



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Mali

Country Brief

October 2020



Operational Context

Mali is a vast land-locked country in the heart of the Sahel region. Social indicators remain among the lowest in the world, and the country ranks 184 out of 189 on UNDP's 2018 Human Development Index. Agriculture, livestock and fisheries account for about one-third of Mali's gross domestic product (GDP) and nearly 70 percent of employment (primarily involving subsistence production). One in eight primary school-aged children do not attend school; of those enrolled in schools, only one-third are girls.

Following a political coup in March 2012, much of northern and central Mali was occupied by non-state armed groups. A UN peacekeeping mission was deployed to the country in July 2013. Since mid-2016, there has been a multiplication of local conflicts and insecurity hampering humanitarian access and leading to increased population displacement and vulnerability of conflict-affected communities.

In August 2020, the Government was overthrown by a military coup. A civilian government has been appointed for an 18-month transition period to prepare for new elections by April 2022.

With the COVID-19 outbreak declared in Mali on 25 March, WFP stepped up to support the Government in monitoring COVID-19 impact on food security, providing food and nutrition assistance as well as expanding safety nets to cover populations increasingly affected by the socio-economic impact of the health crisis. WFP also provided logistics response through transport and storage of medical equipment.

WFP's operation in Mali currently focuses on emergency response, resilience building and strengthening of national capacities. The 2020 Nobel Prize laureate has been present in Mali since 1964.



In Numbers

766 mt of food assistance distributed

3.7 m cash transferred

USD 37 m six months (November 2020 – April 2021) net funding requirements

581,152 people assisted
in October 2020

Operational Updates

- Under the emergency response WFP Mali has a projected number of 434,000 beneficiaries benefiting from general food distributions, including 54,000 people affected by floods, 200,000 COVID affected people, 175,000 IDPs and 5,000 refugees.
- In support of strengthened preparedness and early action, WFP has supported the data collection for the National Food Security and Nutrition Survey (ENSAN) which has been completed and will feed into the consolidated food security analysis within the Cadre Harmonisé due in November and which will support 2021 needs projections.
- WFP is also pursuing its wasting prevention interventions targeting over 100,000 children and 16,500 pregnant and lactating women and the treatment of moderate and acute malnutrition (MAM) targeting 17,010 children.
- Under the resilience pillar, WFP continued its implementation of an integrated resilience package in 20 priority communes. WFP has also continued to work closely with UNICEF to develop a joint strategy on resilience building for child wasting and improved health, nutrition, and learning and wellbeing, holding a workshop to lay out a common analysis Change (Theory of Change).
- With the reopening of schools at the end of the month of September, WFP provided school meals in 419 schools and reached an estimated 89,000 children.
- WFP also supported the national centre of school feeding to set up a pilot on nutrition education in schools aiming to improve the nutritional status of children as well as nutritional education in school.
- WFP pursued the broader policy work on resilience, providing technical and financial support to Government to ensure vulnerability mapping, identifying the most vulnerable areas within the framework of the resilience strategy document and its 2020-2024 action plan (PRP AGIR). This mapping was validated in a workshop in October 2020.

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Main photo

Credit: WFP/ Virgo EDGAR NGARBAROUM

Caption: Schoolchildren of Kouriemé school in Timbuktu receiving WFP school meals.

Country Strategic Plan (2020-2024)

2020 Total Requirement (in USD)	2020 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
183 m	158.6 m	37 m

*Six-month Net Funding Requirements as of 16 November 2020.

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food (SDG Target 2.1)

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected people in targeted areas, including refugees and internally displaced persons, are able to meet their basic food and nutrition and nutrition needs during and in the immediate aftermath of crisis.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide an integrated food assistance package to vulnerable men, women, boys and girls affected by crisis based on a needs assessment and ensure that preparedness measures are taken to support a response that is timely, effective, efficient, equitable and in line with the national safety nets strategy.
- Provide an integrated nutrition package, including both preventative and treatment elements, to vulnerable men, women, boys and girls affected by crisis based on a needs assessment.

Strategic Outcome 2: School-age girls and boys in targeted areas have increased current and future resilience while meeting their basic food and nutrition requirements during the school year.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide school meals to girls and boys during the school year in targeted areas in a way that supports local markets and promotes girls' enrolment [modalities: food, cash-based transfers, capacity strengthening, service delivery]
- Provide safety nets to vulnerable populations in targeted areas, particularly women (tier 1) in line with an adaptive social protection approach [modalities: cash-based transfers, capacity strengthening]

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition (SDG Target 2.2)

Strategic Outcome 3: Nutritionally vulnerable populations in targeted areas, including children and pregnant and lactating women and girls, have improved nutritional status throughout the year.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Support national nutrition programme to ensure provision of preventive and curative nutrition services (including SBCC, local food fortification, complementary feeding and capacity strengthening) to targeted populations.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and incomes (SDG Target 2.3)

Strategic Outcome 4: Communities in targeted areas, including smallholder farmers (particularly women-led groups), have more resilient livelihoods for improved food security and nutrition throughout the year

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide conditional support to food-insecure vulnerable households, linked to the development or rehabilitation of productive, natural or social assets, the intensification and diversification of livelihood activities and improved access to markets, using an integrated, gender equitable and participatory community approaches.

Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities (SDG Target 17.9)

Strategic Outcome 5: By 2030 national institutions and entities have strengthened capacities to manage equitable food security, nutrition and social protection policies, programmes and interventions in support of zero hunger

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide a package of capacity-strengthening support to national institutions and entities on analysis and planning; coordination; policy coherence;

Strategic Result 8: Global partnership support (SDG Target 17.16)

Strategic Outcome 6: Humanitarian partners in Mali have access to common services that enable them to reach and operate in crisis affected areas throughout the year.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide United Nations Humanitarian Air Service flight services that allow partners to reach areas of humanitarian intervention.
- Provide logistics, information and communications technology, common and coordination services, as well as other preparedness interventions in the absence of alternatives, in order to support effective and efficient humanitarian response.
- Provision of Humanitarian Air Service in Support of DG-ECHO Funded Projects
- Provide on demand engineering services in order to support effective and efficient humanitarian response.

UNHAS

WFP Mali manages the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS). In October, five destinations were served and UNHAS services were used by 97 organizations. A total of 1,235 passengers and 4,490 kg of freight was transported. UNHAS is also managing a fleet of two ECHO-flight aircraft based in Mopti and serving six destinations across the country. Through ECHO-flight, 124 passengers and 2,253 kg of light cargo were transported for 15 organizations in October.

Monitoring

Around 560 sites across the country were visited by monitoring missions, through WFP and third-party monitoring partners. All activities were covered. Markets and retail traders participating in CBT were also visited as part of food basket price monitoring.

Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

In October 2020, the toll-free number received 663 calls most of which come from WFP beneficiaries and were related to food distribution dates, beneficiary targeting/selection criteria and preferences for distribution modality (cash versus in-kind). Adequate feedback has been provided through appropriate channels.

WFP also continues to use its food distribution sites to sensitize communities on COVID-19 preventive measures including handwashing, physical distancing and use of facemasks.

Donors

Donors to Mali in 2020 include Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, the Government of Mali, Monaco, Norway, Private Donors, Sweden, Switzerland, UK and USA. Additional support has been provided by UN CERF, UNICEF and the UN Peacebuilding Fund.