



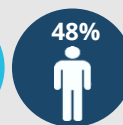
World Food Programme

SAVING  
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## WFP Mali Country Brief September 2023

## In Numbers



1,227,759 people assisted

1,328 MT of food assistance distributed

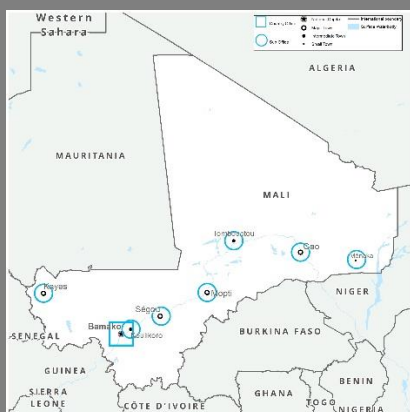
US\$ 4.4 million cash-based transfers made

US\$ 61 million next six-month (October 2023 - March 2024) net funding requirements

## Operational Context

The humanitarian situation in Mali remains dire due to a complex crisis characterised by armed conflict, political instability, and inter-communal violence. The March 2023 Cadre Harmonisé projections for the June – August lean season report that over 1.26 million people will face acute food insecurity (CH/IPC Phases 3-5). In the north of Mali where fighting persists, more than 2,500 people in the Menaka region are on the brink of famine while surrounding regions experience Crisis (IPC 3) and Emergency (IPC 4) food insecurity levels. This is the first potential record of Catastrophe (IPC 5) food insecurity levels in Mali since the beginning of the Cadre Harmonisé in 2014. Furthermore, approximately 37 percent of the population in Menaka is displaced. The worsening food security situation is compounded by widespread insecurity from clashes among non-state armed groups, the spread of violence in the Liptako-Gourma tri-border areas of Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger, and inflation in food and fuel prices. WFP and humanitarian partners face significant challenges in delivering aid due to insecurity and limited access in conflict-affected areas. Urgent and sustained international support is crucial to alleviate the humanitarian crisis in Mali.

WFP has been present in Mali since 1964. Operations focus on emergency response, resilience building, and strengthening of national capacities. WFP deploys its food assistance tools to directly assist the affected population and to strengthen the Government's capacity to address food and nutrition insecurity.



Population: 20.9 million

2021 Human Development Index: 186 out of 191

Income Level: Low income

Chronic malnutrition: 26 percent of children between 6-59 months

## Operational Updates

As per the Humanitarian Response Plan for Mali, 8.8 million people need humanitarian assistance in 2023, 17.3 percent higher than in 2022. Out of the 1.26 million people WFP planned to assist during the lean season, 464,000 people from the host population were prioritised, accounting for 37 percent of the overall target. WFP focused its emergency food assistance and nutrition interventions (100 percent rations) on populations in IPC 4 and IPC 5, especially in the Menaka region, where IPC 5 populations are present and where humanitarian presence is most limited due to insecurity.

- **Food assistance:** In September 2023, WFP provided emergency food assistance to approximately 640,820 people across all affected regions and types of beneficiaries (IDPs, host communities and refugees).
- **Nutrition.** In September 2023, WFP provided nutritional assistance (prevention) to 90,000 children aged 6-23 months with supplements (CSB++) and 26,194 pregnant and breastfeeding women with cash-based transfer. For treatment activities, 1,265 pregnant and breastfeeding women and 4,623 children under 5 were assisted with supplements (CBS+, Oil and specialized nutritious foods).
- **Integrated resilience:** In September 2023, WFP reached 58,758 people through Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) and 147,297 through Smallholder Agriculture Market Support (SAMS) for a total of 206,055 people. Towards the end of the lean season, WFP plans to conduct community-based participatory planning in areas where most households are classified as "poor" or "very poor". Through the nutrition prevention component of integrated resilience, 33,411 children aged 6-23 months and 32,035 pregnant and breastfeeding women have received nutritional supplements.
- **UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS):** In September 2023, UNHAS transported 1,476 passengers and 13.3 mt of cargo. Ten destinations were served for 108 user organisations (92 NGOs, 3 donor/diplomatic missions, and 13 UN agencies). UNHAS did not carry out any medical evacuations during the month.

## Country Strategic Plan (2020-2024)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
<b>1.2 billion</b>	<b>589 million</b>
2023 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (October – March 2024)
<b>239.7 million</b>	<b>61 million</b>

## Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**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 a 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 populations.

**Strategic Outcome #2:** Food-insecure populations, including school-age girls and boys, in targeted areas have access to adequate and nutritious food all year-round. **Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

## 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 populations.

## Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**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

**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 market, using and integrated, gender, equitable and participatory community approaches.

## Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities

**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

**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.

## Activities:

- Provide UNHAS services flight services that allow partners to reach areas of humanitarian interventions.
- 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.
- Provide on-demand engineering services in order to support effective and efficient humanitarian response.
- Provide Humanitarian Air service in Support of DG-ECHO Funded Projects.

## Challenges

- In September 2023, during the withdrawal of MINUSMA, aw more than 225 major security incidents occurred across the country. Most of these incidents involved renewed clashes between the Malian army (FAMA) & Allies and armed groups from the North (signatories to the 2015 Algiers agreements) over control of former MINUSMA bases. As a result, WFP and its partners suspended several operations in the field, including some UNHAS flights to the north, due to rocket fire in the direction of the airports.
- WFP faces a critical funding shortfall at a time when humanitarian needs are high, with an unprecedented number of the population at the brink of famine in some parts of the country.

## Impact of limited funding

- To accommodate scarce resources, WFP developed a prioritisation plan, targeting 2,507 people projected in IPC 5 and 76,234 people in IPC 4 with 100 percent ration to meet families' food and nutrition needs during the lean season (June – August).
- Apart from the Menaka region, WFP covered only 30 percent of the IPC 3 caseload i.e., 355,592 out of 1.18 million persons during the peak of the lean season (June and July only).

## Donors

WFP donors to Mali Country Strategic Plan (2020 – 2024) in 2023 include Belgium, Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, France, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, Monaco, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States of America. Additional support was received from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and private donors.