



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief

October 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 30 September 2021, over 1.4 million people were officially displaced. Food and nutritional security across the country is critical – with over 2.8 million food insecure people at the peak of the lean season (June–August). High food prices and COVID-19 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 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 (FFA) 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**

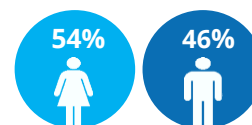
In Numbers

3,189 mt of food distributed

USD 2.2 million of cash distributed

USD 120 million six months (November 2021–April 2022) net funding requirements

620,908 people assisted
in October 2021



Operational Updates

Assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs): In October, WFP provided 537,457 displaced men, women, boys and girls with life-saving assistance in the Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions. Assistance was delivered in the form of 2.5 mt in-kind food and USD 2.1 million cash-based transfers (CBT) where markets were functioning. Furthermore, WFP provided preventive nutritional assistance to 51,407 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLW/Gs) and children aged 6–23 months (with 328 mt of nutritional products).

On 14 October, WFP carried out a joint needs' assessment in Madjoari, an isolated commune in the Est region that has been enclaved since January due to insecurity. The most urgent recommendations include to provide: (i) emergency food assistance to IDPs; (ii) complementary food for children aged 6–59 months and (PLW/Gs); and (iii) Madjoari health centre with nutritional inputs.

Assistance to refugees: Frequent incursions by non-state armed groups into Goudébo refugee camp caused the inhabitants to flee towards Dori and other directions. The incidence hampered WFP October distributions of in-kind food and CBT assistance to refugees. Prior to the displacement, 8,786 refugees were assisted. WFP is revising its plan with the intention to set-up a distribution site closer to Dori city, where most refugees are said to be relocated. UNHCR begun tracing and validating the Goudébo refugees to continue assisting them. Meanwhile, WFP assisted 4,418 refugees residing in the town of Djibo, with September and October coupled food rations.

Nutrition: In the Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions, 65,574 PLW/Gs and children aged 6–59 months affected by moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) received 316 mt of nutritional inputs.

In Centre-Nord and Sahel, the regional response to the food crisis in Central Sahel (CRIALCES) allows beneficiaries to access nutrition food thanks to e-vouchers, while also boosting local markets. WFP assisted 4,673 PLW/Gs and children aged 6–23 months through this project in October.

Resilience: In the framework of WFP climate microinsurance programme, a training of 10 trainers took place from 21 to 22 October in Ouahigouya (Nord). The training is expected to be relayed to 500 insured households in the region. By reinforcing money management skills, financial education help beneficiaries to: (i) make informed financial decisions, both in their household and in their livelihood activities; (ii) and better plan budgets, hence increasing savings.

The endogenous school canteen initiative, concerning 12 schools in the Est region, resulted in the planting of cowpea, rice and mung bean on 16 ha of land.

Main photo: Credit: WFP/ Cheick Omar Bandaogo

Caption: Screening for malnutrition of a displaced child in Ouahigouya (Nord).

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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) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 330 m | 184.3 m | 120 m |

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 the Sahel region, communities supported through food assistance for assets (FFA) creation activities mowed and stored 159 mt of fodder in bundles. While in the Est, 55 ha of degraded land were restored, and 4 ha of market garden were developed.

Education: As the new school year started on 1 October throughout Burkina Faso, WFP has been preparing to resume emergency and regular school feeding activities. A 20 percent increase in school closures due to insecurity was observed, compared to the end of the previous academic year in May.

Capacity strengthening: On 26-28 October, WFP conducted its first adaptive social protection workshop in Burkina Faso, jointly with the World Bank and under the leadership of the Ministry of Social and Humanitarian Affairs. The workshop included a tabletop simulation exercise. It reunited all national institutions implicated in emergency response and social protection to discuss national systems gaps and propose recommendations towards systems integration.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

In October, UNHAS carried out 105 flights to 15 locations. A total of 515 passengers from 30 user organisations were transported, as well as 6 mt of cargo. UNHAS increased its capacity from October onwards with the deployment of an additional crew.

Logistics Cluster

Thanks to the good collaboration between WFP, UNHAS and the Logistics Cluster, humanitarian partners were able to access Silmangue, a hard-to-reach area in the Centre-Nord. The Logistics Cluster informed at coordination meetings that logistics trainings are available to all partners for free, on [WFP \(crossknowledge.com\)](https://www.crossknowledge.com). Regional logistics focal points were integrated into the Logistics Cluster strategy review process for 2022, following the logistics gaps and needs evaluation.

Monitoring/Evaluation

A Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) survey among refugees in Djibo and in Goudébou camp (near Dori) show that: (i) the food situation of refugee households deteriorated between 2020 and 2021; (ii) 38 percent of them resorted to emergency coping strategies to make up for the lack of food; (iii) 41 percent depend entirely on food assistance to live; and (ii) 68 percent stated that the assistance received do not cover their food needs for one month. Indeed, WFP has been distributing half rations since January due to funding constraints.

Budget Revisions

WFP approved the [seventh budget revision](#) of the Burkina Faso Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2019-2023) based on the growing need across the country, especially humanitarian needs. Burkina Faso CSP now stands at over USD 1.3 billion.

Challenges

Insecurity continues to rise in Burkina Faso, intensifying needs and further constraining humanitarian access. WFP is also facing critical funding gaps, with a USD 120 million required over the next six months. Despite the use of reduced rations, if the funding outlook does not improve, life-saving assistance is expected to cease as of February 2022.

Donors

Donors to WFP Burkina Faso in 2021 include Austria, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Canada, European Commission, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Monaco, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and United States of America. Additional support was provided by UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), and private donors.