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## Operation Update Report: Burkina Faso Hunger Crisis

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF Operation n° MDRBF017	Glide number <a href="#">CE-2022-000216-BFA</a>
Operation update n° 1; date of issue; 12/07/2022	Timeframe covered by this update: 26 May 2022 to 30 June 2022
Operation start date: 26 May 2022	Operation timeframe: 03 months and end date 31 August 2022
DREF allocated (CHF): 245,138	If Emergency Appeal/ One International Appeal operation, DREF amount initially allocated: CHF XX
N° of people being assisted: 4,200 people (600 HH)	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation:</b> International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC), Luxemburg, Belgian, Monaco, Spanish, British, Danish, French, Finnish and Norwegian Red Cross Society.	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> 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.	

### Summary of major revisions made to the Emergency Plan of Action:

This update is published to revise the targeted areas due to the deterioration of security situation. Burkina Faso Red Cross (BFRC) will also take that opportunity to inform stakeholders on the activities already conducted and the ones ongoing.

The security situation in Burkina Faso has been deteriorating quickly in Yagha province, making it no longer accessible for humanitarian actors. On June 25, the HANI (unidentified armed man) surrounded Sebba and the nearby villages of Diagora, Noutou, Namountougou and Kakanfogou. They have they ordered the population to evacuate their villages within 48 hours and the population of fifteen villages left their homes to Sebba.

The National Society (NS) has assessed the situation and closely monitored the evolution in coordination with Movement partners (IFRC, ICRC, Partner National Societies) and relevant external partners (Food Security Cluster and INSO). Based on the meetings and consultations, Burkina Faso Red Cross is changing the area of intervention by removing Yagha Province in the targeted areas as the security situation is still red and forecasted not to improve for now.

Except for the targeting strategy, all operational strategy outlined in the [EPoA](#) launched on 26 May 2022 remains unchanged. The DREF allocation of CHF 245,138 to BFRC will still cover urgent relief assistance in Gorom (Oudalan Province) instead of Sebba (Yagha province), and conduct detailed assessment in **Sourou, Soum, Oudalan, Tapoa, and Komandjari**.

From 26 May to 08 July 2022, the NS has been coordinating the DREF activities with its partners, taking part to meetings with Movement partners, ECHO and the food security cluster in regular basis. Some activities have already started: revision of assessment tools, improvement of training packages, and launching of procurement processes.

# 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.

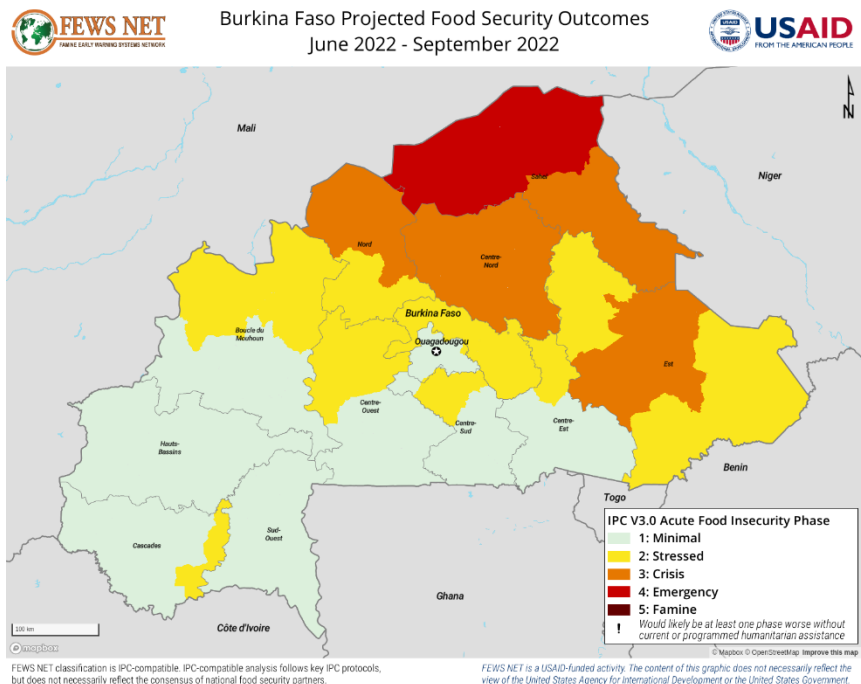
In the case of Burkina Faso, the [Cadre Harmonisé](#) and the [IPC](#) analysis placed it among the countries with the largest number of severely food-insecure population and areas at risk of famine by the end of this month, July 2022. The number of acute malnourished children below 59 months is 10% higher than last years for the same period and the severe stage is 18% higher. 699,027 children from 1 to 59 months and 163,000 pregnant and lactation women are exposed to food insecurity and hunger crisis over the country this year for a total of 40% of the provinces in IPC Phase 3 and five provinces in IPC Phase 4 with no forecasted improvement in the next quarter as the country is entering in the lean season.

Further highlighting the humanitarian crisis in Burkina Faso, multiple FEWSNET<sup>1</sup> publications of the forecasted situation until September are showing a deterioration of the food security situation and the risk of famine. Burkina Faso 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.

As part of the response strategy of the Burkina Faso Red Cross, a continuous monitoring of the situation is ongoing to adapt the response depending on the evolution of the forecast in the coming months.

The current deterioration of the security situation during the past weeks in Yagha already in IPC 4, will worsen the situation in the Province and all around the North and North-East areas with common humanitarian consequences resulting from this situation: more displacement, abandonment of cultivable land and public services include health services, disruption of markets, more limitation of humanitarian access etc. All, high factors of food insecurity and famine in the country.

The Burkinabe Red Cross, whose 2021-2030 strategic plan is aligned with the [IFRC's pan-African Zero Hunger Initiative](#), keeps a monitoring system of the hunger crisis in the country and through this DREF operation, aims to start urgent assistance in the most affected areas.



## Summary of current response

### Overview of Host National Society

The response was initiated on the 26 May 2022 by BFRC (Burkina Faso Red Cross) with the support of IFRC. Coordination meetings were organized to assure kick-start of activities, revising assessment tools, training packages, and launching procurement processes. All assessment tools have been validated and will initiate on 11 July.

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

BFRC team supported by IFRC Ops Manager finalized the revision of the training package for volunteers on food security, nutrition and needs assessments.

Funds were transferred and IFRC deployed the Surge Operations Manager to Burkina Faso on 20 June. IFRC Program Manager of Niamey Country Cluster Delegation conducted a field mission to support the NS in implementation.

<sup>1</sup> [Fewsnet of 12 May 2022](#) , FEWSNET food insecurity projection from [June to September 2022](#)

A meeting was organized on 27 June 2022 with PNS (Spanish, Belgian, Luxembourg, and Monaco Red Cross Societies) present in Burkina Faso, ICRC, BFRC and IFRC to discuss the implementation plan and way forward. The PNSs provide technical input for the DREF regarding activities and assessments and their support will be possibly increased in case the DREF will be scaled-up to an Emergency Appeal. IFRC, BFRC and Belgium Red Cross met with the ECHO delegation in Burkina Faso to discuss the response and create momentum for additional inputs.

ICRC is exploring the possibilities to increase its support to the Hunger Crisis. For the time being, the largest support is on the provision of security advice in accordance with their mandate and as is the common modality of working with the BFRC and IFRC. As Movement coordination, ICRC is providing support and guidance on the ongoing security situation in Yagha. All security related information is shared with ICRC focal point.

### **Overview of non-RCRC actors in country**

The NS and IFRC have had bilateral meetings with the food security cluster lead, WFP, to discuss the response plan to the hunger crisis and the deteriorating security situation in Yagha province. The NS and IFRC participated as well in the bi-weekly Food Security cluster meetings and specific meetings on Yagha province.

BFRC and IFRC participated in the press conference on 28 June 2022 organized by the government where the plan of action for food insecurity situation was presented following an appeal for international assistance given the gravity of the situation.

In Oudalan province the following humanitarian partners are providing livelihoods support to beneficiaries affected by the hunger crisis:

- WFP is planning distribution of CASH vouchers to 3,000 beneficiaries in the province of Oudalan province, this number is not enough to cover the needs of the beneficiaries facing hunger in IPC Phase 4.
- Oxfam is having a long-term livelihood program in Oudalan province, and not providing emergency assistance.

### **Needs analysis and scenario planning**

#### **Needs analysis**

Following the Emergency plan of Action of this operation, a multisectoral needs assessment is planned in this DREF and the report to be issued will provide specific analysis of the vulnerable provinces in IPC Phase 4 and/or 3. As part of this update, Yagha is no longer part of the targeted provinces even if it remains at IPC 4. The needs assessment will be conducted in **Sourou, Soum, Oudalan, Tapoa, and Komandjari** which are also in IPC 3-4 and are accessible based on the security situation. Assessment tools have been revised and the assessment started on 11 of July.

However, based on secondary data from expert and partners reports, feedback from BFRC branches and other operations conducted by the NS in these regions, the needs of the population were globally summarised in the EPoA. Link to the published version [here](#).

#### **Operation Risk Assessment**

The emergency assistance part was to take place in Sebaa in Yagha province, a central locality in this province where most of the internally displaced converge. BFRC has been implementing monitoring and assistance activities there since the beginning of the conflict. A locality already under strong demographic pressure with more than 1,000 displaced households identified. Over the past weeks, the security situation has deteriorated sharply with armed groups gradually imposing a blockade on Sebaa preventing residents and displaced families from leaving Sebaa. The blockade aims to prevent traders from obtaining supplies and any external input. The bridge linking Kaya to Ouagadougou has been destroyed to reinforce this blockade and vulnerability has increased sharply in this city.

This sudden deterioration in security was reported by the BFRC team on the ground in Yagha province, describing the crisis in the city and the ultimatums posed by the armed groups to leave the city. INSO shared a reporting recommending humanitarians to leave the city and the province. The blockade prevents any kind of humanitarian assistance into the area. Markets are disrupted and the planned CASH would not be effective considering the reduced purchasing power of households and disruption of the markets due to severe inflation. Distribution of food instead of CASH is not an option as the road to Sebaa are inaccessible. Even if we would be able to get aid safely into Sebaa region it would make our beneficiaries and volunteers targets of the armed groups.

The NS has discussed the implications of the deteriorating security situation with IFRC, ICRC and PNS in the coordination on 27 June and beyond in bilateral meeting. ICRC anticipates that the situation in Sebaa will not improve soon and most likely even further deteriorate. All Red Cross Movement Partners have recommended the National Society to change the area of intervention of the operation.

All the response actions planned for the Yagha Province will be oriented in Gorom in Oudalan province. This area has been selected based on recommendations of the Food Security cluster as it has nearly 7,000 households in IPC Phase four (4) and coverage of other humanitarian actors is far from sufficient. The security situation in the region is stable and

is not expected to deteriorate during the implementation period of the DREF. IFRC has not yet executed a security assessment in Oudalan as it does not have a security focal point in country. Therefore, secondary information on security and humanitarian coverage was gathered from the food security cluster. No security threat has been reported in this province for the past three months. The National Society has been implementing DRR activities in the same region without any issues and the security team of the BFRC is continuously monitoring the situation when staff relocates to Oudalan for missions. ICRC has no presence in this region through provided information that this is the safest area for interventions out of the six areas selected for assessments in the DREF provided information that this is the safest area for interventions out of the six areas selected for assessments in the DREF.

## **B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY**

### **Proposed strategy**

The operation objectives and strategy will be implemented within the initial plan and allocation of CHF 245,138 granted by the DREF to Burkina Faso Red Cross (BFRC).

The objective remains to provide immediate support to 4,200 people (600 households) in Gorom (Oudalan 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 scale up of the response, Cash and Voucher Assistance activities and other Livelihood assistance approach.

The urgent relief assistance in Gorom (Oudalan Province) is the same planned in Sebaa (Yagha province). The implementation is ongoing as per the planned strategy summarised below:

- Food needs and access to water for 600 households in Gorom, in the Oudalan Province instead of Yagha as initially planned with for the CASH distributions, Health and WASH intervention. Hygiene promotion sessions will be organized and may be useful for gathering information and addressing community concerns.
- Conduct participatory assessments with the affected communities to elevate the voices of the most vulnerable by 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 further response strategies in line with Africa Region's Zero Hunger Initiative. 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 of storytelling 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.

The slide change on targeting areas is based on consultation with the Food Security cluster, governmental actors, and Red Cross movement partners. The province has with nearly 40,000 people (7,000 households) in phase four of IPC. According to the Food Security cluster this province the level of coverage of humanitarian partners is below fifty percent and it has been recommended to the NS to direct its interventions to this area. The security situation in Oudalan has been discussed with ICRC and it is relatively stable and not expected to deteriorate during the implementation period of the response. BFRC has a large base of volunteers in Oudalan trained and ready to be deployed. The current level of stocks in the area is sufficient and hence the CASH is expected not to cause inflation or shortages. The market assessment.

Operation manager surge is already deployed since June 2022 and provide technical support to the National Society. The Communications surge initially planned will no longer be deployed as the BFRC Communications Manager has the capacity and time availability to cover the communication plan. It has been agreed that IFRC regional Communication officer will provide ongoing remote support throughout the operation and a field visit in the end of July to align the communication strategy with the Africa, especially in Sahel region.

The type of activities and number of targeted populations will remain the same as in the EpoA [here](#).

## C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN



### Livelihoods and basic needs

People targeted: 4,200

Male: 2,024

Female: 2,176

#### Outcome 1:

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of trained volunteers	70	0

#### Output 1.1:

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of market assessment conducted	1	0
# of households receiving food assistance	600	0
# of post-distribution monitoring	1	0

#### Progress towards outcomes

The training of volunteers has not been started due to the assessment of feasibility to intervene in Yagha province. The BFRC has revised the training package and tools and is ready to train the volunteers. For the same reasons expressed no households have received assistance yet but the process of beneficiary selection has been discussed integrating CEA and PGI.



### Health

People targeted: 4,200

Male: 2,024

Female: 2,176

#### Outcome 1: Health Outcome 1: Immediate health risks to affected populations are reduced

#### Output 1.1: Health Product 1.1: The situation and immediate health risks are assessed using agreed guidelines

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of trained volunteers in health risk and malnutrition detection cases with MUAC	20	0
# of people sensitized on health risks and the detection of cases of malnutrition in children: at least 2000 people	2000	
# of malnourished cases referenced	1200	0

#### Health outcome 4: The transmission of diseases with epidemic potential is reduced.

#### Health Output 4.1: The target population benefits from community-based disease control and health promotion.


Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of focus groups with target groups to promote good health practices	TBD	0

#### Health Outcome 5: Less severe cases of illness or malnutrition are treated in the community, with referral pathways for severe cases.

#### Health Output 5.2: Cases of acute malnutrition are managed within the community, with a baseline set for severe cases.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of trained volunteers	20	0

# cases of malnutrition referred to the health centre	TBD	0
<b>Progress towards outcomes</b>		
The training of volunteers has not been started due to the assessment of feasibility to intervene in Yagha province. The BFRC has revised the training package and tools and is ready to train the volunteers.		
No focus group yet but all tools are already prepared		

 <h3 style="color: red;">Water, sanitation and hygiene</h3> <p>People targeted: 4,200 Male: 2,024 Female: 2,176</p>		
<b>Outcome 1:</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of households which confirm their access to potable water has improved (new)	600	0
<b>Output 1.1:</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of people affected by water purification activities	4,200	0
# of people reached with WASH awareness messages	4,200	0
<b>Progress towards outcomes</b>		
Procurement of Products for the household water treatment activities are ongoing.		

<b style="color: red;">Strengthen National Society</b>		
<b>Outcome 1:</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of insured volunteers	70	0
# of volunteers receiving psychological first aid	70	0
# of personal protective equipment distributed to volunteers	70	0
<b>Progress towards outcomes</b>		
<i>Activities have not started yet though the training package on psychological first aid has been revised and the procurement process for protective equipment for volunteer have been launched.</i>		

<b style="color: red;">International Disaster Response</b>		
<b>Outcome S1:</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of multi-sectoral needs assessments carried out	1	0
# of product evaluation reports	1	0
# of follow-up visits by the IFRC	1	1
# of established community feedback mechanisms	1	0
# of lessons learned workshops organized	1	0
# of visibility material available for teams	50	0

# volunteers and staff briefed	70	0
# of IFRC Surge deployments (target: 2)	2	0
<b>Progress towards outcomes</b>		
<p>The multi-sectoral needs assessment is ready to start as tools have been revised and validated. One visit of IFRC Program Manager of Niamey Country Cluster Delegation has taken place.</p> <p>CEA strategy has been discussed in coordination meetings of the National Society and the team is ready to set-up the feedback system</p> <p>Visibility and equipment material procurement is ongoing.</p> <p>Operation manager surge is already deployed since June 2022. And IFRC regional Communication officer will handle the communication plan with the communication officer of the National Society.</p>		

<b>Influence others as leading strategic partner</b>		
<b>Outcome 1:</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
#of communication media local and international around the hunger crisis movement action in the country (new)	02	0
# of coordination meeting attended/ organised	10	05
<b>Progress towards outcomes</b>		
<p>The following coordination meetings' were organized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BFRC, PNSs, IFRC, ICRC: one. The purpose of this meeting was to present the updates on implementation of the DREF, scale-up to emergency appeal and security situation in Yagha province</li> <li>• Niamey CCD: three: the purpose of these meetings was provision of technical guidance in the implementation of the DREF</li> <li>• Operations Manager and all coordinators of BFRC: one. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss on ongoing implementation, way forward for July implementation.</li> </ul> <p>IFRC and BFRC participated in one Food Security cluster meeting and had a bilateral meeting with the WFP in its function as cluster lead</p>		

## D. Financial Report

The budget and allocation remain unchanged CHF 245,138. For the moment, expenditure is mainly made up of National Society transfer and team movement to the field for setting the implementation, attend coordination meetings and mobilised the volunteers for the activities.

Reference documents

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Click here for:

- Operation Update
- Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

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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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**Save lives,**  
protect livelihoods,  
and strengthen recovery  
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**  
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**  
and a culture of  
**non-violence** and **peace**.