



WFP Mali

Country Brief

July - August 2021

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 2020 Human Development Index ranking. 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 **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.

Every year since 2012, **3.6 million people on average** (18 percent of the population) experience food insecurity in Mali, due to the combined effects of conflict, forced population displacements, and climate change.

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 socioeconomic impact of the health crisis. WFP also provides a logistics response through transport and storage of medical equipment. At the end of August, 14,889 people were affected by COVID-19, with 539 recorded deaths.

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



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Main Photo caption: Women of the MISOLA association in Mopti.

In Numbers

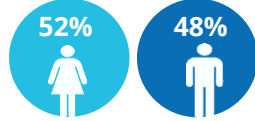
64 mt of food assistance distributed in July and **119 mt** in August

USD 4.2 m cash-based transfers made in July and **USD 2.3 m** in August

USD 39.6 m six months (Sept–Feb 2022) NFRs

724,901 people assisted in July 2021

and **335,020** so far in August
(provisional figures for August)



Operational Updates

- According to Cadre Harmonisé food security analysis report issued in March 2021, 1.3 million people are estimated to be food insecure during the June-August lean season when food stocks are lower, as families await a new harvest.
- As of the end of August, during the ongoing lean season WFP assisted around 400,000 resident vulnerable people and host communities, and around 180,000 IDPs in the central and northern regions of the country. The Food Security Cluster together with the Government working group identified a gap of 500,000 people. The Ministry of Finance approved the disbursement of World Bank funds to WFP to fill this gap. Through its Immediate Response Ration mechanism, WFP plans to cover around 25,000 people affected by the floods: USD 1.3 million has already been programmed and distributions will start in mid-September.
- In Mali, WFP positioned itself as a technical and financial advisor for the preparatory work of the national Malian food systems summit on areas such as: nutrition-sensitive value chains, climate-risk insurance, innovative technologies, women and youth empowerment via investments in semi-and industrial food production and transformation units. Together with FAO and UNICEF, WFP will be contributing to the policy dialogue around the review of the "Zero Hunger Strategic Review (2018) to examine concrete steps taken to strengthen food systems at national level.
- WFP Mali also initiated nutrition-sensitive asset creation activities at the household level, aimed at increasing their nutrition intake. During the first semester of 2021, 3,105 households received transfers for assets creation.

UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- In July/August 2021, UNHAS services were used by 91/88 organizations with 1,131/1,294 passengers and 2,947/5,593 kgs of freight transported to five destinations within the country including Bamako, Gao, Ménaka, Mopti and Timbuktu. Through ECHO-flight, 194/135 passengers and 1,868/360 kgs of light cargo were transported for 23/18 organizations in July/August 2021.
- Special flights: to Mopti for WFP and to Sevare for UNDP in July, and two other special flights to Timbuktu, Gao and Ménaka for UNICEF for the transportation of vaccines in August.

Country Strategic Plan (2020-2024)

2021 Total Requirement(USD)*	2021 Available Contributions (USD)*	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (USD)**
225 m	166.7 m	39.6 m

*As of 8 Sept 2021. **As of 7 Sept 2021

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 crisis.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide an integrated food assistance package to vulnerable people 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 people 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 girls' enrolment.
- Provide safety nets to vulnerable populations in targeted areas, particularly women, in line with an adaptive social protection approach.

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

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 Service (UNHAS) 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.
- Provision of humanitarian air service in support of DG-ECHO funded projects
- Provide on demand engineering services in order to support effective and efficient humanitarian response.

Monitoring

Each month, in July and August 2021, monitoring data was collected from 319 sites including 101 community health centres (CScom), 125 schools and 45 markets. An outcome monitoring survey for resilience and emergency operations is currently underway across six regions with results expected in September. Preparations for the annual ENSAN survey are in early stages, with trainings for monitors expected in start mid-September. The survey will take place between September 30th and October 22nd.

Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

To increase awareness on WFP's hotline in Mali as part of its Accountability to Affected Populations, WFP, in partnership with *Studio Tamani/Fondation Hirondelle*, developed in June an audio spot in local languages to be broadcast on community radios. The programme is due to run for three months from July to end of September 2021.

In August, capacity strengthening sessions were held for the Koulikoro, Timbuktu, Gao and Mopti field offices on WFP protection, accountability to affected populations, GBV, disability at WFP, PSEA and child protection. This involved 68 people, including 50 partners.

Funding

WFP urgently needs USD 25.6 million for the next six months (September 2021 – February 2022) to ensure timely and adequate emergency response during the last months of the lean season.

Donors

The top five donors to Mali Country Strategic Plan 2020-2024 include Belgium, Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Monaco, Norway, Rep. of Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, and USA. Additional support was provided by Private Donors, Minusma, UN PBF, UN CBPF, UN CERF, UNDP, UNICEF, World Bank, and the Gov. of Mali.