WFP Burkina Faso
Country Brief
February 2020

Operational Context

The security situation continues to deteriorate across all regions of Burkina Faso, resulting in a massive populations displacement. As of 12 February 2020, a total of 765,517 IDPs were officially registered (CONASUR). In addition, the results of the November 2019 Cadre Harmonisé revealed that approximately 1.8 million vulnerable people will be food insecure in 29 provinces across the country during the 2020 lean season (June-August).

To respond to the food and nutrition assistance needs in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, WFP has declared a Level 3 emergency in the three Central Sahel countries. WFP operations in Burkina Faso include emergency food assistance to IDPs and host families, refugees and lean season affected people; school feeding including support to a local yogurt production project; treatment and prevention of malnutrition; food assistance for assets for small-scale agriculture; Purchase for Progress (P4P) project to support value chains; micro-insurance (R4) and macro-insurance (African Risk Capacity); national capacity strengthening; provision of information and communication technology, logistics and other support to partners as needed. Burkina Faso is a semi-arid country in the Sahel. Its population is estimated at about 20.4 million, with 40 percent who live below the poverty line. Most of the population depends on one season of rain-fed agriculture for their livelihoods, leaving the country vulnerable to climate shocks.

In Numbers

- **6,060 mt** of food assistance distributed
- **US$ 575,779** of cash distributed
- **US$ 66 m** six months (March-August 2020) net funding requirements
- **537,182** people assisted in February 2020

Operational Updates

**Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):** In February, a total of 380,702 IDPs received lifesaving assistance provided through WFP general food distribution via in-kind food distribution in the Sahel, Nord, Centre-Nord, Est and Boucle du Mouhoun and cash-based transfers in the Centre-Nord. A total of 339,012 beneficiaries received 5,234 mt of kind food and 41,690 beneficiaries received US$ 575,779 cash-based transfer.

In February, some 235,000 beneficiaries have been registered in WFP beneficiary information and transfer management platform (SCOPE). Beneficiary registrations are ongoing in the Centre-Nord, Est and Nord regions.

WFP is in the process of developing a project on early recovery for IDPs in the Nord region. Project foresees to strengthen livelihoods of IDPs, and host-families affected by the crisis. Activities include capacity strengthening for IDPs and host communities in sustainable agricultural technics, training in income generating activities and awareness raising campaigns and training in nutritional education.

**Assistance to refugees:** WFP continues lifesaving assistance to Malian refugees in the camps of Goudébou and Mentao in the Sahel region. During the reporting period, 342.35 mt of food were distributed to 14,858 refugees including 7,993 women.

**Education:** Through its regular school feeding, WFP provided school meal to 36,315 pupils including 19,557 girls who received two meals per day (mid-day snack and hot lunch). A total of 125.39 mt were distributed including 32,94 mt of fortified blended food were distributed. The emergency school feeding was provided to 30,345 children (131.16 mt) in the Sahel, Est and Nord regions. WFP urgently needs funding to pursue this activity.

**Nutrition:** In February, WFP provided nutritional support to 6,514 moderately acutely malnourished children aged 6-59 months and undernourished pregnant and lactating women (PLW). WFP’s malnutrition prevention programme reached 12,575 children aged 6-23 months and 5,191 (PLWs). A total of 126.76 mt of fortified blended food were distributed.

**Resilience:** In the Centre-Nord region, food for assets’ participants rehabilitated eight “boulis” (dam), corresponding to 15,000 m³ of available water storage. In addition, 10 road crossing infrastructures were realized, and six nutritious vegetable gardens were developed and half-moons.

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Main photo: Credit: Aurelia Rusek
Caption: Screening for malnutrition among children aged 6 to 23 months during a general food distribution to IDPs in Kaya (Centre-Nord region).
Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

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<th>Strategic Result</th>
<th>Focus area</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<td>Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food</td>
<td>Crisis Response</td>
<td>Provide an integrated assistance package including food assistance, school meals, and specialized nutritious food to refugees, IDPs, host population, children and PLW/Gs affected by climate shocks, conflicts and other disruptions.</td>
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<td>Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition</td>
<td>Resilience Building</td>
<td>Provide school meals to vulnerable children during the primary school year, including take home rations for girls. Provide assistance through CBT to beneficiaries targeted by government social safety nets including capacity strengthening for adolescent girls.</td>
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<td>Strategic Result 3: Food systems are sustainable</td>
<td>Resilience Building</td>
<td>Support beneficiaries through the provision of specialized nutritious food and integrated programmes (including SBCC) to manage acute malnutrition and prevent stunting.</td>
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<td>Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable</td>
<td>Resilience Building</td>
<td>Support targeted groups through livelihood and asset creation, gender-responsive and nutrition sensitive value chain development, weather insurance schemes, and innovative production technologies and practices.</td>
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<td>Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs</td>
<td>Root Causes</td>
<td>Provide capacity-strengthening support including emergency response, early warning systems, supply chain, National P4P, weather insurance, nutrition-sensitive social safety net data collection and management, to national institutions and partners.</td>
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<td>Strategic Result 6: Humanitarian and development partners have access to common services to access and operate in targeted areas throughout the year</td>
<td>Crisis Response</td>
<td>Provide humanitarian Air services to national disaster management offices and other relevant partners to access areas of humanitarian interventions.</td>
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In the Sahel region, participants used techniques aiming at soil and water conservation and restoration (WCR) as well as the protection of rehabilitated lands (PRL), and realized 164 hectares of stone lines. As for the Est and Nord regions, participants are collecting rubble in preparation for the WCR and PRL activities. A total of 71,785 beneficiaries with 70 percent of women received 100.59 mt of food.

Capacity strengthening: Following the completion of the transformation unit in Orodara (West region), in February 2020, 50 women soybeans processors were trained in quality management and hygiene in partnership with OXFAM. The unit and equipment were set up and practical trainings on the use of the equipment are planned for the second week of March 2020. In the framework of the construction of milk processing units for Torde Liptaku and Pamiral communes (Sahel region), agreements were signed between WFP purchase for progress and these communes. Furthermore, WFP conducted a training reaching approximately 60 technical officers from the Governments of Burkina Faso, Niger and Chad on the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) 3.0 acute malnutrition. A total of 15 Burkinabe officers took part in this training including eight officers who got certified as Facilitators of the Level 2 Cadre Harmonisé.

Monitoring & Evaluation

From 23-26 February, a workshop has taken place to prioritize targeting and assistance in the most-affected areas of the country as part of the upcoming lean season preparation. This will be complemented by the ongoing review of the Cadre Harmonisé figures for which the analysis will take place in early March.

Challenges

WFP operations are facing a funding gap and USD 66 million are needed for the emergency activities from March 2020 to August 2020. Without additional funding, WFP will be able to provide a full and continued assistance until May 2020 only. Challenges also include the restriction of humanitarian personnel movements which impedes WFP’s capacity to adequately provide lifesaving assistance to IDPs and refugees. The security situation in the country remains volatile and unpredictable. New challenges are foreseen with the expansion of COVID-19 in the country. WFP is adjusting its response to respond to the new operational environment.

Donors

Denmark, European Commission, Germany, Monaco, Norway, Private Donors, United Kingdom, USA.