

# **Annex I: Letter and Memorandum from Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation to Human Rights Watch and JEI, May 11, 2021**



## **THE PRESIDENCY**

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATION**  
**PERMANENT SECRETARY POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
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**POL.09/S.18/I/175**

**11<sup>th</sup> May, 2021**

**Mausi Segun,**  
Human Rights Watch/Justice & Empowerment  
Initiative,  
310 Herbert Macauley Way, 3rd Floor,  
Sabo-Yaba,  
Lagos State.

**RE: ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID 19 ON URBAN POOR  
COMMUNITIES IN LAGOS STATE**

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 on the above subject and to apologise for the delay in responding to your inquiries.

2. Please find attached our response to your questions and you may wish to revert for any further clarification and the need for a virtual meeting with the Secretary to the Government of the Federation.

3. Please, accept the assurances of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation's warm regards.

**Bada Oluwaseyi**

Technical Assistant - PS

for: Permanent Secretary, Political and Economic Affairs Office

**RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH TO NIGERIA'S  
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

S/N	Questions	Answers
<b>Public Health Responses to Covid-19</b>		
1	What steps has the federal government taken to consult with non-governmental organisations, including those representing urban poor communities, in designing its public health response to Covid-19, including in relation to the design of any future lockdowns or restrictions of movement in response to the disease?	<p>Nigeria's National Response was anchored on and is still being implemented through broad stakeholder consultation involving both National and International Partners. Thus, decisions on lockdown and restrictions are taken by the PTF after consultations with stakeholders such as Traditional Rulers, Nigeria Governors Forum, World Health Organisation, Government Agencies, Civil Society Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations, Associations etc. The NCDC also undertakes periodic pooling of opinions from Nigerians, including urban dwellers in strengthening the National Response.</p> <p>The NCDC has continued to lead the public health response through a National Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) comprised of development partners within the health sector and organisations across other relevant sectors including NGOs.</p> <p>Over 50 guidelines have been developed in collaborations with development and Non-Government Organisations, across key response areas of laboratory services, case management, IPC, risk communication and several others. As the science around the response evolved, NCDC developed and updated guidelines within the shortest possible time.</p> <p>The FGoN through National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) has designed a robust strategy that is inclusive. When the first case of COVID-19 was notified, the Agency developed a comprehensive</p>

		<p>COVID-19 outbreak preparedness and response plan for Primary Health Care (PHC) workers at PHC facilities and Community levels.</p> <p>We also developed training manuals for PHC workers and community volunteers and this in order to ensure continuum of PHC services in all the over 9000 PHCs in all the states in the country in the midst of the lockdowns due to COVID-19 pandemic which has effect in terms of access to these services by all Nigerian especially the most vulnerable urban poor communities. In order to ensure participation of the CBOS which are the representatives of the communities we have and existing structure of inclusivity thru the Ward Development Committees (WDCs) which were involved and some activities as outlined below were carried out:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The existing structure which already has an NGO's and CBOS participation was optimized to include all the strategic NGO coordinating bodies at the national level.</li> <li>2. The NPHCDA developed a comprehensive Covid-19 risk communication plan with jointly with our partners and other NGOs in order to achieve COVID-19 IPC in all our communities.</li> <li>3. The Agency established COVID-19 Crisis Management Committee comprising of technical experts from the technical department, established the COVID-19 Command Centre trained over 95600 community resource people and NGOS were among the beneficiaries the IPC and other basic package of response to COVID-19 infection in all the wards across the 36 states and FCT.</li> </ol>
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		<p>4. Community resource manuals and Flips. charts were printed and shared across the wards in the country.</p> <p>5. Frequently Ask Questions (FAQS) and other relevant risk communication documents were developed, printed, and distributed across the 774 LGAS.</p> <p>6. In relation to future plans, lessons learnt will be factored in the design of future plans and intervention.</p>
2	What steps is the federal government taking to ensure that testing for Covid-19 is accessible and affordable for residents of urban poor communities?	<p>COVID-19 testing has remained free in all public health laboratories. NCDC has also established more than 70 public health laboratories and supported the activation of 36 private laboratories. Every state in Nigeria now has at least one public health laboratory for COVID-19 diagnosis. All residents including those in urban poor communities have access to these facilities.</p> <p>Furthermore, over 52 Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) comprised of up to 352 trained personnel were deployed from NCDC to the states to support the response, especially to unreached areas. This represents the highest number of deployments for an outbreak response the agency has ever done.</p>
3	What steps is the federal government taking to ensure that vaccinations for Covid-19 are accessible for the residents of urban poor communities?	<p>The Federal Government through NPHCDA with the guidance of the PTF on COVID-19 has developed a robust strategy for ensuring all eligible population are reached with the COVID-19 vaccines. To ensure that this is achieved the NPHCDA being the agency saddled with the responsibility for all vaccination in the country, developed a strategy called TEACH (Traditional, Electronic Assisted Concomitant and House to House) for the COVID-19 AstraZeneca Vaccine rollout.</p> <p>This strategy entails all eligible persons are registered on the electronic platform</p>

		<p>using the DHIS2 application through a robust server domiciled at NPHCDA. The TEACH strategy was launched in early March through the Electronic Management of Immunization Data (EMID) system that seeks to capture all immunization data in the country.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The country identified four phases for the vaccination and all eligible candidates were prioritized in line with National COVID-19 Vaccine Deployment Plan.</li> <li>2. To country has commenced phase of the vaccination and to date over 1.6 million people were vaccinated with first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine.</li> <li>3. The second phase targeting other vulnerable groups is commencing in August 2021 when we received the second batch of the AstraZeneca vaccines sometimes in August. The first batch of the vaccines were received on the 3rd of March 2021 and the country launched the first phase to vaccinate the health workers, frontline responders, and other at-risk groups on the 5th of March 2021.</li> </ol>
<b>Building Back Better</b>		
4	What steps is the federal government taking to address the economic impact of Covid-19 on the urban poor?	<p>The Economic Sustainability Plan (ESP) was designed to address the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. With the present disbursement of over N500billion it has shielded a proportion of the populace from negative economic impacts.</p> <p>Other complementary initiatives include (i) the Rapid Response ~Register for COVID – 19 paying 5,000 Naira to 1 million Urban Poor. (ii) COVID-19 survival fund targeted at small businesses; (iii) CACOVID Palliatives to 1.37million Nigerians; (iv) CBN grants,</p>

		NIRSAL Microfinance Bank Targeted Credit Facility (TCF) for COVID-19 (iv) National Youth Investment Funds and (v) Scaled-up Cash Transfers and Hombé Grown School Feeding Programme..
5	What steps is the federal government taking to strengthen Nigeria's social protection system, drawing on the lessons learned during the Covid-19 pandemic?	<p>The Federal Government through the Rapid Response Register is developing a shock responsive social protection framework that would target 20 million urban poor as a gateway for potential urban poor beneficiaries to be admitted into any targeted initiative aimed at providing relief, resilience and recovery, not only in the current pandemic but against any future shocks.</p> <p><b>Key initiatives include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Horizontal and vertical expansion of the National Social Register as a reliable, accurate and transparent database on the poor and vulnerable households in Nigeria: (a) the horizontal expansion is aimed at fast-tracking geographic coverage; (b) the vertical expansion aims to target specific categories of vulnerable groups such as the urban poor, informal workers impacted by the pandemic, and other vulnerable groups such as PWDS, older people, etc.</li> <li>• Review of the National Social Protection Policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Strengthen inter-governmental relations across all tiers of government (Federal, State and Local Government), and to facilitate specific targeting of special groups such as: PWDs, Older people and Children experiencing Child Poverty.</li> <li>○ Strengthen coordination across Ministries, Departments, and Agencies; with donor partners, and in tandem with ERGP, SDG, and Nigeria Poverty Reduction</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<p>Strategy, emergency preparedness, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Realign coordination mechanisms and structure for Social Protection system in Nigeria in view of the clear delineation of the roles of the Ministries of Finance, Budget and National Planning (which focuses on Policy Mandate) and the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management, and Social Development (which has mandate to implement all non-contributory Social Assistance Programmes), while providing support to other MDAs to more appropriately target vulnerable populations across Nigeria.</li> <li>● Multi-Dimensional Poverty study to generate and improve evidence for effective poverty reduction strategy development.</li> </ul>
6	How much did the federal government spend on social protection programs in 2019 and 2020, both in absolute terms and as a percentage of gross domestic product or total government spending?	Through the payment of Cash Transfer to 1,032,324 the FGN spent 61 Billion Naira on CCT alone.
7	Does the federal government plan on increasing spending on social protection in 2021 and in future years? If so, to how much, both in absolute terms and as a percentage of gross domestic product?	<p>I Yes, the FGN plans to spend N1.1trn (N1,191,114,015,388) in the year 2021 and this represents about 1% of annual GDP at current levels.</p> <p>This includes the CCT that will pay 2 million Households equivalent to 120 Billion Naira, the Rapid Response Register for COVID 19 Cash Transfer for the urban Poor will pay 30 billion Naira more. The total for Cash Transfer will be 150 Billion Naira.</p>
<b>Nigeria Economic Sustainability Plan in Response to Covid-19</b>		
8	What parts of the 2.3 trillion Naira (US \$6 billion) June 2020 Nigeria Economic Sustainability Plan are intended to help urban poor communities mitigate the economic impact of the Covid-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Jobs for Youths and Women Post Covid-19:</b> Develop an enabling environment for the proactive engagement of the country's youth in priority sectors of the economy to</li> </ul>

	<p>pandemic? Please describe programme and associated costs, if possible.</p>	<p>promote the creation of a productive and inclusive society. (₦50 Billion)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Food for All: Agriculture and Food Security:</b> Create 5 million jobs in the agricultural sector while boosting agricultural production and guaranteeing food security. (₦634billion);</li> <li>• <b>Jobs Through Homes: Mass Housing Strategy:</b> Utilise the job creation potential of the housing sector to create a lot of jobs at professional and artisanal levels using local materials. (₦317 Billion);</li> <li>• <b>Energy for All: Solar Power Strategy:</b> Create 250,000 jobs in the energy sector while providing solar power to 5 million households by 2023. (₦240 Billion);</li> <li>• <b>Supporting Small Businesses: Guaranteed Offtake Scheme for MSMEs; SME Survival Fund; SME Intervention Funds; MSME Regulatory Support.</b></li> </ul>
9	<p>The June 2020 plan includes 87 billion Naira (\$226 million, less than four percent of the \$6 billion plan), for increased spending on social investment programs over 12 months. What is the money being used for? How much of the money dedicated for social investment programs comes from the Nigerian federal government's budget and how much from international donors?</p>	<p>The money will be used for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrol one caregiver (and one alternate) per household and start disbursement of Cash Transfers to about 2,644,495 households captured on the National Social Register of Poor and Vulnerable Households.</li> <li>• Expand social register, enrol and disburse cash transfers to an additional 1 million households.</li> <li>• Expand the school feeding programmes to all States of the Federation.</li> </ul> <p>Based on the budget of the Humanitarian Ministries and agencies under it, about 53.3 billion is captured for social intervention programmes.</p>
10	<p>Why was such a small percentage of the plan devoted to social investment and social protection programs, when</p>	<p>In the bid to lift the poor out of poverty through social investment, government is also conscious of not allowing people</p>



	<p>compared, for example to 350 billion Naira (\$918 million, 15 percent of the total plan) given to national development banks to provide credit loans to private sector industries?</p>	<p>slide into poverty as a result of the pandemic. This is the reason why government has put in place plans to support already existing businesses such as MSMEs, Industries, Healthcare sector, Export sectors etc. who are also large employers of labour, to respond to the shocks of the pandemic. This support will prevent this business from laying off workers. Furthermore, Poverty is multidimensional and if you tackle only income and consumption support without providing for consistent job creation, people will fall back into poverty. Principle of teaching people how to fish and not just giving them fish.</p>
11	<p>Has the federal government established, and can it disclose, the state-level targets (including for Lagos State) for the number of people who benefit from key measures in the June 2020 Nigeria Economic Sustainability Plan, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cash transfer (p. 63);</li> <li>• Interest free microcredit loans for daily paid and self-employed workers and artisans (p. 51 to 55);</li> <li>• Support to private transport companies and workers (p. 55);</li> <li>• Home construction measures (p 41 to 46)</li> </ul>	<p>The beneficiaries of the Federal Government interventions through the ESP will cut across the 36 states of the Federation and FCT. Some of the plan involves expansion of already existing interventions to involve states that have not been captured.</p> <p>Specific States level targets are determined by the States on the basis of their priority and is based on submitted verifiable potential beneficiaries</p>
12	<p>Is the federal government planning another stimulus package upon expiration of the 2020 Nigeria Economic Sustainability Plan? What measures will any future plan take to address the economic impact of Covid-19 on urban poor communities?</p>	<p>There are plans in place to put actions to Mr. President's goal of listing 100 million Nigerians out of poverty in short term (2021-2023) and long term (2021 – 2030) through the National Poverty Reduction with Growth Strategy (NPRGS) which has been approved by the Federal Executive Council (FEC).</p> <p>The NPRGS is anchored on four pillars namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Macroeconomic Stabilization</b> Policies to improve the capacity of the economy to absorb shocks and avoid disruptive adjustments;</li> </ol>

		<p>ii. <b>Industrialization for Economic Growth and Transformation</b> of the economy from commodity dependent growth path to a diversified, industrialized, knowledge intensive and job creating economy;</p> <p>iii. <b>Structural Policies and Institutional Reforms</b> to engender efficiency in service delivery, promote transparency and accountability in the management of fiscal resources, bridge the infrastructure gap, improve private sector development, and mainstream gender; and</p> <p>iv. <b>Redistributive Policies and Programmes</b> to reduce levels of risk, vulnerability, shocks and deprivation. It includes programmes aimed at enhancing incomes, job opportunities and wealth creation through vocational skills training, micro-credit and micro-enterprise development and livelihood diversification in the agricultural sector.</p> <p>Over the 10-year programme period (2021-2031) of the Policy, the total cost of the implementation of the policies and programmes underpinning the Strategy is estimated at USD1.6 Trillion, giving an annual average of about USD161 Billion. This estimated cost covers the dual objective of lifting 100 million Nigerians out of poverty as well as achieving all the country's development objectives in line with the Sustainable Development Goals 2030.</p> <p>Similarly, the Rapid Response Register of Urban Poor would provide the basis of shock responsive support for the urban poor now, and for future socio-economic shocks.</p> <p>Also, Government is discussing with development partners e.g. <b>Nigeria Covid-19 Action Recovery and</b></p>
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		<p><b>Economic Stimulus (N-CARES)</b>, a World Bank loan of \$750 million on behalf of the states to stimulate the local economy and support vulnerable household's consumption, <b>UN Plus Offer</b> by the United Nations (UN) Nigeria in partnership with Nigeria Development Partners Group (NDPG) and the international donor community, contributing \$250m for socio-economic recovery support to the Government of Nigeria to address challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>
<b>Cash Transfers Programs</b>		
<i>National Social Safety Nets Project</i>		
13	<p>How many households, both nationally and in Lagos State specifically, have received cash transfers since March 2020 through the National Social Register of Poor and Vulnerable Households and Conditional Cash Transfer program? (Please describe, if possible, the number of households benefitting, when payments began, how much was paid to a household for each disbursement, and the frequency of payments.)</p>	<p>26.8 million individuals, 6.3 million Households, 7,320 Wards, 601 LGAs across 36 States and FCT have been captured in the National Social Register. The State Social Register of Lagos State comprises 403,856 households with 1,596,187 individuals as of 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2021.</p> <p>A total of 1,032,324 Households in the National Beneficiary Register (NBR) across 29 States and FCT have received Cash Transfers since March 2020, with 6,810 Households (with an average of five persons per household) benefitting from Lagos State.</p> <p>Payment to CCT beneficiaries in Lagos commenced in May-June 2020 cycle. Beneficiaries receive ₦10,000 every Two (2) months.</p> <p>CCT beneficiaries in Lagos have received Payment for three cycles (6 months).</p>
14	<p>What explains the limited number of recipients of cash transfers in Lagos State? What is being done to address this?</p>	<p>At the commencement of the programme in September 2016, Memoranda of Understanding were signed between the FGN and all States. Some States committed to the programme instantly while others started late. This clearly</p>

		<p>placed some states ahead of others in the generation of State Social Register of the Poor and Vulnerable Households.</p> <p>Secondly, the Conditional Cash Transfer programme is designed to target the poorest of the poor with the aim of smoothening household consumption through regular and accessible base cash transfers in the first instance. It also has the second goal of addressing disparities in human capital development through additional top-up to households that meet laid down conditionalities.</p> <p>The programme has a target of two million beneficiaries; hence a quota system was established for States based on population and poverty index.</p> <p>Lagos State has the lowest poverty rate in the country (4.5%). Poverty rate is used to equitably distribute the cash transfer beneficiaries. The cash transfer is structured to be proportionate to size, based on poverty headcount, an equitable system has been instituted against the available funds such that no State would take more than its fair share for the size of its poor vis-à-vis other states. Lagos State has a quota of 13,843 poor and vulnerable households to be enrolled into the National Beneficiary Register (NBR).</p> <p>Nonetheless, the Federal Government has many other schemes which were specifically deployed to identified hot spots in Nigeria, with Lagos being prioritised as the epi-centre for COVID-19.</p> <p>The Rapid Response Register of Urban Poor is designed to capture and provide support to the urban poor, and Lagos and other hotspots have been prioritised.</p>
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15	<p>How did the government arrive at the sum of 5,000 Naira per month as the payment to households under the cash transfer program? Has your government considered increasing the amount paid per month under the cash transfer program to reflect the cost of living in high-cost areas, including urban areas in Lagos State?</p>	<p>The considerations for setting the transfer values for cash transfer programmes – at either individual or household level – was based on an existing understanding of poverty and vulnerability in the country, which also took into account gender inequalities and intersecting risks. The value of the transfer was calculated with the aim of protecting the household economy, complementing other income sources, reducing social risks and preventing already vulnerable people from slipping further into poverty.</p> <p>In setting the transfer value the following were considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The minimum income standards, the national poverty line, or minimum wage, and the gap between household income and such values among different groups of the eligible population. The fundamental aim of the transfer is to attenuate this gap. The calculation was based on the National Living standard Survey.</li> <li>• The NASSP project duration of support. The project aimed to address chronic and persistent poverty.</li> <li>• Market prices - to maintain purchasing power and adjust to inflation.</li> <li>• Household size and composition (e.g. additional needs of people with disabilities, number of children, number of working-age adults etc.).</li> <li>• The capacity of the programmes' administrative systems to manage the complexities of accurate needs assessment and transfer value calculation. For example, varying transfer levels was based on individual or household characteristics and a set of conditionalities to be met by the poorest households in order to be</li> </ul>
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		eligible. The capacity to deal with the extra complexity this entailed was critical – estimating co-responsibility issues and steps.
16	For how long will beneficiaries of cash transfers paid to households on the National Social Register of Poor and Vulnerable Households receive monthly payments? Does the federal government already have the funding secured and/or set-aside to make payments for this period? If so, from what sources?	<p>Except additional funding agreement is signed, the project will close by June 2022.</p> <p>The major source of funding is the World Bank Facility taken by the FGN and Abacha Repatriated Funds (ARF).</p>
<i>Covid-19 Rapid Response Registration Cash Transfer Project</i>		
17	How many households in Lagos State stand to benefit from payments under the Covid-19 Rapid Response Registration Cash Transfer Project? How did the government determine how payments would be distributed across states?	<p><b>229,360</b> Beneficiaries are earmarked for cash transfer under the Rapid Response Register in 9 wards of the following LGAs Ojo, Epe, Badagry, Ikorodu according to the poverty ranking using Machine Learning Algorithm processing tools with Satellite images and Big Data analysis (Validated with Nigerian Living Standards Survey (NLSS) 2018/2019 datasets)</p> <p>The payment distribution will be made using the NLSS 2018/2019 poverty index generated across the States by NBS. States across the Nation have different level of poverty indices, which is used to determine the estimates of poor and vulnerable people in various states.</p>
18	Will the rapid response cash transfers continue beyond the initial six-month period developed for the program? What support will beneficiaries have at the end of the initial six months?	The Register is an innovative framework that facilitates rapid aggregation of beneficiaries for interventions using a large pool of Telecommunication facilities. It is expected that the framework can be used even beyond the six months design and within the availability of the resources for interventions and targeting.
<i>General</i>		
19	Do you consider the distribution among Nigerian states of the cash transfers under	Yes, the distributions are considered fair given answers in question 14, 15 and 17

	the National Social Safety Nets project and the Covid-19 Rapid Response Registration Cash Transfer Project to be fair? How did the programs account for the impact of the pandemic in states, like Lagos, that have reported high numbers of Covid-19 cases and whose high levels of urban poverty left them vulnerable to the economic impacts of the pandemic?	
20	The World Bank said in November 2020 that forecasts predict that by 2022 almost 100 million of Nigeria's 206 million population will be below the poverty line, an additional 16 million people compared to 2020 levels. <sup>1</sup> Why weren't the federal-backed cash transfer programs administered in response to Covid-19 expanded to reach a greater number of Nigerians living in poverty? What plans does the federal government now have to further expand cash transfers?	<p>The Federal Cash Transfer program is continuous and is adopting a systematic way of identifying the poor and vulnerable to avoid leakages and double-dipping. Thus, as more people are captured in the NSR and resources available assistance would be provided not only in response to the hardship the Covid-19 pandemic brought about but also to address the growing level of poverty.</p> <p>There are plans in place to address the rising poverty level in the country and this transcends cash transfers alone. The plans will cut across Income Support, Skill Acquisitions, MSMEs support, Agricultural development etc.</p>
<i>Food Assistance</i>		
21	How many people have received food assistance from the federal government, both nationally and in Lagos State, during the Covid-19 pandemic? (Please describe, if possible, the number of households benefitting and the amount of food provided to each household; if possible, please disaggregate data by gender and age, and urban and rural.)	<p>Following Mr President's directive to continue the National Home-Grown School Feeding Programme even though schools were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic; The following process was adopted for the distribution;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State- Federal Pre-Planning,</li> <li>Planning Meetings with NGOs, Partners and CSOs,</li> <li>Sensitization of Voucher Management Teams,</li> <li>General Public Sensitization,</li> <li>Household Identification,</li> <li>Voucher Distribution,</li> </ol>

<sup>1</sup> "Project Appraisal Document, Nigeria - COVID-19 Action Recovery and Economic Stimulus Program Project," World Bank, November 13, 2020, accessed December 31, 2020, <https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/142411608260520935/nigeria-covid-19-action-recovery-and-economic-stimulus-program-project>, p. 10.

		<p>vii. Pick- up of food rations.</p> <p>The Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development distributed Take Home Rations under the platform of the NHGSFP to households of pupils in public primary 1-3 already benefitting from the NHGSFP in Lagos, Ogun and FCT between May and July 2020.</p> <p>Lagos -37,589(21st May-3rd June 2020) Ogun - 60,391 (17th June- 6th July) FCT - 29,609 (14th May-21st May) Nationally a total of 127,589 households were targeted. The food items include 5kg rice, 5kg beans, 15 eggs, 140g tomato paste 500ml vegetable oil, 750ml palm oil and 500g salt.</p> <p>The Ministry received 70,000 metric tonnes of grains in April 2020 from the Ministry of Agriculture, for handover to State Governments for onward distribution. The Lagos Government was handed over 6,888 metric tonnes of garri, maize and sorghum for onward distribution to 612,130 household beneficiaries.</p>
22	Has the federal government conducted, or does it plan to conduct and publish, an audit of the food assistance provided in response to Covid-19, including to assess the extent to which the food disbursed reached vulnerable members of society and the extent to which it meaningfully addressed food insecurity during the pandemic?	<p>The Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development in collaboration with the UN World Food Programme carried out an assessment to determine the success of the Take Home Ration Intervention distribution. The monitoring team collected data by random sampling through face-to-face interview and phone calls. Some of the findings were;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More than 95% of Households surveyed said the Take Home Rations was the only support they receive during the COVID-19 Pandemic.</li> <li>• Over 75% of Households were satisfied with the quality and selection of</li> </ul>



		food commodities provided in the Take Home Ration.
23	What explains why food supplies from CACOVID, a private sector taskforce formed to support the federal government's response to Covid-19, were being stored in one or more warehouses in Lagos State in October 2020 and had not yet been distributed?	<p>According to CA-COVID, the large scale of this nationwide food programme and the timing of the orders, which coincided with the lockdowns and limited movement across the country, delayed the procurement and distribution exercise.</p> <p>The Lagos State Government had on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2020, formally taken receipt of the food palliatives from the CA-COVID team meant for distribution to indigent persons. The State then began re-bagging to account for each beneficiary receipt, as was required and monitored by the CA-COVID team. Distribution was ongoing but had to be halted due to protests, before the invasion of the warehouse</p>
<i>Transparency for Covid-19 Funding</i>		
24	Has the federal government disclosed the amount spent on the response to Covid-19 since March 2020, including the funding received from federal and private sector sources? How much of that money was spent on food assistance, cash transfers and other programs designed to help vulnerable households survive the economic impact of the pandemic?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Office of the Accountant General of the Federation publishes a monthly account of monies received and spent via <a href="http://www.opentreasury.gov.ng">www.opentreasury.gov.ng</a>.</li> <li>• Private sector funds are managed by CA-COVID.</li> <li>• Newspaper publications of list of donors (both public and private).</li> <li>• Letters of Appreciation were written to Major Donors.</li> <li>• Issuance of Treasury Receipt to all the Donors.</li> <li>• Comprehensive Record keeping and Management Reports.</li> <li>• Visibility of record to Auditor-General for the Federation.</li> </ul>