



World Food Programme

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WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief

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 latest *Cadre Harmonisé* (CH) analysis, released in March 2024, 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 185th out of 193 countries

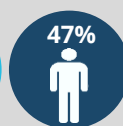
Income Level: **Low**

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

In Numbers

422,370 people assisted*

*Preliminary figures



2,757 mt of food distributed

US\$ 152 million six-month net funding requirement
(May–October 2025)

Operational Updates

- In April, as part of its **emergency response**, WFP provided unconditional in-kind food assistance to 165,680 acutely food-insecure people, including 17,670 refugees. Beneficiaries in all intervention areas received 75 percent rations due to resource constraints.
- Access constraints posed significant challenges** to the delivery of assistance to hard-to-reach areas. In response, WFP airlifted 655 metric tons (mt) of emergency food and nutrition assistance using heavy-lift helicopters to Djibo, Gayeri, Kelbo, and Makoye, providing a lifeline for 52,190 acutely food-insecure people. This included 1,265 children aged 6–23 months and 1,290 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G), who received specialized nutritious foods to prevent malnutrition. WFP organized additional deliveries to Titao, an enclaved locality that had until recently been accessible only by air. As a last resort, WFP joined government-organized supply convoys to deliver assistance through high-risk areas, enabling the delivery of 806 mt of commodities to Tougouri and Gorom-Gorom.
- WFP distributed specialized nutritious foods to **prevent malnutrition**, reaching 2,770 children aged 6–23 months (51 percent girls) and 2,065 PBW/G. **Nutrition messaging** from WFP reached 8,660 people (72 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 31,500 children aged 6–59 months (49 percent girls), and 16,770 PBW/G. In addition, 2,985 children aged 6–59 months were screened for malnutrition, resulting in the detection of 85 cases of moderate and six cases of severe acute malnutrition.
- The **infant flour production** units in Fada N'Gourma, Dori, and Ouahigouya received training on various topics, including organizational, financial, and human resource management, as well as marketing.
- WFP participated in the **2nd Forum of Parliamentarians on Nutrition**, which aims to strengthen legislative engagement in the fight against malnutrition through budget advocacy, the integration of nutrition into laws and policies, and the monitoring of government commitments.

Photo Caption: WFP-supported school garden in the Plateau-Central region equipped with a solar-powered system that pumps groundwater from a borehole to an elevated water tank for irrigation..

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Country Strategic Plan (2019–2025)

2025 Total Requirements (US\$)	2025 Available Contributions (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$)
403 million	180 million	152 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.

- The **integrated school feeding programme** provided nutritious hot meals to 112,100 schoolchildren (51 percent girls) in 512 schools, and take-home rations to 24,920 schoolchildren. Targeting schools with high numbers of internally displaced children, **the emergency school meals programme** reached 96,320 pupils (50 percent girls and 34 percent IDPs) in 178 schools. Due to limited resources, WFP prioritized the provision of hot lunches, resulting in the suspension of breakfasts and the cancellation of take-home rations.

- WFP supported the Ministry of National Education and Literacy in reviewing the voluntary report on progress toward national commitments, in preparation for the second **Global Summit of the School Meals Coalition**, scheduled for September 2025 in Brazil.

- As part of the **resilience-building programme**, key activities included the construction of five water retention ponds (each with a capacity of 3,000 m³), the production of 1,240 m³ of organic compost, and the manufacturing of 75 improved cookstoves. A total of 11,000 participants involved in these activities received 531 mt of food assistance. To support smallholder farmers, assessments were conducted to identify cooperatives engaged in waste recovery and eco-friendly charcoal production.

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 59 flights, which transported 1,497 passengers and 48 mt of light cargo to 26 destinations in Burkina Faso. Additionally, two medical evacuations were performed.

Research, Assessment and Monitoring

- WFP and other humanitarian partners participated in a government-led **food security and nutrition analysis workshop**, the results of which will inform the Government's 2025 Response and Support Plan for Vulnerable Populations (PRSPV). Meanwhile, a baseline study for WFP's school feeding programmes in Boucle du Mouhoun and Hauts-Bassins is nearing completion to assess the impact on students' access to education, attendance rates, and food security. Additionally, a training session was held to **strengthen the capacity of WFP's third-party monitoring partners** to ensure that high-quality, reliable data is available to inform programmatic decision-making.

Challenges

- WFP continues to face major operational and security challenges, resulting in humanitarian access constraints. On 10 April, a planned WFP cargo flight to Djibo was cancelled following an attack near the town, underscoring the volatile environment and the ongoing difficulties in reaching those most in need.

Donors

Donors to WFP's Burkina Faso Country Strategic Plan (CSP) include Austria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, Finland, 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.