

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 11 September to 24 September 2012. The next report will be issued on or around 9 October 2012.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- An estimated 4.6 million people are at risk of food insecurity due to the food and nutrition crisis and conflict in northern Mali.
- The complex emergency in Mali has displaced 393,431 people from their homes since fighting erupted in the north early this year. Of these 118,795 are internally displaced in Mali and 274,636¹ are refugees in neighbouring countries.
- Funding remains insufficient with only 47 per cent of funding requirements covered under the CAP 2012. \$113.4 million is still required to meet the urgent needs identified in the 2012 Mali CAP.

II. Situation Overview

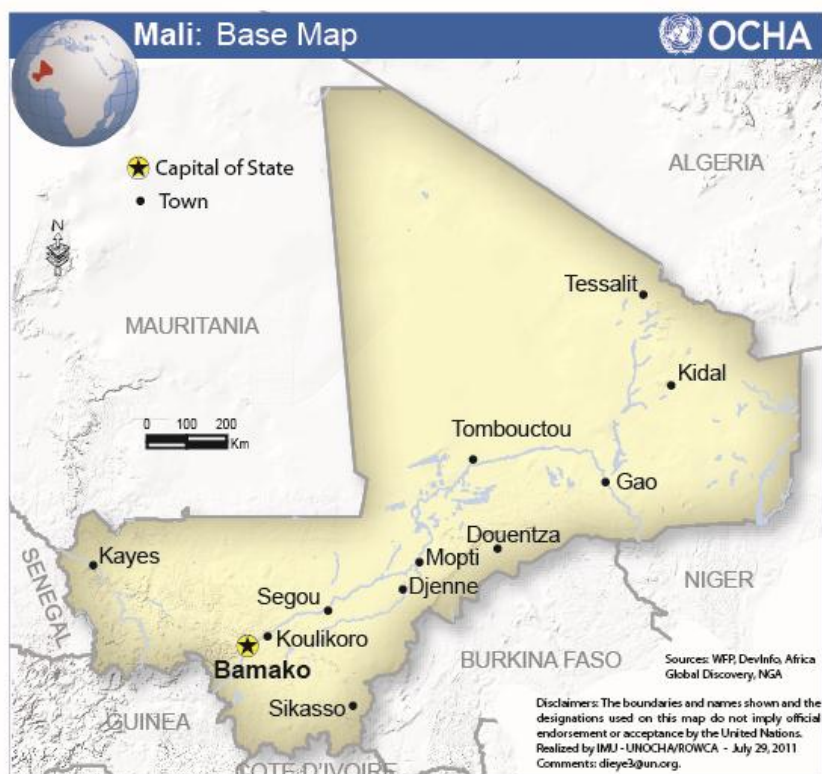
Recent political developments

The humanitarian and security situation in Mali remains serious with high food prices and political instability. On 17 September, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navanethem Pillay, condemned the on-going human rights violations in northern Mali. She called on the Government of Mali and the international community to urgently address the crisis.

Mali has agreed to host a 3,000-strong regional military force aimed at dislodging rebel groups in the north. Diplomatic efforts to ease the crisis in Mali will be discussed during the Sahel conference today, 26th of September, at the United Nations.

Humanitarian overview

Mali is faced with a major nutritional, humanitarian and security crisis. The resilience of the population has been undermined by waves of displacement and serious food shortages. An estimated 4.6 million people are at risk of food insecurity. As food prices continue to rise, the most vulnerable households affected by drought in Mali still have difficult months ahead of them until the next harvest around October/November. Nearly 400,000 people in Mali have been forced from their homes due to conflict in the north. 274,636² persons are refugees in neighbouring countries, and as of 18 September 2012 about 118,795 people are internally displaced. There are currently 108,953 refugees from Mali in Mauritania, 107,929 in Burkina Faso and 59,429 in Niger. A cholera outbreak in northern Mali is also aggravating the situation in the



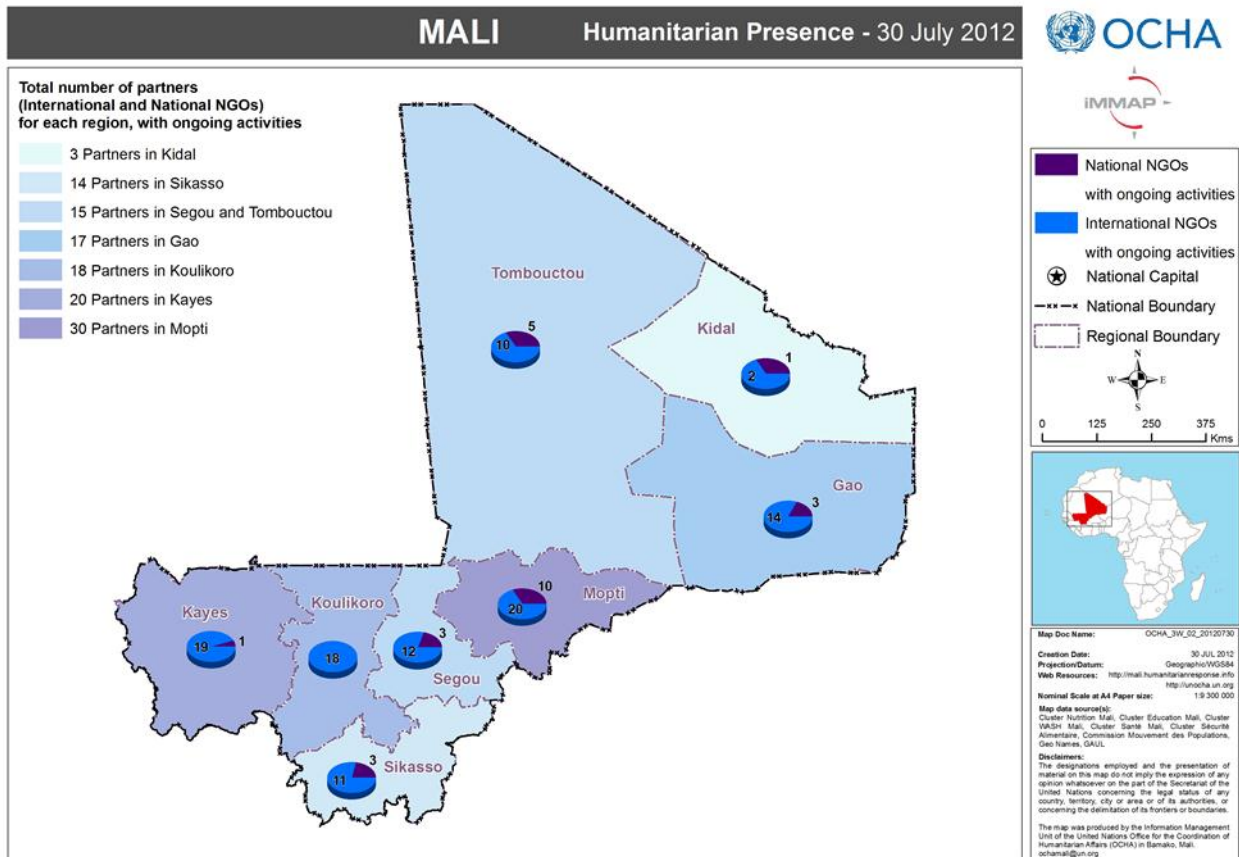
¹ This number includes Malian and third country nationals.

² Ibid

north. Since 1 January, 216 cholera cases, including 17 deaths, have been reported in Gao and Ansongo districts in the north.

The main focus remains on delivering food and medical assistance to vulnerable people in the north and in the south who are dealing with many daily uncertainties. The humanitarian situation remains serious and donors should respond favourably to demands for urgent humanitarian assistance to the civilian population seriously affected by the complex crisis in Mali.

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navanethem Pillay, reported at the 21st session of the Human Rights Council that due to lack of access to northern Mali, which is currently occupied by armed groups, it has been very difficult to obtain information about the human rights situation in the north of the country.



III. Humanitarian Needs and Response in Mali

FOOD SECURITY

Needs:

- An estimated 4.6 million people are at risk of food insecurity due to the food and nutrition crisis 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.

Response:

- WFP and its partners have delivered food to 64,131 IDPs in the southern regions of Mali. WFP and ACTED have started food distribution in the region of Gao. 25,000 IDPs are benefiting from these distributions. OXFAM with the support of WFP is also distributing food in the Gao region to 26,000 people affected by the drought and the conflict. WFP, with its partner Norwegian Church Aid, is distributing food to 29,460 IDPs in the Kidal region. WFP continues its food for work

activities in the south of Mali. So far 648,000 people have benefited from WFP's emergency operations between February and late August 2012.

- Activities of the FAO/Italian Programme for Food Security (PISA) in the 'cercle' of Bandiara in the region of Mopti are being implemented in 112 villages for the production, processing and market development of shallots.
- Plan Mali distributed 50 tonnes of rice to 3,153 people following the floods in the communes of Sanando and Gouendo in the 'cercle' of Barouéli in the region of Ségou.
- Through its emergency programme, Africare Mali in partnership with WFP, distributed 154 tonnes of food to 4,410 people in the 'cercle' of Goundam in the region of Timbuktu.
- The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) organized relief distributions to 39,000 agro-pastoral beneficiaries between June and the end of August.
- World Vision continues its cash-for-work activities. 950 households have completed their first month of cash-for-work activities, and an additional 1,690 households have begun registration in the region of Ségou.
- Mercy Corps has completed its first round of unconditional cash voucher distributions in one district of Gao region, serving 2,312 vulnerable households. Further distributions are planned through November for the same households. Vouchers are redeemed with pre-selected local vendors, and to date, the majority of program participants have elected to redeem their vouchers for food (principally rice and oil).

Gaps and Constraints:

- The lack or low level of funding for certain cluster members remains a major handicap to the delivery of aid. As of 25 September, \$44,6 million was still required to meet the urgent food security needs identified in the 2012 Mali CAP.
- Some efforts have been made in the financing of aid programmes for IDPs, however more funding is still required for food programmes targeting IDPs in Mali.



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.

Response:

- To date, 171,663 children under 5 have enrolled in programmes for the treatment of acute malnutrition in 2012. According to the Ministry of Health and NGOs, 154,447 of these children enrolled in the first half of the year (Jan-June), and according to NGOs, 17,216 enrolled between July and September.
- Of the total 171,663 children enrolled, 114,594 children were enrolled for treatment of moderate acute malnutrition; 49,579 children were enrolled for treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) with no complications; and 7,490 were enrolled for treatment of SAM with complications. In August 2012, 16,334 children and 2,329 pregnant/lactating women were enrolled in programmes to treat moderate acute malnutrition in southern Mali, with a further 1,185 children enrolled in the region of Gao.
- In August 2012, 81,124 children and 31,903 pregnant and lactating women benefitted from WFP's blanket feeding programme for the prevention of malnutrition in the five southern regions of Mali.
- The first assessment of health units managing the treatment of severe acute child malnutrition with complications is in progress in Bamako. This assessment is conducted by WHO, UNICEF, and the Ministry of Health and will measure compliance with standards of care, infrastructure and equipment needs.

Gaps and constraints:

- To date 35 health districts (of 60 across the country) are receiving support from NGO partners. These remaining gaps are due to a lack of funding for nutrition cluster partners and the limited number of operational partners. In this regard, the Nutrition Cluster continues its advocacy to mobilize donor funds as well as the reinforcement of technical capacity of partners.
- Centres that treat severe acute malnutrition with complications often do not meet international standards, undermining the quality of care for children. Financial support is required to scale up the assessment of these centres and to build their capacity.
- The Ministry of Health continues to only provide data on the enrolment of children in the nutritional treatment programme on a quarterly basis, delaying the information flow required to take decisions on the management of the emergency response. However, following advocacy by nutrition cluster members and the National Directorate of Health, the Ministry of Health is now integrating nutritional data into the national weekly epidemiological bulletin.

**WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE****Needs:**

- WASH infrastructure and community outreach require urgent strengthening in areas at risk of a cholera epidemic. The first case of cholera in 2012 was registered in week 26 (June 25 to July 1). The National Directorate of Health has so far this year reported 216 cases of cholera and 17 deaths (including in week 37 (September 10 to September 16)). Most patients come from communities where unprotected surface water is prevalent.
- Assessments conducted by the Direction Générale de la Protection Civile and ACTED have shown that at least 600 wells need to be disinfected and more than 900 latrines are now unusable.

Response:

- The cluster, with the support of UNICEF, is putting together a cholera prevention campaign. Radio messages are being broadcast in all cholera-affected areas. IRC has mobilized 100 community health workers to conduct a door-to-door awareness campaign. In addition, 25 other community health workers have been trained to disinfect cholera treatment centres.
- UNICEF and cluster partners have distributed 78,350 WASH kits reaching 470,100 beneficiaries. Another 19,780 kits will be distributed before the end of September. UNICEF has pre-positioned one month's worth of chlorine for water treatment in Dire and Niafunke districts.
- Solidarités International keeps a contingency stock of 1,000 kits in Mopti in case of a cholera outbreak in the region of Timbuktu. Solidarités International is rehabilitating/constructing 23 wells in the region of Kidal, 11 boreholes in the region of Timbuktu, and rehabilitating access to safe water in Dire central health centre. IRC is rehabilitating five wells and two boreholes in Menaka in the region of Gao.
- The Malian Government and the Malian Red Cross are responding to the consequences of the floods in Ségou and Koulikoro regions by distributing emergency supplies to affected communities, including non-food items and WASH supplies. UNICEF and cluster partners are providing on-going support to the affected communities.

Gaps and constraints:

- The limited number of humanitarian organizations operating in the north has limited the ability of the WASH cluster to make proper needs assessments and to ensure a reliable and functional water supply network. Without a sufficient number of partners, it has not been possible to provide an adequate response. The health district of Ansongo has highlighted the fact that there is no access to safe drinking water in the area. The Chief of the Health District is being assisted by the cluster to conduct an assessment of WASH needs in health facilities in that area, including the construction of latrines.
- Funding remains insufficient with only 21 per cent of funding requirements covered under the CAP. This represents a gap of \$18.6 million.



EDUCATION

Needs:

- Flooding has jeopardized access to education for thousands of students in the south. Assessments show that 201 schools in the southern regions of Mali have been affected, limiting access to education for 29,000 students. 157 schools have structural damage and 44 schools are being temporarily occupied as shelter for local residents.
- 14 elementary schools in Mopti (with a combined enrolment of 4,886 students) are currently being occupied by military groups. The Cluster is advocating that the authorities vacate these school premises.

Response:

- With the school year beginning in late September, UNICEF, with education cluster partners, will conduct a “Back to School” campaign targeting 2.5 million students, 240,000 of whom are in the north. The campaign focuses on areas hosting IDP students and areas affected by flooding.
- International and national partners have supported school canteens, classroom materials and other non-food items. In the last month 4,418 pupils that are internally displaced have received classroom materials. UNICEF has provided 1,200 students enrolled in remedial courses in Gao, Mopti and Ségou with non-food item kits.
- A total of 10,331 students have so far benefited from the two rounds of remedial courses to help conflict-affected students complete the 2011-2012 school year in southern Mali and Gao. With support from Plan-Mali, 200 teachers have been trained in “Remedial Modules” in the region of Ségou, bringing the total of teachers trained to 500.
- A psychosocial module has been developed and validated by the Ministry of Education with UNICEF support to promote the well-being of conflict-affected and internally displaced students. Education Cluster partners will train an initial 6,000 teachers by December 2012.
- To support the contingency planning and resilience building of education sector stakeholders, the education cluster, with UNICEF support, has trained 47 education partners on Education in Emergencies. The total number of personnel trained to date is 150 in Ségou, Mopti and Kayes regions.
- An education sub-cluster has been set up in Mopti.

Gaps and Constraints:

- The Education cluster is advocating that education partners include temporary learning spaces as part of their contingency plans while the rainy season is not yet over.
- To date, only 4 per cent of the Education Cluster needs in the 2012 Mali CAP have been funded, despite documented needs. For more information see the August Education Cluster’s factsheet: <http://mali.humanitarianresponse.info/fr/node/438>



PROTECTION

Needs:

- As of 18 September, the total number of internally displaced persons in Mali due to the conflict in the North is estimated at 118,795, including 35,300 persons internally displaced in the three northern regions (Kidal, Gao and Timbuktu). This takes into account recent assessment activities undertaken in the North by IOM through its implementing partner TEMEDT.³ The insecurity situation combined with the topography of the vast northern Sahel area increase the complexity and challenge of tracking IDPs dispersed throughout the regions.
- Emergency assistance for key basic needs identified by assessed IDPs in the regions of Mopti, Timbuktu, Gao and Kidal are food (90 per cent of assessed IDPs in need), health (72 per cent),

³ Due to the various challenges encountered during the tracking activities in the North, these results do not necessarily reflect full coverage of the target regions. IOM, lead of the Commission on Population Movements within the Protection Cluster, continues to work with its partners and relevant stakeholders to ensure full coverage of IPD settlement areas in the North and the rest of the country, notably in Sikasso, Segou, Koulikoro and Kayes. IDP monitoring activities for the Bamako region is due to start during the week starting 24 September. Tracking activities are ongoing in the Mopti region.

shelter (57 per cent) and water/sanitation (49 per cent). Of those assessed, 40 per cent are displaced within the same 'cercle' and 64 per cent within the same region of origin.⁴

- Between March and August 2012, 28 accidents (43 victims with 3 deaths) related to unexploded ordnance of war have been reported in the regions of Timbuktu, Gao, Kidal and Mopti. 24 of those victims were children. The first meeting of the working group on mines and unexploded ordnance of war education awareness was held in Mopti in order to strengthen partners' capacity in the north.
- The members of the child protection sub-cluster, with IOM support, are working to update the identification and documentation of separated and unaccompanied children in Bamako district. This exercise will be based upon the documentation of 531 children in the southern regions of Ségou, Koulikoro, Sikasso and Mopti.

Response:

- Protection of Human Rights: On 14 September a meeting was organized between the Government, NGOs and human rights groups from civil society to report and denounce cruel punishments such as rapes, sexual slavery, stonings, amputations, recruitment of child soldiers, and child and forced marriages at the hands of the Islamist and rebel groups in Kidal, Gao and Timbuktu.
- Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV): UNFPA organized training-of-trainers for 30 people (national NGOs, UN agencies and government agencies) on the prevention of and response to SGBV in an emergency environment.
- Child Protection: In the past two weeks, 1,186 children have benefited from psychosocial support programmes. These programmes take place through recreational activities in Community Counselling Centres set up in Ségou (Plan Mali), Timbuktu, Gao and Kidal (BNCE) and Bamako (ENDA Mali). Since March 2012 14,721 children have benefited from these programmes.
- In Kayes, 30 people working in child protection have received a training supported by UNICEF on psychosocial support for children during emergencies.
- UNICEF organized a training session for 14 IRC agents from the 'cercles' of Gao, Ansongo and Ménaka on mine and unexploded ordnance of war education awareness. 21,250 brochures, 50 brochures' guides and 117 banners have been distributed in the north and south of the country. The 'Réseau des communicateurs traditionnels' (Recotrade) and the 'Génie Militaire' have trained 198 people (Kayes, Koulikoro, Sikasso, Ségou) and 30 people in Bamako and Ségou.
- 18 protection committees and 18 children's clubs have been put in place by Save the Children in 9 health areas and 9 villages in the region of Kayes in order to identify and allow for referrals of cases of abuse, violence and negligence.
- In Koulikoro the technical capacities of 27 midwives and 30 doctors were reinforced by UNICEF in the framework of medical care for victims of gender-based violence.

Gaps and Constraints:

- Lack of funding for the protection cluster makes it hard to implement an effective monitoring mechanism to collect data on and analyse the overall protection situation in Mali, as well as to follow up on specific protection cases.
- In the northern regions of Mali, data collection and confirmation of information remains a significant challenge, particularly for matters regarding the recruitment of child soldiers and sexual violence. The communication chain put in place by UNICEF through community leaders and local association needs to receive more support through training, harmonized data collection forms, monitoring, etc.

⁴ Again these recent assessment activities were undertaken in the North by IOM through its implementing partner TEMEDT.



LOGISTICS / UNHAS

- Mobile Storage Unit (MSU) assembly training has been completed. The nine participants from the Malian Red Cross (MRC) were certified on 24 September. Both the certified MRC participants and one WFP supervisor will be able to assemble MSUs should a request be expressed. Work will continue to be done to reinforce the capacity of this rapid MSU deployment team.
- The logistics cluster in Mali is planning an information session on customs exemptions for newly-arrived NGOs in the coming weeks. The cluster is also actively working on the consolidation of a list of transporters in Mali.
- The UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) has resumed flights on the route Bamako-Mopti-Niamey route. International flights had previously been restricted to departure from Bamako Senou international airport only. UNHAS is operating this new route on Wednesdays.



EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- The Emergency Telecommunications (ETC) Cluster continues to assist humanitarian organizations on the ground with the re-programming of VHF radios after an ETC assessment showed previous frequencies had been compromised. Last week 55 handheld radios were reprogrammed along with 14 vehicle radios.
- The ETC cluster is delivering radio training to humanitarian staff on the ground. To date, 146 persons have received training. Next week the ETC will deliver training to staff members from the NGO Plan International and to OCHA.
- The five radio operators selected to work in the radio room in Mopti are completing their five-day training in Bamako

IV. Coordination

OCHA Country Office and a taskforce from the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) worked these past two weeks on the Mali+ regional scenarios. These scenarios will support inter-agency contingency plans in Mali. The four scenarios were approved by the HCT on 25 September 2012.

OCHA Country Office is running a Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) workshop on 27 September in Bamako. Humanitarian actors and partners will agree on a humanitarian strategy, indicators and objectives for the year 2013. OCHA Mali continues to identify actions and communication tools needed to support the humanitarian community present in Mali. OCHA Mali is now putting together its Information Management & Reporting strategy and has initiated specific IM services to respond to cluster needs. OCHA CO is also continuing to strengthen the collection and triangulation of data and basic information products (3W). Maps produced by OCHA for the Clusters are published on the following Humanitarian Response website: <http://mali.humanitarianresponse.info>.

V. Funding

As of 25 September, and according to the Financial Tracking Service (FTS), donors have provided \$100.4 million to respond to the crisis in Mali, 47 per cent of the \$213.8 million required.

213.8 million
required (US\$)

47 %
funded

VI. Contacts

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