



World Food Programme

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# WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief

October 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. Findings from the Government-led national food security and nutrition analysis conducted in April 2025 showed that 2.3 million people would face 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



**451,329** people assisted\*

*\*Preliminary figures*

**5,489.58 MT** of food distributed

**US\$ 66.7 million** six-month net funding requirement  
(November 2025–April 2026)

## Operational Updates

- In October, WFP delivered 3,978.15 MT of food and nutrition** support to 218,302 people, including 16,772 refugees in the Sahel. Distributions covered Arbinda, Kantchari, Seguenega, Tangaye, Titao and Zogoré. Despite reduced helicopter capacity, 210 MT were airlifted, including 20 MT of nutritional aid to Pama, Kantchari and Arbinda. **A key achievement was the first road delivery to Barsalogho** without escort on 16 October, replicating the Titao model and demonstrating WFP's access strategy to open safer, cost-efficient corridors. Moreover, in collaboration with the Government, WFP delivered 1,442 MT of food to 38,841 people across Barsalogho, Bomborokuy, and Bourasso, strengthening joint efforts to reach the most vulnerable communities.
- To prevent malnutrition**, WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to 4,124 children aged 6–23 months (55 percent girls) and 3,161 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW/G). In parallel, WFP's nutrition messaging reached 13,814 individuals (63 percent women), promoting the proper preparation and use of SuperCereal and SuperCereal Plus, good nutrition, hygiene, and optimal Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices. Additionally, 4,739 children aged 6–59 months were screened for malnutrition, resulting in the detection of 69 cases of moderate acute malnutrition and 19 cases of severe acute malnutrition. These prevention activities were carried out in the regions of Nakambé, Goulmou, Kuilsé, Liptako, Soum, and Yaadga. In October, 44 new Learning and Monitoring Groups for Optimal Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices (GASPA) were established in the municipalities of Andemtenga and Gounghin, enrolling 360 new women. In total, 5,170 women are registered within GASPA, with an impressive attendance rate of 96.34 percent.
- To manage moderate acute malnutrition**, WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to 61,305 children aged 6–59 months and 31,845 PBW/G. In addition, WFP continued providing technical support to industrial and semi-industrial factories, notably Sodepal and Agroserv. Finally, awareness sessions were conducted with managers of five semi-industrial units producing fortified infant flour to strengthen ownership of strategic development, marketing, and business plans.

**Photo Credit:** WFP/Hermann GNADA

Ouahigouya, Yaadga Region

Delivery of food from Ouahigouya to Titao by road, a locality facing access constraints.

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## Country Strategic Plan (2019–2025)

2025 Total Requirements (US\$)	2025 Available Contributions (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$)
270.5 million	253 million	66.7 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 from 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.

• In October, WFP's integrated school-based programme provided nutritious hot meals to 142,702 schoolchildren (53 percent girls) across 421 schools and take-home rations to 8,049 children (51 percent girls). Emergency school canteen deliveries could not start as planned due to resource gaps, though efforts are underway to mobilize stocks for November. Limited resources have led to ration adjustments and incomplete food baskets in some areas, reflecting a funding shortfall that has persisted since April 2025. Beyond school feeding activities, WFP engaged in strategic coordination by participating in the strategic steering committee and the validation workshop for the National Strategy for Education in Emergencies (2025–2029), reinforcing WFP's commitment to integrated education and nutrition responses.

• **Resilience-building activities in October focused on land restoration and hydro-agricultural development.** Through the Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) programme, WFP rehabilitated 83.5 hectares of degraded land using Soil and Water Conservation (CES) and Soil Defense and Restoration (DRS) techniques, produced 1,969 compost heaps (9 m³ each), and established 718 "lucky gardens." Additional works included treating 53 units of 45 m³ gullies, producing 5,439 plants, rehabilitating 1,25kms of rural roads, mowing and storage of 240 bundles of 10 kg each, and collecting seeds. Hydro-agricultural efforts centred on monitoring lowland and market gardening perimeters in Gulmu and supervising sites in Foutrigui, Goaragui, Nessemtega, Sidogo, Wara, and Kaya, with progress ranging from 30–70 percent.

• **Livelihood support continued through resilience package follow-up during harvest, with yield surveys underway.** Under the Smallholder Agricultural Market Support (SAMS), WFP distributed 3,850 sacks and 1,400 plastic sheets for composting to producer organizations. Capacity-building included 13 sessions for 13 agents and 50 producers on agricultural insurance, contract farming, climate-smart practices, results-based management, and post-harvest techniques. Additional training covered soilless production in three schools and 87 households, fish processing for 34 women at pisciculture sites, and distribution of 150 goats (50 breeding nuclei) and 100 IBPs (Industrial By-Products) bags (50 kg each) to 50 households.

## United Nations Humanitarian Air Service

• **UNHAS sustained its critical role in enabling humanitarian access to remote and hard-to-reach areas across Burkina Faso.** During this period, 273 flights were operated, serving 30 destinations nationwide. These flights transported 1,637 passengers and 26.5 MT of light cargo. Meanwhile, 21 flights were cancelled, mainly due to meteorological and technical constraints, underscoring the persistent challenges in maintaining consistent access. UNHAS also conducted 14 special cargo flights and facilitated two MEDEVAC operations, ensuring critical medical evacuations for humanitarian staff.

## Challenges

• WFP continues to face significant funding gaps that limit its ability to sustain operations. Access to certain areas remains extremely challenging, requiring costly alternative delivery methods such as airlifts. These challenges underscore the need for sustained funding and strong coordination with partners to ensure timely and effective responses.

## 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, Netherlands, 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.