



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

# WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief 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. 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.



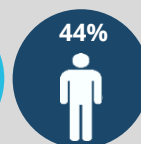
Population: **22.5 million**

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



**229,455** people assisted\*

*\*Preliminary figures*

**2,429.67 MT** of food distributed

**US\$ 60.5 million** six-month net funding requirements  
(September 2025–February 2026)

## Operational Updates

- **In August, WFP provided life-saving food assistance** to 173,768 acutely food-insecure people, including 16,787 refugees, through unconditional in-kind distributions, reaching vulnerable groups including refugees. Due to persistent resourcing challenges, WFP continues to be compelled to limit rations to 75 percent of the recommended nutritional threshold. Within the emergency response, **airlifts enabled access** to five enclaved localities: Djibo, Gayeri, Kelbo, Maticoaali, and Solle, where 171.35 metric tons of food and nutrition assistance were delivered to support communities cut off due to insecurity.
- **Essential nutrition commodities were successfully delivered to remote health centres**, including the Health and Social Promotion Centres in Maticoaali (Gourma), which received 6.107 metric tons of supplies. This targeted delivery was achieved through a dedicated operational scheme, specifically designed to support selected health facilities in hard-to-reach areas, while ensuring that general food distributions were not compromised.
- **WFP specialized nutrition support initiatives contributed to malnutrition prevention**, reaching 5,064 children aged 6–23 months (49 percent girls) and 966 PBW/G through dedicated distributions. In parallel, WFP's nutrition messaging reached 13,279 individuals (74% women), raising awareness on good nutrition, hygiene, and optimal infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices through community-based platforms.
- **WFP addressed moderate acute malnutrition through targeted interventions** that included the distribution of specialized nutritious foods to 32,773 children aged 6–59 months (with 50 percent being girls) and 13,735 pregnant and breastfeeding women/girls (PBW/G). Screening of 4,966 children led to the identification of 260 moderate and 63 severe cases. The global acute malnutrition rate among children under five in WFP-supported areas was estimated at 6.5 percent during the reporting period.
- **WFP strengthened local production of nutritious foods**, supporting fortified flour producers with marketing tools, quality management support, and digital promotion via social media platforms. WFP also participated in the national consultation on food fortification, contributing to policy dialogue and advocacy.

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**Photo caption:** General food distribution in the Sahel region as part of the lean season response. A beneficiary has just received pulses, cereals, and oil for his family.

**Photo credit:** WFP/Jecuthiel YAMEOGO

Country Strategic Plan (2019–2025)

2025 Total Requirements (US\$)	2025 Available Contributions (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$)
270.5 million	223.7 million	60.5 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.

- **School feeding programmes** continued to play a vital role in improving access to education and nutrition, with WFP providing hot meals to 9,179 schoolchildren (54% girls), including 4,256 displaced children enrolled in 28 schools offering catch-up classes, in partnership with UNICEF across four regions. WFP also supported the Ministry of Education with strategic inputs ahead of the Global School Meals Coalition Summit and finalized a framework agreement reflecting national priorities. Under the Home-Grown School Feeding programme, gardening and reforestation activities are ongoing in over 150 schools, alongside infrastructure works including kitchens, dining halls, and warehouses to strengthen local food systems and improve learning environments.
- **Resilience programmes** focused on land rehabilitation and early recovery in targeted communities, with WFP implementing rectangular *zai* (a small pit dug in degraded soil to capture rainwater and organic matter, improving fertility and crop yields) on 3 hectares and vegetated stone bunds on 21 hectares. Follow-up was conducted on the use and condition of assets created through these interventions including rehabilitated degraded lands, lowlands, and market gardening areas. In Dori, early recovery efforts included follow-up trainings for 9 cooperatives engaged in reusing plastic waste and ecological charcoal production, contributing to both environmental sustainability and income generation.
- **Support to smallholder farmers** was reinforced through hydro-agricultural development, with 27 high-flow boreholes completed across 9 sites, enabling future irrigation of 54 hectares. WFP also followed up with 120 producers implementing the resilience package across 360 hectares and supported rice and cereal production on more than 5,200 hectares of recovered land. A joint mission with the Government was conducted to monitor progress on resilience sites and strengthen coordination with local actors.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service

- **UNHAS ensured safe and reliable air transport** for humanitarian actors to reach remote and hard-to-access areas. Over the reporting period, 289 flights were conducted, transporting 1,545 passengers and 53.6 metric tons of light cargo to 29 destinations across Burkina Faso. However, 52 flights were cancelled due to the rainy season and other operational constraints, highlighting the ongoing challenges in maintaining consistent access during adverse weather and security conditions.

Challenges

- Access to enclaved areas remains difficult due to insecurity and the presence of improvised explosive devices (IEDs). On 12 August, a WFP-chartered helicopter delivering humanitarian cargo to Solle was impacted by a nearby explosion, injuring two individuals and prompting a temporary suspension of air operations to the area. Airlift operations are increasingly constrained by funding gaps, with only one helicopter operational, down from four in 2024, limiting WFP's ability to reach remote populations. The rainy season further compounded access challenges, rendering road deliveries difficult and increasing reliance on costly and limited air transport.

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.