



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief December 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 the impact of climate shocks. The rising insecurity continues to deteriorate across all regions of Burkina Faso, resulting in a massive population displacement. As of 31 December 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).

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 internally displaced persons 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 food system value chain 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.



Population: **20.9 million**

2019 Human Development Index:
182 out of 189 countries

Income Level: **Low**

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

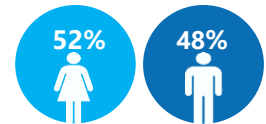
In Numbers

4,620 mt of food distributed

USD 6.4 million of cash distributed

USD 108.2 million six months (January 2021- June 2021) net funding requirements

912,201 people assisted
in December 2020



Operational Updates

Assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs): In December, WFP provided in-kind assistance and cash-based transfers (CBT) assistance to 725,404 IDPs spread over six regions, namely the Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel. CBT assistance was further scaled up, rising from 276,000 IDPs in November to 346,000 in December. Concentrating its efforts on the most vulnerable, WFP continued to combine general food distributions with specialized nutritious food, reaching 37,283 children aged 6-23 months and 18,256 pregnant and lactating women (PLW).

In coordination with the Government and humanitarian actors, WFP launched a response to assist over 29,000 IDPs and host-community members in hard-to-reach areas in the Oudalan province (Sahel region) where the July 2020 *Cadre Harmonisé* highlighted there were food insecure populations in IPC/CH phase 5. Beneficiaries received an in-kind food basket comprised of cereals, pulses, and vegetable oil, along with soap to reduce the propagation of COVID-19.

Assistance to refugees: Thousands of Malian refugees moved back into the Goudébou camp (nearby Dori, Sahel region), with support from UNHCR, nine months after insecurity forced them to abandon the site. WFP assisted 4,820 beneficiaries via CBT in December.

Meanwhile in Mentao camp, access had been cut off for more than a year, following a series of attacks. Most of the refugees from this camp now reside in Djibo. Insecurity has hampered WFP from assisting refugees of Mentao camps since November 2020.

Nutrition: In December, 39,866 children aged 6-59 months and 16,465 PLW were treated for moderate acute malnutrition in the Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions.

The analysis of the integrated food security phase classification of acute malnutrition, supported by WFP, highlighted that four provinces (Oudalan, Séno, Soum, and Yagha) in the Sahel region are projected to be in phase 4 (global acute malnutrition prevalence between 15 and 30 percent), marking a deterioration in the nutritional situation.

Education: WFP assisted 26,510 schoolchildren through its regular and emergency school feeding activities. Schoolchildren received two meals per day (mid-day snack and hot lunch). 13,196 girls also received take-home rations as an incentive to remain in school, provided that they maintained minimum attendance (80 percent). Food prepositioned in two primary schools were looted by unidentified armed individuals in the Séno province, showing the volatility of the operational environment. The looting represents 0.4 percent of the total quarterly distributions via the emergency and regular school canteen programmes.

Main photo: Credit: WFP/Esther Ouoba

Caption: A woman carries SuperCereal following a food distribution in Djibo (Sahel region).

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Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

2020 Total Requirement (in USD)	2020 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
202.4 m	143.4 m	108.2 m

*Six-months Net Funding Requirements as of 6 January 2021.

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.
- 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.

Resilience: In December, 16,588 participants benefitted from food assistance for assets (FFA) activities carried out in the Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions, including rehabilitation or development of lowlands, "boulis" (dams), community access roads and rural tracks, as well as farming activities. Moreover, cultivation techniques like zai, half-moons, and stone barriers were used. To support their food and nutrition needs, participants received a total of USD 860,000 and 158 mt of food.

Capacity strengthening: From 30 November to 2 December, WFP organized a training on the use of satellite imagery and data to monitor the impact of drought and insecurity on the agropastoral campaign in Burkina Faso. Participating structures included the Executive Secretariat of the National Food Security Council (SE-CNSA), the Permanent Secretariat in charge of managing Crises and Vulnerabilities in Livestock (SP-CVEL), the National Agency for Meteorology (ANAM), and the Early Warning System (SAP).

Monitoring/Evaluation

From 7-10 December WFP facilitated a training in Koudougou for staff of the National Food Crisis Prevention and Management System, consisting of the National Society for Food Security Stock Management (SONAGESS), the National Council of Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation (CONASUR), and the SAP. The training aimed at reinforcing capacity to carry out comprehensive analyses of food insecurity.

COVID-19

COVID-19 cases have more than doubled since November. The Government is preparing to launch a vaccination campaign against COVID-19. WFP continued to include various awareness-raising sessions on COVID-19 within its nutrition activities.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service

In 2020, 29 UNHAS flights reached 15 locations and transported 179 passengers, serving a total of 13 organizations - 1 diplomatic mission, 4 UN agencies, and 8 non-governmental organizations (NGOs). UNHAS was also instrumental in transporting commodities and non-food items to hard-to-reach locations. About 7 metric tons were transported from November to December.

Logistics Cluster

The Logistics Cluster was activated in Burkina Faso on 9 October 2020 to increase logistics coordination among humanitarian actors, facilitate access to storage facilities in key regions of response, and enhance logistics information sharing. Thanks to a WFP's mobile storage unit (MSU) loaned to the Logistics Cluster, an initial common storage space of 320 square meters was made available to the humanitarian community in Kaya (Centre-Nord region). In addition, the Logistics Cluster has procured four other MSUs which will be installed in Dori (Sahel region), Ouahigouya (Nord region), Fada N'Gourma (Est region), and Kaya.

Resourcing outlook

WFP wishes to thank its donors for their invaluable support to WFP operations in 2020, namely: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Monaco, Norway, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), United Kingdom, United States of America, Private Sector donors, and UN Other Funds and Agencies. Nonetheless, more funding will be needed in 2021 (USD 328 million needs-based plan budget for 2021) because humanitarian needs have been growing substantially. WFP calls for urgent donor support to ensure that no one is left behind in the Burkina Faso crisis and to sustain critical food and nutrition assistance at planned scale.