**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 10 November 2020, over one million people had been officially displaced. Food and nutritional security across the country is critical – with 2 million people facing food insecurity and COVID-19 has added an additional layer of vulnerability to an already fragile situation (Cadre Harmonisé November 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, United Nations Humanitarian Air Service, and other support to partners as needed. WFP has been present in Burkina Faso since 1967.

**Operational Updates**

**Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):** In November, WFP assisted 631,225 IDPs with 2,965 mt food baskets and USD 4 million cash-based transfers (CBT) in the Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions. In particular, WFP scaled-up CBT assistance from 110,000 IDPs (October) to 276,000 IDPs (November) via mobile-money or direct transfers. 33,476 children aged 6-23 months and 14,570 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) also received nutritional support.

**Assistance to refugees:** WFP resumed CBT assistance to Malian refugees residing in the Sahel regions. WFP had to interrupt CBT in November 2019 due to security concerns. A total of USD 68,730 was provided to 4,877 refugees of Goudébou camp (Dori). WFP plans to assess the feasibility of resuming CBT in Mentao camp, once access conditions will be favourable.

**Nutrition:** In addition to the prevention of moderate acute malnutrition, WFP also contributed to the treatment of 20,004 children aged 6-59 months and 7,006 PLW during the month of November. Activities were carried out in the Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions.

On 24 November, WFP delivered over 7 mt of nutritional products in Foubé (Centre-Nord region) via UNHAS helicopter, and in close coordination with UNHCR. Foubé camp hosts around 22,000 IDPs and became unreachable for the humanitarian community after an attack in May 2020. Products will support prevention of malnutrition activities targeting children and PLW.

**Education:** Regular and Emergency school feeding operations resumed in November as WFP dispatched food items in assisted schools across Est, Nord, and Sahel regions. WFP assisted 30,332 schoolchildren via its regular school feeding programme implemented in the Sahel region.

**16 Days of Activism to end Gender-Based Violence (GBV):** In line with the global campaign to reduce GBV and as part of a UN joint intervention, WFP distributed 1.5 mt of food to the shelter Sainte Marie de Gorretti in Kaya (Centre-Nord region), benefitting 96 girls and young women who fled from forced and early marriage. Moreover, WFP organised all-staff sensitisation events, including a panel discussion on the fight against GBV.

**Resilience:** Community-based asset creation activities restarted in November in the Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions. The following activities are in progress: water reservoirs, community access roads with fords crossing, school gardens, treatment of gullies, hay making and fodder conservation, extension of lowland development, and the realisation of fuel-efficient stoves. Further activities linked to soil and water conservation (CES) and soil defence and restoration (DRS) have also begun.

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**In Numbers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,488 mt of food distributed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD 4 million of cash distributed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD 66.3 million six months (December 2020-May 2021) net funding requirements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>693,444 people assisted in November 2020</td>
<td>53% female, 47% male</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Main photo:** Credit: WFP/Barthelemy Sawadogo  
**Caption:** WFP supports victims of GBV at a shelter in Centre-Nord region  
**Country Director:** Antoine Renard  
**Contact info:** Florine Jobin Yaméogo (florine.jobin@wfp.org)  
**Further information:** www.wfp.org/countries/burkina-faso
WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Result</th>
<th>2020 Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>2020 Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>202.4 m</td>
<td>132.2 m</td>
<td>66.3 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Six-month Net Funding Requirements as of 11 December 2020.

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 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 SBC) to manage acute malnutrition and prevent stunting.

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 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 PAP, weather insurance, nutrition-sensitive social safety net data collection and management, to national institutions and partners.

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.
- Provide logistics expertise and coordination services to partners in absence of alternative to ensure humanitarian assistance as well as other supply chain services in order to support effective and efficient humanitarian response.

Twenty trainers were trained on WFP climate insurance programme during two workshops held in Bogandé (Est region) and Kaya (Centre-Nord region) from 10 to 13 November. In turn, these trainers will form some 700 beneficiaries in the coming months. The objective is to explain to smallholder farmers who have subscribed to the micro-insurance what the insurance is about, its coverage and benefits, how it works, as well as how they could optimise their agricultural risk management with other financial tools (for example through savings, etc.).

Capacity strengthening: The Permanent Secretariat in charge of managing Crises and Vulnerabilities in Livestock (SP-CVEL) identified the need to build a unique national information system in the livestock sector. WFP provided technical and financial support to a workshop on 9-13 November for livestock stakeholders, aimed at developing a Livestock strategy and the related action plan.

WFP provided technical support to strengthen the National Society for Food Security Stock Management (SONAGESS) capacity to undertake efficient data collection and treatment for market analysis to cover 64 markets throughout the country. A workshop was held on 19 November, training more than 70 enumerators from all market points, and WFP handed over 60 smartphones to the SONAGESS.

Monitoring/Evaluation

Results of the November Cadre Harmonisé were released. The current situation outlines 2 million food insecure people - about 10 percent of the population - and eight provinces (out of 13) in IPC Phase 3. The food security situation remains worrying with a 66 percent increase in the number of people in food insecurity (compared to the November 2019 Cadre Harmonisé). Lean season projections (June-August 2021) indicate 2.7 million people expected to be food insecure; 11 provinces in Phase 3, and 2 provinces in Phase 4 (Soum in the Sahel region and Komandjari in the Est region). Three out of four food insecure people live in the four regions that are most affected by insecurity: Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel.

COVID-19

An increase in COVID-19 cases has been observed in Burkina Faso over the past weeks. As part of the United Nations COVID-19 response and in coordination with UNICEF, WFP distributed 800,000 soaps to 16,000 displaced households in November. This was part of general food distributions in Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

UNHAS operations have officially been launched in November with the service reaching three regular rotations from Ouagadougou: (i) Dori / Gorom-Gorom/ Arbinda; Ouahigouya / Titaio / Djobo; and Fada N’Gourma / Gayeri. Thus, UNHAS undertook 15 rotations, reaching eight locations, transporting 95 passengers and 7.3 mt of cargo during the reporting period.

Budget Revisions

WFP approved the fifth budget revision to Burkina Faso CSP (2019-2023), introducing the Logistics Cluster (activity 10). With its activation, the Logistics Cluster will aim to optimize logistical resources in order to enhance the humanitarian response. This will enable the deployment of shared storage areas, enhance logistics coordination, pooling of transporters, and reinforce dissemination and management of supply chain information among non-governmental organisations and UN Agencies.

Challenges

Limited humanitarian access and lack of resources are the most critical constraints to WFP lifesaving operations. While continuing to deliver in-kind reduced rations, WFP may have to halt its emergency assistance by March 2021, if no additional funding is received.

WFP BURKINA FASO Country Brief

November 2020