



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
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WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief

June 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 185th out of 193 countries

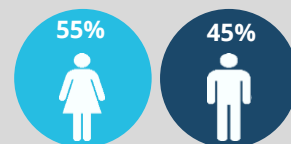
Income Level: **Low**

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

In Numbers

284,140 people assisted*

**Preliminary figures*



2,526 mt of food distributed

US\$ 57.9 million six-month net funding requirement (July–December 2025)

Operational Updates

- Through **emergency response**, WFP provided unconditional in-kind food assistance to 163,450 acutely food-insecure people, including 11,997 refugees. Due to resource constraints, beneficiaries in all intervention areas received 75 percent rations.
- Overcoming **humanitarian access constraints**, WFP helicopters airlifted 544 metric tons (mt) of emergency food and nutrition assistance to seven enclaved localities (Djibo, Kelbo, Gayeri, Gorom-Gorom, Manni, Markoye, and Solle), providing a lifeline to 45,385 acutely food-insecure people. Among them were 1,460 children aged 6–59 months and 990 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G), who received specialized nutritious foods to prevent malnutrition.
- Leveraging sustained road access, WFP delivered an additional 942 mt of food to Titao. WFP also transported 987 mt of assistance to Tougouri and Dori via government-organized supply convoys. WFP continues to consider these convoys a measure of last resort for delivering assistance in high-risk areas.
- To **prevent malnutrition**, WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to 2,340 children aged 6–23 months (49 percent girls) and 2,180 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G). In parallel, WFP's **nutrition messaging** reached 8,490 individuals (77 percent of whom were 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 36,760 children aged 6–59 months (49 percent girls), and 20,880 PBW/G. Additionally, 5,696 children aged 6–59 months were screened for malnutrition, leading to the identification of 160 cases of moderate and 38 cases of severe acute malnutrition.
- WFP supported the setup of SODEPAL's **new production line for infant flour** in its newly built factory. This involved installing and testing the equipment, followed by initial production trials. Twelve people, including five women from SODEPAL, were trained on how to operate the machines, maintain them, fortify cereals, and manage quality.

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Photo Caption: In Ouahigouya, as part of Burkina Faso's National Tree Day, a WFP staff member and a representative from the environmental services plant a young tree to support reforestation.
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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	196 million	57.9 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 51,020 schoolchildren (50 percent girls) and take-home rations to 12,580 schoolchildren. In partnership with UNICEF, WFP is preparing to support **catch-up classes** during the school break, targeting 10,250 schoolchildren across 30 schools by providing school meals.
- As part of **resilience-building efforts**, 18 gullies were rehabilitated, a 20-meter crossing structure was constructed, and two 2-hectare sites were prepared for vegetable farming. To strengthen irrigation capacity, 27 high-yield boreholes were completed, supporting the development of eight farms and seven vegetable production sites. Four community-based participatory planning exercises were conducted with the involvement of 190 participants.
- **In support of smallholder farmers**, 50 livestock farmers were trained in forage production, and 455 tons of fertilizer along with 155 tons of seeds were distributed to support the cropping season. Furthermore, 44 producers and seven local technical agents were equipped with skills to interpret and use agrometeorological information.

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 64 flights, which transported 1,483 passengers and 103 mt of light cargo to 31 destinations in Burkina Faso.

Research, Assessment and Monitoring

- A joint WFP–SONAGESS mission visited Djibo to conduct a rapid assessment of market functionality and household food security. Insecurity has made road convoys highly irregular, leading to severely understocked markets, with critical shortages of staples such as cereals, sugar, oil, and salt. Prices have surged, largely due to a tenfold increase in transport costs since 2022. Vulnerable households rely primarily on WFP assistance and small-scale vegetable gardening to meet their basic food needs.

Challenges

- WFP faces major challenges in reaching the most vulnerable. In enclaved areas, the delivery of assistance—often dependent on costly cargo helicopters—remains essential to avert widespread hunger and malnutrition. However, airlift operations are increasingly constrained, with limited capacity to access communities cut off by road. Due to funding shortfalls, WFP's airlift fleet will be reduced to a single helicopter from mid-July, compared to four during the same period last year.

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.