



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief June 2020



## In Numbers

14,304 mt of food distributed

USD 1.4 million of cash distributed

USD 55 million six months (July-December 2020) net funding requirements

1,031,030 people assisted in June 2020



## Operational Context

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. The rising insecurity continues to deteriorate across all regions of Burkina Faso, resulting in a massive population displacement. As of 7 June 2020, over 921,000 people have been officially displaced. Food and nutritional security across the country is critical - over 2.15 million people expected to be in food insecurity during the upcoming lean season (June – August) - and COVID-19 had added an additional layer of vulnerability to an already fragile situation. Since the first COVID-19 case in March, the Government of Burkina Faso has introduced restrictions measures which have been gradually lifted or eased.

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.

WFP has been present in Burkina Faso since 1967.



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

## Operational Updates

**Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):** In June, 592,938 IDPs and members of host families were assisted with 8,922 mt of food provided by WFP in six regions (Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Nord, Est, Centre-Est, Nord and Sahel). In the Centre-Nord, 79,114 IDPs received cash-based transfers through mobile money, with a total of USD 1,082,609. Moreover, WFP provided nutritional support to 35,234 children aged 6-23 months and 12,249 pregnant and lactating women (PLW), with the objective of preventing the deterioration of the nutritional situation of these vulnerable groups.

**Assistance to refugees:** In the Sahel region of Burkina Faso, WFP provided lifesaving in-kind food assistance to 2,485 Malian refugees in the camps of Goudébou and Mentaou. Due to the security situation, WFP has yet to resume cash-based transfers to refugees. WFP is working closely with UNHCR to resume this distribution modality.

Two Days of "Peaceful Coexistence" were held on 25 and 28 June to celebrate the closure of a refugee economic empowerment project, implemented in partnership with *Vétérinaires Sans Frontières* (VSF). Days of Peaceful Coexistence promote social cohesion, within an increasingly tense social climate in the Sahel Region. Refugees and host communities gathered together and were given the opportunity to talk and share a meal.

**Lean season:** During the month of June, WFP has started food distributions for vulnerable people affected by the lean season in the Centre-Nord, Est, and Nord regions. In the Sahel, targeting of beneficiaries is being finalized, and distributions are expected to start in July. Thus far, WFP assisted 306,255 individuals by providing a total of 4,700 mt of food and USD 177,062. Furthermore, 4,204 children aged 6-23 months as well as 8,669 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) were supported in their nutritional health via the prevention of acute malnutrition programme. As part of the overall response of all food security actors, over 1.65 million people will be assisted during the lean season, and WFP response accounts for over 65 percent of the global response.

**Nutrition:** In addition to the prevention of acute malnutrition activities outlined above, WFP also continued treatment of moderate acute malnutrition by providing nutritional inputs (SuperCereals) to 9,806 children aged 6-59 months and 2,539 PLW. WFP is strengthening also the screening to identify malnutrition cases, by carrying out a door-to-door screening, to the extent possible, with the aim of improving coverage in the context of insecurity and COVID-19.

**Education:** As part of lifted COVID-19 restrictions, exam classes reopened from 1 June, while classes for other grades will start again on 1 October. School feeding activities resumed for students in the last grade of primary school (CM2) in the Est, Nord, and Sahel regions. A total of 12,662 students were assisted in June through regular and emergency school feeding activities. As for the other students, they will all receive the residual food items as take-home rations in the coming weeks, by the end of the school year.

**Contact info:** Florine Jobin Yaméogo ([florine.jobin@wfp.org](mailto:florine.jobin@wfp.org))

**Country Director:** David Bulman

**Further information:** [www.wfp.org/countries/burkina-faso](http://www.wfp.org/countries/burkina-faso)

**Main photo:** Credit: WFP/ Clément Kaboré

**Caption:** Fuel-efficient stoves as part of individual activities in Bani (Sahel 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>108.6 m</b>	<b>55 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

WFP is finalising the operational arrangements to provide support to 2,500 vulnerable adolescent girls residing in peri-urban neighbourhoods of Ouagadougou, with professional trainings and specific sensitization as well as provision of start-up kits. The objective of this new activity is to strengthen their ability to be self-reliant via the establishment of a sustainable safety-net and livelihood system.

**Resilience:** With the aim of improving the resilience of IDPs and enhance social cohesion among communities, WFP has implemented and completed early-recovery projects in the Sahel (Djibo) and Centre-Nord (Barsalogo) regions by the end of June. Key achievements include: the rehabilitation of 22,125 hectares (ha) of zaï and 410 ha of half-moons indegraded lowland, the treatment of 270 units of 45 m<sup>3</sup> gullies, the development of 5 ha of gardens, the construction of 11 garden wells, and 1 pastoral drilling. A total of XOF 108,636,000 (approx. USD 189,158) was transferred under these projects, which helped 2,670 participants re-establishing their livelihoods.

Furthermore, WFP continued individual household resilience activities in four regions: Centre Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel. These activities enabled communities to recover 11,115 ha in zaï and 2,500 ha in half-moons of degraded land, to plant 415 ha of grazing area, to protect 10 ha of fields with assisted natural regeneration, and to realize 66 fuel-efficient stoves.

**Capacity strengthening** WFP continues to support several government structures in the diagnosis of their gaps and designing their capacity strengthening plans to further enhance their emergency response. From 24 to 26 June, validation workshops were held with the Permanent Secretariat of the National Council of Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation (SP-CONASUR), the Early Warning System (SAP), and the Permanent Secretariat in charge of managing Crises and Vulnerabilities in Livestock (SP-CVEL) to discuss and develop preliminary plans.

## Monitoring/Evaluation

In May, WFP and relevant Government counterparts finalised a mobile vulnerability assessment mapping on the food security situation in the country. The assessment results highlighted that: (i) A gradual deterioration in household food consumption was observed, to be attributed mainly to the combined effects of the security crisis and COVID-19 restrictive measures; (ii) Significant socio-economic disruptions caused by COVID-19 have exacerbated the already difficult food and nutritional situation; and (iii) The main sources of subsistence are either via household production or food assistance, thus reflecting the fragility of the situation going into the lean season.

WFP continues to monitor the prices of key commodities across the country. A new [market bulletin](#) was released in coordination with the National Food Security Stock Management Corporation (SONAGESS). Its results outlined: (i) A significant improvement in the supply of food compared to the previous month, due to the removal of the COVID-19 measures; (ii) Food prices slightly increased from April; and (iii) Terms of trade on livestock markets have decreased, thus having a direct impact on the situation of pastoral households.

## COVID-19

WFP is collecting data for an impact study of COVID-19 on the food and nutrition situation of households, to be carried on along with the Ministry of Agriculture. It will concern 2,225 households in the Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Nord, Nord, Est, and Sahel regions.

## Challenges

Funding situation remains critical, especially due to growing needs during the ongoing lean season, the security context, and the impact of COVID-19, all affecting the food security.

Humanitarian access is still expected to be further restricted in the coming months in many areas due to the rainy season and the deteriorating security situation. WFP has been prepositioning commodities, where possible, to mitigate this risk and ensure continued assistance to targeted populations.