



World Food Programme

WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief

October 2020

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

Burkina Faso is a semi-arid country in the Sahel. Its population is estimated at about 20.9 million, with 40 percent who live below the poverty line. Most of the population depends on one season of rain-fed agriculture for their livelihoods, leaving the country vulnerable to climate shocks. The rising insecurity continues to deteriorate across all regions of Burkina Faso, resulting in a massive population displacement. As of 8 September 2020, over one million people had been officially displaced. Food and nutritional security across the country is critical – with 3.3 million people facing food insecurity – and COVID-19 has added an additional layer of vulnerability to an already fragile situation (*Cadre Harmonisé* July 2020). Since the first COVID-19 case in March, the Government of Burkina Faso has introduced restriction measures which have been gradually lifted or eased.

To respond to the food and nutrition assistance needs in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, WFP has declared a Level 3 emergency in the three Central Sahel countries. WFP operations in Burkina Faso include emergency food assistance to IDPs and host families, refugees and lean season affected people; school feeding including emergency school meals programme and support to a local yogurt production project; treatment and prevention of malnutrition; food assistance for assets for small-scale agriculture; Purchase for Progress (P4P) project to support value chains development; micro-insurance (R4) and macro-insurance (African Risk Capacity); national capacity strengthening; provision of information and communication technology, logistics and other support to partners as needed. WFP has been present in Burkina Faso since 1967.



Population: **20.9 million**

2018 Human Development Index:
182 out of 189 countries

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition:
25% of children aged 6-59 months

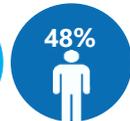
In Numbers

1,872 mt of food distributed

USD 1.6 million of cash distributed

USD 69 million six months (November 2020-April 2021) net funding requirements

604,356 people assisted in October 2020



Operational Updates

Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): WFP assisted 580,096 IDPs in October, with 1,208 mt of in-kind food and USD 1.6 million via cash-based transfers. Besides, specialized nutrition food was provided to 43,441 children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women (PLW). The regions concerned were the Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord and Sahel.

WFP officially launched an electronic-voucher pilot project targeting IDPs in the Centre-Nord region on 15 October, coinciding with the finalisation of the first e-voucher distribution. Further distributions will take place on a monthly basis until December. The introduction of this transfer modality aims at providing food assistance in difficult to access areas. It contributes to the development of local markets and allows beneficiaries more flexibility in the choice of commodities.

Assistance to refugees: 9,166 Malian refugees were provided with two-months food rations (for September and October). Despite security challenges, WFP managed to deliver assistance to refugees both from Goudébou camp and from Mentao camp - while the latter could not be supported since July.

Nutrition: Through malnutrition screening at health facilities and at community levels, 12,965 children aged 6-59 months and 2,129 PLW suffering from moderate acute malnutrition were treated during the month of October in health structures. WFP supported the provision of nutrition supplies as part of the treatment, for a total of 62 mt. This activity was carried out in the five regions most affected by the humanitarian crisis, namely: Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel.

On 13-14 October, WFP organised the "Fill the Nutrient Gap (FNG)" workshop, in collaboration with the Government, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the German Agency for International Cooperation. The workshop aimed to disseminate the results of the 'Fill the Nutrient Gap' (FNG) study, designed to identify specific or nutrition-sensitive interventions that are most appropriate in a given context to improve nutrient intake. Key messages include: (i) for about half of the population, a nutritious diet would not be affordable; (ii) agricultural production is not diversified enough to be aligned with the needs of the population; and (iii) after a significant reduction in malnutrition through health services, efforts need to be refocused on the food system and the integration of nutrition into agriculture, social protection, private sectors, and education.

Education: The school year started on 1 October. WFP is prepositioning commodities to resume school feeding operations in November.

Main photo: Credit: WFP/Mohamed Sorgho
Caption: Representatives of women villagers participated in a focus group for a Community-Based Participatory Planning (CBPP) in the Sahel region.

Contact info: Florine Jobin Yaméogo (florine.jobin@wfp.org)
Country Director: Antoine Renard
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/burkina-faso

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

2020 Total Requirement (in USD)	2020 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
201.8 m	143.5 m	69 m

*Six-month Net Funding Requirements as of 16 November 2020.

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 PLW/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 (PLW/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 the 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 emergency 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

Capacity strengthening: The diagnosis report and capacity strengthening plan of the Permanent Secretariat in charge of managing Crises and Vulnerabilities in Livestock (SP-CVEL) were finalized in October. The capacity strengthening plan has been based on providing necessary tools and equipment, reinforcing capacities via trainings, and supporting the improvement of internal processes.

Resilience: In October, two first Community-Based Participatory Planning (CBPP) exercises were undertaken (in the Est region), out of the 22 planned for the last quarter of the year (in the Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions). The CBPP approach brings together communities, partners, and local government to identify issues and tailor programme responses to local requirements. It is the gateway to implementing integrated resilience activities.

Furthermore, WFP conducted compost turning sessions at the three composting sites in the Est, Centre-Nord, and Sahel regions. On this occasion, exchange meetings were held with the beneficiaries on various topics such as their organisation into cooperatives as well as the development and self-reliance plans for the composting areas. By guaranteeing access to organic manure of sufficient quality and quantity, producers would improve: i) the fertility of their soils; ii) their agricultural production; and iii) their income, among others through the marketing of their surplus organic manure.

COVID-19

All the 13 regions of Burkina Faso were affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. As of 26 October, 2,466 cases were confirmed, and 67 deaths reported. A large proportion of the new positive cases in recent weeks correspond to indigenous transmission. WFP has been reinforcing prevention measures by positioning COVID-19 protective hygiene kits in schools and health centres.

Monitoring/Evaluation

A post-distribution monitoring (PDM) via mVAM was conducted for a WFP/UNAIDS joint project, which targeted 1,000 households affected by (or particularly exposed to) HIV/AIDS. Its objective was to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on these vulnerable populations through financial support. Key results highlight that: (i) the majority (56 percent) of respondents appear to have an acceptable dietary consumption and diversity; (ii) and most of the cash-based transfers received were used to buy food commodities while the remaining 25 percent of expenditures were focused on health care costs, rent, and savings. Key takeaways from the project include the need to better communicate with beneficiaries on the purpose of the assistance, and to involve the national counterpart and social protection platforms from the planning stage of activities. In addition, it outlined that health district management teams were highly involved in the implementation of the project, which provided an added value for the success of the initiative.

From 11 to 17 October, WFP took part in a joint mission under the leadership of the Ministry of Agriculture, to evaluate the outcome of the agricultural season. The results will be used for the analysis of the November *Cadre Harmonisé*. Mission results outline: (i) a poor distribution of rainfall, floods, and pockets of drought; (ii) a quite satisfactory situation of the agricultural season; and (iii) regarding the pastoral situation, a good availability of pasture and water points.

Challenges

Emergency activities are facing challenges, both in terms of critical funding situation and restricted humanitarian access. Meanwhile, the needs for lifesaving food assistance continue to grow in Burkina Faso. With the current funding outlook, WFP will continue to face pipeline shortfalls at least until the beginning of next year.

Donors

Donors to WFP Burkina Faso in 2020 include Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Education Cannot Wait, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, Monaco, Norway, Private Sector, Switzerland, the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), United Kingdom, and the United States of America.