



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Mali Country Brief June 2019



Operational Context

Mali is a vast land-locked country in the heart of the Sahel region. Social indicators remain among the lowest in the world, and the country ranks 182 out of 189 on UNDP's 2017 Human Development Index. Agriculture, livestock and fisheries account for about one-third of Mali's gross domestic product (GDP), and nearly 70 percent of employment (primarily involving subsistence production). One in eight primary school-aged children do not attend school; of those enrolled in school only one-third are girls.

Following a political coup in March 2012, much of northern Mali was occupied by non-state armed groups. A UN peacekeeping mission was deployed to the country in July 2013. Since mid-2016 there has been a multiplication of local conflicts and insecurity in the central and northern regions of the country, leading to increased vulnerability of populations and hampering humanitarian access.

The past few months were characterised by escalating violence and conflict, leading to a sharp rise in internal displacement, the continued disruption of markets, and a deterioration in the supply of basic social services. Despite the relatively favourable 2018 agricultural season, there was a significant deterioration in the food and nutrition security outlook compared to the projections made at the end of 2018. The results from the March 2019 *Cadre Harmonisé* indicate that during the current lean season from June to September, over 550,000 people are in need of urgent food assistance. However this figure did not include some 100,000 newly internally displaced persons (IDPs) arriving since the beginning of 2019. The Food Security Cluster thus decided to raise the number of persons in need of urgent assistance during the 2019 lean season to 650,000 persons.

WFP's programmes in Mali are aligned with WFP Global Strategic Objectives 1, 2 and 4, Sustainable Development Goal 2, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (2015–2019) and Mali national five-year strategy for growth and development. WFP has been present in Mali since 1964.



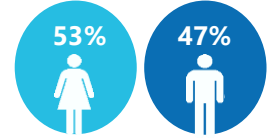
In Numbers

2 248 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 3.5 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 43.6 m six months (July–December 2019) net funding requirements

755,925 people assisted in June 2019.



Operational Updates

Emergency Response

- Escalating conflict continues to lead to increasing needs, for internally displaced persons and host communities in the centre of Mali. WFP carried out budget revision to reflect the need for an increased emergency response in line with the scale of needs. This will increase the number of beneficiaries by 150,000, and is in addition to the planned lean season support to 270,000 assisted people affected by seasonal food insecurity, and 200,000 conflict-affected people.
- The Government of Mali provided 4,050 mt of cereal from its strategic stocks to support the lean season response. This contribution will be complemented by other funding sources to provide a complete food basket for 300,000 vulnerable people for one month.

Food assistance for asset (FFA) creation

- WFP signed a partnership with the Polytechnical Rural Development University and research Institution, under which WFP will host four student trainees in the field of resilience. This is intended to support strengthening of national-level capacity in this area.
- Technical meetings were held with the Ministry of Agriculture to update the map of the Country Resilience Priorities (PRP-AGIR).
- Lessons learned workshops on resilience activities were carried out in Mopti, Gao and Timbuktu.

Social Protection

- Members of the National Technical Committee for the Unified Social Register (USR), including WFP, were trained on the use of the USR platform. The system is now online and functional.

Smallholder Agriculture Market & Value Chain Support (SAMS)

- WFP is partnering with Youth Without Borders (YWB), with support from the Mali climate fund, on a three-year project intended to strengthen the resilience and capacities of communities and decentralized authorities in three communes in Segou and Koulikoro regions. Activities focus on improving agropastoral and fish harvesting techniques and the sustainability of water and resource use.

Nutrition

- Between January and May 2019, 78,600 affected people (58,200 children and 20,400 pregnant and lactating women) were treated for moderate acute malnutrition.

School Feeding

- Following the end of the teachers strike in May, 594 of the 629 schools supported by WFP benefitted from school feeding assistance.
- The law regulating school feeding in Mali was approved by the National Assembly on 14 June and is awaiting promulgation by the President of the Republic. This law will provide a strong institutional framework for school feeding management in Mali.

UNHAS

- WFP Mali manages the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) on behalf of the humanitarian community. In June, six destinations were served and UNHAS services were used by 96 organizations, a total of 1,037 passengers and 2,548 kg of freight were transported.

Main photo

Credit: WFP/Virgo Edgar NGARBAROUM

Caption: WFP provide emergency assistance to internal displaced person in Mopti.

Population: 18.5 million

2017 Human Development Index: 182 out of 189

Income Level: Low

Chronic malnutrition: 31% of children between 6-59 months

Contact info: Virgo Edgar NGARBAROUM (virgo.edgarngarbaroum@wfp.org)

Country Director: Silvia CARUSO

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/mali

Mali Transitional-ICSP (1 January 2018 – 30 June 2019)

2019 Total Requirement (in million USD)	2019 Total Contribution (in million USD)	6 month Net Funding Requirement (in million USD)
123 m	45.6 m	43.6 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food (SDG Target 2.1)

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected populations are able to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements during and after crises

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide unconditional cash or food transfers to populations affected by conflict-related displacement, natural disasters, or production shocks.
- Provide blanket supplementary feeding to children aged 6–23 months and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) in conjunction with general cash/food distributions.

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable people in food-insecure and post-crisis areas are able to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements throughout the year

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide unconditional cash or food transfers to vulnerable populations affected by seasonal shocks.
- Provide school meals to schoolchildren in targeted areas.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition (SDG Target 2.2)

Strategic Outcome 3: Targeted populations (children 6-59 months and PLW) have reduced malnutrition in line with national targets

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide nutritious complements to targeted children aged 6-23 months and cash to PLW to prevent undernutrition outside of crisis/post-crisis areas.
- Provide nutritious foods to children and food assistance (food/CBT) to PLW for treatment of malnutrition – including support to caregivers.
- Provide fortified rice to targeted beneficiaries and support the production of fortified food commodities in collaboration with the local private sector.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and incomes (SDG Target 2.3)

Strategic Outcome 4: Populations in targeted areas, including vulnerable smallholder farmers, have enhanced livelihoods and resilience to better support food security and nutrition needs all year-round

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide food assistance for assets to targeted smallholders, to develop, restore and rehabilitate productive community infrastructures and sustainable natural resource use through a participatory process.
- Provide technical and financial support to smallholder farmer's organizations, aimed at encouraging market-oriented production, facilitating access to markets, enhancing value-addition and reducing post-harvest losses, and developing linkages to the school meals programme.

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs (SDG target 17.9)

Strategic Outcome 5: Government (at the local and national levels) and civil society have strengthened capacity to manage food security and nutrition policies and programmes by 2023

Focus area: Root Causes

Activities:

- Provide technical assistance and other support to the Government, to strengthen national capacity for food and nutrition security analysis, and for emergency preparedness and response.
- Support the Government to strengthen coordination among actors in the nutrition sector through REACH mechanism.

Strategic Result 6: Policies are coherent (SDG target 17.14)

Strategic Outcome 6: Government efforts towards achieving Zero Hunger by 2030 are supported by effective and coherent policy frameworks

Focus area: Root cause

Activities:

- Provide support to the Government Zero Hunger Strategic Review implementation and related analytical work, followed by dialogue with the Government and other stakeholders relating to implications of the findings and recommendations for medium-term planning (CSP, National Development Plan, UNDAF) and improving coordination between different elements of food security response, including adaptive social protection.

Strategic Result 8: Global partnership support (SDG Target 17.16)

Strategic Outcome 7: Humanitarian partners have access to common services, (including transportation, logistics, emergency telecommunications and food security analysis) throughout the year

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide technical expertise and services related to logistics, communications and information management, the food security cluster, and emergency preparedness and response, to humanitarian and development partners.
- Provide transportation services to humanitarian and development partners through the Humanitarian Air Service

Monitoring

• **Monitoring coverage:** In June, WFP and partners scaled up assistance with the arrival of the lean season. A total of 1,300 sites across the country were visited by monitoring missions. The activities monitored included school feeding, nutrition in health centres and caregiver support, food assistance for asset creation, and emergency assistance involving cash-based transfers (CBT) and in-kind (hybrid assistance) for IDPs and other vulnerable populations. Markets and retail traders participating in CBT were also visited as part of food basket price monitoring.

Monitoring assessments:

- Cereal prices remained stable during the month. Prices for maize (-23 percent), sorghum (-21 percent), millet (-16 percent) were in most cases significantly below the levels at the same time in 2018. Prices for local and imported rice remained stable compare to last month and last year's levels. The supply of local grains and pulses to the markets is adequate to meet demand in most markets. The exceptions include certain markets in Kidal, Ménaka and Mopti regions, affected by insecurity, inter-community conflicts and the closure of certain borders with Algeria.
- Terms of trade goat/cereals are deteriorating compared to last year in Timbuktu region (Goundam, Dire, Niafunke, Timbuktu), Kidal and Mopti (Tenenkou) regions.
- **Key monitoring findings:** Mobile post data monitorings (mPDM), through mobile Vulnerability Assessment Mapping (mVAM), were launched during June, including one on pre-lean season assistance and one on the post targeting process for the lean season. Preliminary results are expected by the end of July.

Challenges

- Due to increased requirements and funding constraints, WFP was forced to reduce rations to 70 percent in June.
- In order to meet the 2100 kcal/day intake during the most critical period of the lean season, food baskets will be brought to 100 percent in July, However, with this increased ration, WFP will not be able to cover planned distributions in September and risks to not meet all needs already starting in August, given the increasing number of new IDPs. WFP will be increasing efforts to mobilise funds necessary to cover these needs.
- In north and central Mali, insecurity has added to already high levels of humanitarian need, while making it more difficult to access affected populations. In Mopti region, increased intercommunal clashes forced the displacement of thousands of households.

Donors (in alphabetic order)

Canada, Denmark, European Union, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mastercard, Monaco, Norway, PBF, Private donors, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, UN CERF, United Kingdom. USA, World Bank.