



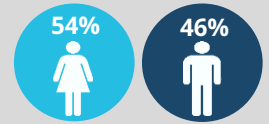
# WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief November 2024

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## In Numbers



661,770 people assisted\*  
\*Preliminary figures

6,181 mt of food distributed

US\$ 97 million six-month net funding requirement  
(December 2024–May 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 185<sup>th</sup> out of 193 countries

Income Level: Low

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

## Operational Updates

- In November, **security incidents continued across conflict-affected regions**, marked by numerous clashes between armed groups, the military, and their auxiliary forces. Civilians faced violence during armed incursions into their villages, leading to intimidation, harassment, killings, and kidnappings, which often triggered population displacements to safer areas.
- In hard-to-reach areas affected by extreme access constraints, **WFP airlifted food and nutrition assistance via heavy-lift helicopters**, delivering 1,140 mt of commodities to seven localities. This assistance provided a lifeline to 103,110 people, including 5,130 children aged 6–23 months and 3,090 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G) who received specialized nutritious foods for the prevention of malnutrition. As a last resort, WFP also participated in government-organized supply convoys, enabling the delivery of 760 mt of assistance to Gorgadji and Arbinda in the Sahel region, covering 31,000 people's basic food needs for two months.
- WFP's **crisis response prioritized the most acutely food-insecure populations**, providing unconditional in-kind emergency food assistance to meet beneficiaries' basic food needs. In November, WFP reached 324,000 acutely food-insecure people, including 16,130 refugees. Of those assisted, 57 percent were in Emergency (CH Phase 4), while the remaining in Crisis (CH Phase 3). The distributed assistance covered beneficiaries' basic food needs for one month, providing reduced rations equivalent to 50 - 75 percent of the standard food basket. In addition, WFP assisted 57,470 people through early recovery initiatives, including income-generating activities, vocational training, and infrastructure rehabilitation.
- WFP distributed specialized nutritious foods to **prevent malnutrition**, reaching 25,610 children aged 6–23 months (50 percent girls) and 9,060 PBW/G. **Nutrition messaging** from WFP reached 32,500 people (76 percent women), raising awareness on good nutrition, hygiene, and optimal infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices.
- To **manage moderate acute malnutrition**, WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to 64,560 children aged 6–59 months (51 percent girls), and 21,300 PBW/G. Moreover, 25,860 children aged 6–59 months were screened for malnutrition. This resulted in the detection of 202 cases of moderate and 49 cases of severe acute malnutrition.

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Photo Caption: Food-insecure community members participating in a planning exercise as part of WFP's resilience-building programme in Tanghin-Dassour village (Centre region).  
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## Country Strategic Plan (2019–2025)

2024 Total Requirements (US\$)	2024 Available Contributions (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$)
<b>401 million</b>	<b>301 million</b>	<b>97 million</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 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 supported semi-industrial **infant flour production** units through commercial and financial evaluations. Additionally, the Misola factory in Fada N'Gourma received laboratory and hygiene equipment, along with training for its staff.
- The **integrated school-based programme** provided nutritious hot meals to 88,560 schoolchildren (51 percent girls) in 293 schools, and take-home rations to 15,280 schoolchildren (91 percent girls). Targeting schools with high numbers of internally displaced children, the emergency school meals programme reached 38,140 pupils (50 percent girls and 52 percent IDPs). However, due to resource constraints, WFP assisted only 88 schools out of the originally planned 479.
- As part of **resilience-building activities**, 493 hectares of degraded land were restored to enhance agricultural productivity, 32 hectares of lowlands were developed for rice production, 940 metric tons of organic compost were produced to improve soil fertility, and two water reservoirs (each with a capacity of 3,000 m<sup>3</sup>) were created to retain rainwater for irrigation purposes. Moreover, 60 vegetable gardens (each measuring 100 m<sup>2</sup>) and five school gardens (each 0.5 hectares) were established, while 1,060 improved cooking stoves were constructed at the household level. Over 200 mt of food commodities were distributed as part of these activities, benefitting 2,830 food-insecure households. As part of its **support to smallholder farmers**, WFP provided training to 1,520 participants (60 percent of them women) on various topics, including composting techniques, lowland development methods, soil and water conservation techniques, and flour production using locally grown products.

## Research, Assessment and Monitoring

- **Preliminary findings on the impact of WFP's resilience-building activities** show significant improvements across several indicators. Notably, the reduced coping strategy index, which measures the frequency and severity of strategies households adopt to cope with food shortages, decreased significantly from 8.7 to 1.2. Similarly, the proportion of households not employing any livelihood-based coping strategies increased from 50 percent to 89 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 74 flights, which transported 1,680 passengers and 89 mt of light cargo to 26 destinations in Burkina Faso. UNHAS services were provided to 87 user organisations, of which 87 percent were NGOs and 13 percent were UN agencies.

## Challenges

- **Extreme access challenges persist**, with nearly 40 localities remaining enclaved. In these isolated areas, residents are denied freedom of movement and access to essential supplies and basic social services. As a result, these populations rely on supply convoys and aerial deliveries to meet their basic needs.

## 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.