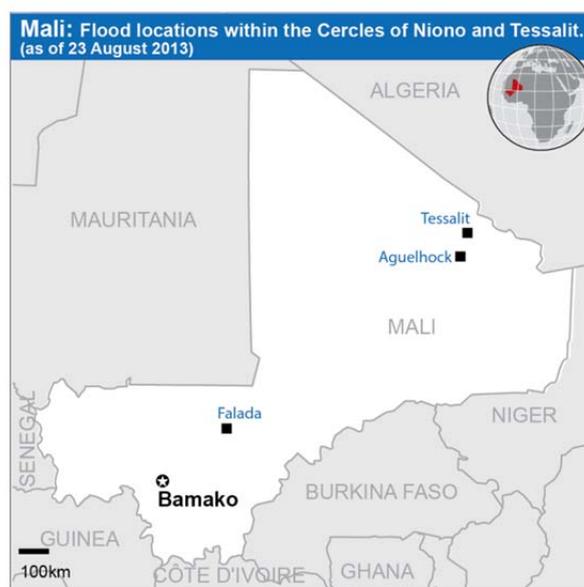




This report is produced by OCHA Mali in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It is published by OCHA Mali and it covers the period from 6 to 26 August 2013. The production of situation reports on the complex emergency in Mali will be interrupted after this current issue. The production of humanitarian information bulletins will resume with the next issue to be published around 26 September.

## Highlights

- Preliminary results of a food security assessment in the North show a significant deterioration of the situation in comparison to last year. A large part of the population in Gao, Timbuktu and in previously occupied cercles of Mopti are moderately or severely food insecure.
- Around 11,300 people are affected by floods in the Kidal and Segou regions further to heavy rains between 9-12 August.
- Around 137,000 people who had fled the crisis have reportedly returned to the Timbuktu and Gao regions, according to estimates by the International Organization for Migrations (IOM). Work is ongoing to gather additional data on the returnees in order to ascertain if they were internally displaced persons or refugees and to evaluate their needs.
- In the Gao and Timbuktu regions, 580 primary schools and 8 secondary schools - out of a total of 1048 schools – are currently implementing catch-up classes for pupils to complete the 2012-2013 school year.



Map Source(s): DNCT, OCHA.  
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

**1.4 million**

People in need of immediate food assistance

(Food Security Cluster, July)

**342,033**

Internally displaced persons as of 25 July

(Population Movement Commission)

**175,282**

Malian refugees in neighboring countries as of 22 August

(UNHCR)

**\$477 million**

Humanitarian requirements for Mali in 2013

2013 Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP)

**35 %**

Of funding received as of 22 August

(OCHA Financial Tracking System)

## Situation Overview

Preliminary results of the Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) conducted in the North of Mali by WFP and FAO, in collaboration with the early warning system (SAP), show a deteriorating food security situation for most households. Results indicate that 90 per cent of the surveyed households have resorted to crisis strategies for their food security. At the celebration of World Humanitarian Day on 19 August, the Minister for Economy and Humanitarian Action appealed to the international community to boost the funding of this sector for a strengthened response.

Between 9-12 August, heavy rains caused floods in the Segou (Diabaly cercle) and Kidal (Aguelhok and Tessalit cercles) regions. No fatalities were reported. In Segou, floods have affected 10,700 people, destroying numerous houses and latrines, 76 tons of rice and millet as well as 50 hectares of rice fields. The Direction régionale de la protection civile has provided kitchen sets and shelter kits to 40 households. Authorities also provided hygiene promotion material to 100 households (water treatment products, soaps, jerry cans, etc.) The Gouvernorat also donated 200 bleach bottles to flood victims. 200 people have found shelter in schools.

In Kidal, the number of people affected by the floods is estimated at 600. Heavy rains destroyed around 100 houses and swept away many head of cattle. Solidarités International, with the support of UNICEF, has distributed

**+ For more information, see “background on the crisis” at the end of the report**

[www.unocha.org](http://www.unocha.org)

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**Coordination Saves Lives**

hygiene kits to 70 households in Tessalit. UNICEF is conveying additional aid to Kidal, including kits for the flood victims in the town of Aguelhok.

Catch-up classes continue to be implemented in the Timbuktu and Gao regions to allow pupils to complete their school year. Response to the lack of school material and the lack of teacher training on education in emergency context is among the priority activities identified by the cluster in order to ensure that conflict-affected children have access to quality education. However, the lack of funding limits the cluster capacities.

The return trend observed since May seems to be confirmed by evaluations carried out in June 2013 in the Gao and Timbuktu regions by IOM, in collaboration with the Direction Générale du Développement Social and the Direction Générale de la Protection Civile. According to the results of these evaluations, there would be more than 137,000 returnees<sup>1</sup> in the Timbuktu and Gao regions.

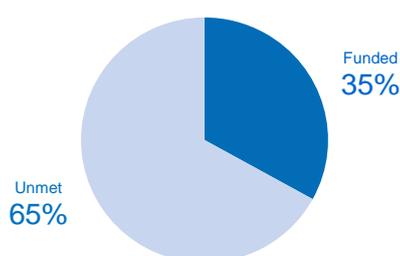
## Funding

On 26 August, the Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP) for Mali was 35 percent funded with approximately \$168 million mobilized on a \$477 million requirement.

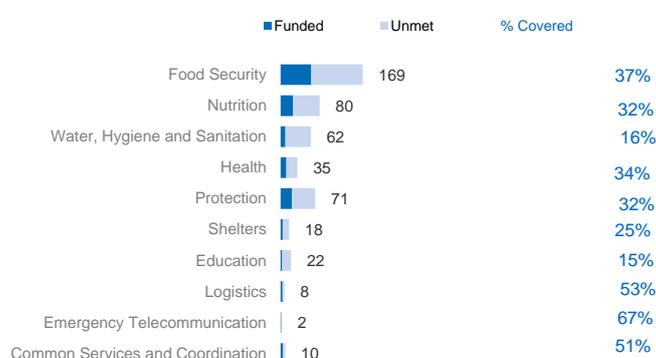
OCHA Financial Tracking Service (FTS) reports an additional \$103 million allocated to humanitarian activities in Mali; part of these funds could be included in the CAP after further tracking.

### Mali - Consolidated Appeal 2013

**\$477 million**



### Funding by sector (in million US\$)



All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: [fts@un.org](mailto:fts@un.org)

## Humanitarian Response



### Food Security

#### Needs:

- Based on a March 2013 analysis, the cluster estimates that food insecurity affects 3.5 million people including 1.4 million who need immediate food assistance.
- The preliminary results of the EFSA in the North show a significant deterioration of food security in comparison to last year, with a large part of the population in Gao, Timbuktu and in previously occupied cercles of Mopti being moderately or severely food insecure. Data collection is still ongoing in the Kidal region.

<sup>1</sup> The data collected for these evaluations in the Gao region was validated by the *Direction Nationale du Développement Social* while data from the Timbuktu region still has to be verified. It is important to stress that these first evaluations reflect trends that need to be refined and specified. IOM is working with all humanitarian partners in order to collect detailed data on the returnees and identify their needs.

**Response:**

- Since the beginning of the year, humanitarian organizations assisted more than 887,000 vulnerable people with food distributions, malnutrition care, cash transfer programs, agricultural inputs and farming support.
- WFP and the Mali Observatory for Agricultural Markets - OMA (Observatoire des Marchés Agricoles)- conducted a market analysis in Bamako, which confirmed that cash and vouchers are a suitable modality to assist food-insecure households.

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- Insecurity continues to disrupt humanitarian operations, in particular in the Kidal region. The growing returns of IDPs and refugees during the lean period could create an emergency situation if the trend amplifies.
- Regarding the current crop season, late rainfall and pockets of droughts registered in certain areas require a close monitoring to anticipate their possible effects.

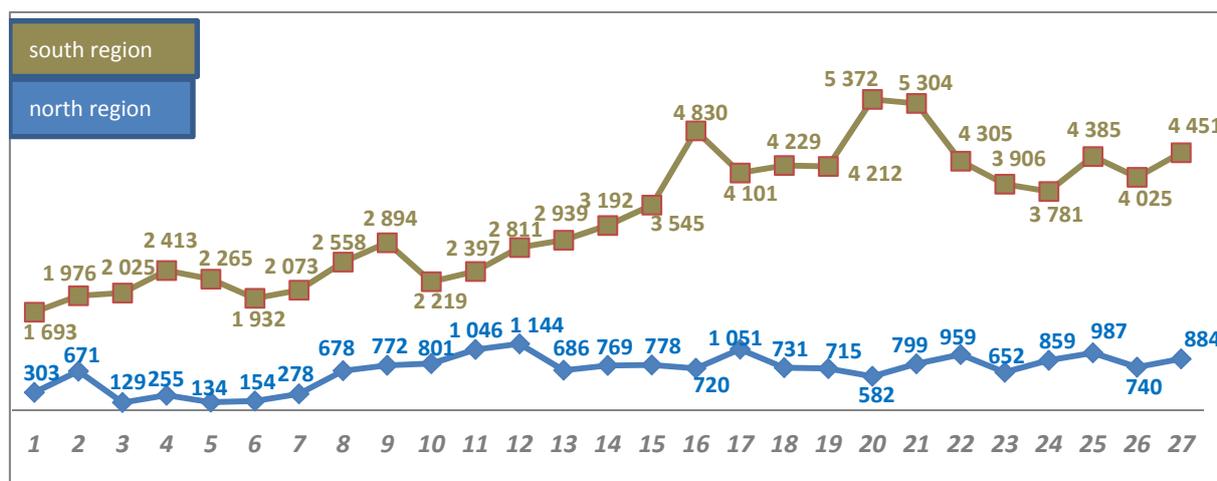
**Nutrition****Needs:**

- According to last year's SMART nutrition survey, 210,000 children under the age of five are at risk of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 450,000 are at risk of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) for the year 2013.

**Response:**

- Between 1st January and 18 August, 136,301 children under the age of five were admitted to nutrition rehabilitation units (UREN) across the country (114,192 in the South and 22,109 in the North). A total of 53,059 children under the age of five were admitted to URENAS<sup>2</sup> / URENI<sup>3</sup> (i.e. 42% of the 125,000 children targeted in 2013) and 83,242 children under the age of five were admitted to URENAM<sup>4</sup> (i.e. 31% of the 270,000 children targeted in 2013) – see the graph below on the number of admissions to UREN.

**136,301**  
Children admitted to  
UREN since the  
beginning of the year



- The SMART nutrition survey in the southern regions has started on 20 July and should be completed by 23 August. Preliminary results of this new survey should be available at the beginning of September 2013.
- On 19 & 20 August, the nutrition, WASH and health clusters conducted a joint mission in Timbuktu to establish appropriate context-specific coordination and information management mechanisms. A meeting with the partners who operate in the region will be organized shortly in order to define orientations and actions to be undertaken over the next few months.
- The technical sub-group on the care of acute malnutrition (Prise en charge de la Malnutrition Aiguë), who is comprised of a dozen partners of the nutrition cluster, is working on harmonizing the practices and activities of community mobilizers at a national level. A workshop is planned on 22 August in order to finalize a document that will address various issues relating to community mobilizers, including their status, training, and the strategy to reinforce the durability of their interventions.

<sup>2</sup> Severe Acute nutritional rehabilitation and education Care UNIT

<sup>3</sup> Intensive nutritional rehabilitation and education Care UNIT

<sup>4</sup> Moderate Acute nutritional rehabilitation and education Care UNIT

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- The cluster received \$25.7 million (i.e. 32 per cent) out of a \$80.4 million requirement.

**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene****Needs:**

- Cholera prevention activities and close monitoring of the situation continues. No new cholera cases has been reported in Mali since 21 May 2013.

**Response:**

- WASH Cluster partners continue cholera prevention activities including through local radios. Door to door visits have reached over 3000 people in Ansongo cercle, with IRC having distributed 500 hygiene kits and PuR. ACF and Secours Islamique France have rehabilitated 13 water points and organized water management committees for cholera prevention in Gao cercle.
- For the next three months UNICEF continues to support SOMAGEP to restore safe water production and distribution in Kidal, Timbuktu, and Gao Regions.
- National Civil Protection training on rapid evaluation and flood response is complete in Koulikoro with Solidarities International and in Segou and Mopti with ACTED. 40 kits were distributed in Kayes through the French Red Cross in response to flooding, and 500 kits were distributed to displaced families in Bamako.
- ACTED has rehabilitated 11 wells of 20 planned in Tominian cercle (Segou) with work ongoing on 4 wells. In Mopti cercle (Mopti) for WASH in Nutrition two latrines, showers and hand washing facilities are complete. In Niono (Segou), five training sessions on hygiene promotion and sanitation have been conducted.
- ICRC has constructed or rehabilitated water points in nine CSCOMs in Gao.
- In Timbuktu, Kidal and Koulikoro, Solidarities International is focussing on WASH in Nutrition activities in health facilities. In Tombouctou, 600 kits have been distributed and rehabilitation work is ongoing in 25 CSCOMs. A further 1200 persons have received hygiene promotion training.

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- Funding continues to be a challenge for the WASH Cluster and partners. To demonstrate the gap in services which requires funding, an assessment of all water points in Timbuktu and Gao regions is underway, to include support required for local repairmen and management committees.
- The partial absence of Government services and the insufficient number of technical water structure personnel remains a challenge.

**Health****Needs:**

- The recovery of the provision of health services that were disrupted during the crisis is necessary to ensure access to quality health care in conflict-affected areas.

**Response:**

- WHO and the health cluster support the Ministry of Health for the development of an early recovery plan.
- WHO re-launched the services for HIV/AIDS testing and care in all regions in the North, including reference health centers and hospitals. WHO also plans to provide laboratory equipment and staff trainings.
- WASH Cluster partners continue cholera prevention activities including through local radios, television and community mobilizers.
- UNICEF completed a measles vaccination campaign in the six communes of Bamako. A total of 1,033,335 children (6 months – 14 years of age) were vaccinated.
- As of 25 August, the seventh humanitarian mission supported by WHO will be deployed during one month in reference health centers and hospitals in the Gao, Timbuktu and Kidal regions. 78 specialists will take part in the mission to provide free health care to populations.

**Gaps & Constraints:**

- Low funding of the cluster's activities (35 per cent) and the lack of available resources to fund the health activities recovery plan in the North remain a challenge.



### Needs:

- Preliminary results of multi-sector evaluations conducted by Plan and Save the Children in the Timbuktu and Gao regions show that there is a need for communities to strengthen child protection. Needs for psychological support to children have also been identified, in particular for children demobilized from armed groups. There is an urgent need to develop community-based protection programs for children as well as psychosocial activities.
- Results from an evaluation conducted by IMC in Timbuktu show that community health centers should set up a protocol for the care of victims of gendered based violence (GBV). The difficulty to access the health centers because of their remote locations and the costs of the treatment discourage the victims. Results show that rape, sexual violence, early marriage and female genital mutilation are among the main GBV. Cases of early marriages have been exacerbated by the crisis in the North while female genital mutilations are a cultural practice in the area.
- Lack of identification documents remains a protection risk for certain IDPs and is an obstacle for accessing basic social services.

### Response:

- To date, members of the child protection sub-cluster have identified 1536 separated and unaccompanied children.
- In the Timbuktu and Mopti regions, Plan-Mali trained community level partners in psychosocial support. A mobile psychosocial program is being set up to identify and manage the cases of crisis-affected children.
- Plan supported the opening of recreational centers catering to the needs of 2500 children in the Mopti and Timbuktu regions.
- To meet the needs identified in its evaluation in Timbuktu, IMC set up a minimum reproductive health service in the health centers where it operates. This service is comprised of delivery kits and PEP kits.
- NRC information, counseling and legal aid centers in Bamako continue to provide support to displaced people who have no identification documents. The centers provided advices to around 500 people over the last two weeks.
- IOM, in collaboration with UNICEF, IRC and the NGO Samu social trained staff members of the Direction nationale du développement social (DNDS) and of the Direction nationale de la promotion de l'enfant et de la famille (DNPEF) on child protection in crisis contexts. During the training, the new Bamako district child protection referral system in crisis contexts was presented to participants.

### Gaps & Constraints:

- Low access to health and legal services and the lack of GBV community awareness represent a challenge for the response to GBV cases. Stigmatization of GBV victims within their communities impedes the reporting and registration of cases.



### Needs:

- According to the Education Cluster, 580 primary schools and 8 secondary schools are currently implementing catch-up classes out of a total of 1,048 schools in the regions of Gao and Timbuktu. An estimated 115,111 students are being taught by 2,763 teachers in these schools. To date, 32 percent of students and 43 percent of teachers in Gao and Timbuktu are in need of support through provision of additional teaching and learning materials.
- 68 percent of teachers currently teaching in the North are in need of teacher training on thematic issues relevant to education in emergencies. Training of these teachers will promote the access of conflict-affected children to educational opportunities that meet their specific needs.

**130,079**

Pupils received school kits

### Response:

- To date Education Cluster partners have distributed school kits to 130,079 crisis-affected children in Mali for the 2012- 2013 school year, including 77,960 (68%) in the North.
- In the Gao region, in partnership with national partners, UNICEF has distributed 7,874 learning kits to students and 114 teacher kits in 44 schools (cercles of Gao, Ansongo and Menaka).
- Save the Children, in partnership with UNICEF, has rehabilitated 12 classrooms in the Gao, Ségou and Mopti regions. 10 schools in the Gao region were additionally provided with 250 school benches.

- In August, the Ministry of Education and UNICEF have trained 250 teachers in psychosocial support in the Mopti region (Youwarou, Tenenkou cercles). An additional 274 teachers were trained in the pedagogy of large groups and remediation classes in the cercle of Douentza in Mopti region.
- Plan-Mali trained 45 mother educators in 15 schools in the Timbuktu region for the benefit of children aged between 3 to 6 years old.

#### Gaps & Constraints:

- The continued lack of funding for the Education Cluster partners through the humanitarian appeal limits their capacity to conduct an effective response.



### Emergency Telecommunications

- The transport of emergency telecommunications equipment to Timbuktu has been completed and connectivity is now functional for the humanitarian organizations in the city.
- Deployment to Gao is expected at the beginning of September and deployment to Kidal will depend on security.



### Logistics

- UNHAS has achieved a new record of 1,200 passengers in July. In addition to that, UNHAS also transported 5MT of cargo.
- The Logistics Cluster continues to provide storage for the humanitarian community in Mopti and Gao.

## General Coordination

- The Government is establishing an inter-ministry Commission to better coordinate and harmonize its actions with the humanitarian community. This Commission will include a coordination cell that will ensure appropriate Government liaison with NGOs, United Nations Agencies, and donors (PTF).
- The inter agency coordination groups (GIAC) are operational in Mopti and Gao. The creation of the Timbuktu GIAC is ongoing. GIAC are regional strategic groups comprised of United Nations humanitarian Agencies, NGOs representatives, as well as MSF and ICRC who participate as observer members.
- The cluster performance evaluation is ongoing. This evaluation exercise has been developed by the Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC) to ensure that clusters play their central roles, answer the needs of their members and support the implementation of aid programs for crisis-affected people.
- On 19 August, humanitarian organizations in Mali celebrated the World Humanitarian Day (WHD) with events held in Bamako, Gao, Mopti and Timbuktu. Humanitarian exhibition fairs provided an opportunity for exchanges with partners and the public.
- Internews has launched its Humanitarian Information Service (SIH) in Mali. The program's objective is to provide vital information to crisis-affected communities and to help promote an interactive communication between humanitarian organizations and local populations through radio and mobile technology. The SIH should also contribute to help humanitarian organizations communicate more efficiently allowing a better access to humanitarian aid and improving its impact. The SIH will enhance the understanding of humanitarian operations and principles. This project is funded by ECHO.

### Background information on the crisis

In January 2012, a rebellion erupted in northern Mali led by a Tuareg separatist movement, the Mouvement national de Libération de l'Azawad (MNLA). The secular MNLA allied with several armed Islamist groups. Their early territorial gains led to a military coup in Bamako on 22 March. Amid political uncertainty in the capital, the rebellion captured within several days the three northern regions of Kidal, Gao and Timbuktu – a mostly desert area slightly larger than France – as well as parts of the central regions of Mopti and Segou. The MNLA then announced the end of hostilities and proclaimed the independent state of “Azawad”, which was rejected by the international community. The situation along the de facto north-south dividing line remained calm until the end of 2012, while Islamist groups progressively seized power from the MNLA. These groups professed less interest in an independent north than in imposing strict Islamic law on the country. ECOWAS established an African force (AFISMA) to help Malian authorities restore the country's territorial integrity. The UN Security Council authorized this force on 20 December 2012.

Before AFISMA deployed, rebel groups launched an offensive moving south on 9 January. The Government of Mali subsequently requested immediate military assistance from France. French forces used air aids and land operations with the Malian Army, the AFISMA forces and Forces from Chad. The MNLA supported the French intervention but opposes any return of the Malian Army in the north prior to a political agreement. On 18 June 2013, the Government of Mali, the MNLA and the High Council for the Unity of Azawad signed a preliminary agreement in Burkina Faso. This agreement includes a cease-fire, a return of the Malian army to Kidal and the cantonment of Tuareg fighters.

On 25 April 2013, the UN Security Council decided to establish the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), with a military component of up to 11,400 Blue Helmets, an international Police component of up to 1,440 international Police and a civil component. The mandate of MINUSMA is to stabilize key population centers; support for the reestablishment of State authority throughout the country; support for the implementation of the transitional road map, including the national political dialogue and the electoral process; and promote and protect human rights, among others. The MINUSMA shall also provide support for humanitarian assistance by contributing to the creation of a secure environment for the safe, civilian-led delivery of humanitarian assistance, in accordance with humanitarian principles, and the voluntary return of internally displaced persons and refugees in close coordination with humanitarian actors. On 1<sup>st</sup> July, AFISMA was transferred to MINUSMA, marking the beginning of Blue Helmets operations in Mali.

The first round of Presidential elections was held on 28 July throughout Mali. Observers reported that the vote was held peacefully with major incidents.

Beyond the humanitarian emergency created by the conflict, Mali is affected by a Sahel-wide food and nutrition crisis that further eroded the resilience of millions of people already suffering from chronic poverty. Despite a good harvest in 2012, millions continue to suffer from food insecurity, malnutrition and a chronic want of livelihoods. The Malian conflict and the insecurity it generates especially in northern regions has further increased humanitarian needs and made access to population in need more difficult.

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