Country: Nigeria

Committee: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Topic: Combating Food Insecurity and the Risk of Famine

Nigeria is a country located in the west of the African continent.The country’s border neighbors are: Nigeria, Chad, Cameroon and Benin. The Gulf of Guinea is located in the south of the country, and the Gulf of Benin is located in it. The capital of the country is Abuja. The number of people in Nigeria is estimated at 218,5 million. Nigeria is one of the poorest countries in the world and ranks 189th out of 191 countries in the United Nations Human Development Index. The economy of Nigeria, which is landlocked, is largely based on agriculture, animal husbandry and mining. Health conditions in Nigeria are very bad. There is generally no hygiene in the society, even in hospitals there is often no hygiene and there are not enough doctors. It is especially difficult to reach specialist doctors. When we look at educational institutions in Nigeria, we see many problems. Insufficient budget allocated to education, failure to pay salaries on time, strikes, internal conflicts, terrorist attacks, corruption fees are the most important reasons that negatively affect.

The United Nations food and agriculture organization (FAO) announced that 37 countries, 28 of which are in Africa, need food aid abroad. According to the new product expectations and food situation report of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, although global food supply conditions are strong, access to food has seriously decreased in regions that are victims of civil conflicts and drought, especially in East Africa.

In Nigeria's dry areas, the project "Support for Diversification and Strengthening of Sustainable Crop Production for Smallholder Farmers in Arid Areas of Borno State" aims to help farmers and experts grow different crops and use better methods to manage crops sustainably. This project, supported by the FAO-Turkey Partnership Program and the FAO Plant Production and Protection Division (NSP), is a collaboration between FAO Turkey, FAO Nigeria offices, and both countries' agriculture ministries. It will continue until July 2025 with a budget of $200,000. In Nigeria's Borno State, the livelihoods of 5.6 million people depend mostly on small-scale farming in three areas (the Lake Chad Basin, Sudan, and Sahel savannas). Challenges like lack of water, climate change, and low productivity make it hard for crops to grow well in these regions.

Some of the solutions that FAO can support regarding agriculture and food security in Nigeria include increasing agricultural productivity and increasing food security. Implementation of these recommendations can contribute to bringing Nigeria to a sustainable development path in the agricultural sector. Since food insecurity is a significant problem in Nigeria, expanding the food bank system nationwide and introducing it as a model, particularly to reduce the rate of food insecurity, is important. Examining and developing the long-term potential of the food bank concept nationwide is crucial. It is necessary to extend a helping hand to these groups in order to improve their livelihoods.