



WFP Mali Country Brief January 2020

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



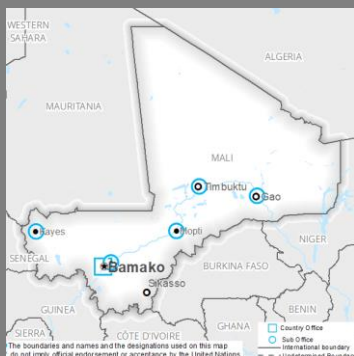
Operational Context

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 184 out of 189 on UNDP's 2018 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 schools, 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, hampering humanitarian access and leading to increased vulnerability of populations.

The past few months saw escalating violence and conflict, leading to a sharp rise in internal displacements, the continued disruption of markets, and a deterioration in the supply of basic social services. This evolving situation has led to a deterioration in the food and nutrition security outlook compared to the projections made at the end of 2018. The results from the recent food and nutrition security analysis (*Cadre Harmonisé, November 2019*) indicate that over 1 million people are projected to be food insecure from June to August 2020. As of November 2019, 199,000 persons were internally displaced in Mali, and were almost entirely dependent on humanitarian assistance given the lack of livelihood opportunities.

WFP operation is focused on emergency response, resilience building and strengthening of national capacities. WFP has been present in Mali since 1964.



Population: **19.7 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **184 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low**

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

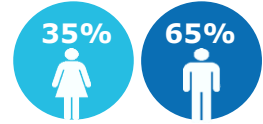
In Numbers

378 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 3.5 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 34 m six months (February-July 2020) net funding requirements

325 664 people assisted in January 2020



Operational Updates

Emergency Response and Preparedness

- Following attacks at the border between Niger and Mali, which have forced 1,144 families (approx. 5,500 people) within the region and from Niger to flee Ménaka region, WFP immediately responded on 31 January by providing emergency assistance to meet refugees and IDPs basic food needs for 15 days. Verification and registration of new arrivals are ongoing with a second round of food assistance planned around mid-February with full rations.
- Under a seasonal food assistance programme, WFP provided cash transfers to 56,800 food insecure people including men, women and children among IDPs and host communities in Dire, Goundam, Gourma, Nianfuke, and Timbuktu areas.
- In line with its Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2020-2024), WFP Mali is prioritizing emergency food assistance targeting newly displaced persons with 100 percent coverage of their food needs during the first three months and 60 percent coverage of needs between three and six months of displacement. To ensure smooth transition to the vulnerability-based assistance, WFP will launch a communication campaign to sensitize the affected communities in the forthcoming weeks.

Resilience building

- Under the school feeding programme, WFP provided assistance despite the nationwide strike between 6 and 10 January. WFP, with NGOs support, mobilized community volunteers to avoid discontinuation of school activities. In Gao, Ménaka and Kidal, schools were closed due to the strike.
- Through the food assistance for asset creation (FFA) programme, 13,700 people participated in community activities in the five regions of Gao, Ménaka, Mopti, Segou and Timbuktu. Assets created included agricultural and pastoral land rehabilitation, fishponds, gardens, wells, rural road construction/rehabilitation to support community resilience.
- WFP also assisted 25, 000 children aged 6-59 months and 11,000 pregnant and lactating women for the treatment of acute malnutrition.

Policy coherence, capacity development and partnerships

- WFP supported the national early warning system to carry out the National Survey on Food and Nutrition Security (ENSAN) with the review of data collection tools and the preparation of the field data collection. In addition, WFP is working with the Agricultural Market Observatory for joint market analysis and publication of a newsletter.
- WFP also supported the national Commissioner for Food Security in organizing a national workshop to set-up the African Risk Capacity campaign for 2020-2021.

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Main photo: Credit: WFP/Benoit Lognone

Caption: Setou and her son Dramane benefiting from WFP's malnutrition prevention activities in Nossombougou.

Country Strategic Plan (2020-2024)

2020 Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
75 m	51.8 m	34 m

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

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected people in targeted areas, including refugees and internally displaced persons, are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the immediate aftermath of crises.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide an integrated food assistance package to vulnerable men, women, boys and girls affected by crisis based on a needs assessment and ensure that preparedness measures are taken to support a response that is timely, effective, efficient, equitable and in line with the national safety nets strategy.
- Provide an integrated nutrition package, including both preventative and treatment elements, to vulnerable men, women, boys and girls affected by crisis based on a needs assessment.

Strategic Outcome 2: School-age girls and boys in targeted areas have increased current and future resilience while meeting their basic food and nutrition requirements during the school year.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide school meals to girls and boys during the school year in targeted areas in a way that supports local markets and promotes girl's enrolment.

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

Strategic Outcome 3: Nutritionally vulnerable populations in targeted areas, including children and pregnant and lactating women and girls, have improved nutritional status throughout the year.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Support national nutrition programme to ensure provision of preventive and curative nutrition services (including SBCC, local food fortification, complementary feeding and capacity strengthening) to targeted populations.

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

Strategic Outcome 4: Communities in targeted areas, including smallholder farmers (particularly women-led groups), have more resilient livelihoods for improved food security and nutrition throughout the year

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide conditional support to food-insecure vulnerable households, linked to the development or rehabilitation of productive, natural or social assets, the intensification and diversification of livelihood activities and improved access to markets, using an integrated, gender equitable and participatory community approaches.

Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities (SDG target 17.9)

Strategic Outcome 5: By 2030 national institutions and entities have strengthened capacities to manage equitable food security, nutrition and social protection policies, programmes and interventions in support of zero hunger

Focus area : Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide a package of capacity-strengthening support to national

institutions and entities on analysis and planning; coordination; policy coherence; implementation; and monitoring, evaluation, evidence creation and knowledge management in support of decision making

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

Strategic Outcome 6: Humanitarian partners in Mali have access to common services that enable them to reach and operate in crisis-affected areas throughout the year

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide United Nations Humanitarian Air Services flight services that allow partners to reach areas of humanitarian intervention
- Provide logistics, information and communications technology, common and coordination services, as well as other preparedness interventions in the absence of alternatives, in order to support effective and efficient humanitarian response

UNHAS

- WFP Mali manages the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS). In January, eight destinations were served and UNHAS services were used by 93 organizations. A total of 1,110 passengers and 2,637 kg of freight was transported.

Monitoring

- In January 122 sites across the country were visited to monitor ongoing activities, markets and retail traders, as part of the regular food basket price monitoring exercise. Key monitoring findings indicated that the supply of local cereals and pulses in the markets is improving with the arrival of new crops.
- Preliminary results of the minimum expenditure basket analysis conducted in December-January, showed that 47 percent of WFP beneficiaries do not have the economic capacity to meet their essential food and non-food needs. A quarter of WFP beneficiaries (22 percent) do not have the economic capacity to meet their essential food needs. These percentages are higher for the northern regions of Timbuktu and Gao as well as for IDPs compared to host communities. Without humanitarian food assistance the proportion of WFP beneficiaries not having the economic capacity to meet their essential food needs would increase by around 18 percent (from 22 percent to 40 percent).

Challenges

Despite ongoing resource mobilisation efforts, rising food assistance and livelihood support needs continue to present major challenges in ensuring assistance to vulnerable populations at planned scale.

Donors

Denmark, European Commission, Germany, Monaco, Norway, Switzerland, UN Peacebuilding Fund, United Kingdom and USA.