



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief

October 2022



## 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 September 2022, over 1.7 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 a 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.



Population: **21.5 million**

2021 Human Development Index ranking: **184 out of 191 countries**

Income level: **low income**

Chronic malnutrition: **21.6 percent** of children aged 6-59 months

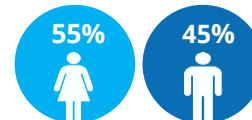
## In Numbers

**1,610 mt** of food distributed

**USD 5.8 million** cash-based transfers made

**USD 62.5 million** six-month (November 2022-April 2023) net funding requirements

**822,000 people assisted\*** in October 2022



\*Preliminary figures

## Operational Updates

Against the backdrop of political fragility exacerbated by the military coup, Burkina Faso continued to face mounting insecurity and violence caused by non-state armed groups. Attacks against civilians continued to trigger internal displacement, especially in the northern and eastern regions of the country. However, the humanitarian community's efforts to deliver urgent life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable were hindered as humanitarian access to crisis-affected areas remained highly constrained during October.

As of 30 September, there were **1.7 million internally displaced persons (IDPs)** in the country according to the National Council for Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation (CONASUR). Worryingly, 60 percent of these IDPs were children, and 23 percent were women. Furthermore, about **840,000 people are estimated to be living in hard-to-reach areas** under blockade by non-identified armed groups. Blockades have a devastating impact on the lives of trapped populations, including a sharp deterioration in their hunger and nutrition status. However, humanitarian needs remain largely unaddressed due to lack or limited humanitarian access to these areas. As the safest and fastest option to deliver life-saving assistance to blockaded towns is by air, WFP is increasing and diversifying its in-country air transport capacity.

While humanitarian needs continue to rise, the 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Burkina Faso (with a total requirement of USD 805 million) remains heavily underfunded at only 34 percent as of 9 November according to [OCHA](#). **The food security pillar of the HRP was funded at only 39 percent.** Overall, 4.9 million people (almost 25 percent of the country's total population) need some form of humanitarian assistance.

**Assistance to IDPs:** According to data released by CONASUR in October, the four regions most affected by forced displacement are the Sahel, Centre-Nord, Nord, and Est regions, hosting almost 1.4 million IDPs (or 81 percent of the total IDPs). Attacks on civilians by non-state armed groups continued to trigger forced displacements in October. WFP provided unconditional assistance to 630,420 IDPs through in-kind food and cash-based transfers. Accessing the blockaded town of Djibo by helicopter, WFP delivered 20 mt of nutritional products for the prevention of moderate acute malnutrition among 2,170 children aged 6-23 months and 1,500 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs), as well as 63 mt of food commodities to provide food assistance to 42,200 food insecure people. WFP's current helicopter capacity cannot meet the logistics needs to assist 100,000 food insecure people prioritized by WFP in Djibo. WFP is exploring solutions to scale up its transport capacity to deliver assistance to blockaded areas at the right scale.

**Lean Season:** The lean season response was completed in September. In total, WFP assisted almost 1.2 million people during the 2022 lean season, against a target of 1.8 million. This was due to limited or lack of access to populations living in hard-to-reach areas.

**School feeding:** WFP continued to support vulnerable schoolchildren through its school feeding activities. In the Sahel and Plateau Central regions, WFP provided hot meals to 18,030 schoolchildren (49 percent girls) in 48 schools, as well as take-home rations to 10,960 girls. Through its emergency school feeding activity implemented in the Sahel, Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Nord, Nord, and Est regions, WFP provided hot meals to 67,140 schoolchildren (49 percent girls) in 116 schools, as well as take-home rations to 9,130 girls. Insecurity continued to hamper food deliveries to schools in hard-to-reach locations.

**Photo credit:** WFP/ Cheick Omar Bandaogo

**Caption:** UNHAS helicopter taking off in Ouahigouya (Nord region) to deliver emergency assistance to Djibo (Sahel region).

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## Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

2022 Total Requirements (in USD)	2022 Available Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>339 m</b>	<b>281.6 m</b>	<b>62.5 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 alternatives to ensure humanitarian assistance as well as other supply chain services to support effective and efficient humanitarian response.

**Nutrition:** In October, as part of its moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) treatment programme, WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to 48,300 children aged 6-59 months (52 percent girls), and 22,250 PLWGs. WFP MAM activities targeted the Sahel, Nord, Est, Centre-Nord, Centre-Est and Boucle de Mouhoun regions.

Targeting IDPs and host populations, WFP's malnutrition prevention activity reached 24,770 children aged 6-23 months (52 percent girls), as well as 16,700 PLWGs. As part of the World Bank-financed malnutrition prevention project, WFP provided lipid-based nutritional supplements (LNS) to 49,940 children aged 6-23 months (55 percent girls). In the framework of the Response to the Food Crisis in the Central Sahel (CRIALCES) project, WFP contributed to the prevention of malnutrition for an additional 4,500 children aged 6-23 months and 3,000 PLWGs. Launched in July 2020 in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, [CRIALCES](#) is an innovative approach to improving the nutritional status of women and children by strengthening national food systems in volatile settings.

**Resilience:** Targeting the regions of Sahel, Nord, Centre-Nord and Est, WFP continued its integrated resilience programmes to strengthen vulnerable communities' capacity to withstand and recover from shocks and stressors. In October, WFP and assisted communities made progress in planning upcoming resilience activities, including future training sessions on the community-based participatory planning (CBPP) approach. In the Nord and Est regions, WFP began the distribution of cash-based transfers to 6,440 people participating in WFP's food assistance for assets (FFA) activities. In the Nord region, WFP provided equipment to 2,360 women to reduce post-harvest loss. Moreover, WFP trained 550 participants (42 percent women) on productive asset creation, water and soil conservation, soil protection and restoration, as well as composting. Monitoring findings on resilience activities indicate positive impacts on people's lives such as diversified incomes, improved community assets and enhanced social cohesion.

## United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

From 1 to 31 October, UNHAS transported 1,307 passengers and 148 mt of light cargo through 54 flights. The air service was provided to 73 user organisations and reached 17 destinations across Burkina Faso.

## Research, Assessment and Monitoring

On 18-20 October, in collaboration with the Food Security Cluster and the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), a rapid assessment was conducted on the humanitarian needs in the localities of Djibo, Titao, and Sebba. While the reports are being finalized, preliminary findings indicate that these localities may be facing a humanitarian catastrophe.

The next Cadre Harmonisé analysis will be completed in November 2022 to assess the current and projected food security and nutrition situation in Burkina Faso.

In collaboration with the Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD) and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), WFP finalized a study on food systems in volatile settings. The study will be published soon.

The independent evaluation of WFP's Country Strategic Plan in Burkina Faso was recently completed. The evaluation will be available on WFP's website.

## Challenges

Humanitarian access to the most vulnerable population continued to be hampered due to the volatile security context. Security challenges continued to cause delays in distributions. WFP's six-month (November 2022 – April 2023) **net funding requirements in Burkina Faso amount to USD 62.5 million**. The funding requirement for crisis response activities is USD 43.5 million.

## Donors

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