



# WFP Mali Country Brief

## WFP Assistance

Saving Lives, Reducing Malnutrition and Rebuilding Livelihoods	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
PRRO 200719 (Jan 2015-Dec 2017)	347.4 m	182 m (52%)	18 m

\*Nov 2017-April 2018

GENDER MARKER **2A**  PRRO 200719

Through its ongoing Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation in Mali, WFP supports the Malian Government in its efforts to achieve Zero Hunger. WFP particularly responds to acute food and nutritional needs among vulnerable food-insecure communities throughout the country. WFP maintains an emergency response capacity, protecting and strengthening people's livelihoods with a specific focus on women.

In 2017, 1.1 million people are targeted for a combination of emergency and seasonal assistance (in-kind food and cash-based transfer), school meals, food assistance for creation and restoration of productive assets, and prevention and treatment of malnutrition programme through targeted supplementary feeding for children, pregnant and nursing women. Flexible combination of these activities allows programmes to be better tailored to the different socio-economic and security contexts within the country and increases their impact through synergies and effective links between humanitarian and development interventions.

WFP also provides technical support to the Government at central and decentralised levels to enhance national capacity in food security and nutrition analysis, programme implementation, monitoring and coordination.

Since 2009, WFP has leveraged its procurement needs to increase market access and incomes of 29 smallholder farmer organisations, reaching nearly 56,000 farmers, 43 percent of whom are women. In addition, technical and financial support is provided to increase the organisations management, production, aggregation, quality control and commercial capacities.

Credit: WFP

Caption: The UNICEF's Chief of Emergency Operations and the WFP Representative with schoolchildren in Tessalit (Kidal) on the first day of the 2017/18 schoolyear

Main Photo

## Highlights

- Preliminary results of the National Food and Nutrition Survey (ENSAN) 2017 indicate that one in four people are food insecure in Mali. The food security situation has particularly deteriorated in the conflict-affected regions of Kidal, Timbuktu and Mopti and remains high in Gao.
- Long-term collaboration in the field of social protection between WFP and the Ministry of Solidary and Humanitarian Action is now formalized with a memorandum of understanding signed in October 2017.
- SMART survey preliminary results show that more than 1 in 10 children suffers from global acute malnutrition (GAM) in Mali. GAM prevalence has reached critical levels in Timbuktu and Gao.

Smallholder farmer support activities have allowed WFP to substantially expand local and regional purchases from smallholder farmers over the last eight years. As of the second half of 2017, these capacity development investments have expanded to include activities to address value addition and post-harvest loss reduction.

WFP and the technical services from the National Social Protection and Nutrition Ministries are collaborating for the development of a new food assistance delivery model for caretakers of malnourished children in order to increase the effectiveness of the treatment by encouraging retention and compliance. WFP and MSF signed a partnership in a comparative research study between Plumpy'Doz and Nutributter, and to reduce chronic malnutrition in the health district of Koutiala in the Sikasso region. WFP has also partnered with the Aga Khan Foundation to assess the efficacy of a locally produced nutritional product commonly known as the "Improved *Di-dégué* or EQUINUT" for the prevention of moderate acute malnutrition in children aged 6 to 59 months.

Provisions of Humanitarian Air Services in Mali	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
SO 201047 (Jan 2017-March 2018)	7.2 m	5.8 m (81%)	3 m

\*Nov 2017-April 2018

WFP Mali manages the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) on behalf of the humanitarian community. From the Bamako base, UNHAS provides humanitarian air services to seven destinations: Mopti, Timbuktu, Gao, Bourem, Niafunke, Goundam and Menaka. From January to end of October 2017, UNHAS served 1,013 passengers and transported

## In Numbers

**55,880** internally displaced

**142,386** refugees in neighbouring countries

**601,000** people in need of food assistance

**480,054** people assisted in September 2017

51%



49%



October 2017

## Operational Updates

In line with the national response plan (PNR), WFP distributed food to 260,000 food-insecure people during the lean season and until September 2017. An additional 30,000 newly displaced persons received WFP's emergency assistance in the process of the Rapid Response Mechanism.

WFP is pursuing food assistance for more than 100,000 vulnerable persons in conflict-affected northern Mali who remain food insecure beyond the lean season.

WFP supports the Government of Mali to implement effective social protection, which is a crucial link between humanitarian action and development. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Ministry of Solidarity and Humanitarian Action and WFP in October, formalizing their collaboration initiated several years ago. WFP also supported the national conference on social protection held in Bamako from 24 to 26 October 2017.

The nutrition component of the national social protection programme called "Jigisemejiri" was launched in October. Recognizing WFP expertise in supply chain management, the Government signed a USD 2.7 million contract with WFP to purchase and make available the preventive nutritional package to be distributed in 20 communes of the country over a period of one year.

The 2017/18 school year started in October and the school meals programme resumed from early October for around 114,000 schoolchildren.

WFP organized and actively participated in the official celebrations and several events across the country for World Food Day and UN Day.

Results of the SMART survey show stable global acute malnutrition prevalence at national level (10.7 percent), but regional rates are near or above the emergency threshold in Timbuktu and Gao. Final reports of the national survey on nutrition and food security (ENSAN), and the results of the Cost of Hunger survey will be soon released. The Zero Hunger Review is still ongoing.

## Challenges

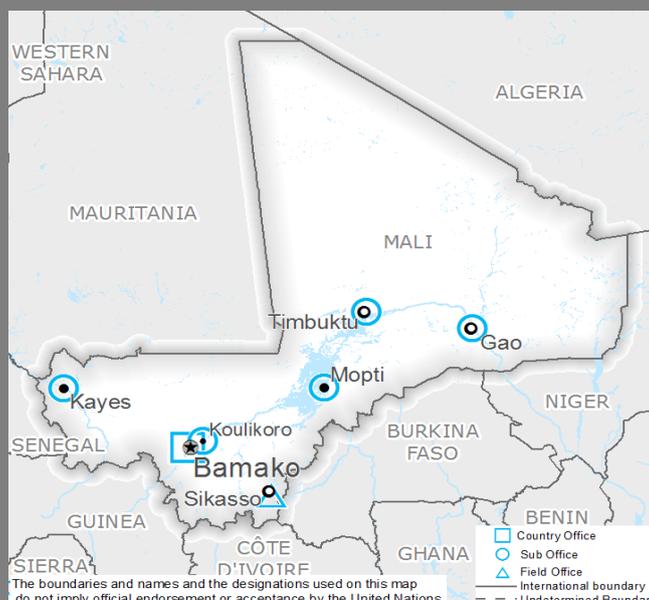
The International Committee of the Red Cross announced the suspension of its assistance in favour of the populations of Kidal because the security situation remains highly volatile in the northern region. Insecurity continues to complicate WFP operations and in some cases, caused significant delays but has yet to disrupt access.

## Impact of Funding Constraints

Nutrition activities are underfinanced and forced WFP to revise its programmes. The length of prevention activities and the geographical coverage of treatment activities have been reduced, which could have serious consequences on women and children suffering from malnutrition. WFP's current assistance to 50,000 children and pregnant and nursing women is only funded until January 2018.

Additional resources (USD 3.3 million until March 2018) are required to provide food assistance to 100,000 vulnerable persons in the conflict-affected northern regions which remain food insecure beyond the lean season.

## Country Background & Strategy



Mali is a vast land-locked country in the heart of the Sahel region. It has successfully achieved the Millennium Development Goal of reducing hunger by 50 percent. Additionally, despite this improvement the social indicators remain among the lowest in the world. Over 50 percent of the population lives on less than USD 1.25 a day. One in eight primary school-aged children do not attend school; less than 25 percent have partial secondary education, one third of which are girls.

Following a political coup in March 2012, the north of the country was occupied by non-state armed groups and effectively cut off from the rest of the country until a brief military intervention in January 2013. These events resulted in large scale population displacements. A UN peacekeeping mission was deployed to the country in July 2013 and a new President was elected in August 2013, followed by peaceful legislative elections. Because of renewed violence led by factions in the north, a Peace Agreement was signed on 20 June 2015. Safety and security remain volatile and violence has increased in north and central Mali despite the signing of this Peace Agreement.

WFP's programmes in Mali are aligned with WFP Global Strategic Objectives 1, 2 and 4, Sustainable Development Goal 2, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (2015-2019) and several Malian national policies and programmes.

WFP has been present in Mali since 1964.

Population: **18.8 million**

2015 Human Development Index:  
**179 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower Income Country**

Chronic malnutrition: **23.4 % of children between 6-59 months**

## Donors

USA, Canada, CERF, ECHO/DFID, Germany, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, France, Italy, DEVCO, Luxembourg, Spain, Sweden, USAID, Monaco, Denmark, OFDA, EU, Multilateral funds

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