

*This report is produced by the OCHA Mali office in collaboration with humanitarian partners and is issued by OCHA Headquarters in New York. It covers the period from 18 October to 31 October 2012. Please note that OCHA Mali will no longer issue a regular SitRep but will provide instead regular information on humanitarian actions in Mali through a Humanitarian Bulletin. This Bulletin will be published twice a month.*

### HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- 4.6 million people remain at risk of food insecurity in Mali and access to food for people living in the north is deteriorating.
- Mali is faced with a big challenge in terms of education. Access to education remains a major challenge for thousands of children in the north, and more than a 130 schools in the south of the country have been damaged following recent floods in September and October.
- Funding remains insufficient with only 49 % of funding requirements covered under the CAP 2012. \$ 108.8 million is still required to meet the urgent needs identified in the 2012 Mali CAP.

## Situation Overview

### Recent political developments

Mali is in effect split in two, with the south under Government control and the north under control of different armed groups.

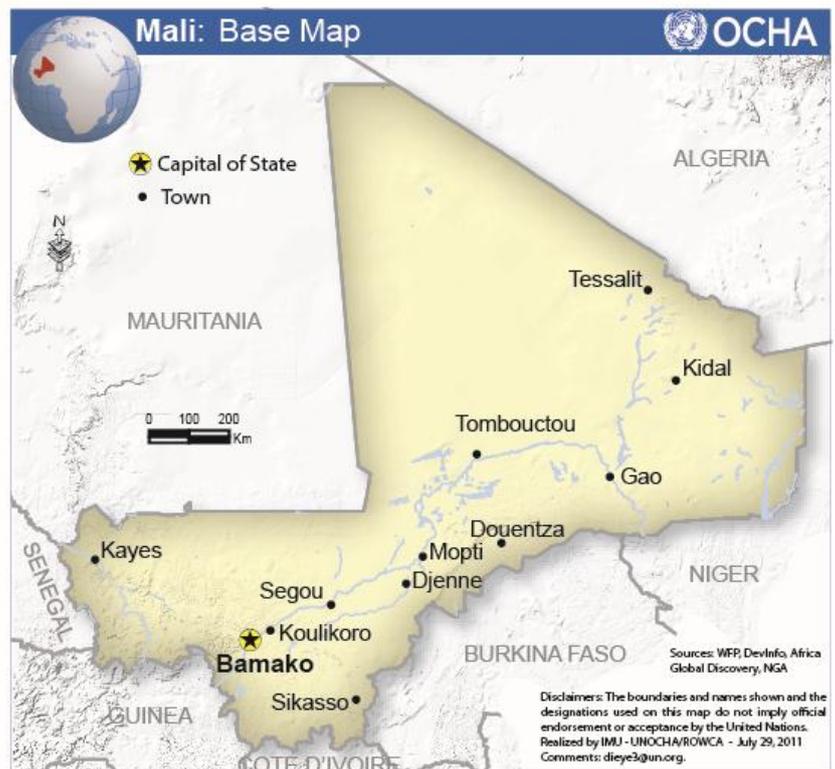
The UN Security Council adopted a resolution on October 12 preparing for the deployment of an ECOWAS military intervention to Mali. ECOWAS has until November 26 to outline its strategic plan and finalize its request to the Security Council for its authorisation to deploy an ECOWAS led intervention force in Mali.

Officials from the UN, African Union (AU), ECOWAS and Mali's neighbouring countries held talks in Bamako for nearly a week to prepare plans for a military force to enter Mali's north. Their statement was reviewed on November 6 by ECOWAS Defense Chiefs of Staff.

Burkina Faso and Algeria are also leading efforts to persuade Ansar Dine to cut ties with AQMI in an attempt to find a negotiated solution to the Malian crisis.

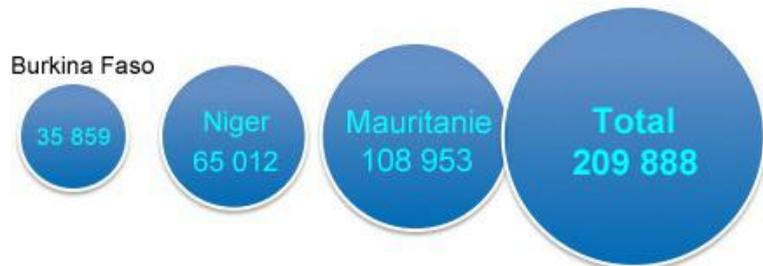
### Humanitarian overview

An estimated 4.6 million people remain at risk of food insecurity in Mali and access to food for people living in the north is deteriorating. The rate of child malnutrition in the north has exceeded the alert threshold. Pastoral communities in northern Mali are also affected by this malnutrition crisis. Information on humanitarian needs in northern Mali remains limited because of insecurity and the low presence of humanitarian actors in the north.



More damage has been reported in the regions of Kayes, Sikasso and Ségou following heavy rains during the first two weeks of October. The Civil Protection Department reported 3 deaths during this period, 887 newly cases of families affected by the floods and another 446 collapsed or damaged houses. Mali is also faced with a big challenge in terms of education. Many schools have been damaged following recent floods in September and October. More than a 130 schools in the country have been damaged. Many students already lost the school year 2011-2012 and many flood-affected students in the south as well as IDP students and students in conflict-affected regions in the north now lack the basic learning materials for the new school year which began end of September 2012.

The refugees from Mali find themselves in precarious living conditions. 209,888 persons from Mali<sup>1</sup> are refugees in neighbouring countries. There are currently 108,953 refugees from Mali in Mauritania, 65,012 in Niger, 35,859 in Burkina Faso, 44 in Guinea and 20 in Togo. It is also estimated that there are 203,843 people in Mali that are internally displaced.



## Humanitarian Needs and Response in Mali



### FOOD SECURITY

#### Needs:

- Preliminary results from a joint WFP – Early Warning System survey show that living conditions are deteriorating for IDPs and host families in the regions of Timbuktu, Gao and Kidal because of high food prices and because of smaller incomes in all sectors, forcing people to borrow money and sell goods to purchase food.
- An estimated 4.6 million people remain at risk of food insecurity due to the food and nutrition crises and conflict in the north. Evaluations by Mali's Early Warning System indicated that 2.97 million people lived in drought affected areas in the south as of February and April 2012. This figure includes 1.84 million people at risk of severe food insecurity and 1.13 million people at risk of moderate food insecurity. 1.63 million people in the north are at risk of severe food insecurity due to the ongoing security and political crises.
- Access to food for people living in the north is deteriorating.

#### Response:

- To date, WFP has reached more than one million people through its emergency operations in Mali. This includes people who have been affected by drought, people in the north and IDPs. Food assistance continues in Bamako and in the other eight regions of Mali. 300,000 people in the northern regions of Mali are targeted by the WFP emergency food assistance and nutritional support.
- In the 'cercles' of Diéma and Nioro 3,000 vulnerable households have received 2,000 goats, 604 tons of animal feed and 3,000 veterinary kits from the FAO. To reinforce households' nutritional status, 6,000 households received 3 poultry birds and poultry veterinary kits. For projects in Ségou and Sikasso, ongoing activities are the distribution of gardening and nutrition kits to beneficiaries and training of beneficiaries on good gardening and nutrition practices.
- Mercy Corps continues its activities of unconditional distribution of cash vouchers in the cercle of Ansongo in the Gao region, with the completion of the third and final round of the distribution to 2315 vulnerable households. Post-distribution surveys undertaken by Mercy Corps show that

<sup>1</sup> This number includes Malian and third country nationals.

many households continue to share their food with their neighbours, indicating that non-targeted households are vulnerable to food insecurity.

- The Malian Red Cross with support from the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) has distributed 1,475 tons of food (6,500 households) in the municipalities of Koulikoro, Diéma and Yorosso. The distributions in Diéma will continue until December. The support project to gardening associations (1,750 households) begins this month in Kolokani and Kayes.
- ACF-E continues its conditional cash transfer distribution activities in the cercle of Kita through a project to strengthen the local capacity for integrated management of acute malnutrition. The first round of transfer has been completed for a total of approximately 116,820,000 CFA (i.e. \$228,000) and the second round is scheduled for early November. 1,947 households benefit from this project. Beneficiaries have to complete training on good nutritional practices.
- Welthungerhilfe (WHH) is distributing 840 tonnes of maize in the cercles of Yélimané, Niore, Diéma (Kayes region), Ténenkou, Bandiagara (Mopti region), Banamba, Nara (Koulikoro region) between the period of beginning of October until the end of November 2012. The cash transfer activities of the project "Support to IDPs from the North" financed by the German Ministry of External Affairs targets 1,000 beneficiaries in the localities of Sévaré, Mopti and Bandiagara in the region of Mopti.

#### Gaps and Constraints:

- The lack or low level of funding remains a major handicap to the delivery of aid. As of 5 November 2012, the food security cluster partners are still missing \$ 43,962,274 million to meet urgent needs under the CAP 2012.
- The food security cluster is restricted in its response options in the north because of the security situation in the three regions of Timbuktu, Gao and Kidal.



#### NUTRITION

#### Needs:

- According to the SMART survey conducted in July 2011, 560,000 children under 5 years old were estimated to be at risk of acute malnutrition in 2012, including 175,000 at risk of severe acute malnutrition and 385,000 at risk of moderate acute malnutrition.
- The Nutrition Cluster, while drafting the nutrition section of the CAP 2013, estimated that 660,000 children under 5 will suffer from acute malnutrition, of which 450,000 will suffer from moderate acute malnutrition and 210,000 from severe acute malnutrition. Preliminary results of the SMART survey 2012 presented on 31 October show a stagnation of the nutritional status of under 5 children at the national level.

#### Response:

- To date and since the beginning of the year, the number of newly admitted children for treatment of malnutrition is 131 057 including 78 935 children being treated for moderate acute malnutrition, 52 122 children for severe acute malnutrition, of which 7 010 for severe acute malnutrition with complications. These figures are partial, as data for the third quarter of 2012 from the nutritional surveillance system in Mali still remain unavailable. In order to follow the trends of the nutritional situation in the different regions and health districts the Nutrition Cluster uses data from NGO partners which are already operational in the field.
- Recently obtained funding by some Nutrition Cluster partners has allowed for new projects to be put in place, as well as allowing existing projects to continue and/or certain activities to resume. This has resulted in an increase in the number of health facilities (CSCoM and CSRef) at the national level receiving support for acute malnutrition management activities from NGOs. To date, 616 of the 1,157 national health facilities now receive aid/support (i.e. 53% of all health centres in Mali).

- To date, UNICEF has provided 41,618 boxes of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food of which 5,676 have been distributed in Timbuktu, Gao and Kidal regions since the beginning of 2012. UNICEF works in partnership with institutional partners (Ministry of Health) and operational partners (ACF-E, ALIMA-AMCP, AVSF, CARE USA, MSF, MDM-B, World Vision) working in the field of nutrition. During the month of October 5,104 boxes of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food were distributed nationally, including 1,883 in the three northern regions.
- Supported by UNICEF, health managers, health workers and NGOs staff received training on the revised protocol on community-based management of acute malnutrition. This training is being conducted at the regional level. Since the beginning of this activity in June 2012, a total of 2,119 staff in charge of acute malnutrition care have been trained in the five southern regions and in Bamako (i.e. 63% of the national target set at 3,359).

#### Gaps and constraints:

- To date, the level of effective coverage by NGO partners in terms of support to health structures for treatment of acute malnutrition remains low. Only 53% of health centres in the country are receiving assistance (i.e. 616 health facilities out of 1,157). The low number of active partners in acute malnutrition treatment (11), the low level of funding (\$18.6 million is still required for the CAP 2012, that is 47% of the total required funding), the limited access to certain health structures in the northern regions and the high number of health districts (60) and health structures (1,092) at national level do not currently allow for optimal coverage.
- Data collection remains inadequate. Compilation of nutritional data by the National Health Directorate is released every quarter. The Health Ministry's recent agreement to include nutritional data into the weekly epidemiological bulletin needs to be supported and followed up by all relevant partners.



#### HEALTH

#### Needs:

- Since 1 January 2012, 219 cases of cholera have been reported, including 19 deaths. No new cases of cholera were reported in the past 4 weeks.
- There is a need for regular assessment and evaluations of health centres in southern Mali in order to estimate their capacity to provide appropriate health services as well as to manage complications related to acute malnutrition.

#### Response:

- WHO / DNS organized training for health workers. Training for the fight against cholera debuted this week in Fana in the region of Koulikoro. It takes into account 40 health workers from the regions of Ségou and Koulikoro.
- Data from the latest reporting week (28 October) indicate that there were 961 unconfirmed cases of malaria, with 13 deaths in the three conflict-affected northern regions. For the whole country, more than 84,000 more cases have been reported compared to the same period last year. UNICEF has dispatched an additional 20 Malaria kits to the north, capable of treating 60,000 cases of uncomplicated malaria.
- A UNICEF supported campaign to vaccinate all 307,000 children under five in the three conflict affected regions is completed. This has been the only campaign conducted in the north this year as against the four campaigns already conducted in south Mali. Of the 13 northern districts, complete reports are now available for 12 districts. A total of 269,334 children (88 %) were vaccinated for polio, and 95% (262,293) vaccinated against measles.
- A total of 72 Basic Inter-agency Emergency Health (IEH) Kits have been released to implementing partners in Mopti, Gao, Kidal, and Timbuktu regions to treat an estimated 216,000 people.

- UNICEF supports 38 health facilities in the north as part of the emergency response. The support includes essential medicines, logistics and skilled human resource to facilitate the delivery of basic package of health service.

#### Gaps and constraints:

- Cluster partners need adequate funding to meet current and future health needs, especially cholera and other disease preparedness and contingency planning. Health is currently the least financed cluster according to the financial tracking system in the Humanitarian appeal for Mali.



## WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

#### Needs:

- 1,630,000 conflict affected persons in the north of the country, 203,843 IDPs and 150,000 affected persons in hosting areas have reduced access to basic WASH services.
- 175,000 severely malnourished children and their care takers require hygiene materials accompanied by sensitization and improved access to basic WASH services.
- 1,561,000 people living in areas at high-risk of cholera (i.e. zones along the banks of the Niger River, zones that have experienced cholera cases in previous years, or population living in poorly served slum areas) require prevention activities.

#### Response:

- In Timbuktu region, Solidarités with the financial support of UNICEF and ECHO, has distributed 525 hygiene kits composed of aquatab and Jerri cans to reach up to 2,625 beneficiaries and sensitized them on good hygiene practices. Technical diagnostic of Dire CSREF is in process. A post-Distribution Monitoring assessment is in preparation. In Kidal region, Solidarités with the financial support of UNICEF and ECHO has completed the rehabilitation of 23 water points, and have assessed 59 additional water points and 16 latrine blocks.
- ADDA and WaterAid have completed a rapid assessment of water infrastructure in Gao and Ansongo and have identified 50 water points in need of rehabilitation.
- In response to flooding, UNICEF has supported the Malian Civil Protection to launch the distribution of Non-Food Item kits, tents and latrine slabs for 902 households to date (3,238 people) in eight affected communes. In addition, UNICEF has signed an agreement with ACTED to support 12,014 flood affected people in Tominian circle in Ségou Region and are halfway to distribute 600 hygiene kits accompanied by hygiene promotion.
- IOM have finished allocating 2,000,000 sachets of PUR (Purifier of Water), donated by Americares, which are destined for CSCOMs and CSREFs in Timbuktu (partner DNS), households with severely malnourished children in Gao (partner ACF-E), IDPs in Mopti and Kayes (partner SCF), and CSCOMs in Mopti (partner DNS).
- ACF-E has just completed the evaluation of WASH in health care facilities in Kayes, Koulikoro, Gao (Soni Aliber, Forgho, Bangnadji, Berah) and Ansongo. With the support of UNICEF, 6,403 hygiene kits have been distributed to households living in a cholera prone area and having no access to improved water sources in Gao. In addition, 172 community outreach partners have been trained on cholera prevention measures.
- 16 WASH staff from Handicap International received two day training in WASH in Emergencies under a new WASH Cluster initiative, actively supported by UNICEF which volunteered to be a trainer. This training aimed at building WASH capacity of national staff and national NGOs across Mali.
- OXFAM GB, with the financial support of UNICEF was currently half way through the process of distributing hygiene kits to 32,217 affected people in Bourem circle. Assessments of water points in the region have been completed.
- UNICEF provided 25 WASH cluster partners (NGO, Regional and National Health Authorities) with standardized communication and sensitization material focused on cholera transmission and prevention measures. In total, more than 217,000 flyers and more than 154,000 stickers with instructions on how to use aqua tabs, water flocculent and disinfectant sachets (PUR), how to prepare oral rehydration sachets (ORS).
- During the last two weeks WHO has completed a rapid assessment of WASH infrastructure of all healthcare facilities (CSCOM and CSRef & Hospitals) in GAO and Ansongo.

**Gaps and constraints:**

- WASH agencies are struggling to find funding for WASH activities. As of November 5<sup>th</sup> 2012 the Financial Tracking Service shows that only \$ 6,060,817 has been provided to the WASH Cluster. It is estimated that an additional \$ 17,481,977 is required over the coming few months to meet lifesaving needs of the WASH Cluster.
- WASH interventions and monitoring activities in the north remains a challenge. Access needs to be negotiated with different armed groups on a case by case basis.

**EDUCATION****Needs:**

- In an effort to effectively respond to the needs of Mali's most vulnerable children, it is imperative that functional schools in Mali's northern regions and schools hosting internally displaced students in the south be properly identified.
- Given Mali's on-going food security crisis, school feeding remains a viable strategy to promote sustained school attendance for the 2012-2013 academic year.
- Students in conflict-affected regions in the north, flood-affected students in the south, as well as IDP students residing in southern regions and the district of Bamako lack the basic learning materials for the new school year which began at the end of September 2012.

**Response:**

- Focal points for the education task force for the north have identified a total of 188 functional schools, currently schooling 20,799 girls, 21,944 boys with 279 volunteer teachers in Mali's northern regions of Gao and Kidal.
- UNICEF in partnership with Cri de Coeur distributed 365 learning materials to internally displaced children in the District of Bamako, 200 of which were given to female students. To date a total of 2,022 internally displaced students in the region of Ségou and district of Bamako have benefited from the provision of learning materials for the 2012-2013 academic year.
- For the 2012-13 school year WFP has initiated an emergency feeding program which is already functional in the southern regions of Koulikoro, Kayes, and Mopti reaching over 52,000 students. WFP hopes to extend the emergency feeding program to the northern regions of Gao, Kidal and Timbuktu in the coming months.

**Gaps and Constraints:**

- With schools operating under limited capacity in the northern regions of Gao and Kidal, finding ways for partners to provide support in conflict affected regions remains an on-going challenge. Working through local partners the Education Cluster seeks to provide support for educational programming.
- While learning materials have been distributed to affected students in the regions of Ségou and the district of Bamako, there remains a need to provide material support to affected students in the regions of Kayes, and Mopti. The Education Cluster is engaging with partners to ensure students in all affected regions receive support through the distribution of learning materials.
- To date, only 4 % of the Education Cluster needs in the 2012 Mali CAP have been funded, despite documented needs. For more information see the October Education Cluster's factsheet: <http://mali.humanitarianresponse.info/fr/node/438>

**PROTECTION****Needs:**

- Increased geographical access to the conflict affected regions is needed.
- Need for harmonization of information management system including specific information on displaced children.
- Due to the possible militarization of the north, increased advocacy for involvement of all parties to consider grave violations of human rights in conflicts is needed.

**Response:**

- 5,109 children participated in recreational activities organised in Mopti, Kidal, Timbuktu and Gao (BNCE), Bamako (ENDA Mali / Right to Play), and Ségou (Mali Plan) bringing the number to 19,830 for children benefiting from recreational activities.
- 100 hygiene kits were distributed to 100 vulnerable children in 2 suburbs of Bamako (Right to Play).
- A joint training for Malian Defense and Security Forces in Bamako on the protection of children, and women in crisis situations was organised by UNICEF, UNFPA and UN WOMEN. The first session of training of trainers took place in Bamako and UNHCR presented a module on the protection of women and humanitarian principles.
- During the reporting period, 553 people participated in Mine Risk Education (MRE) awareness or training activities. In partnership with UNICEF ENDA-BNCE provided lifesaving Mine /UXO Risk awareness sessions in Mopti and Wailirde (Sevare) benefiting 263 people. In Ségou, the COREN, in partnership with UNICEF, began MRE activities amongst the displaced and Islamic Relief continued providing awareness sessions and material distribution amongst the IDPs in Bamako reaching 235 people.
- UNICEF continues to reinforce the MRE capacity of Government departments and NGOs in Ségou and Mopti regions through two MRE Training programmes. Ségou currently hosts almost 20,000 Northern IDPs and Mopti more than 41,000. 55 staff members of NGOs, Government departments and the Red Cross from different circles of Ségou, Mopti and some of the Northern regions attended the training programmes and will be conducting Mine/UXO awareness amongst IDP families in the South and to risk population in the North.
- 280 dignity kits for women and 100 dignity kits for men were distributed to displaced populations in the region of Kayes during the International Day for Disaster Reduction. In addition, awareness in the field of SGBV and a network of women leaders in Kayes were put in place, and a disaster risk reduction strategy has been put in place by the Department of Civil Protection.
- 100 families, almost 6,500 displaced people in Mopti, received non-food items (kitchen set, mosquito nets, blankets, mats and buckets) and host families will received bashes and tents (Intersos / UNHCR).

**Gaps and Constraints:**

- Lack of access to information regarding key concerns such as the recruitment of children by armed groups and rights abuses. Difficulty of data collection in the north on violations of human rights, including child protection, gender based violence and other human rights violations due to limited access and insecurity.
- Need for NGO partners with emergency child protection expertise.
- The lack of funding remains a major challenge. The protection cluster under the CAP 2012 is so far only 27 % funded. As of 5 November 2012, the protection cluster partners are still missing \$ 13,002,751 to meet urgent needs under the CAP 2012.

**LOGISTICS / UNHAS**

- The Logistics cluster in Mali has been actively networking with NGO and UN partners to establish a constructive forum for discussion and information-sharing. The cluster meetings now include a security briefing, as requested by partners, which is strictly related to logistics support to the humanitarian response. The meetings focus on the issues that are relevant to the partners. Information is gathered and consolidated by the Logistics Cluster upon request (i.e. transporters list, freight forwarders list, contact lists, partners presence mapping).
- An UNHAS User Group Committee meeting is scheduled for 7 November. UNHAS will present its planning for 2013 to partners and donors. UNHAS is ready to operate flights to Sikasso if requested by the humanitarian community in Mali.



## EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- The ETC cluster is deploying a dedicated staff for the management of the communication centre and for the support to the humanitarian community in Mopti.
- The ETC cluster continues to assist humanitarian organizations providing VHF/HF and Data network including reprogramming of radios. To date, 462 handheld and over 50 vehicle radios have been reprogrammed for UN agencies and NGOs.



## COORDINATION

OCHA keeps on coordinating the CAP 2013 process. OCHA received, reconciled and incorporated suggested amendments for projects and the draft CAP document. OCHA worked to ensure that the distinct needs of male and female beneficiaries are properly analysed and reflected in project activities and outcomes. Agencies made use of the Gender Marker, which tracks expenditure for gender equality programming and tries to ensure humanitarian funding is not gender blind. The draft CAP document is now being finalised for final review and OCHA will clear final draft and projects.

OCHA Mali continues to identify actions and communication tools needed to support the humanitarian community present in Mali. OCHA Mali has put its Information Management / Reporting / Public Information strategy in place and has initiated specific IM and PI products to respond to the needs of the clusters and the humanitarian community present in Mali.

The Public Information / Reporting team has developed an advocacy and PI strategy for the next 6 months. The team is also actively involved in the activities of the UN Communications Group. The IM Unit has improved the existing IM strategy in order to reinforce the quality of IM products created and the unit is now delivering the standard OCHA IM Products regularly. IM unit worked with IOM to improve the GIS base layers for Mali. These will soon be available on the COD/FOD Registry.

Maps produced by OCHA for the Clusters are published on the following Humanitarian Response website: <http://mali.humanitarianresponse.info>. The developer of the Humanitarian Response website will be on mission in Mali from 10 to 17 November to train end users and to improve the website.



## FUNDING

As of 5 November, and according to the Financial Tracking Service (FTS), donors have provided \$ 105.5 million to respond to the crisis in Mali, 49.2 per cent of the \$ 214 million required.

**214 million**  
required (US\$)

**49.2 %**  
funded

## Contacts

### Bamako:

Fernando Arroyo, Head of Office, OCHA Mali  
E-mail: [arroyof@un.org](mailto:arroyof@un.org), Tel: +223 7944 1315

Nadège Bryan, Reporting Officer, OCHA Mali  
E-mail: [bryann@un.org](mailto:bryann@un.org), Tel: +223 7599 3494

Katy Thiam, Humanitarian Affairs / Public Information Officer  
E-mail: [thiamk@un.org](mailto:thiamk@un.org), Tel: +223 759 934 97

### New York:

Quentin Levet, Humanitarian Affairs Officer, OCHA NY  
E-mail: [levet@un.org](mailto:levet@un.org), Tel. +1 646 266 4410

For more information, please visit: <http://mali.humanitarianresponse.info> & <http://ochaonline.un.org/rowca>. To be added or deleted from this SitRep mailing list, please e-mail: [ochareporting@un.org](mailto:ochareporting@un.org) or visit: <http://ochaonline.un.org>.