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**SPR Reading Guidance**



Protecting livelihoods, reducing undernutrition, and building resilience through safety nets, asset creation and skills development

**Standard Project Report 2016**

World Food Programme in Mauritania, Islamic Republic of (MR)



**World Food Programme**

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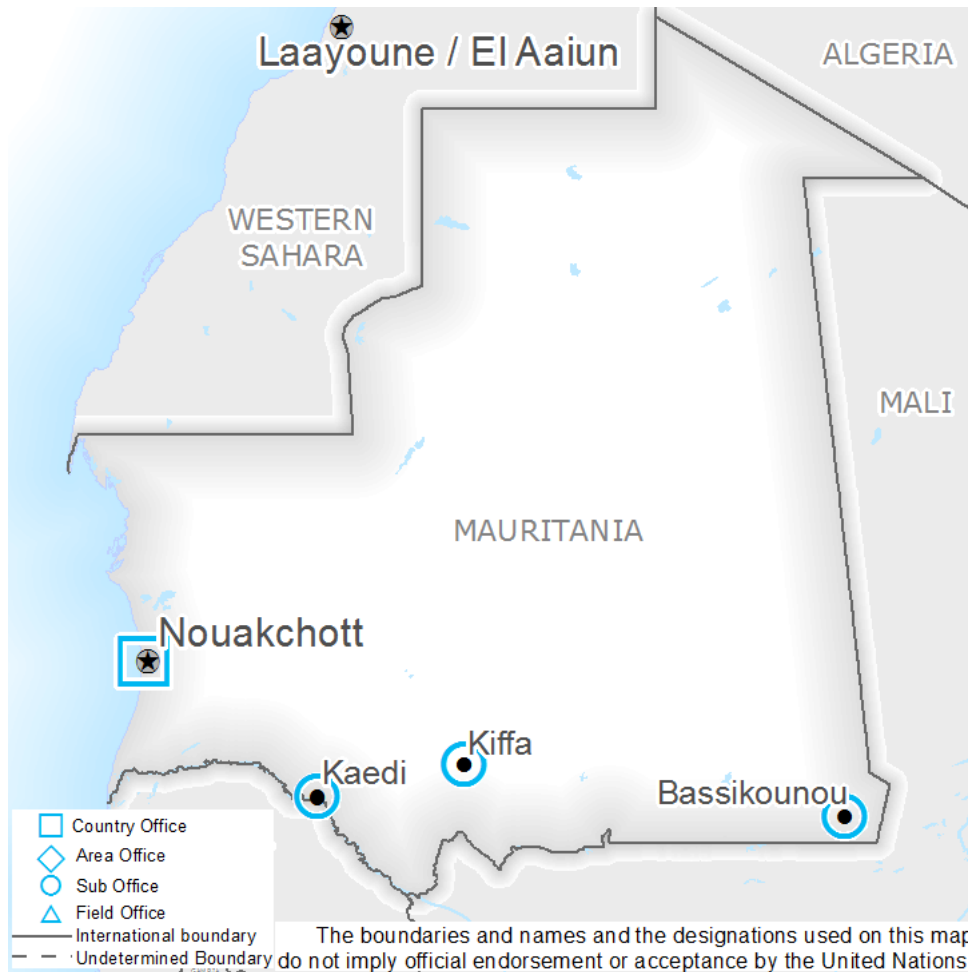
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# Country Context and WFP Objectives



## Country Context

Mauritania is a mainly desert country spanning the Arab Maghreb of North Africa and the western sub-Saharan Africa. The country is vast, hosting a population of nearly 3.5 million spread over an area of 1,030,700 km<sup>2</sup>. With a gross domestic product (GDP) of USD 5.442 billion (World Bank, 2014), Mauritania is a low-middle income and food-deficit country. According to the 2015 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Human Development Report, Mauritania ranks 156 out of 188 countries on the Human Development Index and 139 out of 155 countries on the Gender Inequality Index. Mauritania has a Global Hunger Index of 22.1 (IFPRI, 2016) and has made slow progress over the past 15 years towards reducing the prevalence of undernutrition, child wasting, child stunting and child mortality.

Since its independence from France in 1960, Mauritania has experienced years of political instability, with a succession of coups, attempted coups and military rule. From 2012 onwards, Mauritania has enjoyed relative political stability with the June 2014 presidential elections taking place without major incidents. Despite the international development assistance during the past decades, a series of challenges still hamper the country's progress towards development. The food security and nutritional situation in Mauritania continues to be worrisome, and the two major environmental constraints, drought and desertification, further increase the population's vulnerability by reducing the production yields, thus weighing on the economic and social development of the country.

The agro-pastoral east and south are in fact Mauritania's most food-insecure areas, especially during the April–October lean season. The trend analysis through the Integrated Context Analysis of the past five years' data

(2011–2015), covering both lean and post-harvest periods, coupled with field level observations collected by WFP, partners and the Government, suggests that 492,000 people are considered the most vulnerable in the country. The regions who scored the highest vulnerability (level 3) were: Hodh Ech-Chargui, Guidimakha, Gorgol, Assaba, Hodh El-Gharbi and Tagant.

The lean season records the highest levels of transitory food insecurity. According to the 2015 Food Security Monitoring System (FSMS), households with poor or borderline food consumption increased from 26.2 percent in June 2014 to 26.8 percent in December 2015. The causes of transitory food insecurity are cyclical, but are compounded by structural problems as well. The cyclical causes include extreme weather, post-harvest losses and infestation by locusts. The structural problems include limited access to credit, insufficient irrigation infrastructure, scarcity of agricultural inputs and low agricultural productivity. Other factors contributing to food shortages include diseases and poverty, the remoteness of some villages, the lack of income-generating activities, environmental degradation and the poor state of rural infrastructure.

As much as 70 percent of Mauritania's food is imported, and as a result of low household food production, food-insecure households in Mauritania obtain much of their supplies from the market. International market trends are, therefore, a major determinant of food security. Food accounts for 68 percent of household expenditure on national average, while 68 percent in Hodh Ech-Chargui, 69 percent in Guidimakha, 71 percent in Tagant and 75 percent in Gorgol [1]. Rural markets are small, distant from supply sources and difficult to access in the rainy season. Poor households are also particularly affected by high fuel and food prices, which vary according to international market trends.

Malnutrition remains a major public health problem in Mauritania. According to the 2015 Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) survey, 21 percent of children under 5 are chronically malnourished, 14.2 percent are acutely malnourished and 20.4 percent are underweight. Diet poor in Vitamin A, iron, zinc and other essential micronutrients is common, with over 65 percent of caloric intake coming from cereals. Global acute malnutrition (GAM) is particularly high during the lean season, reaching 22.4 percent in Guidimakha, 20.5 percent in Assaba, 19.8 percent in Gorgol, 17.6 percent in Tagant, 17.1 percent in Hodh Ech-Chargui and 13.5 in Hodh El-Gharbi [2]. The main causes of malnutrition are: i) inadequate infant feeding practices; ii) inadequate care practices for infants, young children and pregnant and lactating women; iii) limited access to basic health services; and iv) lack of access for women to education and nutrition information. These factors are compounded by climate shocks and limited access to food during the lean season. Malnutrition also has direct impacts on the economic and human development in the country. The 2016 Cost of Hunger in Africa (COHA) study preliminary findings show that annual costs linked to child undernutrition are estimated at USD 759 million, equivalent to 13.5 percent of the annual GDP. It is estimated that Mauritania could save up to USD 41 million if it increased its investments in nutrition [3].

Education in Mauritania has also seen slow progress. According to the annual statistics of the Ministry of Education for the school year 2014/15, the primary education system in Mauritania has reached a good level in terms of access to education as well as gender parity. With the net enrolment rate of 79.5 percent for boys and 82.7 percent for girls, the national gender parity index is 1.04 in favour of girls. The problem remains with retention, especially low in some of the regions targeted by WFP operation. At the national level it is 68.8 percent, while 43.5 percent in Hodh Ech-Chargui, 46.2 percent in Hodh El-Gharbi, 46.9 percent in Tagant, 48.5 percent in Assaba, 53.4 percent in Brakna and 64 percent in Guidimakha. Low retention rates are mainly because of high costs related to schooling, as well as families keeping children away from school to send them to work for extra family income or to do house chores such as care of younger sibling.

Mauritania continues to host the second largest number of Malian refugees in the Sahel. The security in Mauritania is stable, however overall situation in Mali and the neighbouring countries remains volatile. In 2012, armed conflict in northern Mali forced thousands of Malians to cross the border into Mauritania. Sporadic clashes among different armed groups and the Malian armed forces took place in central and northern Mali from June through the end of 2016. This situation does not allow voluntary return of refugees, rather has caused new displacements and a significant scale of new arrivals in Mbera refugee camp in the eastern region of Hodh Ech-Chargui.

[1] Food Security Monitoring Systems Report (December 2015).

[2] Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions Report (June 2015).

[3] Cost of Hunger in Africa study (2016).

## Response of the Government and Strategic Coordination

The open dialogue between government authorities and ministries, international humanitarian actors and local organizations improved overall strategic interactions amongst key players in Mauritania. WFP strengthened collaboration with national ministries in charge of health, education, environment, rural development and economic development, the United Nations (UN) agencies, and international and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to improve the lives of the most vulnerable populations in Mauritania. In 2016, WFP initiated its consultation with the Government and the stakeholders to undertake the national Zero Hunger review, which aims to inform the preparation of the new Country Strategic Plan 2018–2022.

Following the two phases of Poverty Reduction Framework – such as the *Cadre stratégique de lutte contre la pauvreté* (CSLP) – the Government of Mauritania elaborated a national strategy for growth, *Stratégie de Croissance Accéléérée et de Prospérité Partagée* (SCAPP) 2016–2022. In line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), SCAPP focuses on promoting diversified, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, reducing inequalities through job creation, and strengthening social protection systems and governance. WFP will support and follow-up on the implementation phase of the SCAPP.

WFP supports Mauritania in its commitment to the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement. According to the SUN bulletin, in May 2016, the Government validated the 2016–2025 National Strategic Multi-Sectoral Plan (PSMN) – including a common results framework which will be the reference document in matters of nutrition – during a workshop attended by the ministerial departments and key partners. Resources have not yet been allocated for the PSMN, but this is a priority for 2016–2017. As a result of the 2013–2016 budget allocation monitoring process, the country has an overview of the breakdown of sectoral allocations contributing to improving nutrition.

The *Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire* (CSA, Food Security Commission) has a central role in the government policy and programmes in food security sector, and is WFP's main counterpart. It implements a food based safety net programme “*Emel*” that provides basic food items at subsidised prices through shops, “*Boutiques Emel*”, located in all regions in the country, and carries out ad-hoc emergency food distributions mainly in urban and semi-urban areas.

In the area of social protection, the Ministry of Economy and Finance co-leads the steering committee of the National Social Protection Strategy that supervises the national agency “*Tadamoune*”. *Tadamoune* implements a cash-based national social protection programme “*Tekavoul*”, which is largely supported by the World Bank. WFP has been contributing to the refinement of *Tekavoul's* National Social Registry through its experiences in cash-based transfer including targeting and beneficiary data management.

In the area of education, the Ministry of Education developed a National School Feeding Policy with WFP support. WFP will further support the implementation of the policy to develop a national school feeding programme which will in the long run take over WFP's school meals programme.

To enhance government capacities together with key partners in the sector, most notably the World Bank, WFP initiated a reflection to re-establish and reinforce a national early warning system, to be implemented and coordinated by the Government. WFP also conducted a study on the cost of hunger in Mauritania that highlighted the impact of malnutrition on the country's human and economic development. In relation to emergency preparedness and response, WFP supported the Government to subscribe to the African Risk Capacity (ARC) and began the review of the national emergency plan with the CSA to integrate WFP in the ARC replica tool.

WFP is an active member of the UN country team, and contributed to the coordination and implementation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2012–2017 in the pillar 1 “fight against poverty and food insecurity”, pillar 2 “access to basic social services” and pillar 3 “improvement of the environmental governance and rational use of natural resources”. WFP is the UN coordinator for pillar 3, and co-leads the sub sector of food security in the Humanitarian Country Team with other UN agencies and NGOs. WFP also contributes to the drafting of the new UNDAF for 2018–2022.

## Summary of WFP Operational Objectives

WFP Country Strategy (2011–2016) in Mauritania laid out three strategic directions of WFP's country portfolio: i) contribute to the improvement of coordination and consultation; ii) enhance risk reduction and creation of national capacity to prepare for crises; and iii) invest in human capital development through social protection.

WFP's nutrition and food security activities in Mauritania are aligned with WFP Strategic Objectives: 1 “Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies”; 2 “Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following”; 3 “Reduce risk and enable people, communities and countries to meet their own food and nutrition needs”; and 4 “Reduce undernutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger”.

WFP supports the Government in its commitment to bring forward the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2, “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”.

WFP activities were implemented through a protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO), a country programme, a special operation and a trust fund. Funding remained the single most important challenge facing operations in Mauritania during 2016.

**Country Programme 200251** was approved for the period January 2012–December 2016, with initially three components including nutrition, school meals and resilience-building. Following two budget revisions, the nutrition and resilience components were taken out and incorporated first in the EMOP, and then in the PRRO implemented in the same areas. Therefore, school meals has been the only activity implemented under the country programme.

**PRRO 200640** was approved for the period of July 2014–December 2016. A strategic shift occurred in 2014 with the adoption of a resilience-building strategy. Building on the lessons learned from the previous emergency operations, PRRO aimed to protect livelihoods and reduce acute malnutrition, while tackling underlying causes of food insecurity and malnutrition to reduce the impact of seasonal stress and shocks. PRRO targets the most vulnerable Mauritanian people in six regions: Hodh Ech-Chargui, Hodh El-Gharbi, Tagant, Assaba, Guidimakha and Gorgol, as well as Malian refugees living in Mbera refugee camp, with the following activities: prevention of acute malnutrition and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition for children and pregnant and lactating women; unconditional food assistance via food and/or cash-based transfers; food assistance for assets (FFA) via food or cash-based transfers; and emergency school meals, for Malian refugees only. Four budget revisions were undertaken in 2016 to incorporate Malian refugees previously assisted through the Regional EMOP 200438, to adjust the number of assisted beneficiaries, to introduce the cash-based transfer modality for refugees, and to adjust activities targeting the Mauritanian population.

**Special Operation SO 200803** was initially approved for one year from January to December 2015. The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) has operated in Mauritania since 2012 as a response to the regional Sahel crisis to provide safe and reliable air transport services to the humanitarian community. With no viable long-distance travel alternatives to date to reach the remote and insecure parts of Mauritania where beneficiaries are located, the special operation was extended throughout 2016 and into 2017. Humanitarian organizations have thus continued to rely on UNHAS flights to access beneficiary locations for the implementation and monitoring of their projects.

WFP also implements a **Climate Adaptation Project (Trust Fund 200609)**. Since 2015, particularly through the plan for improving communities' resilience, *Projet d'Amélioration de la Résilience des Communautés et de leur Sécurité Alimentaire face aux effets néfastes du Changement* (PARSACC), WFP has been strengthening the technical capacities of ministries – including the Ministry of Economy and Finance, Food Security Commission (CSA) and Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock – in integrating climate change issues into national and local planning and technical standards for assets building.

WFP extended its operations in 2017 to continue responding to the food and nutrition insecurity in Mauritania, while facilitating the conduction of the national zero hunger strategic review, preparing the new Country Strategic Plan 2018–2022, and addressing the findings and recommendations of the Evaluation of WFP Mauritania Country Portfolio (2011–2015). The extension aims to allow a better alignment of the country strategic plan with the new cycle of the national level strategies in Mauritania such as the Government's new strategy, *Stratégie de Croissance Accélérée et de Prospérité Partagée* (SCAPP) 2016–2022 and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018–2022. While WFP's objectives and strategic orientation in 2017 will remain unchanged, WFP has taken into account resourcing trends and priority needs to improve the quality of the operations, and focus resources and efforts on WFP's strengths in the context of Mauritania.

# Country Resources and Results

## Resources for Results

WFP's operations in Mauritania faced serious funding shortfalls over the past years, hindering WFP to fully achieve its objectives. The school meals activities under the country programme were almost suspended throughout the year 2016 due to the lack of funding, and WFP also faced difficulties in implementing planned activities for PRRO in 2016, receiving only 36 percent of the total requirements of USD 47 million for both projects. Although WFP was able to meet some of the needs towards the end of the year through multilateral funds and internal financing mechanisms, the overall limited funding and the logistic challenges in the country, such as the weak transporters' capacity, significantly affected the operational abilities to deliver the assistance, especially during the rainy season. On the other hand, the special operation received appropriate funding in 2016 as compared to 2015, thus enabling the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) to achieve its objectives.

The food basket values were also compounded by the funding shortfall. WFP provided Malian refugees with 89 percent of the planned rations for 6 months (January, June, July, August, September and October) while on average, only 59 percent of the rations were provided in the other six months. For the local population, the food basket stayed the same throughout the year but beneficiaries receiving cash during the lean season were 55 percent of planned in Assaba, Gorgol and Guidimakha. WFP was only able to cover one month and half with food distributions during the same period in Tagant, Hodh El-Gharbi and Hodh Ech-Chargui.

WFP operations received funds from the United States Agency for International Development's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) and the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM), the European Union's European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) agency, governments of Belgium, Denmark, Canada, Finland, France, Japan, Monaco, Saudi Arabia and Spain, and private donors. The donor contributions ensured that WFP carry out the planned activities including general food distributions (via in-kind and cash-based transfers), nutrition, food assistance for assets, capacity development and the provision of humanitarian air services.

## Achievements at Country Level

Through its package of food security and nutrition interventions, WFP reached some 343,000 beneficiaries in 2016, the most vulnerable to food insecurity and malnutrition in the six targeted regions in Mauritania, including 49,900 Malian refugees. The funding shortfall and the logistics-related challenges hampered WFP to reach the planned beneficiaries with complete food basket in perfect synchronisation with the seasonality.

In 2016, WFP was able to provide food assistance to all Malian refugees in the Mbera camp and a new influx of refugees despite financial hardship. Since June 2016 and based on consultations with refugees and partners, WFP also adjusted its food basket by introducing a cash-based transfer (CBT) component. This innovative assistance to refugees enabled beneficiaries to diversify their diets and buy products of their choice, therefore increasing their self-reliance.

WFP also reached the local population with general food distributions (via in-kind and CBT), and nutrition activities for the prevention of acute malnutrition and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) coupled with screening and referral in targeted regions of Assaba, Gorgol, Guidimakha, Tagant, Hodh El-Gharbi, and Hodh Ech-Chargui. Between February and June and in December, WFP supported moderately food-insecure households in the same regions through food assistance for assets (FFA) to create community assets.

Through the special operation, United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), WFP provided air transport services to the humanitarian community in support of implementing activities. WFP doubled the quantity of commodities transported as compared to 2015 and provided services to over 30 humanitarian organizations including United Nations (UN) agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), donor organizations and diplomatic missions. UNHAS also facilitated four medical evacuations in January, April, October and December 2016.

Recognizing the crucial role that women have in promoting lasting solutions to food insecurity and undernutrition, WFP, in line with its Gender Policy (2015–2020), continued to foster an enabling environment for gender equality and women's empowerment in Mauritania by mainstreaming gender across its work. WFP worked to create a safe environment for women, men, girls and boys by promptly and proactively addressing protection concerns.

As part of the resilience building efforts, WFP piloted the Seasonal Livelihoods Programming (SLP) in Gorgol region. SLP is part of a broader three-pronged approach that strengthens the design, planning and implementation of longer-term resilience building programmes, developed in partnership and aligned to national and local priorities. It places people and partners at the centre of planning, using converging analyses, consultations and consensus-building on actions required at three different levels. The approach consists in analysing historical trends of food insecurity at the national level combined with the risks of drought and flood, as well as aggravating factors such as malnutrition, soil degradation and lack of infrastructure. With the testing of the SLP in Gorgol, WFP aims to scale up the programme to other vulnerable regions in the coming years.

Throughout the year, WFP supported the Food Security Commission (CSA) in the organization of Food Security Monitoring Survey (FSMS) and market monitoring assessments as well as the related data collection, processing and analysis. WFP's support to the development of the National School Feeding Policy was indispensable; the policy was validated in November 2016.

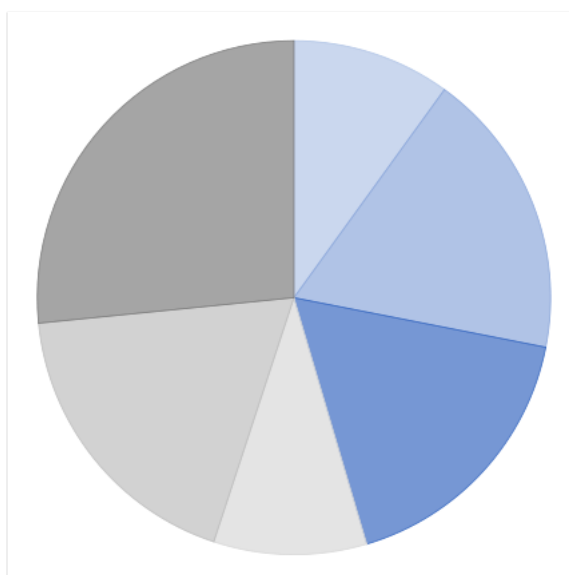


## Annual Country Beneficiaries

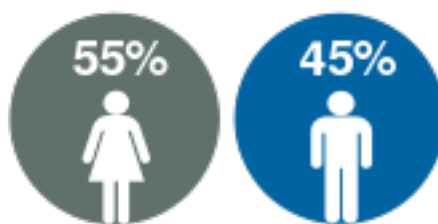
Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Children (under 5 years)	34,227	33,078	67,305
Children (5-18 years)	62,162	63,003	125,165
Adults (18 years plus)	59,467	91,227	150,694
<b>Total number of beneficiaries in 2016</b>	<b>155,856</b>	<b>187,308</b>	<b>343,164</b>

Country Beneficiaries by Gender and Age

- Children (under 5 years)
- Children (5-18 years)
- Adults (18 years plus)
- Children (under 5 years)
- Children (5-18 years)
- Adults (18 years plus)







## Annual Food Distribution in Country (mt)

Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Country Programme	136	19	35	-	-	190
Single Country PRRO	6,575	442	967	2,922	145	11,051
<b>Total Food Distributed in 2016</b>	<b>6,711</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>2,922</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>11,241</b>



## Cash Based Transfer and Commodity Voucher Distribution (USD)

Project Type	Cash	Value Voucher	Commodity Voucher
Single Country PRRO	2,946,979	-	-
<b>Total Distributed in 2016</b>	<b>2,946,979</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

## Supply Chain

Mauritania has a well-equipped national airport in Nouakchott to receive large aircrafts and cargo. Since June 2016, the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) transferred its aircraft to the new national airport from the airbase near WFP country office. The main port of the country is the "Port de l'Amitié" located 5 km from the city centre. The port of Nouakchott accounts for 96 percent of imported and exported commodities at national level. The main imported products are wheat, rice, flour, sugar, oil and equipment, while exported goods include livestock, fish and minerals. On a monthly basis, the port handles an average of 333,000 mt of commodities. The port of Nouakchott is accessible to third-generation boats up to a maximum length of 200 m.

WFP corporately scaled up its Logistics Execution Support System (LESS) in 2016, which enabled staff in Mauritania country office and sub-offices to better monitor the food arrivals, deliveries and storage as well as the shelf-life of the products.

WFP faced difficulties to access certain areas during the rainy season. Large trucks of the contracted transporters were often stuck in muddy roads causing delays. The local transporters did not perform in a satisfactory manner, as they were not motivated by the small quantity for nutrition activities.

To avoid pipeline breaks and delays in food delivery, WFP purchased locally salt and cereals such as wheat, which were available in good quantities in the country [1]. Local purchase allowed WFP to be more flexible whilst

contributing to the local economy. The other commodities were procured internationally or from the Global Commodity Management Facility (GCMF) in Las Palmas, Gran Canaria. The GCMF's strategic position allowed to reduce transit time and costs, especially in case of emergencies. On good weather conditions, it takes only two days to ship commodities from Las Palmas to Nouakchott.

The main causes of food losses were due to the supply of commodities with a very short shelf-life from GCMF, and food infestation due to poor warehouse management. WFP is determined to better coordinate with implementing partners to ensure that they have the tools in place to take prompt and preventive actions to avoid losses.

[1] Wheat was locally procured through a local Mauritanian enterprise without incurring in external transport costs. On its part, the enterprise purchased cereals from neighbouring countries and therefore the purchase figures reported as regional/international in the Annual Food Purchases for the Country table.



## Annual Food Purchases for the Country (mt)

Commodity	Local	Regional/International	Total
Iodised Salt	48	-	48
Wheat	-	624	624
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>672</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>7.1%</b>	<b>92.9%</b>	

## Annual Global Commodity Management Facility Purchases Received in Country (mt)

Commodity	Total
Corn Soya Blend	1,155
Ready To Use Supplementary Food	117
Rice	1,675
Split Peas	336
Vegetable Oil	196
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,479</b>

## Implementation of Evaluation Recommendations and Lessons Learned

The Evaluation of WFP Mauritania Country Portfolio (2011–2015) conducted between June 2015 and February 2016 reviewed the positioning of WFP's portfolio and its performance and results, as well as the factors and quality of WFP's strategic decision-making. Conclusions revealed that inadequate funding strongly influenced the direction of WFP's portfolio. Funding of emergency operations in 2012–2013 mainly focused on cash-based transfers (CBT) and nutrition activities, and WFP did not anticipate the region-wide reduction in emergency funding observed from 2014. The assistance to Malian refugees since 2012 was evaluated as effective as it improved their food consumption and contributed to sharp reductions in the incidence of acute malnutrition. On the other hand, the effectiveness of assistance to food-insecure Mauritanian populations varied across activities and over time. WFP faced difficulties in implementing planned activities and creating the necessary synergies among activities. WFP interventions in the country were rather geographically dispersed despite the intention to focus in prioritised regions.

The recommendations include:

- Seek complementarities and synergies with the national social safety net programme;
- Continue to strengthen national food security monitoring and early warning systems;
- Improve the prevention and management of malnutrition;
- Strengthen the resilience component; and
- Focus activities geographically and strengthen the synergies between them.

This evaluation was opportune as WFP Mauritania was extending its operations for another year to conduct a national Zero Hunger review and elaborate a new Country Strategic Plan, due to start in 2018. The recommendations were factored in these processes.

During 2016, WFP consulted and worked with the government safety net agency *Tadamoune* and the World Bank (the main donor of the national safety net programme) to refine the social registry and the beneficiary targeting methodology. The Government's Food Security Observatory was also supported in the data collection and analyses on food security and market prices.

For the purpose of more integrated planning and targeting with all stakeholders, WFP organized a Seasonal Livelihood Programming (SLP) workshop in Gorgol region in November 2016 with relevant government ministries and partners. The seven-day participatory workshop was appreciated by all participants including a key ministry such as the Ministry of Interior, which had not always been in the scope of WFP's regular partnership but has a strong role at the regional level planning and targeting. The introduction of CBT in the general food distribution for Malian refugees was much appreciated by the refugees, as it allowed them to purchase more diverse products like meat and milk. WFP will maintain cash distributions while closely monitoring the market situation and household access to markets.

## Story Worth Telling

Selekhe mint Demba, mother of five children and head of a household of 10 people, lives in Ghaïre Moughataa, in the Assaba district. She arrived with great difficulty to one of the health centres in Ghaïre Moughataa, carrying her youngest child, a nine-month old daughter. Selekhe's condition immediately attracted the attention of the health staff: at 30 years of age, Selekhe should have been an agile and strong lactating woman. But when she arrived at the centre in June 2016, her mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) – the primary screening indicator for malnutrition – measured just 19 cm, a clear warning sign of malnutrition in pregnant and lactating women. Selekhe was immediately admitted to WFP's prevention of acute malnutrition programme.

Since that worrisome time, Selekhe went on a bi-monthly basis to the centre that treats moderate acute malnutrition, *Centre de Récupération Nutritionnelle Ambulatoire pour Modérés* (CRENAM) in her area during the lean season to collect her ration of SuperCereal distributed for the prevention of acute malnutrition. Selekhe testifies: "This food is important especially for lactating mothers like me, because it has added nutrients which help me while breastfeeding my child. Already after two months since the start of the treatment, I could feel strengths come back to my body and I started to have milk again to feed my youngest daughter." WFP works with partners such as United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the non-governmental organization, *Action contre la Faim* (ACF), to ensure that treatment and prevention programmes are implemented in a cohesive manner with complementary nutrition interventions. In 2016, pregnant and lactating women like Selekhe also participated in lessons on breastfeeding and complementary feeding from their community care group. If mothers have a nutritious diet and access to medical support during the critical stage of pregnancy and breastfeeding – the first 1,000 days – they are more likely to give birth to healthy children, and can start climbing out of the cycle of maternal malnutrition and poverty.

Families like Selekhe's were also assisted with WFP's cash-based transfer programme during the peak of the lean season with a monthly cash ration of 12,000 Mauritanian ouguiya (some USD 35) in Assaba. "WFP's assistance brings hope to our village and our homes. The money we receive on a monthly basis has made a real difference for my family", says Selekhe. "It allowed us to choose the food of our liking in the local market, pay for other services such as visits to the local doctor, or help other members of the community facing hardship times. We all try to help each other as much as we can." Selekhe does not hide her concerns and shares her thoughts with WFP. "There is a lot of poverty in the village and not everyone is a beneficiary of WFP's assistance. In my opinion, we would be more self-reliant if WFP could increase the value of the cash-based transfer, increase the number of beneficiaries receiving nutrient products and the length of the distribution."

Through its package of operations and in order to maximise the overall impact of assistance on targeted households and on convergent geographical areas, WFP also carried out food assistance for assets (FFA) activities in the same villages of Assaba, targeted by general food distributions and blanket supplementary feeding. WFP operations are strategically planned and implemented to reach the same beneficiaries within its own operations, as well as those of other international and local actors, to contribute to reinforcing livelihoods and strengthen the resilience of the most vulnerable in the long-term.

# Project Objectives and Results

## Project Objectives

Aligned with national policies and WFP Strategic Objectives 1, 3 and 4, PRRO 200640 aimed at providing immediate food and nutrition needs of vulnerable Mauritanian households and Malian refugees while protecting livelihoods through safety nets before, during and after shocks. It also aimed to strengthen the long-term capacities of households, communities and national systems to withstand climate and economic shocks.

The activities planned in 2016 included:

1. Unconditional general distributions (via in-kind and cash-based transfers) for the most vulnerable Mauritanian households during the lean season, and Malian refugees for the entire year;
2. Conditional transfers through Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) creation activities via in-kind and cash-based transfers;
3. Nutrition activities focusing on the prevention and treatment of malnutrition through blanket supplementary feeding and targeted supplementary feeding for children, and pregnant and lactating women; and
4. Emergency school meals for Malian refugees.

The operation is aligned to Mauritania's National Poverty Reduction Strategy (2012–2015), Inter-sectorial Nutrition Action Plan (2012–2015), National Protocol for Management of Acute Malnutrition (December 2011), and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2012–2017.

Through four budget revisions and building on the lessons learned from previous operations, PRRO 200640 has been extended until the end of 2017.



## Approved Budget for Project Duration (USD)

Cost Category	
Capacity Dev.t and Augmentation	1,792,240
Direct Support Costs	16,286,368
Food and Related Costs	53,345,692
Indirect Support Costs	7,923,879
Cash & Voucher and Related Costs	41,773,982
<b>Total</b>	<b>121,122,161</b>

## Project Activities

Despite distribution delays and funding constraints, WFP attempted to reach the same beneficiaries in the same areas with nutrition and food/cash distributions to maximise the impact of its assistance for the most vulnerable, and to contribute to reinforcing livelihoods and resilience.

WFP assisted some 333,000 food insecure and vulnerable people, 71 percent of the total planned, with over 11,000 mt of in-kind and over USD 2.9 million in cash transfers.

### Strategic Objective 1

WFP aimed to prevent acute malnutrition in children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women in emergencies through blanket supplementary feeding in Assaba, Gorgol, Guidimakha, Hodh Ech-Chargui and Hodh El-Gharbi regions and in Mbera refugee camp.

Once enrolled in the prevention programme, children and women received a daily supplement of fortified blended food (SuperCereal Plus for children and SuperCereal for women) to complement their diet and prevent them from

becoming acutely malnourished. The eligibility of children and pregnant and lactating women participating in the prevention programme was determined by identifying the most vulnerable and food-insecure households that were assisted with general food distributions in the regions with highest levels of food insecurity and malnutrition. In Mbera refugee camp, Malian refugee women and children who were recognised by the Government of Mauritania and Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) through phased registration in the 'ProGres' system, benefited from the prevention programme. WFP reached a little over half of the total planned pregnant and lactating women and 40 percent of targeted children. WFP faced logistical difficulties in food delivery for nutrition activities during the rainy season that caused delays and interruption of activities in all targeted regions. WFP started malnutrition prevention activities for women in Gorgol and Guidimakha in March instead of April due to the short-shelf life of the commodities supplied from the Global Commodity Management Facility (GCMF), and covered only four months instead of the entire year. In Assaba, Tagant and Hodh El-Gharbi, WFP provided specialised food to women only for the prevention of malnutrition. Prevention activities for children were cancelled in these regions to prioritise the treatment of already malnourished children during the lean season in the local nutrition centres, *Centres de Récupération Nutritionnelle Ambulatoire pour Modérés* (CRENAM).

WFP worked with cooperating non-governmental organization (NGO) partners and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to sensitise beneficiaries on nutrition and hygiene practices, and to ensure that family members responsible for childcare (including men) received appropriate messages. WFP ensured that mothers of malnourished children further benefited from nutrition education provided by partners on infant and young child feeding practices, sanitation, hygiene, dietary diversity and diseases prevention.

Under strategic objective 1, WFP also carried out general food distributions via in-kind or cash-based transfers (CBT) to stabilise or improve food consumption over assistance period for targeted households in Assaba, Gorgol, Guidimakha, Hodh Ech-Chargui, Hodh El-Gharbi and in Mbera refugee camp.

For assistance to the local population, regions with the highest food insecurity and malnutrition rates were targeted based on the trend analysis of food insecurity and nutrition – Integrated Context Analysis (ICA), Food Security Monitoring System (FSMS) 2011–2015 and Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) 2015 – and the analytical results of the Household Economy Approach. In Assaba, Gorgol and Guidimakha, WFP provided assistance through CBT with a monthly ration of 12,000 Mauritanian Ouguiya (roughly USD 40) for three months during the peak of the lean season. These regions presented the most favourable conditions to introduce CBT in terms of access to markets and availability of food. In Tagant, Hodh El-Gharbi and Hodh Ech-Chargui, WFP assistance focused on unconditional in-kind food distributions for 90 days during the peak of the lean season with a food basket comprised of wheat flour, vegetable oil, pulses and salt providing 2,100 kcal daily intake. The timely programming of the contributions was challenging and the unconditional in-kind and CBT started in August, continuing throughout the last quarter of the year. Beneficiaries receiving cash during the lean season were only 55 percent of the planned, and for only for 39 days of distributions.

In Mbera refugee camp, all Malian refugees who were individually recognized by the government of Mauritania and UNHCR, through phased registrations, benefited from general food/cash distributions in 2016. The refugee numbers varied significantly during 2016. The number of refugees communicated by UNHCR at the beginning of the year was 50,000 but it decreased to 42,000 by the end of May following the joint UNHCR and Government de-registration exercise of individuals declared and confirmed Mauritians residing in the camp, through a biometric system. However, the renewed fighting in northern Mali since July 2016 caused a new influx of refugees into Mbera camp, and the number of registered refugees increased to 47,000 by the end of the year. WFP assisted a higher number of refugees than initially anticipated, but with a reduced in-kind and CBT ration in order to meet the needs of the increased number of refugees.

Following the results of the cash feasibility study in Mbera in March 2016, CBT was introduced as a complimentary modality. Given the limited availability of certain food products in this remote and land-locked area, a hybrid ration comprised of cash and in-kind food commodities was considered the most appropriate to meet the most urgent food needs of refugees. The recommended ration was 35 percent of in-kind and 65 percent of cash. WFP carried out a pilot phase for three months (June-August 2016) with a ration of 70 percent in-kind and 30 percent cash. Following the good results of the pilot, the initially recommended ration of 35 percent in-kind and 65 percent cash was introduced from October onwards. Weekly price monitoring carried out throughout the implementation period (June-September) and until the end of the year, confirmed that the introduction of cash had no major negative impact on commodity prices.

### Strategic Objective 3

WFP implemented food assistance for assets (FFA) creation activities to improve beneficiaries' access to livelihood assets, thus enhancing resilience and reducing risks from disasters and shocks faced by targeted food-insecure communities and households. WFP assisted 54,000 beneficiaries with in-kind and cash distributions in the same regions, and targeted the same households that were benefiting from general food distributions.

The activities carried out in 2016 included community gardening and the building or rehabilitation of dykes in Assaba, Tagant, Hodh Ech-Chargui and Hodh El-Gharbi for 150 working days between February and June, and in December. Cash distributions in Assaba and in-kind distributions in the other regions occurred twice during the 150 days: the first distribution at the beginning of the activities and the second one at the end. Women-led community gardens were planned and implemented in consultation with committees where women participation was high and often superseded that of men. Beneficiaries targeted in Gorgol and Guidimakha were not reached as planned during the first months of 2016 before the lean season, as WFP encountered delays in identifying the appropriate partners. The activities started in December and will continue throughout January 2017.

**Strategic Objective 4**

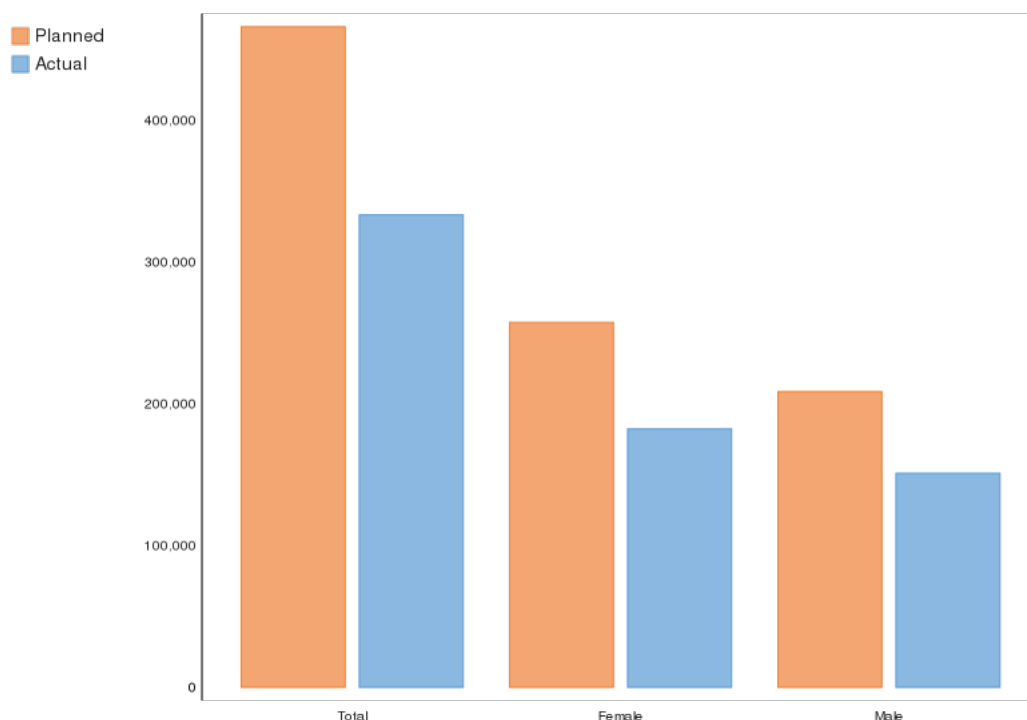
WFP aimed to treat moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) for children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women in community-run CRENAM through targeted supplementary feeding in Assaba, Gorgol, Guidimakha, Hodh Ech-Chargui, Hodh El-Gharbi and in Mbera refugee camp.

Once enrolled in the treatment programme, children and mothers received a daily nutrient and energy-dense supplement dose of Plumpy'Sup for children and SuperCereal for women to help them regain weight. Mothers and CRENAM helpers of malnourished children further benefited from nutrition education on infant and young child feeding practices, sanitation, hygiene, dietary diversity and diseases prevention provided at health facilities. The eligibility of children and pregnant and lactating women participating in the MAM treatment programme was based on screening and referral carried out by WFP partners and auxiliaries of CRENAM using the mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) criteria. Auxiliaries often conducted door-to-door assessments and referred the eligible beneficiaries to the closest CRENAM on the spot. The admission criteria to CRENAM were defined by the National Malnutrition Protocol: children with a MUAC measuring between 115 mm and 125 mm and mothers with a MUAC below 210 mm.

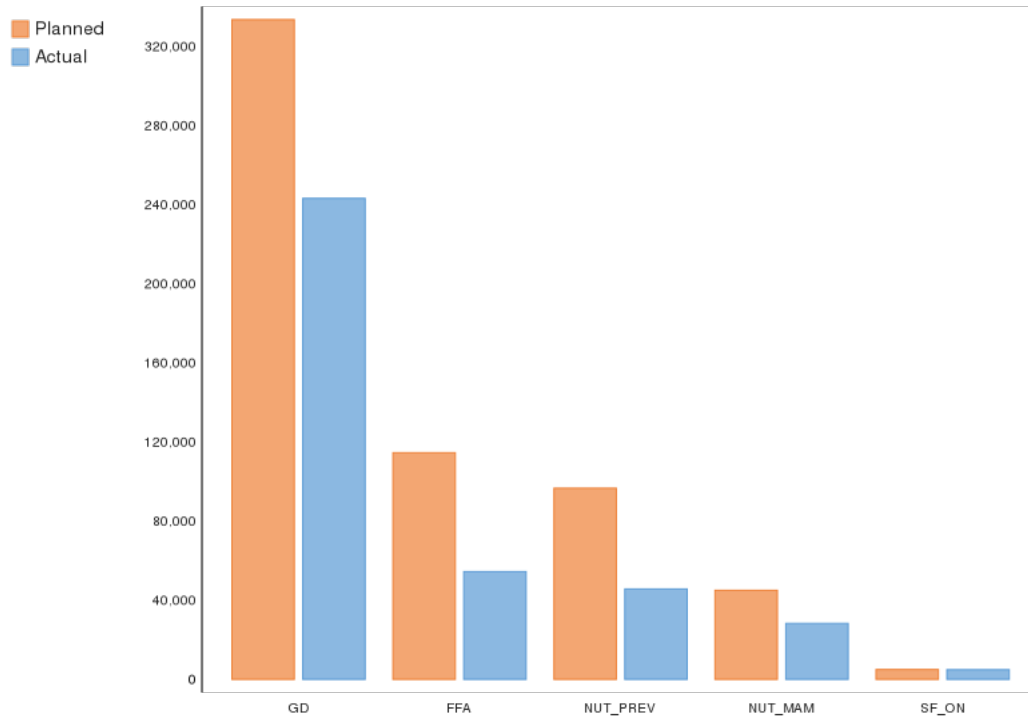
WFP faced logistical difficulties that caused delays and interruption of nutrition activities. Nonetheless, treatment of malnutrition was pursued all year for both refugees and local populations, with gaps during the months of July and September only.

WFP also provided refugee schoolchildren with a daily nutritious meal to improve their nutritional intake and to encourage parents to send children to school regularly. Students in the camp's six primary schools received a morning porridge of SuperCereal Plus prepared by the women-led canteen management committees. WFP assisted 4,900 schoolchildren between January and June, during August for remedial courses, and from October to December.

Annual Project Beneficiaries

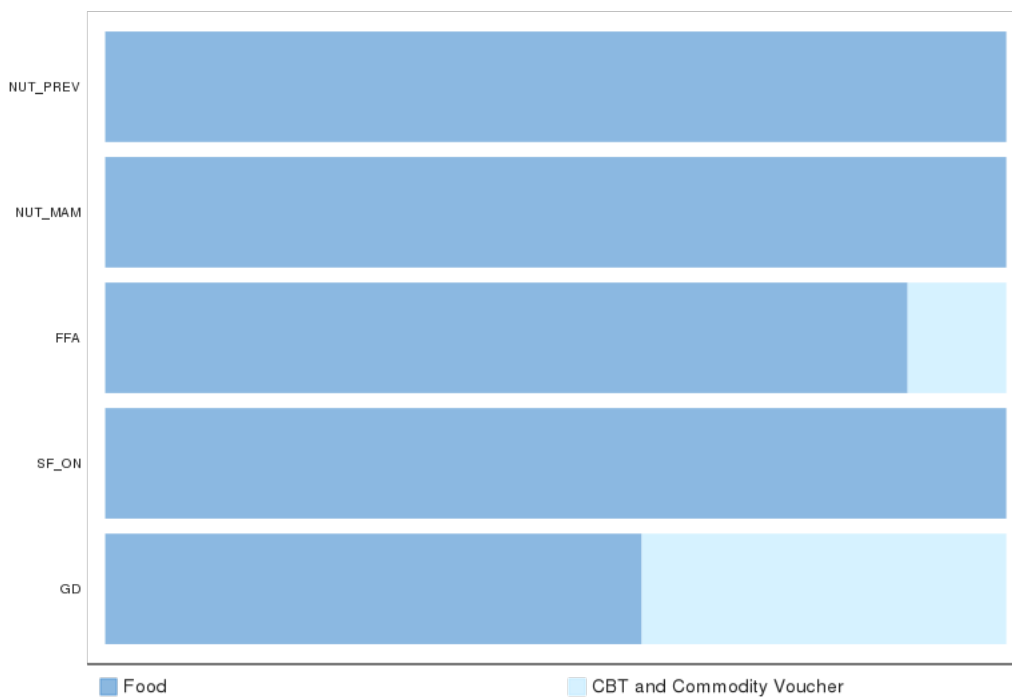


Annual Project Beneficiaries by Activity



GD: General Distribution (GD)  
 FFA: Food-Assistance-for-Assets  
 NUT\_PREV: Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition  
 NUT\_MAM: Nutrition: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition  
 SF\_ON: School Feeding (on-site)

Modality of Transfer by Activity





GD: General Distribution (GD)  
 SF\_ON: School Feeding (on-site)  
 FFA: Food-Assistance-for-Assets  
 NUT\_MAM: Nutrition: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition  
 NUT\_PREV: Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition



## Annual Project Food Distribution

Commodity	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual v. Planned
Corn Soya Blend	2,881	2,709	94.0%
Dried Fruits	-	71	-
Iodised Salt	115	74	64.1%
Lentils	1,823	805	44.2%
Peas	-	99	-
Ready To Use Supplementary Food	303	183	60.3%
Rice	4,935	4,423	89.6%
Split Peas	-	63	-
Vegetable Oil	800	442	55.3%
Wheat	6,124	2,152	35.1%
Wheat Soya Blend	-	31	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,980</b>	<b>11,051</b>	<b>65.1%</b>



## Cash Based Transfer and Commodity Voucher Distribution for the Project (USD)

Modality	Planned (USD)	Actual (USD)	% Actual v. Planned
Cash	10,374,295	2,946,979	28.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,374,295</b>	<b>2,946,979</b>	<b>28.4%</b>

## Operational Partnerships

In 2016, WFP worked with eight cooperating partners including the government at local and national level, United Nations (UN) agencies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The decrease in number of partners was consistent with WFP's strategy to sign field level agreements with a consortium of NGOs identified for each region.

WFP identified cooperating partners based on their regional presence in the areas of WFP intervention, and their expertise in ensuring an efficient and effective implementation. Under the supervision of sub-offices and local authorities, cooperating partners conducted targeting of beneficiary households. They ensured the storage of food on the sites and monitoring of implementation. This collaboration aimed to improve coherence in the implementation of different activities and to strengthen synergies between them to enhance the effectiveness of the assistance provided, and to reduce the costs for WFP and partners. One partner, 'Stop the Desert', carried out third-party monitoring to ensure impartiality in final evaluations.

WFP closely collaborated with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to assist Malian refugees in Mbera camp. The multi-sectoral working group already in place comprising various UN agencies and NGOs led by UNHCR, coordinated the provision of assistance to refugees throughout 2016. All relevant operational partners were part of the working group that coordinated the relief efforts at all levels, identified gaps and took measures to overcome them, as well as created an efficient system of information sharing. Nutrition coordination meetings, presided by UNHCR, took place monthly in the capital Nouakchott and weekly in Bassikounou. In preparation of the distributions, WFP, UNHCR and partners participated in several preparatory meetings to define roles and responsibilities at sub-office level. After each distribution, assessment meetings were conducted to evaluate strengths, challenges and lessons learned from the distributions. Refugee representatives were also involved and informed throughout the distribution process and actively participated in the preparation meetings.

As an active member of the UN Country Team and key contributor to technical working groups, WFP co-led the cash working group with *Action contre la Faim* (ACF), and was a participant of the nutrition technical group led by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and of the social protection steering committee on cash modalities with the World Bank and Ministry of Economic and Development Affairs. This put WFP at the forefront of policy dialogues and ensured its strategic positioning at national level. WFP also co-led the Working Group on Food Security with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). WFP, UNICEF and the Ministry of Health worked together to map the geographic coverage of nutrition centres such as *Centres de Récupération Nutritionnelle Ambulatoire pour Modérés* (CRENAM) and *Centres de Récupération Nutritionnelle en Interne* (CRENI). The results of this exercise are expected in 2017. Due to unavailability of funds, WFP and partners were not able to carry out the annual Food Security Monitoring Systems (FSMS) and Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) surveys, and the Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) for the rapid evaluation of the nutritional situation.

## Performance Monitoring

Further roll-out of the new electronic systems for data collection and analysis – Country Office Tool for Managing Effectively (COMET), Logistics Execution Support System (LESS) and SCOPE, WFP's digital beneficiary and transfer-management platform – was pursued during 2016 and contributed to improve supply chain tracking and programme monitoring. In 2016, WFP staff members visited approximately 620 distribution sites out of over 1,330. Such visits enabled WFP to identify problems related to the distribution processes and find solutions. Where implementation problems were raised, WFP took necessary action to correct any irregularities and brief and train the partners to carry out the activities in line with the plan and the guidelines.

The post-distribution monitoring (PDM) surveys were conducted at household level in WFP-assisted zones on the distribution process, beneficiaries' feedback, the use of food or cash and the monitoring of cross-cutting indicators (gender, protection). In 2016, three PDM surveys were conducted, two in Mbera refugee camp in June and November, and one at national level in November in the six WFP-assisted regions. WFP also collected, with the support of the regional office, data on composite 'combo' indicators for resilience activities [1]. The reports included information on the number of beneficiaries reached, quantity of food or the amount of cash distributed, quantity of food received by partners, and losses and stocks still available after distribution.

With the introduction of the cash-based transfer (CBT) in Mbera refugee camp, WFP collected price data in the markets supplying the area around the camp. Prior to introducing CBT, WFP, in coordination with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), conducted a feasibility study comparing the cost effectiveness and efficiency of: cash transfer, in-kind food transfer, and a combination of the two transfer modalities. The first market assessment was done in September 2016, three months after WFP introduced CBT, to assess the impact on market prices and food supply chain, and focused on five markets and surveyed a sample of retailers and wholesalers. Data collection was carried out by the partner non-governmental organization (NGO) 'Stop the Desert' and WFP trained enumerators. The assessment confirmed that local traders were able to respond positively to CBT. This activity is in the framework of a tripartite agreement between WFP, Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), *Action contre la Faim* (ACF) and *Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire* (CSA), for collection and analysis of data from 35 representative markets of all livelihood zones. In 2016, only 17 of the 35 markets were monitored regularly by WFP and FEWS NET. The data were collected by smartphones and sent to a WFP server to which access had been granted to stakeholders.

Since 2011, WFP and CSA have carried out two Food Security Monitoring System (FSMS) assessments per year – June/July during the lean season and December/January during the post-harvest period – to measure the trend of households' socio-economic situation and to track potential threats to food security. Data collection is typically done in 11 geographic areas covering the entire country. Census areas or *zone de dénombrement* (ZD) are randomly

selected and later, a systematic random sample of households was done in the list of all the households of a ZD. The main indicators monitored by the FSMS are: food consumption, coping strategies, food stocks, share of food expenditure in total expenditure and food security related shocks. Due to the financial shortfall, the FSMS was not conducted in 2016, while data collection for the post-harvest survey started in December 2016.

[1] The compulsory five indicators as a 'combo' are: Food Consumption Score, Dietary Diversity Score, Coping Strategy Index/consumption based coping strategies, Coping Strategy Index/livelihood coping strategies and the Community Assets Score.

## Results/Outcomes

### Strategic Objective 1

With regards to the nutrition activities implemented by WFP in Mbera refugee camp, the prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) in 2016 showed a great improvement compared with the 2015 rate. Data collected from the February 2016 Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transition (SMART) survey using the 'weight-for-height' indicator showed a drop from 10 percent in 2015 to 5.9 percent in 2016. Prevention activities were guaranteed to children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women all year round in Mbera camp. The introduction of cash-based transfer (CBT) allowed refugees to diversify their diet with commodities like milk and meat bought at local markets. Increased vaccination coverage carried out by partners also contributed to improving the nutritional status of refugee children.

WFP's nutrition interventions to prevent malnutrition in children and women in other targeted regions did not achieve the planned results. In regions of high food insecurity and malnutrition rates, the sporadic interventions and lack of synergies with other food assistance activities did not present a qualitative basis to speak of a stabilised or reduced undernutrition of Mauritanian children and mothers.

The effectiveness of general food distributions to food-insecure Mauritanian populations in the six targeted regions varied widely across regions, modality (in-kind versus cash), gender of head of household, and availability of food on the market. Food insecurity remained high across all regions as 40 percent of reached beneficiary households were reported to be food insecure by the November post-distribution monitoring (PDM) survey. During the year, food consumption worsened both for households receiving cash and those receiving in-kind. Preliminary findings of the November PDM survey show that the food habits of households were similar but the frequency of food consumption and food diversity was reduced for most households. Only six out of ten households managed to consume at least three meals a day and four food groups on a weekly basis, most of them being commodities with low nutritional and energy values. Slight differences were noticed between beneficiaries receiving cash as compared to in-kind, the former presenting a higher food diversity score. This proved that CBT encouraged beneficiaries to diversify their diet and buy commodities of their preference. In 2016, the resources mobilized for general food distributions were below the requirements. This led to a reduction in the ration, the number of days of assistance and the number of beneficiaries. The weak agricultural production, due to insufficient government subsidiary for inputs and water management, led to decrease in the availability of local food on the market.

WFP assistance to Malian refugees was overall effective, improving their food consumption and reducing malnutrition. WFP and partners contributed to reducing the level of severe food insecurity among Malian refugees from 13 percent to less than 2 percent according to July PDM survey. Throughout 2016, food distributions were carried out without major pipeline breaks and the introduction of CBT since June offered refugees the possibility of diversifying their food intake. The July PDM further indicated that 67 percent of households consumed more than four types of food groups, as compared to 43 percent 2015. Differences in the households headed by women and men can be explained by the fact that men typically have other income-generating activities, like farming or livestock, while women tend to rely more on assistance. The reduction of the ration size was due to funding constraints, but was also a necessary measure to provide life-saving assistance to new refugees. The targeted goals were largely achieved for refugees, but 80 percent of Malian refugees continued to rely on food assistance. Their food and nutrition situation remained precarious especially during the lean season and when rations were reduced. A different targeting criteria, based on vulnerability for instance, would allow WFP to assist the most vulnerable households to meet their basic food needs.

### Strategic Objective 3

Recovery and livelihood programmes were negatively affected by the financial constraints that WFP experienced during the year. In comparison to 2015 positive trends, all indicators show slight under performance in 2016. Synergies between livelihoods, nutrition and food distribution activities in the same communes to enhance food security were difficult to roll out as planned. Beneficiaries continued to use more coping strategies, including debt, to

compensate for the gap, as shown by the increased level of coping strategy index.

It is worth noting that in some areas, WFP was able to contribute to strengthening communities' resilience. In targeted areas of Assaba, rehabilitation of dykes allowed beneficiaries and the communities to begin using the irrigation channels again and harvest traditional crops and vegetables. In Guidimakha, gardening activities were well developed at the end of December 2016 as a result of CBT and partners' support in providing technical assistance. In these districts, WFP and the partners, World Vision and *Au Secours*, integrated their efforts to create a greater impact in strengthening community resilience. A total of 75 community assets were created or rehabilitated through food assistance for assets (FFA) activities. The design of activities using community consultations enabled WFP to achieve significant results in rehabilitating productive infrastructure and encouraged the return of villagers who had left their homes. WFP gathered representatives from different government structures, United Nations (UN) agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGO) as well as community people to organize the seasonal livelihood programming (SLP) exercise in Gorgol region in November 2016. The approach will be rolled out to other regions in 2017 prioritising two regions, Hodh Ech-Chargui and Guidimakha.

#### Strategic Objective 4

The treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) was carried out all year despite delays and interruption in targeted zones. Activities promoted in the local nutrition centres, *Centres de Récupération Nutritionnelle Ambulatoire pour Modérés* (CRENAM), helped ensure early identification and treatment and decreased the likelihood of cases deteriorating into severe malnutrition. All MAM treatment performance indicators such as rates of recovery, default, mortality and non-response were within the Sphere standards, for both local populations and Malian refugees.

Mothers received awareness raising trainings on related topics, breastfeeding, hand hygiene and the use of products supplied by WFP, which allowed them to make better decisions when it came to their children's nutrition. WFP could count on good cooperation with partners although it was noted that regular screening should take place to ensure wider participation and targeting of beneficiaries, and service delivery in the future.

In 2016, WFP supported the Government in the launch of the Cost of Hunger in Africa (COHA) study to provide decision makers with the necessary statistical information to assess the adverse consequences of malnutrition on economic growth. The numbers were obtained by calculating the extra healthcare costs, additional burdens on the education system, and lower workforce productivity associated with malnutrition over a period of five to six years. The preliminary findings were presented and the final report is expected in 2017. The COHA study will represent a strong national advocacy tool for increased multi-sectoral investment in nutrition.

## Progress Towards Gender Equality

Mauritania continues to perform poorly in terms of gender equality, and considerable disparities between men and women are still present in terms of access to assets and productive resources, and their management. The gender gap in access to education [1], health, environment, rights, participation and decision-making also demonstrates disparities, ranking Mauritania 129 out of 144 countries according to the 2016 World Bank Global Gender Index.

WFP activities in 2016 continued to be adapted to different needs and capacities. Recognising that women and girls represent the most vulnerable groups, the design and implementation of all activities, specifically food assistance for assets (FFA) activities were based on participatory approaches in which women had the opportunity to identify their specific needs and priorities so that the work would not result in extra burden. WFP also encouraged a balanced representation of women and men in food management committees, and achieved a good proportion of women in leadership positions. In Guidimakha, Assaba and Gorgol, women representation in food management committees was balanced with that of men, at 2:1 ratio, reflecting WFP's efforts to work with partners that also promote design and implementation of gender-sensitive activities and share WFP gender equality principles.

The proportion of households where women make decisions on the use of cash and food (55 percent) remained the same as 2015 and above the target of 50 percent. In Mauritania, women typically manage household budget and expenses while men control household assets and access to resources. This is reflected in the indicators showing that women or men alone, instead of women and men together, make decisions regarding the use of assistance received.

In 2016, women's participation in WFP's gender sensitisation trainings was high in all targeted regions. In some villages this encouraged the communities to support women to take up leadership roles and to speak up their needs. In Kobenni village in Hodh El-Gharbi, women set up cooperatives and bought land to create community gardens as part of WFP FFA activities. WFP combined also the gender sensitisation trainings with nutrition trainings held in nutrition rehabilitation and education centres, *Centres de Récupération Nutritionnelle Ambulatoire pour*

*Modérés* (CRENAM). Men and women alike felt encouraged to improve their income and the nutrition of their families, therefore accepting women's main role and responsibility for household food security and nutrition, while recognising men's crucial participation in their families' decision-making processes in the area of nutrition. Gender sensitisation trainings and community consultations also encouraged communities to keep in consideration the roles that women and men have in their families and societies.

According to the latest figures from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 54 percent of the refugees in Mbera camp are women and 46 percent men, and nearly two-thirds of the households in the camp are headed by women. Men often return to Mali or keep herds in areas surrounding the camp. This is reflected in the proportion of women making decisions over the use of cash and food being far higher than that of men. In Mbera refugee camp, women leaders participated in consultation committees where they expressed their views and particular needs, and voiced those of the most vulnerable.

[1] In Mauritania, girls' enrolment and access to primary school education supersedes that of boys. However, during secondary school and in higher education, the gender balance is tipped in favour of boys.

## Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

Protection and accountability principles that pertain to food and nutritional security programming were well integrated in humanitarian practices throughout all WFP's project cycles.

In 2016, WFP achieved good results in guaranteeing that an enabling and safe environment was in place for beneficiaries at distribution sites by maintaining a good collaboration with the local authorities as well as enhancing the crowd control system by the beneficiary community, especially given the increased portion of cash-based transfer (CBT) in the low technology environment. The protection indicators related to safe access to WFP's programme sites performed well with almost no incidents for both local populations (99.4 percent) and Malian refugees (99.2 percent).

In Mbera refugee camp, WFP ensured that the needs of the elderly and physically impaired were prioritised at all times, particularly during distributions. WFP and partner staff made house visits to the most vulnerable beneficiaries to check whether they were present in the camp at the time of distribution, and if so, collected the cash or food on their behalf.

In relation to the use of CBT in Mbera refugee camp, and Assaba, Gorgol and Guidimakha regions, particular efforts were undertaken to ensure that protection-related concerns were considered. WFP paid attention to the impact of cash on existing domestic and social tensions, distance between the shelters and distribution points, access to markets and impact of the cash on commodity prices in local markets.

In 2016, WFP used modern communication technology to complement physical monitoring by WFP food monitors and third party monitors as part of its complaints and feedback mechanism to ensure accountability to affected populations. The mechanisms consisted of two phone numbers that any beneficiary could call toll-free, using pre-existing phone lines. Beneficiaries used the mechanism less frequently in 2016 than in 2015, but continued to provide their feedback through other mechanisms such as communication through partners or community leaders.

The proportion of assisted people informed about the programmes and activities in Mbera refugee camp decreased in 2016 (67.4 percent), as the beneficiaries interviewed reported that they were not, or only partially, informed about the activities. WFP and partners reported that beneficiaries were not present at the time of information sharing, contributing to the decrease in the indicator. As for the local population, despite the impact that limited funding had on livelihood projects, WFP informed the communities through the project committees about the ration cuts or suspension of activities. The proportion of assisted people informed about the programme was 91.7 percent.

The feedback collected will facilitate WFP information sharing in 2017 to enable affected populations to play an active role in decision-making processes and adjust WFP programmes accordingly. WFP identified a solution with the roll-out of a new participatory approach that is to increase the consultation with beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries alike across age, gender and diversity. WFP also intends to ensure with partners that the available telephone numbers are clearly communicated to beneficiaries before screening and distributions.

# Figures and Indicators

## Data Notes

Cover page photo © WFP/ Agron Dragaj

Malian refugees at food distribution point in Mbera camp.

## Overview of Project Beneficiary Information

**Table 1: Overview of Project Beneficiary Information**

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Total Beneficiaries	208,600	257,512	466,112	151,034	182,301	333,335	72.4%	70.8%	71.5%
<b>By Age-group:</b>									
Children (under 5 years)	75,307	73,668	148,975	33,767	32,633	66,400	44.8%	44.3%	44.6%
Children (5-18 years)	64,414	65,026	129,440	58,600	59,667	118,267	91.0%	91.8%	91.4%
Adults (18 years plus)	68,879	118,818	187,697	58,667	90,001	148,668	85.2%	75.7%	79.2%
<b>By Residence status:</b>									
Refugees	22,376	27,623	49,999	21,978	27,971	49,949	98.2%	101.3%	99.9%
Residents	186,223	229,890	416,113	136,025	147,361	283,386	73.0%	64.1%	68.1%

## Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity and Modality

**Table 2: Beneficiaries by Activity and Modality**

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
General Distribution (GD)	186,089	197,532	333,621	174,533	118,649	243,233	93.8%	60.1%	72.9%
School Feeding (on-site)	5,000	-	5,000	4,903	-	4,903	98.1%	-	98.1%
Food-Assistance-for-Assets	64,173	50,439	114,612	48,526	5,965	54,491	75.6%	11.8%	47.5%
Nutrition: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition	43,210	1,847	45,057	28,304	-	28,304	65.5%	-	62.8%

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition	96,695	-	96,695	45,753	-	45,753	47.3%	-	47.3%

## Annex: Participants by Activity and Modality

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
General Distribution (GD)	186,089	197,532	333,621	174,533	118,649	243,233	93.8%	60.1%	72.9%
School Feeding (on-site)	5,000	-	5,000	4,903	-	4,903	98.1%	-	98.1%
Food-Assistance-for-Assets	10,696	8,407	19,103	8,088	939	9,027	75.6%	11.2%	47.3%
Nutrition: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition	43,210	1,847	45,057	28,304	-	28,304	65.5%	-	62.8%
Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition	96,695	-	96,695	45,753	-	45,753	47.3%	-	47.3%

## Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity (excluding nutrition)

**Table 3: Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity (excluding nutrition)**

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
<b>General Distribution (GD)</b>									
People participating in general distributions	158,184	175,437	333,621	116,509	126,724	243,233	73.7%	72.2%	72.9%
Total participants	158,184	175,437	333,621	116,509	126,724	243,233	73.7%	72.2%	72.9%
Total beneficiaries	158,184	175,437	333,621	116,509	126,724	243,233	73.7%	72.2%	72.9%
<b>School Feeding (on-site)</b>									
Children receiving school meals in primary schools	2,540	2,460	5,000	2,386	2,517	4,903	93.9%	102.3%	98.1%
Total participants	2,540	2,460	5,000	2,386	2,517	4,903	93.9%	102.3%	98.1%
Total beneficiaries	2,540	2,460	5,000	2,386	2,517	4,903	93.9%	102.3%	98.1%
<b>Food-Assistance-for-Assets</b>									
People participating in asset-creation activities	9,747	9,356	19,103	3,972	5,055	9,027	40.8%	54.0%	47.3%
Total participants	9,747	9,356	19,103	3,972	5,055	9,027	40.8%	54.0%	47.3%
Total beneficiaries	58,480	56,132	114,612	25,066	29,425	54,491	42.9%	52.4%	47.5%

## Nutrition Beneficiaries

### Nutrition Beneficiaries

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
<b>Nutrition: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition</b>									
Activity supporters (18 plus)	179	2,728	2,907	-	794	794	-	29.1%	27.3%
Children (6-23 months)	6,213	6,364	12,577	4,702	5,149	9,851	75.7%	80.9%	78.3%
Children (24-59 months)	12,388	12,690	25,078	6,045	6,493	12,538	48.8%	51.2%	50.0%
Pregnant and lactating women (18 plus)	-	4,495	4,495	-	5,121	5,121	-	113.9%	113.9%
Total beneficiaries	18,780	26,277	45,057	10,747	17,557	28,304	57.2%	66.8%	62.8%
<b>Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition</b>									
Children (6-23 months)	24,785	25,388	50,173	9,870	10,314	20,184	39.8%	40.6%	40.2%
Pregnant and lactating women (18 plus)	-	46,522	46,522	-	25,569	25,569	-	55.0%	55.0%
Total beneficiaries	24,785	71,910	96,695	9,870	35,883	45,753	39.8%	49.9%	47.3%

## Project Indicators

### Outcome Indicators

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>SO1 Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies</b>				
<b>Stabilized or reduced undernutrition among children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women</b>				
<b>Proportion of target population who participate in an adequate number of distributions</b>				
<i>MALIEN REFUGEES , Project End Target: 2016.12, CP Reports, Base value: 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report</i>	>66.00	99.00	-	99.00



Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)</b>				
MALIEN REFUGEES , <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, CP Report, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report	>70.00	84.10	83.70	85.00
<b>Proportion of target population who participate in an adequate number of distributions</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, CP Reports, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.01, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report	>66.00	0.00	-	97.00
<b>Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, CP Report, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.01, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP Report	>70.00	0.00	76.50	50.00
<b>Stabilized or improved food consumption over assistance period for targeted households and/or individuals</b>				
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score</b>				
MALIEN REFUGEES , <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.07, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	<1.00	1.00	1.20	1.40
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (female-headed)</b>				
MALIEN REFUGEES , <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.07, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	<0.00	0.60	1.40	1.90
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (male-headed)</b>				
MALIEN REFUGEES , <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.07, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	<0.00	1.80	0.70	0.60
<b>Diet Diversity Score</b>				
MALIEN REFUGEES , <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.07, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	>4.00	3.71	4.23	3.73
<b>Diet Diversity Score (female-headed households)</b>				
MALIEN REFUGEES , <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.07, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	>4.00	3.78	4.33	3.79
<b>Diet Diversity Score (male-headed households)</b>				
MALIEN REFUGEES , <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2016.12, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.07, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	>4.00	3.60	4.04	3.63
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score</b>				
ZONE CASH (ASSABA, GORGOL, GUIDIMAKA), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	<4.50	22.30	26.00	22.00

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (female-headed)</b>				
ZONE CASH (ASSABA, GORGOL, GUIDIMAKA), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	<4.50	20.60	24.00	17.40
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (male-headed)</b>				
ZONE CASH (ASSABA, GORGOL, GUIDIMAKA), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2016.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	<4.50	24.70	29.70	28.20
<b>Diet Diversity Score</b>				
ZONE CASH (ASSABA, GORGOL, GUIDIMAKA), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	>4.00	4.28	4.58	3.83
<b>Diet Diversity Score (female-headed households)</b>				
ZONE CASH (ASSABA, GORGOL, GUIDIMAKA), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	>4.00	4.34	4.69	4.06
<b>Diet Diversity Score (male-headed households)</b>				
ZONE CASH (ASSABA, GORGOL, GUIDIMAKA), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	>4.00	4.22	4.42	3.52
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score</b>				
ZONE FOOD (HODH ECHARGHI, HODH EL GARBI, TAGANT), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	<4.50	28.80	13.10	19.10
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (female-headed)</b>				
ZONE FOOD (HODH ECHARGHI, HODH EL GARBI, TAGANT), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	<4.50	28.20	15.00	16.00
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (male-headed)</b>				
ZONE FOOD (HODH ECHARGHI, HODH EL GARBI, TAGANT), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2016.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	<4.50	29.80	10.00	23.30
<b>Diet Diversity Score</b>				
ZONE FOOD (HODH ECHARGHI, HODH EL GARBI, TAGANT), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	>4.00	3.87	4.20	3.20
<b>Diet Diversity Score (female-headed households)</b>				
ZONE FOOD (HODH ECHARGHI, HODH EL GARBI, TAGANT), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	>4.00	3.79	4.32	3.31

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>Diet Diversity Score (male-headed households)</b>				
ZONE FOOD (HODH ECHARGHI, HODH EL GARBI, TAGANT), <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, PDM	>4.00	4.01	4.32	3.22
<b>SO3 Reduce risk and enable people, communities and countries to meet their own food and nutrition needs</b>				
<b>Improved access to livelihood assets has contributed to enhanced resilience and reduced risks from disaster and shocks faced by targeted food-insecure communities and households</b>				
<b>CAS: percentage of communities with an increased Asset Score</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, Program and SO monitoring, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.09, WFP survey, COMBO Survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey	=80.00	21.00	16.00	16.00
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, WFP survey	<80.00	10.00	19.70	19.70
<b>FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, WFP survey	<80.00	9.00	18.10	18.10
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (female-headed)</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey	<80.00	23.00	17.50	17.50
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (male-headed)</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey	<80.00	5.00	22.40	22.40
<b>FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score (female-headed)</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey	<80.00	9.00	21.30	21.30
<b>FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score (male-headed)</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey	<80.00	15.00	14.40	14.40
<b>Diet Diversity Score</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey	>4.00	4.90	3.31	3.31

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>Diet Diversity Score (female-headed households)</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey	>4.00	4.93	3.32	3.32
<b>Diet Diversity Score (male-headed households)</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, WFP survey	>4.00	4.87	3.31	3.31
<b>CSI (Food): Coping Strategy Index (average)</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, PDM, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.11, WFP survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.11, WFP survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, WFP survey	<7.00	7.31	6.96	6.96
<b>Risk reduction capacity of countries, communities and institutions strengthened</b>				
<b>Number of WFP-supported national food security and other policies, plans, and mechanisms that improve disaster risk management and climate change adaptation</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, Workshop with stakeholders, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.12, Secondary data, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, Secondary data, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, Secondary data	=5.00	3.00	2.00	2.00
<b>SO4 Reduce undernutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger</b>				
<b>Reduced undernutrition, including micronutrient deficiencies among children aged 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating women, and school-aged children</b>				
<b>Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, CP Reports, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.01, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.12, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, Joint survey, PDM	>70.00	0.00	82.00	75.00
<b>Prevalence of acute malnutrition among children under 5 (weight-for-height as %)</b>				
ALL PRRO TARGETED ZONES, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.07, SMART survey, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.08, WFP survey, SMART survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.06, Joint survey, SMART nutrition survey	<10.00	13.10	14.00	-
<b>MAM treatment recovery rate (%)</b>				
MALIEN REFUGEES , <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, CP Reports, <b>Base value:</b> 2012.09, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report	>75.00	73.90	100.00	100.00
<b>MAM treatment mortality rate (%)</b>				
MALIEN REFUGEES , <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, CP Reports, <b>Base value:</b> 2012.09, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report	<3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>MAM treatment default rate (%)</b>				
MALIEN REFUGEES , <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, CP Report	<15.00	-	-	-

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>MAM treatment non-response rate (%)</b>				
MALIEN REFUGEES , <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, CP Report, <b>Base value:</b> 2012.09, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report	<15.00	6.10	0.00	0.00
<b>Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)</b>				
MALIEN REFUGEES , <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, CP Reports, <b>Base value:</b> 2015.01, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.12, WFP survey, PDM, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.12, Joint survey, PDM	>70.00	55.00	55.00	55.00
<b>Prevalence of acute malnutrition among children under 5 (weight-for-height as %)</b>				
MALIEN REFUGEES , <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, SMART survey, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.10, WFP survey, SMART survey, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2014.10, Joint survey, SMART nutrition survey, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.02, Joint survey, SMART nutrition survey, MS/UNICEF/UNHCR/ WFP	<10.00	11.80	9.80	5.90
<b>MAM treatment recovery rate (%)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, CP Reports, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.01, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report	>75.00	63.70	90.70	98.37
<b>MAM treatment mortality rate (%)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, CP Reports, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.01, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report	<3.00	0.00	0.10	0.16
<b>MAM treatment default rate (%)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, CP Report, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.01, WFP programme monitoring, Cp report, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report	<15.00	12.10	4.00	1.46
<b>MAM treatment non-response rate (%)</b>				
POPULATION MAURITANIENNE, <b>Project End Target:</b> 2016.12, CP Reports, <b>Base value:</b> 2014.01, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report	<15.00	24.10	5.30	0.00
<b>MAM treatment default rate (%)</b>				
ZONE FOOD (HODH ECHARGHI, HODH EL GARBI, TAGANT), <b>Base value:</b> 2012.09, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Previous Follow-up:</b> 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, <b>Latest Follow-up:</b> 2016.10, WFP programme monitoring, CP report		20.00	0.00	0.00

## Output Indicators

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
<b>SO3: Food-Assistance-for-Assets</b>				
Number of villages assisted	centre/site	453	75	16.6%

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
<b>SO4: Nutrition: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition</b>				
Number of health centres/sites assisted	centre/site	438	453	103.4%

## Gender Indicators

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>Proportion of households where females and males together make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food</b>				
<i>BASSIKOUNOU / CAMP DE MBERA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.11, Previous Follow-up: 2016.07, Latest Follow-up: 2016.11</i>	=50.00	3.60	2.40	5.10
<b>Proportion of households where females and males together make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food</b>				
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Base value: 2014.09, Previous Follow-up: 2015.11, Latest Follow-up: 2016.11</i>		3.60	5.40	4.10
<b>Proportion of households where females make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food</b>				
<i>BASSIKOUNOU / CAMP DE MBERA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.11, Previous Follow-up: 2016.07, Latest Follow-up: 2016.11</i>	=25.00	60.60	61.80	60.40
<b>Proportion of households where females make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food</b>				
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2014.09, Previous Follow-up: 2015.11, Latest Follow-up: 2016.11</i>	=25.00	34.00	54.10	55.10
<b>Proportion of households where males make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food</b>				
<i>BASSIKOUNOU / CAMP DE MBERA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.11, Previous Follow-up: 2016.07, Latest Follow-up: 2016.11</i>	=25.00	36.60	35.70	34.50
<b>Proportion of households where males make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food</b>				
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2014.09, Previous Follow-up: 2015.11, Latest Follow-up: 2016.11</i>	=25.00	62.40	40.50	40.80
<b>Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees</b>				
<i>BASSIKOUNOU / CAMP DE MBERA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2016.12</i>	>50.00	50.00	-	-
<b>Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees</b>				
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.11, Latest Follow-up: 2016.11</i>	>50.00	48.00	-	60.00

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of women project management committee members trained on modalities of food, cash, or voucher distribution				
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2015.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12</i>	>60.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

## Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations Indicators

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
<i>BASSIKOUNOU / CAMP DE MBERA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.11, Previous Follow-up: 2016.07, Latest Follow-up: 2016.11</i>	=80.00	81.80	89.10	67.40
Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2014.09, Previous Follow-up: 2015.11, Latest Follow-up: 2016.11</i>	=80.00	62.60	87.70	91.70
Proportion of assisted people who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme site				
<i>BASSIKOUNOU / CAMP DE MBERA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.11, Previous Follow-up: 2016.07, Latest Follow-up: 2016.11</i>	=90.00	98.30	99.50	99.20
Proportion of assisted people who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme site				
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2014.09, Previous Follow-up: 2015.11, Latest Follow-up: 2016.11</i>	=90.00	96.60	98.00	99.40

## Partnership Indicators

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Latest Follow-up
Amount of complementary funds provided to the project by partners (including NGOs, civil society, private sector organizations, international financial institutions and regional development banks)		
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12</i>	=1,000,000.00	450,115.00
Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services		
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12</i>	>2.00	11.00
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners		
<i>MAURITANIA, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12</i>	=100.00	100.00
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners		
<i>MAURITANIA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12</i>	=100.00	100.00
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners		
<i>MAURITANIA, Nutrition, Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12</i>	=100.00	100.00

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners	=100.00	100.00
MAURITANIA, School Feeding, Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12		

## Resource Inputs from Donors

### Resource Inputs from Donors

Donor	Cont. Ref. No.	Commodity	Purchased in 2016 (mt)	
			In-Kind	Cash
Finland	FIN-C-00113-06	Corn Soya Blend	-	191
Japan	JPN-C-00459-01	Corn Soya Blend	-	445
Japan	JPN-C-00459-01	Iodised Salt	-	3
Japan	JPN-C-00459-01	Ready To Use Supplementary Food	-	23
Japan	JPN-C-00459-01	Rice	-	525
Japan	JPN-C-00459-01	Split Peas	-	192
Japan	JPN-C-00459-01	Vegetable Oil	-	73
Japan	JPN-C-00459-01	Wheat	-	624
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Corn Soya Blend	-	457
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Iodised Salt	-	45
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Ready To Use Supplementary Food	-	94
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Rice	-	975
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Split Peas	-	144
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Vegetable Oil	-	91
Saudi Arabia	SAU-C-00103-06	Dried Fruits	72	-
Saudi Arabia	SAU-C-00106-12	Dried Fruits	130	-
UN Common Funds and Agencies (excl. CERF)	001-C-01479-01	Corn Soya Blend	-	64
USA	USA-C-01198-01	Corn Soya Blend	70	-
USA	USA-C-01198-01	Lentils	430	-
USA	USA-C-01198-01	Vegetable Oil	110	-
USA	USA-C-01198-02	Corn Soya Blend	100	-
USA	USA-C-01198-02	Rice	1,750	-
USA	USA-C-01198-02	Vegetable Oil	160	-
<b>Total</b>			<b>2,822</b>	<b>3,947</b>