



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief March 2020



## Operational Context

The security situation continues to deteriorate across all regions of Burkina Faso, resulting in a massive populations displacement. As of 25 March 2020, over 838,548 people have been officially displaced (CONASUR). In addition, due to the rapid spreading of COVID-19, the Government of Burkina has declared a state of emergency, closed its borders, imposed curfew, introduced social distancing, banned gatherings exceeding 50 people, suspended biometric registration, closed schools until end-April, and introduced a two-week closure of towns where COVID-19 cases have been reported.

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 emergency school meals programme and 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 development; 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.



Population: **20.4 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **182 out of 189 countries**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **25% of children aged 6-59 months**

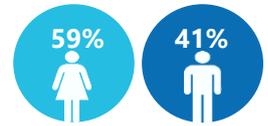
## In Numbers

**7,093.96 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$ 1.4 m** of cash distributed

**US\$ 54 m** six months (April-September 2020) net funding requirements

**648,512** people assisted in March 2020



## Operational Updates

### Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):

In March 2020, WFP provided food assistance to 492,955 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host family in the four of the five regions most affected by security incidents (Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Nord, Nord and Sahel). This included 72,791 IDPs who received USD 975,914 through mobile money via a local partner. In addition, 13,846 children aged 6-23 months and 7,764 pregnant and lactating women in the abovementioned regions received 152,08 mt of nutritional support as part of the prevention of acute malnutrition activities.

**Assistance to refugees:** Situation affecting Malian refugees has been deteriorating with ongoing voluntary repatriations, supported by UNHCR, being reported. Due to the security situation, March distributions were not undertaken neither in the Goudébou nor in the Mentaou camp in March 2020. Distributions resumed in early April.

**Education:** In March 2020, 24,473 pupils including 12,103 girls received two meals per day (mid-day snack and hot lunch) in the Soum and Seno provinces of the Sahel region.

Through the emergency school feeding programme, 27,073 pupils including 13,607 girls were assisted with hot and nutritious lunches. A total of 3,910 girls received take home ration in the form of dry cereal. Furthermore, orange-fleshed sweet potatoes harvested in the schools of Selbo and Bouloye (Sahel region) was used to enrich the meals of the 270 students before the government's decisions to close schools to break the chain of COVID-19 contamination. Closure of schools affects more than 4.6 million preschool, elementary, post-primary and secondary students, 20,504 schools and 116,338 teachers. As a result, regular and emergency school feeding activities have been halted. WFP is in close consultation with the Ministry of Education and Education Cluster to resume assistance as soon as schools reopen.

### Nutrition:

In March 2020, 5,938 children aged 6-59 months suffering from moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 829 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) received specialized nutritious food as a contribution to treatment of malnutrition.

**Resilience:** Food assistance for assets (FFA) creation activities to accompany community-based participatory planning (CBPP) communities in structural food deficit areas have been temporarily halted due to the government restrictions that prohibit grouping due to COVID-19. WFP is working on finalizing a strategy to resume the implementation of resilience activities taking into account the new operational context. A total of 35,980 beneficiaries received 342.5 mt of food and 61,264 beneficiaries received USD 391,328.

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**Main photo:** Credit: WFP/Mahamady OUEDRAOGO

**Caption:** In respect to the sanitary measures meant to reduce the risks of spreading COVID-19, a food distribution agent helps an internally displaced man sign the beneficiaries' registry at a food distribution site in Kaya (Centre-Nord region).

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)		
2020 Total Requirement (in USD)	2020 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>201.8 m</b>	<b>85.3 m</b>	<b>54 m</b>

## Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Crisis affected populations, including refugees, IDPs and host communities in targeted areas are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of a crisis

**Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

**Activities:**

- 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.

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Food insecure populations including school-age children, in targeted areas have access to adequate and nutritious food all year-round

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

**Activities:**

- 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.

## Strategic Result 2: No one suffers for malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Nutritionally vulnerable populations including children aged 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLW/Gs), antiretroviral therapy (ART) clients, in targeted areas have improved nutritional status all year round

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

**Activities:**

- Support beneficiaries through the provision of specialized nutritious food and integrated programmes (including SBCC) to manage acute malnutrition and prevent stunting.

## Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Smallholder farmers and communities including those affected by recurrent climate shocks, in targeted areas have more resilient livelihoods and sustainable food systems by 2023

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

**Activities:**

- 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.

## Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 5:** National institutions have strengthened capacities to manage shock-responsive systems, food security, nutrition and social protection programmes and policies by 2023

**Focus area:** *Root Causes*

**Activities:**

- 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.

## Strategic Result 8: Global partnership support

**Strategic Outcome 6:** Humanitarian and development partners have access to common services to access and operate in targeted areas throughout the year

**Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

**Activities:**

- Provide technical assistance through the Emergency Telecommunications Sector/cluster to national disaster management offices and other relevant partners to strengthen emergency communication and coordination mechanisms.
- Provide on-demand services to the Government, humanitarian and development partners.
- Provide humanitarian Air services to national disaster management offices and other relevant partners to access areas of humanitarian interventions

**Capacity strengthening:** As part of the purchase for progress (P4P) activities, from 10 to 13 March, WFP organised field missions in Orodara and Toussiana (Ouest region). In Orodara, WFP visited the soy processing unit, organized a training on soy transformation for 20 women who will manage the unit and tested the unit equipment. The main recommendation emerging from the visit was to increase the electricity capacity to allow the women to run the necessary equipment. In Toussiana, WFP and its partners OXFAM identified the site where the second soy processing unit will be set up. An action plan outlining role and responsibilities of each stakeholder was developed. WFP will monitor the implementation of the action plan. Furthermore, WFP signed a protocol with Green Cross Burkina Faso to implement capacity strengthening activities in the communes of Toécé (Centre-Nord), Kallo (Sahel) and Banogo (Est). A total of 75 persons will be trained in compost production which will enable these communities to produce intensive and continuous quality compost with plant shredders called "*Compostaterre*" harnessed to three wheeled vehicles.

Following two workshops conducted in mid-March 2020, plans are being developed for capacity strengthening activities for the Executive Secretariat of the National Food Security Council (SE-CNSA) and the Permanent Secretariat of the National Council of Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation (SP-CONASUR).

### Monitoring/Evaluation

In March 2020, WFP participated in the analysis of the Cadre Harmonisé (CH) process. The results of the CH confirmed the forecasted deterioration of the food security situation across the country. For the period from March to May 2020, some 1.6 million persons are food insecure (integrated phase classification-IPC phase 3-4). For the 2020 agricultural lean season (June-August 2020) over 2.15 million persons are projected to be in food insecurity crisis (IPC 3-4) and in need of urgent food and nutrition assistance.

The [Evaluation report](#) of the decentralized evaluation on the Milk project was finalized and outlined the following findings: i) the project contributed significantly to women empowerment and transformed positively the relationship between men and women; (ii) the choice of a low-tech and semi-artisanal production model in the Milk Production Units is adapted to the local context; and (iii) the introduction of yogurt in the school meals had a positive effect on pupils' satisfaction and attention, which is likely to improve school performance. Nine recommendations were developed, and WFP will address them as part of the future phases of this project.

### Annual Country Report

WFP Annual Country Report for 2019 has been published and available on [WFP's web platform](#) or through the [PDF](#) version. Throughout 2019, WFP assisted over 1 million vulnerable people and will continue to provide food and nutrition assistance to the most vulnerable people in 2020.

### Challenges

USD 54 million are urgently needed to ensure the continuation of WFP activities to people in need of food and nutritional assistance until September 2020.

The deterioration of the security situation remains a variable causing continuous displacements. Insecurity in the Sahel has affected Malian refugees, whereas incidents in the Centre-Nord and Est have had effects on WFP's ability to have continued access to targeted sites. Two cases of COVID-19 outbreak were reported in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso Capital in early March 2020. The epidemic has since spread rapidly across Burkina Faso with 8 out of 13 regions affected. As of the 31 March, 282 confirmed cases, and 16 deaths were reported.

### Donors

European Commission, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Liechtenstein, Japan, Monaco, Norway, Private Donors, United Kingdom, USA