

WFP Assistance to Refugees Affected By Insecurity in Mali

Background

As a result of the events in northern Mali, thousands of people have fled their home and have sought refuge in neighbouring Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger. In Burkina Faso alone, some 37,000 Malians have been granted refugee status by the Government. The large majority of the refugee population are nomadic and from northern Mali. While most are located in the Sahel Region, some refugees are also located in the urban areas of Ouagadougou and Bobo-Dioulasso.

In response to the influx of Malian refugees, an IR-EMOP was launched in March 2012 to provide food and nutrition assistance to the refugees. In June 2012, given the regional implications of the Mali conflict, WFP launched a regional emergency operation in June, addressing refugees' needs in Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger as well as the needs of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Mali. The operation aims to prevent a deterioration in the food security and nutrition status of Malian IDPs and refugees.

Activities

In Burkina Faso, all registered refugees receive a monthly ration made up of cereals, supercereal, pulses, oil and salt, ensuring a daily intake of 2,100 calories. Additionally, at some sites, WFP has provided nutrition assistance for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition amongst children aged 6 – 59 months and pregnant and lactating women through targeted supplementary feeding (TSF). In the Sahel region, the WFP school feeding programme has been scaled up to respond to the influx of refugee children attending local schools. WFP works closely with UNHCR and the Red Cross Burkina Faso, as well as other partners such as CRS and Hope'87, to ensure the coordination of food assistance to refugees. Since February, WFP has distributed 2,887 tons of food to Malian refugees in Burkina Faso.

WFP in Burkina Faso

In addition to the Regional Emergency Operation (EMOP), WFP Burkina Faso has a Country Programme (CP) and a Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO). The CP targets the Sahel, North and East Regions, mainly through the school meals programme, nutrition assistance to vulnerable groups, including people living with HIV (PLHIV), Cash and Food for Work, and local procurement, food processing and fortification. In 2012, the PRRO was tailored to respond to the food and nutrition crisis in the most affected regions of the country, through blanket and targeted supplementary feeding, conditional and unconditional assistance (in-kind and cash).

Regional Emergency Operation (EMOP) 200438

Duration: June – December 2012

Planned beneficiaries:
40,000 people

Areas of intervention:
Sahel, North, and Hauts-Bassins regions

Budget: US\$ 12.4 million

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