



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

## WFP Mali Country Brief May - June 2025



## In Numbers

53%



47%



**345,305 people** assisted\*

*\*Preliminary figures*

**291 MT** of food assistance distributed

**USD 2.7 million** distributed in cash-based transfers

**USD 51.6 million** next six-months (July-December 2025) net funding requirement, representing 55 percent of the total requirement

## Operational Context

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

Amid significant funding constraints impacting the global humanitarian response, WFP Mali continued to deliver both lifesaving and life-changing assistance. During May and June, WFP conducted beneficiary targeting, registered eligible households, and carried out distributions for the 2025 pre-lean and lean season. Food and nutrition assistance was also delivered through school feeding activities in priority areas.

Due to funding constraints, the 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) for Mali has been reduced from USD 771 million to USD 285 million, revising the target population from 4.7 million to 2.1 million people.

In the same vein, WFP is proceeding with a reprioritization exercise, providing emergency food and nutrition assistance to 650,000 beneficiaries in 2025 (a 35 percent reduction compared to 2024), with reduced rations (70 percent) and duration. Priority will be given to the most food-insecure areas.



2022 Human Development Index:  
**188 out of 193**

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

Population: **22.6 million**

Income Level: **Low income**

## Operational Updates

- **Emergency food assistance:** WFP assisted **96,000** people from vulnerable host communities (especially in Menaka, Gao, Mopti, Tombouctou and Taoudenit), **46,000** internally displaced persons, and **32,000** refugees, distributing 142.5 mt of rice, oil, millet and USD 2,450,000.
- **Nutrition:** During the lean season response, WFP provided nutrition assistance to prevent acute malnutrition in IPC 4 areas of Menaka, Kidal, Gao, Tombouctou, Taoudenit and Mopti, reaching **14,366** children (aged 6–23 months) and **7,373** pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWGs). Targeting efforts are ongoing in IPC Phase 3 areas, where **38,000** children aged 6–23 months and **20,000** women have been registered to date. Moreover, WFP supported **27,600** moderately malnourished children (aged 6–59 months) with RUSF/CSB++ through health centres (supplementation), achieving a 96 percent recovery rate. Overall, WFP distributed 105 mt of Specialized Nutritious Food and USD 130,000.
- **School Feeding:** WFP assisted **123,000** students in priority areas, with the school year concluding at the end of June. In addition, WFP with IDS (Institute of Development Studies) support conducted a case study in Mali on the impact of school feeding on peace and social cohesion in a post-conflict area in the Mopti region.
- **Social safety nets:** WFP provided three-months cash transfers to **86,053** vulnerable host communities, aligned with the national social protection system. In synergy with UNICEF and the World Bank, WFP supported the government in revising the National Social Protection Policy and advancing in a new National Social Safety Nets Programme. To mitigate the potential impact of anticipated floods in 2025, WFP is also developing an Anticipatory Action Plan aimed at protecting over 100,000 vulnerable people.
- **Resilience and food systems:** WFP advanced key resilience-building initiatives across conflict-affected regions, including the rollout of asset creation activities, nutrition-sensitive income-generating projects, and the first round of cash transfers reaching over **40,500** participants. WFP strengthened ties with international research institutions and extended its partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture through December 2025. It also supported the rehabilitation of three protective dikes in Timbuktu to safeguard rice fields and reinforce local food systems. With the Ministry of Agriculture and other technical services, WFP trained over 22,800 members of 100 cooperatives of smallholder farmers and producers' organizations on good agricultural practices, entrepreneurship techniques, and digital financial inclusion.
- **UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS):** UNHAS supported humanitarian operations by transporting 1,460 passengers and 13.5 mt of cargo across nine destinations. Operations continued despite reducing the frequency of weekly flights and downsizing the fleet to two aircraft. UNHAS remains committed to sustaining humanitarian access and optimizing donor contributions.

## WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2020-2026)		Gender and Age Marker 
Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)	
<b>1.78 billion</b>	<b>796,1 million</b>	
2025 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (July- December 2025)	
<b>236 million</b>	<b>51.6 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 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.

**Protection-Gender-AAEP:** Between May 1 and June 30, 2025, WFP's community feedback mechanism recorded **679** entries — 77% of which related to emergency assistance. These included 129 requests for assistance, 126 for information, 13 complaints, and 408 positive comments. Four out of five feedback came from beneficiaries, and 96% of cases were resolved. Concurrently, WFP conducted an integrated context assessment and risk analysis in Timbuktu, Gao, Menaka, and Mopti to strengthen protection, conflict sensitivity, and gender integration in planning. Furthermore, 30 gender focal points from resilience partners took part in an orientation session to enhance gender mainstreaming and identify good practices.

## Challenges

**Humanitarian access:** The rising insecurity on key roads and tighter movement restrictions worsened the access, while funding cuts reduced operations in regions including Ségou, Mopti, Bandiagara, Douentza, Timbuktu, Gao, Kidal, Nioro du Sahel, and Nara. From May to June 2025, WFP and its partners encountered access constraints in Mondoro (Douentza), Gossi, and Gourma-Rharous (Timbuktu), imposed by armed groups restrictions, active hostilities, and the persistent threat of improvised explosive devices (IEDs). The attacks and drone strikes intensified in border areas, particularly around Kidal, Ménaka, Tominian, Dioura, Boulkessi, Tessit, Kona, Nara and Nioro du Sahel. Although these security challenges and budgetary constraints, WFP and its partners maintained critical operations, delivering seasonal food assistance and nutrition support to refugees and internally displaced people in targeted areas.

**Funding gap:** The funding situation of WFP Mali remains bleak, with a 74 percent funding gap (USD 47.3 million) in its crisis response component, with a pipeline break in July. WFP Mali requires resources urgently to continue 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.