Under the Country Programme, WFP implements activities that contribute to the efforts made by the Government of Burkina Faso to achieve food and nutrition security for the most vulnerable populations, especially women, children and the elderly. The focus is on access to quality education for all, health and nutrition, rural development and gender equality.

Support to primary education
Classes have resumed for schoolchildren in the Sahel region. Through its school meals programme, WFP provides daily hot lunch and a midday snack to more than 81,000 children spread across 550 pre and primary schools in Soum and Sénou, two provinces of the Sahel region. In addition, about 5,700 girls receive each month conditional take-home rations of maize (10 kg per month). The purpose is to encourage them and their families attend classes and complete, at least, primary school.

The milk project launched in May 2015 will be pursued during the school year 2017/18. For their midday snack, about 5,400 children will receive fresh yogurt produced by local milk processing units entirely owned and managed by women. To date, the project is carried out in 28 schools in Dori (Sénou province).

School meals provided by WFP contribute to improve enrolment, attendance and retention rates in the region, particularly for girls.

Nutritional support to vulnerable groups
WFP provides food and nutritional support to 10,000 malnourished anti-retroviral (ARV) clients and about 5,400 children will receive fresh yogurt produced by local milk processing units entirely owned and managed by women. To date, the project is carried out in 28 schools in Dori (Sénou province).

School meals provided by WFP contribute to improve enrolment, attendance and retention rates in the region, particularly for girls.

Food assistance to Malian refugees
In collaboration with the Government and other partners, WFP provides food and nutritional assistance to approximately 25,000 Malian refugees. Following the 2012 violence in northern Mali and consecutive deterioration of the security situation, thousands of families have sought refuge in Burkina Faso.

In Numbers
2 m food insecure people (Harmonized Framework, November 2017)

121,308 People Assisted
October 2017

Credit: WFP/Esther Ouoba
Caption: Children waiting in line during a nutritional education session for women in the village of Sessin Lansongnani (East region)
Treatment and prevention of malnutrition
WFP provides food assistance to malnourished children and mothers under treatment. Take-home rations are given to caretakers of children receiving in-patient care at therapeutic feeding centres for severe acute malnutrition. During the lean season (June to September), children aged 6-23 months in the east, north and Sahel regions are provided with rations of SuperCereal Plus to prevent acute malnutrition.

Food Assistance for Assets
WFP supports the creation of small-scale agricultural assets and strengthening of rural farmers’ livelihoods. Relevant activities are identified following a Community-based Participatory Planning (CBPP) exercise involving community members, WFP and other stakeholders. A three to five-year action plan is then developed as a reference.

About 100,000 persons or more than 14,000 households currently assisted through this activity are spread across 14 CBPP communities in Centre-North, East, North, and Sahel regions.

Operational Updates
• On 11 October, WFP Burkina Faso held a consultation workshop with governmental partners, donors and cooperating partners. This workshop is an additional relevant step toward the elaboration of the Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023). Selected activities will be in line with the country’s National Economic and Social Development Plan (PNDES), the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs 2 and 17).

• Food assistance to Malian refugees is being pursued. This life-saving operation is facing recurrent funding shortages. Food rations have been reduced and could represent only 50 percent of the normal ration starting November.

Challenges
• Results of the Harmonized Framework highlighted the deterioration of the food security situation as of October 2017 with 1,935,554 persons (9.6 percent of the population) currently under stress level of food insecurity (Phase 2), and 132,899 persons in severe food insecurity (Phase 3). This situation will worsen in June 2018 with 2,631,631 persons under stress level of food insecurity (Phase 2) representing 13 percent of the entire population and 620,394 at risk of severe food insecurity (Phases 3, 4 and 5), which would represent 3 percent of the population.

• The main challenge for the country office is to find additional funding and mitigate the effects of the lack of assistance for vulnerable people in WFP intervention areas: Centre-North, East, North, and Sahel regions.

In addition, terrorist threats remain a major issue for WFP staff, assets and operations, especially in the Sahel region where most activities are implemented.

Donors
USA, France, Germany, Japan, ECHO, Cartier Charitable Foundation, Finland, Canada, Saudi Arabia

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