

*This report is produced by the OCHA Regional Office for West and Central Africa in Dakar in collaboration with humanitarian partners and is issued by OCHA Headquarters in New York. It covers the period from 8 to 14 May 2012. The next report will be issued on or around 23 May.*

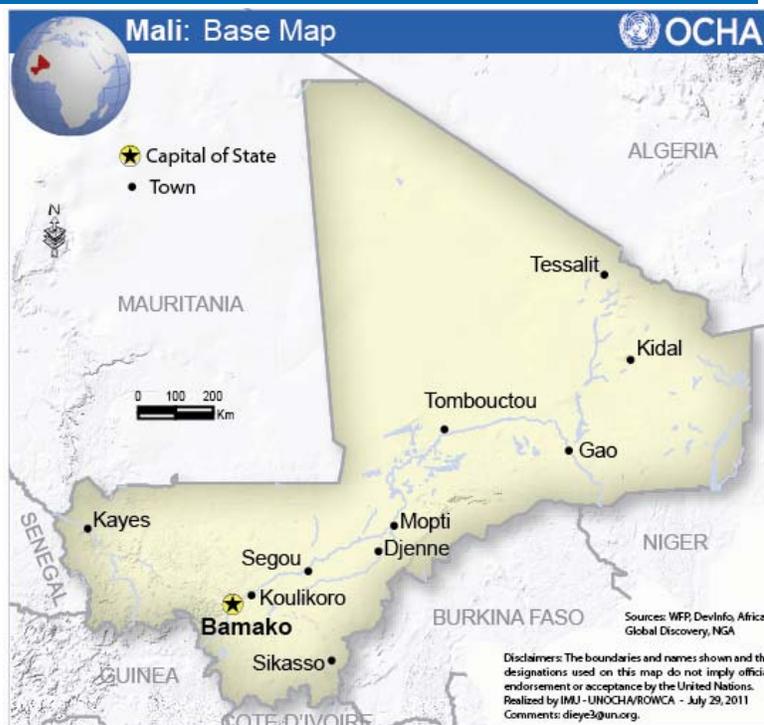
## I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- About 3.5 million people are affected by the food security and nutrition crisis in Mali. 175,000 children under five are suffering from severe acute malnutrition in the country, and 385,000 more are suffering from moderate acute malnutrition.
- The situation in northern Mali remains precarious, but the vast majority of people affected by the food security and nutrition crisis are in the south and require urgent assistance.
- As of 14 May, the number of IDPs in Mali was estimated at 146,900. Continuing population movements (including limited returns) complicate accurate assessments.
- Malian refugees arrived in neighbouring countries at a slightly higher rate this week. As of 14 May, over 161,000 Malian refugees had been registered in Mauritania, Burkina Faso and Niger. According to a statement by the Algerian Government in March, at least 30,000 more are in Algeria.
- Mali's political outlook remains uncertain in the absence of an agreement on who will lead the transition process after 22 May.

## II. Situation Overview

### Recent political developments

The security situation in Bamako remained calm this week in the aftermath of fighting that lasted from 30 April to 2 May. Talks on the transition process between ECOWAS and the ex-military junta continued without significant progress. Coup leaders continue to insist on a 40-day transition period, while political leaders in Bamako and ECOWAS prefer a 12-month transition. To date, no agreement exists on who will lead the transition after the expiration of interim President Traoré's mandate on 22 May. ECOWAS has threatened to re-impose sanctions on coup leaders, while US authorities have confirmed that sanctions against military coup leader Captain Sanogo and the government will remain in force until the military allows a full return to civilian rule. The situation in the north remains volatile as control shifts among various groups.



### Humanitarian overview

Several drivers affect the humanitarian caseload in Mali. The **food security and nutrition crisis** is affecting 3.5 million people, including 1.84 million who suffer from severe food insecurity. According to UNICEF, 175,000 children under five are suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM), and another 385,000 are suffering from moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). The vast majority of affected people are located in southern Mali. UNICEF estimates that 87 per cent of the annual caseload of acute malnutrition is in the southern regions of the country. The food and security crisis is compounded by the **consequences of the conflict** that has plagued northern Mali and displaced at least 335,000 people. Conflict dynamics, political

instability and increasing organized criminal activity will continue to put people at risk of deteriorating living conditions, lack of access to basic social services, clean water, as well as health and sanitation facilities. With the rainy season approaching in July, a cholera outbreak is possible and anticipated flooding will further exacerbate local people's vulnerability.

### Mali: People in need

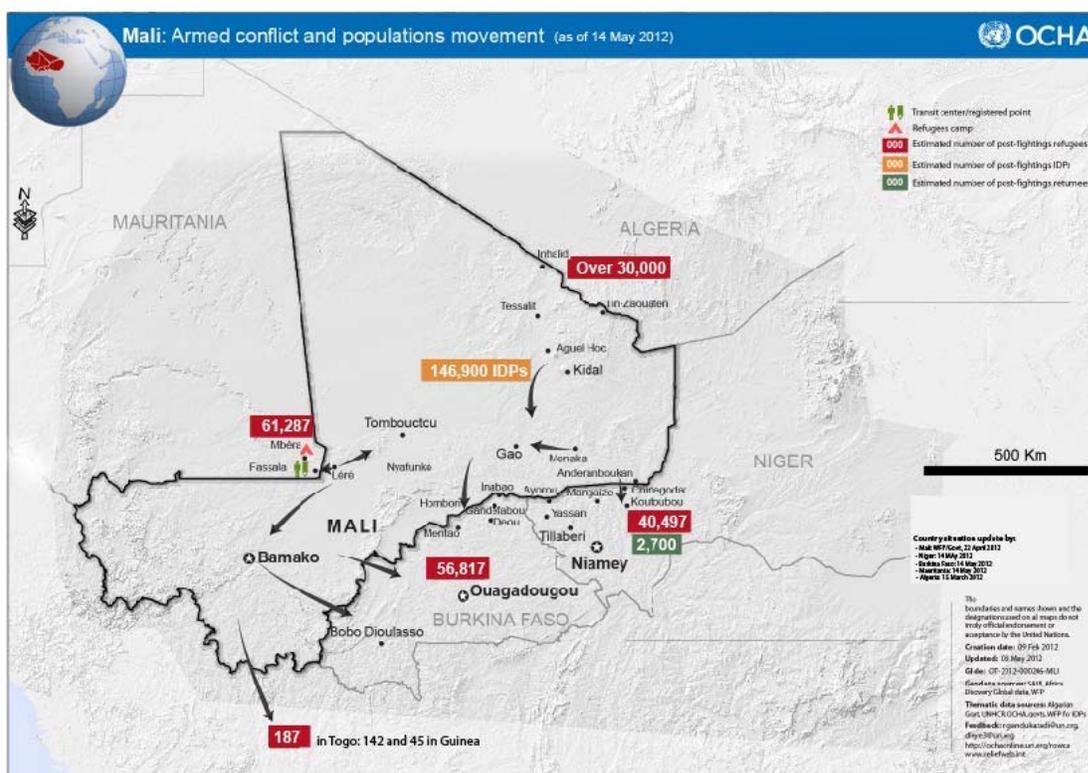
<b>Total population affected by crisis</b>	4 million
<b>Food insecure population (total)</b>	3.5 million
<b>People suffering from severe food insecurity</b>	1.84 million
<b>Severe acute malnutrition (SAM)</b>	175,000
<b>Moderate acute malnutrition (MAM)</b>	385,000

### Internal displacement

As of 14 May, the estimated number of internally displaced people remains at 146,900. Continuing population movements (including limited returns) complicate accurate assessments. An estimated 97 per cent of IDPs live with host families and communities. Of these, an estimated 67 per cent depend entirely on host families to provide food stocks.

### Refugees

As of 14 May, UNHCR estimates the number of Malian refugees in neighbouring countries at 158,601 people, in addition to some 30,000 refugees in Algeria according to the Algerian Government.<sup>1</sup> Unregistered Malians are living in Nouakchott, Mauritania, and Niamey, Niger, and probably other locations. Data on refugees remain incomplete, particularly for those arriving with livestock or transferred into camps.



### Access

UNDSS, WFP, OCHA, UNICEF and WHO have worked on a concept of operations for northern Mali, including proposals for risk management and operating guidelines for humanitarian actors in the area. Partners have also discussed the terms of reference for a Liaison and Consultation structure in Mali. This structure will allow access and safety issues to be addressed with relevant stakeholders and authorities and will propose concrete actions. Last week, OCHA facilitated a meeting on humanitarian space and access to the Kidal region for Bamako-based humanitarian actors who work in that region. In the meantime, a humanitarian convoy led by the High Islamic Council left Bamako on 10 May for the north with around 180 metric tons of food and non-food items (NFIs).

<sup>1</sup> UNHCR has developed a specific web portal on the Mali crisis that gives overall as well as by country figures and information on refugees, needs and response. <http://data.unhcr.org/MaliSituation/regional.php>

### III. Humanitarian Needs and Response in Mali



#### FOOD SECURITY

The Food Security Cluster works with the “Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire” (CSA) and other technical partners to coordinate the response to food security needs in Mali. The cluster collects and shares operational and financial data associated with the CSA emergency response plan.

**Needs:** Major needs remain unchanged since last week.

#### Response:

- WFP food distributions targeting drought-affected populations are ongoing in Mopti with the cooperation of CARE International in the *cercles* (administrative divisions) of Bandiagara, Djenne and Mopti. In Koulikoro, distributions are ongoing with REACH Italia and ADRA in the *cercles* of Kati, Banamba, and Kolokani. In Kayes, distributions are ongoing with Welthungerhilfe in the *cercles* of Kayes, Kita and Bafoulabe. This first round targets 117,400 beneficiaries in these three regions. The second round will include Segou and Sikasso regions.
- Preparations for other WFP food assistance activities, such as asset creation, are underway. Preparations are also underway to sign agreements with five international NGOs for assistance in the North.
- The Malian Red Cross in partnership with the Spanish Red Cross has targeted 2,500 households in the commune of Bangassi (Kaye Region) for general food distribution. 5,150 households have also been targeted in the communes of Tafacirga and Fegui. IFRC will be supporting with general food distribution in these two communes.
- As of 8 May, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has provided 37 metric tons of food commodities to 3,069 displaced persons (281 households) in Mopti town. As of 10 May, CRS has started food voucher fairs for 282 vulnerable households in 63 villages/9 communes in Mopti region. These fairs have allowed vulnerable households to purchase the food of their choice.
- Save the Children (SC) is currently carrying out a rapid needs assessment (FSL and Nutrition) in Diema *cercle*. Findings will be available in the coming weeks.



#### NUTRITION

On 9 May, the sixth meeting of the Nutrition Cluster was held. 48 partners (Government, national institutions, UN, international NGO, national NGO and Red Cross) are associated with the Cluster and meet weekly in order to improve nutrition programming. In the past week, UNICEF conducted assessments in Mopti to see how the area could be used as an operational hub and in the north, where the number of IDPs is rising and children at risk of severe acute malnutrition are most vulnerable.

#### Needs:

- The nutrition cluster reports an estimated severe acute malnutrition (SAM) caseload of 175,000 children under five in 2012, with the worst-case scenario reaching 220,000. The caseload of children at risk of SAM in the north and Mopti is 60,330 (Mopti - 37,673; Timbuktu - 16,494; Gao - 11,037; Kidal - 36).
- The Nutrition Cluster has identified 35 priority districts to be targeted with nutrition programmes.

#### Response:

- As of 11 May, UNICEF has delivered 26,980 boxes of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF), benefitting 26,980 children.
- In order to fast track services to reach IDPs in and from the north, UNICEF distributed supplies to NGO partners operating in northern areas. Supplies delivered for treating malnourished children include: 190 boxes of RUTF to Mopti, Djenne, Bandiagara, benefitting 190 severely acutely malnourished children, and supplies for screening malnourished children under five. Additionally, seven tents for mobile health clinics were delivered.
- Supplies are en route to southern Mali, including 6,300 boxes of RUTF that will benefit 6,300 SAM-affected children; 320 cartons of F-75 therapeutic milk; 540 cartons of F-100 therapeutic milk; and routine medicine for treating severely acutely malnourished children.
- WFP is preparing the delivery of 29 metric tons of the ready-to-use supplementary food “Plumpy’sup” to support NGO Action Contre la Faim in implementing targeted supplementary feeding activities (treatment of moderate acute malnutrition for children 6-59 months) in Gao city. This will complement UNICEF’s

support for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition. Some 3,500 beneficiaries are expected to receive treatment during a three-month period.



## AGRICULTURE

- FAO emergency activities continue in Kayes and Koulikoro regions.
- Save the Children has started the following activities: distribution of animal fodder to 500 vulnerable agro-pastoralist households; complementary training on animal care practices for all 500 vulnerable agro-pastoralists households in Diema *cercle*; distribution of seeds and agricultural inputs for 500 women who head households involved in home gardens; complementary training for all 500 women who head households involved in agricultural practices and fodder production.



## WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

The WASH and health clusters are preparing for an possible cholera outbreak with the rainy season in July due to dire conditions in the north as a result of the lack of safe water and a non-functioning health system.

### Response:

- Through partners, UNICEF has delivered NFI and WASH kits to approximately 10,000 people, mainly IDPs and host families in the regions of Timbuktu, Kidal, Gao, Mopti and Segou.
- UNICEF will roll-out a public education campaign on cholera in areas that potentially could be affected.
- WASH supplies distributed for the north include 480 NFI kits to Mopti, benefiting 480 families (2880 people).



## HEALTH

### Response:

- UNICEF has provided partners with an initial supply of 20 basic Inter-Agency Emergency Health (IEH) kits (2 in Mopti, 3 in Gao and 1 in Kidal; 14 in Timbuktu) to cover the medical needs of 60,000 people for one month.
- The ICRC reports that the hospital in Gao is now functioning again. In addition to the delivery of medicine and medical equipment, ICRC provided surgical equipment on 10 May. In total, these distributions will support nearly 500 patients and 100 injured.
- Médecins du Monde-Belgium announced the completion of a vaccination campaign against polio, measles and pertussis in the Tessalit sanitary district. The campaign was conducted in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health and UNICEF. MdM-B also distributed Vitamin A and Albendazole.



## LOGISTICS / UNHAS

- The Logistics Cluster Coordinator from the WFP Global Support Cell in Rome arrived in Bamako on 9 May. He will meet partners, assess the gaps in country and help develop a common logistics response.
- The UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) continues to fly free of charge to Kayes, Mopti and Niamey (Niger) with departure from Bamako.



## EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- A joint WFP/UNICEF Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) mission visited Mopti on 8 and 9 May. The mission looked into the establishment of a communications centre (COMCEN) in Mopti-Sevare. A COMCEN room was identified with UNDSS and UNICEF in a joint WFP/UNICEF building. A telecommunications specialist is arriving on 14 May to upgrade of the UNDSS COMCEN in Bamako and continue with deployment to Mopti.
- A dedicated radio trainer will arrive in Bamako on 14 May to provide radio training for humanitarian staff, radio operators and drivers.
- The ETC cluster is preparing and pre-positioning equipment for the possibility of setting up a COMCEN in Gao, which would enable country-wide coverage.
- All ETC information is posted on the Mali page and forum platform, now available on the ICT HEP at: <http://ictemergency.wfp.org/web/ictopr/countries/mali>



## EDUCATION

**Needs:** Facilitating the return to school of displaced children is a major priority. Accessing a large number of children who remained in the north remains a serious challenge.

### Response:

- An Emergency Education Working Group has been established by the Ministry of Education with technical support from UNICEF. UNICEF is building partnership capacity to respond to the needs of IDPs, including the collection of information on children from the north that are now in Bamako, Segou, Sikasso, Mopti, Koulikoro and Kayes. To date, 4,758 displaced students from the north have been identified and re-integrated into schools in these southern areas.
- 16 “School in a Box” kits for 640 children are in the pipeline for delivery to displaced children in Bamako. However, security conditions in Bamako have led the Ministry of Education to close schools temporarily.



## PROTECTION

**Needs:** The Child Protection/Gender-Based Violence sub-cluster has finalized the assessment of southern Mali (Kayes, Ségou, Koulikoro and Sikasso). Results indicate that the food and nutrition crisis is further putting children at risk of family separation, neglect, violence and abuse. Children are also at higher risk of leaving school to engage in work opportunities; more girls are exposed to sexual exploitation and sexual violence; and family relations are being disrupted.

UNICEF continues to communicate with key actors in the north. To date, six cases of incidents by unexploded ordnance have been confirmed, killing two children. In addition, the recruitment and use of children by rebel groups continues.

### Response:

- UNICEF is engaging with key actors in the north and at country level to open and strengthen advocacy channels. As part of efforts to strengthen partner capacities, a training session was organized on the protection of children in emergency situations and gender-based violence.
- The mapping of capacities to strengthen inter-agency response has been carried out and is being updated.
- A first training on Mine Risk Education took place the first week of May. 23 people participated in the three-day training, eight of whom are members of local organizations currently working in the north.

## IV. Response to refugee needs in neighbouring countries

### Overview

Refugees' main humanitarian needs revolve around the lack of potable water, food and shelter, as well as the prevention of epidemic diseases and the creation of a protective environment for vulnerable children and women. The majority of refugees' host communities are also among the most affected by the Sahel food security and nutrition crisis. WFP is preparing a Regional Emergency Operation in support of refugees and internally displaced persons in Mali, Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger. Current support for these groups will be transferred to this regionally coordinated project. Activities will include targeted food distributions, cash and voucher programmes and blanket feeding.

### Burkina Faso

As of 14 May, the number of Malian refugees officially registered in Burkina Faso remains at 56,817. Figures have not been updated since 3 May. UNHCR is currently in the process of registering 1,369 new refugee households. A new refugee site has been opened in Sagnnionigo in the west.

**Shelter:** In total, UNHCR has installed 1,973 tents. Two distribution centres have been established and three more are currently being constructed. Community shelters are being planned and constructed by UNHCR and HELP. A gap of 9,826 tents or community shelter exists.

**Food:** WFP estimates that some 18,000 refugees/host communities have been supported in April alone, while last week, WFP supported some 11,514 refugees and host communities in Ougadougou and Mentao.

**Agriculture:** FAO continues to provide food and veterinary treatment for refugees' and host communities' livestock. In addition to 1,237 refugee households, FAO also provides animal feed to 363 vulnerable local pastoralists.

**WASH:** UNHCR has drilled two water boreholes in Damba and Mentao and HELP has rehabilitated three boreholes in Fererio. CRS is also constructing three large-diameter wells for host communities in Fererio. CRS completed the construction of 4 blocks of two latrines and 3 blocks of showers in informal refugee sites in Fererio. In addition, OXFAM has built 36 latrines in Damba and the Red Cross has constructed 60 latrines and 14 showers in Mentao.

**Education:** The rehabilitation of three schools (Goudebo, Fereriro, Mentao) is being planned by UNHCR and plastic sheeting is being made available by UNICEF for the establishment of schools in the refugee sites. UNICEF also plans to provide school kits.

### Mauritania

As of 14 May, there were 61,287 Malian refugees officially registered in Mauritania. The decrease in numbers of refugees compared to last week is the result of a verification exercise (level 1) conducted by UNHCR. 2,105 refugees arrived last week in Fassala and were transferred to Camp Mbera in two convoys. The daily arrival of refugees is estimated at 300 per day.

**Shelter:** According to UNHCR, 8,015 tents have been installed in camp Mbera so far. The Lutheran World Federation reports that it has 1,370 tents in stock. UNHCR reports a gap of 2,872 tents.

**Food:** WFP has completed a first round of food distributions to 56,000 beneficiaries who received 15-day rations. Ad-hoc food assistance was also provided to 7,000 new arrivals. Monthly distributions will begin in early June. Food is already pre-positioned in Bassikounou for distribution in June and replenishment is in progress to cover the next three months. A mobile warehouse was mounted by WFP in the camp. UNHCR reports that four storage centres arrived in Nouakchott and are en route to Bassikounou. Discussions are ongoing among WFP, UNHCR and CSA on the establishment of a Post Distribution Monitoring mechanism.

**WASH:** According to Solidarités International (SI), 540 to 560 cubic metres of drinking water are distributed every day. According to a survey conducted by SI on the use of water, more than 15 litres per person per day are consumed. 220 latrines were built by SI. Slabs are available in the field, which will increase the production rate to 20 latrines per day. Tiles are now produced locally to accelerate the production of latrines. 20,000 people have benefited from sessions on hygiene promotion run by SI.

**Nutrition:** MSF has treated 500 children for malnutrition in Mbéra camp.

**Health:** In Mbéra camp, MSF has treated 4 of every 10 people for respiratory infections and 2 of 10 for diarrhoea.

**Agriculture:** FAO continues to implement activities aimed at preserving the livelihoods of Malian refugees by strengthening the health of their livestock. Some 6,000 households will receive veterinary products.

**Education:** According to UNICEF, 2,221 children are enrolled (1164 boys and 1057 girls) in four schools. UNICEF provided seven additional tents for school programmes. Last week, some teachers had indicated they would demand a wage increase. Negotiations took place and the problem has been resolved.

**Gaps:** The Malian refugee association has reported the presence of Malian refugees in Nouakchott who have neither been registered nor assisted by UNHCR and the government.

### Niger

According to UNHCR, the number of people displaced by the Mali crisis seeking refuge in Niger has reached 40,497 as of 11 May. The figures are likely to rise – to about 42,000 – in the next few days as two new settlements (Tinfagatt 2 and Tinfagarlen) have been reported in the western Ayorou region. The 2,776 refugees living on the two new sites are reported to be without any assistance. Food, Health, WASH, and Shelter needs remain unmet.

**Nutrition:** All children living in various sites throughout Mangaizé and Ayorou were checked for signs of possible malnutrition. Distribution of nutrition supplement has begun on 7 May with children under 5 receiving Plumpynut and premix.

**Food:** Plan Niger and WFP are readying their food distributions to 14,000 people in Ayorou. Each refugee will receive a monthly ration of 15 kg of cereals, 3 kg of dried vegetables, including beans, and 0.6 kg of

cooking oil from 15 May onwards. So far, WFP has assisted 43,169 refugees, returnees and host communities.

**WASH:** Water trucking to Ayorou continues with three trucks of 35,000 litre capacity each making two daily rounds. From 1 to 6 May, 9,000 people in Gaoudel and Nbeidou received 20 litres daily drinking water ration. CRS continues to respond to the refugee crisis in the district of Abala and Ayorou with water trucking and household water treatment and is reinforcing hygiene promotion activities.

**Gaps:** More than 3,000 people living in all six sites throughout Ayorou still need food, drinking water, non-food items and health assistance. 500 children remain out of school and cannot enrol locally.

## V. Coordination

**Mali:** On 10 May, OCHA facilitated a Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) workshop in Bamako. The workshop gathered a wide range of humanitarian partners with the aim to start preparation of the CAP for Mali.

**Burkina Faso:** Weekly coordination meetings take place in Ouagadougou, as well as weekly coordination meetings with partners in the field in Dori.

**Mauritania:** Coordination meetings led by UNHCR and the Ministry of Interior take place in Nouakchott every Monday.

## VI. Funding

According to FTS, current funding requirements for the food security and nutrition crisis amount to nearly \$119 million. As of 14 May, humanitarian partners have received around \$61 million. An appeal process for Mali is underway and is expected to conclude in early June. National appeals are currently being finalized in Burkina Faso (about \$116 million) and Mauritania (about \$87 million). They are expected to be issued around 23 May and will include components for refugees and host communities.

<b>119 million</b> requested (US\$)	<b>52 %</b> funded
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Of the \$35.6 million required by UNHCR on 23 February to cover the needs generated by the refugee crisis, UNHCR had received \$15.6 million as of 11 May. The appeal is being revised upwards based on new contingency figures and additional displacements. As of 14 May, the Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF) had allocated \$1 million to WFP for UNHAS flights in Mali, \$4 million for refugees and host communities in Burkina Faso, \$5.5 million for refugees and host communities in Mauritania and \$4.9 million for Malian refugees and Nigerien returnees from Mali in Niger. The CERF also allocated \$6 million for the food and nutrition crisis in Mali. Since November 2011, the CERF has allocated \$83.5 million for the Sahel region.

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