



World Food Programme

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LIVES  
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LIVES

# WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief

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. Preliminary findings from the Government-led national food security and nutrition analysis conducted in April 2025 indicate that 2.3 million people are facing acute food insecurity during the lean season from June to August 2025. This marks a dramatic increase from the 687,000 people affected 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

## In Numbers

54%



46%



502,575 people assisted\*

\*Preliminary figures

3,151 mt of food distributed

US\$ 160 million six-month net funding requirement  
(June–November 2025)

## Operational Updates

- In May, as part of its **emergency response**, WFP provided unconditional in-kind food assistance to 182,200 acutely food-insecure people, including 16,380 refugees. Beneficiaries in all intervention areas received 75 percent rations due to resource constraints.
- Faced with **persistent access constraints**, WFP helicopters airlifted 634 metric tons (mt) of emergency food and nutrition assistance to six enclaved localities (Diapaga, Djibo, Kelbo, Markoye, Gayeri, Manni), providing a lifeline to 51,710 acutely food-insecure people. Among them were 3,410 children aged 6–59 months and 2,220 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G), who received specialized nutritious foods to prevent or manage malnutrition. Thanks to sustained road access, WFP conducted additional deliveries to Titao, transporting 844 mt. As a last resort, WFP joined government-organized supply convoys to transport assistance through high-risk areas, enabling the delivery of 946 mt of commodities to Tougouri and Dori.
- WFP distributed specialized nutritious foods to **prevent malnutrition**, reaching 2,763 children aged 6–23 months (53 percent girls) and 2,757 PBW/G. **Nutrition messaging** from WFP reached 9,220 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 34,800 children aged 6–59 months (50 percent girls), and 17,410 PBW/G. In addition, 1,195 children aged 6–59 months were screened for malnutrition, resulting in the detection of 68 cases of moderate and five cases of severe acute malnutrition.
- WFP began supplying production equipment to a new infant flour production unit in Ouagadougou, constructed with WFP funding, as part of national efforts to combat malnutrition and expand access to **high-quality, locally produced nutritious foods**. In parallel, WFP, in collaboration with the Burkinabe Agency for Standardization, Metrology, and Quality, organized a workshop to promote the national standard for infant flour and disseminate a guide on good manufacturing practices.
- WFP and partner NGOs have launched activities to enhance **home-grown school feeding** through the establishment of school fields and gardens in the communes of Arbolle, Bagassi, Béréba, and Toussiana.

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**Photo Caption:** At the Dori Multimedia Centre, a project implemented by the WFP-led Emergency Telecommunications Sector, a user takes part in hands-on training on office productivity tools.

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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>196 million</b>	<b>160 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 166,580 schoolchildren (51 percent girls) in 608 schools, and take-home rations to 23,090 schoolchildren. Targeting schools with high numbers of internally displaced children, **the emergency school meals programme** reached 101,590 pupils (52 percent girls and 30 percent IDPs) in 193 schools. Due to limited resources, breakfasts and take-home rations remained suspended, and only hot lunches were provided.

• As part of its **resilience-building programme**, WFP restored 100 hectares of degraded land, treated five ravines, constructed three crossing structures, and produced 3,148 improved cookstoves. Additionally, over 417 mt of food were distributed to 10,127 beneficiaries. WFP also conducted training sessions for smallholder farmers on various topics, including safe pesticide management, the organization and functioning of farmers' cooperatives, and sustainable water and natural resource management.

• WFP and FAO, as co-leaders of the **Food Systems Flagship Initiative**, organized a workshop in collaboration with other UN agencies to develop a costed roadmap for the transformation of sustainable food systems, aligned with government priorities. In parallel, joint efforts are underway to identify funding opportunities and strengthen advocacy.

• The **Digital Learning Centre in Dori** was officially launched, marking the result of close collaboration between local authorities and the WFP-led Emergency Telecommunications Sector. The centre provides computer literacy training, a digital library, high-speed internet, and an internet café equipped with computers.

## 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 56 flights, which transported 1,284 passengers and 61 mt of light cargo to 32 destinations in Burkina Faso.

## Research, Assessment and Monitoring

• WFP participated in workshops to support the development of the 2025 National Response and Support Plan for Vulnerable Populations and prioritize vulnerable communes. WFP and SONAGESS conducted **joint market assessments** in Diapaga and Manni. In Diapaga, the local market is nearly paralyzed due to insecurity, resulting in severe shortages of staple foods and sharply rising prices. In both communes, agricultural production has been disrupted, and market supply depends on irregular convoys. Food is increasingly unaffordable, pushing vulnerable households to adopt harmful coping strategies such as reducing meals, selling breeding animals, and begging.

## Challenges

• WFP faces significant operational and security challenges that hinder access to people in need. Following large-scale attacks reported in Djibo on 11 May and in Diapaga on 13 May, UNHAS flights and WFP airlifts were temporarily suspended.

## 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.