



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Mali Country Brief October 2021



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 October, 16,073 people were affected by COVID-19, with 563 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.

Credit: WFP/Mahamadou Abdourhamane

In Numbers

1,158 mt of food assistance distributed in October

USD 4.3 m cash-based transfers made in October

USD 20 m six months (November 2021–April 2022)

821,657 people assisted

in October 2021



Operational Updates

- According to the Cadre Harmonisé food security analysis report issued in March 2021, 1.3 million people are estimated to be food insecure during the lean season when food stocks are lower, as families await a new harvest. At the end of the September lean season distribution cycle, more than 500,000 beneficiaries were assisted, and around 340,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) in the central and northern regions of the country, of which 52 percent women and 48 percent men.
- Following the deterioration of the security and humanitarian context, WFP is preparing an emergency response in Ségou and Niono. Ségou is the region most affected by conflicts and movements of population, with more than 50 percent of the country's new Internally Displaced People. WFP Mali plans to cover the immediate needs of more than 106,000 vulnerable people and to provide emergency nutritional response preventing acute malnutrition in over 13,000 people (children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls).
- In Mali, the school year 2021-2022 officially started on 1 November 2021. In spite of the long-lasting disagreement between the teachers' syndicates and the Government, most schools are reported functional.

UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- In October 2021, UNHAS services were used by 93 organizations with 1,336 passengers and 6,1 mt of freight transported to six destinations within the country including Bamako, Gao, Ménaka, Mopti, Timbuktu and Sikasso. Through ECHO-flight, 162 passengers and 1,6 mt of light cargo were transported. Three special flights were carried out to Timbuktu, Gao and Ménaka for UNICEF for the transportation of vaccine, and one special flight to Sikasso for the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-general (DSRSG) in October 2021.

Country Strategic Plan (2020-2024)

2021 Total Requirement(USD)*	2021 Available Contributions (USD)*	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (USD)**
225 m	182.4 m	20 m

*As of Nov 2021. **As of 9 Nov 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

In October 2021, data was collected from 213 sites including community health centres, voucher distribution sites and markets across the intervention areas.

The Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) outcome survey on crisis response activities ended on 1 October 2021. Results show that of the 2,868 beneficiary households interviewed, over 95 percent reported good satisfaction with the food assistance provided by WFP and its partners, particularly in regard to the type of assistance received.

Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

In October 2021, WFP Mali finalized and submitted for approval the action plan on Gender Protection and Accountability, as well as the WFP Mali strategic note on Gender Network.

Monitoring of the hotline and dissemination of periodic reports continue. In October 2021, 444 calls were recorded with the following results: positive feedback (41 percent), request for assistance from WFP (35 percent), request for information (24 percent).

Funding

Critical lack of resources is expected from December 2021, affecting 422,300 beneficiaries, including 147,000 IDPs, 41,000 COVID19-affected people, 75,000 flood-affected people, 30,000 host community, 37,500 pre-lean season-affected people, and 40,000 people hit by crops reduction. WFP urgently needs USD 20 million for the next six months (November 2021–April 2022) to ensure timely and adequate emergency response.

WFP Mali is working on a budget revision to align the remainder of the Country Strategic Plan's budget with increasing needs in Mali.

Donors

The top donors to Mali Country Strategic Plan 2020-2024 include Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Rep. of Korea, Luxembourg, Mali, Monaco, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, and USA. Additional support was provided by Private Donors, World Bank, MINUSMA, UN CERF and other UN agencies.

Mali's 2020 Annual Country Report available [here](#).