

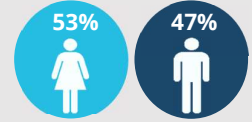


SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Mali Country Brief July - August 2024



In Numbers



501,023 people assisted

189.1 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 5.7 million distributed in cash-based transfers

US\$ 58.1 million next six-months (Sep 2024 - Feb 2025) net funding requirements, representing 55 percent of the total needs

Operational Context

Mali is a vast land-locked country in the heart of the Sahel region. Mali's humanitarian situation remains dire due to a complex crisis characterised by armed conflict, political instability, inter-communal violence and the adverse impacts of the climate crisis.

During July and August, WFP has been immersed in lean season response. So far, it has reached 77 percent of the 750,000 people it targeted, from over 1.3 million estimated to be in IPC3 and above. The lean season coincided with heavy rainfall, the government's launch of its 2024 National Flood Preparedness and Management Plan, and the declaration of a national state of emergency due to flooding.

As per WFP's Advanced Disaster Analysis and Mapping (ADAM) estimates, there are 655,925 people in flooded areas, and a total of 1,634,062 hectares of land flooded (490,554 of those, cultivated land). WFP has assisted 4,800 flood-affected people and it planning to extend support to up to 69,000 people identified as being at imminent risk. This effort is in partnership with the Government and based on a multisectoral assessment.

The 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Mali estimates that 7.1 million people in Mali will require assistance, 23 percent of them women and 54 percent children.

Despite financial constraints, WFP continues to provide lifesaving assistance. As of 30 August 2024, the HRP indicates that, of the US\$ 223 million required for the food security cluster in Mali, approximately US\$54.6 million (25 percent) have been financed, with an outstanding US\$168 million pending. The food security cluster exceeds by far the financial needs of any other cluster in country. Overall, only 29 percent of the HRP has been funded thus far.

WFP has been present in Mali since 1964. Operations focus on emergency response, resilience building, and strengthening of national capacities. WFP works with the Government of Mali as well as cooperating partners to deliver assistance to the communities who need it the most.



2023/2024 Human Development Report: **188 out of 193**

Population: **22.6 million**

Chronic malnutrition: **25 percent of children between 6-59 months** (EDS, 2023-2024)

Income Level: **Low income**

Operational Updates

- **WFP's programmatic priorities from July to August** focused on responding to the lean season and urgent floods.
- **Food assistance to crisis-affected people:** WFP assisted over 500,000 people in 8 regions through value vouchers and in-kind.
- **Nutrition:** Under crisis response, WFP assisted 27,559 children aged 6-59 months and 2,860 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWGs) for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) supplementation; and 102,000 children aged 6-23 months and 64,565 PBWG for prevention of acute malnutrition. WFP also assisted 630 people living with HIV and 4,721 caretakers. To prevent chronic malnutrition (resilience program), WFP provided support to 44,039 children aged 6-23 months and 42,048 PBWGs through e-vouchers to purchase local nutritious products. In terms of nutrition-sensitive value chain/food system, 16 agricultural processing and conservation units have been built and equipped.
- **Resilience:** Through its social protection activities, WFP reached 131,286 beneficiaries (over 20,000 households) with US\$ 1.6 million in cash transfers, helping them withstand systemic shocks. Memorandums of Understanding with Mali's Directorate of Social Protection and the National Platform to Reduce Risks and Catastrophes are underway. WFP worked with 14 cooperating partners to create 13 community assets, engaging 10,781 people (41 percent women). Additionally, over 3,000 household received cash transfers for resilience-related activities. Through SAMS activities, 59 training sessions reached 3,621 producers (88 percent women) on soil management and seed quality. Twelve provision activities were carried out to enhance beneficiary productivity, supplying items such as fodder seeds, livestock feed, fish fingerlings, conservation cages, and horticultural seeds. This led to the production of 135 tons of market garden products, with 115.3 tons sold and 1 ton processed, generating 15,175,500 XOF (estimated US\$ 25,800) in sales.
- **UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS):** from July to August 2024, UNHAS served 9 regular destinations, transporting 2,523 passengers and 21 mt of cargo remaining the safest and fastest way to reach populations in remote areas. Since November, UNHAS has faced significant access challenges in Menaka with irregular airfield securitisation by FAMA resulting in only 16 of 70 scheduled flights being authorised. This is further compounded by adverse weather conditions expected to persist until mid to late September. Consequently, UNHAS service delivery has suffered a 23 percent reduction in passengers compared to the same period in 2023. Persistent fuel shortages in Gao and Mopti, exacerbated by the volatile security situation in the Sahel and the closure of the Niger-Benin border, have disrupted supply chains and complicated surface deliveries. As a result, cargo demand by air increased by 7 percent compared to 2023.

Contact info: Violeta GARCIA (violeta.garcia@wfp.org)
Country Director: Eric PERDISON
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/MALI

Photo Caption: © WFP Mali / Sory Ibrahim Sanogo - Awareness session on proper nutritional practices conducted during a distribution for pregnant and breastfeeding women in Koulikoro.

Country Strategic Plan (2020-2024)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
1.3 billion	722.8 million
2024 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (Sept 2024 - Feb 2025)
300 million	58.1 million

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 the 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: 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:

- 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 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 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.
- 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.

- **Accountability to Affected Populations:** During July and August, WFP received 1,748 calls from communities, including 292 requests for assistance, 237 requests for information, 29 complaints and 1,178 positive comments. Seventy percent of the calls concerned emergency assistance and 14 percent malnutrition treatment. Women's participation increased to 44 percent, up from 38 percent in the previous two months. Ninety-six percent of the calls received were addressed and closed, with follow-up ongoing for the remaining cases. Community help desks were also piloted in Menaka, Segou, Gao and Tombouctou, providing additional feedback channels. Community consultations in the Gao and Segou regions involved 180 people, and 77 WFP staff, traders, and transporters received training to mainstream protection.

Challenges

- **Humanitarian access:** restrictions on the movement of humanitarian actors persist in certain localities in the central and northern regions. The intensification of military operations in the cross-border zones and the resumption of armed hostilities between the Malian armed forces and the CSP-PDA separatist groups in the Kidal region (Tinzaouatène) are contributing factors. These clashes led to massive population displacements towards the border with Algeria. Despite constraints, WFP and its cooperating partners continue to implement thanks to a community-based approach based on acceptance and the use of local transporters and traders.
- **Funding gap:** The Mali country office has a 49 percent funding gap (US\$ 19.5 million) in its **crisis response** component, with a pipeline break in **September**. WFP Mali requires urgent resources to continue its emergency operations and avoid further ration cuts during the lean season response.

Donors

Current donors to WFP Mali include the USA, Spain, European Commission, EU/ECHO, UN CERF, UN BPF, Norway, Belgium, France, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Sweden, IFAD, United Kingdom, Canada, the Republic of Korea, and private sector.