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**Protecting livelihoods, reducing undernutrition, and building resilience through safety nets, asset creation and skills development**

**Standard Project Report 2017**

World Food Programme in Mauritania, Islamic Republic of (MR)



**World Food Programme**

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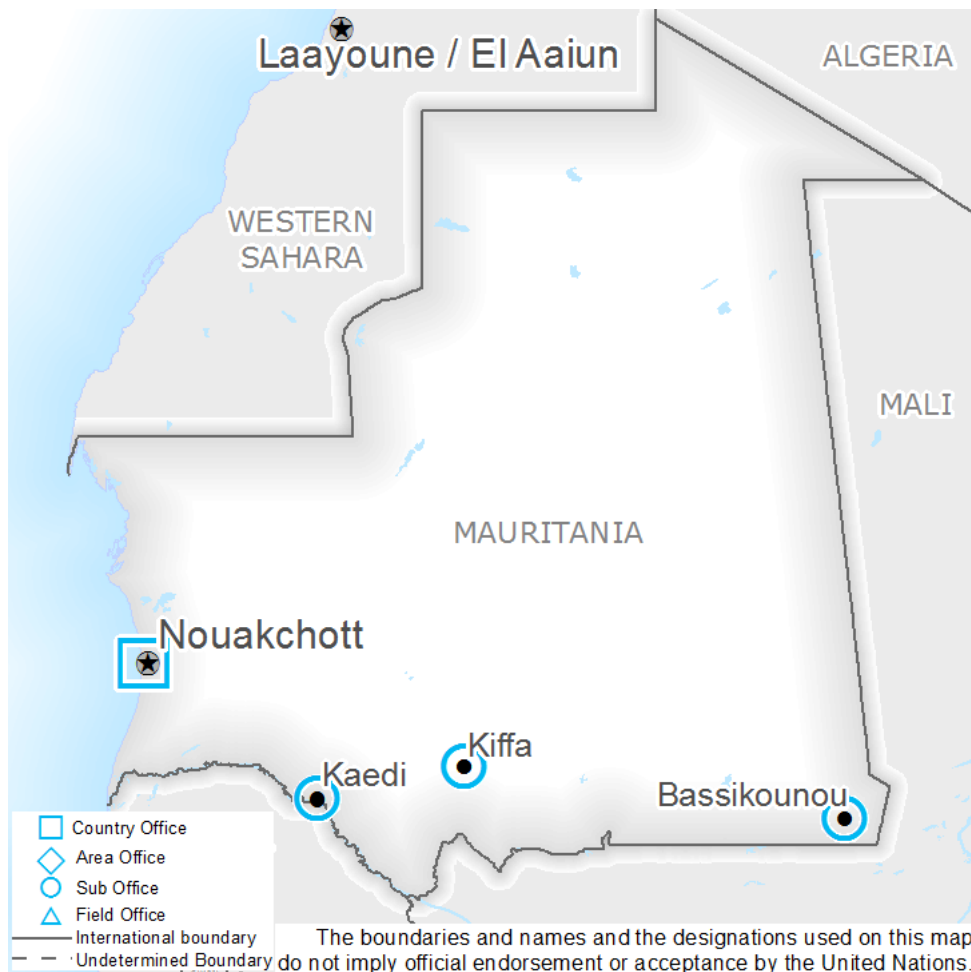
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# Country Context and WFP Objectives



## Achievements at Country Level

In 2017, WFP's direct assistance and capacity strengthening efforts were part of resilience building package of assistance that contributed to tackling the underlying causes of vulnerability. Actions aimed to mitigate the impact of shocks that cyclically affect people's food security and nutritional status, and erode their livelihoods.

With the resources available, WFP reached 141,500 people amongst the most vulnerable in 2017 in the six targeted regions in Mauritania, including 52,000 Malian refugees living in Mbera camp. WFP and other humanitarian partners' ability to reach beneficiaries was supported by the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) with regular flights to six destinations. Food-insecure Mauritanian households received support through general distributions using cash or in-kind, integrated with malnutrition prevention assistance for pregnant and lactating women and children, and dried fruits (dates) during the peak lean season. Malnourished children received curative assistance with minerals and vitamins-enriched supplementary foods, coupled with screening and referral for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition during the lean season. WFP supported moderately food-insecure households (mainly women-led and with a particular focus on the youth) through food assistance-for-assets (FFA) creation activities. Some 25,700 schoolchildren in 141 schools in Hodh Ech-Charghi received a morning porridge and a hot lunch to encourage their attendance at school (both under the Country Programme and the PRRO). WFP also provided the integrated package of assistance to improve food security and nutrition in Mbera refugee camp and in Bassikounou, area bordering the refugee camp. The impact of these interventions is maximised whenever implementation is done in a complementary and multi-year approach within the same localities, seeking synergies between WFP and partners at all stages of the project cycle.



WFP's country capacity strengthening efforts focused on linking development and humanitarian approaches in Mauritania.

WFP actively engaged with its partners and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) to start elaborating a multi-sector and multi-year strategy through which gradually shift 'care and maintenance' towards assistance that empowers refugees' self-reliance and host communities' resilience. This approach goes beyond traditional institutional frameworks, concretely operationalizing the humanitarian-development "nexus" promoting food security and livelihoods as factors of peace, stability and prevention of migrations.

WFP worked with national institutions and its main counterpart – the *Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire (CSA)* – to support the establishment of a national Adaptive Social Protection system, steered towards building resilience at both national and local levels, through technical assistance, policy engagement and advocacy work. To this effect, WFP established a positive dynamic amongst the food security and nutrition sector groups, by co-leading the new "Early Warning System and Response Plan" working group focusing on the set up of a national food and nutrition crisis response plan. Related to the above efforts was WFP's close collaboration with the CSA to update the existing Africa Risk Capacity contingency plans and customise the insurance policy to enhance the suitability of the index insurance to the local context.

In the next years, guided by the Transitional-Interim Country Strategic Plan 2018, and Country Strategic Plan 2019–2022, WFP's added value will focus on supporting national hunger solutions, maximising impact and value for money.

## Country Context and Response of the Government

The Islamic Republic of Mauritania is a lower middle-income country, with a population of 3.9 million living over a vast but mostly arid 1,030,700 km<sup>2</sup> territory [1]. The majority of the population lives in the southern (Sahelian) and western (coastal) parts of the country, with the remaining (Saharan) areas characterised by low population densities. Mauritania continues to host one of the largest number of Malian refugees after Niger, with 52,000 refugees registered at the end of 2017 [2].

After decades of political instability, Mauritania has benefited from relative stability since 2012 despite a highly volatile regional security context. The country achieved slow but steady progress over the last seven years in reducing poverty (average 1.8 percent per year), child undernutrition (currently below 10 percent in children under 5) and child mortality. However, it continues to face major challenges towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 2, some of which are structural and others related to a high level of exposure to climate and other shocks. The country's annual gross domestic product (GDP) stands at USD 1,218 per capita in current prices [3], with an average growth rate of 4.5 percent over the 2001–2015 period, largely driven by the mining sector. It ranks 157 on the 2016 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Human Development Index and 147 on the Gender Inequality Index, and scores 25.2 on the Global Hunger Index [4]. The high level of economic inequality in Mauritania is worsening for population groups encountering systemic inequalities, such as women. The latest household surveys indicate that 31 percent of the population still lives in poverty [5].

Mauritania continues to be a food-deficit country: the country's economy largely depends on agriculture and livestock production, but imports 70 percent of its food needs due to insufficient production [6]. Mauritania is cyclically, on average every four years, exposed to episodes of rainfall deficit (negative 52 percent in the monitored weather stations compared to 2016), dry spell and uneven distribution of agricultural rains in space and time, like those characterising the 2017 rainy season, causing regular droughts, floods and locust invasions [7].

The impact of such seasonal shocks on vulnerable people's food security and nutritional situation – particularly in the southern belt of the country – is compounded by rapid soil erosion, desertification, inadequate agropastoral practices, and increased human and livestock pressure. A comparative analysis of the past six years trends, including the 2017 Integrated Context Analysis (ICA), suggests that 15 percent of the Mauritanian population is recurrently food insecure, and on average 26 percent are affected by transitory food insecurity during the lean season [8]. In 2017 only, the people in crisis or emergency food insecurity (Phase 3-5) tripled from pre-lean season (126,000 March) to post-harvest (379,000 November) according to the *Cadre Harmonisé* [9]. This number is expected to double during the 2018 lean season (June–September).

The seasonal variability of acute malnutrition is also correlated to that of food insecurity, suggesting that the challenge of accessing a sufficient and nutritious diet is among the main causes of undernutrition. The prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) at the national level easily exceeds the emergency threshold during the lean season. In August 2017, GAM was estimated at 10.9 percent with a prevalence of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) at 2.3 percent [10].

As part of its commitment to achieve the 2030 Agenda, the Government of Mauritania has put in place different strategies, policies and programmes on food security, nutrition, social protection, gender and education. In 2016, the Government elaborated a medium-term strategy for the next six years called *Stratégie de Croissance Accélérée et de Prospérité Partagée* (SCAPP) 2016–2022. The strategy is aligned with the Government's long-term development vision, "The Mauritania we want in 2030" that focuses on promoting: i) a society rich in its diversity; ii) a prosperous and robust economy; iii) enhanced human capital; iv) enhanced governance; and v) preservation of the environment for sustainable development.

With regard to addressing the above-mentioned gaps, the Government of Mauritania plans to:

- Reduce the prevalence of food insecurity to 5 percent and the GAM rate to 2 percent by 2030, through the promotion of healthy nutrition practices and increasing access to basic foods for the poorest people. The country is committed to supporting initiatives in the area of nutrition enhancement through its membership and participation in the Renewed Effort Against Child Hunger and Undernutrition (REACH), Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) and on Cost of Hunger Study initiatives.
- Develop an integrated social protection system, supported by the 2013 National Social Protection Strategy, to ensure the inclusiveness of the country's economic growth, and equip Mauritania with the right tools and framework to face the combined challenges of structural poverty and of shock-related vulnerabilities.
- Progress on gender equality, to bridge the gaps in decision-making and control over assets at both professional and household level. This is aligned and supported by the 2015 National Gender Institutionalization Strategy.
- Reinforce the engagement of the Government and all sectors in school meals, through the implementation of the 2016 National Programme of Education Development Sector and National School Feeding policy. The Government recognises school meals as having a positive effect on retention. The national net enrolment rate for primary education is 81.1 percent (girls: 82.7 percent and boys: 79.5 percent), but with retention rates which are slightly lower for girls (59.7 percent) than boys (60.5 percent) [11]. Only 11.1 percent of women have reached at least a secondary level of education, compared to 23.5 percent of men [12].
- Preserve the environment and ensure the sustainability of the ecosystems through the 2006 National Action Plan for the Environment, the 2006 National Strategy for Sustainable Development and the 2012 Strategy for the Development of the Rural Sector.

Despite such commitments, the government-led coordination amongst all existing programmes, the resource mobilization efforts and preparedness structure to provide a timely response both at the national and local level in case of shocks are weak and fragmented in Mauritania. This makes Mauritania one of the few countries in the region that does not have an integrated institutional mechanism for preparing and responding to shocks. The national Zero Hunger Review (available early 2018) will offer the opportunity to identify key actions needed to respond to the food security and nutrition challenges identified, and remove such constraints through an integrated set of programmes, strategies and policies.

[1] *Cadre Harmonisé*, November 2017.

[2] Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Mauritania Operational Update, December 2017.

[3] World Bank, Country Overview, 2016.

[4] International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), 2017.

[5] *Profil de la Pauvreté en Mauritanie, Enquête Permanente sur les Conditions de Vie des ménages* (EPCV), 2014.

[6] *Stratégie Nationale de Croissance Accélérée et de Prospérité Partagée*, 2016.

[7] National Meteorological Bureau, *Bulletin Agrométéorologique 3ème décade*, September 2017.

[8] Food Security Monitoring Survey, August 2017.

[9] *Cadre Harmonisé*, March and November 2017.

[10] Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART), July–August 2017.

[11] National School Statistics 2014–2015, Ministry of Education.

[12] UNDP, Human Development Report, 2016.

## WFP Objectives and Strategic Coordination

Through an integrated portfolio of relief, recovery and development activities in Mauritania – Country Programme 200251, Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 200640, Climate Change Adaptation Fund (CCAF)

200609 and Special Operation 200803 – WFP continued to support the Government's efforts towards achieving zero hunger throughout 2017. During 2017, WFP formulated a Transitional-Interim Country Strategic Plan (T-ICSP) for 2018 and supported the elaboration of the national Zero Hunger Strategic Review (ZHSR). The T-ICSP will allow WFP to manage its intervention portfolio in 2018 while formulating a Country Strategic Plan (CSP) for 2019–2022 based on the results of the ZHSR. WFP's four-year strategic plan will constitute an ideal package of humanitarian and development activities in the areas of food security and nutrition – with a gender focus – while strengthening national capacities and ownership of social investments in line with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 and 17.

WFP, the United Nations (UN) system and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) upheld the Government's engagement towards achieving the 2030 Agenda through the development of the 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan. It represents a first integrated approach between humanitarian and development programmes in Mauritania, and the base on which the new 2018–2022 United Nations Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development (UNPFSD) will be built on. The new UNPFSD foresees to embody the humanitarian-development nexus in alignment with the New Way of Working, and will sharpen the focus of UN assistance on dynamic development strategies that take into account the seasonal shocks and are able to buffer the impact, and protracted humanitarian interventions that are linked to government-led early warning, response planning and safety net mechanisms.

Guided by this approach, WFP interventions in Mauritania are built around three interconnected streams of work: resilience, crisis response and capacity development. WFP provides multi-year assistance in collaboration with government and humanitarian partners, in areas that are shock-prone and chronically food insecure, with the aim of strengthening the capabilities of vulnerable populations to withstand and respond to climate shocks.

Through its PRRO 200640, WFP assists vulnerable populations through activities aimed at guaranteeing girls, boys, women and men's access to nutritious food throughout the year: i) conditional food assistance-for-assets (FFA) creation implemented through in-kind or cash-based transfer (CBT) prior to/after the lean season; ii) unconditional monthly general distributions using in-kind or cash during the peak of the lean season; and iii) nutrition support for the prevention and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in children aged 6-23 months and 6-59 months, and pregnant and lactating women. Gender is integrated throughout development, implementation and monitoring of the activities, to ensure “gender-transformative programmes and policies”. WFP assists people in the six most vulnerable regions of Mauritania – Assaba, Gorgol, Guidimakha, Tagant, Hodh el Gharbi and Hodh Ech-Charghi. In the same regions, WFP provides school meals in targeted primary schools through Country Programme 200251. Such interventions aim to complement the national social safety net programme (*Tekavoul*) with a “shock-responsive” component, which requires the use of common tools for beneficiary targeting and transfer modalities, particularly the Social Register. Since 2016, WFP and the World Bank have worked together to lay the foundations for operationalizing a strategic vision that relies on an adaptive social protection system.

Under the PRRO 200640, WFP also assists Malian refugees affected by the Malian conflict in Mbera camp located in the Hodh Ech-Charghi region through: i) unconditional transfers of combined in-kind and cash; ii) nutrition support for the prevention and treatment of MAM in children and pregnant and lactating women; and iii) school meals activities. In 2017, WFP, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and partners undertook a profiling exercise based on the socio-economic status of refugees, and started developing a multi-sector strategy for Malian refugees and host communities living in the area around Mbera camp to foster their self-reliance and resilience respectively.

The humanitarian community would not be able to assist vulnerable people in remote and insecure areas without the air transport assistance that the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) provides under WFP coordinated Special Operation 200803. With no viable long-distance travel alternatives to date to reach the remote and insecure parts of Mauritania where beneficiaries are located, UNHAS represents the backbone of humanitarian interventions in Mauritania.

Through the CCAF 200609, WFP supports key ministries – including the Ministry of Economy and Finance, *Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire* (CSA), and Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock – in integrating climate change issues into national and local planning, and technical standards for asset building.

WFP's country capacity strengthening support aims to establish a national response scheme for food security and nutrition, which is currently not available in Mauritania. As a prerequisite for improving the effectiveness and readiness of the humanitarian response and ensure development solutions, WFP is working with its partners to strengthen national capacities in terms of: i) early warning, ii) emergency preparedness and response, iii) finance-risk management mechanisms, including Africa Risk Capacity, iv) implementation planning (targeting, supply chain, coordination, monitoring and evaluation), and v) social protection. Such support is essential to enable the Mauritanian institutions to play their role in the preparation, implementation and monitoring of the response.

To this effect, WFP has established a positive dynamic with a range of partners and UN agencies throughout 2017. While there are no clusters present in Mauritania, WFP co-leads: i) the food security and nutrition sector groups with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Children's Fund

(UNICEF); ii) the Cash Alliance group with *Action contre la Faim* (ACF); and iii) the *Systemes d'Alerte Precoce-Plans de Reponse* (SAP-PR) working group with ACF, and with close coordination with the World Bank and UNICEF. In 2017, the positive work dynamic with humanitarian/development partners and the Government offered WFP great leverage to drive a series of initiatives such as: the making of a national shock-responsive safety net system with the World Bank; the development of a multi-year and multi-sector strategy for refugees' self-reliance and host communities' resilience with UNHCR and UN Country Team group; and the elaboration of a joint food security and nutrition response plan to the looming 2018 food crisis with members of the food security and nutrition sector groups.

# Country Resources and Results

## Resources for Results

Between 2014 and 2015, donor contributions to WFP for resilience and crisis response activities under the PRRO, EMOP and special operations, were relatively stable and averaged USD 28 million per year. However, funding dropped after the end of the regional emergency response in 2015, and in 2016 to just above USD 15 million on average per year. On the contrary, school meals were significantly underfunded every year for the entire period of the country programme since 2012, and as a result, activities were consequently downscaled during 2016 and 2017.

In 2017, WFP operations benefited from more resources as compared to 2016, covering 56 percent of its country portfolio budget of USD 38 million. Approximately USD 6 million, meant to be programmed for the second semester of 2016, were reallocated for 2017 operations in agreement with partners, bringing the level of resources effectively used for 2017 activities to USD 21 million. The country office seized the new positioning of the Integrated Road Map and started implementing the Country Portfolio Evaluation recommendations, to secure a good level of funding despite other regional and international priorities.

Overall funding allowed WFP to meet the most of refugees' needs, despite incurring in frequent pipeline breaks throughout the year, covering 70 percent of the requirements for refugee assistance under the PRRO. However, the local population component of the PRRO received only 44 percent of the allocated budget, reaching 59 percent of planned beneficiaries in four of the six planned regions, mainly through unconditional cash transfers and nutrition activities. With the resources available, WFP activities in 2017 were mainly directed towards livelihoods protective assistance, compared to interventions serving a productive safety-net function that were underfunded. All interventions were nutrition-sensitive and included to the extent possible a gender-transformative component. Funding allocated for cash-based transfers allowed for more programming flexibility to accommodate the urgent food needs of beneficiaries. Humanitarian air services – representing the most cost-efficient means of transport in Mauritania – continued throughout the entire year, but risked shutting down twice if end-of-year funding had not been received.

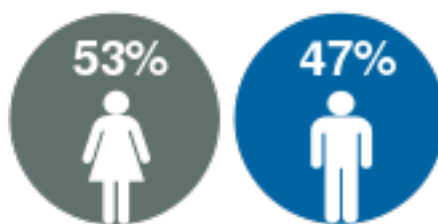
Funding in 2017 came through direct contributions from government partners, multilateral funds and the private sector. Over the past three years, some 68 percent of directed contributions to WFP Mauritania have come from exclusively eight donors. The country office recognises the urgent need to expand and diversify the funding base, considering the often unpredictable, restricted and delayed nature of the resources received. Furthermore, earmarking of funds, procurement restriction of certain commodities from local or regional markets, and tight terms of disbursement dates often limited the country office's scope to adapt to changing priorities and provide timely needs-based response.



## Annual Country Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Children (under 5 years)	14,005	14,654	28,659
Children (5-18 years)	30,768	31,394	62,162
Adults (18 years plus)	22,075	28,604	50,679
<b>Total number of beneficiaries in 2017</b>	<b>66,848</b>	<b>74,652</b>	<b>141,500</b>





## Annual Food Distribution in Country (mt)

Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Country Programme	178	32	48	68	69	394
Single Country PRRO	4,801	393	137	624	171	6,126
<b>Total Food Distributed in 2017</b>	<b>4,979</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>6,520</b>



## Cash Based Transfer and Commodity Voucher Distribution (USD)

Project Type	Cash	Value Voucher	Commodity Voucher
Single Country PRRO	7,173,423	-	-
<b>Total Distributed in 2017</b>	<b>7,173,423</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

## Supply Chain

Mauritania has a well-equipped national airport in Nouakchott to receive large aircraft and cargo since 2016. On this occasion, the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) transferred its aircraft to the new national airport from the airbase near WFP country office.

Supply chain networks of well-established food items arrive through the port of Nouakchott, located 5 km from the city centre. The port of Nouakchott accounts for 96 percent of imported and exported commodities at the national level. The main imported products are wheat, rice, flour, sugar, oil and equipment, while exported goods include livestock, fish and minerals. On a monthly basis, the port handles an average of 333,000 mt of commodities, and is accessible to third-generation boats up to a maximum length of 200 m.

Local procurement of salt and wheat have reduced transport costs contributing to the low prices and availability [1]. Local purchases allowed WFP to be more flexible whilst contributing to the local economy. The other foods were procured internationally or from the Global Commodity Management Facility (GCMF) in Las Palmas, Gran Canaria. The GCMF is a strategic financing platform for positioning food in a region on the basis of anticipated demand from nearby countries. Its position, 1,118 km from Nouakchott, allows to reduce transit time and costs, especially in case of emergencies and enables food procurement at the right time to increase value for money. On good weather conditions, it takes only two days to ship food from Las Palmas to Nouakchott.

In 2017, WFP continued to ensure a cost-efficient and effective supply chain both for in-kind and cash-based transfer (CBT) operations through close tracking of commodity movements, and proactive and strategic coordination with transporters, financial institutions and mobile service providers. WFP started assessing the feasibility to transition to electronic CBT modalities for the coming year, in collaboration with the national mobile service providers.

To mitigate certain transport difficulties encountered in 2016 and early 2017, WFP diversified its private sector partners' base by contracting service providers with smaller trucks that could transport smaller quantities of food when needed. WFP also pre-positioned its own trucks (capacity 7 mt) in difficult hubs ready to intervene in case of transport difficulties. This led to a satisfactory performance of contracted transporters to WFP standards, and avoided pipeline breaks by pre-positioning food in advance of the rainy season. WFP supply chain unit will continue identifying the most appropriate improvements for the logistics of food assistance in Mauritania.

In line with the WFP's Supply Chain Strategy 2017–2022 and its commitment to the 2030 Agenda, WFP helped the Government and private sector service providers to improve their supply chain capacities. Following food infestations recorded in 2016 due to poor warehouse management, the supply chain unit organized a training workshop in inventory management techniques in April 2017, in collaboration with two government partners, the *Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire* (CSA) and the Department of Nutrition and School Education (DNES). The workshop benefited 50 participants amongst private sector storekeepers, heads of stock divisions and regional delegates. As a result, 2017 did not record any infestations taking place in warehouses managed by WFP partners. Furthermore, to ensure that the quality and safety of food items during stockade, WFP has taken measures to equip all partner warehouses with cleaning, safety and management equipment (stock cards, scales, fire extinguishers and pallet trucks).

WFP continued its collaboration with other United Nations agencies such as the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the World Health Organization (WHO), for the storage of prophylactic sheaths as part of UNFPA's HIV/AIDS programme and transport of health kits (malaria diagnostics test) to health facilities in the country for WHO.

[1] Wheat was locally procured through a local Mauritanian enterprise without incurring in external transport costs. On its part, the enterprise purchased cereals from neighbouring countries and therefore the purchase figures reported as regional/international in the annual food purchases for the country table.



## Annual Food Purchases for the Country (mt)

Commodity	Local	Regional/International	Total
Iodised Salt	36	-	36
Wheat	-	1,274	1,274
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>1,274</b>	<b>1,309</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>97.3%</b>	

## Annual Global Commodity Management Facility Purchases Received in Country (mt)

Commodity	Total
Corn Soya Blend	188
Ready To Use Supplementary Food	146
Rice	1,772
Split Peas	143

Commodity	Total
Vegetable Oil	207
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,456</b>

## Implementation of Evaluation Recommendations and Lessons Learned

The recent WFP Mauritania Country Portfolio Evaluation (CPE) 2011–2015 was conducted between June 2015 and February 2016, and presented to the 2016 Annual Session of WFP Executive Board. The CPE reviewed the positioning of top of WFP's portfolio and its performance and results, as well as the factors and quality of WFP's strategic decision-making. Results highlighted solid achievements in the assistance to Malian refugees, while the effectiveness of the assistance to food-insecure Mauritanian populations was assessed as varying across activities and over time. The evaluation revealed that weak funding heavily influenced the direction and impact of WFP's portfolio, and recommended a number of key strategic and programmatic adjustments.

Key lessons learned and which the country office started implementing in 2017 include:

- Strengthen the design and quality of all WFP interventions serving a protective or productive safety-net function, progressively building consistency with government and partners' interventions (including the *Tekavoul* programme) as part of a coherent shock-responsive safety-net framework;
- Move away from short-term recurrent interventions towards more systematic, agile and long-term solutions with a view to progressively transfer capacities and programmes to the Government;
- Concentrate WFP resilience-building and multi-year interventions within a narrower set of geographical locations, and leverage local partnerships to achieve better impact – as a result, since 2016, geographical coverage was downscaled from eight regions to six;
- Shift from a “care and maintenance” towards a “self-reliance” approach for refugees, and seek programmatic consistency with the support provided to host communities;
- Systematically use WFP interventions as platforms to deliver nutrition-sensitive and gender transformative activities, and support improvements to the existing institutional setup for malnutrition treatment; and
- Intensify support to national food security and nutrition early warning and analysis capacities, and address the existing gaps in terms of contingency and emergency response planning.

These priorities acknowledge that development strategies in Mauritania necessarily need to take into account the high frequency of shocks and be dynamic enough to buffer their impact, while protracted humanitarian interventions should be linked to and build upon government-led early warning, response planning and safety-net mechanisms.

## Story Worth Telling

Yussouf is a 19-year old Mauritanian from the southern district of Bouilly, in the region of Guidimakha bordering with Senegal. He is the oldest of five brothers and sisters, and shares his daily meals with 25 cousins, in a family made up of 60 people. Like him, many young women and men have to cope with the daily struggles of unemployment in the region.

With no alternative work, Yussouf and his sister were some of the first people to join WFP's asset creation activities in their home district. The asset creation activities organized in Bouilly were identified by the community themselves and designed to enable ownership of the processes from the start.

"When I heard that WFP was encouraging the participation of young people, it made me feel hopeful that I could learn some new skills and start working soon," said Yussouf. "Too many of us (youngsters) find it hard to make a living from agriculture and herding, and are leaving our lands to seek opportunities in Dakar, the capital of Senegal. But I want to stay close to my family."

In Bouilly, the participation of women and youth was incredible, and made it possible to define community action plans reflecting the priorities of all, and taking into account local socio-economic and agro-ecological realities (most often related to climate change and soil erosion). Communities negotiated with local landowners and authorities who granted access and productive asset management conditions for the most vulnerable groups, which are typically left out of land utilisation. The community decided to rehabilitate some 15 ha of land that had not been used in over 40 years.

WFP's food assistance-for-assets (FFA) creation activities were implemented in partnership with the international non-governmental organization (NGO) *Groupe de Recherche et de Réalisation pour le Développement Rural dans le Tiers Monde (GRDR) Migration-Citoyenneté-Développement*. Participants received direct cash entitlements to the value of USD 88 (34,000 MRO) per household. "Five people from my family participated: my sister and myself, and three cousins," says Yussouf. "We received two cash entitlements, one at the start and one at the end of the activities. With the first money received we bought rice, vegetable oil and some meat for the family," he adds. Participants were trained in dry land farming methods to improve the production of lands. This included irrigation, rainwater harvesting for crop and pasture production, rehabilitation and stabilization of degraded land.

"After clearing out the land from weeds, we built a series of so-called 'half-moons' – soil bunds reinforced with stones – to capture the sediments from rainfall or the river overflow, so the good sediments are captured in the half-moon, and we can plant sorghum, maize and peanut," explains Yussouf. Rain was scarce and erratic this year, but produced enough harvest to satisfy the immediate needs of the family, and save some for the coming months. The crop residues (peanut fodder and sorghum stalk) were used for livestock farming.

"Money finishes but the experience remains," says Yussouf. "We are now able to duplicate this experience and teach other members of our family, to optimise the yield from our small farm and restore our lands in degradation."



# Project Results

## Activities and Operational Partnerships

Through the PRRO, WFP continued to assist Mauritanian populations in six targeted regions, and registered refugees residing in Mbera camp.

In the assisted regions, WFP worked with cooperating partners including the government at local and national levels, non-governmental organization (NGO) partners and United Nations (UN) agencies. WFP identified cooperating partners based on their regional presence in areas of intervention, and their expertise in ensuring an effective implementation. Under the supervision of sub-offices and local authorities, cooperating partners conducted targeting of beneficiary households, ensured storage of food on sites and monitored the implementation. This collaboration aimed to improve coherence in the implementation of different activities and to strengthen synergies between them to enhance the effectiveness of the assistance provided and value for money.

### Strategic Objective 1

During the peak of the lean season, between June and September, food-insecure Mauritanian households were supported through general distributions using cash or in-kind, integrated with malnutrition prevention assistance for children aged 6-23 months. Treatment activities for pregnant and lactating women were suspended following recommendations from a regional bureau nutrition mission to be replaced by cash-based support to encourage pregnant and lactating women to access a comprehensive mother and child health services and care at health centres.

Regions with the highest food insecurity and malnutrition rates were targeted and prioritised based on the trend analysis of food insecurity and malnutrition, as well as data on the availability of food and market prices. In Assaba, Gorgol and Guidimakha, WFP reached 39,500 beneficiaries with assistance through cash-based transfers (CBT) with a monthly ration of MRO 34,000 (approximately USD 88) for 90 days, between June and September. In Hodh Ech-Charghi, WFP assisted 22,500 people with unconditional in-kind distributions for the same period with a food basket comprised of wheat, vegetable oil, beans and salt. Distributions originally planned in Tagant and Hodh el Gharbi did not take place due to funding constraints. Between May and June, WFP assisted 9,000 vulnerable households with general distributions of dried fruits (dates), to complement the nutritional intake of families whose children were receiving curative nutritional assistance.

Cooperating partners, international and local NGOs, carried out the general distributions of in-kind and cash, in conjunction with the National Mauritanian Bank (BNM) while WFP coordinated with other CBT actors such as *Action contre la Faim* (ACF) to complement interventions and to avoid overlaps in the same regions where they also intervened. In a particular district of the Gorgol region in Mbout, WFP piloted, in collaboration with the government social protection agency *Tadamoun*, cash transfers, as part of the establishment of a national adaptive social protection system. The distributions of cash entitlements were carried out in conjunction with the national social protection transfer programme *Tekavoul*, using the national Social Registry and lists of WFP beneficiaries.

Preventive nutrition assistance for children aged 6-23 months was integrated with general distributions in the regions where the latter activity took place. Children received a daily supplement of fortified blended food (Super Cereal) to complement their diet. Due to unavailability of funding, CBT assistance to pregnant and lactating women was not provided. For the implementation of nutrition activities, WFP, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Ministry of Health worked together to map the geographic coverage of nutrition centres such as *Centres de Récupération Nutritionnelle Ambulatoire pour Modérés* (CRENAM) and *Centres de Récupération Nutritionnelle Intensif* (CRENI). As part of the nutrition working group, WFP coordinated with ACF and the *Croissant Rouge Mauritanien* to better harmonise screening exercises and workshops. For example, each organization was responsible for screenings in their area of intervention, and would share the information for better planning and targeting. WFP also participated with UNICEF in the SMART survey in August 2017 for the rapid evaluation of nutritional needs.

In Mbera refugee camp, all Malian refugees who were individually recognised by the Government of Mauritania and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), through phased registrations, benefited from assistance in 2017. Refugee numbers continued to vary substantially throughout the year, whereas UNHCR registered 6,000 new arrivals from January to December 2017, bringing the population of the camp to 52,000. Accordingly, WFP had to revise its assistance and adjust rations based on the seasonality and availability of resources. This meant that full cash and in-kind rations were not provided during the year [1]. Faced with pipeline breaks for the in-kind ration between January and February, WFP provided only cash entitlements. From March to the end of the year, WFP provided a reduced mixed ration, but had to change the 'weight' of the ration based on

availability of resources for either of the components (cash versus in-kind).

Nutrition activities were not impacted by funding shortfalls and moderately malnourished Malian refugee women and children benefited from the prevention of malnutrition activities from June to December. Women and children aged 6-23 months received a daily supplement of Super Cereal and vegetable oil for women and Super Cereal Plus for children to complement their diet and prevent them from becoming severely malnourished.

WFP closely collaborated with UNHCR to assist Malian refugees in Mbera camp. The multi-sector group already in place comprising various UN agencies and NGOs led by UNHCR, coordinated the provision of assistance to refugees throughout the year. Nutrition coordination meetings, presided by UNHCR, took place monthly and weekly in Bassikounou. In preparation of the distributions, WFP, UNHCR and partners participated in several preparatory meetings to define roles and responsibilities at the sub-office level. After each distribution, assessment meetings were conducted to evaluate strengths, challenges and lessons learned from the distributions. Refugees' active participation was welcomed.

Considering protracted refugee situation as well as the improving trends in food security and nutrition, humanitarian partners undertook a household economic profile that will inform a vulnerability-based targeting in 2018.

### **Strategic Objective 3**

Under this strategic objective, WFP strengthens the livelihood asset base of food-insecure communities and enhances their resilience to natural shocks. It does so by combining productive investments before the lean season (through food assistance-for-assets [FFA] activities), unconditional protective transfers during the lean season, and interventions to prevent and treat malnutrition over several years and for the benefit of the same populations in 40 localities. It also involves mobilizing the expertise of technical services of the Government as well as the complementary interventions of partners within the same localities in order to simultaneously address the multiple dimensions of vulnerability and achieve better results and sustainability.

WFP intervened in only two regions in 2017 due to lack of resources, and in line with partner's agreements. In Guidimakha and Hodh Ech-Charghi, a total of 2,900 participants took part in FFA for the creation or restoration of community assets that reduce the risk of disasters and improve their ability to handle shocks. Their family members, 17,500 people in total, received the equivalent of two months of assistance through cash entitlements in Guidimakha, or in-kind rations (cereals, beans, vegetable oil and salt) in Hodh Ech-Charghi for a 60-day work period spread between February and June 2017. Participants successively received unconditional food and nutrition assistance to avoid any harmful coping strategy and preserve development gains. Thirty-nine sites were targeted, 24 in Guidimakha in partnership with the international NGO *Groupe de Recherche et de Réalisation pour le Développement Rural dans le Tiers Monde (GRDR) Migration-Citoyenneté-Développement*, and 15 in Hodh Ech-Charghi, in partnership with the local NGO *Au Secours*. The sites were selected to ensure continuity from previous years' investments, as well as local synergies with the joint WFP-Government *Projet Amélioration de la résilience des communautés et de leur sécurité alimentaire face aux effets néfastes du changement climatique en Mauritanie* (PARSACC) programme [2]. The difference in the transfer modalities by region follows the same logic as that of general distributions: following a market assessment conducted in 2015, certain regions presented more favourable access to, easier availability and variety of foods on the market than others.

The selection of activities and implementation sequencing are informed by the three-pronged approach (3PA) to ensure relevance to local socio-economic and agro-ecological contexts. A seasonal livelihood programming (SLP) organized at regional and commune levels in Gorgol, helped to understand local livelihoods and the way they are affected by shocks, as well as to identify a set of complementary and timely interventions based on partners' comparative advantages and seasonal patterns. In 2017, five community-based participatory planning (CBPP) exercises were jointly conducted in five localities with representatives from extension services, UN agencies and NGOs working with WFP. During these processes, food-insecure communities are placed at the centre of planning, empowering their own resilience building efforts. Active women and youth participation is sought to reflect their views in the prioritisation process. The CBPP resulted in the production of community action plans, thus improving local ownership and securing the access, usage and maintenance arrangements for shared assets.

### **Strategic Objective 4**

WFP aimed to treat moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) for children aged 6-59 months in community-run CRENAM through targeted supplementary feeding in the six project regions from May to October. In Mbera refugee camp, pregnant and lactating women also received curative treatment, along with malnourished children all year long. The timeliness of nutrition activities was at times hampered due to a series of operational constraints, namely: coordination with national authorities and signing of memoranda of understanding with implementing partners, which caused delays in the screenings and referrals.

Once enrolled in the treatment programme, children received a daily nutrient and energy-dense supplement dose of ready-to-use supplements to help them regain weight. Malian refugee mothers received vitamin-enriched Super

Cereal Plus. CRENAM activity supporters are provided with a monthly ration of wheat, beans, vegetable oil and salt, except for activity supporters in Mbera camp who receive cash entitlements from WFP's cooperating partner.

Mothers, fathers and CRENAM helpers of malnourished children further benefited from nutrition education on infant and young child feeding practices, sanitation, hygiene, dietary diversity and diseases prevention provided at health facilities. In all the regions of interventions, and to accommodate parents' daily tasks and working hours, WFP and the cooperating partner opted to have 30-minute group discussions with 10-15 people before each distribution, instead of 'home-sessions', to ensure all parents were sensitised on the feeding practices.

The eligibility of Mauritanian and Malian children (and Malian mothers) participating in the MAM treatment programme was based on screening and referral carried out by WFP partners and CRENAM activity supporters using the mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) criteria. Activity supporters often conducted door-to-door assessments and referred the eligible beneficiaries to the closest CRENAM on the spot. The admission criteria to CRENAM were defined by the National Malnutrition Protocol: children with a MUAC measuring between 115 mm and 125 mm and mothers with a MUAC below 210 mm.

As part of WFP's capacity strengthening support, a workshop was organized in October 2017 with the *Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire* (CSA) and the Ministry of Health, and with the participation of ACF for 166 activity supporters (92 women and 74 men). The objective of the workshop was to train activity supporters on health practices related to malnutrition and communication techniques to influence positive behaviour change. A *Connaissance, Attitude, Pratique* (CAP) survey was also undertaken in Guidimakha with the objective to assess the social behaviours and attitudes, within a specific socio-cultural context in order to tailor and design durable nutrition interventions.

WFP provided refugee schoolchildren with a daily nutritious meal to improve their nutritional intake and to encourage parents to send children to school regularly. Students in the camp's six primary schools received a morning porridge of Super Cereal Plus prepared by the women-led canteen management committees. WFP assisted 4,900 schoolchildren between March and June, and from October to December. Additionally, 9,000 Mauritanian students living in the department of Bassikounou, in proximity to the Mbera refugee camp, benefited from school meals under the PRRO's refugee crisis response interventions from March to June.

[1] Transfer modalities were chosen based on various analyses (Joint Assessment Mission 2015, post-distribution monitoring, updated cash feasibility study and September 2016 market assessment). Following an initial pilot phase between June and September 2016, WFP has established a ration comprised of 35 percent of in-kind (cereals, vegetable oil and salt) and 65 percent of cash. The ration was identified in order to cover an individual's daily intake of 2100 kcal.

[2] Synergies include provision of tools and agricultural inputs by PARSAAC, while WFP would provide cash transfers, as part of the FFA activities.

## Results

### Strategic Objective 1

The effectiveness of general distributions to food-insecure Mauritanians in the six targeted regions varied widely across the regions, the modality (cash versus in-kind), the gender of head of households and availability of local and imported food on the market.

WFP assistance contributed to a stabilization of the food security situation of vulnerable households assisted. Nutrition interventions to prevent malnutrition in children were systematically integrated with general distributions. This ensured that nutrition activities (including pre and postnatal consultations, and importance of healthy diets) reached the most vulnerable children and their families, whilst preventing possible ration-sharing among household members.

Food insecurity remained high, but slightly improved compared to 2016, across all regions as 37 percent of reached beneficiary households were reported to be food insecure by the November 2017 post-distribution monitoring (PDM) survey. Food consumption and diet diversity indicators remained stable across time in Mauritania, primarily linked to structural vulnerabilities, limited economic resources and food habits of the poorest households, which do not allow significant improvement if an integrated package of assistance is not provided to beneficiaries.

The situation of the poorest households varied between food zones (21 percent of beneficiaries with poor food consumption score) as compared to cash zones (18 percent of beneficiaries with poor food consumption score). This data reflects the regional food insecurity trends, where Hodh Ech-Charghi is the region with the highest rates of

food insecurity. Among all beneficiaries assisted, one out of two households managed to consume at least three meals a day and three food groups, most of them being commodities with low nutritional and energy values (cereals, oil and sugar). The PDM revealed that food habits vary depending on the regions: people living in Hodh Ech-Charghi tend to consume more milk products, as compared to people living in the southern regions close to the river Senegal who consume more vegetables.

With regards to WFP assistance to Malian refugees, major trends monitored through PDM and Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) surveys, show clear improvements in the food security and nutrition situation when full rations can be provided, as a result of the multi-faceted intervention put in place by WFP and other actors working in the camp. The prevalence of food insecurity reduced from 20.7 percent in March 2013 to 10.4 percent in November 2017. Overall, the nutritional status of refugees has seen significant improvements. The results of 2017 SMART survey conducted in the camp show that the global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates for children aged 6-59 months decreased from 19.7 percent in July 2012 to 4.5 percent in August 2017.

The adequate delivery of assistance and improvements of the food security and nutrition situation were hampered by important funding gaps for both cash and in-kind transfers. As the number of refugees further increased since beginning of 2017, the most basic food needs of refugees also increased with an overall impact on the value of the rations that WFP was able to provide and cover on a daily basis. For example, between July–September, WFP increased the weight of the ration in favour of in-kind distributions, based on available stocks. This was also done to anticipate possible price increases of main food items in local markets during the lean season months. From October to December, and faced with the opposite shortfalls for in-kind ration, WFP balanced the weight of the ration to increase the cash transfer value. The last assessment shows a slight underperformance in all the indicators, including the ability of households to consume four food groups. On the other hand, funding was adequate for malnutrition prevention activities, and WFP was able to provide adequate assistance to Malian children (3,200) and pregnant and lactating women (1,300) between May and October.

The majority of refugees still depend on food assistance to satisfy their main needs, of which 57 percent do not have any other source of revenue to fill the gap caused by erratic assistance. All households earn a part of their revenue from selling their rations, with poorer households selling a higher percentage of their ration to diversify their diets and cover other non-food needs. Thus, even slight changes in food assistance have a direct effect on the food security of the poorest refugees.

The prospects of stabilizing refugee presence over the next few years call for a medium-term multi-sector approach that focuses on refugee self-reliance and empowerment of host communities, whilst promoting peaceful coexistence.

### **Strategic Objective 3**

Recovery and livelihood programmes in Mauritania were limited to two regions in 2017, Guidimakha and Hodh Ech-Charghi due to funding constraints. Overall WFP could reach 28 percent of planned beneficiaries. As compared to 2016, when more activities took place but were geographically dispersed, in 2017, WFP managed to create synergies between livelihoods, nutrition and food assistance activities in the same localities – ensuring continuity in a number of sites targeted since 2016. The integrated package of assistance has had positive results in the intervention areas. Indicators show that families were able to stabilize their food consumption and use less or the same number of coping strategies compared to the previous year. These results should be read in a context of growing vulnerabilities, such as those characterising the 2017 lean season coupled with an erratic rainy season.

In Guidimakha, the seasonal livelihood programming (SLP) and community-based participatory planning (CBPP) allowed communities to define community action plans reflecting the priorities of all, especially young people and women, and taking into account local socio-economic and agro-ecological realities (most often related to climate change and/or soil erosion). It also made it possible to negotiate access and asset management conditions for the most vulnerable groups. This is particularly the case in Bouilly where the community made the decision to rehabilitate and provide 15 ha for the benefit of young people in the village (traditionally excluded from land ownership).

### **Strategic Objective 4**

The treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) was carried out between May and November, despite a few delays taking place in the implementation timeline. Unlike general distributions, MAM treatment was provided to children aged 6-59 months in all six target regions (240 sites) with achievement rates that sometimes exceeded 100 percent. WFP and partners undertook screenings to ensure wide participation and targeting of beneficiaries. Dried fruits were distributed as complementary ration during the month of Ramadan, to families whose children were enrolled in curative treatments in *Centres de Récupération Nutritionnelle Ambulatoire pour Modérés* (CRENAM).

Activities promoted in the local nutrition centres helped to ensure early identification and treatment, and decreased the likelihood of cases deteriorating into severe malnutrition. The monitoring of the performance indicators shows

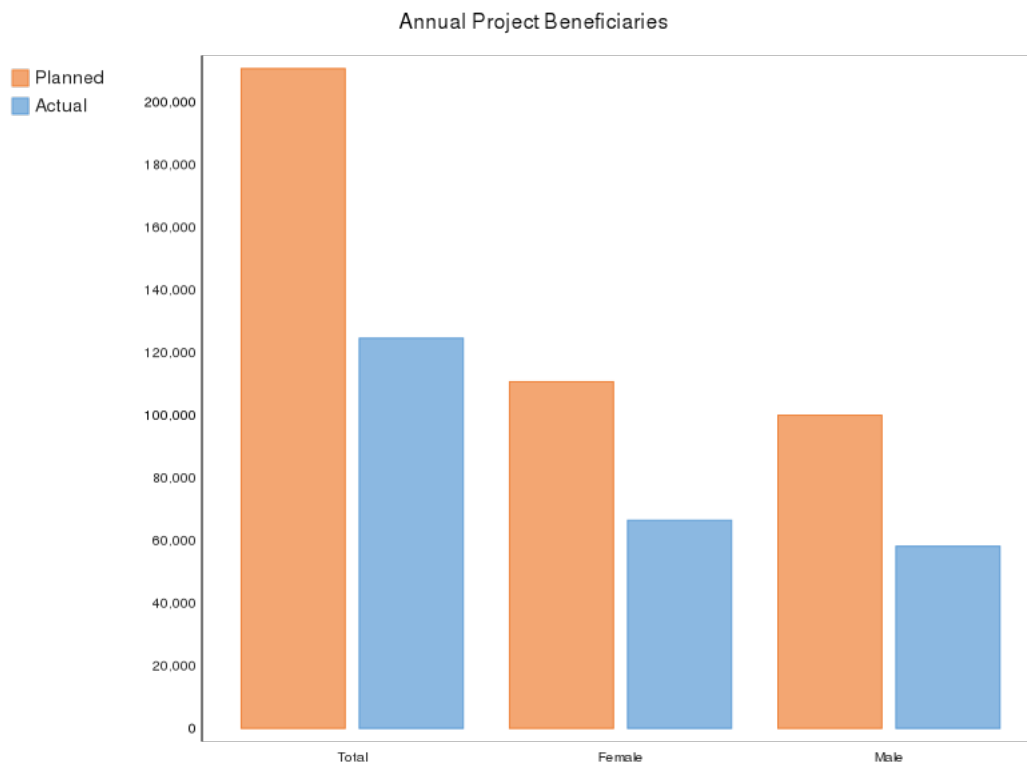


that the level of achievement of the results is globally satisfactory for the refugees and for the local population. All MAM treatment performance indicators, such as recovery rates, failures, mortality and non-response, were in line with acceptable standards for both local populations and Malian refugees. Amongst refugees, the rate of cures for children referred to CRENAM far exceeded the targets set at 99.7 percent. Drop-out rates as well as non-response rates are very low or negligible. The mortality rates for refugees were related to other health factors than to malnutrition. Amongst the local population assisted, more than 96 percent of the children assisted have returned to good nutritional status.

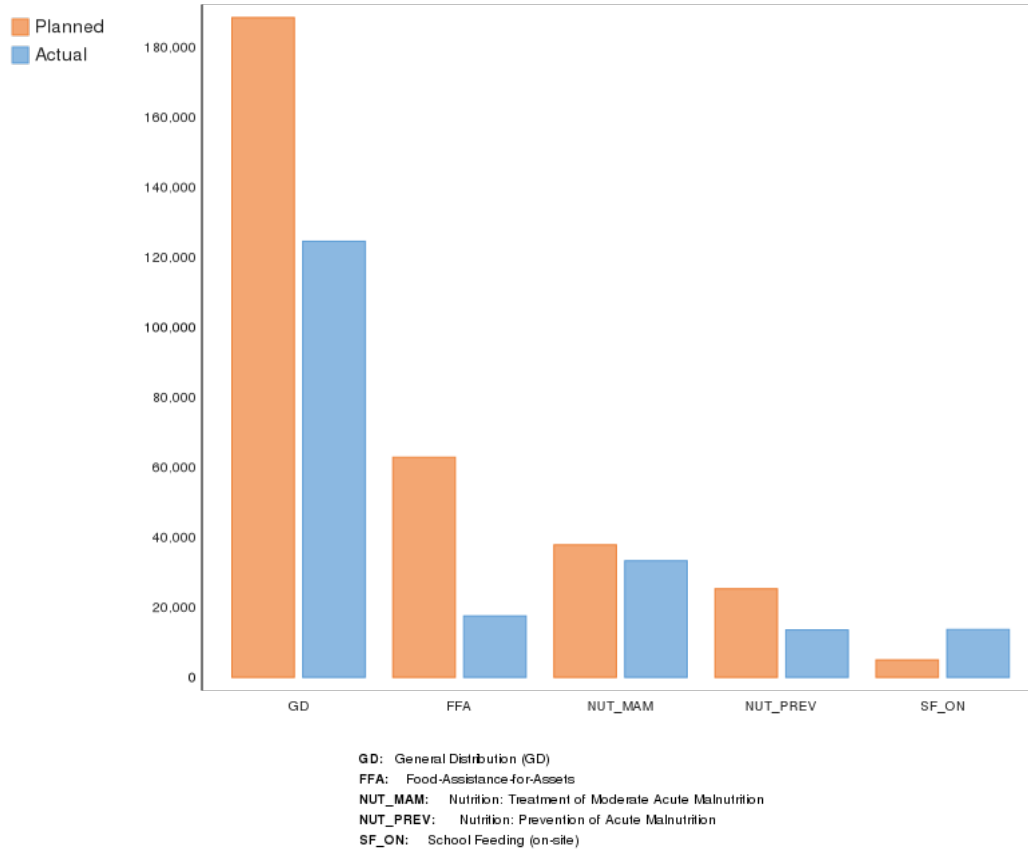
Awareness raising trainings on related topics, breastfeeding, hand hygiene and the use of products supplied by WFP enabled mothers to make better decisions when it came to their children's nutrition. The *Connaissance, Attitude, Pratique* (CAP) survey sponsored by one of WFP partners in the region of Guidimakha, found that the majority of women were informed on practices related to maternal and child health. However, the absence of resources and economic vulnerabilities, lack of infrastructure and functional public services, and long distances can sometimes prevent families from seeking adequate health care in a timely manner. In this context, it is easier for indigenous traditions and practices to be used by families. The CAP survey recommended that an integrated information, communication and education plan that can induce positive behaviour change, be elaborated and tailored to the realities on the ground to contribute to improving the health and nutrition habits of families.

School meals provided to school-aged children in Mbera camp continued providing positive results, despite the frequent absence of teachers being one of the main negative points. Attendance rates remained stable since 2016, at 78 percent. A positive outcome of this year was the success rate for final year exams, with 3,300 children (77 percent of the total) having passed their exams successfully.

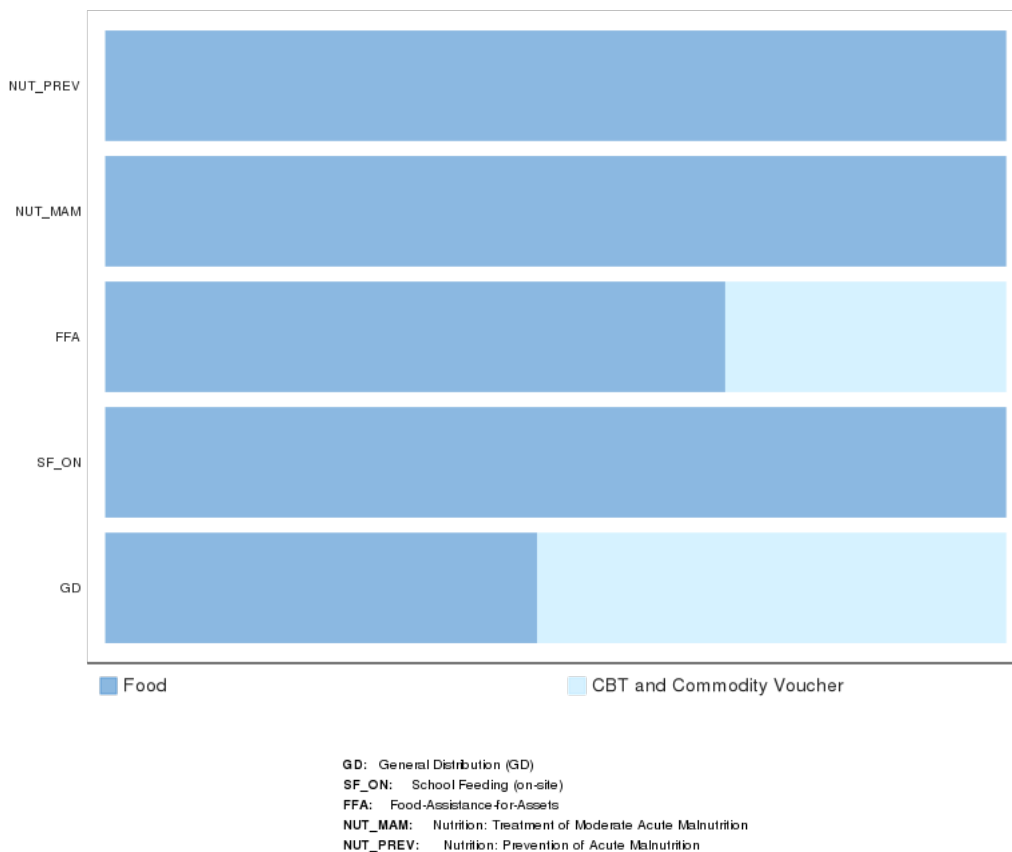
As part of WFP's approach to create synergies amongst different projects and to maintain peaceful coexistence in the area bordering with Mali, and particularly between host Mauritanian communities and Malian refugees, WFP provided school meals to 9,000 schoolchildren of 51 schools in the department of Bassikounou in the proximity of Mbera camp.



Annual Project Beneficiaries by Activity



Modality of Transfer by Activity





## Annual Project Food Distribution

Commodity	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual v. Planned
Corn Soya Blend	358	371	103.8%
Dried Fruits	-	130	-
Iodised Salt	126	41	32.6%
Lentils	306	89	29.0%
Peas	-	38	-
Ready To Use Supplementary Food	204	252	123.6%
Rice	4,601	3,510	76.3%
Split Peas	-	10	-
Vegetable Oil	692	393	56.7%
Wheat	3,553	1,291	36.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,841</b>	<b>6,126</b>	<b>62.2%</b>



## Cash Based Transfer and Commodity Voucher Distribution for the Project (USD)

Modality	Planned (USD)	Actual (USD)	% Actual v. Planned
Cash	13,031,629	7,173,423	55.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,031,629</b>	<b>7,173,423</b>	<b>55.0%</b>

## Performance Monitoring

The country office's monitoring activities in 2017 could count on higher availability of financial resources and human resources expertise. WFP also benefited from feedback from partners, which enabled improvements in its monitoring processes.

Regions with the highest food insecurity and malnutrition rates were targeted and prioritised based on the trend analysis of food insecurity and malnutrition – Integrated Context Analysis (ICA), Food Security Monitoring Systems (FSMS), *Cadre Harmonisé*, Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART), the analytical results of the Household Economy Approach – and other field data regarding the availability of food and market prices.

Results and indicators, including cross-cutting gender and protection indicators, were collected through a regular monitoring mechanism. WFP invested in the use of new technologies to improve the feedback of collected information and facilitate analysis. Activity data collection, post-distribution monitoring (PDM) or assessments were registered through smartphones, and the data sent to a central server at WFP. This allowed real-time access to collected data and timely analysis and reporting of project performance. Partner monitoring reports were provided monthly on the status of activities implementation and were regularly uploaded on the Country Office Tool for Managing Effectively (COMET), an electronic system for data collection and analysis.

WFP staff members visited 600 sites out of 1,140 for all activities. Such visits enabled WFP to identify problems related to the distribution processes and find solutions. Where implementation problems were raised, WFP took necessary action to correct any irregularities, brief and train the partners to carry out the activities in line with WFP corporate standards.

The PDM surveys were conducted at the household level in WFP-assisted zones on the distribution process, beneficiaries feedback, the use of food or cash and the monitoring of cross-cutting indicators (gender, protection). In 2017, WFP carried out the six PDM surveys planned for the year, in July and November: two were carried out in Mbera camp and four in the assisted regions. For 2017, WFP could count on the multi-year partnership with the non-governmental organization (NGO) *Solidarité Développement Durable* to facilitate the collection of PDM data and surveys in Assaba, Gorgol, Guidimakha and Hodh Ech-Charghi. WFP also collected, with the support of the regional bureau, data on composite 'combo' indicators for resilience activities [1]. The reports included information on the number of beneficiaries reached, quantity of food or the amount of cash distributed, quantity of food received by partners, and losses and stocks still available after distribution.

Since 2011, WFP and *Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire* (CSA) have carried out two FSMS assessments per year – June/July during the lean season and December/January during the post-harvest period – to measure the trend of households' socio-economic situation and to track potential threats to food security. Data collection is typically carried out in 11 geographic areas covering the entire country. Census areas or *zone de dénombrement* (ZD) are randomly selected and later, a systematic random sample of households was done in the list of all the households of a ZD. The main indicators monitored by the FSMS are: food consumption, coping strategies, food stocks, share of food expenditure in total expenditure and food security related shocks. As planned, two FSMS surveys were carried out in 2017, one in January during the post-harvest and one in August during the lean season.

The results of the August 2017 FSMS indicated worrying high levels (28 percent) of countrywide food insecurity. These results prompted additional evaluation missions in September and October, undertaken by the CSA and other national authorities and ministries, and supported by WFP, to assess the effects of a bad rainy season on agricultural production and livestock farming. WFP also actively participated in the March and November 2017 *Cadre Harmonisé* exercise. As part of a tripartite agreement between WFP, Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), *Action contre la Faim* (ACF) and CSA, 17 markets out of 35 representative markets of all livelihood zones were monitored by WFP and FEWS NET to assess the market prices throughout the year.

To monitor beneficiary preferences and ensure collection of regular feedback in Mbera refugee camp, WFP strengthened follow-up monitoring tools such as food basket monitoring (FBM) and beneficiary contact monitoring (BCM). Data for FBM is collected at the time of monthly general distributions to ensure that beneficiaries receive the planned ration, while also measuring the waiting time in the distribution sites. The BCM is carried out monthly to collect information on the use of cash by beneficiaries.

Between August and November 2017, WFP, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), CSA and ACF jointly conducted a household profiling survey, based on the household economic approach methodology in Mbera refugee camp. This survey profiling is part of a targeting exercise to design tailored assistance to refugees based on their vulnerabilities rather than on their status. Training of supervisors and agents in charge of data collection took place, and household data collection and focus group discussions with beneficiaries were held. Data will be analysed in 2018 to enable all stakeholders to design appropriate assistance. Once analysed, this data will contribute to tailoring assistance to refugees based on their needs and capacities rather than their status, as part of the multi-sector strategy and its operational plan.

[1] The compulsory five indicators as a 'combo' are: food consumption score, dietary diversity score, coping strategy index/consumption based coping strategies, coping strategy index/livelihood coping strategies and community assets score.

## Progress Towards Gender Equality

Mauritania continues to perform poorly in terms of gender equality, and considerable disparities between men and women are still present in terms of access to assets and productive resources, and their management. The gender gap in access to education [1], health, environment, rights, participation and decision-making also demonstrates disparities.

Recognising that women and girls represent the most vulnerable groups, the design and implementation of all activities, specifically food assistance-for-assets (FFA) activities were based on participatory approaches in which women had the opportunity to identify their specific needs and priorities so that the work would not result in extra



burden. In 2017, 60 percent of WFP assisted households are women-led. WFP encouraged a balanced representation of women and men in food management committees (at 2:1), and achieved a good proportion of women in leadership positions. This reflects WFP's efforts to work with partners that also promote design and implementation of gender-sensitive activities and share WFP gender equality principles. The proportion of households in which women make decisions on the use of cash and food (59 percent) slightly increased compared to 2016, and was above the target of 50 percent. In Mauritania, women typically manage household budget and expenses while men control household assets and access to resources. In the southern regions along the river belt where seasonal migration is high, the majority of women stays in the villages while men leave for seasonal jobs. The indicators for the cash-zones show that women or men alone, instead of women and men together, make decisions regarding the use of assistance received.

In 2017, women's participation in WFP's gender sensitisation trainings was high in all targeted regions. In some villages, this encouraged the communities to support women to take up leadership roles and to speak up their needs. In Assaba, former WFP cash beneficiaries used a part of their savings to set up small income-generating activities like butcheries and small cooperatives. WFP combined also the gender sensitisation trainings with nutrition trainings held in nutrition rehabilitation and education centres, *Centres de récupération Nutritionnelle Ambulatoire pour Modérés* (CRENAM). Men and women alike felt encouraged to improve their income and the nutrition of their families, therefore accepting women's main role and responsibility for household food security and nutrition, while recognising men's crucial participation in their families' decision-making processes in the area of nutrition. Gender sensitisation trainings and community consultations encouraged communities to keep in consideration the roles that women and men have in their families and societies.

According to the latest figures from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 55 percent of the refugees in Mbera camp are women and 45 percent men. Interestingly, the percentage of women-led households has decreased throughout the year, passing from 82 percent in July 2017 to 55 percent in November 2017. New registrations and the return of men who had left the camp in the previous months could explain these changing figures. Men often return to Mali or keep herds in areas surrounding the camp. In 2017, refugee women continued to participate in focus group discussions where they expressed their views and particular needs, and voiced those of the most vulnerable.

[1] In Mauritania, girls' enrolment and access to primary school education supersedes that of boys. However, during secondary school and in higher education, the gender balance is tipped in favour of boys.

## Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

Protection and accountability principles that pertain to food and nutrition security programming were well integrated into humanitarian practices throughout all WFP's project cycles.

In 2017, WFP achieved good results in guaranteeing that an enabling and safe environment was in place for beneficiaries at distribution sites by maintaining a good collaboration with the local authorities as well as enhancing the crowd control system by the beneficiary community, especially given the increased portion of cash-based transfer (CBT) in the low technology environment.

The protection indicators related to safe access to WFP's programme sites performed well with no incidents for both local populations (99.9 percent) and Malian refugees (99 percent).

With regards to assistance to the local Mauritanian population, beneficiary targeting is carried out at the community level using a participatory approach that ensures beneficiary inclusiveness in the process. Almost 100 percent of assisted people were informed about the programmes and rations. However, field level showed that some 39 percent of people receiving assistance are not fully aware of the reasons and criteria for selection in the programme. WFP ensures that beneficiaries are consulted and informed on the rations, distribution timeline and duration prior to implementing its activities, and that protection concerns related to the distribution of cash in Assaba, Gorgol and Guidimakha are taken into consideration. Nonetheless, WFP will work with its cooperating partners to ensure a wider and better communication with all its beneficiaries in 2018.

In 2017, WFP continued using modern communication technology to complement physical monitoring by WFP monitors and third party monitors as part of its complaints and feedback mechanism to ensure accountability to affected populations. The mechanisms consisted of two phone numbers that any beneficiary could call toll-free, using pre-existing phone lines. Beneficiaries used the mechanism less frequently in 2017 than in 2016, but continued to provide their feedback through other mechanisms such as communication through partners or community leaders.

In Mbera refugee camp, WFP ensured that the needs of the elderly and physically impaired were prioritised at all times, particularly during distributions. WFP and partner staff made house visits to the most vulnerable beneficiaries to check whether they were present in the camp at the time of distribution, and if so, collected the cash or food on their behalf. In relation to the use of CBT in Mbera refugee camp, particular efforts were undertaken to ensure that protection-related concerns were considered. WFP paid attention to the impact of cash on existing domestic and social tensions, distance between the shelters and distribution points, access to markets and impact of the cash on commodity prices in local markets.

WFP often had to adjust the cash entitlements and food rations distributed to Malian refugees throughout 2017 depending on the availability of funding. WFP systematically held monthly meetings with refugee leaders to inform them of these changes in time before the distributions. As the beneficiary contact monitoring surveys showed, the majority of refugees were well informed of the ration changes throughout the year. During the profiling exercise, WFP and partners set up a local profiling-management committee, tasked with tackling all complaints and feedback. The partners used *Action contre la Faim* (ACF) feedback and complaints mechanism consisting of two phone numbers. The operators would file and follow-up on claims received via phone or face-to-face, related to data collection process.

The feedback collected in 2017 will facilitate WFP information sharing in 2018 to enable affected populations to play an even more active role in decision-making processes and adjust WFP operations accordingly. With the roll-out of the participatory approaches, the consultation with beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries is expected to increase across age, gender and diversity.

# Figures and Indicators

## Data Notes

Cover page photo © WFP/ Yacoub Ba

Beneficiaries in Bouly, Guidimakha region, monitor their crop production.

## Overview of Project Beneficiary Information

**Table 1: Overview of Project Beneficiary Information**

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Total Beneficiaries	99,982	110,714	210,696	58,150	66,442	124,592	58.2%	60.0%	59.1%
<b>By Age-group:</b>									
Children (under 5 years)	15,149	15,935	31,084	14,199	14,856	29,055	93.7%	93.2%	93.5%
Children (5-18 years)	37,495	39,342	76,837	21,571	22,586	44,157	57.5%	57.4%	57.5%
Adults (18 years plus)	47,338	55,437	102,775	22,380	29,000	51,380	47.3%	52.3%	50.0%
<b>By Residence status:</b>									
Refugees	26,099	28,901	55,000	23,304	29,088	52,392	89.3%	100.6%	95.3%
Residents	73,882	81,814	155,696	34,805	37,395	72,200	47.1%	45.7%	46.4%

## Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity and Modality

**Table 2: Beneficiaries by Activity and Modality**

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
General Distribution (GD)	110,176	133,330	188,506	84,635	91,936	124,592	76.8%	69.0%	66.1%
School Feeding (on-site)	5,000	-	5,000	13,685	-	13,685	273.7%	-	273.7%
Food-Assistance-for-Assets	31,439	31,439	62,878	12,078	5,475	17,553	38.4%	17.4%	27.9%
Nutrition: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition	36,011	1,847	37,858	33,311	-	33,311	92.5%	-	88.0%

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition	14,732	10,574	25,306	13,552	-	13,552	92.0%	-	53.6%

## Annex: Participants by Activity and Modality

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
General Distribution (GD)	110,176	133,330	188,506	84,635	91,936	124,592	76.8%	69.0%	66.1%
School Feeding (on-site)	5,000	-	5,000	13,685	-	13,685	273.7%	-	273.7%
Food-Assistance-for-Assets	5,240	5,239	10,479	2,013	913	2,926	38.4%	17.4%	27.9%
Nutrition: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition	36,011	1,847	37,858	33,311	-	33,311	92.5%	-	88.0%
Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition	14,732	10,574	25,306	13,552	-	13,552	92.0%	-	53.6%

## Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity (excluding nutrition)

**Table 3: Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity (excluding nutrition)**

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
<b>General Distribution (GD)</b>									
People participating in general distributions	89,451	99,055	188,506	57,372	67,220	124,592	64.1%	67.9%	66.1%
Total participants	89,451	99,055	188,506	57,372	67,220	124,592	64.1%	67.9%	66.1%
Total beneficiaries	89,451	99,055	188,506	57,372	67,220	124,592	64.1%	67.9%	66.1%
<b>School Feeding (on-site)</b>									
Children receiving school meals in primary schools	2,505	2,495	5,000	6,809	6,876	13,685	271.8%	275.6%	273.7%
Total participants	2,505	2,495	5,000	6,809	6,876	13,685	271.8%	275.6%	273.7%
Total beneficiaries	2,505	2,495	5,000	6,809	6,876	13,685	271.8%	275.6%	273.7%
<b>Food-Assistance-for-Assets</b>									
People participating in asset-creation activities	3,144	7,335	10,479	1,463	1,463	2,926	46.5%	19.9%	27.9%
Total participants	3,144	7,335	10,479	1,463	1,463	2,926	46.5%	19.9%	27.9%
Total beneficiaries	30,685	32,193	62,878	8,336	9,217	17,553	27.2%	28.6%	27.9%

## Nutrition Beneficiaries

### Nutrition Beneficiaries

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
<b>Nutrition: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition</b>									
Activity supporters (18 plus)	-	2,907	2,907	19	178	197	-	6.1%	6.8%
Children (6-23 months)	4,919	4,905	9,824	5,476	5,618	11,094	111.3%	114.5%	112.9%
Children (24-59 months)	12,486	12,451	24,937	10,666	10,995	21,661	85.4%	88.3%	86.9%
Pregnant and lactating women (18 plus)	-	190	190	-	359	359	-	188.9%	188.9%
Total beneficiaries	17,405	20,453	37,858	16,161	17,150	33,311	92.9%	83.9%	88.0%
<b>Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition</b>									
Children (6-23 months)	6,579	6,552	13,131	6,031	6,177	12,208	91.7%	94.3%	93.0%
Pregnant and lactating women (18 plus)	-	12,175	12,175	-	1,344	1,344	-	11.0%	11.0%
Total beneficiaries	6,579	18,727	25,306	6,031	7,521	13,552	91.7%	40.2%	53.6%

## Project Indicators

### Outcome Indicators

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>SO1 Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies</b>				
<b>Stabilized or reduced undernutrition among children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women</b>				
<b>Proportion of target population who participate in an adequate number of distributions</b>				
<i>POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.01, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring</i>	>66.00	0.00	97.00	50.00



Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)</b>				
<i>POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.01, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring</i>	>50.00	0.00	50.00	82.00
<b>Proportion of target population who participate in an adequate number of distributions</b>				
<i>RÉFUGIÉS MALIENS, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring</i>	>66.00	99.00	99.00	100.00
<b>Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)</b>				
<i>RÉFUGIÉS MALIENS, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring</i>	>90.00	84.10	85.00	99.00
<b>Stabilized or improved food consumption over assistance period for targeted households and/or individuals</b>				
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score</b>				
<i>RÉFUGIÉS MALIENS, Project End Target: 2017.12, PDM, Base value: 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<1.00	1.00	1.40	2.40
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (female-headed)</b>				
<i>RÉFUGIÉS MALIENS, Project End Target: 2017.12, PDM, Base value: 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<0.00	0.60	1.90	2.00
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (male-headed)</b>				
<i>RÉFUGIÉS MALIENS, Project End Target: 2017.12, PDM, Base value: 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<0.00	1.80	0.60	2.80
<b>Diet Diversity Score</b>				
<i>RÉFUGIÉS MALIENS, Project End Target: 2017.12, PDM, Base value: 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM</i>	>4.00	3.71	3.73	3.60
<b>Diet Diversity Score (female-headed households)</b>				
<i>RÉFUGIÉS MALIENS, Project End Target: 2017.12, PDM, Base value: 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM</i>	>4.00	3.78	3.79	3.60
<b>Diet Diversity Score (male-headed households)</b>				
<i>RÉFUGIÉS MALIENS, Project End Target: 2017.12, PDM, Base value: 2016.12, WFP survey, PDM, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM</i>	>4.00	3.60	3.63	3.60
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score</b>				
<i>ZONE CASH (ASSABA, GORGOL, GUIDIMAKA), Project End Target: 2017.12, PDM, Base value: 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM</i>	<4.50	22.30	22.00	18.40

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (female-headed)</b>				
ZONE CASH (ASSABA, GORGOL, GUIDIMAKA), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2017.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM	<4.50	20.60	17.40	14.60
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (male-headed)</b>				
ZONE CASH (ASSABA, GORGOL, GUIDIMAKA), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2017.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2016.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM	<4.50	24.70	28.20	23.70
<b>Diet Diversity Score</b>				
ZONE CASH (ASSABA, GORGOL, GUIDIMAKA), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2017.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM	>4.00	4.28	3.83	3.45
<b>Diet Diversity Score (female-headed households)</b>				
ZONE CASH (ASSABA, GORGOL, GUIDIMAKA), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2017.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM	=4.00	4.34	4.06	3.29
<b>Diet Diversity Score (male-headed households)</b>				
ZONE CASH (ASSABA, GORGOL, GUIDIMAKA), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2017.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM	>4.00	4.22	3.52	3.68
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score</b>				
ZONE FOOD (HODH ECHARGHI, HODH EL GARBI, TAGANT), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2017.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM	<4.50	28.80	19.10	21.30
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (female-headed)</b>				
ZONE FOOD (HODH ECHARGHI, HODH EL GARBI, TAGANT), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2017.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM	<4.50	28.20	16.00	16.30
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (male-headed)</b>				
ZONE FOOD (HODH ECHARGHI, HODH EL GARBI, TAGANT), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2017.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2016.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM	<4.50	29.80	23.30	27.60
<b>Diet Diversity Score</b>				
ZONE FOOD (HODH ECHARGHI, HODH EL GARBI, TAGANT), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2017.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM	>4.00	3.87	3.20	3.92
<b>Diet Diversity Score (female-headed households)</b>				
ZONE FOOD (HODH ECHARGHI, HODH EL GARBI, TAGANT), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM	>4.00	3.79	3.31	3.94

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>Diet Diversity Score (male-headed households)</b>				
ZONE FOOD (HODH ECHARGHI, HODH EL GARBI, TAGANT), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2017.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.11, WFP survey, PDM	>4.00	4.01	3.22	3.88
<b>SO3 Reduce risk and enable people, communities and countries to meet their own food and nutrition needs</b>				
<b>Improved access to livelihood assets has contributed to enhanced resilience and reduced risks from disaster and shocks faced by targeted food-insecure communities and households</b>				
<b>CAS: percentage of communities with an increased Asset Score</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, Program and SO monitoring, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, COMBO Survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, COMBO Survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.11, WFP survey	=80.00	21.00	16.00	16.00
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.12, Joint survey	<80.00	10.00	19.70	19.40
<b>FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.12, WFP survey	<80.00	9.00	18.10	12.10
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (female-headed)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.12, Joint survey	<80.00	23.00	17.50	19.90
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (male-headed)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.12, Joint survey	<80.00	5.00	22.40	25.70
<b>FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score (female-headed)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.11, Joint survey	<80.00	9.00	21.30	15.90
<b>FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score (male-headed)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.12, Joint survey	<80.00	15.00	14.40	13.50
<b>Diet Diversity Score</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.12, WFP survey	>4.00	4.90	3.23	3.69

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>Diet Diversity Score (female-headed households)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.12, Joint survey	>4.00	4.93	3.32	3.62
<b>Diet Diversity Score (male-headed households)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.12, Joint survey	>4.00	4.87	3.31	3.78
<b>CSI (Food): Coping Strategy Index (average)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.12, Joint survey	<7.00	7.31	6.96	6.87
<b>Risk reduction capacity of countries, communities and institutions strengthened</b>				
<b>Number of WFP-supported national food security and other policies, plans, and mechanisms that improve disaster risk management and climate change adaptation</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, Workshop with stakeholders, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.12, Secondary data, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, Secondary data, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.12, Secondary data	=5.00	3.00	2.00	3.00
<b>SO4 Reduce undernutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger</b>				
<b>Reduced undernutrition, including micronutrient deficiencies among children aged 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating women, and school-aged children</b>				
<b>MAM treatment recovery rate (%)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2017.12, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.01, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report	>75.00	63.70	98.37	96.91
<b>MAM treatment mortality rate (%)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2017.12, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.01, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report	<3.00	0.00	0.16	0.00
<b>MAM treatment default rate (%)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2017.12, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.01, WFP programme monitoring, Cp report, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring	<15.00	12.10	1.46	0.54
<b>MAM treatment non-response rate (%)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2017.12, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.01, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report	<15.00	24.10	0.00	2.55
<b>Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2017.12, CP Report, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.01, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, Joint survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2017.12, Joint survey	>50.00	0.00	75.00	89.00

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>Prevalence of acute malnutrition among children under 5 (weight-for-height as %)</b>				
<i>POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, Project End Target: 2017.12, SMART nutrition survey, Base value: 2014.08, WFP survey, SMART survey, Previous Follow-up: 2015.06, Joint survey, SMART nutrition survey, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Joint survey, SMART nutrition survey</i>	<10.00	13.10	14.00	10.90
<b>MAM treatment recovery rate (%)</b>				
<i>RÉFUGIÉS MALIENS, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2012.09, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report</i>	>75.00	73.90	100.00	99.76
<b>MAM treatment mortality rate (%)</b>				
<i>RÉFUGIÉS MALIENS, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2012.09, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report</i>	<3.00	0.00	0.00	0.06
<b>MAM treatment default rate (%)</b>				
<i>RÉFUGIÉS MALIENS, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2012.09, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring</i>	<15.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
<b>MAM treatment non-response rate (%)</b>				
<i>RÉFUGIÉS MALIENS, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2012.09, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report</i>	<15.00	6.10	0.00	0.06
<b>Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)</b>				
<i>RÉFUGIÉS MALIENS, Project End Target: 2017.12, CP Reports, Base value: 2015.01, WFP survey, PDM, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Joint survey, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Joint survey, CP Report</i>	>90.00	55.00	55.00	100.00
<b>Prevalence of acute malnutrition among children under 5 (weight-for-height as %)</b>				
<i>RÉFUGIÉS MALIENS, Project End Target: 2017.12, SMART nutrition survey, Base value: 2014.10, WFP survey, SMART survey, Previous Follow-up: 2016.02, Joint survey, SMART nutrition survey, MS/UNICEF/UNHCR/ WFP, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Joint survey, SMART nutrition survey</i>	<10.00	11.80	5.90	4.50

## Output Indicators

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
<b>SO3: Food-Assistance-for-Assets</b>				
Number of villages assisted	centre/site	85	23	27.1%
<b>SO4: Nutrition: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition</b>				
Number of health centres/sites assisted	centre/site	438	240	54.8%

## Gender Indicators



Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>Proportion of households where females and males together make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food</b>				
<i>BASSIKOUNOU / CAMP DE MBERA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2015.11, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, Latest Follow-up: 2017.11</i>	=50.00	3.60	5.10	6.70
<b>Proportion of households where females and males together make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food</b>				
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.09, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, Latest Follow-up: 2017.11</i>	=50.00	3.60	4.10	3.00
<b>Proportion of households where females make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food</b>				
<i>BASSIKOUNOU / CAMP DE MBERA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2015.11, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, Latest Follow-up: 2017.11</i>	=25.00	60.60	60.40	53.00
<b>Proportion of households where females make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food</b>				
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.09, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, Latest Follow-up: 2017.11</i>	=25.00	34.00	55.10	59.00
<b>Proportion of households where males make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food</b>				
<i>BASSIKOUNOU / CAMP DE MBERA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2015.11, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	=25.00	36.60	34.50	40.00
<b>Proportion of households where males make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food</b>				
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.09, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, Latest Follow-up: 2017.11</i>	=25.00	62.40	40.80	38.00
<b>Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees</b>				
<i>BASSIKOUNOU / CAMP DE MBERA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	>50.00	50.00	-	50.00
<b>Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees</b>				
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.11, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	>50.00	48.00	60.00	50.00
<b>Proportion of women project management committee members trained on modalities of food, cash, or voucher distribution</b>				
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	>60.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

## Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations Indicators

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)</b>				
<i>BASSIKOUNOU / CAMP DE MBERA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.11, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	=80.00	81.80	67.40	85.00
<b>Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)</b>				
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.09, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, Latest Follow-up: 2017.11</i>	=80.00	62.60	91.70	98.80
<b>Proportion of assisted people who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme site</b>				
<i>BASSIKOUNOU / CAMP DE MBERA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.11, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, Latest Follow-up: 2017.11</i>	=90.00	98.30	99.20	99.00
<b>Proportion of assisted people who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme site</b>				
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.09, Previous Follow-up: 2016.11, Latest Follow-up: 2017.11</i>	=90.00	96.60	99.40	99.90

## Partnership Indicators

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Latest Follow-up
<b>Amount of complementary funds provided to the project by partners (including NGOs, civil society, private sector organizations, international financial institutions and regional development banks)</b>		
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	=1,000,000.00	343,857.00
<b>Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services</b>		
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	>2.00	20.00
<b>Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners</b>		
<i>MAURITANIA, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	=100.00	100.00
<b>Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners</b>		
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	=100.00	100.00
<b>Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners</b>		
<i>MAURITANIA, Nutrition, Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	=100.00	100.00
<b>Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners</b>		
<i>MAURITANIA, School Feeding, Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	=100.00	100.00

## Resource Inputs from Donors

## Resource Inputs from Donors

Donor	Cont. Ref. No.	Commodity	Purchased in 2017 (mt)	
			In-Kind	Cash
France	FRA-C-00264-01	Corn Soya Blend	-	19
France	FRA-C-00264-01	Ready To Use Supplementary Food	-	24
Japan	JPN-C-00528-01	Corn Soya Blend	-	98
Japan	JPN-C-00528-01	Iodised Salt	-	32
Japan	JPN-C-00528-01	Ready To Use Supplementary Food	-	24
Japan	JPN-C-00528-01	Rice	-	1,425
Japan	JPN-C-00528-01	Split Peas	-	90
Japan	JPN-C-00528-01	Vegetable Oil	-	170
Japan	JPN-C-00528-01	Wheat	-	1,249
Monaco	MNC-C-00016-02	Ready To Use Supplementary Food	-	24
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Rice	-	347
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Vegetable Oil	-	35
Spain	SPA-C-00127-05	Ready To Use Supplementary Food	-	73
Spain	SPA-C-00127-05	Split Peas	-	6
Spain	SPA-C-00127-05	Vegetable Oil	-	3
Spain	SPA-C-00127-05	Wheat	-	25
		<b>Total</b>	-	<b>3,643</b>