WFP Burkina Faso
Country Brief
February 2021

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 January 2021, 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). Overall, 9.1 percent of children aged 6-59 months suffer from acute malnutrition (2020 SMART National Nutrition Survey). 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 feeding programme and support to a local yogurt production project; treatment and prevention of malnutrition; food assistance for assets for small-scale agriculture; Smallholder Agriculture Market Support (SAMS) 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.

In Numbers
3,314 mt of food distributed
USD 2.6 million of cash distributed
USD 123.4 million six months (March-August 2021) net funding requirements
801,263 people assisted in February 2021

Operational Updates
Assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs): 641,314 IDPs received WFP assistance in February, across the six regions of the Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel. WFP distributed 2,261 mt in-kind food products and USD 2.5 million via cash-based transfers (CBT). Moreover, WFP assisted 25,433 displaced children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) with specialized nutritious food.

Assistance to refugees: During the month of February, WFP provided lifesaving assistance to 5,387 Malian refugees residing in the Sahel region. Assistance was provided through USD 75,354 CBT and 179 mt in-kind food distributed in Goudébou camp (Dori). Within the framework of an ongoing relocation operation conducted by UNHCR, WFP also offered hot nutritious meals to 1,455 refugees who moved from Mentao camp to Goudébou camp upon their arrival.


Results of the 2020 SMART National Nutrition Survey were released. At the national level, the prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) among children aged 6-59 months is at 9.1 percent, of which 1.0 percent in the form of severe acute malnutrition (SAM), and 8.1 percent of MAM. The Sahel region stands out with a prevalence of GAM above critical thresholds set by WHO (i.e. 15.1 percent). At provincial level, the highest prevalence of GAM was recorded in the Sénou province (Sahel region), with 16.5 percent.

Education: Via regular and emergency school feeding programmes, WFP assisted 52,965 schoolchildren with hot meals and snacks, including 4,435 girls with take-home rations (dry cereals) to reduce the dropout rates of girls.

A school was looted by non-identified armed individuals on 2 February in the Sénou province. The school - where WFP assists some 160 children monthly through its regular school feeding programme - was subsequently closed. This incident represents the third of its kind affecting WFP-assisted schools in the Sénou province since mid-December 2020. WFP is in the process of reviewing its supply strategy in the Sahel region to reduce the risk of similar incidents.

Resilience: Through its climate microinsurance initiative, WFP encourages farmers to invest in disaster risk reduction in order to protect their livelihoods. So far, 2,500 small producers have subscribed to the microinsurance.

Main photo: Credit: WFP/ Ahmed Sore
Caption: Symbolic remittance of a microinsurance claim settlement check.
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### WFP Country Strategy

#### Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

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<th>Strategic Outcome</th>
<th>Focus area</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<td>Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food</td>
<td><strong>Crisis Response</strong></td>
<td>• 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.</td>
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#### Net Funding Requirements

<table>
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<th>Requirement</th>
<th>2021 Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>2021 Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Six months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*</th>
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<td>329.7 m</td>
<td>51 m</td>
<td>123.4 m</td>
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*Six-months Net Funding Requirements as of 9 March 2021.

#### 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: 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 the provision of specialized nutritious food and integrated programmes (including SBCC) to manage acute malnutrition and prevent stunting.

#### 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 Outcome 4: Food systems are sustainable

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

**Activities:**

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

#### 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.

In February, 407 farmers affected by drought (in six villages of the Centre-Nord region) received a compensation, amounting to over XOF 3.4 million (some USD 6,300). Beneficiaries’ resilience to climatic shocks was therefore increased, by allowing them to recover their production losses and to relaunch their agricultural activities.

**Capacity strengthening:** On 15-19 February, a workshop about humanitarian negotiations was facilitated by the Centre of Competence on Humanitarian Negotiation to 19 staff members of WFP and cooperating partners. It aimed to develop participants’ capacity to analyse the negotiation environment in which they work and to improve their ability to plan multi stakeholder negotiation processes.

#### Monitoring/Evaluation

**Key results of a remote post-distribution monitoring (rPDM)** among displaced households benefitting from CBT assistance outlined that: (i) 33 percent of households have acceptable food consumption compared to 19 percent who have poor food consumption; and (ii) the proportion of households using emergency strategies has decreased significantly (of 60 percent, from September 2020 to January 2021).

From 4-14 February, WFP participated in a joint mission led by the Government for the monitoring and evaluation of agro-silvo-pastoral markets. Main results are as follows: (i) the products are available on the markets, but the level of stocks compared to last year is decreasing; (ii) the level of prices is considered high compared to last year; and (iii) the decrease in production may be due to the poor rainfall distribution of the past rainy season.

#### United Nations Humanitarian Air Service

In February, UNHAS operated 11 flights to 11 locations, carrying 87 passengers from eight organizations including one diplomatic mission, three UN agencies, and four non-governmental organizations (NGOs). An Aviation Security (AVSEC) three-weeks mission started in February, with the objective of further enhancing the security of UNHAS operations.

#### Logistics Cluster

The Logistics Cluster signed agreements with iMMAP and REACH, for the collection of logistics data and the production of maps covering the Boucle du Mouhoun, Est, and Nord regions. First maps will be produced by end of March.

While the warehouse site in Kaya (Centre-Nord) is already operational, a new one in Fada N’Gourma (Est) is under rehabilitation for a capacity of 960 m². In Dori (Sahel) and Ouahigouya (Nord), the Logistics Cluster has identified parcels for the common storage space and is currently finalizing contractual arrangements for their utilization.

#### Budget Revision

The sixth budget revision (BR06) to Burkina Faso CSP (2019-2023) was approved, adjusting WFP operational needs for 2021 operations to the deterioration of the food and nutritional security situation across the country. The budget revision raises WFP requirements from USD 437 million to USD 729 million.

#### Challenges

Due to funding constraints, WFP was already forced to reduce rations since July 2020 to displaced populations. From February 2021, WFP developed a prioritisation plan reducing rations, thus ensuring assistance to at least 700,000 IDPs and host-communities until end of June 2021.