BURKINA FASO
HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE STRATEGY
2021 - 2023

Photo Credit: Finbarr O'Reilly
In the midst of a global pandemic and a proliferation of chronic humanitarian crises, it is understandable that one might overlook Burkina Faso’s crisis. However, World Vision is committed not to turn away from the needs in Burkina. This country, once stable and considered immune from the enduring challenges of its neighboring Sahelian countries, is fully in the grips of a triple crisis – armed conflict, COVID-19, and climate change. A tragic distinction of the Burkina Faso context is the alarmingly rapid increase in displaced people. Since 2018, IDPs have risen by over 1700%, from 72,000 to currently over 1.3 million. (OCHA, June 2021) This makes it one of the fastest growing crises in the world. Looking deeper, the data only underscores the country’s comprehensive deterioration, especially in its northern and eastern regions: 3.5 million people are in need (a 50% increase in just over three months) (OCHA, Feb 2021); over 630,000 are children acutely malnourished (a 70% increase since last June) (IPC, Jan 2021). These numbers are exacerbated by poor infrastructure and services in both healthcare and education, coupled with high prevalence of violence and other protection issues, and large numbers of people in dire need of food and WASH support.

With this background, World Vision has committed to a new Burkina Faso response plan, new operational areas and the goal of serving over 420,000 men, women, boys, and girls affected by the crisis. Complemented by our established humanitarian responses in Mali and Niger, Burkina Faso operations represent a needed and necessary effort within World Vision’s Central Sahel humanitarian response.

Meeting the magnitude and severity of need in Burkina Faso will be no easy task. World Vision recognizes the full weight of the challenges that lay ahead. We acknowledge the foundational efforts of those government and non-governmental actors who have been compassionately assisting for many years. With this response plan, we remain committed to building on that foundation, and to collaborating and advocating closely with other national and international agencies for broader impact.

World Vision has established 5 strategic objectives, targeting life-saving needs (e.g., WASH, nutrition, protection and food security) as well as aiding communities’ ability to recover and strengthening their resilience, to overcome future shocks (e.g., psychosocial and livelihood support, social cohesion and peacebuilding). Further, we will make an intentional commitment to developing sustainable, local partnerships with key organizations (including faith actors). We have already seen the added value in mobilising faith leaders and communities in addressing causes and effects of the crisis in the region and beyond and will make such partnership efforts a centerpiece of this response.

These response objectives reflect the gravity of need in Burkina Faso crisis as well as our organization’s comparative ability to “meet the moment”. They also embody World Vision’s global promise, particularly the commitment to “Going Further” in the service of the world’s most vulnerable children and their families. If we, World Vision, are to transform lives in the world’s hardest-to-reach and most forgotten places, empowering every girl and boy to reach their God-given potential, then serving in Burkina is where we should be. Not alone, but alongside others inside and outside Burkina Faso, World Vision will be an impactful actor in seeking a better future for the Burkinabe people.

Response goal & objectives

“To save lives, reduce human suffering and strengthen the resilience of 420,000 people (men, women, boys, girls) affected by the crises in Burkina Faso”
World Vision’s **Contribution**
to the Strategic Objectives of the
**United Nations Burkina Faso Humanitarian Response Plan 2021**

**WORLD VISION BURKINA FASO**

**Humanitarian Response Strategy**

**Strategic Objectives**

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1. Increase access to basic water, sanitation, and hygiene services

2. Increase access to food and strengthen livelihoods

3. Improve the psychosocial wellbeing of people, especially children

4. Increase opportunities for youth empowerment

5. Develop local sustainable partnerships

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**UNITED NATIONS**

**Burkina Faso Humanitarian Response Plan**

**Strategic Priorities**

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In 2021, 1.3 million people will benefit from emergency humanitarian assistance to reduce morbidity and mortality, alleviate suffering and strengthen the protection of civilians in accordance with international humanitarian law and human rights in six priority regions.

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In 2021, 2.5 million people will have improved access to basic social services through assistance adapted to their needs, provided in a timely manner and in a protective environment.

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In 2021, the protection and respect of all human rights of 2 women, men, girls, boys and people living with disabilities affected by the crisis are ensured.

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**World Vision Differentiators**

**Technical Leadership**

World Vision strives for the highest program quality through the application of technical best practices, pursuit of global humanitarian standards, community appropriateness, continuous innovation, and rigorous evaluation.

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**Broad, Diverse Partnership**

In West Africa, World Vision partners with a variety of bilateral & UN donors, governments, corporations, foundations, community groups and churches. Such diversity increases flexibility, access, and community acceptance.

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**Engaging faith in responses**

World Vision can draw strength and service from the inter-faith community in providing life-saving support to those most affected. World Vision experience shows engagement between faith communities and more traditional relief actors yields strong impact.

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**Long-term commitment for lasting change**

World Vision sees the value of a sustained presence in country. Therefore, World Vision often makes a durable commitment to remain in and after the crisis to allow for deeper, transformative positive change, often in close partnership with local and national authorities.

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**Humanitarian - Development - Peacebuilding Nexus**

Substantial experience in humanitarian and development contexts gives World Vision a unique position to achieve collective results that reduce need, risk and vulnerability over a longer period of time. In doing so, World Vision places affected communities at the heart of its programming.
Responsible Digitalisation

Less than 75% of Burkina Faso is covered by mobile networks and only 25% of Burkina Faso has internet coverage. World Vision will therefore bring its global experience of working in low and no bandwidth environments to Burkina Faso. We will seek to work with partners to leverage digital tools and processes to improve the impact of our response.

World Vision knows digital is more than just technology. It is about how we use technology to be more human, to increase our collective well-being, but it comes with both amazing opportunities and the potential for harm. Utilising appropriate digital tools responsibly will be at the forefront of our thinking, leveraging them not just for us, but also for local organisations and the communities with whom we serve. Together we will seek to learn how to live wisely in a digital world.

Responsible data management practices respect and upholds the rights of beneficiaries. We will promote digital safeguarding amongst the communities and organisations.

Learning from working remotely during our COVID response, we will engage digitally and remotely with partners and communities for project monitoring, sensitisation campaigns, learning, and capacity building.

By using digital systems like World Vision’s own Last Mile Mobile Solutions, we will be able to understand our engagements with each household and adjust our interactions to have the greatest impact.

Community and Youth empowerment

Building digital skills and literacy among youth improves their future livelihoods options. We will empower community and youth by increasing access to digital tools and learning opportunities.
Response Approach
As a new geographical arena for World Vision, we will pursue our response strategy through following approaches:

Hybrid Implementation: We will approach implementation through a hybrid model of partnering and direct operations. Doing so allows for greater flexibility, increased local partnership, and greater programmatic and technical quality.

Trusted Partnering: When engaging in partnerships, World Vision focuses on vetted partners with proven records of presence and assistance. Through transparency and mutual learning, these partnerships will yield greater speed, community acceptance, and geographic coverage in World Vision’s work.

An Inclination towards Cash & Vouchers: Response operations will select in-kind, cash and voucher, and service provision activities to meet the needs of the most vulnerable children. When suitable, cash and voucher assistance will be prioritised. This leverages World Vision global expertise, strengthens program efficiencies, ensures financial accountability, and improves client choice.

World Vision’s West Africa presence & experience

In 2020, 430 projects in West Africa with 1,700 staff
3.6 million people reached in 2020
Long-term presence in 9 countries in West Africa
Humanitarian operations in Niger, Chad, Mali, & CAR
$2.5M USD distributed in Cash and Voucher Assistance in FY20
60,000 people reached in FY20 with resilience activities (Food for Work or Assets, Cash for Work)
40 years of serving vulnerable children and communities
Relief operations in Burkina Faso along with Mali & Niger comprise World Vision’s Central Sahel Response
875,000 food and livelihoods beneficiaries in FY20 in West Africa
World Vision will initiate programming in these three regions:

- Sahel
- Nord
- Boucle du Mouhoun

- Est
- Centre-Nord
- Centre-Est

**Forecasted Operations**

**Map Legend**

- Protection
- Health
- Livelihoods
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)
- Food Security
- Nutrition
- Mental Health & Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

**FY20 Beneficiary Reach in Central Sahel**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Beneficiary Reach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>638,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>293,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>Operations initiated in 2021</td>
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