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Operation Update Report no.2

Burkina Faso: Hunger Crisis



DREF Operation n° MDRBF017	Glide number CE-2022-000216-BFA
Operation update n° 2; date of issue; 08/09/2022	Timeframe covered by this update: 26 May 2022 to 31 August 2022
Operation start date: 26 May 2022	Operation timeframe: 4 months and end date 30 September 2022
DREF allocated (CHF): 245,138	
N° of people being assisted: 4,200 people (600 HH)	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), ICRC, Luxemburg, Belgian, Monaco, Spanish, British, Danish, French, Finnish, and Norwegian Red Cross Societies.	
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.	

Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

This update is published to inform the Burkinabe Red Cross Society (BRCS) partners and stakeholders on the implementation progress since the update 1. The National Society (NS) also extends the intervention timeframe of one month due to the deterioration of security situation in country.

The operational strategy outlined in the [EPoA](#) launched on 26 May 2022 remains unchanged. The amount of CHF 245,138 allocated by the DREF to BRCS will still cover the assistance until the end of this extension. Targets remain as revised in the operation update n°1: Gorom (Oudalan Province) for the response 90% completed and **Sourou, Soum, Oudalan, Tapoa, Komandjari selected as a sample of key most vulnerable provinces to conduct detailed assessment** which is being finalised.

From 26 May to 31st of August 2022, the NS has been coordinating the DREF activities with its partners, taking part in meetings with Movement partners, ECHO and the food security cluster on a regular basis. Assessment tools were revised, training packages improved, and procurements done. A market assessment has been conducted in Gorom, beneficiaries were selected, and CASH vouchers distributed to 653 households.

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. Some 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 FEWSNET¹ 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 Society, 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 started on the 26 May 2022 by BRCS (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.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

BRCS team supported by IFRC Operations 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 Operation Manager to Burkina Faso on 20 June. IFRC Program Manager of Niamey Country Cluster Delegation conducted a field mission to support the National Society in implementation.

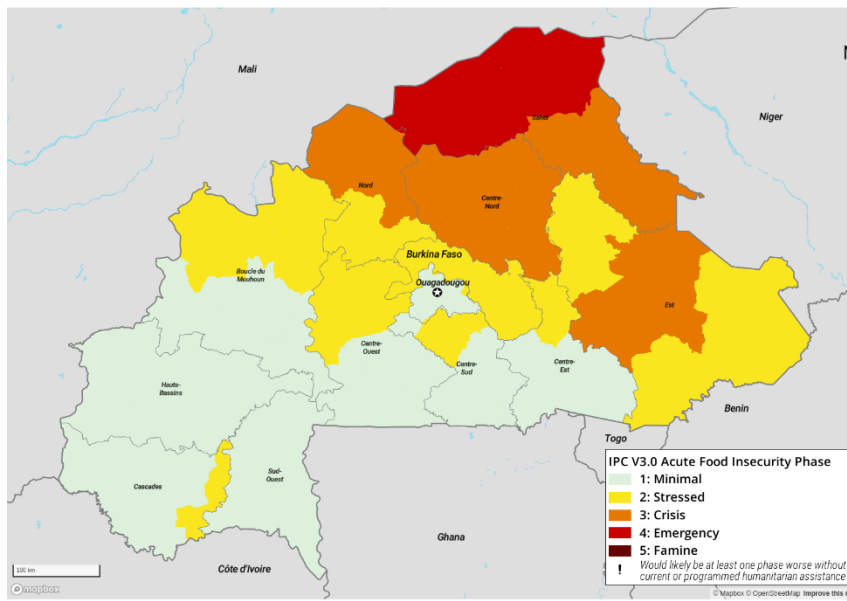
A meeting was organized on Monday 27 June 2022 with PNS (Spanish, Belgian, Luxembourg, and Monaco Red Cross Societies) present in Burkina Faso, ICRC, the NS and IFRC to discuss the implementation of DREF planned activities and way forward. PNSs provided technical input to the DREF EPOA regarding activities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

NS's staff members worked on assessment tools and have trained teams on new tools and methodology. Teams have also worked on other aspects of assistance, proceeded to targeting in Gorom and finalized the process with 653 targeted households. These targeted households received assistance for 2 months with WIZALL (financial partner). They have also received aquatabs and have been sensitized on WASH and Health. Nutrition screening was done at the same time as targeting process and 1,195 children between 6 and 59 months were screened and 653 was in situation of malnutrition (64 severe and acute malnutrition). Two of 5 planned localities have concluded final phase of data collection for detailed assessment and the three remaining localities will be done in the coming days.

ICRC is exploring the possibilities to increase its support to the Hunger Crisis. At this moment, 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



Burkina Faso Projected Food Security Outcomes
June 2022 - September 2022



FEWS NET classification is IPC-compatible. IPC-compatible analysis follows key IPC protocols, but does not necessarily reflect the consensus of national food security partners.

FEWS NET is a USAID-funded activity. The content of this graphic does not necessarily reflect the view of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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

BRCS and IFRC. Concerning Movement coordination mechanism, ICRC is providing support and guidance on the ongoing security situation in Yagha. All security information collected are shared with ICRC focal point.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The National Society and IFRC have had a bilateral meeting 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 participate in the bi-weekly Food Security cluster meetings and in specific meetings on Yagha province.

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

In Oudalan province the following humanitarian partners are providing livelihoods support to populations affected by the hunger crisis. WFP is planning distribution of CASH vouchers to 3,000 beneficiaries in the Oudalan province. This is insufficient to cover the needs of the beneficiaries facing hunger in IPC Phase 4. Oxfam is having a long-term livelihood program in Oudalan province, thus not providing emergency assistance.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Needs analysis

Following the emergency plan of this operation, a multisectoral needs assessment was planned through 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, 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 July. However, based on secondary data from experts and partners reports, feedback from BRCS branches and other operations run by the NS in these regions, the needs of the population were globally summarised in the [EPoA](#).

Operation Risk Assessment

The emergency assistance part was to take place in Sebba in Yagha province, a central locality in this province where most of the internally displaced converge. BRCS 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 with armed groups gradually imposing a blockade on Sebba preventing residents and displaced families from leaving Sebba. 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 considerably increased in this city.

This sudden deterioration in security was reported by the BRCS 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 report recommending humanitarians to leave the city and the province. The blockade prevents any kind of humanitarian assistance in the area. Markets are disrupted and the planned cash activities 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 roads to Sebba are inaccessible. Even if the NS would be able to get aid safely into Sebba region it would make beneficiaries and volunteers targets of the armed groups.

The NS has discussed the implications of the deteriorating security situation with IFRC, ICRC and PNSs in the coordination meeting of 27 June and beyond in bilateral meetings. ICRC does not expect the situation in Sebba improve soon; rather it is most likely to deteriorate even further. All Red Cross Movement Partners have recommended the NS 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 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 done a security assessment in Oudalan because there is no 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 NS has been implementing DRR activities in the same region without any issues and the security team of the BRCS is continuously monitoring the situation when staff members travel to Oudalan for missions. ICRC has no presence in this region but 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's objectives and strategy will be implemented within the initial plan and allocation of CHF 245,138 granted by the DREF to the BRCS).

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 as the one 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 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 along with the affected communities to hear 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. Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) approach will also be integrated into the overall response to ensure access and acceptance. To increase the visibility of the operation, broadcasts of storytelling will be organized on community radios, videos and photos will be produced in compliance with the protection of personal data with the prior consent of those concerned.

The slight change on targeting areas is based on consultation with the Food Security cluster, governmental actors, and Red Cross Movement partners. The province has nearly 40,000 people (7,000 households) in Phase 4 of IPC. According to the Food Security cluster the level of coverage of humanitarian partners in this province is below fifty percent and it has been recommended to the NS to redirect its interventions to this area. The security situation in Oudalan has been discussed with ICRC and it is relatively stable and is not expected to deteriorate during the implementation period of the response. BRCS has a large base of trained volunteers in Oudalan that are ready to be deployed. The current level of stocks in the area is sufficient, hence the Cash is expected not to cause inflation or shortages.


The Operations manager surge is already deployed since June 2022 and provides technical support to the NS. The Communications surge initially planned will no longer be deployed as the BRCS 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. He has done a field visit towards 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](#).

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

 <p>Livelihoods and basic needs People reached: 4,177 Male: 1,963 Female: 2,214</p>		
Outcome 1:		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of trained volunteers	70	70
Output 1.1:		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of market assessment conducted	1	1

# of households receiving food assistance	600	653
# of post-distribution monitoring	1	0
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>In July 70 Red Cross volunteers in Gorom, Oudalan province were selected and trained during a three-day training. The training modules were revised by the technical teams of BRCS with support of IFRC. The volunteers were trained on market assessment, beneficiary selection, CEA, PGI and Nutrition. A team of trainers of the BRCS Headquarters went to Gorom to train the volunteers. At the end of the training, field volunteers and supervisors were deployed to the field for the activities outlined when planning for this DREF and in accordance with the operation update revising the targeting.</p> <p>Twenty of these volunteers participate to the market assessment to ensure all due diligence is made to assure cash distribution would be an effective humanitarian intervention. Based on the positive outcomes of the market assessment, it was decided that the cash distributions would be feasible, a beneficiary selection was then conducted.</p> <p>CEA and PGI approaches were considered for the beneficiary selection, the community leaders were consulted on how to reach the most vulnerable households. Before the distribution, the selection criteria were communicated to the community during a community meeting. During and after the distribution, it was possible to submit complaints through the complaints and feedback committee.</p> <p>Regarding the distribution, 653 households received two cash transfers of XOF 75,000 (CHF 112). The amount for the cash for each transfer has been agreed within the Food Security Cluster and followed by the BRCS in the implementation phase. An additional 53 beneficiaries received cash as the transfer costs turned out to be less. For the extension period of the DREF the only remaining activity on cash is the PDM. The objective of this PDM is to understand how the households have used the cash and if they were satisfied.</p>		

	Health People reached: 2,060 Male: 864 Female: 1196	
	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	20
# of people sensitized on health risks and the detection of cases of malnutrition in children: at least 2000 people	2,000	1,195
# of malnourished cases referenced	1,200	695
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	17
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	20
# cases of malnutrition referred to the health centre	TBD	64
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>Twenty volunteers were trained on nutrition including adequate nutrition behaviour and screening of malnourished children. The training modules were in-line with the nutrition strategy of the Ministry of Health. The trained volunteers conducted sensitization activities in Gorom through household visits, focus groups and at public spaces.</p>		

Seventeen focus group discussions were organized with an average of 10 participants per group. The volunteers used IEC material to explain adequate nutrition behaviour aiming at accelerating behaviour change of the population.

The volunteers done MUAC screening and referred 1,196 children between 6 and 59 months with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and 64 cases with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). The volunteers referred the children to Health centres and followed-up with the families on the treatment.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

People reached: 4177

Male: 1,963

Female: 2,214

Outcome 1:

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households which confirm their access to potable water has improved (new)	600	653

Output 1.1:

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people affected by water purification activities	4,200	4,177
# of people reached with WASH awareness messages	4,200	4,177

Progress towards outcomes

The 653 households have received 10 kits of Aquatab water purifier to treat their water. Besides distribution of the water purifier the trained volunteers conducted awareness sessions on hygiene practices and type of water purification. These sessions were conducted at water wells, markets, and through households' visits. 4,177 persons were reached through sensibilization activities.

It was planned for 600 households but as cash assistance allowed us to cover 53 additional households, BRCS used his own stock to cover additional beneficiaries.

Strengthen National Society

Outcome 1:

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of insured volunteers	70	70
# of volunteers receiving psychological first aid	70	70
# of personal protective equipment distributed to volunteers	70	70

Progress towards outcomes

Activities have started and the training package on psychological first aid has been revised and the procurement process for protective equipment for volunteer have been done. Training was delivered as planned and volunteers capitalize.

International Disaster Response

Outcome S1:

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of multi-sectoral needs assessments carried out	1	0

# of product evaluation reports	1	0
# of follow-up visits by the IFRC	1	2
# of established community feedback mechanisms	1	1
# of lessons learned workshops organized	1	0
# of visibility material available for teams	50	50
# volunteers and staff briefed	70	70
# of IFRC Surge deployments (target: 2)	2	1

Progress towards outcomes

- The multi-sectoral needs assessment is ongoing. Tools have been revised and validated, two (Tapoa and Sourou) of five targeted areas have already finalized data collection three areas are remaining. Data collection started (Oudalan, Soum and Komandjari) in the week of 30 August, report planned to be finalized for September in week 3.
- IFRC Program Manager of Niamey Country Cluster Delegation undertook two visits.
- CEA strategy has been discussed in coordination meetings of the NS and the set-up of the feedback system with complaint mechanism and Green Number
- Reception of procured visibility and equipment material.
- Operation manager surge is already deployed since June 2022. IFRC regional Communication officer will handle the communication plan with the communication officer of the NS.

Influence others as leading strategic partner

Outcome 1:

Indicators:

	Target	Actual
#of communication media local and international around the hunger crisis movement action in the country (new)	02	02
# of coordination meeting attended/ organized	10	09

Progress towards outcomes

The following coordination meetings were organized:

- BRCS, PNS's, 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
- Niamey CCD: three: the objective of these meetings was provision of technical guidance in the implementation of the DREF
- Operations Manager and all coordinators of BRCS: one. The aim of this meeting was to discuss ongoing implementation, way forward for July implementation.
- BRCS, PNS, IFRC to discuss about Emergency Appeal and outcomes of situation
- BRCS, PNS, IFRC and ECHO for a monitoring of the DREF by ECHO Technical Assistance

IFRC and BRCS participated in a Food Security cluster meeting and had a bilateral meeting with WFP in its function as cluster lead

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

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



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