 435,879,421							
	Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency: US\$ 74,738,				US\$ 74,738,934			
	Amount	received from CERF:						US\$ 6,000,000
Funding	Total CE	RF funds sub-granted to	o impleme	enting partne	rs:			US\$ 306,352
					US\$ 0			
International NGOs								US\$ 213,804
National NGOs								US\$ 92,548
Red Cross/Crescent Organisation US				US\$ 0				

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance"

Through the grant received from CERF, WFP delivered life-saving assistance. The grant enabled WFP to provide unconditional cash transfer to food-insecure internally displaced persons, refugees, returnees, and host community members in Damboa, Dikwa and Monguno LGAs in Borno States. Beneficiaries received Nigerian Naira 7,850 per person per month to support their needs for foods.

3. Changes and Amendments

The project initially planned to support 95,131 beneficiaries for a three-month period. However, due to the significant change in foreign exchange rate in June 2023 that led to the devaluation of the local currency, the funds were utilized to provide food and nutrition assistance to 158,740 beneficiaries. The implementation started in June 2023 and distribution was completed in August 2023.

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Food Security - Food Assistance									
			Planned					Reached	I	
Category	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	280	123	192	197	792
Returnees	844	369	576	590	2,379	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	10,132	4,424	6,907	7,078	28,541	5,523	2,411	3,765	3,858	15,557
Host communities	22,796	9,950	15,540	15,925	64,211	50,548	22,070	34,458	35,313	142,389
Other affected people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	33,772	14,743	23,023	23,593	95,131	56,351	24,604	38,415	39,368	158,738
People with disabilities (Pw	D) out of the	total	 	l	l			l		
	1,013	442	691	708	2,854	1,691	738	1,152	1,181	4,762

^{*} Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

WFP's food assistance through value vouchers has a dual impact As ithelps direct beneficiaries by providing them with essential nutrition, while also benefiting the wider community as indirect beneficiaries. This is achieved by facilitating transactions with contracted retailers. As a result, local market demand is boosted and economic activity within the community increases, supporting local businesses and sustaining jobs and business operations, ultimately promoting economic resilience and stability. IThe food assistance system acts as a mechanism for broader community development, promoting economic empowerment and sustainability beyond its direct targeted beneficiaries. The 2023 Market Functionality Index assessment shows an improvement in the markets in Borno State, from a score of 4.2 (40 percent) in 2022 to 4.9 (50 percent) in 2023. This can be attributed to the consistent cash transfer interventions in the areas where WFP implements, thereby boosting the general outlook of the market.

6. CERF Resul	ts Framework				
Project objective	Food-insecure internally displaced persons, refugees, returnees, and host community members in crisis-prone and conflict-affected areas of Northeast Nigeria have access to adequate nutritious food.				
Output 1	Provide food assistance to crisis-affected, food-insecure internally displaced persons, returnees, refugees, host communities and nutritionally vulnerable groups (including children 6–23 months of age and pregnant and nursing mothers).				
Was the planned o	utput changed through a reprogram	ming after the app	olication stage?	Yes □ No ⊠	
Sector/cluster	Food Security - Food Assistance				
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification	
Indicator 1.1	Number of Food insecure and crisis-affected populations have access to cash-based assistance to meet their urgent needs.	95,131	158,740	Actual expenses from WINGS	
Indicator 1.2	Cash.4a Number of people receiving unconditional vouchers	95,131	158,740	Actual expenses from WINGS	
Indicator 1.3	Cash.4b Total value of unconditional vouchers distributed in USD	4,880,220	4,868,780.32	Actual expenses from WINGS	
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		The project initially planned to support 95,131 beneficiaries for a period of 3 months, however, due to the significant change in foreign exchange rate in June 2023 that led to the devaluation of the location currency, the funds were utilized to reach 158,740 beneficiaries.			
Activities	Description		Implemented by		
Activity 1.1	Engagement of retailers to provide monthly cash-based transfers to target population in Damboa, Monguno and Dikwa LGAs		WFP		
Activity 1.2	Monthly Distribution of Commodity value vouchers to target population for them to receive their supplies from retailers in Damboa, Monguno and Dikwa LGAs		WFP and Cooperating F	Partners	

•	Monthly supportive supervision and monitoring visits of WFP Partners and retailers in cash-based transfers in Damboa, Monguno and Dikwa LGAs.	
•	Set up community feedback mechanism (CFM) centres at all Final distribution sites.	WFP

7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas⁶ often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP)7:

Accountability to affected people remained at the core of the intervention. The community feedback mechanism (CFM) contributes to WFP's commitment to the principles of accountability to affected populations, providing communities a channel of two-way communication and enabling them to contact WFP directly through the hotline. Beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries can voice their concerns and complaints and ask questions regarding WFP programmes. As part of accountability to affected population, WFP also assessed beneficiary knowledge of their eligibility for food assistance, entitlements, and duration of assistance. To be considered appropriately informed, respondents had to accurately confirm all of the three types of information: i) their knowledge of the targeting criteria for the activity in which they are participating; ii) the content of their food, cash, or voucher entitlement; and iii) duration for which they would continue to receive assistance. redemption time/date etc.

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:

WFP maintained a hotline that was relaunched in 2022 with a functional new hotline short code--1333 The hotline uses WFP's SugarCRM system for tracking escalated issues systematically. CFM channels include a direct toll-free WFP hotline, onsite help desks, community-based complaints management committees (for select sites only), and suggestion boxes. WFP deployed relevant CFM mechanisms that ensured assisted beneficiaries received their food assistance in a dignified and safe manner. About 98% of assisted beneficiaries reported being treated with dignity and respect and that they accessed their food assistance unhindered to and from distribution sites. Despite the ongoing insecurity in the northeast, 96.6%, reported that they had unhindered access going to and returning from WFP distribution sites. Feedback through the different channels was received in several languages, including Kanuri Hausa, Fulfulde, Shuwa, and Bura amongst others.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

To mitigate risk and respond to SEA, WFP has various mechanisms of reporting SEA with 2 focal points in each office and the Deputy Country Director as the lead (currently, there are 6 focal points in-country), WFP also avails opportunities to report directly to WFP Headquarters to the Office of Inspector General. The CFM is also utilized to receive SEA complaints mechanism. Irrespective of who receives SEA cases, they must be reported to the OIGI office which has the responsibility of investigation and follow-up where needed. Any person, either a SEA focal point, CFM staff, or senior management, is trained on the confidentiality and sensitivity of SEA, and their

⁶ These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas here.

AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the <u>IASC AAP</u> commitments.

limitations in their roles as SEA case recipients based on their roles. Some of these trainings are in person, and some are online on the WFP WeLearn platform.

d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

WFP is committed to achieving gender equality and women's empowerment, ensuring the integration of gender throughout its programming. WFP conducted a gender analysis that informed the development of the CSP 2023-2027 that led to the development of the gender action plan. WFP also ensures gender, protection and AAP risk assessments are conducted in locations where we work. Guided by its gender mainstreaming checklist, WFP ensures gender activities are integrated into partner field-level agreements. WFP promotes lead roles for women's leadership and participation in community development. WFP conducts gender and gender-based violence sensitization sessions for beneficiaries, communities and project management committees ensuring meaningful participation in our programmes and prevention of gender-based violence. To deepen our community engagement efforts, WFP translated key gender advocacy messages and audio to nine languages spoken in the northeast, ensuring a more inclusive and accessible approach to disseminating crucial information across diverse communities.

e. People with disabilities (PwD):

For the inclusion of PwD, implementing partners' capacity is strengthened in close collaboration with an INGO (Christian Blind Mission) on disability inclusion in Food Security and Community Engagement. This training was conducted for all implementing partners in WFP's area of intervention. Additionally, WFP partners (contractors and community-based structures) are trained on support for PwD through prioritization and inclusion in all activities, including leadership/participation in community structures. Community consultation through focus group discussions and key informant interviews are also done with consideration for disabilities. WFP IEC materials also portray the inclusion of people with special needs. It was evident during protection monitoring exercises that PwD and other vulnerable groups with special needs were taken into consideration; for instance, PwD without support, nursing mothers, aged etc are supported to redeem their assistance in their homes through the community-based structures.

f. Protection:

Protection and AAP mainstreaming were implemented in line with the do-no-harm principle by prioritizing the safety, integrity, and dignity of individuals, ensuring meaningful access to services, promoting participation and empowerment through community consultations and engagement, and community feedback and response mechanisms. In line with protection policies, WFP ensured that targeted IDPs, host communities, asylum seekers/refugees, returnees, and other crisis-affected people had safe and dignified access to all interventions by paying particular attention to meaningful access for persons at heightened risk, including pregnant and lactating women and girls, the elderly, PwD and child-headed households. This was monitored by third-party partners and protection/AAP/CFM cooperating partners, resulting in the implementation of mitigation measures including updating of crowd control SoPs in coordination with the security unit and training sessions on protection mainstreaming.

g. Education:

Not applicable

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)				
Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?				
Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:		

Yes, CVA is the sole intervention in	n
the CERF project	

Yes, CVA is the sole intervention in the CERF project

158,740

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

WFP's choice of modality for CVA is evidence -based. WFP used electronic vouchers in locations where contracted retailers were able to bring sufficient commodities to distribution points but there is limited connectivity and higher security risks for unrestricted cash. Electronic vouchers were supported by WFP's SCOPE end-to-end platform which integrates beneficiary registration, enrolment, credit, redemption, reporting, payment and reconciliation and provides real-time data that informs WFP decision making. SCOPE cards enabled beneficiaries to purchase food from contracted retailers without exposure to the multiple protection risks of handling cash. Food assistance recipients were issued biometric SCOPE cards (linked to beneficiaries' fingerprints and photos) for redemption of assistance at retail shops. WFP provides each of the contracted retailers with a customized POS device linked to a fingerprint scanner and printer. Through the SCOPE platform, WFP loads electronic food vouchers on to the SCOPE card issued to each beneficiary household. Beneficiaries use the SCOPE card to redeem their entitlements in the form of electronic voucher at the WFP-contracted retailer shops through the use of the SCOPE card to authentical their identity by putting their thumbprint on the fingerprint scanner that is linked to the retailer mPOS device. The food vendors are selected from retailers in the local markets. WFP contracts suitable vendors based on an assessment of certain criteria, such as registration with the national corporate affairs commission, having a valid and functional bank account, capacity, etc. Retailer shops were established in IDP camps or host communities not more than one hour walking distance from beneficiary households. These shops were only open during the daytime when beneficiaries were able to move within camps and host communities most safely.

Parameters of the used CVA modality:				
Specified CVA activity (incl. activity # from results framework above)	Number of people receiving CVA	Value of cash (US\$)	Sector/cluster	Restriction
Activity 1.2	158,740	US\$ 4,868,780	Food Security - Food Assistance	Restricted – Value voucher

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities		
Title	Weblink	
[Insert]	[Insert]	

ANNEX: CERF FUNDS DISBURSED TO IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

CERF Project Code	Cluster/Sector	Agency	Partner Type	Total CERF Funds Transferred to Partner US\$
23-RR-CEF-027	Nutrition	UNICEF	GOV	\$206,920
23-RR-CEF-027	Nutrition	UNICEF	GOV	\$178,597
23-RR-WFP-022	Food Assistance	WFP	INGO	\$107,516
23-RR-WFP-022	Food Assistance	WFP	INGO	\$68,757
23-RR-WFP-022	Food Assistance	WFP	NNGO	\$51,463
23-RR-WFP-022	Food Assistance	WFP	INGO	\$37,531
23-RR-WFP-022	Food Assistance	WFP	NNGO	\$27,547
23-RR-WFP-022	Food Assistance	WFP	NNGO	\$13,538