WFP Mali
Country Brief
November 2020

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

In Numbers

766 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 3.7 m cash-based transfers made

USD 12.8 m six months (November 2020-April 2021) net funding requirements

520,742 m people assisted in NOVEMBER 2020

WFP SAYS NO to GENDER BASED VIOLENCE
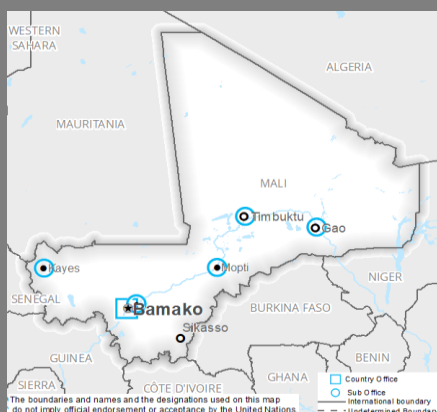
Operational Context

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 and central 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 hampering humanitarian access and leading to increased population displacement and vulnerability of conflict-affected communities.

In August 2020, the Government was overthrown by a military coup. A civilian government has been appointed for an 18-month transition period to prepare for new elections by April 2022.

With the COVID-19 outbreak declared in Mali on 25 March 2020, WFP stepped up to support the Government in monitoring COVID-19 impact on food security, providing food and nutrition assistance as well as expanding safety nets to cover populations increasingly affected by the socio-economic impact of the health crisis. WFP also provided a logistics response through transport and storage of medical equipment.

WFP's operation in Mali focuses on emergency response, resilience building and strengthening of national capacities. WFP (2020 Nobel Prize laureate) has been present in Mali since 1964.

The boundaries and names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Operational Updates

- Final results from the November 2020 food security assessment (Cadre Harmonise) indicated that in Mali, **437,000** men, women and children are currently food insecure (October-December 2020; Phases 3 to 4). This figure is projected to increase to **955,000** people during the lean season (June-August 2021). The 2021 projections of food insecure people are significantly lower than the 2019/2020 figures; this year's figures, however, reflected the highest levels recorded over the last seven years. The projected needs for 2021 exceed food insecurity in the pre-crisis period in 2012.

- WFP's satellite imagery analysis conducted in November 2020 shows a decrease in agricultural activities due to the deteriorating security situation in central Mali. In the Mopti region, 20 percent of villages experienced a decrease in cultivated land surface compared to pre-conflict years (2016, 2017), at different degrees of severity.

- In November 2020, following the government's call to support 105,000 flood-affected people in Mali, WFP worked closely with the Food Security Cluster and the Ministry of Social Development to provide a coordinated response targeting 54,000 vulnerable people in Ménaka, Gao, Mopti, Kidal, Koulikoro and Ségou.

- On 12 November 2020, WFP in collaboration with the National Centre for School Canteens (CNCS) launched a pilot initiative, "Nutrition in School" in Mali in order to improve students' nutritional status through enhanced access to nutrition information and promotion of best feeding and essential family practices at school. Formal integration of the initiative into the national education curricular will be considered towards end of 2021 based on the assessment of the pilot phase.

- Under its nutrition programme, WFP provided food assistance for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition in community health centres in Gao, Mopti, Segou and Timbuktu regions. Support to caretakers was also provided along with cooking demonstrations and community sensitization on best feeding practices.

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Photo: Credit: WFP/Virgo Edgar Ngarbaroum
Caption: A mother receives Plumpy Sup for her child in a community health centre in the Kayes region.

Strategic Outcome 6: Humanitarian partners in Mali have access to co
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 Service flight services that a
  partners to reach areas of humanitarian intervention.
- Provide logistics, information and communications technology, comm
  coordination services, as well as other preparedness interventions in t
  absence of alternatives, in order to support effective and efficient hur
  response.
- Provision of Humanitarian Air Service in Support of DG-ECHO Funded
- Provide on demand engineering services in order to support effective
  efficient humanitarian response.

UNHAS

WFP Mali manages the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS). In November, six destinations were served and UNHAS services were used by 101 organizations. A total of 1,505 passengers and 8,420 kg of freight was transported. UNHAS is also managing an ECHO-flight aircraft based in Mopti and serving seven destinations across the country. Through ECHO-flight, 168 passengers and 1,635 kg of light cargo were transported for 20 organizations in November.

Monitoring

Around 448 sites across the country were visited by WFP staff and third-party monitoring partners. Markets and retail traders participating in Cash-Based Transfers were also visited as part of the food basket price monitoring. Overall, price reductions of 5-10 percent were observed for local rice and a reduction of more than 20 percent was reported for millet in the markets, due to the harvests currently underway.

Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

In November 2020, WFP toll-free number received 663 calls most of which came from WFP beneficiaries and were related to food distribution dates, beneficiary targeting/selection criteria and preferences for distribution modality (cash versus in-kind). Adequate feedback was provided through appropriate channels.

Donors

Donors to Mali in 2020 include Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, the Government of Mali, Monaco, Norway, Private Donors, Sweden, Switzerland, UK and USA. Additional support has been provided by UN CERF, UNICEF and the UN Peacebuilding Fund.

WFP Country Strategy

Gender and Age Marker =3

Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)

2020 Total Requirement (in USD)	2020 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
183 m	**146 m**	**12.8 m**

Six-month Net Funding Requirements as of 8 December 2020

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 and nutrition needs during and in the immediate aftermath of crisis.
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 need 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 girls 'enrolment [modalities: food, cash-based transfers, capacity strengthening, service delivery]
- Provide safety nets to vulnerable populations in targeted areas, particularly women (tier 1) in line with an adaptive social protection approach [modalities: cash-based transfers, capacity strengthening].

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.