



World Food Programme

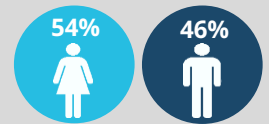
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief

October 2024



In Numbers



399,450 people assisted*
*Preliminary figures

3,660 mt of food distributed

US\$ 108 million six-month net funding requirement
(November 2024–April 2025)

Operational Context

Burkina Faso is a semi-arid country in the Sahel, with 40 percent of its 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-related shocks. Insecurity has caused mass population displacement, with 2 million people displaced as per the latest official data from March 2023.

Food insecurity remains critical, with conflict and displacement the primary drivers. The March 2024 *Cadre Harmonisé* (CH) analysis indicated that over 2.7 million people faced acute food insecurity (CH Phases 3–4) during the lean season between June and August. This indicates a dramatic increase from the 687,000 figure during the same period in 2019.

WFP operations include emergency food assistance, school meals, malnutrition treatment and prevention, safety nets, climate insurance, national capacity strengthening, asset creation and livelihoods support through food assistance for assets (FFA) and smallholder agriculture market support (SAMS) activities. Common services are provided to the humanitarian community, including passenger and cargo transport by the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS).

WFP has been present in Burkina Faso since 1967.



Population: 22.5 million

2022 Human Development Index:
Ranked 185th out of 193 countries

Income Level: Low

Chronic malnutrition: 21.6 percent of
children aged 6 to 59 months

Operational Updates

- **Insecurity and violence levels remained concerning** in October, with several incidents reported across the country's conflict-affected regions. Armed groups continued to disrupt lives and livelihoods, targeting civilians, transportation routes, and telecommunications infrastructure. Village incursions resulted in killings, kidnappings, and livestock theft. In besieged localities, residents remained cut off from access to essential supplies and basic social services, relying on supply convoys and aerial deliveries.
- In hard-to-reach areas marked by persistent access constraints, **WFP delivered food and nutrition assistance using helicopters**, airlifting nearly 460 mt of commodities to five localities (Arbinda, Djibo, Kompienga, Pama, and Titao), providing a lifeline to 42,870 people. This included 970 young children and 640 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G) who received specialized nutritious foods for the prevention of malnutrition or the management of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).
- WFP's **crisis response prioritized the most acutely food-insecure populations**, providing unconditional in-kind emergency food assistance to meet beneficiaries' basic food needs. During the month, WFP reached 198,740 acutely food-insecure individuals, including 19,390 refugees. Of those assisted, 48 percent were in Crisis (CH Phase 3) and the remaining in Emergency (CH Phase 4). The distributed assistance covered beneficiaries' basic food needs for one month, providing reduced rations equivalent to 50 - 75 percent of the standard food basket.
- Complementing general food distributions, WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to **prevent malnutrition**, reaching 4,040 children aged 6-23 months (57 percent girls) and 2,900 PBW/G in October. **Nutrition messaging** from WFP reached 18,840 people (76 percent women) to raise awareness on good nutrition, hygiene, and optimal infant and young child feeding (YCF) practices.
- To **manage moderate acute malnutrition**, WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to 60,850 children aged 6-59 months (52 percent girls), and 19,820 PBW/G. Moreover, 7,652 children aged 6-59 months were screened for malnutrition. This resulted in the detection of 164 cases of moderate and six cases of severe acute malnutrition.

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Photo Caption: Food-insecure women participating in income-generating activities as part of WFP's early recovery activities in Fada N'gourma.
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Country Strategic Plan (2019–2025)

2024 Total Requirements (US\$)	2024 Available Contributions (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$)
401 million	300 million	108 million

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 PBW/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 (PBW/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 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.

- **WFP and UNICEF made progress in preparing a joint transition plan**, based on the World Health Organization’s new recommendations, to support the Government to prevent malnutrition and manage acute malnutrition in humanitarian settings. The transition plan foresees a pilot phase starting in selected health districts from mid-2025.

- The 1st of October marked the beginning of the school year. Through its **integrated school-based programme**, WFP provided nutritious hot meals to 74,390 schoolchildren (52 percent girls) in 273 schools, and 14,820 take-home rations to schoolgirls. WFP’s **emergency school-based programme**, which targets schools with high numbers of internally displaced schoolchildren, faced significant resource gaps, preventing the delivery of food supplies to schools. Resource mobilization efforts are underway to resume emergency school meals.

- **Resilience-building activities resumed** following the completion of harvests, allowing communities to participate in food assistance for assets activities. In the Centre-Est region, 360 people received training on topics such as compost production, energy-efficient stove construction, and forage cutting and conservation. In the Est region, 1,840 improved stoves were produced, and 6,000 kg of forage was harvested and stored to sustain livestock during the dry season. In the Plateau-Central region, two school gardens were established to produce vegetables for diversifying school meal programs. As part of the **Sahel Resilience Partnership**, a joint programme implemented by WFP, UNICEF, and GIZ, 120 households were trained in vegetable production techniques, organic pesticide formulation, and organic fertilizer production.

Research, Assessment and Monitoring

- Preliminary findings on the **impact of WFP’s lean season response**, which was concluded in September, show improved food security indicators. The proportion of households with an acceptable food consumption score increased from 9 percent to 56 percent after assistance, while the proportion with poor food consumption scores dropped from 63 percent to 20 percent.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- **UNHAS offered safe and reliable air transport** for the humanitarian community to access people in remote and hard-to-reach locations. UNHAS conducted 68 flights, which transported 1,891 passengers and 43 mt of light cargo to 26 destinations in Burkina Faso. UNHAS services were provided to 96 user organisations, of which 78 percent were NGOs and 22 percent were UN agencies.

Challenges

- **Extreme access challenges** persist, with nearly 40 enclaved localities across the country. The life-saving assistance airlifted by WFP helicopters provide a lifeline to thousands of people every month, thereby preventing hunger and malnutrition from reaching critical levels. To increase its airlift capacity, WFP is deploying additional heavy-lift helicopters to the country.

Donors

Donors to WFP’s Burkina Faso Country Strategic Plan (CSP) in 2024 include Austria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Monaco, Norway, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States of America. Additional support was provided by United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), and additional private donors.