



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief

July 2021



## Operational Context

Burkina Faso is a semi-arid country in the Sahel, with 40 percent of its population who live below the poverty line. Most people depend 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 July 2021, over 1.3 million people had been officially displaced. Food and nutritional security across the country is critical – with over 2.8 million food insecure people during the ongoing lean season (June-August). High food prices and COVID-19 have added an additional layer of vulnerability to an already fragile situation. 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 in September 2019. 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) programme to support food system value chain development; micro-insurance (R4) and macro-insurance (African Risk Capacity Replica Programme); 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: **21.5 million**

2019 Human Development Index ranking: **182 out of 189 countries**

Income Level: **Low**

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

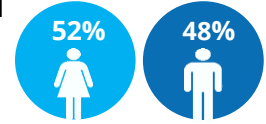
## In Numbers

**7,958 mt** of food distributed

**USD 4.2 million** of cash distributed

**USD 128 million** six months (August 2021-January 2022) net funding requirements

**1,263,024 people assisted**  
in July 2021



## Operational Updates

**Assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs):** In July, WFP assisted 547,022 IDPs residing in the Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions, through cash-based transfers (CBT) and in-kind rations. The food basket offered to families also included specialised nutritious foods (Super Cereal) for 44,941 children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLW/Gs).

On 30 July and 1 August, WFP proceeded to a second special operation via UNHAS in Mansila (Sahel), distributing 40 mt food and nutritional products to 4,289 IDPs and host community members. The situation in this especially hard-to-reach area is dire: insecurity prevents people from having access to food as they cannot grow crops and the market is closed.

**Assistance to refugees:** WFP provided lifesaving assistance to 26,604 Malian refugees. For the first time since November 2020, WFP resumed the distribution of mixed rations composed of in-kind and CBT to refugees at Goudébou camp (close to Dori). Mixed rations have the advantage of meeting the refugee's food needs and preferences. It also allows them to better manage the assistance received. Due to security constraints, WFP continued to assist refugees living in Djibo exclusively with in-kind food rations.

**Lean season response:** During the month of July, WFP supported 620,774 displaced persons and host population members at risk of food insecurity during the lean season (June-August) in the Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions. To this end, WFP distributed USD 1.8 million of CBT assistance and 6,429 mt of food – including nutritional supplements intended for 56,096 children aged 6-23 months and PLW/Gs.

**Nutrition:** As part of its fight against moderate acute malnutrition, WFP supported the diagnosis, reference and treatment of 60,689 PLW/Gs and children aged 6-59 months. Nutrition activities took place in the Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions.

**Resilience:** Amongst other achievements of asset creation and development, beneficiary communities have sown cereals (sorghum, millet) and pulses (cowpea) on 1,873 ha of land that was recovered via *zai* in the Centre-Nord, Nord and Sahel regions. *Zai* is a farming technique traditionally used in West Africa and especially in Burkina Faso. It consists of digging pits in the soil (of a 20-30 cm diameter and 10-15 cm depth) to catch water and concentrate compost, which enhances the restoration of degraded drylands and increases soil fertility.

**Main photo: Credit:** WFP/ Esther Ouoba

**Caption:** A woman stands in line to receive nutritional product during a general food distribution in Mansila (Sahel region).

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## Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

2021 Total Requirement (in USD)	2021 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>330 m</b>	<b>97 m</b>	<b>128 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 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 to support effective and efficient humanitarian response.

In July, WFP carried out trainings of trainers in all the four regions where its climate microinsurance programme is implemented (Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel). The enrolment of farmers by insurance brokers is underway, with the support of local partners. A target of 5,000 beneficiaries is expected for the 2021 agricultural campaign.

A joint regional programme for the Sahel in response to the combined challenges of COVID-19, Conflict and Climate Change (SD3C-SEN) was launched on 16 July in Burkina Faso. The programme's objective is to improve rural producers' economic opportunities & livelihoods and capacity to face the "3Cs". The Government, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and WFP will work together to achieve this goal.

**Social Protection:** In Ouagadougou, WFP continued to support vulnerable adolescent girls with trainings and CBT assistance. A total of 210 of their households (corresponding to a total of 1,468 people) benefited in July from this safety net project.

## United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

During the month of July, UNHAS transported 243 passengers and 27 kg of cargo for 24 NGOs and UN agencies, via 98 flights across 13 destinations.

## Logistics Cluster

With the establishment of a regional coordination logistics working group in Dori (Sahel) on 13 July, the partner network of the Logistics Cluster has been significantly expanded with the regional coordination logistics mechanism now complete and operational in all priority regions.

The Logistics Cluster initiated a Geographic Information System (GIS) national working group on 23 July, composed of the National Institute of Geography, relevant general directorates of the Ministry of Infrastructures, and WFP. This step has officially marked the start of the GIS project for the mapping of physical access constraints, which is a critical information for a more efficient humanitarian response.

## Monitoring/Evaluation

On 13 July, WFP conducted a [rapid joint assessment in Tin-Akoff](#) (Sahel), one of the hardest areas to reach in the country. The assessment's key recommendations include: (i) to carry out an emergency operation with food and nutritional assistance by air; and (ii) to strengthen the capacity of the local partners to collect and analyse information on the food and nutrition security situation, on a regular basis.

A Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) exercise on CBT assistance realized among 1,000 displaced households in the Centre-Nord, Est, Nord and Sahel regions, outlined that: (i) the food consumption score (FCS) evolved positively between May 2020 and May 2021, while the reduced coping strategies index changed positively since September 2020 (falling from 10 to 7 in May 2021); and (ii) the regularity of assistance over time plus the flexibility of use that cash offers contributed to the improvement of these food security indicators.

## Challenges

The major challenge remains the financing of operations, especially to allow providing adequate and timely humanitarian assistance. In addition, access to the most vulnerable populations remains hampered by insecurity and heavy rains recorded in certain areas of the country making some roads impassable.