Operational Context

Burkina Faso is a semi-arid country in the Sahel, with 40 percent of the population living 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 significant population displacement. As of 30 April 2022, over 1.9 million people were officially displaced.

Food and nutritional security across the country is critical – with about 3.5 million food insecure people during the 2022 lean season (June-August). High food prices and COVID-19 added an additional layer of complexity to an already vulnerable population. Overall, 9.7 percent of children aged 6-59 months suffer from acute malnutrition (2021 SMART National Nutrition Survey). To respond to the food and nutrition assistance needs in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, WFP declared the three countries as Corporate Attention.

WFP operations in Burkina Faso include emergency food assistance, school feeding, treatment and prevention of malnutrition, resilience building activities through food assistance for assets (FFA), smallholder agriculture market support (SAMS) and micro-macro insurance (R4) programmes, national capacity strengthening, logistics and common services, and the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS). WFP has been present in Burkina Faso since 1967.

In Numbers

- **2,154 mt** of food distributed
- **USD 7,634,491** cash-based transfers made
- **USD 90.4 million** six-month (August 2022-January 2023) net funding requirements
- **1,142,739 people assisted** in July 2022

*Preliminary figures

Operational Updates

**Political updates:** ECOWAS chairman Umaro Sissoco Embalo traveled to Burkina Faso on 24 and 25 July to extend the organization’s support to Burkina Faso for a successful transition. The mission encouraged transition authorities to rapidly establish the joint (Burkina Faso-ECOWAS) monitoring and evaluation mechanism to facilitate the effective monitoring of the transition process.

On 15 July 2022, WFP signed a service agreement with the Government of Burkina Faso under which WFP would purchase **70,000 metric tons of cereals** with funding (USD 45 million) received from the World Bank. The purchase will allow the replenishment of the national food reserve and support the national lean season response. As part of this effort, a first batch of 29,400 metric tons is expected to be delivered to the National Council for Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation (CONASUR) under the Ministry of Social Action and Humanitarian Affairs during the month of September. With this contribution more than one million food insecure people will receive food assistance throughout the country.

**Assistance to IDPs:** WFP provided unconditional assistance to 628,690 internally displaced persons (IDPs). Of the total assisted, 27 percent received in-kind food (1,486 mt) and 73 percent received cash (USD 4.9 million).

Out of the total assisted IDPs, 35,480 beneficiaries - including 1,389 children and 1,134 pregnant and lactating women - received food assistance in hard-to-reach areas, including Kelbo and Mansila (Sahel region), Toeni (Boucle du Mouhoun region), Banh and Titao (Nord region). UNHAS was instrumental to the successful delivery of this assistance.

**Assistance to refugees:** In July, WFP’s food assistance reached 25,329 refugees in the Sahel region with in-kind and cash assistance.

**Lean Season:** As part the second round of distributions, WFP supported 417,859 beneficiaries affected by seasonal food insecurity.

**Nutrition:** Supporting the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to children aged 6-59 months, and pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs), totalling 73,573 beneficiaries. In addition, 41,739 children aged 6-23 months received nutrition assistance to prevent malnutrition.

In the framework of the Response to the Food Crisis in the Central Sahel (CRIALCES) project funded by the European Union, WFP contributed to the prevention of malnutrition for an additional 8,295 PLWGs and children aged 6-23 months.

**Resilience:** 152,993 beneficiaries participated in WFP’s integrated resilience activities in the Centre-Nord, Est, Nord and Sahel regions.

With the participation of 12,461 beneficiaries, WFP conducted activities related to land rehabilitation and sowing of rehabilitated land in the commune of Pissila and Nagbingou (Centre-Nord region).
Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2022 Total Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>2022 Available Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>339 m</td>
<td>247 m</td>
<td>90.4 m</td>
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</table>

**Strategic Result 1:** Everyone has access to food

**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 PLWGPs affected by climate shocks, conflicts, and other disruptions.

**Strategic Result 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 3:** Nutritionally vulnerable populations including children aged 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGPs), 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

**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

**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 Result 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 alternatives to ensure humanitarian assistance as well as other supply chain services to support effective and efficient humanitarian response.

In the Est region, WFP's food assistance for assets (FFA) activities supported 34,783 beneficiaries through the creation of 30 hectares of stone barriers to prevent soil erosion, 20 hectares of half moons for land rehabilitation, 4 hectares of farmer field schools as part of the home-grown school feeding project, 35 hectares of lowland development and 38 “home gardens”.

In the Nord region, WFP's FFA activities restored 186 hectares of degraded land through the creation of half moons and the treatment of gullies. A total of 2,807 beneficiaries participated in these activities.

In the Sahel region, WFP's resilience activities involved 102,942 beneficiaries and enabled the manufacturing of 675 improved stoves, the creation of 862 hectares of half moons, 209 hectares of zai and 122 “home gardens”.

**School feeding:** WFP continued to support the UNICEF-EDUCO remedial classes initiative targeting internally displaced children. In July, 1,250 schoolchildren received hot meals.

**Social Protection:** WFP, in collaboration with the World Bank, finalised a study on the currently available databases on poor and vulnerable households in Burkina Faso. This study supports ongoing efforts to set up the National Social Registry (RSU) with the aim of registering poor and vulnerable households in the country. The study will assist the Government in avoiding the duplication of processes and leveraging existing initiatives to create the RSU.

**United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)**

From 1 to 31 July, UNHAS transported 1,818 passengers and 115 mt of light cargo through 342 flights. The air service was provided to 70 user organisations (11 UN agencies, 57 NGOs, and 2 donors). On request from NGO ALIMA, Doctors Without Borders Switzerland and UNICEF, UNHAS carried out three special flights, namely from Ouahigouya to Titao (Nord region), from Ouagadougou to Bourzanga (Centre-Nord region) and from Fada to Gayeri (Est region).

**Assessment**

Preliminary findings of the WFP-funded SMART nutrition survey show increased needs for malnutrition prevention and treatment support among women and young children. Conducted in the Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord and Sahel regions, the survey involved 700 households from internally displaced populations and host communities. The nutritional situation remains precarious as the prevalence of acute malnutrition ranged from 7.4 percent in Tougouri (Centre-Nord region) to 19.1 percent in Séguéla (Nord region). Overall, internally displaced children and PLWGPs are at more risk compared to those from host communities.

In collaboration with the national food reserve management entity (SONAGESS), WFP initiated a nationwide data collection exercise to better understand food market dynamics using the Market Functionality Index (MFI) tool. The MFI is essential for local food procurement and cash-based transfer programmes.

**Challenges**

Humanitarian access to the most vulnerable population continues to be hampered due to increasing security incidents.

WFP's six-month (August 2022 - January 2023) net funding requirements in Burkina Faso amount to USD 90.4 million. The funding requirements for crisis response is USD 64.7 million.

**Donors**

Donors to WFP Burkina Faso in 2022 include Canada, China, European Commission, France, Germany, Government of Burkina Faso, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Monaco, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, and United States of America. Additional support was provided by UN CERF, the SDF fund and private donors.