



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

## WFP Mali Country Brief January & February 2025



## In Numbers



52,404 people assisted

7MT of food assistance distributed

US\$ 500,173 distributed in cash-based transfers

US\$ 115.7 million next six-month (April-September 2025) net funding requirements, representing 69 percent of the total gap

## Operational Context

Mali is a vast land-locked country in the heart of the Sahel region. Mali's humanitarian situation deteriorates with a complex crisis characterised by armed conflict, political instability, inter-communal violence and the adverse impacts of the climate crisis. Mali is undergoing a transitional period.

In the midst of considerable funding constraints affecting the global humanitarian response, WFP continued providing lifesaving and life-changing assistance. In January and February, WFP Mali prepared its 2025 response, planning areas of emergency intervention, identifying partners for an efficient response, beginning targeting efforts, and improving assurances and operating standards. It also responded to ad-hoc needs in the north.

Projections for 2025 remain worrisome: the number of people in IPC 3+ has increased to 1.5 million. The number of people in need of urgent food assistance has risen to 2.9 million people in 2025 (compared to 2.5 in 2024), a 16 percent increase.

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.



2022 Human Development Index:  
188 out of 193

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

Population: **22.6 million**

Income Level: **Low income**

## Operational Updates

- **WFP's programmatic priorities** during the first two months of the year included: conducting household and beneficiaries targeting exercises; and finalizing the implementation plan aligned to the current funding outlook.
- **Food assistance to crisis-affected people:** WFP provided emergency food assistance to 510 internally displaced people (IDP).
- **Nutrition:** WFP assisted **18,818 children and 4,574 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls** through prevention and supplementation for moderate acute malnutrition.
- **School Feeding:** Despite critical funding restrictions, WFP finalized agreements with education academies and cooperating partners, and continued monitoring activities in 379 schools. This activity is delivered as part of the integrated resilience package, alongside nutrition and livelihood support and capacity strengthening, to promote local production and consumption.
- **Social protection and safety nets:** WFP assisted 8,922 vulnerable people through cash transfers as part of established social safety net programmes. As a recognized thought leader in this field, WFP Mali supported and attended the National Social Protection Conference held in February. The conference generated important recommendations for strengthening the national social protection system, including on the operationalization of a unified national council for social protection, food security and nutrition, and the launch of a national universal health insurance scheme (RAMU).
- **Resilience and food systems:** under the integrated resilience program, WFP dedicated the first two months to planning, programming, and finalizing agreements with partners ahead of implementation for 2025. In parallel, WFP continued to work on the promotion of fortified local foods such as Misola (fortified infant flour). WFP supports 5 semi-industrial units that produce this commodity.
- **UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS):** From January to February 2025, UNHAS operated flights to nine regular destinations, transporting 1,854 passengers and 17.1 metric tons of cargo. In December, it launched flights to Kidal with two monthly rotations, enhancing humanitarian access and enabling the safe movement of personnel. Two key year-end meetings—the Steering Committee and the User Group—were held to review financial performance and identify service improvements. Despite challenges such as fuel shortages and restricted access in areas like Menaka, UNHAS continued to provide reliable air transport to remote and hard-to-reach locations.

**Photo Caption:** © WFP/Mahamadou ABDOURAHAMANE. An elderly woman receives vital social protection assistance from WFP, ensuring her access to essential food and nutrition in Niafunké, Timbuktu region.

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Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/MALI](http://www.wfp.org/countries/MALI)

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2020-2026)



Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
1.78 billion	771 million
2025 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (April - September 2025)
236 million	115.7 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, to support effective and efficient humanitarian response.
- Provide on-demand engineering services to support effective and efficient humanitarian response.
- Provide Humanitarian Air service in Support of DG-ECHO Funded Projects.

- **Accountability to Affected Populations:** From 1 to 28 February 2025, WFP received 397 contacts from communities, including 180 requests for assistance, 79 requests for information, 8 non-sensitive complaints and 136 positive feedbacks.

Challenges

- **Humanitarian access:** Military operations and armed group blockades, notably in Léré (Tombouctou), disrupted humanitarian operations, causing temporary delays and suspensions.
- **Funding gap:** The funding situation of WFP Mali remains critical, with a 75 percent funding gap (USD 77.6 million) for crisis response, and a pipeline break expected in April. WFP Mali requires urgent resources to continue its emergency operations.

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.