

CONTEXT

- Approximately 4.7 million people require humanitarian assistance in Burkina Faso in 2023, primarily due to deteriorating security conditions, according to the UN. Frequent non-state armed group (NSAG) attacks, including the destruction of critical infrastructure and violence against civilians, particularly in Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions, continue to exacerbate needs and generate displacement.
- Nearly 2 million people remained internally displaced due to conflict in Burkina Faso as of February 28, including nearly 1 million people in Centre-Nord and Sahel alone, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reports.
- More than 3.3 million people in Burkina Faso will require emergency food assistance during the June-to-August lean season, the period when food is most scarce, according to March Cadre Harmonisé projections.¹ Displacement and disruption of livelihoods have exacerbated food insecurity and decreased conflict-affected households' access to agricultural fields, livestock, and markets, the UN reports. Moreover, NSAG-imposed blockades of cities and towns in Est, Nord, and Sahel have decreased food availability in local markets and resulted in record price increases, diminishing people's access to food, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reports.
- Political instability and violence have contributed to the closure of essential nutrition, health, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services countrywide, leaving affected populations vulnerable to risks of communicable disease, according to the UN. An estimated 42 percent of health facilities in the country are impacted by insecurity, of which 14 percent had closed as of March, leaving more than 3.5 million people without access to care.
- NSAG activities, poor road conditions, and regional blockades had restricted relief actors' ability to reach at least 1.3 million people across Burkina Faso as of March, according to the UN. Recently-imposed bans on emergency cash transfers in Centre-Nord, Est, and Sahel have also negatively affected response efforts since January, according to the UN World Food Program (WFP) and local media.



ASSISTANCE

- USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) provides both emergency and early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience (ER4) assistance in Burkina Faso. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, USAID/BHA will support internally displaced persons and host communities in conflict-affected areas with activities aimed at developing long-term resilience through agriculture, food, health, and WASH activities.

¹ Cadre Harmonisé (CH) is a standardized framework used across West Africa and the Sahel that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of acute food insecurity. The CH scale is comparable across countries in West Africa and ranges from Minimal—Phase I—to Famine—Phase 5.

- In partnership with WFP and non-governmental organization (NGO) partners, USAID/BHA provided more than \$68 million in FY 2022 and \$19.9 million in FY 2023 in emergency food assistance for populations in need in Burkina Faso, particularly in Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel. USAID/BHA has also provided \$8.9 million in FY 2023 to support the scale-up of WFP's airlift capacity to provide humanitarian assistance and support service provision in hard-to-reach areas and blockaded towns.
- A USAID/BHA NGO partner continues to strengthen local health care capacity through the use of mobile health clinics to treat communicable diseases in Centre-Est and Sahel; periodic trainings on the management of common childhood illnesses; and the provision of essential medical supplies to health centers. USAID/BHA also supports an NGO partner that trains community health workers in Nord and Centre-Nord to reach displaced pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and children ages five years and younger with essential health care.
- With \$2 million in USAID/BHA funding, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) supports nutrition activities by training caregivers in malnutrition screening and prevention, as well as creating mother-to-mother support groups to improve the nutrition of PLW in Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel. UNICEF is also training community health workers on nutrition interventions to enhance nutrition services in communities where health facilities have closed. In addition, the international organization had procured and distributed more than 31,200 boxes of ready-to-use therapeutic foods for the treatment of malnutrition in children as of September 2022.
- As part of the regionwide Resilience in the Sahel Enhanced ER4 project that began in 2012, USAID/BHA has supported an NGO partner's Victory Against Malnutrition Plus (ViMPlus) program in Burkina Faso since 2018, which aims to improve food security conditions in areas affected by conflict and climatic shocks. During FY 2022 and continuing in FY 2023, ViMPlus developed and implemented disaster early warning systems, which support the collection and dissemination of weather information to communities in Centre-Nord so that households have the knowledge to identify, prevent, and manage risks. The program also provides livelihood support to households in Centre-Nord, including connecting agricultural producers with market systems, increasing agricultural production and diversification, and supplying populations with agricultural inputs, such as seeds and tools.



USAID/BHA has provided \$8.9 million in FY 2023 to support WFP airlifts of humanitarian assistance to hard-to-reach areas and blockaded towns in Burkina Faso.
Photo Credit: WFP

USAID/BHA Funding in Burkina Faso ²			
	Emergency ³	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2022	\$108,704,068	\$12,716,835	\$121,420,903
FY 2023	\$59,939,383	\$4,028,820	\$63,968,203

² Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of April 18, 2023. Totals include estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

³ Includes funding for programs that integrate ER4 activities with emergency response.