



## Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

# Sahel

Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, the Niger and Senegal

Regional overview – April 2019

### In numbers



**1.4 million** people assisted in 2018



**2.35 million** people estimated to be severely food insecure



**USD 166.8 million** required by FAO under its three-year programme (2018–2021)



Despite the positive outcome of the 2018/19 agricultural season, food insecurity and malnutrition persist across the Sahel.

### Key points

- Following the impact of severe drought that decimated pasture, livestock and crops in 2018, the situation of millions of affected families is still fragile.
- If adequate timely assistance is not provided, the food security situation will likely worsen with 9.7 million people projected to be severely food insecure during the upcoming lean season (June–August 2019).
- Despite overall good availability of fodder resources, access remains difficult in certain areas of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and the Niger where insecurity persists; in other areas – certain parts of Mauritania and Senegal – fodder resources have been depleted or are very limited.

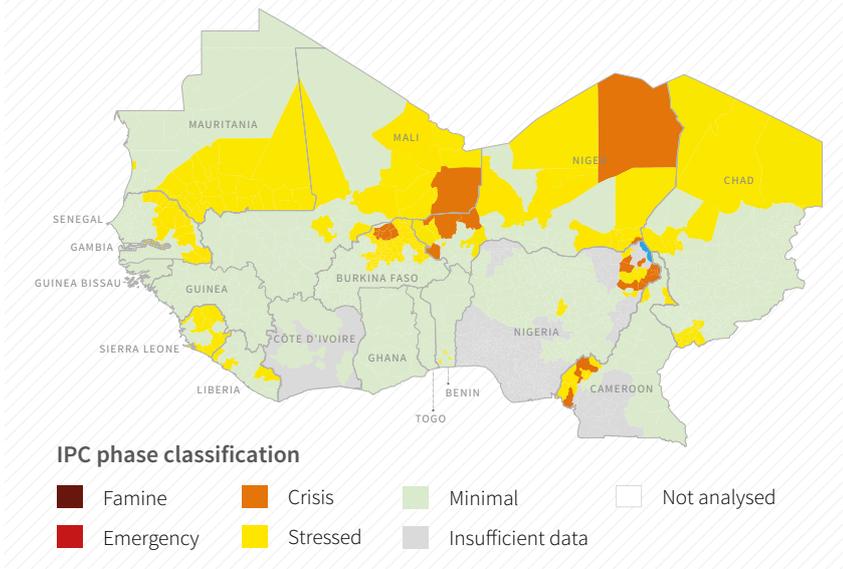
### Planned response until December 2019

-  473 724 people targeted
-  Distribute 1 203 tonnes of feed and establish feed banks through which 975 tonnes will be available to vulnerable agro/pastoralists; distribute 14 600 small ruminants, poultry and cattle; destock 1 800 animals
-  Vaccinate 500 000 small ruminants against *peste des petits ruminants*
-  Rehabilitate 6 600 ha of pastureland through cash for work
-  Distribute 65 tonnes of crop seeds and 70 tonnes of fertilizer
-  Establish 20 pastoral water points, benefiting 36 000 households

### 2018 achievements

-  Repurchased 1 500 animals benefiting 3 767 households; distributed 19 475 animals reaching 2 241 households; distributed 12 544 tonnes of animal feed, including grain and nutritional blocs
-  Vaccinated 2 161 940 animals; distributed 31 500 veterinary kits reaching 31 500 households
-  Distributed 464 tonnes of seeds to 30 983 households; distributed 9 150 agricultural kits reaching 8 785 households; and trained 15 199 people
-  Rehabilitated five wells reaching 7 700 households
-  Distributed USD 3 848 104 under cash-based transfers and cash+ activities, benefiting 31 034 households

## Acute food insecurity situation (March–May 2019)



Source: *Cadre Harmonisé*, April 2019

## Challenges facing food security and agriculture

Unprecedented levels of organized violence in 2018 – particularly in Burkina Faso and Mali – and the effects of climate-related shocks have accelerated forced displacement across the Sahel, where millions of people are already affected by last year's food and nutrition crisis. The number of displaced people has increased by 1 million compared with 2018 for a total of 4.2 million, mainly as a result of escalating armed violence in areas of Mali, the Lake Chad Basin and the Liptako-Gourma region. Protracted armed violence in parts of the Sahel exacerbates the situation of food insecurity, malnutrition and epidemics, and undermines efforts to uplift communities from chronic vulnerability. Farming, trade and other livelihood activities are severely impaired in conflict-affected regions.

Despite overall good availability of fodder resources, access remains difficult in certain areas of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and the Niger where insecurity prevails. This resulted in high concentrations of herds in pastoral enclaves and natural reserves where risks of epizootic diseases are high. In other areas, such as in certain parts of Mauritania and Senegal, fodder resources have been depleted or are very limited.

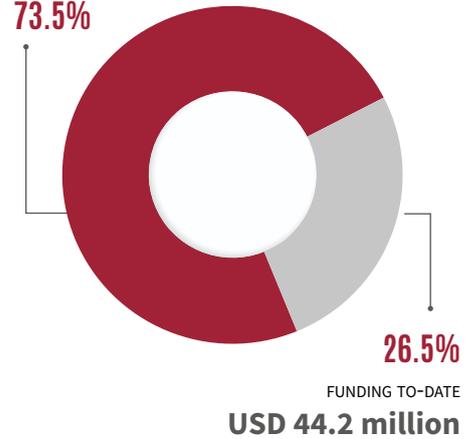
Food insecurity and malnutrition persist across the Sahel, particularly in central and southeastern Mauritania and in conflict-affected areas due to limited access to food and the disruption of households' livelihoods. Currently (March–May 2019), about 4.8 million people are facing Crisis and if the appropriate measures are not taken by the lean season (June–August 2019), the number of people severely food insecure in the region could deteriorate affecting around 9.7 million people, including 4.4 million in the Lake Chad Basin. Providing immediate livelihood support is thus crucial to restore vulnerable communities' access to food and income, and improve their resilience to shocks.

## Funding

FUNDING GAP

**USD 122.6 million**

**73.5%**



FAO requires

**USD 166.8 million**

under its three-year programme  
(2018–2021)



to assist

**8.2 million people**

### Resource partners

The Governments of Belgium, Canada, France and Switzerland, the European Union, the Central Emergency Response Fund, FAO's Early Warning Early Action funds under the Special Fund for Emergency and Rehabilitation Activities and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

## Contact

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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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