



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief August 2020



## Operational Context

Burkina Faso is a semi-arid country in the Sahel. Its population is estimated at about 20.9 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 17 August 2020, over one million people had been officially displaced. Food and nutritional security across the country is critical – 3.3 million people are expected to be food insecure during the ongoing lean season (June – August) – and COVID-19 has added an additional layer of vulnerability to an already fragile situation (Cadre Harmonisé July 2020). Since the first COVID-19 case in March, the Government of Burkina Faso has introduced restriction 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: **20.9 million**

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

Income Level: **Low**

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

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**Main photo:** Credit: WFP/Mohamed Sorgho

**Caption:** Training on the production of organic compost (Sahel region).

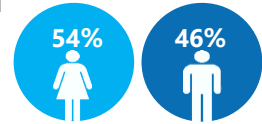
## In Numbers

**14,810 mt** of food distributed

**USD 3 million** of cash distributed

**USD 76 million** six months (September 2020-February 2021) net funding requirements

**1,173,306** people assisted in August 2020



## Operational Updates

**Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):** In August, WFP assisted 625,989 IDPs and host family members in the Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions. Each received either an average of 20 kg of food items or USD 16 cash-based entitlement. A total of 10,819 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and 28,984 children aged 6-23 months received nutritional support.

**Assistance to refugees:** In the Sahel region, WFP provided assistance to 2,678 Malian refugees, including 1,393 women. A total of 95 mt of in-kind food was distributed during the month of August in the refugee camp of Goudébou.

Distribution to the Mentao refugee camp remains suspended since July due to insecurity that hampers the delivery of food items. Discussions are ongoing between WFP and UNHCR to explore the use of alternative assistance modalities with regards to the challenging security context.

**Lean season response:** WFP continued to assist people vulnerable to food insecurity during the ongoing lean season. In August, WFP reached 498,376 beneficiaries in the Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions, with a total of 6,159 mt of food and over USD 1 million distributed. WFP also provided nutritional products to 19,107 PLW and 28,068 children aged 6-23 months.

**Nutrition:** The results of a [Rapid SMART](#) (Standardised Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions) nutrition survey in areas of high concentration of IDPs (Est, Centre-Nord, Nord, and Sahel regions) outlined worrying nutritional situations in all the covered areas. In several municipalities of the Centre-Nord and Sahel regions, the global acute malnutrition (GAM) above the critical thresholds as defined by WHO (>15 percent) were observed in children aged 6-59 months, both among displaced people and the host population.

Besides undertaking prevention of moderate acute malnutrition activities among IDPs, host communities, and food insecure households during the lean season, WFP also undertook screening of moderate acute malnutrition and ensured treatment support to 8,629 undernourished children aged 6-59 months and 2,719 undernourished PLW.

**Resilience:** In the Sahel region, WFP trained 25 farmers on the use of *Compostaterre* Kits, which consist of a plant shredder harnessed to a tricycle and protective equipment. *Compostaterre* allow users to produce quality organic compost in an intensive manner. This activity took place on 28 and 29 August, as part of a Smallholder Agriculture Market Support (SAMS) project implemented in partnership with Green Cross Burkina Faso and the Government. The project aims to train 75 persons. Six *Compostaterre* Kits were purchased for the benefit of farmers' organizations in the localities of Kallo in the Sahel region, Toécé in the Centre-Nord, and Banogo in the Est.

## 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>126.3 m</b>	<b>76 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 introduced “AflaSafe” to various communities across Burkina Faso. Aflasafe is a certified biological control product which prevents aflatoxin contamination in corn and groundnuts crops. This will contribute to improving health, particularly in reducing the incidence of liver cancer and Hepatitis B. Subsequently to a training of 48 trainers facilitated by WFP, 1,435 smallholder farmers were trained on the use of AflaSafe. They will be able to apply it during the ongoing agricultural campaign.

A soybean processing unit in Toussiana village (Hauts-Bassins region) is now constructed, equipped, and ready to be used by *Tensia*, a cooperative composed of women farmers who previously benefited from various trainings through WFP SAMS initiative. WFP will keep accompanying them in the coming months in the marketing of their production, amongst other support, until they become autonomous.

**Social protection:** WFP and the Permanent Secretariat of the National Council for Social Protection (SP-CNPS) are in the process of identifying 2,500 vulnerable adolescent girls who are to be assisted through a safety-net and livelihood project. This project is part of WFP support to the Government of Burkina Faso Social Protection Programme, targeted at empowering impoverished youth.

**Capacity strengthening:** The report about the capacity assessment and capacity strengthening plan of the Executive Secretariat of the National Food Security Council (SE-CNSA) was finalized in August.

## COVID-19

As part of WFP continuous support to the Government for COVID-19 response, some mobile facilities were allocated to the Ministry of Health. These are planned to be used during COVID-19 screening controls, when land borders will reopen for people transport.

Following the revised Cadre Harmonisé results taking into account the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19 on food security, WFP and FAO issued a joint [press release](#) on 21 August. The purpose was to alert the international community of the further deterioration of the food security across the country. Two provinces in the Sahel region, Soum and Oudalan, are facing a catastrophic food insecurity situation.

## Monitoring/Evaluation

To further assess the extent of the situation in Oudalan province (Sahel region), WFP conducted in August a [rapid assessment](#) of household food security. This assessment corroborated the results of the updated Cadre Harmonisé, by highlighting the severely deteriorated food conditions experienced by people in this area. WFP is planning support in Oudalan, in coordination with other humanitarian actors.

A post-distribution monitoring on cash-based transfers (CBT) was conducted in the Centre-Nord region to assess the cash distribution process and satisfaction level among IDP cash recipients, in areas where markets are functioning well. Three main highlights of the evaluation are the following: (i) Donations are the main source of household income and reflect low economic activity among the beneficiaries; (ii) 36 percent of households receiving cash assistance have an acceptable food consumption score, against 23 percent among beneficiaries receiving in-kind food assistance; (iii) 66 percent of the households surveyed stated that they would like to receive cash assistance, 30 percent mixed assistance (cash and food), and 4 percent in-kind assistance.

## Challenges

WFP urgently needs further support to cover the immediate lack of resources for emergency activities for the next six months. Urgent contributions are required to prevent the situation of already vulnerable people to further deteriorate and ensure that their lifesaving needs can be met.

## Donors

Belgium, Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, Monaco, Norway, Private Donors, Switzerland, United Kingdom, UN Other Funds and Agencies, and the United States of America.