FEED THE FUTURE NIGERIA RURAL RESILIENCE ACTIVITY

OVERVIEW:
The Feed the Future Nigeria Rural Resilience Activity is a five-year, USAID-funded program which seeks to facilitate economic recovery and growth in vulnerable, conflict-affected areas by promoting systemic change in market systems. The Activity is part of the U.S. Government’s global hunger and food security initiative aimed at giving families and communities in some of the world’s poorest countries the freedom and opportunity to lift themselves out of food insecurity and malnutrition. The Activity also empowers vulnerable households, communities and systems to cope with current shocks and stresses and to be prepared to withstand future ones.

The Activity is implemented by Mercy Corps, with support from the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC) and Save the Children (SCI), primarily in the Northeast states of Adamawa, Borno, Gombe, and Yobe. Through the COVID-19 Mitigation Response Program, the Activity’s operational areas also include Benue, Kebbi, Niger and Ebonyi states, as well as the Federal Capital Territory. The value chains supported by the Activity include maize, cowpea, groundnuts, rice production, and small ruminants.

Using market-led approaches, the Activity will move over 590,000 individuals out of chronic vulnerability and poverty.

WHERE WE WORK

BENEFICIARIES
90,000 households (approximately 590,000 individuals) inclusive of internally displaced persons, farmers, agriprocessors, youth, women, private sector entities, and other stakeholders in the Federal Capital Territory and the states of Adamawa, Benue, Borno, Gombe, Kebbi, Niger, Ebonyi and Yobe.

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY & PARTNERS
Lead Implementing Agency:
• Mercy Corps Nigeria

Implementing Partners:
• International Fertilizer Development Centre (IFDC)
• Save the Children (SCI)

DURATION
October 2019 to October 2024

TOTAL ACTIVITY BUDGET
$45 million => $30 million + $15 million (COVID-19 Mitigation Response Program)

CONTACT
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OUR THEORY OF CHANGE
Our interventions and activities are geared towards five main objectives, which include:

• Evidence-based selection of markets, economic opportunities, and livelihoods for resilient growth.
• Stimulating market systems growth and diverse opportunities.
• Building capacity of participants to take advantage of market opportunities.
• Collaborative learning to improve sustainability and scale.
• Supporting market resilience to the secondary impacts of COVID-19, and other shocks and stresses including conflicts, natural disasters, climate changes, etc.
“We believe that if we strengthen the resilience capacities of conflict-affected households, communities, and market systems using market-led approaches layered with complementary investments in humanitarian assistance, then there will be sustained improvements in the exchange of goods and services within northeast Nigeria, ultimately leading to sustainable reduction of vulnerability and poverty for households and communities, thereby contributing to economic recovery and growth.”

**OUR INTERVENTIONS**

**Market Systems Development:**
The Activity employs carefully calibrated market systems development (MSA) approaches that integrate a resilience lens, taking into account contextual risks and vulnerabilities associated with social, ecological, and economic systems and their intersections to develop appropriate interventions. The Activity thus works to restore and enhance social capital and trust among stakeholders, particularly at-risk populations such as women and youth, to engage in markets.

**Private Sector Engagement:**
The Activity facilitates partnership between community, organizations, government stakeholders, and the private sector to scale employment opportunities through digital platforms used by partners to extend their services into job matching. We will also work with relevant stakeholders to create an enabling environment for private sector recovery and expansion.

**Women and Youth Empowerment:**
Through gender-adapted services, we provide support to local female input suppliers and extension agents to reach women farmers. Direct village-level transactions ensure greater participation by women and the opportunity to compete with other market actors. Safe spaces build social capital for women and youth, with training on good agronomic practices, life skills, financial literacy, and vocational skills to prepare them to either launch their businesses or enter gainful employment.

**OUR VISION FOR NORTH-EAST NIGERIA**
“North East Nigeria achieves transformation in the economy driven by competitive, inclusive and resilient growth — where growth withstands the test of time, supported by structures and systems with the ability to adapt and evolve, overcome risks and challenges, and create new opportunities to maintain growth.”

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**We care about your feedback and complaints**

- Call us free on: 08 004 444 111
- WhatsApp on: 09 088 988 350
- Send us feedback at: feedback@mcnigeria.com