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For decision

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Draft Côte d'Ivoire country strategic plan (2026–2029)

Duration	1 July 2026–30 June 2029
Total cost to WFP	USD 52,393,107
Framework on accountability for results score*	2.8

* The framework on accountability for results is a performance measurement approach that incorporates programme and financial tracking and delivers a results-based approach to people-centred programming.

Executive summary

Côte d'Ivoire has made substantial progress in economic growth, infrastructure development and political stability. However, in 2025 more than 1 million people faced crisis levels of food insecurity (phase 3 of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification system). The food security situation of an additional 3.3 million people was under stress (phase 2), while malnutrition – especially among women and children – remains a public health concern. Food insecurity is driven by natural hazards, environmental degradation and structural vulnerabilities in addition to the consequences of crises in neighbouring countries. Meanwhile, rising pressure on natural resources and local services is increasing the need for integrated, sustainable and nationally driven solutions.

To respond to these challenges, WFP's country strategic plan for Côte d'Ivoire for 2026–2029 is aligned with national priorities, including the national development plan for 2026–2030, and the United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework for the same period. The country strategic plan is structured around two integrated outcomes.

- *Outcome 1.* Food-insecure and shock-affected populations in Côte d'Ivoire can meet their essential food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of shocks.
- *Outcome 2.* By 2029, the Government has strengthened capacity to deliver a sustainable school meal programme through the promotion of a resilient food system – including improved livelihoods, better natural resource management and the development of local value chains.

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Under outcome 1 WFP will provide targeted food assistance and interventions to prevent acute malnutrition in line with national strategies while strengthening emergency preparedness and response systems. Support will include reinforcing early warning and government-led mechanisms to ensure that the most vulnerable households can access timely, appropriate assistance. Where possible, beneficiaries will be gradually linked to recovery and resilience building activities under outcome 2.

Under outcome 2 WFP will support national efforts to enhance the coverage, quality and sustainability of school meal programmes, with an emphasis on home-grown models. Integrated interventions will strengthen rural livelihoods, land restoration, local value chain development and market access for smallholder farmers. The country strategic plan places strong emphasis on empowering women and young people, strengthening community ownership and fostering sustainable food systems.

This strategic plan reflects WFP's evolving role as a strategic enabler, working in close partnership with national institutions to support policy implementation, strengthen systems and enhance the sustainability of interventions. Strong emphasis is placed on institutional capacity strengthening and increased national ownership of programmes. Over the period of the plan, WFP will progressively rebalance its engagement, combining selective direct implementation with intensified support for government capacities at the national and decentralized levels. This approach aims to foster increasingly robust national management and financing of school meal and resilience programmes, while WFP continues to provide tailored technical assistance, policy support and catalytic investments to accompany this evolution. During the period of the CSP, WFP will also explore with the Government options for future WFP engagement, including alternative models of country presence from 2029.

WFP will continue to promote integrated programming by aligning efforts across the areas of food security, nutrition, education and resilience, in close support of government-led systems and programmes. Strategic partnerships with government institutions, technical agencies and civil society will be essential to maximizing impact and delivering context-specific, scalable solutions. Innovation, evidence generation, the integration of information technology solutions and strengthened coordination at all levels will further support the delivery of effective results. Throughout its interventions, WFP will adopt a needs-based approach aligned with humanitarian principles.

Through this country strategic plan WFP reaffirms its commitment to supporting national leadership in addressing food and nutrition challenges, strengthening resilience and contributing to sustainable development in Côte d'Ivoire.

Draft decision*

The Board approves the Côte d'Ivoire country strategic plan (2026–2029) (WFP/EB.A/2026/8-A/1) at a total cost to WFP of USD 52,393,107.

* This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the decisions and recommendations document issued at the end of the session.

1. Country analysis and needs assessment

1. Côte d'Ivoire, with a population estimated at 32.8 million in 2025 and a sustained population growth of 2.73 percent,[1] continues to face multidimensional challenges related to food insecurity, poverty and social inequality. The proportion of food-insecure people doubled from 7 percent in 2022 to 14 percent in 2024. As of November 2025, 1.03 million people were acutely food insecure, with more than 3.3 million at risk of food insecurity. In 8 of 31 regions, more than a quarter of the population is unable to meet basic food needs.[2]

2. Since independence in 1960, Côte d'Ivoire has maintained a relatively stable political environment, interrupted by instability only between the late 1990s and 2011. The country has since returned to peace and reform, becoming one of the fastest-growing economies in sub-Saharan Africa. While real growth in gross domestic product (GDP) is projected to average 6.5 percent in 2025–2026[3] – driven by increased cocoa production, infrastructure investments, agro-industrial development and resource extraction – recent overlapping pressures including flooding, deforestation, the impacts of the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic and population movements from neighbouring countries have added new layers of vulnerability.[4]

3. Côte d'Ivoire remains a lower middle-income country, ranked 157th of 193 countries in the 2025 Human Development Index report.[5] Poverty has decreased, falling from 55.4 percent in 2011 to 37.5 percent in 2021, although disparities between rural and urban areas persist.[6] Malnutrition indicators remain concerning: the prevalence of global acute malnutrition among children under 5 is 3.7 percent and, while stunting has decreased, it stood at 21.4 percent in 2025[7] (compared with 23 percent in 2021). Chronic malnutrition is particularly high in rural northern and northeastern regions. Anaemia remains high, affecting 68 percent of children aged 6–59 months and 61 percent of women.[8] Adding to this vulnerability, an estimated 410,000 people are currently living with HIV in Côte d'Ivoire, despite its being designated a "fast-track country" by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS.[9, 10]

4. Côte d'Ivoire is also one of the countries most exposed to natural shocks in the world, ranking 134th of 187 countries on the Notre Dame Global Adaptation Index.[11] Nearly 60 percent of productive land is degraded, and the country has lost 90 percent of its forests over the past century.[12] Agricultural expansion and recurrent environmental disasters have worsened soil degradation and biodiversity loss, prompting the Government to promote

[1] National Statistics Agency. 2025. *Chiffres clé de la Côte d'Ivoire.*

[2] Cadre Harmonisé. 2025. *Résultats de l'analyse de la situation actuelle et projetée de l'insécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle aiguë*.

[3] Credit Agricole Group. 2025. *Ivory Coast Economic and political overview.*

[4] African Development Bank Group. Webpage: Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.

[5] United Nations Development Programme. 2025 Country Insights | Human Development Reports.

[6] Republic of Côte d'Ivoire. 2021. *Plan national de développement PND 2021–2025.*

[7] SMART survey, 2025.

[8] Republic of Côte d'Ivoire. 2023. *Côte d'Ivoire Enquête Démographique et de Santé 2021: Rapport Final.*

[9] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. 2015. *Understanding fast-track: Accelerating action to end the AIDS epidemic by 2030.*

[10] Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. Côte d'Ivoire country page.

[11] University of Notre Dame. 2024. Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative: Country Index: Rankings.

[12] REDD+ Côte d'Ivoire. 2017. *Résumé pour Décideurs: Stratégie Nationale REDD+ de la Côte d'Ivoire*.

more sustainable agricultural and environmental practices.[13] Household adaptive capacity is limited by poverty, dependence on rain-fed agriculture and unequal access to land.

5. Agriculture remains a central pillar of the economy, contributing 20 percent of GDP and employing 48 percent of the population.[14] However, the sector is dominated by cash crops, which has reduced food crop production and increased exposure to price volatility. Most farmers are smallholders living below the poverty line, with limited access to land, agricultural inputs and services.[15] Disparities between men and women in agriculture hinder productivity and highlight the need for policies that strengthen women's land rights, improve their access to financing and fully integrate smallholder farmers – especially women – into national programmes. The transition to sustainable food systems is a national priority, requiring investment in local processing, crop diversification and land restoration.

6. Since 2021 Côte d'Ivoire has seen a growing number of asylum seekers fleeing insecurity in Burkina Faso. As of 30 November 2025, the country hosted 73,584 asylum seekers.[16] This has added pressure on already strained resources in rural areas, where access to basic services is limited and environmental degradation is accelerating. The increased demand for food, water, land and housing has intensified pre-existing challenges related to poverty, youth unemployment, natural resource management and social cohesion in a context of socioeconomic tensions with regard to agriculture, herding and, in some areas, illegal artisanal gold mining.

7. In education, Côte d'Ivoire has made notable progress, particularly at the primary level, with improved infrastructure, teacher recruitment and efforts to reduce disparities. Net enrolment rates are 96 percent for girls and 94 percent for boys, and completion rates are 85 percent and 80 percent, respectively.[17] However, 2.3 million children[18] remain out of school. This includes 2 million who have never been enrolled and 300,000 who have dropped out. Barriers to education include limited access in rural areas, socioeconomic constraints and administrative challenges such as lack of birth certificates. Despite increased investment, issues such as overcrowded classrooms and teacher shortages continue to affect the quality of education.[19]

8. Despite some progresses, disparities between women, men, girls and boys remain a significant concern. According to a 2025 global assessment by the World Economic Forum, Côte d'Ivoire ranks 127th out of 148 countries, indicating persistent gaps that disproportionately affect women and girls.[20] Women are more likely to experience poverty and are disproportionately affected by food insecurity and malnutrition. Limited access to land, technology, decision-making and education further constrains women's ability to fully participate in and benefit from development initiatives.

9. Young people represent a critical priority for national development. According to the 2021 census, nearly half the population is under 20. While several youth-oriented programmes are in place, challenges persist. Youth unemployment remains high, with 18.8 percent of young people recorded as not engaged in education, employment or training. Young women

[13] See Côte d'Ivoire's commitments at the 15th session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, held in May 2022 in Abidjan.

[14] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2020. *Digital Agriculture Profile – Côte d'Ivoire*.

[15] Government of Côte d'Ivoire and WFP. 2018. *Examen Stratégique National « Faim Zero » Côte d'Ivoire*.

[16] Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Operational data portal: Côte d'Ivoire. Data as of 30 November 2025.

[17] Government of Côte d'Ivoire. 2022. *Statistiques scolaires 2022–2023.*

[18] Nearly one third of the school-age population.

[19] United Nations Children's Fund. 2021. *Synthèse régionale des études et rapports nationaux sur les enfants et adolescents en dehors de l'école: Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre.*

[20] See World Economic Forum, 2025.

are particularly affected. Expanding opportunities for education, training and economic participation is key to fostering sustainable growth.

2. National priorities and collective assistance

10. This country strategic plan (CSP) for Côte d'Ivoire, covering the period 2026–2029, is the result of a comprehensive consultative process comprising bilateral meetings and national and regional consultations bringing together food security, agriculture, food systems, humanitarian affairs, nutrition, education, health, economy and environment experts, local authorities, government officials, donors, civil society and women and youth groups.

11. In parallel with the formulation of the CSP, the Government and the United Nations consulted on Côte d'Ivoire's national development plan for 2026–2030 and the United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework (UNSDCF) for the same period. The priorities under all three plans converge around human capital development, access to services, the empowerment of women and young people, and sustainable local and economic development. Food and nutrition security are an integral part of the plans, alongside education, health, employment and governance. The Government has also introduced key policies on environmental protection, resilient agriculture and adaptation to extreme weather events with the support of various partners. Despite progress gaps remain, particularly in integrating smallholder farmers into large-scale environmental and agricultural programmes.

12. In 2023 the Government joined the global School Meals Coalition established at the 2021 United Nations food systems summit, signalling its commitment to make schools meal programmes a key pillar of human capital development. However, significant challenges remain in translating this commitment into a robust legal and operational framework. The absence of a dedicated law and limited multisectoral coordination hinders its effective implementation and expansion.[21] While key partners support the Government in this work, critical gaps hamper efforts to achieve universal coverage and strengthen the institutional framework.[22]

13. Côte d'Ivoire is actively promoting food sovereignty through major investments in local food production, transformation and affordability. The second-generation national agricultural investment plan, covering 2018–2025, focuses on developing value chains, strengthening food security monitoring and enhancing government-led programmes for vulnerable populations.

14. Côte d'Ivoire has demonstrated a firm commitment to nutrition through the adoption of key policies and the establishment of a high-level coordination body in 2019 – now known as the National Council for Food and Nutrition – which is responsible for implementing national nutrition policies and ensuring cross-sectoral coordination. A national multisectoral nutrition plan for 2024–2027 aims to enhance nutrition status and early childhood development by addressing undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies and the growing prevalence of overweight-related conditions. Funding for nutrition interventions remains low, however, accounting for only 0.53 percent of total health expenditure. Strengthening multisectoral coordination, increasing investment and expanding social and behaviour change initiatives will be essential to ensuring the plan's effectiveness nationwide.

15. Côte d'Ivoire has made social protection a strategic priority, as reflected in its national social protection strategy for 2024–2028, national development plan for 2021–2025 and government social plan for 2022–2024. Built around five strategic axes, the national social

[21] The national school meal programme currently covers 36 percent of schools. See World Bank. 2025. *Systems Approach for Better Education Results – School feeding. Côte d'Ivoire country report, February 2025* (not available online.)

[22] Government of Côte d'Ivoire. 2022. *Etats généraux de l'éducation : Rapport de synthèse des concertations nationales*.

protection strategy aims to reduce the poverty rate from 39.4 percent to 28.6 percent by 2028, increase access to social centres and expand universal healthcare. Despite this commitment, the social protection system remains fragmented, with limited coverage and an incomplete social registry. Rural populations and women face significant gaps in access to social safety nets and healthcare, a vulnerability compounded by the fact that women represent the majority of workers in the informal sector, which accounts for 71 percent of the workforce. The Government is working with partners to enhance the implementation of the strategy and the establishment of a comprehensive social registry.

16. Since the arrival of asylum seekers fleeing insecurity in the region,[23] Côte d'Ivoire has strengthened its preparedness and response capacity with the support of United Nations bodies, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations. Challenges persist, particularly in northern and border regions, where limited infrastructure, service delivery gaps and regional insecurity increase pressure on housing, employment and safety nets. To address both immediate needs and long-term resilience, Côte d'Ivoire is adopting a humanitarian–development–peace nexus approach. Efforts focus on expanding access to basic services, promoting economic inclusion, strengthening social cohesion and reinforcing resilience in the face of shocks and stressors. While progress has been made and partners such as the World Bank are implementing social cohesion programmes, more technical and financial support is needed to enable the scale-up of durable solutions for asylum seekers, particularly in respect of socioeconomic integration, legal documentation and governance planning.

3. WFP's comparative advantage, capacity and ability in Côte d'Ivoire

17. WFP has a distinct comparative advantage in Côte d'Ivoire because of its ability to operate at the humanitarian–development–peace nexus, linking emergency response with long-term resilience and system strengthening. Its strong field presence, longstanding partnerships with the Government and communities and proven expertise in supply chain management and food systems enable it to deliver at scale while adapting to changing needs. WFP's robust data and analytics capability, leadership in school meals and growing role in strengthening national systems, including safety nets and nutrition, position it as a strategic enabler of national priorities. By bridging gaps between policy and implementation, WFP fills critical voids left by other actors – especially in rural food-insecure areas – while supporting national institutions in their efforts to build sustainable food systems and human capital.

18. A 2024 evaluation of the CSP for Côte d'Ivoire for 2019–2023 reaffirmed WFP's strong positioning and effectiveness in addressing food insecurity and malnutrition; it also commended WFP for providing policy support in relation to the sustainability of the national school meal programme, rice fortification and efforts to enhance the capacity of the Government and partners to prepare for and respond to food security shocks.

19. A mid-term evaluation of phase 2 of a project under McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Programme of the United States Department of Agriculture confirmed the project's strong relevance and alignment with national priorities, particularly in addressing food insecurity, improving literacy and ensuring that the specific needs of both boys and girls are met in vulnerable regions. The evaluation confirmed a positive trajectory, including the Government of Côte d'Ivoire's progressively stronger commitment to sustaining the transition. The project also demonstrated solid sustainability elements through robust community engagement, continued capacity-building efforts, and a gradual

[23] Asylum seekers have come from Mali, but in recent years the majority are from Burkina Faso.

increase in government financial contributions.[24] Additionally, the project achieved notable progress in reducing midday hunger, boosting school enrolment and literacy – especially among girls – and strengthening the participation of women in community structures such as farmers' groups, school and food assistance for assets (FFA) committees and local planning processes. This integrated and multisectoral approach is consistent with WFP's broader engagement across other donor-funded initiatives, combining targeted operational support to sustain access to good quality school meals with complementary interventions in health, nutrition and education, while strengthening linkages with local agricultural production systems.

20. WFP's convening role and technical leadership have helped to position Côte d'Ivoire as a contributor to the school meals agenda at the regional and international levels. By facilitating the Government's engagement in high-level forums,[25] WFP has enabled national stakeholders to share experiences, interact with peers and advocate school meals as a strategic investment in long-term food security, contributing to food systems transformation and broader national development goals.

21. Strengthening collaboration with government technical ministries, other United Nations entities and local cooperating partners will remain a central priority under the new strategy, in line with the findings of the evaluation of the previous CSP. These efforts will contribute to improved quality of planning, implementation and monitoring of WFP's activities while reinforcing sustainability, accountability and operational effectiveness. WFP will place increased emphasis on institutional capacity strengthening and partnership-based approaches to support nationally led systems, policies and programmes.

22. During national and regional consultations WFP was widely recognized for its strong expertise in community targeting and mobilization. Partners highlighted WFP's effective use of community-based participatory planning approaches in its resilience programmes, noting their relevance and positive reception among local authorities and supported communities. These approaches were praised for fostering local ownership and ensuring that interventions were tailored to community needs and priorities.

23. In addition, WFP's supply chain and logistics capacity – particularly in food storage, distribution and emergency response – was also identified as a core asset. In the CSP for 2026–2029, WFP will use these capabilities to enhance coordination with national institutions and partners, with a focus on strengthening delivery systems for both emergency response and school meal programmes.

4. Strategic positioning, programme priorities, and partnerships

Country strategic plan direction and intended impacts

24. This CSP for Côte d'Ivoire will build on WFP's comparative advantages to address persistent food security and nutrition challenges while aligning with national priorities set out in the national development plan, the UNSDCF and the Gulf of Guinea subregional strategy.[26] As a

[24] WFP. 2025. *Mid-term evaluation of Support to the integrated programme for sustainability of school canteens in Côte d'Ivoire from 2020 to 2026*. United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Programme.

[25] Including an Economic Community of West African States workshop in Dakar on sustainable financing of HGSF, a global child nutrition forum held in Osaka, which was attended by the Minister of Education and Literacy as well as the participation of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire in the Second Global Summit of the School Meals Coalition held in Fortaleza, Brazil in September 2025.

[26] WFP. 2023. *Prevent, prepare and respond to the spill over of the Sahel crisis In the Gulf of Guinea (Benin, Togo, Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire)*.

trusted partner of the Government in food systems transformation, WFP will shift further towards integrated and sustainable programming.

25. The main priority of the Government is to strengthen human capital to improve productivity, attract investment and transform the country's economy.[27] This objective can be achieved through interventions that promote greater inclusion of women, young people and smallholder farmers. Under this CSP, WFP will pursue an enabling, partnership-based approach, drawing on its recognized capacity to mobilize communities and connect national policies, systems and large-scale programmes with the most vulnerable segments of the population.

26. The CSP will be anchored in the home-grown school feeding (HGSF) model, aligning with the government priority to improve human capital from an early age. By providing nutritious, preferably locally fortified, school meals and promoting healthy practices through social and behaviour change sessions, WFP will enhance education and nutrition outcomes. In addition HGSF will drive local economic development by integrating smallholder farmers, women and young people into value chains. It will strengthen links between local producers and schools, support youth entrepreneurship and foster partnerships that stimulate growth.

27. In parallel, WFP will continue to deliver targeted food assistance, including specialized fortified food to prevent acute malnutrition, to the most vulnerable people while helping the Government to strengthen shock-responsive systems. Where feasible, WFP will transition beneficiaries from emergency support to long-term resilience interventions.

Programme integration

28. Under the CSP, WFP will strengthen links between activities and outcomes through an integrated approach to food systems. By connecting and integrating resilience, livelihoods, nutrition and education and supporting government-led programmes, WFP will aim to deliver coherent, mutually reinforcing interventions tailored to the national context. The overarching objective is to help vulnerable households to transition from emergency assistance to sustainable food and nutrition security.

29. Under outcome 1, WFP will support the shift from unconditional assistance to short-term relief and recovery, helping to stabilize livelihoods and address immediate needs. As conditions improve, households receiving this support will be connected to opportunities for asset creation and longer-term livelihood strengthening through activities 3 and 4 under outcome 2. The overall approach is aligned with national safety net programmes and aims to reinforce human capital among the most at-risk populations. It will do so by supplying nutritious, locally produced food for school meals and by improving diets through support for sustainable value chains for fortified foods. WFP will pursue geographic convergence, targeting the same communities over several years through an integrated package of assistance combining school meals, local food production and income-generation support. HGSF will serve as a central platform for linking smallholder farmers to school meals and local value chain development.

30. Linkages and synergies between activities under outcome 2 will also be enhanced, using the HGSF model. For example, technical support under activity 3 will increase the supply of local food for school meals (activity 2), while production surpluses will allow smallholder farmers (activity 4) to start businesses in areas such as food processing and transportation. Capacity strengthening will remain a core feature, equipping vulnerable households and national institutions with skills applicable in emergency and development settings.

[27] According to the World Bank, Côte d'Ivoire has one of the lowest productivity rates in the world. A 1 percent increase in GDP translates into a mere 0.6 percent decrease in poverty.

Strategic engagement with partners

31. Through the CSP, WFP will continue to prioritize alignment with national policies and systems, supporting government leadership and ensuring effective delivery through both central ministries and decentralized services. WFP will work closely with actors such as the ministries responsible for education, agriculture, solidarity, health and foreign affairs (through the Directorate for Aid and Assistance to Refugees and Stateless Persons) to strengthen policy implementation, build institutional capacity and ensure coherent, locally driven programming – particularly in relation to school meals, emergency preparedness, nutrition and efforts to strengthen government-led programmes. WFP will deepen its engagement with local governments, community organizations and national partners to ensure that programmes are increasingly designed, managed and owned at the local level. In addition, WFP will pursue a strategic partnership with the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development, whose cross-cutting mandate and coordination role are essential to ensuring policy coherence, resource mobilization and alignment with national development frameworks.

32. A key pillar of this engagement is continued support for the nationally owned school meal programme based on the HGSF model. In line with the national school meals strategy and a Systems Approach for Better Education Results (SABER) school feeding assessment conducted in 2024,[28] WFP will help to address gaps in funding, monitoring, logistics and local procurement. Joint efforts with the Ministry of National Education and Literacy and the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Production will focus on strengthening delivery mechanisms and community engagement, linking schools with smallholder farmers. More broadly, WFP will work with civil society, young people and women's groups and local authorities to promote community-driven solutions across its programmes.

33. WFP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) will jointly support the implementation of the national strategy for the sustainability of school canteens, through the conceptualization of a sustainable HGSF approach, leveraging FAO's technical expertise on agricultural production, IFAD's support for farmer organizations and value chains under its ongoing initiatives, and WFP's assistance for smallholder farmers designed to expand local procurement and strengthen market linkages. The three Rome-based agencies will ensure complementary support through a clear division of labour in the areas of evidence generation, policy support, sustainable agriculture and value chain development. The agencies will also jointly develop an economic model for sustainable school meals, aligning agriculture, nutrition and education objectives while demonstrating clear economic benefits. The Rome-based agencies are investing in joint programming that fosters complementarity across strategic areas by linking results in their reporting, aligning geographically by working in the same regions even when implementing different programmes, and supporting coherent programming by focusing on the same target populations to maximize collective impact.

34. WFP will maintain its active engagement in key sectoral coordination platforms, including the Local Education Partners Group, led by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), tasked with advancing joint targeting and integrated education–nutrition packages designed to improve learning outcomes; the FAO/World Bank-led Agriculture Group, which contributes technical expertise to national strategies; and the climate group led by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which shares lessons learned from the climate insurance project and will inform the future scale-up of initiatives. More broadly, in the resilience sector, WFP will pursue strategic and coordinated partnerships with national

[28] World Bank. 2025. *Systems Approach for Better Education Results – School feeding. Côte d'Ivoire country report, February 2025* (not available online).

and international actors. Ministries, including those responsible for agriculture, the environment, animal and fishery resources, and water and forests, and their decentralized services will lead on natural resource management and rural development. In parallel, WFP will collaborate with UNDP to support community-level initiatives that enhance livelihoods and strengthen the ability of vulnerable households to cope with recurrent shocks – particularly in northern and western regions – by leveraging UNDP's expertise in policy, planning and private-sector engagement, and WFP's operational capacity at the community level.

35. WFP will maintain close coordination with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration and UNICEF, especially on forced displacement and child malnutrition. Collaboration with financial service providers and digital platforms will enhance the efficiency of cash-based transfers (CBTs). In parallel, WFP will expand engagement with the World Bank and the German agency for international cooperation, GIZ, to support social cohesion and resilience; it will also strengthen partnerships with financial service providers, digital platforms, SODEXAM[29] and research institutions to improve delivery systems and early warning.

36. To further enhance programme impact and sustainability, WFP will expand collaboration, including South–South cooperation, with international financial institutions, academia and the private sector. This collaboration will help to mobilize technical expertise and resources, foster innovation and support evidence-based planning. Joint efforts will focus on developing local value chains, advancing digital tools and designing nutrition-sensitive, resilience-strengthening solutions aligned with national goals.

Country strategic plan outcomes and activities

Country strategic plan outcome 1: Food-insecure and shock-affected populations in Côte d'Ivoire can meet their essential food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of shocks

37. Building on the progress achieved under the CSP for 2019–2023, WFP will work with the Government to enhance its capacity to coordinate, manage and implement timely disaster preparedness and response interventions designed to reduce the impact of shocks and stressors on vulnerable people, including through support for national systems. This will include technical assistance for efforts to strengthen early warning systems, including in collaboration with SODEXAM; develop anticipatory action frameworks; and operationalize shock-responsive government-led assistance. WFP will work closely with the Government to improve the integration of food security and nutrition considerations into national disaster risk management and emergency response strategies, including at the subnational level.

38. In addition to system strengthening, WFP will provide assistance to people affected by the Sahel crisis, including asylum seekers and host communities. WFP will provide essential food assistance for three months in the form of CBTs for newly arrived refugees; the same households will additionally receive specially formulated foods for the prevention of acute malnutrition if they have children under 5 and/or pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls. WFP will regularly undertake targeting exercises with the aim of extending assistance to six months for the most vulnerable people. This approach will ensure that both asylum seekers and host communities receive assistance, according to humanitarian and "do no harm" principles, in a manner that enhances social cohesion. WFP will prioritize protection measures, ensure site safety and prevent sexual exploitation and abuse. WFP will utilize UNHCR biometric registration to ascertain that assistance is delivered safely to the right people. At the request of the Government, WFP will also provide assistance to populations affected by natural disasters.

[29] SODEXAM stands for *Société d'Exploitation et de Développement Aéroportuaire, Aéronautique et Météorologique*, or the airport, aeronautical and meteorological operations and development company.

39. WFP will continue efforts aimed at strengthening social cohesion between host and displaced populations, including by evaluating how assistance may affect community dynamics and putting in place measures to mitigate associated risks. Regular monitoring will allow WFP and partners to adjust targeting and integrate vulnerable refugees and host communities into FFA activities focused on preserving and rehabilitating productive assets and basic natural resources that directly support food and nutrition security. When the national safety net system is unable to assume coverage of beneficiaries, they will, wherever possible, be transitioned to FFA activities under CSP outcome 2 to increase their autonomy and resilience. This phased approach will be guided by context, eligibility and graduation criteria, based on socioeconomic vulnerability, refugee status and profile. WFP will also seek to facilitate the inclusion of households facing protracted vulnerability in government-supported social safety nets.

40. While CBTs will remain the primary modality for emergency response, WFP will retain a limited in-kind contingency to address weather-related shocks and provide short-term, gap-filling food assistance to affected households.

41. By combining direct support for vulnerable people with efforts to reinforce national systems, WFP will seek to meet immediate food and nutrition needs, restore livelihoods, promote social cohesion and build the capacity of government institutions to better anticipate and respond to shocks.

Alignment with national priorities

42. The activities under CSP outcome 1 will align with the Government's national response and contingency plan, which outlines assistance for displaced populations and those affected by disasters. The value of transfers for host communities will be aligned with those provided under the national safety net programme. These activities will also contribute to the second outcome of the UNSDCF, which aims to ensure access to basic social services, including in emergencies.

Country strategic plan outcome 2: By 2029, the Government has strengthened capacity to deliver a sustainable school meal programme through the promotion of a resilient food system – including improved livelihoods, better natural resource management and the development of local value chains

43. CSP outcome 2 is grounded in a comprehensive, integrated strategy aimed at supporting the Government in enhancing human capital to foster a more transformative economy. Leveraging its strong policy expertise, local presence and proven ability to mobilize communities, WFP will play a key role in linking national policy and funding efforts with the situation on the ground, particularly by empowering women and young people at the community level.

44. Under activity 2, WFP will support the Government in implementing its national school feeding programme and achieving its 2030 vision of providing 80 days of hot and nutritious meals to 60 percent of primary schoolchildren in all public primary schools across the country. The objective of WFP's support is to enhance both coverage and quality through a four-pronged approach: acting as a safety net with direct food provision in regions facing high food insecurity; engaging in sustained institutional capacity strengthening to design, implement and monitor a sustainably funded programme, notably leveraging digital tools for school meals; developing a cost-effective HGSF model, in synergy with activities 3 and 4, including piloting cash-based transfers and scalable approaches; and consolidating past achievements based on the 2024 SABER assessment. WFP will gradually reduce the number of days it delivers school meals in targeted schools to enable a phased government takeover, aligned with national financing capacity, while providing targeted technical and financial assistance to strengthen policy and legal frameworks, improve financing

mechanisms, enhance programme design and institutional systems, and reinforce community engagement to ensure a smooth and sustainable transition.

45. Under activity 3, WFP will adopt an integrated resilience approach, targeting vulnerable areas over three years to protect, restore and enhance community assets while supporting more diversified and sustainable livelihoods. Interventions will help rural vulnerable communities to strengthen their capacity to withstand shocks, improve their long-term food security and expand livelihood opportunities. By rehabilitating community assets, improving access to water and introducing tools to reduce, transfer and mitigate risks – such as index-based insurance – WFP aims to reinforce economic stability, social cohesion and overall community resilience, ultimately reducing reliance on food assistance over time. Special attention will be given to empowering women and young people by supporting fair access to resources, training and income opportunities.

46. Building on its support for smallholder farmers, particularly women, in improving productivity, market access and resilience to shocks and stressors, WFP will further strengthen market linkages and post-harvest processing under activity 4. This work will include enhancing local value chains and establishing aggregation and processing centres in selected areas, in a manner that complements the Government's *agropole* initiative. WFP will provide training and capacity building for cooperatives and agribusinesses on quality standards, storage, post-harvest loss reduction and market information. WFP will also continue to support the national rice and cassava fortification initiatives, promoting their integration into national food systems, including the school meal programme, to help address micronutrient deficiencies and improve nutrition outcomes. To advance this work, WFP will revitalize the National Fortification Alliance, which convenes key stakeholders, including the private sector, to drive forward national fortification efforts.

47. The three activities under this outcome are interlinked and mutually reinforcing. To maximize impact and efficiency, WFP will implement them together in the same vulnerable communities.[30] For example, land rehabilitation through asset creation (activity 3) combined with support for smallholder farmers (activity 4) will help to restore the livelihoods base for farmers, while enabling them to support school-based programmes. In turn, HGSF will offer a stable market for smallholders, supporting programme sustainability. Nutrition will be integrated across all activities, promoting healthy practices. WFP will also strengthen partnerships and collaborate closely with government institutions to ensure effective planning and implementation and a smooth, scalable transition to national ownership of activities.

Alignment with national priorities

48. The proposed school meal activities are aligned with recently approved national strategies and plans developed by the Ministry of National Education and Literacy as well as broader government frameworks in the areas of education, nutrition, safety nets and the support of national systems. Resilience and capacity strengthening activities are aligned with national policies set forth by the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Production, the Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition and the President and Prime Minister's Office aimed at strengthening the food sovereignty of Côte d'Ivoire. Activities are aligned with UNSDCF expected outcomes 1, 2 and 3.

[30] This will be done using integrated context analysis and other analyses.

5. Prioritization and sustainability

Prioritization approach

49. The renewed vision set out in the Côte d'Ivoire CSP for 2026–2029 marks a deliberate shift toward a more focused, coherent and realistic strategy, rooted in a streamlined results architecture. While the previous framework spanned six strategic outcomes and more than two dozen outputs, the new vision concentrates efforts around two core outcomes that clearly sequence humanitarian assistance, resilience strengthening and systems support. This refocusing significantly reduces the number of activities, bringing them into a more integrated package organized around four activities, each designed to generate higher value results. For example, interventions that were previously implemented separately – such as school meal, nutrition-related social and behaviour change communication, local procurement and value chain development – are now consolidated into a single, coherent stream that strengthens national school meal systems, contributes to healthier diets and stimulates local food production through stable and predictable demand.

50. WFP's work under this CSP will require a financing model that increasingly relies on joint investment with the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and development banks. As the country scales up its efforts in human capital development, resilience and national systems strengthening, WFP will support the Government in structuring cofinanced programmes that draw on domestic resources, concessional financing from international and regional financial institutions, and complementary donor contributions. This approach will help to scale up effective interventions – such as value chain and school health and nutrition programmes – while enabling national systems to play a stronger leadership role over time. WFP will work closely with the Government to advocate for coordinated partner support, encourage South–South cooperation through regional platforms such as the Regional Center of Excellence against Hunger and Malnutrition, and align its technical expertise with development partners to mobilize additional investments and innovative financing in support of nationally owned solutions. In the event of funding shortfalls, life-saving interventions will prioritize the most vulnerable people and communities through community-based targeting, in line with the regional prioritization strategy and in consultation with the Government, donors and partners. For school meal and resilience activities, WFP will work with the Government to optimize synergies and mitigate potential negative impacts on assisted populations.

51. Through regular consultations with government counterparts, WFP will ensure that programme priorities remain aligned with evolving national needs and strategies and are adjusted to the country context throughout the duration of the CSP.

Sustainability and transition strategies

52. WFP's sustainability and transition approaches are rooted in sustained investments that seek to strengthen the capacities of key food system stakeholders. In support of the Government's priority of addressing gaps in human capital, as outlined in the new national development plan, WFP will continue to work with institutions, local partners and communities to enhance skills, tools and institutional arrangements, while reinforcing the systems required to manage and sustain interventions over time. During the period of the CSP, WFP will also explore with the Government options for future WFP engagement, including alternative models of country presence from 2029.

53. Under this CSP, WFP will work with the Government and its partners to strengthen the sustainability of the HGSF programme, pursuing an enabling and partnership-based approach that builds on the strategic partnerships established under this plan. WFP's support will be guided by frameworks such as the SABER school feeding assessment recommendations, ensuring that interventions are structured, coordinated and aligned with national priorities.

54. To reinforce sustainability, WFP will prioritize strong partnerships and synergies with key actors, including the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Production, the Ministry of National Education and Literacy, FAO and IFAD to support local value chain development and promote sustainable agricultural practices. Long-term strategic partnerships, supported by effective inter-institutional coordination mechanisms, will underpin resilient, nationally owned food systems.

55. Under CSP outcome 1, WFP's capacity strengthening efforts in emergency preparedness and food security analysis will focus on equipping relevant government services, especially at the decentralized level, with the tools and skills needed to anticipate, manage and respond effectively to shocks. In parallel, WFP will work closely with national actors to identify sustainable, long-term solutions for the most vulnerable and at-risk populations through a sequenced approach that links shock preparedness and response, resilience building and, where appropriate, assistance provided through national systems.

56. Under CSP outcome 2, WFP will employ sustainable, system-strengthening approaches to support the progressive consolidation of a nationally owned school meal programme. WFP will phase out direct implementation while continuing to work with national actors to strengthen their capacity. For school meal, including the HGSF model, WFP will continue to support the Government in engaging with the Sustainable Financing Initiative, facilitating fiscal space and cost analyses, finalizing the development of a national financing strategy and supporting structured financial dialogues with key partners. This initiative will ensure sustained efforts to advance legislation granting the national school meal programme a dedicated status and an improved budgetary framework. Complementary activities 3 and 4 will further enhance sustainability by supporting viable income-generating opportunities for communities and reliable food supply mechanisms for schools.

57. In collaboration with key partners, including UNICEF, UNDP and the World Bank as well as public institutions and the private sector, WFP will leverage its expertise in data analytics, digital solutions and innovative food assistance to strengthen national capacity and support the development of a sustainable, locally owned digital ecosystem. This ecosystem will enhance evidence-based decision-making and improve service delivery across sectors, including through the digitalization of the national school meal programme and improved access to weather information for emergency preparedness and food security analysis.

ANNEX I

SUMMARY LINE OF SIGHT OF THE CÔTE D'IVOIRE COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2026–2029		
Goal	**Ending hunger**	**Ending hunger**
Focus area	**Crisis response**	**Resilience building**
CSP outcome	**CSP outcome 1:** Food-insecure and shock-affected populations in Côte d'Ivoire can meet their essential food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of shocks.	**CSP outcome 2:** By 2029, the Government has strengthened capacity to deliver a sustainable school meal programme through the promotion of a resilient food system – including improved livelihoods, better natural resource management and the development of local value chains.
Activities	**Activity 1:** Provide an integrated food and nutrition package to food-insecure and shock-affected populations and strengthen national capacities in evidence generation and emergency preparedness and response, including through stronger shock-responsive government-led assistance.	**Activity 2:** Provide policy-level advocacy, technical assistance and direct assistance for the implementation of the national programmes and the roll-out of innovative school- and nutrition-based packages promoting locally produced nutritious and safe food.
		Activity 3: Provide assistance to communities to protect, restore and enhance key assets and basic infrastructure that mitigate the impact of shocks including the rehabilitation of natural and productive assets.
		Activity 4: Provide technical assistance to national institutions, local food value chain actors and targeted populations to enable them to increase local nutritious food productivity and access to new income opportunities and markets, including schools.

ANNEX II

Monitoring, evaluation, evidence and risk management

Monitoring, evaluation and evidence generation arrangements

1. The country office has established a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system to ensure full alignment with the Executive Director's circular on minimum monitoring requirements and community feedback mechanism standards. Guided by a knowledge management strategy, the system will ensure that CSP activities are monitored, reported on and followed up in order to build evidence, inform programme decision making and demonstrate WFP's contributions to the achievement of zero hunger.

2. Outcome and performance indicators will be aligned with UNSDCF priorities and assessed according to corporate monitoring requirements. Outcome, output and process indicators will be disaggregated by sex, age and disability.

3. Community endorsed targets will be established and will incorporate accountability to affected people. Community feedback mechanisms will be strengthened through the rollout of the SugarCRM system as part of WFP's global assurance mainstreaming efforts. The system will serve as a unified platform for escalating issues identified through community feedback mechanisms and process monitoring. WFP will closely work with government partners in charge of implementing several activities for WFP in Côte d'Ivoire to ensure that targets are aligned, monitored and used for adjusting interventions.

4. A detailed capacity mapping assessment will be conducted at the beginning of the CSP using systems that measure knowledge and performance related to country capacity strengthening.

5. The country office will use the analytical and automation technologies for data collection, analysis and visualization, such as the corporate Asset Impact Monitoring System, to minimize costs and increase efficiency. It will also conduct a privacy impact assessment to determine the data needed for programme design and efficiency and ensure adherence to WFP data protection standards.

6. The CSP will undergo several evaluations of its projects. Regular post-distribution monitoring will be conducted to enable better understanding of how various groups of people assisted by WFP use food assistance transfers.

7. The Government has requested WFP's support in conducting a new national food security assessment. This exercise – together with essential needs assessments, remote food security monitoring and a Fill the Nutrient Gap study – will reinforce national systems for analysing food insecurity and informing evidence-based decision-making. Through this collaboration, WFP will work closely with national institutions to further strengthen analytical capacities, enhance coordination mechanisms and support the Government's leadership in sustaining robust, nationally owned food security monitoring frameworks.

Risk management and mitigation measures

8. Regular updating of the country office risk register will guide preparedness and risk mitigation actions. WFP has dedicated resources in priority areas for its country risk register, oversight and assurance work. WFP has standard operating procedures and risk management frameworks in place to mitigate potential health, safety and security risks.

9. Movements of asylum seekers toward northern Côte d'Ivoire are expected to continue, while security in border areas remains fragile, posing risks to access and operational continuity. WFP will prioritize sustained risk monitoring, early warning and contingency planning and will work with national and local authorities to mitigate protection and security risks. At the

programmatic level, increasing exposure to natural hazards may worsen food insecurity. To reduce this risk, WFP will strengthen household and community resilience and invest in preparedness measures to gradually lessen reliance on humanitarian assistance. WFP will ensure that its interventions are thoughtfully designed to avoid aggravating local grievances. Assistance will be delivered in a manner that is equitable and sensitive to the complex sociopolitical context, while actively supporting efforts to promote social cohesion. The country office will remain actively engaged in United Nations networks dedicated to protection from sexual exploitation and abuse. To help mitigate protection risks, all cooperating partners will go through an assessment of their capacity to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, as outlined in the 2023 Executive Director's circular on the subject.

10. To reduce the risk of disruptions to supply chains and distributions, logistics models will be designed with the Government in advance based on operational requirements and needs and risk assessments.

11. WFP will address the risk of fraud and resource diversion through the continued digitalization of its systems and the strengthening of identity management assurance measures for both CBTs and in-kind transfers. To reduce exposure to fiduciary and reputational risk WFP will implement oversight measures that reinforce internal controls and adherence to compliance requirements and promote transparency and accountability. All cooperating partners will undergo a thorough vetting process via the United Nations Partner Portal, annual performance evaluations and regular oversight visits.

12. Limited availability of specialized expertise may constrain WFP's ability to provide sustained technical assistance and policy support, potentially slowing the institutionalization of capacities required for effective national takeover.

Environmental and social safeguards

13. WFP will implement activities in accordance with WFP's protection and accountability policy and its 2019 environmental and social sustainability framework. WFP will also strengthen its community feedback mechanisms to ensure that they are accessible, responsive and capable of handling complaints, particularly those related to social safeguards. In parallel, activities under this CSP will promote environmentally responsible practices, including support for the implementation of an environmental management system aimed at reducing the environmental footprint of WFP and its partners.

ANNEX III

Country portfolio needs budget and cost breakdown by CSP outcome

TABLE 1: COUNTRY PORTFOLIO NEEDS BUDGET *(USD)*						
CSP outcome	**Activity**	**Year 1 2026**	**Year 2 2027**	**Year 3 2028**	**Year 4 2029**	**Total**
1	1	2 703 273	4 600 542	4 221 477	2 543 909	**14 069 201**
2	2	3 828 735	6 547 600	6 784 402	4 475 910	**21 636 646**
2	3	1 875 568	2 824 342	2 906 715	1 667 643	**9 274 268**
2	4	1 381 686	2 350 837	2 337 957	1 342 512	**7 412 992**
Total		**9 789 262**	**16 323 321**	**16 250 551**	**10 029 973**	**52 393 107**

TABLE 2: INDICATIVE COST BREAKDOWN BY COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME *(USD)*			
	WFP strategic outcome 1	**WFP strategic outcome 3**	**Total**
	CSP outcome 1	**CSP outcome 2**	
Focus area	**Crisis response**	**Resilience building**	
Transfer	9 830 236	26 016 407	**35 846 643**
Implementation	1 845 447	5 774 862	**7 620 308**
Direct support costs	1 534 835	4 193 620	**5 728 455**
Subtotal	**13 210 517**	**35 984 889**	**49 195 406**
Indirect support costs	858 684	2 339 018	**3 197 701**
Total	**14 069 201**	**38 323 906**	**52 393 107**

ANNEX IV

Beneficiaries by year

TABLE 3: BENEFICIARIES BY YEAR					
	2026	**2027**	**2028**	**2029**	**Total**
Total beneficiaries (without overlaps)	189 270	203 880	184 780	121 500	357 280

ANNEX V

FOOD RATION *(g/person/day)* AND/OR CASH-BASED TRANSFER VALUE *(USD/person/day)* BY COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY										
	CSP outcome 1						CSP outcome 2			
	Activity 1						Activity 2		Activity 3	
Beneficiary type	**FFA (emergency response)**	**GFD – multi-shock response**	**GFD – refugees**	**GFD – nutrition (6–59 months)**	**GFD – nutrition (pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls)**	**GFD – refugees (sites)**	**School meals – primary school children**		**FFA**	**Resilience and risk management**
Modality	**CBTs**	**Food**	**CBTs**	**Food**	**Food**	**CBTs**	**Food**	**CBTs**	**CBTs**	**CBTs**
Cereals		350					150			
Pulses		80					30			
Oils		25					10			
Salt										
Sugar										
Super Cereal										
Super Cereal Plus				200	200					
Micronutrient powder										
Total kcal/day		1 747		787	787		728			
% kcal from protein										
CBTs (*USD/person/day*)	0.6		0.55			0.55		0.33	0.6	3.6*
Number of feeding days per year	180	90	180	180	180	90	70		90	1

Abbreviation: GFD = general food distribution.

Note: Number of feeding days for school meals is an average as different models are implemented with the Government. The FFA CBT ration is based on a minimum expenditure basket, both for outcome 1 and outcome 2. General food distribution for asylum seekers (refugees) is also based on the minimum expenditure basket, while general food distribution for host communities is aligned with the government social safety net programme.

* The transfer under the resilience and risk management activity refers to support for smallholder farmers to cover crop insurance premiums.

ANNEX VI

Links to technical and related resources

More operational and budgetary information is available through the CSP data portal.[1]

Specific information will be provided for the full duration of the CSP and will be updated annually, including the following:

a) the transfer modality for each CSP outcome and activity;

b) an overview of beneficiaries, broken down by age group, sex and residence status, and data on beneficiaries disaggregated by beneficiary group, sex and transfer modality for each CSP outcome and activity;

c) the distribution of food rations or transfers for each CSP outcome and activity;

d) a breakdown of transfers by modality;

e) quantitative information in US dollar value for each CSP outcome and activity and by tonnage where applicable; and

f) a prioritization plan calibrating implementation plans to reflect the resource outlook.

[1] As mandated by the 2016 Policy on Country Strategic Plans.

Acronyms

CBT	cash-based transfer
CSP	country strategic plan
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFA	food assistance for assets
HGSF	home-grown school feeding
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
SABER	Systems Approach for Better Education Results
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNSDCF	United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework