



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
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WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief

July 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

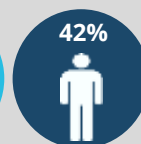
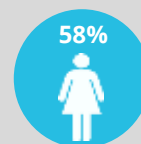
Income Level: **Low**

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

In Numbers

183,750 people assisted*

**Preliminary figures*



1,408 mt of food distributed

US\$ 57.8 million six-month net funding requirement
(August 2025–January 2026)

Operational Updates

- Through **emergency response**, WFP provided unconditional in-kind food assistance to 113,210 acutely food-insecure people, including 21,726 refugees. Due to resource constraints, beneficiaries in all intervention areas received 75 percent rations.
- Due to persistent **humanitarian access constraints**, WFP helicopters airlifted 457 metric tons (mt) of emergency food and nutrition assistance to five enclaved localities (Djibo, Kelbo, Gayeri, Markoye, and Solle), providing a lifeline to 58,170 acutely food-insecure people. Among them were 1,387 children aged 6–59 months and 924 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G), who received specialized nutritious foods to prevent malnutrition.
- Leveraging sustained road access, WFP delivered an additional 962 mt of food to Titao. WFP also transported 2,190 mt of assistance to Gorom-Gorom, Tougouri, Yalgo, Dori, Kompienga, Pama, and Pensa via government-organized supply convoys. These convoys remain a measure of last resort for delivering assistance through high-risk areas.
- To **prevent malnutrition**, WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to 3,640 children aged 6–23 months (57 percent girls) and 2,070 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G). In parallel, WFP's **nutrition messaging** reached 9,530 individuals (78 percent women), raising awareness about good nutrition, hygiene, and optimal infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices. In addition, 836 PBW/G received awareness messages on IYCF through 70 mothers' groups.
- To **manage moderate acute malnutrition**, WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to 67,130 children aged 6–59 months (51 percent girls) and 50,920 PBW/G. Additionally, 4,246 children aged 6–59 months were screened for malnutrition, leading to the identification of 302 cases of moderate and 75 cases of severe acute malnutrition.
- WFP trained seven staff from the Burkinabè Standardization, Metrology, and Quality Promotion Agency (ABNORM) on the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) system, enabling them to support infant flour production units in applying HACCP to ensure product quality.

Photo Caption: In Burkina Faso's Boussouma commune, mothers are preparing fortified porridge enriched with lipid-based nutritional supplements to improve their children's nutrition.

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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	213 million	57.8 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 **school meals programme** provided hot, nutritious meals to 8,765 schoolchildren (61 percent girls) across 34 schools and distributed take-home rations to 3,187 children attending catch-up classes organized in partnership with UNICEF in four regions. Additionally, 4,730 students received take-home rations at the end of school activities. To support home-grown school feeding, WFP is implementing over 80 school fields and 30 school gardens. Furthermore, construction is underway for four warehouses, eight kitchens, and three dining halls. WFP also participated in the review and capitalization workshop for the 2022–2024 catch-up classes, where it was highlighted that school meals played a critical role in the programme's success, benefiting 42,000 children, of whom 11,000 were reintegrated into the formal school system.

• As part of the resilience-building programme, **asset creation activities** benefited 472 individuals through the distribution of seeds and fertilizers and the delivery of 49 tons of food, while eight hectares were developed with soil and water conservation structures. Hydro-agricultural development involved supervising the establishment of farms, nutritional gardens, and market gardening areas, with additional sites identified for future interventions.

• **Support to smallholder farmers** included providing post-harvest equipment to 15 organizations, training 571 producers (70 percent women) in its use, installing plastic waste processing units for six cooperatives, and ecological charcoal production equipment for three cooperatives, along with distributing agricultural inputs to strengthen production capacity. Through the capacity-building programme, WFP trained 200 participants in agrometeorology and 183 in market gardening, while distributing 3,850 PICS bags for food preservation, 1,400 plastic sheets for composting, and 175 m³ of gabion cages for erosion control.

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 1,475 passengers and 62 mt of light cargo to 30 destinations in Burkina Faso.

Challenges

• WFP faces significant challenges in reaching the most vulnerable, particularly those in enclaved and hard-to-reach areas. Insecurity and the presence of improvised explosive devices necessitate reliance on costly aerial deliveries and government-organized convoys. However, airlift operations have been severely constrained due to funding shortfalls, forcing a reduction of the fleet to a single helicopter as of 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.