

# **Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)**

Burkina Faso: Hunger Crisis



DREF Operation n°	MDRBF017	Glide n°:	CE-2022-000216-BFA
Date of issue:	04 June 2022	Expected timeframe:	03 months
Operation start date:	26 May 2022	Expected end date:	31 August 2022

Category allocated to the of the disaster or crisis: Orange

DREF allocated: CHF 245,138

Total number of people affected:

Provinces affected:

At least 21 provinces

Host National Society presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): 45 provincial committees, 45,000 volunteers and 313 staff throughout the country, 01 DM, 01 CVA focal point.

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Luxemburg Red Cross, Belgian Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, French Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross and Norwegian Red Cross.

**Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:** The Government, National Food Security Council [CNSA], The National Emergency Response and Rehabilitation Council [CONASUR], Rapid Response Operational Coordination Group [GCORR], UNICEF, UNHCR and WFP.

# **A. Situation Analysis**

### **Description of the Disaster**

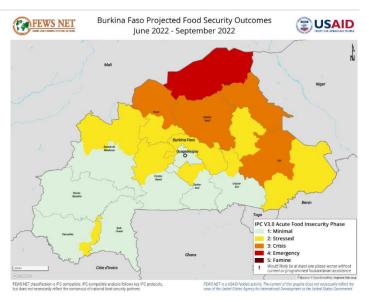
The Sahel region is experiencing a growing crisis for several years now, combining climatic effects, displacement crises, insecurity and other factors that are making humanitarian conditions and food insecurity in the Sahelian countries of Burkina Faso, Niger and Mali more complex and deteriorating daily. In the case of Burkina Faso, the <a href="Cadre Harmonisé">Cadre Harmonisé</a> and the January 2022 findings of the <a href="IPC">IPC</a> placed it among the countries with the largest number of severely food-insecure population and provinces at risk of famine by July 2022.

Further highlighting the humanitarian crisis in Burkina Faso, <u>FEWSNET</u> published on 12 May 2022 analyses of the deteriorating food security situation and the risk of famine on the projections for June to September 2022. Burkina Faso currently has more than 3.4 million food insecure people due to a multi-faceted crisis characterised by armed conflict and inter-communal violence, leading to the desertion of arable land and a large flow of people who in turn, put pressure on the production and consumption structure of the host communities, thus creating a snowball effect of the food crisis from the northern part of the country to other localities further south. According to the Ministry of Agriculture, at least 412,000 hectares of land have been abandoned or not cultivated for the month of December 2021 alone, contributing to the decline in cereal production, which is already under pressure. The humanitarian situation remains dominated by the increase in the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs), which totalled more than 1,814,283 in February 2022 and is on the rise because it is directly linked to the increasingly recurrent attacks in the Northern, Sahel and Eastern provinces.

In addition to the above, the climatic and natural factors with significant periods of drought and the progression of desertification in the northern zone, the country is currently experiencing an unprecedented crisis affecting the food capacity of thousands of households already living in precarious economic conditions. The 2021/2022 agro-pastoral season has been negatively impacted by pockets of drought, particularly in the North, Centre-North, Boucle du Mouhoun and Sahel regions, flooding (mainly in the Boucle du Mouhoun and East regions) and attacks by granivorous birds in the Sahel region. At least 19 provinces have been declared deficient according to the CSPA for this year.

These localised deficits in cereal production coupled with inflation resulting from the reduction in cross-border trade and certain supply routes into Europe of inputs and commodities (due to the war in Ukraine) as well as the socioeconomic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; have also largely contributed to the growing food deficit.

The vulnerable population in need of immediate assistance would be 16% of the total population. These people are concentrated in the Sahel (20%), Centre-North (17%), East (17%) and North (16%)¹ regions. In the past decade, far from abating, food crises have been increasing across the West African region, including Burkina Faso, Niger, Chad, Mali and Nigeria. Between 2015 and 2022, the number of people in need of emergency food assistance almost quadrupled from 7 to 27 million. The Burkinabe Red Cross, whose 2021-2030 strategic plan is aligned with the <a href="IFRC's pan-African Zero Hunger Initiative">IFRC's pan-African Zero Hunger Initiative</a>, aims to provide emergency food assistance to vulnerable people.



### Summary of current intervention

### Overview of Operating National Society's action

The Burkinabe Red Cross, with the support of the Belgian Red Cross, is already providing food assistance to internally displaced people and vulnerable hosts in the Centre-North and Sahel Regions, more precisely in the provinces of Soum, Sanamatenga, Namentenga and Seno. In addition, food assistance is planned for 1,000 households with ECHO Pilot Programmatic Partnership (PPP) funds in these same intervention areas and in the province of Bam, where the Food Security Cluster launched an alert on 23 May 2022 for 5,300 households in need of food assistance.

The BFRC has some experience in food security and livelihoods (FSL) and cash transfers. The National Society has benefited from a capacity building programme for its staff and volunteers from 2016 to 2019 with the support of the British Red Cross, the Belgian Red Cross and the IFRC through its Livelihoods Reference Centre. In total, the skills of 425 people (including volunteers and staff) were strengthened.

During these interventions, the volunteers carried out various targeting, needs assessment and post-distribution monitoring surveys. These volunteers are also part of the rapid response mechanism in cash and voucher assistance (CVA) following emergency alerts on the displacement of populations affected by insecurity.

The Red Cross can rely on the capacities of its trained volunteers and its departmental and provincial committees. More specifically, it can count on

- √ 22 volunteers trained in introduction to livelihoods;
- √ 17 people trained in Emergency Livelihoods Assessment;
- √ 42 people trained in market analysis;
- 10 staff trained in monitoring and evaluation of resilience projects implementation
- √ 15 staff in capitalization of experience on livelihoods projects;
- ✓ 164 volunteers trained in digital data collection in the Centre-North and Sahel;
- √ 28 staff trained in cash transfers;
- √ 127 volunteers trained in cash transfers;
- √ 100 staff and volunteers trained in CEA;
- √ 1881 volunteers and 45 branch managers briefed in risk communication and community engagement.

### **Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Actions in country**

Through Niamey Country Cluster Delegation, IFRC provides technical and strategic support to the National Society. The mobilization of Rapid Response staff (one Ops Manager for 2 months and one Communication/Resource Mobilization for 1 month) as part of this DREF operation will further strengthen the coordination mechanism between Movement members, especially in relation to initiatives implemented in the area of food security and will give visibility to the same among internal and external Movement actors. This, while facilitating advocacy actions. This support will also provide the basis for working with the NS and the Movement on larger initiatives, such as the launch of an Emergency Appeal.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Cadre Harmonisé report, March 2022

In terms of partnerships, the BFRC is supported by four PNSs (Spain, Luxemburg, Monaco, and Belgium) and the ICRC which are present in the country. In addition, other partners of the Movement support the National Society, including the British Red Cross, the Danish RC, French RC, Austrian RC, Finnish RC and the Norwegian RC.

Among the partners present in Burkina Faso, the following are supporting the National Society to implement actions to address food insecurity either directly (through cash and voucher assistance) or indirectly (i.e., actions in the area of water, hygiene and sanitation which improve nutrition) through emergency or longer-term interventions aimed at strengthening the resilience of communities. As such,

- Belgian Red Cross supports the actions carried out by BFRC in the Sahel (Soum and Seno Provinces), Centre-North (Bam, Sanamatenga and Namentenga), Cascades (Comoe Province) and Southwest Regions (Poni Province). In terms of food security, the actions carried out are part of the emergency response (Rapid Response) linked to population movements. Similarly, they meet the needs of the population during the lean season. The response is implemented through cash transfers, which are available in two main modalities: E-Voucher and Mobile money. Cash transfer operations are conducted through the Red Rose platform. In addition, the Belgian RC is supporting the BFRC in projects focused on nutrition (support for screening/referral, management and monitoring of severe acute malnutrition in children under 5 years of age in areas with low coverage and difficult access and in centres hosting displaced persons) and improving food security.
- As lead of ECHO PPP, the Belgian RC ensures that this program can contribute to the achievement of the
  multisectoral and integrated objectives that have been set, particularly in the area of food security (cash transfer
  response to the lean season and natural disasters, livelihood activities, WASH, etc.)
- The Spanish RC supports BFRC interventions in the Sahel (Yagha and Soum provinces), Centre-West (Sissili
  and Ziro provinces), Centre (Ouagadougou) and Centre-South (Bazega province) regions through urban and periurban agriculture actions with a focus on people living with disabilities, whose target is represented by 30% of the
  beneficiaries, with the creation of nutritious gardens and funding of processing units for local products;
- Monaco RC promoted food security resilience actions between 2014 and 2018 in the Sahel Region (Soum province) and supports the National Society with implementing integrated food security and water, hygiene and sanitation actions since 2019 in the South-West region (Poni province);
- Luxemburg RC implements actions focusing on hygiene, water and sanitation and shelter in the Centre-North (Sanamatenga and Namatenga), Centre-West (Boulkiemdé) and North (Yatenga province) and Sahel (Soum province) regions, in some cases in complementarity with the Belgian RC.
- ICRC is currently distributing food vouchers and cash in the North (Yatenga province) and in the East (Gourma province).

A 4W matrix of Movement members' actions in the field of food security was developed and used as a basis for defining the priority actions to be implemented through this DREF operation.

### Overview of other actors' actions in country

At Government level, the National Society is under the supervision of the Ministry of Humanitarian Action, a permanent member of The National Emergency Response and Rehabilitation Council (CONASUR), and a member of the national food security and nutrition mechanism where it collaborates with the Executive Secretariat of the National Food Security Council (it participates in the implementation and monitoring of the National Plan for Response and Support to Vulnerable Populations) and the National Service in charge of the Early Warning System on the food and nutrition situation.

BFRC is already a member of several consultation frameworks, both at national and regional level. It participates in various clusters, the Cash Working Group and the regional FSL task force. It receives alerts from the GCOR Coordination Group.

Regarding UN agencies, it works with UNICEF, UNHCR and WFP to alleviate the vulnerability of people. Like other actors, it is in consortium with some such as HI, VSF, MDM, etc. for the implementation of specific humanitarian projects.

Considering the current response strategy in relation to the needs, BFRC will continue to strengthen this coordination during the next three months, as well as looking into the possibility of extending this response for longer-term assistance outside the DREF funds.

Efforts will be made by both the National Society and the Delegation in this direction. Regular communication will be established with other partners active in this response in the North and North-East of the country.

### Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

### **Needs analysis**

For a needs analysis specific to the vulnerable provinces in phase 4 and/or 3, the National Society plans to conduct indepth assessments as part of this DREF operation. However, based on secondary data from expert and partner reports, and feedback from branches on other operations in these regions, the needs of the population are mainly food-related, with a cyclical causal link to security conditions, population movements, and below standard WASH conditions. All the above in a context of climate change and humanitarian challenges which makes it hard to access by humanitarian actors outside the BFRC, which is based in the communities. The needs can be summarised as follows:

### √ Food, nutrition and livelihood needs

According to the results of the *Cadre Harmonisé*, the national cereal production for the 2021-2022 agricultural season is estimated at 4,661,140 tons, with a national decline of 10% compared to the 2020-2021 agricultural season. Crops which recorded a five-year decline include millet (-27.28%), white sorghum (-8.56%) and fonio (-29.82%). A drop in production of more than 35% was noted mainly in provinces with serious security challenges and more than 1,000,000 tons of production were lost due to the deterioration of the security situation and/or bioclimatic hazards.

"52% of farming households will not be able to cover their cereal needs with their production alone" (Coordination of Agricultural Sectoral Policies [CPSA] 2022). Agropastoral markets are experiencing a general decline in food supplies and price increases. The security situation continues to disrupt the functioning of markets in the affected areas. On the retail markets, prices of the main cereals increased in March compared to the previous month. Variations of +9%, +14% and +15% were recorded for white maize, local millet and white sorghum respectively. Compared to the same period last year, significant price increases were recorded, +44% for white maize, +47% for millet, and +57% for white sorghum. Compared to the five-year average, the variations are also high; +59% for millet, +62% for white maize, +63 for white sorghum. There was also an overall increase in average livestock prices compared to last year and to the five-year average. The increases recorded were less than 50%, except for the price of goats on certain markets.

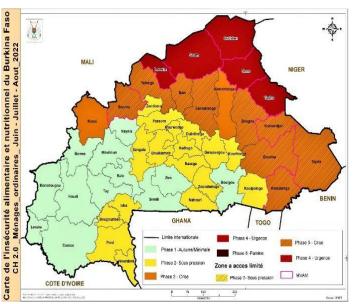
With regards to malnutrition, the results of the *Cadre Harmonisé* for March indicate that the SAM rate reached 18% in some areas, which is well above the WHO critical threshold. moreover, the results of the latest SMART nutrition survey show a 10% increase in the number of children aged 6-59 months who may be acutely malnourished, and an increase in SAM cases of over 18% compared to last year.

The projections show 12 provinces in minimum phase, 17 provinces in stressed phase, 11 provinces in crisis and 5 provinces in emergency. Below is a map of the food and nutrition situation in Burkina Faso.

### Current period (March to May)

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### Projected period (June to August)



In the current situation, all the targeted provinces are in phase 3 (in crisis) with 572,378 people in need of immediate food assistance. If nothing is done, three (3) of these provinces would be in emergency (IPC 4)- phase with 401,968 food insecure people, and the other three in phase 3 (crisis) with 340,412 people. According to the results of the Harmonised Framework analysis, the province of Yagha, targeted by this operation, is currently in phase 3 (crisis). This situation could worsen in the coming months and 97,478 of its inhabitants would need immediate food assistance.

Insecurity in these areas, especially in the SAHEL, as well as the resulting large-scale population movements, is causing the desertification of hundreds of thousands of hectares of arable land, exacerbating the pressure on host areas and neighbouring production. As of 28 February 2022, the country had 1,814,283 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in 277 communes in the Centre-North with 35.9%, the Sahel with 31.7%, the North with 11.7%, the East with 8.6%, and the Boucle du Mouhoun with 3.5%.

### ✓ Market situation and socio-economic context

There has been a decrease in the number of traders in some markets, particularly those in high insecurity zones, and in general the security situation has deteriorated, with limited or even impossible access by land, at least for staff who travel only by humanitarian flight during periods of continuous attacks.

- The telephone networks are mostly unstable or non-functional in the North and North-East zones due to destruction by the armed groups.
- Cash withdrawal points are non-existent.
- Microfinance institutions (MFIs) are absent.
- Markets are functioning, but there are rising prices for key commodities such as maize, millet, cowpea, oil, and agro-pastoral inputs as well as oil.

### ✓ Aggravating humanitarian conditions in WASH and health

Access to clean water remains a major concern, as well as exposure to water-borne diseases and poor hygiene conditions that impact health and increase the daily vulnerability of households. In many communes in phase 3 and 4 regions, water points have either been ransacked by armed groups, the paths to them have been mined, are occupied by the armed groups, or there are no water points apart from natural ones. This situation makes communities vulnerable, and they are often forced to put up with non-potable water. The water and sanitation component will therefore be a priority, even if the access conditions do not allow for intense community action, especially groupings. As such, WASH activities will be implemented to ensure access to safe water with the practice of chlorination, protection of available water points.

Exposure to water-borne and vector-borne diseases weakens the income of average households and contributes to diminishing the nutritional efforts and resilience of vulnerable communities. According to WHO and the Ministry of Health (MoH), community sensitisation and increased efforts at community level are needed to prevent the spread of waterborne diseases.

Detailed assessments will enable us to better determine the needs of these populations to provide an adequate response which will prevent them from falling into an extreme emergency phase requiring a major health intervention for cases of malnutrition/famine in a health system that is highly destabilised or inoperable in most of the intervention communes.

### Targeting

This DREF operation will target 6 provinces in crisis or emergency phase in the next 3 months: **Yagha, Sourou, Soum, Oudalan, Tapoa, Komandjari.** 

In Yagha province (the Sahel region), 4,200 people in priority communes will benefit from immediate assistance, pending the results of detailed assessments in other at-risk provinces which may lead to a revised targeting.

The current targeting is based on documentary evidence of secondary data allowing a geographical delimitation of the target. For the implementation areas- within the provinces, the BFRC will target the communes most affected, in crisis or emergency phase, while applying the following pre-selection criteria for the beneficiary communes:

- Accessibility criteria: some areas in a food crisis situation are also difficult to access due to insecurity. The choice
  of targeted communes is made on the basis of the mobility of the populations, especially the traders, who supply
  the markets, whose utility is also an element of choice.
- The number of households to be assisted was determined according to the availability of trained volunteers, logistical capacity and complementarity with ongoing actions.
- Criteria for coverage of the intervention area by other actors. This makes it possible to prioritise areas that attract few actors.

The second stage of targeting will be at the start of the operation and will be done by cross-referencing the vulnerability criteria with the CONASUR lists for each of the communes. The selection criteria will include the most vulnerable groups such as: female heads of household, pregnant and breastfeeding women, children under 5, people living with functional diversity, displaced people without support and minorities who are victims of prejudice. The BFRC should ensure that consultations with community groups and representative leaders are carried out so that they can confirm or complement the selection criteria suggested below (for example, whether there are other vulnerable groups that should be included).

In cases where access does not allow for targeting by personalised survey, lists will be verified with the support of branches and other partners in the field. Disaggregated data will be made available after the detailed assessments have been carried out.

Scenario planning

Humanitarian consequence Food security data improve for June- December 2022 projections, local production improves due to adequate rains and access to nutrition is guaranteed	The results of the assessment are provided and the CRBF implements this DREF according to plan.
December 2022 projections, local production improves due to adequate rains and access	are provided and the CRBF implements this DREF according
Inflation continues to reduce the purchasing power of already severely affected households. Local production is further reduced by the climatic, security and political-economic impact of the crisis, which reduces access to arable land and the purchase of inputs for local producers. The Crisis in Ukraine as well as the international context related to COVID, and the Crisis in Ukraine further reduce access to international goods. All this generating more inflation and impoverishment of production, increasing cases of malnutrition with mortality, an outbreak of health/WASH emergencies	According to the Pan-African Zero Hunger Initiative and the CRBF strategic plan, the DREF is being reviewed for an emergency appeal and with the support of its partners, the CRBF is working on advocacy to fund a broader response covering response and recovery activities in different areas such as FSL, WASH, health etc, according to the gaps and needs identified in the assessment results.
This will lead to an extension of food insecurity to the famine phase and/or a generalisation of the emergency phase to most parts of the country. This situation will limit the interventions of humanitarian actors and project vulnerable people in a famine situation outside of SAHEL, North and North-East to the southern provinces of the country.  Half of the 13 provinces currently in phase 3 will move to phase 4 by the end of the year or the next lean season and some provinces will move to phase 5 famine.	Continuous resource mobilisation for the emergency appeal and engagement of government authorities is necessary to ensure access for CRBF and partners, in areas that are in need to save lives and protect human dignity.
phrproCcLiririneTirgnliasEc Fwo	sower of already severely affected households. Local production is further reduced by the climatic, security and political-economic impact of the crisis, which reduces access to arable land and the purchase of inputs for local producers. The Crisis in Ukraine as well as the international context related to COVID, and the Crisis in Ukraine further reduce access to international goods. All this generating more inflation and impoverishment of production, increasing cases of malnutrition with mortality, an outbreak of health/WASH emergencies. This will lead to an extension of food insecurity to the famine phase and/or a generalisation of the emergency phase to most parts of the country. This situation will emit the interventions of humanitarian actors and project vulnerable people in a famine situation outside of SAHEL, North and North-East to the southern provinces of the country.  Half of the 13 provinces currently in phase 3 will move to phase 4 by the end of the year or the next lean season and some provinces

**Operation Risk Assessment** 

Risks	Probability of occurrence	Severity of risk impact	Mitigation measures
Growing insecurity with attacks by armed groups in the provinces of intervention, undermining the security of communities and teams	High	High	As a risk reduction measure, the teams involved in this response will be briefed on operational security. Team movements will be subject to scrutiny by the CRBF's security coordination, which has a security officer.  IFRC insurance will also be taken out for all volunteers identified for this response to reinforce their protection.  Similarly, the BFRC must continue to work closely with the ICRC, which provides technical support in terms of security.

			The voucher modality will be prioritised to avoid exposing beneficiaries to cash and in front of the few existing cash points that are widely monitored by armed groups. Similarly, community involvement and communication with local leaders through the creation of committees in the communes will help to anticipate security alerts to a minimum, in addition to the experience of the NS in working in these areas.
Price inflation	High	Medium	Voucher assistance will be provided quickly to avoid another wave of inflation; a margin of inflation is considered and applied to the MEB according to the CWG to ensure access to essential items; the prices of items will be negotiated in the terms of the contracts with the contracted traders.
			The voucher modality will be prioritised to avoid further weakening the functioning of the market system put in place by local commercial actors and communities in terms of type of products, availability, hours and conditions of opening according to the calm days.  The monitoring of the intervention markets will be carried out with the support of the sentinel community monitoring sites.
The risk of monitoring voucher implementation: that aid does not reach beneficiaries	Medium	High	A monitoring committee and feedback mechanism will be established. The Green Line will be promoted within the communities. Endogenous volunteers will follow up with traders and beneficiaries;
Insufficient quantity of food in the markets	Medium	Medium	The intervention will focus on supporting traders in supplying the markets, despite the increase, with regular orders, by monitoring to ensure compliance with real prices
Reluctance of the local population to let the Red Cross intervene	Low	Low	Volunteers will work with community leaders and discussions with communities will be held via Focus Groups (FGs) for briefing on the content of the operation and throughout the implementation.  The response activity will be covered by a communication approach based on outreach and community engagement.

# **B.** Operational strategy<sup>2</sup>

### **Overall Operational objective:**

The main objective of this operation is to provide immediate support to 4,200 people (600 households) in the communes of Yagha province, while concurrently conducting detailed needs assessments in priority areas to meet the food security needs of displaced and host communities. Community voices will be used to inform response activities including Cash and Voucher Assistance and other Livelihood activities.

As such, the National Society shall conduct participatory assessments with affected communities to elevate the voices of the most vulnerable people to inform community-centred action on responding to the hunger crisis. This will involve collecting human stories on how hunger is impacting communities; working with community committees to identify localized actions to mitigate impacts; and collecting and responding to community feedback to inform national and regional hunger crisis operations and response strategies. The outcome of this assessment shall inform a potential scale up of this operation into a Federation-Wide Emergency Appeal or a longer-term project, implemented in line with Africa Region's <a href="Maintenanger Initiative">Zero Hunger Initiative</a>, which aims at a wider response to the most urgent needs as well as setting up longer term actions which shall contribute to building the resilience of communities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The plan should be prepared by the National Society, with support from the Secretariat technical departments and support services.

BFRC has experience in emergency cash transfer interventions. Indeed, it has implemented several operations in contexts similar to those of the target areas and in the same region, including the 2012 Food Insecurity Emergency Appeal (MDRBF011) and the 2017 Food Insecurity DREF Operation (MDRBF014) which gave the NS experience of CASH through food vouchers.

The Appeal as well as the DREF operations implemented in the last seven (7) years were carried out in security contexts similar to that of the proposed operation with the same activity components. The National Society will capitalise on this knowledge of the environment, its community integration and cash and voucher experience in the SAHEL region (2012 Appeal and 2017 Food Insecurity DREF operation) as well as the Boucle du Mouhoun (2021 Population Movement DREF operation (MDRBF016)) to ensure the success of this intervention. The same will apply to the experience gained from ECHO projects implemented since 2018 to date with food assistance to internally displaced communities in the Sahel and Centre-North regions, which are the targets of this operation.

In accordance with the recently completed <u>MDRBF016</u> DREF operation, BFRC intends to follow up on the recommendations from the lessons learned regarding strengthening of community engagement with the establishment from the outset, of feedback and communication channels as well as strengthening communication which were points identified for improvement.

The implementation of this intervention will be based on the results of the *Cadre Hamonisé* analysis and the June to September IPC projections on <u>severe malnutrition</u> and <u>food insecurity</u>. Operational lessons from previous interventions, notably the <u>MDRBF014</u> DREF Operation on food insecurity and other projects conducted by BFRC in the same region will also be used in planning and implementing this intervention.

### The main actions:

Actions implemented within the framework of this DREF operation will aim at:

- Conducting a detailed needs, community vulnerabilities and capacities as well as response capacity assessment
  of the National Society and of the situation and ongoing actions in 6 most at risk provinces according to
  projections.
- Providing immediate food assistance to 600 most vulnerable households in Yagha based on the criteria defined in the targeting for 2 months.
- Screening and referencing of malnutrition cases as well as assessment of referral systems and capacity at community level for children aged 6 to 59 months as well as pregnant and lactating women. These households will be systematically selected to receive voucher assistance.
- Reducing the risk of diseases related to poor hygiene and sanitation through community health activities via different channels of dissemination of awareness messages covering the 6 targeted provinces and access to safe drinking water in Yagha.

### 1. In-depth needs assessment (target: 6 provinces in the Sahel, North and East region)

The National Society will first conduct detailed assessments in 6 of the 19 provinces that are in phase 3 or 4 of the IPC projections: A BFRC team composed of IFRC staff, volunteers and support staff will conduct these assessments.

In addition to the National Society field teams, an NDRT will be deployed from HQ and a IFRC Surge personnel deployed as project manager with knowledge of FSL will conduct the mission through the one month of the intervention.

Some of the expected results of this assessment will be but not limited to:

- ✓ Identify specific needs and specific factors of food insecurity by province and in areas related to the current food crisis (WASH, health system)
- ✓ Understand the community's preferences in terms of assistance modalities and mechanisms and in terms of sharing and receiving information from BFRC, as well as how they wish to share sensitive feedback.
- ✓ Identify the support provided and planned by Government, and other partners in the country and especially in the regions in IPC phase 3 and 4.
- ✓ Clarify the gaps to be filled by the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in the response and determine the exact capacity of BFRC to intervene at larger scales in terms of resources and knowledge in FSL, CASH, WASH, Health, PGI and CEA;
- ✓ Inform the current strategy if there is a need to revise the plan, target or assistance mechanisms developed below or to prepare a larger scale response.
- Conduct a preliminary assessment of markets in Yagha to ensure the physical accessibility of markets, and availability of commodities. Information on commodity prices will also be collected to better define the amount to be transferred.

### 2. Assistance in Yagha Province (target: 4,200 people or 600 households)

The operation will start with targeting in food insecure areas to identify beneficiary households according to the defined vulnerability criteria as detailed in the targeting section above. The agreed selection criteria will be widely disseminated through reliable communication channels and a feedback mechanism will be set up through volunteers to address any questions or concerns regarding the selection criteria and those selected. Targeting will be coupled with market analysis and screening for malnutrition in children aged 6 to 59 months and pregnant and lactating women. Once targeting is completed, 600 households will benefit from a transfer to cover their food needs for one month, in accordance with the daily calory needs estimated at 2100 kcal per person.

The reference for the composition of a standard food basket to be served is: 12.5 kg cereals, 1.35 kg pulses, 0.75 litre oil, 0.5 kg sugar and 0.15 kg salt for a total amount of approximately CHF 126.98 per household.

The amount to be transferred to beneficiaries is based on the minimum food basket determined by the Cash Working Group (CWG). The present budget foresees XOF 75,000, with households divided into 3 size brackets and the amounts accordingly. In view of the security situation affecting the target areas, markets close to the communities will be selected for rapid analysis before proceeding with voucher assistance.

The preferred option will be the use of vouchers and contracting with traders to enable them to obtain supplies on a consistent basis. This option is the one that least exposes beneficiaries in areas where receiving cash in full view of the public exposes them to the risk of aggression, including at cash points. The analysis considers the fact that armed groups are interested in the smallest transactions that can be sources of funding for them as well as the elements developed in the needs analysis.

### Training/ re training of volunteers

To carry out the activities, volunteers will be trained/briefed on

- Digital data collection and assessments to conduct the survey and targeting. During these trainings, simulations will be done for a better appropriation of the collection tools.
- Screening for malnutrition in children aged between 6 and 59 months by measuring the brachial perimeter (MUAC).
- Community health promotion and hygiene

### Screening and referral of pregnant and lactating women and children aged 6 to 59 months

Screening for malnutrition in children aged 6 to 59 months will be carried out by trained community volunteers and the activity will be carried out at the same time as the survey/targeting. It will be done via the MUAC bracelet. Women of childbearing age as well as pregnant and lactating women will also be screened by calculating the body mass index. Cases of severe acute malnutrition will be referred to functional health centres. Households with cases of malnutrition will be directly integrated into the priority targets and in the evaluation of the possibilities of taking care of children aged 6 to 59 months over a longer period.

During screening, volunteers will ensure that mothers, pregnant women and heads of households are trained in the use of the bracelets so that they can carry out continuous screening during their various movements. Considering the current high mobility of households, this approach will allow them to give the alert themselves and go to the health centres. An average of two bracelets will be given to each household.

### Support for the treatment of drinking and cooking water

Aquatab and/or Aquapur tablets will be distributed to 600 households to contribute to easing their access to drinking water. This distribution will follow awareness-raising sessions on hygiene and demonstrations on how to use the products during distribution.

### - Conduct a post-distribution monitoring

A post-distribution monitoring (PDM) will be carried out after each food distribution where possible (security situation), and a market monitoring will be added to this. The objective is to assess the level of satisfaction of the beneficiaries, to evaluate the process and to draw lessons to make the necessary corrections and adaptations to improve the quality of future interventions. In addition, the community feedback data collected through the feedback mechanism will be analysed

together with the post-distribution monitoring data so that corrective action can be taken to address any concerns, questions, suggestions or rumours.

### **Cross-cutting sectors**

### > Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA):

During the implementation, the BFRC will make sure that information on the response is shared with communities and that a community feedback system is developed to ensure that the views of communities are incorporated and taken into account in the implementation and evaluation phases of the operation.

A feedback and complaints mechanism will also be put in place so that beneficiaries of the items distributed can provide direct feedback on the distribution exercise. This will be done throughout the programme. In addition to the channel preferences indicated by the community, the BFRC has a green line whose number will be widely communicated and used for feedback. To facilitate the acceptance of host communities and IDPs, Focus Group Discussions and sessions with representative leaders will be organised to share information and define clear roles and responsibilities of RC teams in the field, as well as those of representatives, community leaders and committees. Information will be shared widely with the community at large on selection criteria, distribution processes and intervention activities.

Hygiene promotion sessions will be organized and may be useful for gathering information and addressing community concerns.

Communication and dissemination of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (RC/RC) Fundamental Principles will be included in the activities. The Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) approach, to ensure access and acceptance, will also be integrated into the overall response.

To increase the visibility of the operation, broadcasts will be organised on community radios, videos and photos will be produced in compliance with the protection of personal data and with the prior consent of those concerned.

Information and sensitisation of authorities and communities on the RC actions: For a better involvement and acceptance of the authorities and the community, information and sensitisation sessions will be organised throughout the intervention with the support of the CEA focal point. A feedback mechanism will be put in place, based on trusted channels as described by the communities during the needs assessment. Community leaders, representatives and influencers will be identified and consulted regularly so that they can participate in decision-making throughout the design, implementation and evaluation of the programme.

### > Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI)

In the context of insecurity and the general precariousness of living conditions, the protection of vulnerable people, particularly women and children, must be taken into account by the BFRC, which will ensure that it implements the briefing of volunteers on the concepts of Gender Protection and Inclusion and the sensitisation of community and local leaders on protection. In addition, the vulnerabilities of women, girls and female heads of households as well as people living with disabilities will be taken into account. The BFRC will include host communities and IDPs to facilitate greater acceptance of the BFRC.

### Exit strategy

The BFRC will continue to work around the humanitarian challenge in Burkina as a key priority aligned to the IFRC's pan-African Zero Hunger Initiative and its strategic ambitions. Together with humanitarian actors, the IFRC will coordinate and work on local and international advocacy for long-term initiatives/responses. This is to further promote community resilience in terms of food security and to provide timely support in the most at-risk areas, including in terms of access due to the security situation.

More precisely, this DREF operation aims to lay the groundwork for the development of a Federation-Wide Emergency Appeal to scale up the intervention, either in terms of emergency or long-term actions, in view of the growing needs in the country, whose target areas will be identified through assessments during the implementation of the operation.

In this regard, at the time of writing this plan of action, the strategy identified for the revision of the operation consists of supporting communities in their sustainable livelihood activities with an emphasis on diversification, community-based means of boosting local production in order to significantly reduce the incidence of hunger and poverty in a population

where more than 70% live off agro-pastoral production and its by-products, and an scale up of the current response according to the priorities identified in the assessment.

To this end, actions to strengthen their capital (human, social, physical, financial and natural) will be undertaken. Aware of the climate risks and their impact on the environment, all activities undertaken will respect ecological standards. In addition, awareness-raising activities on social cohesion and the promotion of humanitarian values carried out within the framework of this DREF operation will be strengthened to improve the "living together" within communities.

However, this strategy is also conditional on government action to restore security in inaccessible areas, the results of the evaluation and the actions of other humanitarian partners.

### Operational support services

### **Human resources**

This operation will be led by the Social Protection and Community Development (SPCD) and Disaster Response Preparedness (DRP) coordinators and supported by the Communication and Security coordinators of the National Society. In addition, a Regional Disaster Response Team Member, a Disaster Management Officer, a driver and 70 volunteers will be mobilised for the implementation of this DREF operation, including for conducting assessments, targeting, distribution of vouchers etc. The RDRT will be in charge of the overall supervision of the operation and will therefore be deployed throughout the operation to oversee the implementation of activities.

- ✓ The IFRC will deploy two profiles in support of the Burkinabe Red Cross: 1 Operation Manager for 2 months and 1 Communications/Resource Mobilisation focal point for 1 month. The support of the Surge, who will work in pairs with NS colleagues, will allow timely implementation of the DREF operation, the development of an operational strategy for the Emergency Appeal, including through internal and external coordination of the Movement and the realization of communications and advocacy actions;
- ✓ Conduct field visits as required;
- Monitor the potential for population movements triggered by food insecurity and people seeking work or assistance in other locations:
- ✓ Train and support the National Society in the safe and effective implementation of activities, including monitoring and reporting;
- ✓ Support the National Society in response interventions, as required;
- ✓ Support the National Society in the possible use of other IFRC disaster response tools, as appropriate, including additional technical support.

### Logistics and procurement

The BFRC will use the usual administrative and financial procedures for procurement and services for this operation. In addition, national tenders will be issued and local suppliers who meet the requirements will be strongly preferred.

Logistical responsibilities will include the procurement of products and their transport to the target localities for distribution to beneficiaries.

For cash transfers, service providers and suppliers will be selected in accordance with National Society and IFRC procedures. Those offering the best quality and price will be selected for the cash component.

### Communication

The usual communication channels and media of the BFRC such as radios, social networks and written media will be used for the visibility of this intervention. Articles will be produced and disseminated in the written newspaper and on the various digital platforms of the BFRC. The radio broadcasts that will be carried out during the implementation of this operation will also constitute privileged channels for the visibility of the movement's actions at community and national level.

The NS will ensure a regular presence of food security issues in the country on the newsfeeds, with weekly coverage on the preferred platforms identified during the market assessment.

### Security

Burkina Faso contributes to the UN peacekeeping initiative in Mali (MINUSMA) and is therefore considered a legitimate target by Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) and its associated groups. It is very likely that extremists will attempt to carry out attacks in Burkina Faso, particularly in the capital Ouagadougou. Attacks could be indiscriminate and occur without warning, affecting security forces, schools and markets in Burkina Faso. The threat of kidnapping remains high in Burkina Faso, including Ouagadougou, and in the Sahel region as a whole. This threat is likely to continue as groups remain determined to demonstrate their capabilities and increase their influence in the region. Security is limited outside the capital Ouagadougou. Regular attacks on police, military personnel and civilians have taken place, particularly near

the borders with Mali, Niger and Côte d'Ivoire and in the eastern region. Following the 24 January coup, a transitional government was appointed, and the situation is evolving. Socio-political unrest occurs sporadically and, although generally short-lived, can sometimes degenerate into vandalism and looting, and can disrupt travel and/or present accidental risks to passers-by.

To reduce the risk of RCRC staff becoming victims of crime, extremism, violence and road hazards, active risk mitigation measures should be adopted. Minimum security requirements should be implemented, including security and contingency plans. IFRC security plans will apply to all IFRC personnel throughout the operation. No deployment of IFRC staff in the red and orange phase areas unless approved by the regional director or head of delegation in consultation with the regional and Geneva security unit. All National Society and IFRC staff actively involved in operations must successfully complete the IFRC online security training courses (i.e., Level 1 Fundamentals, Level 2 Personal and Volunteer Security, and Level 3 Leadership Security) prior to deployment.

### IFRC security phases:

### Areas in orange phase

Ouagadougou, Koudougou, Kombissiri, Manga, Pô Kaya, Kongoussi, Yako, Gourcy, Dedougou, Bobo-Dioulasso, Banfora, Niangoloko, Gaoua, Ouahigouya

### Areas in red phase

Orodara, Nouna, Tougan, Djibo, Gorom-Gorom, Dori, Bogandé, Fada N'Gourma, Diapaga, Pama. Loroum Provinces Border areas with Mali, Benin, Togo, Côte d'Ivoire and Niger.

Please note that IFRC field operations with staff operating in orange and red zones must employ at least one full-time security delegate, as defined in the new minimum security requirements policy. In addition, deployment in the indicated areas must be approved by the Regional Director/Head of Delegation in consultation with the Regional and Geneva Security Units.

Security is an essential element for the success of this intervention. To this end, the BFRC Security Coordinator will be at the heart of this intervention. All activity and field travel plans will be shared for validation and the various security focal points in the intervention provinces will also be involved.

### Finance and administration:

Compliance with IFRC financial procedures will be observed. And continuous monitoring and technical support will be provided by the IFRC to ensure effective and accountable management of financial resources. Funds and management tools will be made available over time and monitoring of the IFRC finance teams will be put in place.

### Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER):

The planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the programme will be carried out in close collaboration with all stakeholders under the leadership of the BFRC Directorate of Studies and Planning. Participatory and remote monitoring will be carried out at all levels between the BFRC and the IFRC. A lesson learned workshop will be organised at the end of the operation. Coordination meetings will be held throughout the operation to ensure harmonised monitoring.

# **C. Detailed Operational Plan**



### Livelihoods and basic needs

People targeted: 4,200

Male: 2,024 Female: 2,176

Requirements (CHF): 155,702

**Needs analysis:** In most of the targeted geographical areas, people have lost their livelihoods. For the vulnerable populations identified, particularly in the provinces that are in crisis situations and in areas affected by insecurity, immediate food assistance is required. Especially for the most vulnerable groups, including households with elderly people, malnourished children aged 6-59 months, children, pregnant and lactating women.

Population to be assisted: Food assistance (food vouchers) for 2 months: 600 households

Programme standards/benchmarks: The standards to be followed will be those in force at the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Resources and Fisheries, the CWG and the FAO in Burkina Faso

	Livelihoods and basic needs Outcome 1: Communities, es affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods	pecia	lly in	disa	ster a	and c	risis	# of nousenoids that received food assistance: 600 nousenoids											
P&B Output code	Dutput code Livelihoods and basic needs Output 1.2: Basic needs assistance for livelihoods security including food is provided to the most affected communities					•	# of m # of (targe	arket : house t: 600)	ers trai survey holds bution	s cond benefi	lucted iting fi	(target rom fo	od di	stribut	ion				
	Planned activities Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
AP008	Training/retraining of volunteers in digital data collection																		
AP008	Targeting of beneficiaries																		
AP008	Organise market analysis and in target areas																		
AP008	Raising awareness among beneficiaries																		
AP008	Distribution of food in the form of cash or food stamps																		
AP008	Post-distribution monitoring (PDM) and market monitoring																		
AP008	8 Detailed needs assessment in other locations																		



### Health

People targeted: 4,200

Male: 2,024 Female: 2,176

Requirements (CHF): 10,810

**Needs analysis**: The nutritional situation of children under five in the country remains a concern. The results of the latest SMART nutrition survey show a 10% increase in the number of children aged 6-59 months who may be acutely malnourished, and an increase in SAM cases of more than 18% compared to last year, which is well above the WHO's critical threshold. A screening campaign for malnutrition and the development of community health activities are essential to limit the risk of child mortality in emergency areas.

Population to be assisted: At least 600 households with children aged 0-59 years. Estimated 1,200 children and (4,200 people)

Programme standards/benchmarks: Ministry of Health and WHO standard

DOD	Health Outcome 1: The immediate risks to the health of affected populations are reduced P&B						d			ple se on in ch						detec	tion of		
Output Code	Health Output 1.1: The health situation and immediate risks are assessed using agreed guidelines						reed	-		volunte benefic			•	,	ed (targ	get: 1,2	00)		
	Planned activities Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
AP014	Training/retraining of volunteers on malnutrition and screening																		
AP014	Screening and referral of malnutrition cases to health centres																		
	Health Outcome 4: Transmission of diseases of epidemic potential is reduced					% of diseases with epidemic potential detected and referred to the health centre													
P&B Output	Health Output 4.1: Community-based disease control and heal target population	th pro	omoti	on is	provi	ded to	o the	# of focus group discussions with target groups											
Code	Planned activities Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
AP084	CEA activities to promote community-based disease control and health promotion																		
AP084	Awareness raising by volunteers																		
AP084	Radio information and awareness campaigns in targeted provinces on WASH and health promotion																		
P&B Output	Health Outcome 5: Less severe cases of disease or malnutrition are treated in the commun with referral pathways for severe cases established						ınity,		target et: 100		ation r	eache	d by he	ealth ar	nd hygi	ene pr	omotion		

Code	Health Output 5.2: Acute malnutrition cases are managed in established for severe cases.	n the	com	munit	y, wi	th ref	ferral	•	# of m	oluntee alnutri letermi	tion ca				health	centre	(target:
	Planned activities Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP021	Health and hygiene promotion campaigns on prevention and control of Malnutrition and on common communicable diseases such as Acute Watery Diarrhoea, and Bloody Diarrhoeas.																
AP021	Reproduction of IEC materials for dissemination of messages on malnutrition signs and prevention, disease prevention and health promotion																
AP021	Training/retraining of volunteers on malnutrition and screening																
AP024	MUAC screening and referral of malnutrition cases to health centres																



# Water, sanitation, and hygiene

People targeted: 4,200

Male: 2,024 Female: 2,176

Requirements (CHF): 4,682

**Needs analysis:** Access to drinking water remains a major concern, as in many communes, water points have been ransacked by armed groups, the tracks to reach them are mined or occupied by them, or these localities have no facilities because they are isolated. Even if access conditions do not allow for intense community action, especially groupings, WASH activities will be implemented to ensure access to drinking water and good hygiene practices.

Population to be assisted: 600 households (4, 200 people)

**Programme standards/benchmarks:** Sphere and WHO minimum standards.

P&B Output Code	WASH Outcome1: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne targeted communities  WASH Output 1.1: Continuous assessment of water, sanita carried out in targeted communities							# of p	people i	reache	d by wa	ater pu	rificatio	on acti	vities (1	target:	4,200)
	Planned activities Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP022	Assessment of the water and WASH situation in the 6 provinces																
AP026	Community awareness of waterborne disease risks during targeting, distribution and assessment																

P&B Output	WASH Output 1.2: Daily access to safe water which meets Sphe of quantity and quality is provided to target population	re and	HW E	) star	dard	s in te	rms	# of /	Aquata	bs/ Aq	uapur l	kits dis	tribute	ed (targ	et: 600	))	
Code	Planned activities Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP026	Raising awareness of households on water treatment																
AP026	Distribution of Aquatabs and/or Aquapur kits																

**Strategies for Implementation** 

Requirements (CHF): 73,944

P&B Output Code	S1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacity output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated	ncial	<ul> <li># of volunteers insured (target: 70)</li> <li># of volunteers receiving psychological first aid (target: 70)</li> <li># of personal protective equipment distributed to volunteers</li> </ul>															
Code	Planned activities Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP042	Ensure that volunteers are insured																	
AP042	Provide psychological first aid to volunteers																	
AP042	Provide visibility materials to volunteers																	
AP042	Provide protective wear for volunteers																	
AP042	Increase the involvement of the NS in the coordination mechanism at country level (internal and external coordination: cluster, CWG)																	
AP042	Ensure field deployment of NDRT team members																	
AP042	Monitoring missions of the NS																	
D.O.D.	Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster	resp	onse	is en	surec	ı		# of IFRC Surge deployments (target: 2)										
P&B Output Code	Output S2.1.1: Effective and respected surge capacity mechanism is maintained.							• #	of mu of ass of mo	essme	ent repo	orts pr	oduced	l (targe		ted (tar	get: 1)	
	Planned activities Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP046	Deployment of ops manager surge for 2 months and communication/PRD for 1 month																	
AP046	Conduct one IFRC monitoring visit to work with NS in Ouagadougou																	

P&B Output	Output S2.1.3: NS compliance with Principles and Rules for Huimproved	ımani	tariar	Assi	stand	ce is			1)	ommun ssons							target:
Code	Planned activities Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP084	Two-way community communication activities ensure people are kept informed of operational plans and progress, have the information they need about the response and can participate in decision making throughout the design, planning, implementation, and evaluation of the response																
AP084	Community feedback systems (including rumour and/or perception tracking) are established, and feedback acted upon and used to improve the operation																
AP084	CEA briefing for volunteers is conducted																
AP055	Conduct lessons learned																
P&B Output	Output S4.1.4: Staff security is prioritised in all IFRC activities									sibility oluntee						jet: 50)	
Code	Planned activities Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP066	Ensure procurement of visibility items for volunteers in the 6 provinces																
AP066	Safety briefing for the teams and volunteers deployed at the beginning and at each field activity in the 6 provinces																

# **Budget**

The total amount allocated for the implementation of this DREF operation is CHF 245,138 as detailed in the budget below.

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

# **DREF OPERATION**

MDRBF017 - BURKINA FASO - ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY

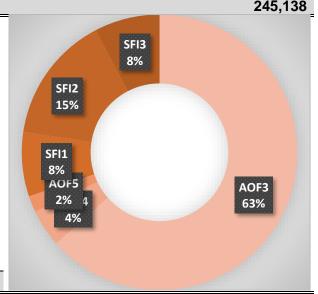
25/05/2022

# **Budget by Resource**

Budget Group	Budget
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	2,826
Medical & First Aid	879
Teaching Materials	2,355
Cash Disbursement	142,242
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	148,302
International Staff	22,500
National Society Staff	707
Volunteers	11,488
Personnel	34,694
Professional Fees	1,061
Consultants & Professional Fees	1,061
Workshops & Training	17,990
Workshops & Training	17,990
Travel	12,198
Information & Public Relations	1,099
Office Costs	204
Communications	157
Financial Charges	471
Other General Expenses	14,000
General Expenditure	28,129
DIRECT COSTS	230,177
INDIRECT COSTS	14,961
TOTAL BUDGET	245,138

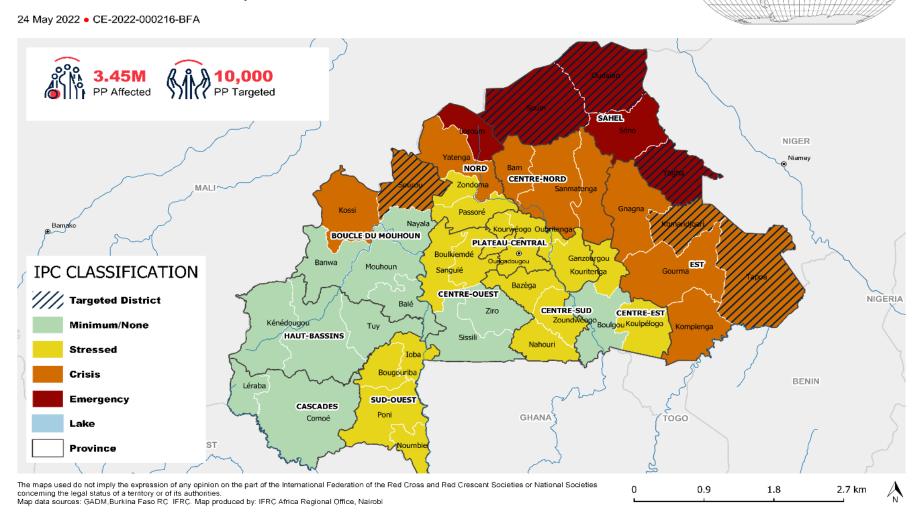
# **Budget by Area of Intervention**

AOF3	Livelihoods and Basic Needs	155,702
AOF4	Health	10,810
AOF5	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	4,682
SFI1	Strengthen National Societies	18,476
SFI2	Effective International Disaster Management	36,685
SFI3	Influence others as leading strategic partners	18,782
	TOTAL	245.138





# Burkina Faso: Food insecurity



### **Contact information**

Reference documents

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### Click here for:

- Operation Update
- Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

### For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

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### How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere**) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage**, **facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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Saving lives, changing minds.







The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

- Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
- Enable healthy and safe living.
- 3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace