



World Food Programme

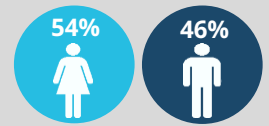
SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief

February 2025



## In Numbers



452,950 people assisted\*

\*Preliminary figures

2,968 mt of food distributed

US\$ 144 million six-month net funding requirement  
(March–August 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 2024. 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

- The security situation remained volatile, characterized by armed clashes, as well as violent attacks on civilians. Several areas reported incidents of improvised explosive device (IED) explosions. Village incursions resulted in intimidation, killings, kidnappings, and livestock theft. In isolated localities, residents and internally displaced persons remained cut off from essential supplies and basic social services, relying on supply convoys and aerial deliveries to meet basic needs.
- In February, WFP provided **unconditional in-kind food assistance** to 158,470 acutely food-insecure people, including 16,805 refugees. Beneficiaries in Emergency (CH Phase 4) received full rations, while those in Crisis (CH Phase 3) received only half rations due to resource constraints.
- Extreme access constraints continued to hinder the delivery of assistance to hard-to-reach areas.** In response, WFP airlifted 1,096 metric tons (mt) of emergency food and nutrition assistance using heavy-lift helicopters to 12 localities, providing a lifeline for 65,760 acutely food-insecure people. This included 2,030 children aged 6-23 months and 1,420 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G), who received specialized nutritious foods to prevent malnutrition. Previously supplied only through airlifts, Titao was successfully reached by land, marking a breakthrough in access to this besieged locality and resulting in significant cost savings. As a last resort, WFP also participated in government-organized supply convoys to Pissila, Tougouri, Yalgo, Dori, and Dargo, enabling the delivery of 941 mt of food and nutrition commodities.
- WFP distributed specialized nutritious foods to **prevent malnutrition**, reaching 6,500 children aged 6-23 months (52 percent girls) and 4,210 PBW/G. **Nutrition messaging** from WFP reached 20,970 people (85 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 47,690 children aged 6-59 months (52 percent girls), and 25,390 PBW/G. Moreover, 6,715 children aged 6-59 months were screened for malnutrition, resulting in the detection of 320 cases of moderate and 28 cases of severe acute malnutrition.

**Photo Caption:** Handlers from the local community in Morolaba (Hauts-Bassins region) offload food supplies from a WFP-contracted helicopter.  
**Copyright:** WFP/ Désiré Ouedraogo

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## Country Strategic Plan (2019–2025)

2025 Total Requirements (US\$)	2025 Available Contributions (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$)
<b>403 million</b>	<b>160 million</b>	<b>144 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.

- The **integrated school feeding programme** provided nutritious hot meals to 112,045 schoolchildren (50 percent girls) in 385 schools, and take-home rations to 18,240 schoolchildren (81 percent girls). Targeting schools with high numbers of internally displaced children, **the emergency school meals programme** reached 79,025 pupils (51 percent girls and 54 percent IDPs) in 135 schools. Access constraints and funding shortages pose significant challenges to the emergency programme, and without additional resources, WFP may be forced to scale it back significantly.

- As part of the **resilience-building programme**, 219 hectares of degraded land were restored, three water reservoirs were constructed, and 11 rehabilitated. Additionally, 47 keyhole gardens were established, 14,060 cubic metres of organic compost were produced, five school gardens were created, and 2,612 fuel-efficient cooking stoves were manufactured. **Support for smallholders** included the establishment of 20 cooperatives in the Est, bringing together 865 people (78 percent women), along with training on management and financial administration.

- Through a co-creation workshop held in early February, the Government and the UN Country Team defined priority interventions for the **flagship initiative on food systems**, which is now in its final validation stages.

## United Nations Humanitarian Air Service

- **UNHAS offered safe and reliable air transport** for the humanitarian community to access people in remote and hard-to-reach locations. UNHAS conducted 71 flights, which transported 1,658 passengers and 89 mt of light cargo to 27 destinations in Burkina Faso.

## Story from the Field

- In February, through an airlift operation, WFP provided emergency food assistance to vulnerable people in Morolaba, in western Burkina Faso, where access remained extremely challenging. The intervention came nearly a month after an attack that destroyed food reserves, including granaries, leaving communities in dire need. In response, 209 metric tons of food and nutrition commodities were delivered by WFP helicopters, meeting the urgent needs of over 6,000 men, women, and children. Food distributions were also paired with malnutrition screening activities. Maimouna, one of the recipients of food assistance, expressed her gratitude and, like many others in her community, hopes for better days — ones free from the turmoil of conflict.

## Challenges

- **Access constraints and insecurity pose significant challenges.** Following fighting near Djibo on 18 February, WFP temporarily suspended flights to the area as a precautionary measure.

## Donors

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